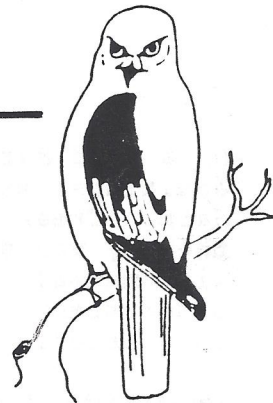


Kite Tales

APRIL 1990

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 14, No. 8

Sonoma County



COMING ATTRACTIONS

April 12, Thursday - 7:30 p.m., General Meeting

John Klobas will present a program on Owls. John teaches school in Santa Rosa, and has given short courses on birds at Sonoma State. There has been added interest in owls recently. Volunteers for the Breeding Bird Atlas are making special efforts to find and report owls in this, the final year of data collection for the study. This family of birds, though not easily studied, has been fascinating to many because of its mysterious behavior.

April 21, Saturday - Field trip to King Ridge Road

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Place: Austin Creek
Bridge at the junction
of Cazadero Road
and Hwy. 116.

Along Austin Creek, we will look for the Dipper, warblers, and, if Doug Ellis, leader, can call him in as he did last year, the Pygmy Owl. The Blue Grouse and Wild Turkey are also possible. Lunch is a must as there are no restaurants in this remote area.

OTHER BIRDING OPPORUNTITES

Saturday and Sunday, April 14th and 15th, Pacific Flyway

The third spring San Francisco Bay Shorebird Census, sponsored by Point Reyes Bird Observatory, will be reversed this year with the south bay on Saturday and the north bay on Sunday. Volunteers may write PRBO, 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach 94970, or phone, (415) 868-1221.

Monday, May 22 - Computer Analysis of Bird Songs

Mark Feldman, M.A. candidate in Biology at Sonoma State, will present information on computer discrimination of the dialects of the White-crowned Sparrow at the 12:00 noon Biology Colloquim, Room 108, Darwin Hall. The public is welcome.

Sierra Nevada Field Campus

San Francisco State University offers 4 courses on birds at their summer camp at Sierra Valley and Yuba Pass.

June 9-16	Bird Song Recording and Analysis
June 4-8	Bird Identification by Song
June 18-22	Birds of the Sierra Nevada
August 11-13	Sierran Birds in the Hand - A Bird Banding Workshop

Courses in geology, native plants, and other fields of natural history are offered throughout the summer. For information on any of these courses, Jim Steele, School of Science, San Francisco State Univeristy, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco 94132, or phone (415) 338-1571.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Bodega Bay and Salmon Creek

On a mild March 17th, 16 birders found 94 species of birds, plus 4 additional seen on the way home. Three Spotted Owls on a ridge near Salmon Creek answered Doug Ellis' calls in mid-afternoon. The mammal of the day was a Sea Otter that slowly floated past Bodega Head. This was a life mammal in Sonoma County for Dan Nelson, leader of the trip, and for other members of the group. Loons and grebes were beginning to change into breeding plumage. The Oldsquaw was not seen, so perhaps had gone.

Red-throated Loon	Northern Harrier	Pigeon Guillemot	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Pacific Loon	Cooper's Hawk	Marbled Murrelet	Western Bluebird
Common Loon	Red-tailed Hawk	Band-tailed Pigeon	Hermit Thrush
Pied-billed Grebe	American Kestel	Great-horned Owl*	American Robin
Horned Grebe	Merlin	Spotted Owl	American Pipit
Eared Grebe	Peregrine Falcon	Anna's Hummingbird	European Starling
Horned Grebe	California Quail	Allen's Hummingbird	Hutton's Vireo
Brown Pelican	Virginia Rail	Hairy Woodpecker	Orange-crowned Warbler
Double-cr. Cormorant	American Coot	Northern Flicker	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Brandt's Cormorant	Black-bellied Plover	Black Phoebe	Rufous-sided Towhee
Pelagic Cormorant	Killdeer	Tree Swallow	California Towhee
Great Blue Heron	Am. Black Oystercatcher	Violet-green Swallow	Fox Sparrow
Great Egret	Willet	N. Rough-winged Swallow*	Song Sparrow
Snowy Egret	Marbled Godwit	Cliff Swallow	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Mallard	Ruddy Turnstone	Barn Swallow	White-crowned Sparrow
American Wigeon	Black Turnstone	Steller's Jay	Dark-eyed Junco
Greater Scaup	Surfbird	Scrub Jay	Red-winged Blackbird
Surf Scoter	Sanderling	American Crow	Brewer's Blackbird
White-winged Scoter	Least Sandpiper	Common Raven	Purple Finch
Bufflehead	Dunlin	Chestnut-b. Chickadee	House Finch
Common Merganser*	Mew Gull	Plain Titmouse	Pine Siskin
Red-breasted Merganser	Ring-billed Gull	Bushtit	Lesser Goldfinch
Ruddy Duck	California Gull	Brown Creeper	American Goldfinch
Turkey Vulture	Western Gull	Winter Wren	House Sparrow
Osprey	Glaucous-winged Gull		

* Designates species seen by some of the participants on the way home.

