

Kite Tales

SEPTEMBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Volume 21, No. 1

Sonoma County

1986

COMING ATTRACTIONS

September 11, Thursday - RROS Potluck and General Meeting: 6 PM

Once again comes time for the first meeting of the season...our annual Fall potluck at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. Bring a favorite dish to share - salad, main course, dessert or whatever - and your own beverage and utensils. No admission fee will be charged to RROS members and guests; the Society picks up the tab. After dinner will be a short business meeting, followed by an owl walk. Directions: Take Hwy 12 towards Kenwood. About ½ mile north of Kenwood, turn onto Adobe Canyon Rd. Follow this road to the park and continue ahead to the North Campground. Come along and bring a friend, and prepare to tell where you saw those great birds last summer.

September 20, Saturday - Field Trip to Point Reyes

We'll meet at 8 AM at the Fish Docks. Mike Parmeter and Ruth Rudesill will lead this annual exploration for Fall vagrants. Late September and early October are peak times for astray birds at the Point. Baird's, Pectoral and other less common sandpipers are often seen, in addition to eastern warblers. In case of rain or other questions, please phone Mike at 255-6257 or Ruth at 833-6026.

Future Field Trips

October 11, Saturday; Jack Arnold will lead a trip to Bodega Bay. We'll meet at 8 AM at the Tides parking lot.

November 16, Sunday; Doug Ellis will lead a trip to Willow Creek Road. Meeting place will be in Occidental, in the parking area near Negri's Restaurant. For owling, please be there at 4:30 AM. For other landbirds, the group will meet there at 8 AM.

NEW CHAIRMEN FOR RROS COMMITTEES

Bob Rains has accepted appointment as Field Trips Chairman for this next year. So let him know of any notions you may have on where you would like to see the group go birding...phone 528-6785.

Our new Observations Chairman will be Dick Ashford. Please send or phone him any interesting sightings you know about...731 Austin St, Sonoma, 95476; 996-7508.

Our thanks to both of these men for taking on these assignments for RROS.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Some outstanding birds turned up on the field trips last Spring, worth noting for future reference. These two trips occurred too late to be reported in our May issue of KITE TALES:

Ida Clayton Road on April 26, led by Mike Parmeter

This expedition found Mountain Quail, Northern Pygmy Owl, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, California Thrasher, 7 warblers and a Sage Sparrow to headline the day.

Eighteen birders met with Mike for this trip and counted 66 species: Canada Goose, Turkey Vulture; Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawks; Mountain Quail, American Coot, Mourning Dove, Northern Pygmy Owl, Vaux's and White-throated Swifts, Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds, Belted Kingfisher, Acorn Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Western Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher and Western Kingbird, Purple Martin, Tree and Violet-green Swallows, No. Rough-winged and Barn Swallows, Steller's and Scrub Jays, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Bewick's Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Wrentit, California Thrasher, European Starling; Solitary, Hutton's and Warbling Vireos; and warblers: Orange-crowned, Nashville, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Gray, Hermit, MacGillivray's and Wilson's; Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Rufous-sided and Brown Towhees, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Sage Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, and Lesser Goldfinch.

Sacramento Valley on May 17; Joel Hornstein, Leader

This trip produced Blue Grosbeaks, which Joel had suggested, as well as Wood Ducks and Lazuli Buntings. Richard Merriss, Don and Louise Johnston, and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tillay were there.

The party started at Bobelaine Audubon Sanctuary, on the Feather River about 12 miles south of Yuba City. There they found Swainson's Hawk, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Townsend's Warbler and Wilson's Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Tanager, Spotted Sandpiper, and Wood Ducks displaying on the river. They then went to Yuba City where 3 pairs of Blue Grosbeaks were the stars of the show. Also featured were Lazuli Buntings and a colony of about 25 Bank Swallows. Moving along to Gray Lodge Wildlife Refuge, as the day got hotter, the group spotted 5 or 6 American Bitterns and a female Bufflehead, quite a rarity at that time and place. The day ended at the south edge of Sutter Buttes with a colony of around 250 Tri-colored Blackbirds.

DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW FOR 1986-87 RROS YEAR

Please send your annual membership check, payable to RROS, to Treasurer Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952. Or you can bring it to the potluck on September 11. Dues are \$7 for Family, \$5.50 for Individual, \$3 for Student. The membership fee covers the period from June 1986 to June 1987 and includes a subscription to KITE TALES. We operate on a lean budget, so our Treasurer will appreciate timely payment. Thank you one and all!

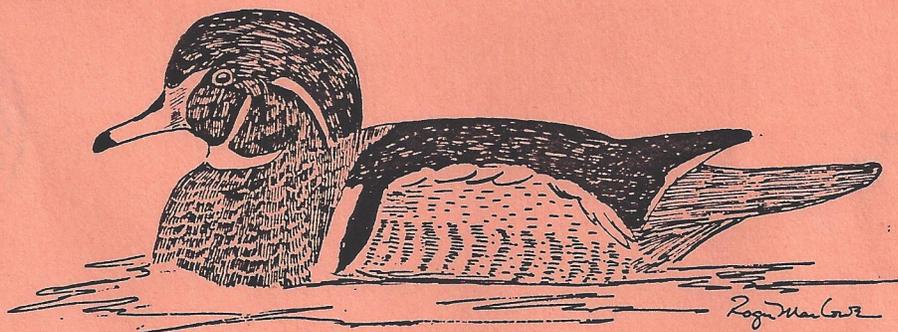
IN MEMORY OF HAL COREY

A good friend of all of us has left this scene, having endowed us with the rare gift of kindness in action - always! If a person arrived at a Bird Walk new to the group, and Hal was along - he usually was - that newcomer left with a friend in Hal. And Hal saw to it that newcomers met others in the group and had someone to chat with...and felt among friends.

Hal Corey's expertise in birding was another gift he liked to share. He has been of enormous help to his birding friends, recognizing birdsong and calls when no one could spot the bird. And he was always ready to go birding, whether close by or for a week's camping. A fine companion, easy to get along with and helpful when help was needed.

Hal's death on May 19 has left a tremendous hole in our community. His friends in birding circles, in Native Plant Society and throughout the fabric of his life will not know another man just like Hal Corey. His enthusiastic and efficient work for Madrone Audubon Society and for RROS have been appreciated by all of us. Many have contributed to a Memorial Fund suggested by the Corey family, the fund to benefit Redwood Region Ornithological Society. The fund has grown to almost \$600. RROS members are grateful to all the people who have donated so generously.

We offer heartfelt sympathy to Olive Corey and to her children, Steve and Susan, and to all of their family.



POINT REYES BIRDATHON ON SEPTEMBER 27, SATURDAY

This annual Birdathon is a benefit for both PRBO and for The Mono Lake Committee. If you are interested in having some fun while you contribute to two excellent research and conservation organizations, get family and friends to support you with pledges of a dime to a dollar per species...and then go find 'em! To sign up, get in touch with Jill Morgan at PRBO, 415/868-2131; 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970.

THE MONO LAKE COMMITTEE NEEDS AN ASSOCIATE EDITOR

If you know of anyone interested in working on the newsletter of this organization, the person to get in touch with is David Gaines, Mono Lake Committee, PO Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541; 619/647-6386. Deadline is September 1.

Organized in 1962, the purpose of the club is to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitat. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, September through May, at 7:30 PM, in Room 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA 94928.

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OFFICERS

President - Janet Bosshard, 434 Hendley St, Santa Rosa 95404	526-5883
Vice-President - Kurt Campbell, PO Box 268, Cotati 94928	664-0104
Secretary - Ruth Rudesill, PO Box 371, Kenwood 95452	833-6026
Treasurer - Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Ave, Petaluma 94952	762-6152
Field Trips - Bob Rains, 450-A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa 95401	528-6785
Observations - Dick Ashford, Jr, 731 Austin St, Sonoma 95476	996-7508
Social - Shirley Myers, 4815 Valley Quail Lane, Santa Rosa 95401	823-9512
KITE TALES - Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyslope Dr, Healdsburg 95448	433-2542
Christmas Count - Doug Ellis, PO Box 155, Eldridge 95431	833-4344

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Jean C. Smith
519 Sunnyslope Drive
Healdsburg, CA 95448



Dr. Benjamin D. Paraker
2500 Euston Street
Healdsburg, CA 95428
5300 Euston St.
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