On the Eldorado Mountain Supertowers

By Linda Andes-Georges

On Sept. 12, the first formal public hearing—before the Jefferson County Planning Board—took place concerning the proposed construction of an antenna “farm” and supertower site at the present Eldorado Mountain facility. The scope of the proposed project has mutated 5 or 6 times since the beginning of this saga; at present, the Pinnacle Towers Co. “thinks” it will need at least one 510 ft. tower (the tower already on the mountain is 180 ft. tall), and may need three. It has invested 40 million dollars in the project and is threatening suits and condemnation if rezoning for the project is not granted.

Groups made comments at the first hearing. At the second, on Sept. 26, individuals in large numbers spoke over a period of four hours. All but one (of dozens) opposed the project. At press time, the Planning Board again tabled the discussion until Oct. 10, with a wrap-up on Nov. 7.

The concerns raised were extremely varied. Boulder County firefighters articulated grave concerns about the firefighting and safety angle, as the current access road—which apparently is being used illegally—is too narrow and steep for firefighting equipment. Furthermore, the transportation of 40,000 gallons of diesel fuel up the steep mountain road, and its ongoing storage in a fire-prone setting, alarmed both fire depts and residents. Representatives of NIST, although prohibited by the Dept. of Commerce from appearing formally, spoke up as individuals because of the probability of interference with the Quiet Zone, unique to Boulder’s scientific community. Neighborhood groups and civic organizations spoke of severe visual impacts, noise impacts from helicopters (a heliport is planned for the site), potential water pollution from spills, and the ill-defined and constantly changing nature of the proposal.

Environmentalists are opposing an antenna farm and towers at this location for several reasons, among them the industrial use of a nearly pristine natural area located in the center of city, county and state natural lands; the permanent visual scar that will be imposed on the mountain backdrop, which would violate the regional agreement on protection.

Supertowers: continued on next page
**Saturday, October 6:** Join Steve Jones (303-494-2468) for a leisurely hike up the Green Mountain West Ridge trail. We might see migrating raptors, woodpeckers, bluebirds, and a few thousand ladybird beetles. Meet at Chautauqua Ranger Cottage parking area at 7am. Return around noon.

**Sunday, October 7:** Organizational meeting for wintering raptor survey. New volunteers are always welcome. Steve’s place, 3543 Smuggler Way, Boulder (take Greenbrier west from South Broadway; turn right on Smuggler Way, six blocks after you pass Fiarview High School), at 3pm.

**Saturday, October 20:** BCNA Board of Directors meeting. All members are welcome at these bi-monthly meetings. Business meeting begins at 4pm. (No potluck to follow.) At Naseem & Mike’s place, 8595 119th, Lafayette. (303) 673-0933.

**Saturday, November 3:** Annual Guy Fawkes Pot Luck, Pot-latch Party. Mosey on over to Naseem & Mike’s hitchin’ post with yer appetite and some grub from the Ol’ West to share. Supper at 6pm. Bonfire to follow, so bring thoughts, poems, insights, etc. to transcend into the flames (non-toxic items please). For directions, please call Naseem or Mike at (303) 673-0933.

**Friday, December 21:** Annual Winter Solstice sunrise hike on White Rocks Trail. Meet at Teller Farms Open Space parking lot, on Valmont Road 0.5 miles west of 95th Street, at 7am. If you wish, bring a quote, poem, song, or thought to share at a short sunrise ceremony at the Boulder Creek bridge. Return around 9 AM. Optional breakfast to follow in Niwot. Steve Jones (303-494-2468).

**Tuesday, January 1, 2002:** More or less annual leaderless hike up Doudy Draw. Meet at Doudy Draw trailhead, 2 miles west of State Highway 93 on El Dorado Springs Drive, at 8am.

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**FALL SONG**

Another year gone, leaving everywhere its rich spiced residues: vines, leaves, the uneaten fruits crumbling damply in the shadows, unmertering back from the particular island of this summer, this Now, that now is nowhere except underfoot, moldering in that black subterranean castle of unobservable mysteries--roots and sealed seeds and the wanderings of water. This I try to remember when time’s measure painfully chafes, for instance when autumn flares out at the last, boisterous and like us longing to stay--how everything lives, shifting from one bright vision to another, forever in these momentary pastures.

