

# Kite Tales

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
VOLUME 26, NO. ~~3~~4

NOVEMBER 1991  
DECEMBER



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

General Meeting: Thurs. December 12, 1991 at 7:30 PM

Place: Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University

Time: 7:30 PM

**Program:** Dr. Jack Arnold will test abilities to identify birds for the Christmas Count. Bring your binoculars, and study up on fall/winter, juvenile and female plumaged birds.

**Field Trip:** The December field trip is the Christmas Bird Count schedule for Sunday, Dec. 15. Contact Ruth Rudesill or Doug Ellis if you have not yet signed up for participation. Call Ruth at 833-6026 or Doug at 539-3443 (evenings only).

**Field Trip:** Dick Ashford will lead a trip at Bolinas Lagoon on January 4, 1992. Meet at the parking area across the road from Audubon Cyn. Ranch at 8:00 AM. Dick does the CBC in this area so will know where the good birds are. Be sure to wear warm clothing, bring a lunch and waterproof boots.

## PHONE WHEEL

Presently the editor has received the names of eighteen members who wish to be on the phone wheel. The names are printed below in an order that gave some people options as to whom they would call or be called by. If you are not happy with the order, it can be changed in time for a final list for the January meeting. However, it is suspected that the phones will be ringing during this Xmas Count season, so please use it and observe the rules given here.

1. When you receive word of a rare or unusual bird, call the person whose name follows yours on the list (the last person calls the first).

2. Be sure to report the following information:

a. The name of the bird, its specific location (including directions), and description such as age, sex, etc.

b. The name of the person finding the bird, and the name of the person starting the wheel.

3. Should you reach an answering machine, leave a short message so that person can call back for details. Then call the next person on the list. Repeat until you reach a person who can continue the alert and everyone can then be notified.

4. It would be a courtesy to phone someone who you were unable to reach at a later time, or relay that information to someone who could.

If you did not get on the list, find someone who is on it that would call you (in addition to the person they are honor bound to call on the phone wheel).

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. John R. Arnold     | 539-4544                         |
| 2. Bob & Bertha Rains | 528-6785                         |
| 3. Jean Smith         | 433-2542                         |
| 4. Deyea Harper       | 542-1542                         |
| 5. David Hofmann      | 546-0325                         |
| 6. Ruth Rudesill      | 833-6026                         |
| 7. Dick Ashford       | 996-7508                         |
| 8. Betty Burrige      | 527-0225                         |
| 9. Nancy Conzett      | 875-2231                         |
| 10. Avis Anderson     | 539-0470                         |
| 11. Betty Groce       | 539-8664                         |
| 12. John McDonagh     | 527-9115                         |
| 13. Cindy Young       | 585-8826                         |
| 14. Linda Petruvias   | 632-5532(home)<br>887-1501(work) |
| 15. Carol Brant       | 823-2806                         |
| 16. Alan Wight        | 763-8572                         |
| 17. Winnie Nelson     | 762-6152                         |
| 18. Dan Wilson        | 579-3949                         |

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## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Report of **Pelagic Field Trip to the Cordell Banks, November 3, 1991**. The trip was led by Roger Marlowe and organized by Robin Leong. Participants included several members of RROS and members of the Napa-Solano and David Audubon societies. Visitors from Southern California included Kurt Campbell and Guy McCaskie. The weather was foggy and cold, but the sea was relatively calm. The trip list of 28 species follows:

Pacific Loon	Brown Pelican	Herring Gull
Western Grebe	Brandt's Cormorant	Western Gull
Black-footed Albatross	Surf Scoter	Glaucous-winged Gull
Northern Fulmar	White-winged Scoter	Black-legged Kittiwake
Pink-footed Shearwater	Red-necked Phalarope	Common Murre
Flesh-footed Shearwater	Red Phalarope	Pigeon Guillemot
Buller's Shearwater	Pomarine Jaeger	Cassin's Auklet
Sooty Shearwater	Bonaparte's Gull	Rhinoceros Auklet
Short-tailed Shearwater	California Gull	Tufted Puffin
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel		

Marine mammals seen: Dall's Porpoise; Pacific White-sided Dolphin; California Sea Lion.

