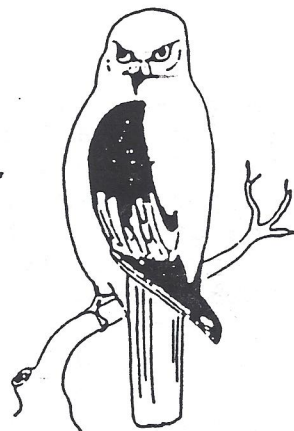


Kite Tales



MAY 1991

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 15, No. 9

Sonoma County

COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 9, Thursday - 6:00 p.m. Potluck and General Meeting

Meeting Place: Sugarloaf
State Park

Social 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Owl Walk 8:00 p.m.

Good food, good company, a short business meeting, and an owl walk are on the agenda for the last meeting of the year. We will listen for the Lazuli Bunting whose song greets us on arrival. On the walk, Poorwills are possible, and as many as 3 species of owls may be heard. The entrance fee has been raised to \$5 per car. A reduced rate

of \$4 per car is granted whenever there is one passenger age 62 or over. We suggest carpooling.

This is a time to express our appreciation to the retiring officers, and to offer good wishes to the incoming ones who will be installed.

Please bring main dish, salad, or dessert, your own service and drinks.
Reminder: flashlight for the owl walk.

May 11, Saturday - Field Trip to Ida Clayton Road

Time: 7:30 a.m.

Meeting Place: Junction of
Hwy. 128 and Ida
Clayton Rd., about 6½
miles W. of Calistoga

Dan Nelson will lead this trip, a combined RROS and Madrone Audubon Society field trip. The road climbs from Knight's Valley up the north west side of Mt. St. Helena. We start with mixed woodland habitat on up to chapparal where the Sage Sparrow was found last year. Mountain

Quail and Wild Turkey were also seen. Bring lunch and hope that the MacGillivray's Warbler greets us while we feast. The road has few turnouts, so please plan to carpool.

May 25-27, Saturday - Monday: Field Trip to Lava Beds

Ruth Rudesill will lead this trip to Lava Beds National Monument and Tule Lake. On the trip 2 years ago, these birds were seen: White-faced Ibis, Sandhill Crane, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Black Tern, Short-eared Owl, Mountain Bluebird, Brewer's Sparrow, and Prairie Falcon. There is one campground at Lava Beds, and one motel nearby. For further information, please phone Ruth, 833-6026.

June 15,16, Saturday, Sunday - Field Trip to Yosemite

The group will meet at Bridalveil Camp Ground where no reservations are required. The Great Gray Owl, Williamson's and Three-toed Woodpeckers as well as other Yosemite high-elevation species may be expected. Ruth Rudesill will lead the trip; for additional information, phone 833-6026

APRIL FIELD TRIP REPORT
King Ridge Road

-2-

We missed our leader, Ruth Rudesill, however, Doug Ellis filled in and found all four of the wish birds: American Dipper, Northern Pygmy Owl, Blue Grouse and Pileated Woodpecker. The trip started at the Austin Creek Bridge, where there were swallows, warblers, ducks, then on to Cazadero for the dipper. Showers had been predicted, the group was rewarded with cool overcast early, turning into a mild day with clear, blue skies. While the total number of birds was low, the number of sought-after species was excellent. The Blue Grouse and Nashville Warbler were heard, but not seen. The Pygmy Owl at the Gualala River Bridge responded aggressively to Doug's call and came close in on a low branch. A pair of Ospreys was seen on a nest at Kruse Rhododendron Preserve. Gulls and cormorants were spotted at Jenner on the way home.

The 73 species seen were:

Common Loon	Killdeer	Cliff Swallow	Solitary Vireo
Western Grebe	Spotted Sandpiper	Barn Swallow	Hutton's Vireo
Double-cr. Cormorant	Western Gull	Steller's Jay	Warbling Vireo
Brandt's Cormorant	Glaucous-winged Gull	Scrub Jay	Orange-crowned Warbler
Pelagic Cormorant	Caspian Tern	American Crow	Nashville Warbler
Great Blue Heron	Band-tailed Pigeon	Common Raven	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Wood Duck	Mourning Dove	Chestnut-b. Chickadee	Wilson's Warbler
Mallard	Northern Pygmy Owl	Plain Titmouse	Rufous-sided Towhee
Cinnamon Teal	Anna's Hummingbird	Red-breasted Nuthatch	California Towhee
Surf Scoter	Allen's Hummingbird	White-breasted Nuthatch	Lark Sparrow
Common Merganser	Acorn Woodpecker	Brown Creeper	Song Sparrow
Turkey Vulture	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Winter Wren	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Osprey	Northern Flicker	American Dipper	Dark-eyed Junco
Red-shouldered Hawk	Pileated Woodpecker	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Red-winged Blackb.
Red-tailed Hawk	Western Flycatcher	Western Bluebird	Brewer's Blackbird
American Kestrel	Black Phoebe	American Robin	Purple Finch
Blue Grouse	Violet-green Swallow	Cedar Waxwing	House Finch
Mountain Quail	N. Rough-winged Swallow	European Starling	Pine Siskin
			Lesser Goldfinch

Participants

Jack Arnold, Doug Ellis, Jack and Betty Groce, David Hofmann, John and Virginia McDonagh, Bob and Bertha Rains, Jean Smith.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues for the 1991-1992 year may be paid at the May meeting or mailed to Clarence Wolcott, 4455 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg CA 95448. Dues are \$3 for Student, \$7.50 for Individual, and \$10 for Family. You may make your check to RROS.