-- Mary Oliver
(provided by Liz Case)

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**Supertowers: continued from previous page**

of this area; and the very serious threat to migrating songbirds, a phenomenon known as “towerkill.” Indeed, construction of tall, lighted towers anywhere on the Front Range presents a lethal danger. Monitoring of the current “tower farm” on Lookout Mountain no doubt would reveal a high level of avian mortality. Multiplication of such sites is to be avoided at all costs.

In short, the unspecified aspects of the PTI plan for Eldorado—its vaguenesses, its questionable assertions (will “try” to get the FAA to allow certain kinds of lighting; will “try” to get legal access to the site; will “try” to respect the quiet zone in Boulder; will “monitor” avian mortality, etc.)—have been skewered by speakers and the press. It appears that Jefferson County is being asked to bless a speculative venture by a wobbly company (being sued for fraud in Florida) for a technology that will be obsolete in a few years and is already unneeded by 80% of the region’s population (served by cable).
for the birds

Good news/bad news for avian species of concern
By Steve Jones

The results are in from this summer's effort to locate breeding sites of rare and declining birds in Boulder County. More than 50 volunteers spent more than 500 hours in the field checking out historic sites and looking for new ones. Here's a brief summary of what we discovered, bearing in mind that to be classified as "rare," the species needs to nest in three or fewer known locations in the county.

**American Bittern** (rare and declining): We observed territorial males at Walden Ponds, Boulder Reservoir, Boulder Valley Ranch, and South Boulder Creek near Marshall. We did not confirm nesting at any of these locations.

**Least Bittern** (rare and isolated): Four pre-dawn trips to Sawhill Ponds yielded no sightings.

**Barn Owl** (rare): A single barn owl nest was reported in a tower on Gunbarrel Hill. We usually get one or two reports per year of barn owl nests. They have always been considered rare in Boulder County.

**Burrowing Owl** (rare and declining): At least five pairs were observed in eastern Boulder County, but only one nest appears to have produced young, and it's possible that no young survived. Although we observed more pairs this year than during any of the previous 12 years, we still think this species is in serious danger of being extirpated from Boulder County.

**Lark Bunting** (rare and declining): One or more pairs appear to have nested at Carolyn Holmberg Rock Creek Farm Open Space preserve, near Broomfield, and on Marshall Mesa north of Coal Creek.

**Black Swift** (rare and isolated): These elusive swifts continue to nest at Ouzel Falls, but other potential county sites need more thorough investigation.

**Osprey** (not listed): Five osprey nests were observed this summer, two in the mountains and three at reservoirs on the plains. This species now seems firmly established in Boulder County.

**Northern Harrier** (rare and declining): We observed a nesting pair at Boulder Reservoir and an individual at Dowe Flats in mid-June.

**Great Egret** (rare and isolated): Volunteers found a new rookery just north of Colorado 119 and east of the Weld County line. This is only the second great egret rookery known to Colorado; the other is in Boulder County along Boulder Creek east of 95th Street. Incidentally, volunteers also observed a new snowy egret colony in north Denver, near 62nd and Lowell.

**Northern Bobwhite** (rare and declining): We observed a singing male on Gunbarrel Hill in June, but as far as we can tell, he never found a mate.

**Red-headed Woodpecker** (rare and declining): No breeding season sightings, despite a thorough search of historic nesting locations. We suspect that competition with starlings and possibly flickers has virtually eliminated nesting populations in our area.

**Lewis's Woodpecker** (rare and declining): Volunteers found a surprising number of potential nest sites (at least five), including successful nests in Lyons and at Hall Ranch Open Space. This species, currently listed as "rare and declining," bears watching.

Next year we plan to continue informal monitoring of nesting sites, and we will offer a series of field trips, open to all BCNA members, to search for nesting birds at Boulder Reservoir, Sawhill Ponds, Stearns Lake, and Lyons.