Report of **RROS Field Trip from Bodega Bay to Salmon Creek, November 23, 1991**. Eleven birders led by Ruth Rudesill enjoyed a beautiful, sunny day of birding. Participants included Ted Eliot, David and Pam Fischer, Jack Arnold, Avid Anderson, Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, Alan Wight, Bob and Bertha Rains. 104 species were recorded featuring great looks at Virginia Rail and Sora, a Peregrin Falcon, a juvenile Tundra Swan (Doran Park), a Red Phalarope (on the beach) and an estimated 16,000 shorebirds at the Doran bayside tidal area.

Red-throated Loon	Steller's Eider	Ruddy Turnstone	Black Phoebe
Pacific Loon	Surf Scoter	Black Turnstone	Scrub Jay
Pied-billed Grebe	White-winged Scoter	Surfbird	American Crow
Horned Grebe	Common Goldeneye	Sanderling	Common Raven
Eared Grebe	Bufflehead	Western Sandpiper	Chestnut-bkd. Chickadee
Western Grebe	Red-breasted Merganser	Least Sandpiper	Bewick's Wren
Clark's Grebe	Ruddy Duck	Dunlin	Marsh Wren
American White Pelican	Turkey Vulture	Long-billed Dowitcher	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Brown Pelican	Osprey	Red Phalarope	Western Bluebird
Double-cr. Cormorant	Black-shouldered Kite	Bonaparte's Gull	Hermit Thrush
Brandt's Cormorant	Northern Harrier	Heermann's Gull	American Robin
Pelagic Cormorant	Red-tailed Hawk	Mew Gull	Northern Mockingbird
Great Blue Heron	American Kestrel	Ring-billed Gull	American Pipit
Great Egret	Peregrine Falcon	California Gull	European Starling
Snowy Egret	California Quail	Herring Gull	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-cr. Night Heron	Virginia Rail	Thayer's Gull	Rufous-sided Towhee
Tundra Swan	Sora	Western Gull	California Towhee
Snow Goose	American Coot	Glaucous-winged Gull	Song Sparrow
Brant	Black-bellied Plover	Forster's Tern	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Mallard	Semipalmated Plover	Common Murre	White-crowned Sparrow
Northern Pintail	Killdeer	Band-tailed Pigeon	Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Shoveler	Black Oystercatcher	Great Horned Owl	Red-winged Blackbird
Eurasian Widgeon	Willet	Anna's Hummingbird	Brewer's Blackbird
American Widgeon	Wandering Tattler	Belted Kingfisher	House Finch
Greater Scaup	Whimbrel	Downy Woodpecker	American Goldfinch
Lesser Scaup	Marbled Godwit	Northern Flicker	House Sparrow

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## OBSERVATIONS, 10/25-11/25

