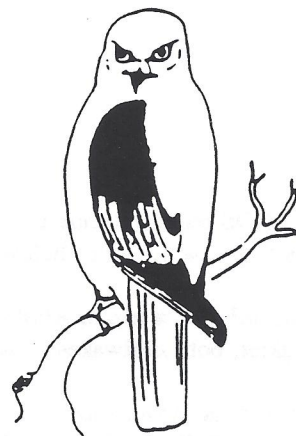


# Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society  
Volume 29, Number 1      September 1994



## Coming Attractions

**Potluck Dinner and General Meeting.** Thursday, September 8. Shiloh Regional Park at 6:00 PM. The potluck dinner will begin at 6:00 PM, followed by a business meeting at 7:00 PM, and an owl walk at 8:00 PM. The parking fee is \$2 per car or free with a Gold Card. We will need to leave the park by 9:30 PM. 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 go on the owl walk. An RRROS meeting at Shiloh in 1990 turned up two Great Horned Owls and a Western Screech-Owl. Also present were a Chipping Sparrow and other woodland birds. A recent list of the birds of the park compiled by Jon Winter and Bob Rains contains 81 species. Directions to Shiloh are as follows: Take Highway 101 to about 4 miles north of Santa Rosa. Exit at Shiloh Road and go right (east) on Shiloh Road to the end. Take a slight jog to the right to the entrance of the park.

**General Meeting.** Thursday, October 13. Debra Shearwater of Shearwater Journeys will present slides and video of pelagic trips. Further information will be provided in the October Kite Tales.

**Field Trip to Bodega Harbor.** Saturday, September 10. We will explore the Bodega Harbor area looking for fall migrants. Meet at the Rail Ponds at 8:00 AM. Leader is Ruth Rudesill. Call Ruth at 833-6026 for directions/details.

**Field Trip to Point Reyes.** Saturday, September 24. We will look for migrants, vagrants, and another bird of the century. Meet at the Drake's Beach picnic area at 8:30 AM. Bring a lunch. Leader is Ruth Rudesill.

## Membership Dues

Please remember to pay your membership dues for the 1994-95 year. Dues are \$15 per family or \$8 per individual per year. Student dues are \$3. Send your check to RRROS treasurer Mike Nelligan, 124 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 or bring it to the potluck meeting or the first general meeting (on October 13) at Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University. Make checks payable to RRROS.

## Kite Tales Deadlines

Please observe the following deadlines when providing information for inclusion in the Kite Tales. The deadline for inclusion of observations (to Ned Wynn) is the 24th of the month. The deadline for inclusion of announcements (to Alan Wight) is the 27th of the month.

## Members' Vacations

Several RROS members took trips to distant locations over the summer. Some of their destinations and the birds they saw are given below.

Dick Ashford took a trip to Alaska. Among the birds that he saw were Crested Auklet, Parakeet Auklet, Least Auklet, both kittiwakes, both puffins, Hawfinch, Brambling, and a Gyrfalcon on a nest.

Ned and Donna Wynn took a trip to upstate New York. Among the birds that they saw were Great Black-backed Gull, Black-billed Cuckoo, Fish Crow, Veery, Yellow-throated Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Canada Warbler, and Field Sparrow. They saw a total of 76 species of birds, 32 of which were lifers. No Yellow Rails were seen.

Ruth Rudesill, Linda Petruvias, and Cindy Young made a trip to the Maryland/Delaware area where they saw lots of birds. Among them were Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoos; Wood Thrush; Sedge Wren; Seaside and Sharp-tailed Sparrows; King Rail; Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Canada, Magnolia, Wilson's, Chestnut-sided, Black-and-white, Hooded, Prothonotary, and Yellow Warblers; Northern Parula; American Redstart; Ovenbird; Louisiana Waterthrush (15 warbler species); Scarlet Tanager; Purple Sandpiper; and Barred Owl.

