

Kite Tales

SEPTEMBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol 24, No. 1

1989

Sonoma County

MEMBERSHIP DUES!!

Membership dues for 1989-1990 are now payable. If you did not pay at the May Meeting, please send your check to Sherryl Royce at 2340 Silk Rd., Windsor 95492, or bring to the September meeting.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

September 14, Thursday - General Meeting - Pot Luck at Sugarloaf
Dinner: 6:00 p.m. We will meet at the group area at Sugarloaf
Meeting: 7:00 p.m. State Park. The entrance fee is \$3 per
Owl Walk 8:00 p.m. car, \$2 for seniors. We recommend car
pooling. After dinner and a short business
meeting, we will take an owl walk.

FIELD TRIPS

September 16, Saturday - Bodega Bay
Time: 8:30 a.m. Dan Nelson will lead this trip to
Meeting Place: Rail Ponds Bodega Bay for fall migrants.

September 24, Sunday - Hawk Mountain and Rodeo Lagoon
Time: 9:00 a.m. A wide variety of hawks and
Meeting Place: Headlands sometimes in large numbers may be
Parking Lot seen from the Headlands. Ruth
Rudesill, leader, will take us on
to Rodeo Lagoon after a morning of hawk watching. Directions:
take the Marin Headlands exit from Highway 101 just north of the
Golden Gate Bridge.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Wantrup Sanctuary - Pope Valley
May 20, 1989

Mike Rippy, a co-coordinator of the Napa-Solano Breeding Bird Atlas, led seven birders on a hike up the hill at Wantrup Sanctuary. The day was warm and clear, and there were many wildflowers out as well as birds. After the walk during which we saw 38 species, the local biologist invited the group to lunch in his back yard under a 200 year old oak tree. The bird of the day was a male Lawrence's Goldfinch.

Species seen were:

Pied-billed Grebe	Violet-green Swallow	Lazuli Bunting
Red-shouldered Hawk	Steller's Jay	Rufous-sided Towhee
Red-tailed Hawk	Scrub Jay	Brown Towhee
California Quail	Plain Titmouse	Song Sparrow
Rock Dove	Bushtit	Red-winged Blackbird
Mourning Dove	White-breasted Nuthatch	Western Meadowlark
Acorn Woodpecker	House Wren	Brewer's Blackbird
Nuttall's Woodpecker	American Robin	Brown-headed Cowbird
Western Wood Pewee	European Starling	Northern Oriole
Black Phoebe	Solitary Vireo	Purple Finch
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Hutton's Vireo	House Finch
Western Kingbird	Townsend's Warbler	Lesser Goldfinch
	Black-headed Grosbeak	Lawrence's Goldfinch

OBSERVATIONS

Water and Shorebirds

Clark's Grebe, Red-necked Grebe 4/29, McKerricher State Park (DT).
White Pelican 5/18 (early), 50 at Bodega Bay (NC) - 7/15, 114 at Tomales Bay (B&BR). **American Bittern** 6/15, Sonoma Golf Course (RR).
Black-Crowned Night-Heron 7/1, juvenile hatched at Hole in the Head. an 5/11, imm. Porto Bodega (NC). **Canada Goose** 4/27 to 5/7, Fort Bragg (DT) - 7/26, 7 over Wikiup (B&BR). **Blue-winged Teal** 7/3, Garcia River (DT). **Northern Shoveler** 5/12, with young at Doran Park (NC). **Black Scoter** 4/29, McKerricher SP (DT). **Harlequin Duck** 5/6, offshore Mendocino (KC,DT). **Common Merganser** 7/3, over 100, Garcia River (DT). **Common Moorhen** 8/11, Lakeville Sewer Pond (DN). **Black Oystercatcher** 6/25, 3 day-old at Bodega Head (NC). **American Avocet** 4/27, McKerricher SP (DT) - 8/19, over 800 Highway 37 past Skaggs Island (RR). **Snowy Plover** 8/1, 1 newly-hatched, 1 pecking egg, Salmon Creek Beach (KW,B&BR). **Lesser Golden Plover** 8/20, Doran Park (KC,RR). **Lesser Yellowlegs** 8/11, Petaluma Sewer Ponds (DN,RR). **Solitary Sandpiper** 8/6, Abbott's Lagoon (DA). **Wilson's Phalarope** 8/11, 20 at Petaluma Sewer Pond's (DN,RR). **Red-necked Phalarope** 5/20, 12 at Pudding Creek - 8/10, 100s offshore McKerricher SP (DT). **Red Knot** 8/20, Doran Pond. **Semi-palmated Sandpiper** 8/20, Doran Bayside (KC,RR). **Western Sandpiper** 6/27, Bodega Bay (NC). **Baird's Sandpiper** 8/6, Abbott's Lagoon (DA) - 8/10 to 8/13, McKerricher SP (DT). **South Polar Skua** 8/13, Cordell Bank (DA). **Parasitic Jaeger** 8/12, Doran Beach (RS). **Long-tailed Jaeger, Thayer's Gull, Sabine's Gull** 8/13, Cordell Bank (DA). **Arctic Tern** 8/12, Doran Beach (DE,RR). **Black Tern** 8/11-12, Petaluma Sewer Ponds (DE, DN, RR). **Elegant Tern** 7/22, Bodega Bay (NC) - 8/12, adult feeding young, McKerricher SP (DT). **Marbled Murrelet** 7/22, 3 off Westport (DT). **Rhinoceros Auklet** 7/17, Fort Bragg - 8/12, off McKerricher SP. **Tufted Puffin** 7/23, off Mendocino Headlands (DT).