Thanks to all of this year's "official" volunteers, below, and apologies for any omissions: John Amoroso, Tom Anderson, Sandy and Tore Arnesen, Larry and Rosemary Arp, Libby Barry, Rob Billerbeck, Maggie Boswell, Mark Brennan, Kurt, Karen, and Galen Brown, Sean Burns, Jeff Carter, Liz Case, Marty Cragler, Holly Devaul, Marty Dick, Dennis Downing, Paula Eldridge, Eric Ellefson, Nikolai Ferrell, Mike Figgs, Dave and Peg Fletcher, Beverly Gholson, Don Glen, Lauren Golten, Kim Graber, Judy Gunkler, Dave Hallock, Paula Hansley, Susan Harris, Joe Harrison, Greg and Becky Hayes, Dave Hoerath, D. W. King, Linda Mahoney, Jim McKee, Jeff Moline, Cary Richardson, Steven Shupe, David Schneider, Wes Sears, Bob Sharp, Emily Spencer, Sally Stevenson, Anjali Subbarao, David Waltman, Manly Weidman, Suzanne Weinberg, Susan Winter, Don Wojcik, Amy Wright.
Spring 2001 proved to be a season of abundance for bird banders
By Joe Harrison

Spring bird banding at ACNP was exceptional. The season started with the banders feeling a somewhat relaxed and casual attitude about the days ahead. After all, the goal of completing 10 years of study at the gulch had been achieved at the end of fall season last year. The pressure is off; take it easy and enjoy the banding experience. No one anticipated a record season. No one was prepared for the excitement that happened.

The banders were kept very busy! A total of 535 individuals of 52 different species were captured, studied, banded and released. That's a spring record for ACNP; and, it was accomplished with the least amount of time spent attending nets (only 71 hours over a 15 day span).


As usual, there were other treats to keep the banders coming back. Encounters with common gulch wildlife are always appreciated whether they be furry critters or scaly creatures. ACNP is a very small, but rich and rewarding, pocket of habitat that certainly merits its status as a nature preserve.

Anyone who desires a more detailed summary of bird banding at ACNP should contact Joe Harrison at 303-772-3481 or AvianChase@aol.com.

2001 Indian Peaks spring and summer bird count summaries
By Dave Hallock

It was a very eventful 2001 for spring and summer birds. The spring count saw many early arrivals of long-distance migrants. These included olive-sided flycatcher, warbling vireo, yellow warbler, MacGillivray's warbler, western tanager, and black-headed grosbeak. A large number of dusky flycatchers were observed for the spring. The early arrival of long-distance migrants appears to be following a trend that may be attributed to global warming. Short to mid-distance migrants did not follow suite, as missed or in low numbers were mountain bluebird, American Robin, vesper sparrow, piping sparrow, and Lincoln's sparrow. The total number of birds seen was above average, again being led by such long-distance migrants as broad-tailed hummingbird and yellow-rumped warbler. There were better than average numbers for accipiters, turkey vultures, and corvids.

The 171 hours of field time for the summer count set a record. As well, participants saw a record number of species - 112, breaking the old mark of 109. First time sightings were northern pygmy-owl, pinyon jay, northern mockingbird, and purple finch. Other good finds were double-crested cormorant, blue-winged teal, common merganser, prairie falcon, rufous hummingbird, Lewis's woodpecker, Say's phoebe, blue jay, canyon wren, sage thrasher (at treeline), orange-crowned warbler, Brewer's sparrow (at treeline), and lesser goldfinch. The total number of birds seen was on the summer count was average. Species with above average counts were turkey vulture, white-tailed ptarmigan, three-toed woodpecker, cordilleran flycatcher, Steller's jay, American crow, rock wren, ruby-crowned kinglet, hermit thrush, black-headed grosbeak, song sparrow, and house sparrow.

A more complete account of the Indian Peaks Spring and Summer Bird Counts can be found on the BCNA web page at http://www.bcna.org/ipbcSS01.pdf.


Happy Birding!
for the birds

Lewis' Woodpeckers on the nest in Boulder County
By Dianne Andrews

During the third week of June, my husband Tom was hiking at Hall Ranch Open Space near Lyons, Colorado. He saw a bird that looked like a Lewis' Woodpecker, but he didn't get a good look, so he went back the next day with binoculars and found that it was indeed the black woodpecker with the red face and rosy belly.

A few days later, on June 30th, I decided to go looking for this uncommon woodpecker, as I had never seen one in Boulder County. Sure enough there she (or he) was, sitting in the dead cottonwood near the trail, just where Tom had seen her. She repeatedly turned her head from one side to the other, the red feathers on her face and the green gloss on the black back feathers flashing in the morning sun, just as beautiful as any hummingbird.