Participants: Avis Anderson, Jack Arnold, Christine Bradshaw, Carol Brandt, Olive Corey, Ted Eliot, Doug Ellis, Mary Finn, Abby Hale, Louise Johnston, Clyde and Wini Nelson, Dan Nelson, Bob and Bertha Rains, Vicky Smith.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Deyea Harper presented the committee report at the March meeting. Election of officers will be held at the April meeting at which time nominations may be made from the floor.

President:	Mike Parmeter
Vice-president:	Wayne Tillay
Secretary:	Jean Smith
Treasurer:	Clarence Wolcott

Submitted by Jack Arnold
Deyea Harper
Bob Rains

OBSERVATIONS

Water and Shorebirds

Red-necked Grebe 2/19, 2/24, McKerricher SP (DT). **Clark's Grebe** 3/5, Mare Island - 3/24, Abbott's Lagoon (DA). **Green-backed Heron** 3/3, Rohnert Park (DW). **Snow Goose** 3/8, Spring Lake (JMCD). **Brant** 3/14, Tomales Bay (BG) - 3/20, Tomales Bay (B&BR). **Canada Goose** (small) 3/8, Spring Lake (JMCD) - 3/23, (large) Shiloh Regional Park (B&BR). **Garganey** 3/28, Bolinas Sewer Ponds (BDP). **Wood Duck** 3/4, 14 at Fort Bragg (DT). **Eurasian Wigeon** 2/24, 2 at Bolinas Lagoon (DA). **Tufted Duck** 3/15, 1st record at Mare Island. **Harlequin Duck** 2/24, Bolinas Lagoon (DA). **Oldsquaw** in March, McKerricher SP (DT) - 3/16, Mare Island - 3/24, Abbott's Lagoon (DA). **Black Scoter** 2/21, 7 at McKerricher SP (DT). **Hooded Merganser** 2/10, Lake Solano. **Common Merganser** 2/10, Lake Solano (DA). **Lesser Golden Plover** 3/24, McKerricher SP. **Mountain Plover** in March, McKerricher SP (DT). **Horned Puffin** 3/7, 5th recorded on Farallon Is. (PH) - 3/19, 2 (dead) at McKerricher SP (DT).

Raptors

Bald Eagle 2/10, Capay Valley. **Osprey** 2/10 Lake Solano (DA) - 3/20, 3 on 2 nests, Tomales Bay (B&BR) - 3/8, 2 at Lake Ralphine (JMCD). **Black-shouldered Kite** 3/1, transferring mouse in flight at Ragle Park (DV). **Sharp-shinned Hawk** 2/24, Bolinas Lagoon. **Cooper's Hawk** 2/24, Bolinas Lagoon - 3/17, Jack London SP (DA) - 3/23, Shiloh Reg. Park (B&BR). **Ferruginous Hawk** 2/14, Mare Island (1st Mare Is. record) (DA) - 3/17, D St., west of Petaluma (DW). **Golden Eagle** 2/10, Capay Valley - 2/24, Bolinas Lagoon - 3/7, Tolay Creek (DA) - 3/20, Cheese Factory (BG). **Peregrine Falcon** 2/24, Bolinas Lagoon (DA) - 3/7, McKerricher SP - 3/10, Glass Beach, Fort Bragg (DT). **Burrowing Owl** past month, Glass Beach (DT).

Other Non-Passerines

Rufous Hummingbird 2/26, Wikiup (B&BR) - 3/14, Oakmont (BG) - 3/23, Kenwood (RR). **Pileated Woodpecker** 3/1, Angwin (WT).

Passerines

Tree Swallow 2/24, Bolinas Lagoon (DA). **Violet-green Swallow** 3/1, Spring Lake (JA). **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** 3/3, Spring Lake (BG) - 3/24, Abbott's Lagoon (DA). **Barn Swallow** 3/1, Chileno Valley (DN). **Rock Wren** 2/10, Capay Valley. **California Thrasher** 2/10, Capay Valley. **Phainopepla** 2/10, Capay Valley (DA) - 3/1, Angwin (WT). **Hutton's Vireo** 3/6, home, Santa Rosa (BB) - 3/23, newly fledged, Shiloh Reg. Park (B&BR). **Orange-crowned Warbler** 3/6, Santa Rosa (BB). **Harris' Sparrow** 3/8, Penngrove (HB,WN). **Pine Siskin** 3/8, some, Sonoma (KN).

Observers: Jack Arnold, Dick Ashford, Harriet Boysen, Betty Burr ridge, Betty Groce, Phil Henderson, John McDonagh, Karen Nagle, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Bob and Bertha Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Wayne Tillay, Dorothy Tobkin, Debra Vasak, Dan Wilson.

ANNOUNCING A NEW BIRD RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Institute for Bird Population

Dave DeSante has established a new organization, the Institute for Bird Populations. Studies will focus on the effects of changes in the environment on bird productivity. This fledgling organization welcomes new members. Membership includes subscription to the Bird Population Newsletter. For information, write The Institute for Bird Populations, P. O. Box 554, Inverness, California 94937, or phone (415) 669-1663.

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 539-3443
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
450A Las Casitas
Santa Rosa CA 95403