Raptors

Golden Eagle 6/18, on nest, Little Sulfur Creek (JS). **Cooper's Hawk** 7/22, with young, Pine Flat Rd. (DE,RR). **Osprey** 6/29, Petaluma River (RR) - 8/1, Salmon Creek Beach (B&BR). **Peregrine Falcon** 7/3, imm., Cader Lane (DN). **Western Screech Owl** 6/11, Franz Valley Rd. (RR) - 8/5, mid-day Wikiup (B&BR). **Pygmy Owl** June, Franz Valley Rd. (RR) - 5/2, St. Helena Rd. - 5/5, Calistoga Rd. - 5/8, Diamond Mt. (B&BR).

Other Non-Passerines

Common Poorwill 5/16, Pepperwood (B&BR) - 6/11, Franz Valley Rd. (RR). **Common Nighthawk** 6/16, Fort Bragg (DT) - early June, many at Salt Point (DN) - 7/1, Pygmy Forest, Salt Point SP (RR). **Vaux's Swift** 6/17, Carmet (RR). **Mountain Quail** 6/9, with chicks, E. of Point Arena (DT) - 7/22, over 20, Pine Flat Rd. (RR). **Pileated Woodpecker** 5/20, Fort Bragg (DT).

Passerines

Tropical Kingbird 7/22, Pine Flat Rd. (DE,RR). **Dusky Flycatcher** 5/24, Mount St. Helena (DN). **Willow Flycatcher** 6/9 -18, Bodega Bay (NC). **Purple Martin** 5/6, Mendocino - 6/15, McKerricher SP - 7/22, Westport (DT). **Gray Jay** 5/29, adults feeding young - 7/23, 5 individuals, near Mendocino (DT). **Rock Wren** 6/17, Coleman Valley Rd. (RR). **California Thrasher** 6/11, Franz Valley Rd. (RR). **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** June, 2 males, 1 female, Bodega Bay (DN). **Grasshopper Sparrow** 6/17, with young, - **Rufous-crowned Sparrow** 6/17, Coleman Valley Rd. (RR). **Golden-crowned Sparrow** 5/2, late, Pepperwood (B&BR). **Hooded Oriole** August, 5 in Nelson yard, Petaluma (WN). **Lawrence's Goldfinch** 5/24, on nest, Pine Flat Rd. (DN). **Red Crossbill** 4/30 - 7/31, Fort Bragg, Mendocino, Manchester Beach SP (DT) (continued on page 3)

Yosemite and Mono Lake

Ruth Rudesill reports that birds seen on the June 23-25 trip to Yosemite and Mono Lake with Doug Ellis and Roger Marlowe included **Blue Grouse, Great Gray and Flammulated Owls, Common Nighthawk, White-headed Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Black-headed Woodpecker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Gray Flycatcher, Hammond's Flycatcher, Townsend's Solitaire, Hermit and MacGillivray's Warblers, Vesper and Lincoln's Sparrow, and Pine Grosbeak.** On August 4th, Bob and Bertha Rains saw a **Sage Thrasher** on the tufas at Mono Lake.

European Birding

Dick Ashford, on an inexpensive pelagic trip off Wales spotted thousands of **Razorbills, Common Murres, Atlantic Puffins, and Black-legged Kittiwakes.**

Ruth Rudesill on her trip to six countries in Europe this spring sighted 83 species, including 60 life birds. Three of the lifers (**Lapwing, Grey Heron, and Black Kite**) were seen behind the Iron Curtain in East Germany.

Observers

Dick Ashford, Kurt Campbell, Nancy Conzett, Roger Marlowe, Bob and Bertha Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Jean Smith, Rich Stallcup, Dorothy Tobkin, Katy Wilson.

TREASURER'S REPORT

1988-89

Beginning Balance:		\$611.23		
Income:		\$1,335.32	Expenses:	\$874.61
Dues:	\$327.50		Kite Tales	\$379.41
Books:	979.52		Program	125.00
			Book	345.50
Miscellaneous	28.30		Miscellaneous	24.70
Checklists			Postage	
Donations				
Ending Balace:	\$1071.94			

Sherryl Royce, Treasurer

CORDELL BANK PELAGIC BOAT TRIP

October 21, 1989

Roger Marlowe and Kurt Campbell are conducting a fall trip to see such pelagic birds as Buller's Shearwater, Pink-footed Shearwater, Wilson's Storm-petrel, albatrosses and jaegers. Whales and dolphins may also be seen.

Date: Saturday, October 21	Directions to Porto Bodega: Fr _m
Time: 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Hwy 1, turn left at East Shore Rd.
Meeting Place: Porto Bodega	At the bottom of the hill go
Marina	directly across the intersection to
Price: \$45 per person	Porto Bodega Marina.

For reservations, please send a check to: Roger Marlowe
401 Vine Ave.
Sebastpol CA 95472

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 - Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Ave., Petaluma 94952 762-6152
Vice-president - Les Hood, 14115 Ettawa Springs Rd.,
Middletown 95461
Secretary - Olive Corey, 422 Ridgeway, Santa Rosa 95401 542-8429
Treasurer - Sherryl Royce, 2340 Silk Rd., Windsor 95492 525-8141

CHAIRMEN

Field Trips - Dan Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Ave., Petaluma 94952 762-6152
Observations - Bob Rains, 450-A 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, 450-A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa 95403 528-6785

MEMBERSHIP DUES RROS dues are \$10 for Family, \$7.50 for Individual, \$3 for Student. Memberships cover the period from July 1989 to June 1990 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 L. Rains
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