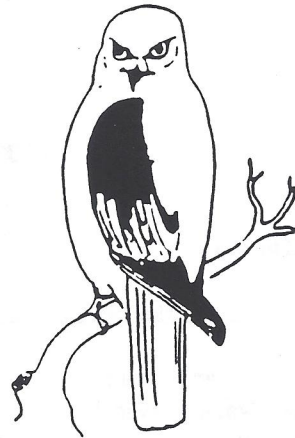


Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Volume 28, Number 4

December 1993



Coming Attractions

General Meeting. December 9, 1993 - Thursday, 7:30 PM at Room 221, Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University. Dr. Jack Arnold will present slides from his recent trip to the Galapagos Islands.

Field Trip to Palo Alto Baylands. Sunday, December 12. Meet at 7:30 AM at the Petaluma 101/116 Park and Ride for carpooling. We will visit Palo Alto Baylands during a very high winter tide in hopes of seeing Clapper Rails and maybe even a Black Rail! Leader is Ruth Rudesill. For further information, contact Ruth at 833-6026.

From The President

The appointment of Jack Ward Thomas to head of the U. S. Forest Service was announced by the Clinton Administration late last month. The appointment sends a clear signal that the management of the natural resources within our National Forests is going to change. The Thomas appointment has its roots in the ongoing Northern Spotted Owl controversy. He was the principal author of a far-reaching report that created the guidelines by which the Northern Spotted Owl is now managed within our National Forests. Thomas is a wildlife biologist, not a forester, which is important because foresters have traditionally headed the Forest Service. In recent years, the Forest service has come under increasing criticism for its tendency to yield to the influence of the timber industry. Thomas' appointment clearly indicates that the policies of the past will not be those of the future. The history of the Spotted Owl controversy will be written at a later time, but will no doubt reflect that it provided the fuel to drive a major change in resource management theory: the need to manage ecosystems not forests. Therein lies the most enduring legacy of the Northern Spotted Owl.

Local Christmas Bird Counts

The dates of some of this winter's upcoming local Christmas Bird Counts are as follows:

Point Reyes Peninsula	12/18/93	Saturday
Santa Rosa	12/19/93	Sunday
Benicia	12/20/93	Monday
Southern Marin County	12/31/93	Friday
Angwin	1/1/94	Saturday
Western Sonoma County	1/2/94	Sunday

Please contact the following compilers if you are interested in counting birds in their areas:

Point Reyes Peninsula	Dave Shuford	(415) 868-1221
Santa Rosa	Doug Ellis	(707) 539-3443
Benicia	Robin Leong	(707) 643-1287
Angwin	Bill Grummer	(707) 942-0136
Western Sonoma County	Betty Burrige	(707) 527-0225

RROS Observations, November 1993 (+)

