

Kite Tales

NOVEMBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Volume 23, No. 3 Sonoma County

1988

COMING ATTRACTIONS

November 10, Thursday - 7:30 PM - General Meeting

Bring your Favorite Slides Night. Wini Nelson, program chairman, suggests up to 20 slides; birds, scenery flowers, habitat - whatever you choose. Be sure to bring binoculars for fullest enjoyment of all slides.

November 12, Saturday - Field Trip to Mendocino Coast

Meeting Place: Pudding Creek Parking Area: Proceed on Hwy 1 north of Fort Bragg, cross the bridge over Pudding Creek, turn left to west side of the highway to parking area marked "Coastal Access".

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Dorothy (Toby) Tobkin, leader, expects the usual wintering shorebirds and landbirds of the area, and possibly including such species as Lesser Golden Plover, Snowy Plover, Harlequin Duck, Red Crossbill, and even a Gray Jay. Should it rain on the 12th, Toby will be available to lead the trip on Sunday, November 13th.

Reservations: Two relatively inexpensive motels are: The Hi-Seas, phone 964-5927, and the Beachcomber, 964-2402. We recommend early reservations for this 3-day Veteran's Day week end.

Bring binoculars, scopes, lunch, and clothing for cool or possibly wet weather.

November 26, Friday -- Sacramento Valley and Sierra Foothills

Meeting Place: Burger King Parking Lot in Davis. Exit from Hwy. 80 at Mace Blvd.

Terry Colborn's first stop will be for the Mountain Plovers. Other species seen on previous trips are Sandhill Crane, Prairie Falcon, Ferruginous and other wintering hawks. For further information, Terry Colborn, (916)758-0689.

The Sacramento Audubon is conducting a field trip to the Sacramento Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, November 28th, for those who wish to stay over.

CANCELLATION: Santa Cruz Raptor Research Center and Pescadero Marsh

Regrettably, there will be no December 3rd field trip as an insufficient number of participants signed up. Dick Ashford has cancelled the trip, but will reschedule it at a later date should adequate interest be forthcoming. Thank you, Dick, for your efforts to offer this opportunity to our members.

Entrance fee to Parking Lot at Sonoma State

This fee has been increased from 75¢ (3 quarters) to \$1.50!

Field Trip Report: Bodega Bay - October 15, 1988

Early morning mists, gently compacting into rolling billows of coastal fog that receded and advanced throughout the morning, made Bodega Bay a visual wonderland for our October 15th field trip.

Virginia Rails scooted in and out of the marshy ponds on Westside Road, while scores of Yellow-rumped Warblers flitted through the willows. All of our old friends were there, and a few new ones too. That goes for the birds as well as the people.

Now, if you are expecting a really impressive bird list, we can supply you with one. That would be all of those birds that had been seen in Bodega Bay earlier that week. (See observations). So we concentrated on the regulars, and let ourselves get excited over an unusual flicker with very yellow shafts on the wings. A Merlin and a Nashville Warbler showed themselves briefly to a few of our group, and a Great Horned Owl posed patiently in a eucalyptus for all.

By mid-afternoon the sun was out and we were down to our last layers. In spite of crowds on Doran Beach, both Semi-palmated and Snowy Plovers were found hunkering down in the depressions made by the passers-by. It was warm, and calm, and soon it was quiet. . . . Betty Burridge.

Field Trip Report: Limantour - October 29

Ruth Rudesill led 8 birders starting at Limantour for shorebirds, ducks and raptors; then later to Inverness Ridge for landbirds, and ending the afternoon at Shield's Marsh. Following are the 96 species seen:

Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, White Pelican, Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, hybrid American-Eurasian Wigeon, Greater Scaup, Ring-necked Duck, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Bufflehead, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Black-shouldered Kite, Northern Harrier, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, California Quail, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, Black Turnstone, Sanderling, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-billed Dowitcher, Parasitic Jaeger, Heerman's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Thayer's Gull, Western Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Forster's Tern, Great Horned Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flickers - both Red- and Yellow-shafted, Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Pygmy Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Bewick's Wren, Marsh Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, American Robin, Wrentit, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Hutton's Vireo, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Rufous-sided Towhee, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Purple Finch, House Finch, Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch.

Pelagic Trip to Cordell Banks - October 23

Several RROS members joined Roger Marlowe and Kurt Campbell, leaders, on their trip to Cordell Banks. Unusual numbers of marine mammals were sighted, and 3 passerines flew over repeatedly, with one or two landing on the boat.

<u>Bird species</u>	Pomarine Jaeger	Water Pipit
Black-footed Albatross	Parasitic Jaeger	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Northern Fulmar	Bonaparte's Gull	Red-winged Blackbird
Pink-footed Shearwater	Western Gull	<u>Marine Mammals</u>
Buller's Shearwater	Glaucous-winged Gull	Blue Whales (6)
Sooty Shearwater	Common Murre	Humpback Whales (10-12)
Ashy Storm-petrel	Pigeon Guillemot	White-sided Dolphins (150)
Wilson's Storm-petrel	Cassin's Auklet	Dall's Porpoises (6-10)
	Rhinoceros Auklet	Steller's Sea Lion (1)