I watched her for 15 or 20 minutes. The woodpecker finally flew from the bare cottonwood and returned a few minutes later with an insect in her beak. The open meadows that surround the draw are just what the woodpeckers like for "flycatching" (during spring and summer their diet includes grasshoppers, beetles, bees, and wasps).

Another ten minutes passed and a second Lewis' woodpecker landed on another branch of the cottonwood tree. This bird then flew down and out of sight, obscured by the vegetation in the draw. I walked back along the trail and saw the woodpecker exit a cavity in the cottonwood and heard the young woodpeckers in the nest calling for more. I saw two other cavities, one of them the same size as the nest hole. I later read that the male and female often sleep in separate quarters, and that the males incubate and care for the young as much as females do (Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas).

On July 12th I returned and watched both parents flying out from the nest and returning to feed their noisy nestlings. I visited the cottonwood snag again on July 23rd, hoping to see the fledglings. I saw three woodpeckers, two adults and one fledgling. After I saw one of the birds pass food to the fledgling, both parents flew off, while the fledging stayed in the cottonwood preening its feathers.

Apparently the woodpeckers used to be more common in the northeastern foothills, but have shifted their habitat preference to mature cottonwoods, perhaps in response to changes in the structure of ponderosa pine forests, which are currently less open than they were before fire suppression was adopted as a land management policy throughout the West in the early 1900s. Now that many land management agencies are thinning ponderosa pine forests and implementing prescribed fires, in order to return the forests to more natural conditions, the woodpeckers may once again find ponderosa pine woodlands and savannas a good place to raise their young.

According to the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas, Lewis' woodpeckers form permanent pair bonds and show strong nest fidelity, so perhaps they will use this same cottonwood snag next season. We'll be watching for them.

On the fledging process
By Linda Andes-Georges

The Burke Open Space meadow, in the southeast corner of the city, provides a small and lovely sample of high quality prairie/foothills interface. A nearly urban field, it nevertheless has an excellent mix of native plants and wildlife. During this end of summer season, with the meadowlarks long gone, the snipe and bobolink gone since July, and the Ute's ladies-tresses now past their prime amidst the tall grass, there is still one ongoing show that seems almost human: the local avian parents are having a tough time kicking the fledglings out on their own.

By day, the local red-tail hawk youngster (a female, judging by size) hangs around the periphery of the meadow and complains incessantly about her rotten life. Her voice is audible for at least ¼ mile. Occasionally, one of the red-tail parents responds with a tidbit, usually a snake. Then the new graduate perches precariously on a small cottonwood-too small to hold her clumsy weight-or on a rooftop to admire her snack. Within a half hour she recommences her begging. As soon as the sun goes down, the whining noises take on a more croaky note: the source now is no longer the redtail, but a young great-horned owl. The owl is also trying to push parental buttons. But she is now catching some prey on her own, and leaving body-part samples on the upper decks of nearby houses. With a son now a college freshman, I feel real sympathy for the avian parents of these big awkward fledglings. In our case, thanks to modern technology, the "begging" can be heard all the way from Durango.
Colorado Division of Wildlife
By Jim McKee

Missing Lynx? (kittens, that is): This winter will determine the success or failure of lynx reintroduction in Colorado. Lynx are clearly making a living in Colorado's mountain habitat. But are the females getting sufficient nutrition to bear and raise young? The jury is still out on that. There is evidence that several females have been quite sedentary for some time. Is it because they're caring for kittens? Colorado Division of Wildlife is uncertain whether they are or not. This winter's snows, which will see trackers in the high country again will tell us the answer. Until then, we can only hope for the best.

Furbearers: The final regulation proposed on behalf of the Colorado Trappers Association at the July Wildlife Commission meeting was to allow the take of pine marten, swift fox and opossum by cage trap or by calling and shooting. Many of us worked very hard to ensure that this was defeated and we won by the skin of our teeth (actually on a 4 - 4 tie vote). Since this would have been an embarrassment for the governor's office, the director of the Department of Natural Resources was on our side and actually spoke quite eloquently in opposition to the proposal.