## Field Trip Reports

### Yosemite National Park, June 24-26, 1994.

We enjoyed warm weather and good company. Jon Winter showed us where he had conducted his field research on Great Gray Owls. We did find a beautiful male at Chevron Meadows and a family near Ackerson Meadow with two healthy fledglings! We also enjoyed good looks at several mountain specialties, including Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Williamson's Sapsucker, Black Swift, and Calliope Hummingbird. A total of 90 species of birds were observed. Participants were Avis Anderson, Lew and Marilyn Edmondson, Doug Ellis, Barb Gumtow, David Hofmann, Rick Lebadour, Dale Manor (visiting birder from Michigan), Richard Merriss (and daughter), Linda Petruvias, Bob and Bertha Rains (with two grandchildren), Ruth Rudesill, Wayne Tillay, Gene and Barbara Toschi, Chris Traub, Alan Wight, and Jon Winter (leader). The trip list follows.

Ruth Rudesill

Turkey Vulture	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Violet-green Swallow
Red-tailed Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	Cliff Swallow
California Quail	Hairy Woodpecker	Steller's Jay
California Gull	White-headed Woodpecker	Scrub Jay
Band-tailed Pigeon	Black-backed Woodpecker	Clark's Nutcracker
Mourning Dove	Northern Flicker	American Crow
Flammulated Owl	Pileated Woodpecker	Common Raven
Great Horned Owl	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Mountain Chickadee
Northern Pygmy-Owl	Western Wood-Pewee	Plain Titmouse
Spotted Owl	Willow Flycatcher	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Great Gray Owl	Hammond's Flycatcher	White-breasted Nuthatch
Black Swift	Dusky Flycatcher	Brown Creeper
White-throated Swift	Gray Flycatcher	Canyon Wren
Calliope Hummingbird	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	Bewick's Wren
Red-breasted Sapsucker	Black Phoebe	House Wren
Williamson's Sapsucker	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Golden-crowned Kinglet

Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
Western Bluebird  
Townsend's Solitaire  
Hermit Thrush  
American Robin  
Sage Thrasher  
European Starling  
Solitary Vireo  
Warbling Vireo  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Nashville Warbler  
Yellow Warbler  
Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Black-throated Gray Warbler

Hermit Warbler  
MacGillivray's Warbler  
Western Tanager  
Black-headed Grosbeak  
Lazuli Bunting  
Green-tailed Towhee  
Rufous-sided Towhee  
Chipping Sparrow  
Brewer's Sparrow  
Lark Sparrow  
Sage Sparrow  
Fox Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Lincoln's Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Brewer's Blackbird  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Northern Oriole  
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch  
Pine Grosbeak  
Purple Finch  
Cassin's Finch  
Red Crossbill  
Pine Siskin  
Lesser Goldfinch  
Evening Grosbeak  
House Sparrow

Klamath Basin Area, July 1-4, 1994.

We had wonderful weather, warm and sunny. We camped at Lava Beds National Monument. We birded Lava Beds, Medicine Lake, Lower Klamath and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuges, and Sky Lakes Wilderness area in Oregon. We observed a total of 136 species. Highlights included Pinyon Jays and Black-throated Sparrows at Lava Beds, 4 Flammulated Owls near Medicine Lake, Black-backed Woodpeckers at Medicine Lake and Sky Lakes, courting and nesting Clark's and Western Grebes at Tule Lake, Three-toed Woodpeckers (3) at Sky Lakes Wilderness. Participants were Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, Linda Petrulias, and Ruth Rudesill. The trip list follows.

Ruth Rudesill

Pied-billed Grebe  
Eared Grebe  
Western Grebe  
Clark's Grebe  
American White Pelican  
Double-crested Cormorant  
Great Blue Heron  
Great Egret  
Snowy Egret  
Black-crowned Night-Heron  
White-faced Ibis  
Tundra Swan  
Canada Goose  
Wood Duck  
Mallard  
Northern Pintail  
Cinnamon Teal  
Northern Shoveler  
Gadwall  
Canvasback  
Redhead  
Lesser Scaup  
Ruddy Duck  
Turkey Vulture  
Osprey  
Bald Eagle