The next Kite Tales will be the September issue. Happy Birding for the summer and bring your vacation super sightings to share when we meet again, or better yet, let Avis Anderson, Observations Chairman, know for her report.

OBSERVATIONS

Water and Shorebirds

Red-necked Grebe 4/21, 4 at McKerricher State Part (DT). **White Pelican** 4/20, Hwy. 37 (DA). **Wood Duck** 4/13, Russian River at Monte Rio - 4/21, Pudding Creek (DT). **Eurasian Wigeon** 4/24, Rail Ponds (BG). **Avocet** 4/10, Novato Nature Conservancy (PF). **Long-billed Curlew** 4/11, McKerricher SP (DT). **Bonaparte's Gull** 4/13, Willow Creek Rd. (BG). **Glaucous Gull** 4/7, Usal Beach (DT).

Raptors

Osprey 4/7, Willowside Rd. (DH) - 4/17, 14 at once, mouth of Russian River (DT). **Swainson Hawk** 4/13, pair gathering nest material near Lake Solano (BG,DE). **Golden Eagle** 4/24, Willow Creek Rd. (BG). **Merlin** 4/20, McKerricher SP (DT).

Other Non-Passerines

Wild Turkey 4/11, Geysers (B&BR) - 4/14, Willow Creek Rd. (DT) - 4/19, Tin Barn Rd. (DE) - 4/19, E. of Asti (B&BR). **Northern Pygmy Owl** 4/13, 2 at Monticello Dam - 4/19, 2 along Tin Barn Rd. - 2, Skaggs Springs Rd. (DE). **Spotted Owl** 4/19, Tin Barn Rd. - 4, Skaggs Springs Rd. (DE).

Passerines

Pacific Slope Flycatcher 4/2, Annadel SP (BG). **Rock Wren** 4/13, Monticello Dam (DE). **Canyon Wren** 4/13, 3 at Monticello Dam (DE). **California Thrasher** 4/10, 2 near Cloverdale Airport (PF). **Loggerhead Shrike** 4/11, Cader Lane (RR). **Black-headed Grosbeak** 4/7, feeder, Santa Rosa (JA). **Fox Sparrow** April, feeder, (JA,WN,B&BR). **Lincoln's Sparrow** April, feeder, Petaluma (WN). **White-throated Sparrow** April, feeders (JA,WN,B&BR,RR) - 4/20, Bodega Harbor (BB). **Yellow-headed Blackbird** 4/20, Hole in the Head (BB). **Hooded Oriole** 4/2, feeder, (WN) - 4/20, Sonoma (DA,AC). **Northern Oriole** 4/1, feeder, Oakmont (BG) - 4/2, feeder Petaluma (WNO). **Evening Grosbeak** 4/7, 15 at Freezeout Rd. (DW) - 4/13, 10 at Monte Rio (DT).

Observers

Jack Arnold, Dick Ashford, Betty Burrridge, Anthony Cermak, Doug Ellis, Peg Frankel, Betty Groce, David Hofmann, Winnie Nelson, Bob and Bertha Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Dorothy Tobkin, Dan Wilson.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Burrowing Owl Study

Dave DeSante is conducting a study of the status of Burrowing Owls in the San Francisco Bay Region. He would appreciate help censusing the owls in some areas of Sonoma County from May 1st to June 16th. To offer assistance, phone (415)660-1663.

Bouverie Docent

Bouverie Audubon Preserve will be offering a training program for docents in September. For information, phone Fairfax Donovan, 938-4554.

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 - Benjamin Parmeter, 2500 Emerson St. Napa 94558.....255-6757
Vice-president - Wayne Tillay, 160 Cold Springs Rd., Angwin 94508.....965-2978
Secretary - Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale, Healdsburg 95448.....433-2542
Treasurer - Clarence Wolcott, 4455 Dry Creek Rd., Healdsburg 95448.....433-1351

CHAIRMEN

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 Ruth Rudesill, P. O. Box 371, Kenwood 95452.....833-6026
Observations - Bob Rains, 450-A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa 95403.....528-6785
Social - Betty Burrige, 1653 Arroyo Sierra, Santa Rosa 95404.....527-0225
Christmas Count - Doug Ellis, PO Box 155, Eldridge 95431.....539-3443
 Ruth Rudesill, P. O. Box 371, Kenwood 95452.....833-6026
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 1990 to June 1991 and include a subscription to Kite Tales. Checks should be made out to RROS and sent to Clarence Wolcott, Treasurer, at 4455 Dry Creek Rd., Healdsburg 95448.

Bertha L. Rains
450A Las Casitas
Santa Rosa CA 95403

