

KITE TALES

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
VOL. 7~N^o5 SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA JANUARY 1973

JANUARY MEETING.....

The regular meeting of the RRCS will be held on Thursday, January 11, in Room 221 of the Charles Darwin Hall of Science, California State College of Sonoma in Rohnert Park. Program will start at 8:00 PM.

The speaker of the evening will be Dr. Benjamin D. Parmeter, who will tell of his experiences in SEEKING SONGSTERS OF SOUTHERN SONORA. This is about the most recent of his several birding trips to explore the rich avifauna of Mexico. It is always a pleasure to hear from an enthusiastic, knowledgeable observer such as he. The talk will be illustrated with slides made on that trip by Jack Guseolz and by the speaker.

JANUARY FIELD TRIP.....

A return to the Sonoma County coastline is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, under the able leadership of 'Mike' Parmeter. The departure point will be at the junction of State Highways 1 and 116 on the lower Russian River. The party will leave there at 9 AM. This trip always provides a wide variety of bird types and a high number of species. Last year's trip over the same route had a list of 102 birds.

XAU DUBON SCREEN TOUR FILM, THIS SATURDAY, JANUARY 6.....

Greg McMillan will show his film THE LIVING JUNGLE compiled during ten years on Barro Colorado Island in the Panama Canal Zone.

7:30 PM. Burbank Memorial Auditorium. Santa Rosa Junior College.

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY.....

The speaker at our meeting on February 8 will be Jon Winters and our field trip, on the 17th, will be to Thornton. Last Year there we had an estimated 3600 cranes and several hundred swans in a list of 86 observed species.

Plan to attend each of these standout events. Bring a friend or two!

THE CHRISTMAS COUNT.....

To all of those who contributed their skills, time, and money to our Christmas Count on December 23, a great vote of thanks. A more complete report will no doubt be forthcoming from Compiler Baron Clear, so we'll simply report our total of species seen on count day: 125.

The true value of these counts lies in consistently recording the highest possible percentage of the individual birds present year after year. Only this will establish a valid basis for worthwhile analyses of developing trends in bird populations. Your editor feels there is not sufficient emphasis put upon this point. The number of species recorded, while of great importance, receives undue stress. We need more observers to cover the common species adequately. The fact that a high percentage of our membership participated in other counts as well as our own is an indication that we are blessed with zealous and dedicated birding members. However, too much is expected of too few. Our club is simply too small to adequately cover a Christmas Count area without added help. On our next count let's have each of us try to bring in more assistance than was with us on this one. Don't leave it up to the already overburdened compiler.

WANT TO SEE SOME "GOODIES"?.....

Three BALD EAGLES seem to be well established at Lake Pillsbury. There's a ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK at the mouth of Austin Creek at the Russian River. The ROCK SANDPIPERS are again keeping the other "rock birds" company at the Bodega Head. Three WHISTLING SWANS have settled in at Salmon Creek. Bodega also boasts another NORTHERN SHRIKE. FLOODED Mergansers seem particularly numerous this season. Lake Tennessee had 11, others at Pillsbury, and many of the smaller farm ponds. Watch for them. SAN-DIET OWLS have been on Timber Hill again.

Spread the word promptly, please, when you find such items. Birds are highly mobile and your fellow birders appreciate the opportunity to view the unusual ones before they move along.

GRAYLODGE REFUGE TRIP, December 2, 1972.

Cold and foggy. This seemed to bother the birds far less than it did the birders! The warm luncheon room provided by the refuge management seemed as popular a find as anything in the bird line. The highlight in that area was a male European Widgeon which couldn't completely conceal himself among the hundreds of Baldpate with which he was associated. Otherwise, the list reveals that we enjoyed fine observations.

Pied-billed Grebe	Marsh Hawk	Long-billed Marsh Wren
Great Blue Heron	Sparrow Hawk	Mockingbird
White-fronted Goose	Ring-necked Pheasant	Water Pipit
Snow Goose	Sandhill Crane	Loggerhead Shrike
Ross Goose	Virginia Rail	Starling
Mallard	Sora	Audubon Warbler
Gadwall	Common Gallinule	House Sparrow
Pintail	American Coot	Western Meadowlark
Green-winged Teal	Killdeer	Red-winged Blackbird
Binnanon Teal	Greater Yellowlegs	Tri-colored Blackbird
European Widgeon	Least Sandpiper	Brewer Blackbird
American Widgeon	Dunlin	House Finch
Shoveler	Long-billed Dowitcher	Pine Siskin

Ring-necked Duck
Lesser (Sp.?) Scaup
Ruddy Duck
Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk

Ring-billed Gull
Mourning Dove
Red-shafted Flicker
Black Phoebe
Horned Lark
Bewick Wren

Lesser Goldfinch
Brown Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Oregon Junco
White-crowned Sparrow

56 in the refuge

Whistling Swan
White-tailed Pigeon
Ferruginous Hawk
California Quail
Long-billed Curlew
Burrowing Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Acorn Woodpecker
Lewis Woodpecker

Red-breasted Sapsucker
Nutall Woodpecker
Stellar Jay
Scrub Jay
Yellow-billed Magpie
Common Crow
Plain Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
American Robin

Hermit Thrush
Western Bluebird
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Brown-headed Cowbird
American Goldfinch
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Song Sparrow

27 away from refuge
83 total species

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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 Room 221, Charles Darwin Hall of Science, California State College-Sonoma, Rohnert Park. Convene at 8 P.M.

MEMBERSHIPS: Family, \$4.50; Individual, \$3.00; Student, \$1.00
KITE TALES mailing list, \$2.00.

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Tear-off and display in driver's compartment

SONOMA STATE COLLEGE
PARKING PERMIT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1973
(Non-reserved sections only)

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ROOM 221-DARWIN