

KITE TALES

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

VOL. 5~NR 9

SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

MAY 1971

MAY MEETING.....

The regular meeting of the RRORS will be held on Thursday, May 13, at 8 P.M. in Room 221 of the Darwin Hall of Science at Sonoma State College.

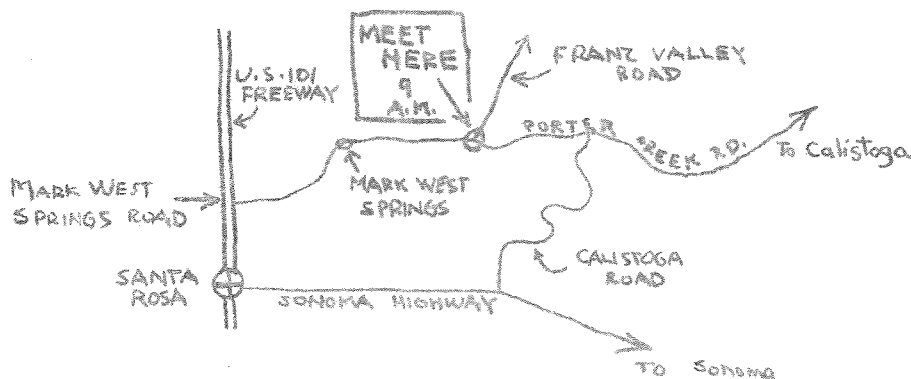
Our speaker will be Clerin Zumwalt, Naturalist of the Audubon Canyon Ranch, who will offer observations concerning PLANT SUCCESSION, AND THE MAKING OF SOIL. His talk will cover the building of soils by different means and will include comments upon nature's efforts to heal the scars of man's activities. His own slides will be used to illustrate.

His promises to be a highly informative talk about a very basic factor in the environment. Mr. Zumwalt was our speaker in May last year, also, and those who were present can testify to his great ability as a speaker and to the high quality of his photography. We urge that you attend and do bring along a guest.

MAY FIELD TRIP, SATURDAY, MAY ~~13~~ ⁸

Editor goofed! — sorry

We shall again enjoy the delightful Ida Clayton run north of Mount St. Helena. This will be our sixth spring visit to the area. The past trips have turned up a total of 101 species and an average of 75 per trip. Some of the 'stand out' species have been: Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Mountain Quail, Pygmy Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Purple Martin, Rock Wren, Nashville Warbler, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Sage Sparrow, and Black-chinned Sparrow. (Editor's note; If anyone has the list for last year's trip there would you please send me a copy. I do not have that record. GLB.)



The party will leave from the junction of Porter Creek Road and Franz Valley Road at 9 A.M. but earlier birders are invited to meet at the Mark West Springs resort at 8 A.M. for a 'look see' thereabouts.

Come along and enjoy our last scheduled outing until next fall. Bring your binoc's, your field guides, and a bit of lunch as well as a friend. We are sure to find something of interest.

NEW OFFICERS TAKE OVER.....

We all owe a debt of gratitude for the hard work that was done by the officers, particularly the President, Baron McLean, of last year. The new slate of officers taking over at this meeting are dedicated to maintaining equally high standards. Our very best wishes for a successful year are extended to them. They are:

- President - CLARENCE TUCKER
1309 Denlyn St., Novato 94947 (415)892-3193
- Vice-pres.- Dr. Leland Gralapp
6177 Batesole Dr., Santa Rosa 95405 (707)544-0294
- Secretary - Linda Hanes
3237 Midway Dr., Santa Rosa 95405 (707)546-5751
- Treasurer - Merton Roberts
1400 Spring Hill Rd., Petaluma 94952 (707)763-7009

Assisting will be the following committee chairmen:

- Programs - Dr. John Arnold
199 Calistoga Rd., Santa Rosa 95404 (707)539-4544
- Field Trips - Dr. Benj. D. Parmeter
2005 Waverly St., Napa 94558 (707)255-6757
- Hospitality - Mrs. John Schallert
5640 Hall Rd., Santa Rosa 95401 (707)546-0837
- Publicity - Baron McLean
1002 Danbeck Ave., Santa Rosa 95404 (707)545-0851
- KITE TALES Editor - Gordon Bolander
1650 Timber Hill Rd., Santa Rosa 95401 (707)542-5216

And YOU, of course. Our continued success depends upon your support of our activities. We are not a financial giant nor do we wish to become such. Our expenses are kept to the barest minimum in order that we might continue to offer quality programs and field trips despite the very low figure of our dues. It is important that we receive your remittance of the annual dues promptly. If you have not already done so, will you please take care of this at the next meeting or send them to our treasurer at your earliest convenience? We encourage you to invite others to join with us. Our programs will continue the high level of excellence that has been customary in the past.

It is a custom of the RRROS that we have a little "coffee-and" social session following the program and business meeting. The refreshments are donated by some generous soul each time. It is one of the duties of our hospitality chairman to find such an angel each month. It would make her job ever so much more pleasant if you would contact her and volunteer to take over on this for a meeting. Here is an opportunity for a more active participation by some.

The REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, organized in 1962, is dedicated to the study of birds and other wildlife and to the conservation of them and of their natural habitat. Its meetings are held on the second Thursday of each calendar month, September through May. The regular meeting place is in the Darwin Hall of Science, Sonoma State College, Rohnert Park, Cal. 94928

Memberships are available at the following rates:

Family, \$4.50 Includes all members of single family residence
Individual, \$3.00
Student, \$1.00 Includes all students in High School or above
Juniors, \$.50

Memberships are in effect from May to May. KITE TALES are sent to all member households.

