

KITE TALES

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
VOL. 7~NO. 2 SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA OCTOBER 1972

OCTOBER MEETING.....

The regular meeting of the RROS will be held on Thursday, October 12, in Room 221 of the Charles Darwin Hall of Science, California State College of Sonoma in Rhonert Park. Program will start at 8:00PM.

The evening program will feature the ever-popular John Smail, of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, who will bring us up to date on the status of the Farallone Islands. The film "THE FARALLONE LIGHT" will be shown. Do bring a friend to enjoy this outstanding program.

OCTOBER FIELD TRIP.....

The popular off-shore trip to be held from Bodega on Oct. 8 already has a waiting list for any possible cancellations. Unfortunately, the only larger boat available here calls for such a substantial down payment that the chartering of it is unfeasible at present. Perhaps a future collaboration with other birding groups might bring it within reach. We ask those who are participating to bring along a supply of fat and/or suet scraps to entice the birds to a closer range. It does work!

SEPTEMBER MEETING.....

The 1972-73 "launching" at the home of the Schallerts was a great success. We're sorry that every member was not able to be there to enjoy the fine hospitality, the great food, and the enjoyable exchange of birding experiences that ensued. This is one of those intangible, yet wonderful, values which can be achieved only in a smaller group such as ours. Our hats are doffed in thanks to Irma Schallert and Linda Hanes whose efforts brought it off so smoothly.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE PRESENTATIONS.....

The first such of the season will be held on Saturday, October 7, at 7:30 PM. in the Luther Burbank Memorial Theater of the Santa Rosa Junior College. George Anderson will present, "Owens Valley - A California Land Ethic"

The second in the series will also be presented in October. It is set for Saturday, the 28th, and features John Taft with "Yosemite - An Ecological Visit" See Baron McLean for tickets. These are also available at the door.

A REMINDER.....

Our fiscal year starts in September, so your 1972-73 dues are payable now to Irma Schallert, Treasurer, 5640 Hall Rd., Santa Rosa, Cal. 95401. Even better, bring them with you to our meeting!

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP.....

Our trip to Tubb's Island again demonstrated the fine quality of birding available there. Now that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors has belatedly ceased its objections to the establishment of a larger refuge area there, it is hoped that such will soon become a reality.

The day's list consisted of 74 species noted at the Nature Conservancy's refuge area. Seven of these (according to the records your editor has) were new to the RRCS sightings there and brings the over-all list for the site to 112 species. The turn-out of 28 participants shared the area with a group from the Solano Audubon Society and all were rewarded with some fine bird observations.

A sub-adult GOLDEN EAGLE obliged by returning after its first passage over the area had been missed by most. A couple of harassment passes at it by a very light-plumaged RED-TAILED HAWK served to emphasize its great size. The bird's reappearance followed immediately after the group had had the pleasure of viewing a fine PEREGRINE FALCON which caused no little consternation among the shorebirds on the mudflats as it passed over. Two BAIRD SANDPIPERS provided some great comparisons with the smaller LEASTS as they fed at close range, while a less cooperative GOLDEN PLOVER yielded only a momentary sighting as it flew by in the company of two KILLDEER. The hoped-for ELEGANT TERNS were finally located but at a bit of a distance, however. These outstanding items relegated species such as LONG-BILLED CURLEW, AVOCET, WHITE-TAILED KITE, WHITE PELICAN, EGRETS, and many others to secondary status. Conservation efforts are beginning to pay off. Many of us can remember when just ONE Snowy Egret or White-tailed Kite would have "made" the day!

Western Grebe	Ring-necked Pheasant	Horned Lark
Pied-billed Grebe	Virginia Rail	Violet-green Swallow
White Pelican	American Coot	Rough-winged Swallow
Brown Pelican	Killdeer	Barn Swallow
Double-crested Cormorant	Golden Plover	Common Raven
Great Blue Heron	Black-bellied Plover	Common Bushtit
Common Egret	Long-billed Curlew	Bewick Wren
Snowy Egret	Willet	Long-billed Marsh Wren
Black-cr. Night Heron	Greater Yellowlegs	Water Pipit
Mallard	Least Sandpiper	Loggerhead Shrike
Gadwall	Baird Sandpiper	Orange-crowned Warbler
Pintail	Long-billed Dowitcher	Yellow Warbler
Cinnamon Teal	Western Sandpiper	Yellowthroat
Shoveler	Marbled Godwit	Western Meadowlark
Scaup, sp?	American Avocet	Red-winged Blackbird
Scoter, sp?	Northern Phalarope	Brewer Blackbird
Ruddy Duck	Western Gull	House Finch
Turkey Vulture	Ring-billed Gull	Pine Siskin
White-tailed Kite	Forster Tern	American Goldfinch
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Elegant Tern	Lesser Goldfinch
Red-tailed Hawk	Caspian Tern	Rufous-sided Towhee
Golden Eagle	Mourning Dove	Savannah Sparrow
Marsh Hawk	Black Phoebe	White-crowned Sparrow
Peregrine Falcon	Say Phoebe	Song Sparrow
Sparrow Hawk	Flycatcher sp? (Empidonax)	

FIELD OBSERVATIONS,

There is much going on in the field that your editor feels would be of interest to others even if it does reach them a bit late. Future plans are made on what goes before, you know. Please drop me a card at 1650 Timber Hill Rd., Santa Rosa, Cal. 95401 so that yours might be included in the Kite Tales.

'Bud' Gralapp and Baron McLean recently had an Eastern Kingbird at Bodega, while 'Mike' and John Parmeter saw some great items in the Monterey area on Sept. 23-24. These included: Clay-colored Sparrow, Parula Warbler, American Redstart, Tropical Kingbird, and even more.

Most things generally get to me as somewhat ancient and hearsay items. Our paper would be much more interesting with the inclusion of more sightings. Send them to me, please.

A personal contribution to the cause is based on the sighting of two Crested Mynahs over Santa Rosa on Sept. 22. Gives rise to the immediate question, is this a "valid" occurrence or an incidence of 'escapees'? Keep your eyes open in either case. Remember the Starlings!

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, established 1962

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The Society meets on the second Thursday of the month from September to May, inclusive. Meetings are held in Rm. 221, Charles Darwin Hall of Science California State College of Sonoma, Rhonert Park. Membership dues; Family, \$4.50; Individual, \$2.00. Kite Tales mailing

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