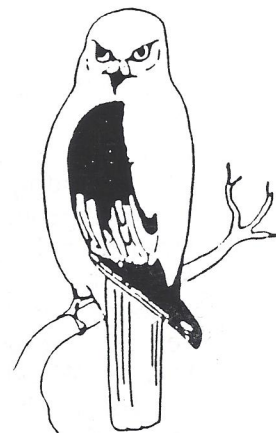


Kite Tales

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 26, No. 5

January 1992



COMING ATTRACTIONS

General Meeting: Thurs. January 9, 1992 at 7:30 PM

Place: Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University

Time: 7:30 PM

Program: Birding Argentina with Dr. Benjamin D. (Mike) Parmeter

Field Trip: January's field trip was announced in Kite Tales last month. It is repeated here knowing that you may receive the information too late to utilize it. 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 and will know where the good birds are. Be sure to wear warm clothing, bring a lunch and waterproof boots. The route will depend on the tides on that day.

HISTORICAL REMARKS

The editor has felt for some time that RROS members need to look to the roots of the society to which they belong. Although organized in 1962, RROS had its beginning earlier in 1961 and first published a Christmas Bird Count in 1960. The results of this count is printed in the following text. The members who participated in the very first count were: Gordon L. Bolander, Ann Brockman, Pete Leveque, Natalie Mestechin, Dochia Padgett, Mike Parmeter (compiler), Marianne and Susan Shepard, Mr. and Mrs. George Titus, and Aileen Trine. According to Dr. B.D. (Mike) Parmeter, these listed members were the "people who originally thought about RROS."

According to our archives, the first president of RROS was Gordon Bolander. I am sure a number of us remember Gordon. He was a thorough

birder and intolerant of the slipshod birding done by those who should have known better. He was one of the founders of the Oakland Ornithological Society, established in the 1920's. Eric Spalding was the first vice-president, Docia Patchett the recording secretary, and John R. Arnold was the "cor." secretary. George Titus was the first treasurer. A field trip chairman was not added to the list of officers until 1964 when the name of Mike Parmeter appeared. That same year, 1964-65, Jack Guggolz was named program chairman. Jack is still a member, but except for Jack Arnold, Mike Parmeter, and Peter Leveque, he is the only other member still with us (although we never see you, Jack). Jack became president in 1965 with Mike as vice-president, and the latter succeeded as president in 1966 (presumed by the editor).

Monthly meetings apparently have always been the same as they are now, and the vice-president succeeded the president under whom he served. The membership as of August 1965 was 52 and should be compared with that of about 90 in December 1991 (including those who receive Kite Tales in complementary fashion). It is of note that the kite has been used as a symbol for the society since at least 1965, although the present logo was not added until later.

Results of CBC for Santa Rosa, Calif., Dec. 22, 1960. Eleven observers in 6 parties (see above for names): Eared Grebe, 1; Western Grebe, 3; Pied-billed Grebe, 10; Great Blue Heron, 4; Common Egret, 1; Snowy Egret, 6; Black-crowned Night Heron, 42; Canada Goose, 3; Mallard, 54; Pintail, 99; Green-winged Teal, 16; Cinnamon Teal, 1; Am. Widgeon, 8; Shoveler, 10; Wood Duck, 54 (large numbers annually in choice spot); Ring-necked Duck, 3; Canvasback, 13; Lesser Scaup, 15; Common Goldeneye, 19; Bufflehead, 8; Ruddy Duck, 524; Turkey Vulture, 45; White-tailed Kite, 13; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 15; Red-shouldered Hawk, 9; Sparrow Hawk, 43; California Quail, 182; Ring-

necked Pheasant, 11; Virginia Rail, 11; Common Gallinule, 4; Am. Coot, 908; Killdeer, 136; Common Snipe, 161; Greater Yellowlegs, 2; Least Sandpiper, 20; California Gull, 2; Band-tailed Pigeon, 35; Mourning Dove, 38; Great Horned Owl, 2; Anna's Hummingbird, 14; Belted Kingfisher, 4; Red-shafted Flicker, 65; Acorn Woodpecker, 88; Lewis' Woodpecker, 5; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 4; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Nuttall's Woodpecker, 14; Black Phoebe, 29; Say's Phoebe, 9; **Violet-green Swallow, 1** (positive); Tree Swallow, 4; Steller's Jay, 12; Scrub Jay, 60; Common Raven, 3; Common Crow, 1001; Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 37; Plain Titmouse, 45; Common Bushtit, 140; White-breasted Nuthatch, 14; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 6; Wrentit, 9; Winter Wren 4; Bewick's Wren, 21; Long-billed Marsh Wren, 18; Mockingbird, 7; California Thrasher, 2; Robin, 2109; Varied Thrush, 111; Hermit Thrush, 18; Western Bluebird, 55; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 46; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 70; Water Pipit, 85; Cedar Waxwing, 135; Loggerhead Shrike, 17; Starling, 31; Hutton's Vireo, 18; Orange-crowned Warbler, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 5; Audubon's Warbler, 115; Townsend's Warbler, 4; House Sparrow, 30; Western Meadowlark, 219; Redwinged Blackbird, 1095; Brewer's Blackbird, 608; Brown-headed Cowbird, 16; **Evening Grosbeak, 58** (regular all month); Purple Finch, 5; House Finch, 134; Pine Siskin, 12; Am. Goldfinch, 5; Lesser Goldfinch, 76; Rufous-sided Towhee, 35; Brown Towhee, 89; Savannah Sparrow, 57; Lark Sparrow, 3; Oregon Junco, 319; White-crowned Sparrow, 235; Golden-crowned Sparrow, 171; **White-throated Sparrow, 1** (at feeder All Dec.); Fox Sparrow, 20; Lincoln's Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 96. **Total, 106 species, about 10,360 individuals.** (Seen in count period: Red Crossbill.)