Ears for Deers: As it is fondly known (by some) is a proposal by the Colorado Mule Deer Association which would give a mule deer preference point for five pairs of coyote ears or an elk preference point for ten pairs of coyote ears. Preference points are valuable in areas where there are limited licences for deer or elk and where licenses are awarded in a drawing. The more preference points you have, the greater the chance that your name will be drawn and you will get a license. The reason for killing coyotes is that many deer hunters feel that coyote predation on fawns is the major cause for the decline in mule deer numbers. In fact, there are many factors causing this decline including habitat loss and fragmentation, habit quality, competition with elk, and predation. Predation is not a major factor. This proposal is up for a preliminary vote at the September commission meeting in La Junta, where it will, I understand, be thrown out. There is a good chance, however, that the commission will approve a proposal allowing out of state hunters to take coyotes on their big game license without having to also buy a small game license. Although this may be distasteful to many, not many coyotes will be taken and there will be very little biological impact on the species.

Colorado Division of Wildlife
Long Range Plan Update: I was chosen to participate in the Species Conservation Group and three other members of the Colorado Wildlife Alliance (TCWA) board were chosen as members of the Watchable Wildlife Group (which has since turned into the Species Awareness Group). Other groups include Fishing and Hunting. The update which has turned into a complete rewrite of the Long Range (Strategic) Plan for the Colorado Division of Wildlife is a very time consuming process. I have attended two meetings in Denver, two in Glenwood Springs, and one in Silverthorne, with several more to go. Obviously, no one gets everything they want, but representatives from BCNA (and TCWA), Sinapu, the Sierra Club, the Colorado Farm Bureau Federation, and the Colorado Woolgrowers Association, in addition to CDOW staff actually have worked together pretty well in reaching agreement on most issues. More in the future on this as the results are finalized.
Black-tailed prairie dogs update
By Jim McKee

Beginning on September 1, 2001, sport shooting of black-tailed prairie dogs is prohibited. However—and it’s a big "however"—private landowners, their families, employees, lessees, agents, or designees can shoot prairie dogs when damage is occurring. And the case can always be made that some damage is occurring. What we have then is a ban on sport shooting on public lands in Colorado except for State Land Board land that is leased for agricultural purposes. One of the positive results of this action is that we will be able to see whether prairie dog populations on National Grasslands recover or whether it was plague rather than shooting that was suppressing populations.

The pilot Landowner Incentive Program, which will pay landowners not to control prairie dogs on dry grasslands, is moving forward. As you may remember, CDOW has a total of $600,000 available from GOCO for this program. At least three, and possibly four by now, County Soil Conservation Districts have agreed to act as leasing agents for the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW). They will take competitive bids, evaluate the suitability of habitat, and sign contracts with the winning landowners. The only "fly in the ointment" right now is that the state Attorney General's office has restricted the contracts to one year when we had hoped for five to ten year contracts. All of the states in the region inhabited by the black-tailed prairie dog are cooperating in seeking funds in the 2002 Farm Bill to continue similar incentive programs.

The EDAW study completed last year showed that eastern Colorado has approximately 214,000 acres of active prairie dog towns. Aerial surveys, intended to verify the acreage numbers have been delayed because of conflicting uses of CDOW aircraft and pilot(s) and will probably be completed sometime in October. In the meantime, we are working to establish long term acreage goals. A good target might be one percent of the suitable habitat, which would be approximately 270,000 acres and this should probably be increased to account for potential reductions from sylvatic plague.

Unfortunately, statutory restrictions remain which restrict our ability to relocate prairie dogs and prevent any limits on the use of toxicants. These restrictions might, ultimately, make listing more likely.

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**Butterflies Through Binoculars: The West**
A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Western North America
By Jeffrey Glassberg
Review by Dave Hallock

The increased interest and knowledge about butterflies has led to several new field guides. Butterflies Through Binoculars: The West, by Jeffrey Glassberg, is very useful for both beginning and advanced watchers of these colorful insects. Glassberg is a firm believer in using binoculars rather than netting to identify and view butterflies. To help with this, he has produced a field guide that is well-organized, easy to use, with images from high-quality photographs.

Compared to the new Peterson Field Guide to Western Butterflies, Glassberg’s field guide is easier to use. All information about each butterfly is found on two opposite pages, including photographs, range maps, and information on identifying field marks, habitat, abundance, and food. Until one gets to know what should be in their neighborhood, having range maps on the same page is a big help. Each set of opposite pages contains information on 3-5 closely related species. In helping to identify species, I prefer the photographs in Glassberg’s field guide to the illustrations in the Peterson book. And the author took all but 54 of the 1,136 photographs used in the book. Other general information can be found in the book. There are sections on how to identify and find butterflies, biology, gardening, photography, and conservation.