Field trips are held each month during our meeting schedule and occasionally during the "off" summer months. We are proud of the quality of these and strive to maintain a high degree of accuracy in our observations while yet having enjoyable outings. Our annual Christmas count is one of the best of those without access to a coast line anywhere in the nation. With the same enthusiastic response we have had from you birders in the past I am sure that it will continue among the leaders.

MARCH FIELD TRIP.....

Good birding does not always have to be at some distant spot. Our group was not over eight miles from the center of downtown Santa Rosa on the 20th of March this year yet we compiled a list of 99 species within an area less than a mile in length. The Laguna de Santa Rosa affords this bountiful birding. It is a low-lying "flood plain" agricultural area in which considerable flooding occurs during the rainy season. Ponded waters are in evidence until well into the summer months. An effort should be made to retain this ecological treasure so that future generations might be rewarded with an equally rich avifauna.

It will be noted from the list that practically all the sightings were of the "bread-and-butter" birds that one would expect to find in such a habitat. The only exceptions were a pair of Hooded Mergansers which obligingly showed themselves off before our group to everyone's satisfaction. The hoped for Blue-winged Teal were not located. (However, three males and a female have been there since April 11). The variety of birds observed is a reflection of the fact that the area has contrasting types of habitat. There are open fields, both wet and dry, riparian tree growth, dry or flooded, and adjoining tree-covered slopes. The RROS has visited this area on six March trips dating back to 1962 and 125 species have been recorded during those outings. The average trip list has been 84.

Pied-billed Grebe	Wood Duck	Red-tailed Hawk
Great Blue Heron	Ring-necked Duck	Red-shouldered Hawk
Common Egret	Canvasback	Marsh Hawk
Snowy Egret	Lesser Scaup	Osprey
Black-crowned Night Heron	Ruddy Duck	Sparrow Hawk
Mallard	Hooded Merganser	California Quail
Pintail	Turkey Vulture	Ring-necked Pheasant
Green-winged Teal	White-tailed Kite	American Coot
Cinnamon Teal	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Killdeer
Shoveler	Cooper Hawk	Common Snipe

MARCH FIELD TRIP (Cont'd.)

Greater Yellowlegs	Barn Swallow	Orange-crowned Warbler
Least Sandpiper	Cliff Swallow	Myrtle Warbler
Dunlin	Scrub Jay	Audubon Warbler
Long-billed Dowitcher	Common Raven	Townsend Warbler
Western Sandpiper	Common Crow	House Sparrow
Glaucous-winged Gull	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Western Meadowlark
Herring Gull	Plain Titmouse	Red-winged Blackbird
California Gull	Common Bushtit	Brewer Blackbird
Ring-billed Gull	White-breasted Nuthatch	Brown-headed Cowbird
Mourning Dove	Brown Creeper	Purple Finch
Great Horned Owl	Wrentit	House Finch
Burrowing Owl	Winter Wren	Pine Siskin
Anna Hummingbird	Bewick Wren	American Goldfinch
Allen Hummingbird	Mockingbird	Lesser Goldfinch
Belted Kingfisher	California Thrasher	Rufous-sided Towhee
Red-shafted Flicker	American Robin	Brown Towhee
Acorn Woodpecker	Hermit Thrush	Savannah Sparrow
Downy Woodpecker	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Oregon Junco
Nuttall Woodpecker	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	White-crowned Sparrow
Black Phoebe	Water Pipit	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Violet-green Swallow	Loggerhead Shrike	Fox Sparrow
Tree Swallow	Starling	Lincoln Sparrow
Rough-winged Swallow	Hutton Vireo	Song Sparrow

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 APRIL FIELD TRIP.....

The April 24th field trip from Middletown in Lake County down Butts Canyon Road through Pope Valley and past Detert Reservoir to Lake Hennessey in Napa County was enjoyed by a party of twelve on a clear cool day. Western Kingbirds and Bullock Orioles were very plentiful and both were nesting, as were the Lark Sparrows. Yellow Tidy-tips predominated in the acres and acres of golden blooms. We had a morning without wind or rain. The bird count was less than fifty but a good "interior" habitat made the day thoroughly enjoyable for us "coastlanders". Lunch at Pope Valley was eaten to the tune of Ringed Turtle Dove calls. We missed the Roadrunner, Lewis Woodpecker, and Lawrence Goldfinch. Better luck next time.

Pied-billed Grebe	Western Kingbird	House Sparrow
Great Blue Heron	Black Phoebe	Western Meadowlark
Mallard	Violet-green Swallow	Red-winged Blackbird
Bufflehead	Tree Swallow	Bullock Oriole
Ruddy Duck	Rough-winged Swallow	Brewer Blackbird
Turkey Vulture	Cliff Swallow	Brown-headed Cowbird
Red-tailed Hawk	Scrub Jay	Black-headed Grosbeak
Sparrow Hawk	Common Crow	House Finch
California Quail	Plain Titmouse	American Goldfinch
American Coot	Common Bushtit	Lesser Goldfinch
Killdeer	White-breasted Nuthatch	Brown Towhee
Caspian Tern	House Wren	Lark Sparrow
Mourning Dove	American Robin	Oregon Junco
Anna Hummingbird	Western Bluebird	White-crowned Sparrow
Belted Kingfisher	Starling	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Acorn Woodpecker	Warbling Vireo	Song Sparrow

Additional species en-route: Mountain Quail, Band-tailed Pigeon, Lewis Woodpecker, and Rufous-sided Towhee