

KITE TALES

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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WARDEN ANDERSON TO SPEAK

The Redwood Region Ornithological Society will hold its May meeting on Thurs., May 9 in Room 112 of the Charles Darwin Hall of Science at Sonoma State College.

The speaker will be William 'Bill' Anderson, who is a Game Warden with the California Department of Fish and Game in the San Jose area. His talk will center around slides which he has taken of birds in California and Lower California.

FIELD TRIP TO NEW STATE PARK

A field trip is scheduled for Saturday, May 18. It will be to the new Sugarloaf State Park east of Santa Rosa. Meet at the junction of Sonoma Hiway and Adobe Canyon Road (the road to Golden Bear Lodge) at 8:30 AM. 'Mike' Parmeter will lead.

APRIL MEETING.....

An audience of twenty-four people was on hand to hear Carl Bock's excellent presentation of his observations on the ecology of the Lewis Woodpecker. The predilection of the bird for older, more open burned areas was explained as due to its habit of taking its insect food on the wing and not obtaining it by the boring method usual to most woodpeckers. The Lewis Woodpecker was also shown to store its acorns and other nuts in available cracks rather than in self-drilled cavities as does the Acorn Woodpecker. Its relations with other species were brought out and the talk was very effectively illustrated by the speaker's fine colored slides.

The continued high quality of our programs must surely be a source of satisfaction to our program chairmen. We salute your fine efforts.

The slate of officers for the coming year will be as follows:

President	Robert Failing
Vice-president	Wilfred Olmstead
Recording Secretary	Marta Mayer
Corresponding Secretary	Gordon Bolander
Treasurer	Dr. Benjamin Parmeter

The ever-willing McDuffees receive our 'thank yous' for the refreshments following our last meeting.

Whatever became of the donation box which used to be in evidence? Surely our willingness to donate to the cause is no less now than it used to be!

APRIL OFF-SHORE TRIP

The April offshore birding trip found fourteen participants aboard the FINBACK as it braved a potentially windy day out of Bodega. Blow it did, resulting in the roughest trip we've yet experienced there. As a consequence, the trip was somewhat curtailed. For some, unfortunately, it was not soon enough and our sympathies were of little good in the face of their plight. The birds, of course, reveled in the wind and the flight patterns of shearwaters, gulls, and 'alcids' were rewarding to the group even though the pleasure of seeing an albatross was denied us.

Following the landing, a few of the group birded a while in the vicinity of Bodega. Species added as a result are marked with an asterisk in the list.

Common Loon	Osprey	Forster Tern
Arctic Loon	*California Quail	Caspian Tern
Red-throated Loon	American Coot	Common Murre
Horned Grebe	Semi-palmated Plover	Pigeon Guillemot
Eared Grebe	Killdeer	Rhinoceros Auklet
Western Grebe	Black-bellied Plover	*Belted Kingfisher
Pink-footed Shearwater	Surfbird	*Black Phoebe
Sooty Shearwater	*Ruddy Turnstone	*Rough-winged Swallow
Double-crested Cormorant	*Black Turnstone	Barn Swallow
Brandt Cormorant	Willet	*Cliff Swallow
Pelagic Cormorant	Greater Yellowlegs	*Common Raven
Great Blue Heron	*Least Sandpiper	*Long-billed Marsh Wren
Snowy Egret	Dunlin	*Loggerhead Shrike
Black-crowned Night Heron	Short-billed Dowitcher	*Starling
Black Brant	*Western Sandpiper	House Sparrow
Greater Scaup	Marbled Godwit	Western Meadowlark
*Lesser Scaup	Sanderling	Red-winged Blackbird
Common Goldeneye	*Northern Phalarope	Brewer Blackbird
Bufflehead	Glaucous-winged Gull	*Brown-headed Cowbird
White-winged Scoter	Western Gull	House Finch
Surf Scoter	Herring Gull	*American Goldfinch
Common Scoter	California Gull	*Savannah Sparrow
Ruddy Duck	Ring-billed Gull	White-crowned Sparrow
Red-breasted Merganser	*Mew Gull	Song Sparrow
*Marsh Hawk	Bonaparte Gull	

MAY 4 FIELD TRIP TO IDA CLAYTON ROAD

The special field trip to the Ida Clayton Road found ten people on hand for a most enjoyable bit of birding. As a result of the day's activities, a new species was added to the club's "life list" and two others were seen which previously had merely been heard on club outings.

At the point where the Franz Valley Road crosses the Franz Creek, two Pygmy Owls were heard calling. One continued to call long enough to let us locate it and to obtain good views of the bird as it sat near the top of a sizeable oak. This was one of the birds that we had merely heard on former club trips. At the same point a rookery of Great Blue Herons was discovered in some tall Douglas fir trees high on the ridge where they had somehow escaped the fire which swept this area two years ago.

Luncheon was eaten high on the road by the headwaters of Briggs Creek amid a chorus of bird song. The voices of seven different warblers and of three different vireos were included. The viewing of a fine male Pileated Woodpecker at this point provided the actual sighting of the second species which had previously appeared on club lists merely from having heard the birds.

The highlight observation of the day was in the presence of several Black-chinned Sparrows on the slopes near Sugarloaf Hill. At least four singing individuals were heard and fine views were obtained of three. This bird is a new addition to the club list (No. 251). This also marks an important extension of the bird's range. The northernmost points of occurrence which were known before were the ridges in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. I believe there is also a record for Mt. Tamalpais in Marin County.

Turkey Vulture	Scrub Jay	Hermit Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk	Common Crow	MacGillivray Warbler
Red-shouldered Hawk	Chestnut-backed	Wilson Warbler
California Quail	Chickadee	Western Meadowlark
Mountain Quail	Plain Titmouse	Red-winged Blackbird
Killdeer	Common Bushtit	Bullock Oriole
Mourning Dove	White-breasted Nuthatch	Brewer Blackbird
Pygmy Owl	Pygmy Nuthatch	Brown-headed Cowbird
Anna Hummingbird	Brown Creeper	Western Tanager
Belted Kingfisher	Wrentit	Black-headed Grosbeak
Red-shafted Flicker	House Wren	Lazuli Bunting
Pileated Woodpecker	Bewick Wren	Purple Finch
Acorn Woodpecker	Robin	House Finch
Hairy Woodpecker	Swainson Thrush	Lesser Goldfinch
Nuttall Woodpecker	Western Bluebird	Rufous-sided Towhee
Western Kingbird	Cedar Waxwing	Brown Towhee
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Loggerhead Shrike	Lark Sparrow
Black Phoebe	Starling	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Western Flycatcher	Hutton Vireo	Sage Sparrow
Western Wood Pewee	Solitary Vireo	Oregon Junco
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo	Chipping Sparrow
Violet-green Swallow	Orange-crowned Warbler	Black-chinned Sparrow
Rough-winged Swallow	Nashville Warbler	Song Sparrow
Cliff Swallow	Yellow Warbler	
Stellar Jay	Audubon Warbler	
	Townsend Warbler	

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