

# Kite Tales

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MARCH

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
Volume 21, Number 7      Sonoma County

1987

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

March 7, Saturday, 9 AM - 12M: Breeding Bird Atlas Seminar (See article below)

Doug Ellis will offer clues as to how to recognize breeding bird behavior - possible, probable and confirmed. If you would like to participate, please come!

March 12, Thursday, 7:30 PM: General Meeting

Ruth Rudesill will tell us about her December trip to Australia. Her slides and her descriptions of the unique wildlife and landscape of that continent under the Southern Cross will probably make us all want to go there next week!

Also at this meeting Clyde Nelson will explain what is involved with incorporating RRDS and in having our organization declared tax-exempt. (Please see article on Page 3.) This is a chance for all members to influence the action!

March 21, Saturday: Field Trip to Tennessee Valley

Betty Burrige will lead this trip to Marin County to see land birds and shore-birds in numbers - with possible examples of breeding behavior. Wildflowers should be out, too.

For carpooling, meet at SRJC's Bailey Field parking lot at 8 AM; or at the Tennessee Valley parking lot at the locked gate at 9 AM. To get there: head south on Hwy 101; take the Hwy 1 (Stinson Beach) Exit, heading west, for about one-half mile to Tennessee Valley Road; continue west on Tennessee Valley Road to the end at the parking lot. Bring warm clothes and lunch, and expect a good birding day!!

March 22, Sunday, 9 AM - 12M: Breeding Bird Atlas Seminar (See article below)

This second BBA program will have Kurt Campbell giving instruction on breeding bird behavior and will cover different aspects from Doug Ellis' earlier session.

Early Notice: Weekend Field Trip April 25-26, Saturday and Sunday

Joel Hornstein will lead a trip to the Sacramento River and Foothill area. Meeting place will be Lyons Restaurant, Yuba City: 8 AM for earlybirds or Friday-nighters, and at 10 AM for late-comers. Joel plans to visit Bobelaine Wildlife Sanctuary and wherever else the birds are. Yuba City has many motels, including Motel 6, 700 N. Polara, (916) 673-1893. Joel Hornstein's number is (916) 674-8618. April KITE TALES will have more details.

SONOMA COUNTY BREEDING BIRD ATLAS SEMINARS: MARCH 7 and MARCH 22 (see above)

Betty Burrige, Coordinator for the Breeding Bird Atlas, has announced two seminars for purposes of orientation and to give instruction on atlas techniques. The first hour of each seminar will be devoted to orientation and to assigning blocks. Both seminars will be at Wikiup Clubhouse, Las Casitas Drive, Wikiup. Bring a lunch if you would like to bird with the group in the afternoon. For further information, phone Betty in the evening, 527-0225. All BBA participants, past and prospective, are cordially invited to attend.

OBSERVATIONS

Dick Ashford 996-7508  
731 Austin St, Sonoma 95476

Please let Dick know about the interesting birds you saw recently. Call him and leave a message with his answering machine or drop him a postcard. Others are interested in what you've seen.

Point Reyes Area

- 1/25 - Whitehouse Pool: Brown Shrike, Swamp Sparrow (DH).  
Inverness Park: 3 White-throated Sparrows (DH). Nicasio town: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (eastern) (DH). Spaletta Plateau: Lesser Golden Plover (DH).  
2/16 - Hall Ranch: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (DA, PG). Spaletta Plateau: 5 Lesser Golden Plovers (DA, PG).

Highway 37 Area

- 1/30 - Skaggs turnoff: Short-eared Owl (DA).  
2/4 - Mare Island: Allen's Hummingbird (male), Great Horned Owl (DA).  
Ramal Road: Gadwall, Cinnamon Teal, 2 Great Horned Owls (DA).  
2/11 - Sears Point: 2 Long-billed Curlews (DA).

Petaluma River Area

- 1/17 - Petaluma River: Tree Swallow (BB, DE).  
2/1 - Cader Lane Ponds: 37 species, including Greater White-fronted Goose, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Common Goldeneye, Belted Kingfisher (MD).  
?? - Cannon Road: 8-10 Short-eared Owls (DN).

Other

- 1/17, 2/7 - Meacham Road Dump: Glaucous Gull (RM).  
2/9 - Rohnert Park: Ash-throated Flycatcher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (KC).

Observers: Dick Ashford, Betty Burrige, Kurt Campbell, Mark Delwiche, Doug Ellis, Peggy Gross, Deyea Harper, Richard Merriss, Dan Nelson.

FIELD TRIP RESULTS

On a cold windy, rainy morning on February 21, 6 observers braved the elements at Skaggs Island. They were Dick Ashford (leader), Carol Brant, Olive Corey, Karen Nagel, Sherryl Royce, Clarence Wolcott. They saw 48 species, headlined by Burrowing Owl (5), Short-eared Owl (1), Cooper's Hawk (1), and large numbers of Cinnamon Teal. In the afternoon, 3 observers (Dick, Karen and Sherryl) continued on to Tubbs Island National Wildlife Refuge. There they saw 45 species, including Lesser Yellowlegs, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Long-billed Curlew and Forster's Tern. A total of 71 species were seen for the day, as follows:

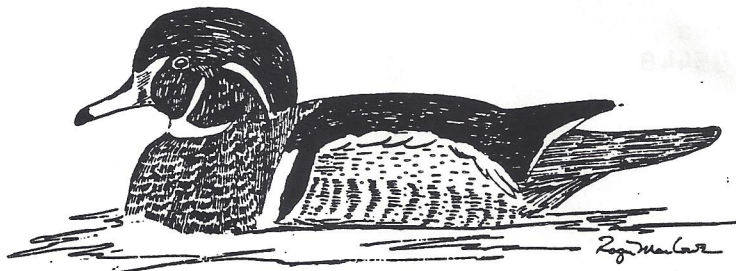
Pied-billed Grebe, Eared Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black-shouldered Kite, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Ring-necked Pheasant, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs (?), Willet, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Western Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Forster's Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Short-eared Owl, Anna's

Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Bush-tit, Marsh Wren, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Water Pipit, European Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Brown Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

PROPOSED INCORPORATION AND TAX-EXEMPT STATUS FOR RROS

Filing for incorporation and tax-exempt status were discussed and approved at the November, 1986, General Meeting of RROS. The matter was discussed further at the February meeting, and those present agreed that all members should have prior notice before action is taken. The proposals will be considered again at the March 12 General Meeting.

At that time, Clyde Nelson, who has generously volunteered his legal services in the filing of the applications, will explain the issues involved: how incorporation limits liability and how an organization's tax-exempt status works. All those with an interest in this proposal are urged to attend the March meeting.



REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1962, 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.

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        |
| Christmas Count - Doug Ellis, PO Box 155, Eldridge 95431         | (work) 585-0226 |
| KITE TALES - Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale Dr, Healdsburg 95448      | 433-2542        |

RROS dues are \$7 for Family, \$5.50 for Individual, \$3 for Student. Memberships cover the period from September 1986 to June 1987 and include a subscription to KITE TALES. Checks should be made out to RROS and sent to Treasurer Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952.

Jean C. Smith  
519 Sunnyvale Drive  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

