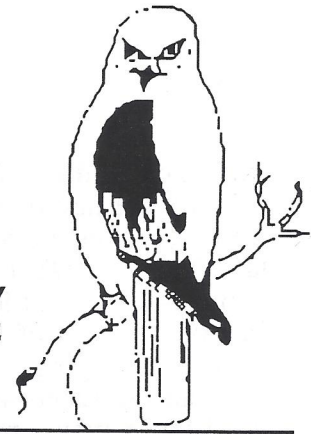


Kite Tales

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Volume 26, No. 9

May 1992



COMING ATTRACTIONS

Potluck and General Meeting:

May 14--Thursday, 6:00 PM

Place: Sugarloaf State Park

There will be a short business meeting after the Potluck dinner. Bring your own service, drinks and a main dish, salad or dessert. Comfortable shoes, a warm coat and a flashlight are recommended if you wish to do some birding. We will do some owling and looking for Poorwills after the meeting. It should be recalled that there is a \$5.00 entrance fee (\$4 if one passenger is a senior). Carpooling is suggested.

Field Trip: Saturday, **May 16**, 1992, to Pine Flat Road. Meet just up the road from the confluence of Hwy 128 and Pine Flat Road in Alexander Valley at **7:30 AM**. Dan Nelson will lead. You may call him at 762-6152.

Field Trip: Sunday, **June 7**, 1992, to Sonoma Developmental Center grounds. Meet at Sonoma Valley Regional Park just off Hwy 12 near Glen Ellen at **7:30 AM**. Cindy Young will lead.

Field Trip: A rather ambitious trip is planned for the weekend of **July 10-12** to the Nature Conservancy Preserve on the Kern River in Kern County northwest of Bakersfield. A group including your field trips chairperson is planning on driving down Friday, and they will meet at the preserve headquarters at 7:00 AM on Saturday, July 11. Preserve personnel will escort any takers to see the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Willow Flycatchers, and other birds that nest there. The recommended route is Hwy 178 toward Lake Isabella from Bakersfield, 50+ miles extent. Accom-

modations are available in the Lake Isabella area. The turnoff to the preserve entrance is located 1.1 miles beyond the Kernville airport. Call Cindy Young for more information at 585-8826.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Report of **field trip to Clear Lake** area, March 28, 1992. Fifteen intrepid birders, led by Les Hood, visited Anderson Marsh, Boggs Lake and various Clear Lake sites including the Lake County land fill. Highlights were: a Golden Eagle harassed by ravens at the land fill, and a rufous-crowned sparrow singing as participants watched the eagle. The weather was clear and warm, but it was a little early for most migrants. The day's total of birds, 61 species, is less than half what can be obtained on a big day count six weeks later in early May. Participants: Jack Arnold, Betty Burrige, Elza Burton, Olive Corey, Betty Groce, Barb Gumtow, Scott Klynstra, Alberta Oliver, Linda Petrulias, Bob and Bertha Rains, Jerry White and Cindy Young.

The trip list follows: Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Black-shouldered Kite, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, California Quail, American Coot, California Gull, Herring Gull, Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Acorn Woodpecker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Western King-bird, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, American Crow,

Field trip to Clear Lake area, con't.

Common Raven, White-breasted Nuthatch, Pygmy Nuthatch, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, California Towhee, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch.

Report of **field trip to Bodega Bay** area, April 4. Despite increasingly strong winds, 15 birders enjoyed the day of birding at Bodega Harbor and Salmon Creek Road. Best birds of the day were: (1) Female Steller's Eider at the boat launch ramp at West Side Park--now present since late October 1991; (2) A winter male Oldsquaw in the channel near the turn up to Bodega Head allowing close and leisurely observation; (3) An adult male Eurasian Wigeon at the farm pond east of the town of Bodega. Many spring migrants had arrived along Salmon Creek Road and most were singing. A single immature Brown Pelican at Bodega Head was unseasonable. There were an estimated 400 Brant present in the harbor. Lunch was eaten at Doran Park behind a wind break which provided some relief from blowing sand. Martin R. Weil of Argentina was our guest throughout the day. Participants: Mike Parmeter (leader), Avis Anderson, Jack Arnold, Carol Brant, Nancy Conzett, Olive Corey, Barb Gumtow, David Hofmann, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Alberta Oliver, Linda Petruvias, Martin Weil, Clarence Wolcott and Cindy Young.