A key to identifying butterflies with binoculars is having close-focusing binoculars. They allow you to see objects as close as 5 to 7 feet away, but are still fine for mid and far distances. For me, the advantage of binoculars over netting is the relationship with the butterfly. You are seeing it on its terms, while it goes about its normal behavior. It also feels less invasive, and there is less of a chance of harassment or damage to the butterfly.
New open space and trails comprehensive plan for Longmont

Longmont has awarded GreenPlay, LLC, a national parks, recreation and open space consulting firm, with the contract to develop an Open Space and Trails Comprehensive. The purpose of this project is to develop an inventory and strategy for the acquisition and future development of the City's open space areas and trails system. The study is expected to be completed by January, 2002.

"We were particularly interested in the GreenPlay approach due to their focus on involving the community in the process," said Dan Wolford, Project Manager and superintendent of Open Space and Trails for the City of Longmont. "In addition, the City has pulled together a well-balanced team of experts including City staff from various Departments, representatives from Weld Long Range Planning, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, Trust for Public Land and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. We are excited to begin this process."

The project is being accomplished through a collaborative effort with key members of GreenPlay's consortium of professionals, including Design Concepts, TSR and Greystone Environmental. These strategic partners provide expertise in overall parks, recreation and open space management and planning, research specializing in the use of spatial data technology, identification and analysis of environmental and cultural resources, along with high quality design and technical planning.

Louisville can support open space protection

By Maureen Ivy

Louisville voters will have an opportunity to support open space protection in two ways when they mail their ballots in November. First, they can vote to approve the newly-drafted City Charter which will serve as Louisville's "constitution." Article 15 of the Charter (available for scrutiny at www.louisvillecharter.org) describes the policies which will guide the management of Louisville's open space. If approved by the voters, Louisville's Charter will impose some of the strongest, if not the strongest, wildlife/plant habitat protections of any City Charter in the state.

The second way voters can help protect open space is to vote for Bob Muckle, Louisville's first environmentalist candidate. Bob is running for Council from Ward 1. After helping to create Louisville's Open Space Advisory Board, Bob was appointed to that Board, where he has served since its inception. (More information at www.voteforbob.org) Open space foes have vowed to oppose the Charter because of Article 15. Every vote will count to preserve Louisville's native plant and animal communities.

Boulder Chapter of the Colorado Native Plant Society

Join us for free programs on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. We will meet at the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks offices, 66 South Cherryvale Road. For more information, contact Chapter President Kathy Damas at 303.543.1492.

Thursday October 11, 2001
A Photographic Journey of Big Bend Through Time and Space
Join local botanists/photographers Bill Jennings and Carolyn Crawford who, over the last 20 years, have visited the park around the seasons, from the Rio Grande to the top of the Chisos Mountains at 7500 feet.

Thursday November 15, 2001
Spiranthes Diuvalialis (Ute Ladies'-Tresses Orchid) in a Post Dam Setting on the Green River in Northwest Colorado
Dinosaur National Monument botanist Tamara Naumann will discuss post-dam distribution of Ute ladies'-tresses orchid along the Green River below Flaming Gorge dam and it's implications for management and recovery of this threatened species.

Thursday December 13, 2001
Nebraska Sandhills, Sea of Grass
Stephen Jones -- Boulder teacher, naturalist, environmental consultant and writer -- will talk about why the largest remaining expanse of mixed-grass and tallgrass prairie is becoming more natural as time goes by. He will focus on unique plant communities, wildlife, and land use issues.

Thursday January 10, 2002
Vegetation of Mongolia; Similarities to Colorado Flora
Gwen Kittel, a terrestrial ecologist with The Nature Conservancy, will be showing slides of her travels that will compare the Asiatic climate, landscape and flora to our own.
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Artwork Credits, Acknowledgements, Etc.
Page 3: Raptors - Steve Jones; Page 6: Flowers - Susan Winter; Page 7: Prairie Dogs - Steve Jones
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**The membership year is January 1 to December 31.**

(Members who join after October 1 are considered paid through the following year.)

All members receive this quarterly newsletter.

Supporter-level members (and higher) also receive a complimentary copy of each BCNA publication that is published during the membership year.

Please make checks payable to “Boulder County Nature Association” or “BCNA” and mail to:

P.O. Box 493
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