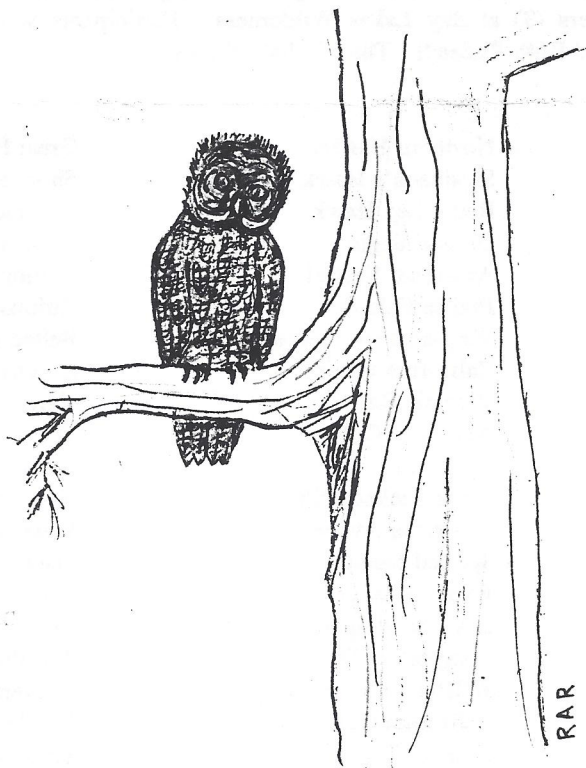
Northern Harrier  
Swainson's Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Golden Eagle  
American Kestrel  
Prairie Falcon  
Ring-necked Pheasant  
California Quail  
Virginia Rail  
American Coot  
Killdeer  
Black-necked Stilt  
American Avocet  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Western Sandpiper  
Least Sandpiper  
Long-billed Dowitcher  
Wilson's Phalarope  
California Gull  
Caspian Tern  
Forster's Tern  
Black Tern  
Rock Dove  
Mourning Dove  
Barn Owl  
Flammulated Owl

Great Horned Owl  
Short-eared Owl  
Common Nighthawk  
Anna's Hummingbird  
Calliope Hummingbird  
Rufous Hummingbird  
Belted Kingfisher  
Downy Woodpecker  
Hairy Woodpecker  
Three-toed Woodpecker  
Black-backed Woodpecker  
Northern Flicker  
Western Wood-Pewee  
Dusky Flycatcher  
Gray Flycatcher  
Say's Phoebe  
Ash-throated Flycatcher  
Western Kingbird  
Purple Martin  
Tree Swallow  
Violet-green Swallow  
Cliff Swallow  
Barn Swallow  
Gray Jay  
Steller's Jay  
Scrub Jay

Pinyon Jay  
 Black-billed Magpie  
 Common Raven  
 Mountain Chickadee  
 Plain Titmouse  
 Bushtit  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch  
 White-breasted Nuthatch  
 Pygmy Nuthatch  
 Brown Creeper  
 Rock Wren  
 Canyon Wren  
 Bewick's Wren  
 House Wren  
 Marsh Wren  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
 Western Bluebird  
 Mountain Bluebird  
 Townsend's Solitaire

Hermit Thrush  
 American Robin  
 Sage Thrasher  
 Loggerhead Shrike  
 European Starling  
 Solitary Vireo  
 Orange-crowned Warbler  
 Yellow Warbler  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler  
 Hermit Warbler  
 Common Yellowthroat  
 Western Tanager  
 Black-headed Grosbeak  
 Lazuli Bunting  
 Green-tailed Towhee  
 Rufous-sided Towhee  
 Chipping Sparrow  
 Brewer's Sparrow  
 Lark Sparrow  
 Black-throated Sparrow

Fox Sparrow  
 Song Sparrow  
 Dark-eyed Junco  
 Red-winged Blackbird  
 Tricolored Blackbird  
 Western Meadowlark  
 Yellow-headed Blackbird  
 Brewer's Blackbird  
 Brown-headed Cowbird  
 Northern Oriole  
 Purple Finch  
 Cassin's Finch  
 House Finch  
 Red Crossbill  
 Pine Siskin  
 Lesser Goldfinch  
 Evening Grosbeak  
 House Sparrow



