Rob Palmer has been involved with animals since he was very young. He has always had a passion for birds of prey, and has pursued that passion throughout his adult life. In college, he spent numerous hours studying the nesting territories of prairie falcons in Northeastern Colorado, and additional time researching screech owls nesting along the Boulder Creek trail in the center of Boulder, Colorado.

Rob taught life science and biology for seven years in the late eighties and early nineties. Since that time, he has spent most of his free time studying raptors and refining his photography techniques.

Photography has always been a part of Rob’s life. He began taking pictures with a Polaroid black and white camera when he was twelve, then quickly moved on to a 35 mm SLR. His first SLR was a Kowa. In high school he became the school's photographer and was able to use the school's Pentax cameras. The basics in photography have stuck with him.


Join us Thursday, April 8th, for “Birds in Flight” and enjoy this opportunity to learn how to photograph them.

This program is free and the public is welcomed!
March 7, Sunday. **Bobcat Ridge Natural Area Bird Survey.** Leader: Denise Bretting. [dbretting@swloveland.com](mailto:dbretting@swloveland.com), work: 669-1185, or home: 669-8095). Meet at 7:00 am. **Note:** the date for this month has been changed from the usual 2nd Sunday to the 1st. FCAS performs a monthly bird census for the city of Fort Collins. All levels welcomed and encouraged!

March 20, Saturday. **Area Raptors,** 9am-2pm. Leader: Eric DeFonso ([yoericd@yahoo.com](mailto:yoericd@yahoo.com), or 472-1761). We'll meet at the Watson Lake State Wildlife Area near Bellvue. A Habitat Stamp is suggested but not required. We will go in search of raptors of all kinds - hawks, eagles, falcons, and maybe an owl if we're lucky. Plan on carpooling and bring a scope if you have one. We'll be out for about 5 hours, so bring some snacks and water too.

April 3, Saturday. **Gull Identification Workshop.** Leader: Nick Komar. Meeting place and time TBA. Join us as we take a closer look at the numerous gulls that grace our area in the cold season, but as reservoirs begin to open up with the increasing daylight. Gulls can be challenging to identify, but they have the benefit of being easy to find and generally cooperative. We may visit one or several lakes and reservoirs, depending on recent gull activity. Contact Nick at [quetzal65@comcast.net](mailto:quetzal65@comcast.net), or 416-7527.

April 11, Sunday. **Bobcat Ridge Natural Area Bird Survey.** Leader: Denise Bretting ([dbretting@swloveland.com](mailto:dbretting@swloveland.com), work: 669-1185, or home: 669-8095). Meet at 7:00 am. FCAS performs a monthly bird census for the city of Fort Collins. All levels welcomed and encouraged!

April 24, Saturday. **Beginner Birding Trip.** Leader: Nancy Howard. Meet at Cottonwood Hollow Natural Area in Fort Collins, at a time to be determined. Join Nancy for a low-key birding trip in town, in a great birding spot! Email Nancy at Nancy.Howard@state.co.us for more information.

April 25-30. **Colorado Grouse Tour.** Join us for a 6-day tour of Colorado’s resident gallinaceous birds. Tour target species include: Greater Sage-Grouse, Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Dusky Grouse, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, Wild Turkey, Chukar, Gambel’s Quail,Scaled Quail, Northern Bobwhite and Ring-necked Pheasant (some of which require special permits or permission for viewing). Our route circles the entire state during spring migration, so we will see much more (>150 species!). Viewing and photographing the birds will take priority, so expect a relaxed pace while viewing the birds (but lots of driving each day). Trip is limited to 6 participants (including companions). Cost: $1195 per person (or $995 per person double occupancy) includes ground transportation (12-person van), 5 nights lodging, viewing ees; Tour profits benefit FCAS and the Quetzal Foundation. Leader: Jess Brauch. To reserve a seat or for more information, contact Nick Komar, 970-449-3645, [info@quetzalfoundation.org](mailto:info@quetzalfoundation.org).

May 2-7. **Colorado Grouse Tour.** Join us for a 6-day tour of Colorado’s resident gallinaceous birds. Tour target species include: Greater Sage-Grouse, Gunnison Sage-Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Dusky Grouse, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, Wild Turkey, Chukar, Gambel’s Quail,Scaled Quail, Northern Bobwhite and Ring-necked Pheasant (some of which require special permits or permission for viewing). Our route circles the entire state during spring migration, so we will see much more (>150 species!). Viewing and photographing the birds will take priority, so expect a relaxed pace while viewing the birds (but lots of driving each day). Trip is limited to 6 participants (including companions). Cost: $1195 per person (or
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