

Kite Tales

OCTOBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Volume 22, No. 2

1987

Sonoma County

COMING ATTRACTIONS

October 3, Saturday, 8 AM: Field Trip to Point Reyes

This is the trip when we hope to see Eastern Warblers and uncommon shorebirds poking around the Point Reyes cypress, willows and ponds. Terry Babineaux will lead the group, starting at the Fishdocks at 8 AM. The weather may be cold, so bring warm layers of clothing, your lunch and liquids. Field guides and sturdy shoes will be an advantage.

October 9, Thursday, 7:30 PM: General Meeting

This evening Betty Burrige will tell about her trip to Alaska last June. She has slides taken in Katmai National Park, Denali National Park, the Pribiloffs and the Kenai Peninsula - a three-week trip in two weeks, as her traveling companion remarked. And we get to enjoy it in the comfort of Room 221.

OBSERVATIONS

September 5 - Bodega Bay: a Red-eyed Vireo (BB) Dick Ashford - 996-7508
731 Auston, Sonoma 95476
September 13 - Bodega Bay: a Black-and-white Warbler in Owl Canyon (NC)
September 19 - Point Reyes: an Ovenbird at the Ranger's residence near
the lighthouse (L&DJ)

Observers: Betty Burrige, Nancy Conzett, Louise & Don Johnston

CALLING FOR MEMBERS! RROS DUES ARE OVERDUE!

If you just haven't gotten around to sending in that membership fee, now's the time! Checks may be made out to RROS and sent to Wini Nelson, Treasurer, at 400 Sunnyslope Avenue, Petaluma 94952. Dues are \$7 for Family; \$5.50 for Individual; and \$3 for Student. Membership fee covers the period from June 1987 to June 1988 and includes subscription to KITE TALES.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

The shorebirds are flocking back to Bodega Bay. One skittish flight that lifted off the sandbar betrayed a Parasitic Jaeger, hard at work chasing a gull. The jaeger was a dark bird and close enough along the north shore to give everyone a good look.

Thirteen people turned out for this clear bright day, with Bob McLean leading the group. They spotted 91 species: 9/12/87

Pacific Loon, Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Brandt's Cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, Brant, Surf Scoter, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Black-shouldered Kite, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, American Kestrel, California Quail, Virginia Rail, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Semi-palmated Plover, Killdeer, American Black Oystercatcher, Willet, Wandering Tattler, Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Black Turnstone, Surfbird, Red Knot, Sanderling, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Northern Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Heermann's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Herring Gull, Western Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Elegant Tern, Forster's Tern, Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Band-tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Great-horned Owl, Anna's Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Willow Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Barn Swallow, Scrub Jay, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Brown Creeper, Bewick's Wren, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Swainson's Thrush, American Robin, European Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Redstart, Wilson's Warbler, Western Tanager, Brown Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

BIRDING NEWSLETTER INTRODUCED

Kurt Campbell has issued the first numbers of his new newsletter PICA, aimed at Northern California birding. The title refers to California's only endemic bird, the Yellow-billed Magpie. The next several issues will include articles on good birding spots, how-to articles on birding techniques and note taking. Kurt plans to include articles on new identification marks and news of special interest to birders.

Kurt, active in RROS, is an editor for northern California of AMERICAN BIRDS. Subscription to his newsletter PICA will be \$8 for five issues a year. Kurt may be reached at (707) 664-0104, or by writing PO Box 268, Cotati, CA 94928.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS UPDATE

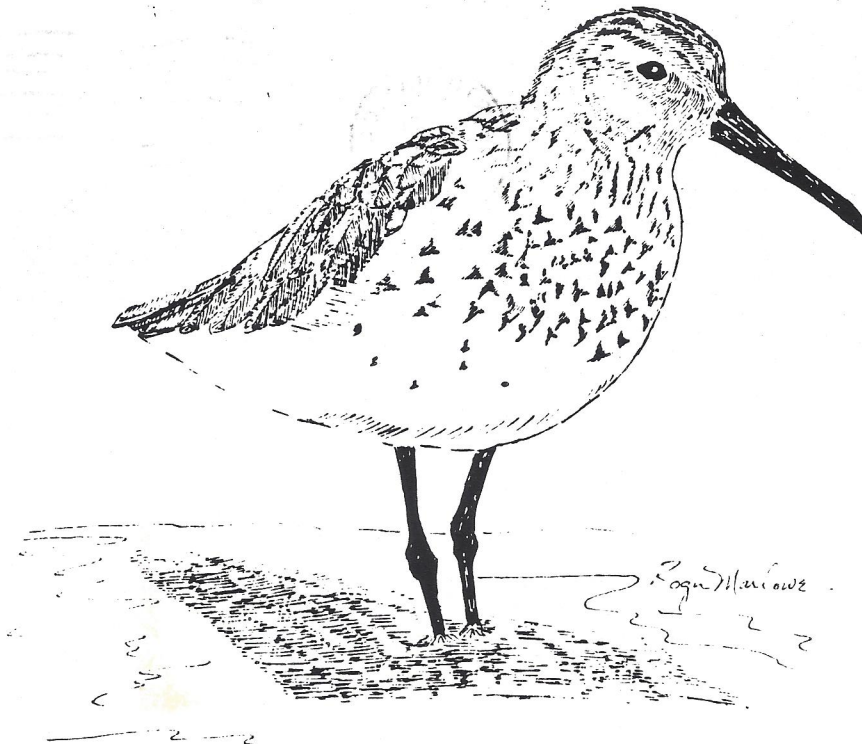
The Breeding Bird Atlas project has turned up the first breeding records in Sonoma County for Great Egret and Yellow-rumped Warbler.

The Sonoma County Breeding Bird Atlas Committee met at Coordinator Betty Burrige's house on September 11. The field season is essentially over, and field cards should be turned in. Those who have done atlasing may be receiving telephone calls regarding some sightings and a request for further information.

The committee will be working at weekly meetings to organize and screen data, file information on volunteers, the blocks covered, and on what private property permission has been granted to enter and collect data.

Betty would like more birders to consider working for the Breeding Bird Atlas. Four visits to an assigned block would be acceptable coverage to start atlasing. The major field season is April - August, but breeding records for some species may be gathered in other months.

Call Betty Burrige (527-0225) if you can help. The Atlas is for identification and, if you are lucky, observation of nest building, occupied nests and young.



REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1962, to encourage the study 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 Rm 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, Ca 94928.

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OFFICERS

President-	Ruth Rudesill,	PO Box 371 Kenwood 95452	833-6026
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Secretary -	Olive Corey	422 Ridgeway Santa Rosa 95401	542-8429
Treasurer -	Wini Nelson	400 Sunnyslope Av Petaluma 94952	762-6152
Field Trips -	Bob Rains	450-A Las Casitas Santa Rosa 95401	528-6785
Observations -	Dick Ashford, Jr	731 Austin Sonoma 95476	996-7508
Social -	June Persson	4757 Snyder Ln #69 Rohnert Park 94928	585-3615
Christmas Count -	Doug Ellis	PO Box 155 Eldridge 95431	(wk) 585-0226
KITE TALES -	Jean Smith	519 Sunnyvale Healdsburg 95448	433-2542

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