26 June 1994 - Great Grey Owl  
 Fledgling 2 weeks out of  
 nest. Ackerson Meadow,  
 Tuolumne County CA

## RROS Observations, Summer 1994

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Observers</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	1 adult	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	25	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	several	5/15	Off Fort Bragg	MEN	RR, DT	First county record
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	2	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	
Leach's Storm-Petrel	8	5/15	Off Fort Bragg	MEN	RR, DT	
Leach's Storm-Petrel	4	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	
Ashy Storm-Petrel	several	5/15	Off Fort Bragg	MEN	RR, DT	
Blue-winged Teal	1	6/30	Highway 37 at Tubbs Island	SON	BB	
Harlequin Duck	1 female	6/30	Bodega Harbor	SON	BB	
Long-tailed Jaeger	3	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	
South Polar Skua	1	5/15	Off Fort Bragg	MEN	RR, DT	
Arctic Tern	1	7/9	Hayward Regional Shoreline	ALA	DH, BDP, AW	
Black Skimmer	1 pair	5/22	Spud Point, Bodega Harbor	SON	NC, many	
Black Skimmer	6	7/9	Hayward Regional Shoreline	ALA	DH, BDP, AW	2 adults, 4 young
Black Skimmer	1	7/23	Walker Creek mouth	MRN	RR, many	
Craveri's Murrelet	2	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	
White-winged Dove	1	5/28	Point Reyes	MRN	DH, BDP	
Long-eared Owl	1	5/7	Hopland	MEN	DT	On nest
Black Swift	1	5/14	Pine Flat Road	SON	DH, many	
Black-chinned Hummingbird	1 male	5/25	Salita Road	SON	JT	
Dusky Flycatcher	2	5/21	Top of Mt. St. Helena	SON	DH, RR, AW	Singing
Purple Martin	1	5/21	Top of Mt. St. Helena	SON	DH, RR, AW	
Canyon Wren	1	5/21	Top of Mt. St. Helena	SON	DH, RR, AW	Singing
Northern Parula	2	6/20	Samuel Taylor State Park	MRN	DH, BDP, SP	
Northern Parula	1 male	6/20	Heart's Desire Beach	MRN	DH, BDP, SP	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	6/30	Owl Canyon	SON	LS, many	
Palm Warbler	1	6/4	Fish Docks, Point Reyes	MRN	CL, LL, DH, AW	
American Redstart	1 male	6/4	Mendoza Ranch, Point Reyes	MRN	DH, AW	Singing
Prothonotary Warbler	1	6/6-6/9	Owl Canyon	SON	DE, many	First county record
MacGillivray's Warbler	1	7/23	Pine Flat Road	SON	BP, SS	
Indigo Bunting	1 male	5/21	Partrick Road, Napa	NAP	DH, RR, AW	Singing
Indigo Bunting	1 male	6/7	Lichau Road	SON	many	Singing
Black-chinned Sparrow	several	5/14	Pine Flat Road	SON	DN, many	Singing
Black-chinned Sparrow	several	5/16	Geysers Road	SON	DE	Singing
Lark Bunting	1 male	8/28	Glass Beach	MEN	DT	
Grasshopper Sparrow	2	5/20	Pine Flat Road	SON	DH	
Sperm Whale	6-8	5/15	Off Fort Bragg	MEN	RR, DT	Rare off California
Orca	9-10	5/15	Off Fort Bragg	MEN	RR, DT	Family group
Orca	4	7/17	Cordell Banks	MRN	RS,DH,BDP,AW,NW	

Observers: Betty Burrige, Nancy Conzett, Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, Cindy Lieurance, Leslie Lieurance, Dan Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Sally Parmeter, Bill Payne, Linda Petruvias, Ruth Rudesill, Sandra Settles, Lynn Stafford, Rich Stallcup, Dorothy Tobkin, Jack Troutfetter, Alan Wight, Ned Wynn.

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 (October through April) are held at 7:30 PM in Room 221 Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California.

**1994-1995 Officers**

President:	Richard Merriss, 2046 Hearn Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95407	525-8629
Vice-president:	Bob Rains, 450A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	528-6785
Secretary:	Winnie Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952	762-6152
Treasurer:	Mike Nelligan, 124 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	576-1475

**1994-1995 Chairpersons**

Field Trips:	Ruth Rudesill, P.O. Box 371, Kenwood, CA 95452	833-6026
Observations:	Ned Wynn, 129B Powell Avenue, Healdsburg, CA 95448	431-8412
Social:	Barbara Guntow, 7915 Bella Vista Drive, Sebastopol, CA 95472	823-7869
Christmas Count:	Doug Ellis, P.O. Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95452	585-0226
	Benjamin D. Parmeter, 2500 Emerson Street, Napa, CA 94558	255-6757
Kite Tales:	Alan Wight, 300 6th Street #2, Petaluma, CA 94952	763-8572
	Bob and Bertha Rains, 450A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	528-6785

Alan N. Wight  
300 6th Street #2  
Petaluma, CA 94952