Trip List: Red-throated Loon, Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Brandt's Cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Brant, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, American Wigeon, Greater Scaup, Steller's Eider, Oldsquaw, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, Bufflehead, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Virginia Rail, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Willet, Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Black Turnstone, Surf-bird, Sanderling, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Western Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Common Murre, Band-tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Great Horned Owl, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Wrentit, European Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak, California Towhee, Song Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

The budget committee composed of Jean Smith, Clarence Wolcott and Bertha Rains submitted a budget at the last meeting. An increase in dues was included in the budget, and some of the details submitted to the editor follow. The increase was approved at the April meeting. Proposed budget:

Income		Expenses	
Dues	\$725	Kite Tales	\$540
Books	30	Speakers	100
<u>Checklists</u>	<u>10</u>	Donations	100
Total	\$765	Misc.	20
		<u>Xmas Count</u>	<u>20</u>
		Total	\$780

The increase in dues is included in this budget: Family, \$15 (from \$10), Individual, \$8 (from \$7.50), and student \$3 (unchanged). Income from dues has fluctuated in the past few years. Change from yearly beginning balance to ending balance has also fluctuated, with a loss for the past year of an estimated \$420. There are only a few books left to sell. An increase in dues is necessary in order to produce sufficient funds to meet basic expenses. The committee recommendations will be printed (along with a financial report) in the next Kite Tales. Dues are for fiscal year (July 1-June 30), and the treasurer will be available at the May meeting for payment. Note that dues and most welcome **contributions** are tax deductible.

OBSERVATIONS MARCH/APRIL

SPECIES NAME	DATE	LOCATION, COUNTY	DETAILS	OBSERVERS
Red-necked Grebe	3/29	Limantour, Pt Reyes, Marin	Single bird	David Hofmann, et al
	3/28	MacKericher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
	3/29	N. Of Westport, Mendocino	9 birds	Dorothy Tobkin
Brown Pelican	3/29	N. of Westport, Mendocino	8 birds (unseasonable)	Dorothy Tobkin
	4/23	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	17 birds (unseasonable)	Dorothy Tobkin
Snow Goose	4/01	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	1 bird present all month	Dorothy Tobkin
Canada Goose	4/05	Caspar Pond, Mendocino	1 (minima)	Dorothy Tobkin
Steller's Eider	4/01	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	Still there	John McDonagh, et. al.
Black Scoter	4/05	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Hooded Merganser	3/23	Caspar Pond, Mendocino	Pair, also 3/28	Dorothy Tobkin
Golden Eagle	3/27	Pine Flat Rd., Sonoma	Single bird	Bob & Bertha Rains
Wild Turkey	4/05	Comptche area, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Lesser Golden-Plover	3/22	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	Dorothy Tobkin
Bonaparte's Gull	4/09	Salmon Cr., Sonoma	2 alternate plumage, 1 w.	Barbara Gumtow
Marbled Murrelet	3/29	North of Westport, Mendocino	5 birds	Dorothy Tobkin
Rhinoceros Auklet	3/29	Chimney Rock Pt Reyes, Mar.	2 birds	David Hofmann, et al
Northern Pygmy-Owl	4/05	Annadell SP, Sonoma	Two birds	June Persson
✓ Calliope Hummingbird	4/15	Oakmont, Sonoma	1 male feeder bird to 4/17	Jack Ryan, MOB
	4/24	Mt. St. Helena, Napa	Single bird, also 4/25	Dan Nelson, BD Parmeter
Pileated Woodpecker	4/06	Sebastopol, Sonoma	Pr. nesting in yard	Betty BurrIDGE
	4/05	Annadell SP, Sonoma	Single bird	June Persson
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3/27	Pine Flat Rd., Sonoma	3 birds	Bob & Bertha Rains
Solitary Vireo	3/21	Shiloh RP, Sonoma	1 singing bird	Bob & Bertha Rains
Warbling Vireo	3/26	Olema area, Marin	Single bird	AA, FF, BGr, BGu
Townsend's Warbler	3/25	Bodega Bay, Sonoma	50± (flock) birds in yard	Nancy Conzett
Black-headed Grosbeak	3/28	Sebastopol, Sonoma	Yard bird	Carol Brant
	4/10	Santa Rosa, Sonoma	Single bird	Dan Wilson
White-throated Sparrow	3/31	Santa Rosa, Sonoma	Feeder bird	Jack Troutfetter
Lapland Longspur	3/26	Spalleta Plateau, Marin	2 birds	John McDonagh, et. al.
	3/28	MacKerricher SP, Mendocino	Single bird	D. Tobkin
Chestnut-collared Longspur	3/26	Spalleta Plateau, Marin	2 birds	John McDonagh, et. al.
Hooded Oriole	3/25	Santa Rosa, Sonoma	also 4/15	Dan Wilson
Northern Oriole	3/24	Sebastopol, Sonoma	Pair at feeder	Barbara Gumtow
	3/25	Santa Rosa, Sonoma		Dan Wilson
Lawrence's Goldfinch	3/27	Chalk Hill Rd., Sonoma	1 bird	Bob & Bertha Rains
	4/04	Aetna Springs, Napa	Male with mixed flock	Wayne Tillay

Observers whose names were abbreviated: Avis Anderson, Frankie Frazier, Betty Groce, Barbara Gumtow.