The second count, on Dec. 23, 1961, produced 107 species. Mike was the compiler and there were 19 observers. Among the birds recorded were: 3 Shorteared Owls, 34 Violet-green Swallows, 3 White-throated Sparrows and 7 Evening Grosbeaks. 18,081 individuals.

PHONE WHEEL

The new phone wheel was published in last month's Kite Tales. Since then there have been a couple of changes made, so the slightly revised list of participants and their phone numbers is relisted here. If you are not on the wheel and wish to join, please call a member and get him/her

to call you.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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. Dick Ashford | 996-7508 |
| 7. Betty Burridge | 527-0225 |
| 8. Avis Anderson | 539-0470 |
| 9. Betty Groce | 539-8664 |
| 10. John McDonagh | 527-9115 |
| 11. Cindy Young | 585-8826 |
| 12. Linda Petrulias | 632-5532(home)
887-1501(work) |
| 13. Carol Brant | 823-2806 |
| 14. Alan Wight | 763-8572 |
| 15. Winnie Nelson | 762-6152 |
| 16. Dan Wilson | 579-3949 |

Rules to be followed:

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

The editor wishes to have information concerning the members which could be published: Such things as your life list (or any other list) when it reaches a certain plateau. We also note that the members frequently take trips to various places on this planet. Won't you write a short summary so that it can be inserted to fill up space? This month's Kite Tales would have been only two pages had not the information about the club been researched some time ago. The editor is indebted to Dr. Parmeter for his contribution to this project.

OBSERVATIONS: 11/25 to 12/25

SPECIES NAME	DATE	LOCATION, COUNTY	DETAILS	OBSERVERS
Red-necked Grebe	12/09	Pudding Cr., Ft. Bragg. Mendoc.	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Clark's Grebe	11/27	Mare Island, Solano	50 birds	Dick Ashford
Cattle Egret	11/30	Sebastopol, Sonoma	1 bird; 6 on 12/1; 5 12/15	D. Hofmann, W. Tilly
✓ Tundra Swan	12/01	Bolinas Lagoon, Marin	10 birds	Dick Ashford
	12/05	Spring Lake, Sonoma	Single bird to 12/11	Jean & Jim Tonasia
	12/20	SR Delta Pond, Sonoma	Single bird	J. McDonagh, B. Groce
Gr. White-fronted Goose	12/08	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Snow Goose	12/02	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
✓ Eurasian Widgeon	12/12	Hughes Pond, Bodega, Sonoma		J McDonagh, J Troutfetter
	12/24	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	2 birds + 2 at Bodega town	John & Larry Parmeter
✓ Redhead	12/24	Salmon Creek, Sonoma	2 birds	John & Larry Parmeter
✓ Tufted Duck	11/27	Mare Island, Solano	Single bird	Dick Ashford
✓ Steller's Eider	12/01	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	Still present 12/24	D Hofmann, Parmeters
Barrow's Goldeneye	11/27	Mare Island, Solano	50 birds	Dick Ashford
Hooded Merganser	12/01	Caspar, Mendocino	5-8 birds all Dec.	Dorothy Tobkin
Osprey	11/29	Bodega, Sonoma	Single bird	Nancy Conzett
✓ Bald Eagle	12/24	Bodega town, Sonoma	Single immature	John & Larry Parmeter
Ferruginous Hawk	12/07	Manchester SB, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Rough-legged Hawk	12/12	N. of Elk, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
	12/18	Grizzley Island, Solano	Single bird	J. McDonagh, et. al.
Golden Eagle	12/18	Grizzley Island, Solano	Single bird	J. McDonagh, et. al.
Merlin	12/07	Manchester SB, Mendocino	1 bird; 12/8 MacKerr. SP	Dorothy Tobkin
	12/12	Bodega Bay (town), Sonoma	Single bird	J McDonagh, J Troutfetter
Peregrine Falcon	12/01	5 reports Marin, Sonoma, Mendoc.	Single birds 12/1-12/22	DA, DH, DT
✓ Sora	12/07	Hole-in Head, Sonoma	2 birds	David Hofmann
Lesser Golden-Plover	12/21	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	1 bird	Dorothy Tobkin
American Avocet	12/07	Doran Park, Sonoma	6 birds	D. Hofmann, N. Conzett
Surfbird	12/07	Spud Point, Sonoma	Several birds	Nancy Conzett
Rock Sandpiper	12/16	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single Bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Red Phalarope	11/30	Westside Park, Bodega, Sonoma	1 bird, also 12/7	David Hofmann
✓ Bonaparte's Gull	12/07	Hughes Ranch, Bodega, Sonoma	Single bird	Nancy Conzett
✓ Black-legged Kittiwake	12/15	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
	12/24	Bodega Head, Sonoma	Single bird	John & Larry Parmeter
✓ Ancient Murrelet	11/30	Bodega Head, Sonoma	1 bird, 3 on 12/24	D. Hofmann, Parmeters
✓ Short-eared Owl	12/25	Ramal Road, Sonoma	3 birds	John & Larry Parmeter
Brewer's Blackbird	11/28	Fulton Rd., Sonoma	One albino bird	Barbara Gumtow

Observers: Dick Ashford, Nancy Conzett, Betty Groce, Barbara Gumtow, David Hofmann, John McDonagh, John and Larry Parmeter, Dorothy Tobkin, Jean and Jim Tonasia, Jack Troutfetter, Cynthia Young

REDWOOD REGIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1962 "to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their natural habitat." 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: Cynthia Young, 7 Conifer Square, Rohnert Park, CA 94928. 585-8826
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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