OBSERVATIONS

Water and Shorebirds

Flesh-footed Shearwater, Pink-footed Shearwater, Buller's Shearwater, Black Storm-petrel, Ashy Storm-petrel 10/6, Monterey Bay (B&BR). White-fronted Geese 10/9, 16 ind. Salinas River (JP, B&BR). Common Merganser 10/8. Havens Lake, Sierra Co. (DE). Clapper Rail - Sept., Napa Slough (BMCL). Black Rail - late Sept., Petaluma Marsh (BB). Lesser Golden Plover 10/6, Doran Pond (DN) - 10/18, McKerricher SP (DT) - 9/25 (2 dominica, 2 fulva) Spalletta Plateau (BDP). Baird's Sandpiper 9/4, Hare Creek - 9/11, 9 ind. at Manchester SP - 9/5 thru 9/23, McKerricher SP (DT). Pectoral Sandpiper 9/10, Hare Creek & McKerricher SP - 9/23 thru 9/28, 11 ind. at Glass Beach, Fort Bragg (DT). Ruff* 10/23, Bodega Bay by Owl Canyon (RR, DN, DW). Xantus' Murrelet 10/6, Monterey Bay (B&BR).

Raptors

Golden Eagle 9/17, imm. Nunes Ranch (BDP). Ferruginous Hawk 10/9, Point Arena (DT). Merlin 9/10, Hare Creek, Fort Bragg (DT). Prairie Falcon 10/10, Los Gallinas Sewer Ponds, Marin Co. (DT). Peregrine Falcon 10/1, Marin Headlands (DE) - 10/12, Doran Pond (DN).

Passerines

Eastern Kingbird 1/15, Blind Beach (JT). Ash-throated Flycatcher 9/17, Pt. Reyes Lighthouse (BDP). Least Flycatcher 9/17, New Willows (BDP). Willow Flycatcher 9/17, New Willows and Lighthouse (BDP). Red-breasted Nuthatch 10/22, Willow Creek (DE). Veery 10/16, Pt. Reyes Lighthouse (DA). Brown Thrasher 10/16, Pt. Reyes Lighthouse (DA, DN). Gray Wagtail 10/10, Salinas River mouth (DA, B&BR). Red-eyed Vireo* 10/11, Hole in the Head (DN). Black-and-White Warbler 10/8, Rail Ponds (DN). Black-throated Blue Warbler* 10/6-7, Owl Canyon (DN). Blackburnian Warbler* 10/13-14, Owl Canyon (DN). Chestnut-sided Warbler 10/7, Marine Lab. trees (DN) - 10/8, Monterey (BDP, B&BR). Magnolia Warbler* 9/27, Hole in the Head (DN, WN). Prairie Warbler 9/17, Fish Docks (BDP). American Redstart 9/17, Nunes Ranch (BDP). Black-throated Sparrow 9/17, Pt. Reyes Lighthouse (BDP). Rufous-crowned Sparrow 10/22, Willow Creek (DE). Clay-colored Sparrow 9/17 (DA) and 10/17 (BDP), Nunes Ranch. Lincoln's Sparrow 10/22, Willow Creek (DE). Swamp Sparrow 10/16, Nunes Ranch (DA). Bobolink 9/17, Nunes Ranch (BDP). Western Tanager 10/17, Pt. Reyes Lighthouse (BDP). Summer Tanager* 10/10, Rail Ponds (DN). Evening Grosbeak 10/10, Sierra Buttes (DE).

Asterisks indicate species seen in Sonoma County less than 5 times.

Observers

Dick Ashford, Betty Burrridge, Doug Ellis, Bob McLean, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, June Persson, Bob and Bertha Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Dorothy Tobkin, Jean Tonascia, Dan Wilson.

Area Christmas Bird Counts

December 17, Saturday	-	Point Reyes	PRBO	(415)868-1221
December 18, Sunday	-	Santa Rosa	Doug Ellis	585-0226
December 19, Monday	-	Napa-Solano	Robin Leong	643-1287
December 31, Saturday	-	Clear Lake	Jerry White	279-4125
December 31, Saturday	-	Southern Marin	Diane Sierra Ken Howard	(415)654-8124 (415)332-4117
January 1, Sunday	-	Angwin	Phil Burton	963-5744
January 1, Sunday	-	Mendocino Coast	Joe Reding	964-6333
January 2, Monday	-	Western Sonoma	Betty Burrridge	527-0225

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 Room 221, Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park CA 94928.

OFFICERS

President - Mark Delwiche, 970 Maytum, Sebastopol 95472	823-5630
Vice-president - Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Ave., Petaluma 94952	762-6152
Secretary - Olive Corey, 422 Ridgeway, Santa Rosa 95401	542-8429
Treasurer - Sherryl Royce, 2340 Silk Rd., Windsor 95942	525-8141

CHAIRMEN

Field Trips - Dick Ashford, 731 Austin, Sonoma 95476	996-7508
Observations - Bob Rains, 450A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa 95403	528-6785
Social - Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale, Healdsburg 95448	433-2542
Christmas Count - Doug Ellis, PO Box 155, Eldridge 95431	585-0226
Kite Tales - Bertha Rains, 450A Las Casitas 95403	528-6785

MEMBERSHIP DUES RROS dues are \$10 for Family, \$7.50 for individual, \$3 for Student. Memberships cover the period from September 1988 to June 1989 and include a subscription to Kite Tales. Checks should be made out to RROS and sent to Sherryl Royce, Treasurer, at 2340 Silk Rd., Windsor, CA 95942.

Bertha Rains
450-A Las Casitas
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