SPECIES NAME	DATE	LOCATION, COUNTY	DETAILS	OBSERVERS
Arctic Loon	11/03	Abbott's Lagoon, Marin	Single bird, also 11/4 etc.	Ruth Rudesill, mob
Red-necked Grebe	11/10	Bodega Harbor entrance, Sonoma	Single bird	David Hofmann
	11/16	Pudding Cr. Ft. Bragg, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Ross's Goose	11/10	Abbott's Lagoon, Marin	Single bird	DH, CY, LP
Eurasian Widgeon	11/02	Angwin, Napa	Single male; 2 on 11/23	Bryan & Judy Ness
Redhead	11/21	Spring Lake, Sonoma	Single bird	J. McDonagh, et. al.
Tufted Duck	10/29	Lake Merced, San Francisco	Single bird	Betty Groce
✓ Steller's Eider	10/26	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	Single subadult male	Ruth Rudesill, mob
Harlequin Duck	11/04	Fish Docks, Marin	Single male	W. Tillay
Black Scoter	10/27	Fish Docks, Marin	8 birds	Betty Groce
Hooded Merganser	10/26	Ft. Bragg area, Mendocino	Up to 7 birds, 10/26-11/16	Dorothy Tobkin
	11/25	Detert Res., Butts Cyn Rd., Lake	15 birds, 6 males	Wayne Tillay
✓ Bald Eagle	11/05	S.R. Treatment Pond, Sonoma	Single immature bird	B. Groce, D. Nelson, etc.
Ferruginous Hawk	11/10	Manchester, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Merlin	10/28	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	Single bird	W. Tillay Mob
	11/09	Abbott's Lagoon, Marin	Single bird	R. Rudesill, A. Wight
Lesser Golden-Plover	11/04	Drake's Corners, Marin	2-3 birds	W. Tillay
Snowy Plover	10/28	Doran Park, Sonoma	18 birds	Betty Groce
✓ Red Knot	10/28	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	Six birds	W. Tillay, Mob
Pectoral Sandpiper	10/29	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird, also 10/22	Dorothy Tobkin
Rock Sandpiper	11/04	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird, also 10/22	Dorothy Tobkin
Red Phalarope	10/26	Mendo Headlands, Mendocino	Flock of 20±	Bryan Ness
Bonaparte's Gull	11/16	Doran Park, Sonoma	Single bird	D. Hofmann
Pigeon Guillemot	11/28	Ocean off MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	One winter plumaged bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Burrowing Owl	10/27	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
✓ Lewis's Woodpecker	11/19	Sonoma V. Reg. Park, Sonoma	Single bird	Diane Hichwa
Pileated Woodpecker	11/01	Santa Rosa, Sonoma	Yard bird	Betty Groce
Tropical Kingbird	11/04	Rd. Forks, Pt. Reyes, Marin	Single bird	Wayne Tillay
	11/09	Drake's Cor.-Nunes Rnch., Marin	Single bird	R. Rudesill, A. Wight
Hermit Warbler	11/02	Channel Dr., Annadel SP, Sonoma	Single bird	Betty Groce
Palm Warbler	10/27	Fish Docks, Pt. Reyes, Marin	Single bird	Betty Groce
	11/03	Golden Gate Rec. Area, Marin	Single bird	C. Young, L. Petrusius
White-throated Sparrow	11/04	Santa Rosa, Sonoma	Single yard bird	Jack Troutfetter
	11/05	S.R. Treatment Plant, Sonoma	Single bird	D. Nelson, J. McDonagh
	11/16	Kenwood, Sonoma	4 birds; 5 on 11/24	Ruth Rudesill
Lapland Longspur	11/04	Spaletta Plateau, Pt. Reyes	5 birds	Ruth Rudesill
	11/09	Drake's Cor.-Nunes Rnch., Marin	Single bird	R. Rudesill, A. Wight
Chestnut-collared Longspur	11/04	Spaletta Plateau, Pt. Reyes	12 birds	Ruth Rudesill
	11/09	Drake's Cor.-Nunes Rnch., Marin	Single bird	R. Rudesill, A. Wight
Snow Bunting	11/09	Drake's Cor.-Nunes Rnch., Marin	Single bird	R. Rudesill, A. Wight

Observers: Betty Groce, David Hofmann, Diane Hichwa, John McDonagh, Dan Nelson, Bryan Ness, Lini Petrusias, Ruth Rudesill, Wayne Tillay, Jack Troutfetter, Dorothy Tobkin, Allen Wight, Cindy Young

**REDWOOD REGIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY** was organized in 1962 to encourage the study of local birds and other wildlife and their habitats. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, September through May. Regular general meetings are held at 7:30PM in Room 221 Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

**1991-92 Officers**

- President: Wayne Tillay, 160 Cold Springs Rd., Angwin, CA 94508 ..... 965-2978
- Vice-president: David Hofmann, 2021 Pioneer Way #47, Santa Rosa CA 95403 . 546-0325
- Secretary: Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale, Healdsburg CA 95448 ..... 433-2542
- Treasurer: Clarence Wolcott, 4455 Dry Creek Rd., Healdsburg, CA 95448 ..... 433-1351

**1991-92 Chairpersons**

- Field Trips: Ruth Rudesill, PO Box 371, Kenwood, CA 95452 ..... 833-6026
- Observations: Avis Anderson, 116 Oak Island Place, Santa Rosa, CA 95405 ... 539-0470
- Social: Betty Burrige, 1653 Arroyo Sierra, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 ..... 527-0225
- Christmas Count: Doug Ellis, PO Box 155, Kenwood, CA 95452 ..... 539-3443  
Ruth Rudesill, PO Box 371, Kenwood, CA 95452 ..... 833-6026
- Kite Tales: Wayne Tillay, 160 Cold Springs Rd., Angwin, CA 94508 ..... 965-2978

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