Northern California

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
✓ Black-vented Shearwater	several	10/30	off Bodega Head	SON	DH	
✓ Black-vented Shearwater	several	11/21	off Bodega Head	SON	BDP, RR, AW	
Pink-footed Shearwater	2	11/21	off Bodega Head	SON	BDP, RR, AW	
Pink-footed Shearwater	1	11/27	off Bodega Head	SON	BDP, JP	
Northern Fulmar	1	11/14	off Bodega Head	SON	RR	
Northern Fulmar	3	11/21	off Bodega Head	SON	BDP, AW	
✓ Northern Fulmar	several	11/27	off Bodega Head	SON	BDP, JP	
Little Blue Heron	1	11/14	Bodega Harbor	SON	DH, WN, RR	immature
Greater White-fronted Goose	2	11/25-26	Lake Hennessey	NAP	BDP, JP, AW	
✓ Snow Goose	1	11/27	Bodega Harbor	SON	BDP, JP	
Snow/Ross' Goose	1	11/25	Lake Hennessey	NAP	BDP, JP, AW	
Canada Goose	90	11/3	Shiloh Road	SON	RM	large number
Canada Goose	7	11/27	Fairhaven	SON	BDP, JP	Aleutian subspecies
Eurasian Wigeon	1 male	11/21	Bodega Harbor	SON	BDP, RR, AW	
Eurasian Wigeon	1 male	11/21	Novato	MRN	CY	
Eurasian Wigeon	2	11/26	Gray Lodge	BUT	BDP, JP	
Eurasian Wigeon	1 male	11/26	Lake Hennessey	NAP	AW	
Harlequin Duck	3	10/31	Fish Docks, Point Reyes	MRN	BB, many	1 male, 2 females
✓ Oldsquaw	1	11/27	Bodega Head	SON	BDP, JP	
Surf Scoter	1	11/23	Bodega Harbor	SON	BB	all white
Hooded Merganser	1 female	11/21	Salmon Creek ponds	SON	BDP, RR, AW	
Hooded Merganser	5	11/21	Novato	MRN	CY	
✓ Hooded Merganser	18	11/27	Carmody Road	SON	JP, LP	
Bald Eagle	2 adults	11/25	Lake Hennessey	NAP	BDP, JP, AW	
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	1	11/7	Ramal Road	SON	DE	
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	1	11/21	Carmody Road	SON	BDP, AW	
Merlin	1	11/7	Ramal Road	SON	DE	
Merlin	1	11/11	Stafford Lake	MRN	JM	
Merlin	1	11/26	near Arbuckle	COL	BDP, JP	
✓ Peregrine Falcon	1	11/11	Stafford Lake	MRN	JM	
✓ Prairie Falcon	1	11/25	Ramal Road	SON	BDP, JP	
Clapper Rail	1	11/25	Hudemann Slough	SON	BDP, JP	
Rhinoceros Auklet	1	11/27	off Bodega Head	SON	BDP, JP	
Lewis' Woodpecker	12	11/26	North Butte Road	SUT	BDP, JP	
Tropical Kingbird	1	10/31	Drake's Beach, Point Reyes	MRN	BB, many	
House Wren	1	11/26	north of Meridian	SUT	BDP, JP	
✓ American Pipit	1	11/13-14	Campbell Cove	SON	BB, RR, many	japonicus race
Mountain Bluebird	1	10/31	Drake's Corners	MRN	many	
Mountain Bluebird	approx. 40	11/26	near Arbuckle	COL	BDP, JP	
✓ Western Tanager	1 female	11/3	Doran Park	SON	JM	
Summer Tanager	1 female	10/31	Nunes Ranch	SON	DA, RR	
Solitary Vireo	1	10/31	Fish Docks, Point Reyes	MRN	many	eastern race
Black-throated Gray Warbler	1	11/22	Santa Rosa	SON	BP	
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	11/21	Owl Canyon	SON	BDP, RR, AW	gray-headed
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	11/21	Diekmann's Store	SON	BDP, RR, AW	1 gray-headed
✓ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	11/13	Healdsburg	SON	NW	immature male

Clay-colored Sparrow	1	10/31	Doran Park	SON	DH
Vesper Sparrow	3	11/26	West Butte Road	SUT	BDP, JP
White-throated Sparrow	5	10/22 on	Kenwood	SON	RR
White-throated Sparrow	5	November	Petaluma, Santa Rosa	SON	B+BR, RM, WN
Swamp Sparrow	1	11/14,21	Campbell Cove	SON	DE, many

Outside Northern California

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Bristle-thighed Curlew	1	11/28	Hawaii		RR	

Observers: Dick Ashford, Betty Burrridge, Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, John McDonagh, Richard Merriss, Wini Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Larry Parmeter, Bill Payne, Bob and Bertha Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Alan Wight, Ned Wynn, Cindy Young.

Field Trip Reports

Willow Creek Road and Other Places, November 14, 1993.

Eight people showed up for the early morning owling on Willow Creek Road and were rewarded with hearing five owl species. A total of 14 participants enjoyed the rest of the day. 119 bird species were recorded for the day. The non-owling highlights included a Little Blue Heron spotted by Wini Nelson and an American Pipit of the race japonicus which was studied at length by all. Participants were Avis Anderson, Janet Bosshard, Doug Ellis (leader), Rich Gibson, Betty Groce, Dave Hofmann, John McDonagh, Wini Nelson, Linda Petrulias, Bertha Rains, Bob Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Ned Wynn, and Andy Young.

Sacramento Valley, November 26, 1993.

Highlights for RR0S members that went on this trip included Mountain Plover, Ferruginous Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Bald Eagle, Hooded Merganser, Spotted Sandpiper, Mountain Bluebird, Phainopepla, Sandhill Crane, and Tundra Swan.

REDWOOD REGION 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 7:30 PM in Room 221 Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

1993-1994 Officers

President:	Jon Winter, 5331 El Mercado, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	528-7488
Vice-president:	Richard E. Merriss, 2046 Hearn Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95407	525-8629
Secretary:	Olive Corey, 422 Ridgeway, Santa Rosa, CA 95401	542-8429
Treasurer:	Jean Smith, 519 Sunnyvale, Healdsburg, CA 95448	433-2542

1993-1994 Chairpersons

Field Trips:	Cynthia Young, 7 Conifer Square, Rohnert Park, CA 94928	585-8826
Observations:	Ruth Rudesill, P.O. Box 371, Kenwood, CA 95452	833-6026
Social:	Barbara Gumtow, 7915 Bella Vista Dr., Sebastopol, CA 95472	823-7869
Christmas Count:	Doug Ellis, P.O. Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95431	539-3443
Kite Tales:	Alan Wight, 300 6th St. #2, Petaluma, CA 94952	763-8572

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