

# Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society  
Volume 30 Number 4 December 1995



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

**General Meeting.** Thursday, December 14. Darwin Hall, Room 221, Sonoma State University at 7:30 PM. It is time to sharpen those bird identification skills once again with Dr. Jack Arnold. Be sure to bring your binoculars for this fun filled evening. With the Christmas Bird Counts coming up this is a great way to sharpen your birding skills. The parking fee at Sonoma State University is \$1.50.

**General Meeting.** Thursday, January 11. Darwin Hall, Room 221, Sonoma State University at 7:30 PM. The parking fee at Sonoma State University is \$1.50. The program will be announced in the next Kite Tales.

**Santa Rosa Christmas Bird Count.** Sunday, December 17, 1995. Well its almost time once again for that annual birding extravaganza called the Christmas Bird Count. As everyone knows this is where for a \$5.00 count fee you get to run around in a given territory on a cold, rainy, or foggy day counting all the birds that you see and at the end of the day get to share your experiences at the annual compilation.

To sign up for the fun you can come to the November or December meetings or write Doug Ellis at P.O. Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95431. Even if you can't help on count day please write or call Doug at 326-2464 if you have an unusual bird in the count circle for us to look for.-----Doug Ellis

**Petaluma Christmas Bird Count.** Monday, December 18, 1995. Dan Nelson is organizing this count for the second year. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Wini Nelson at 762-6152. This count circle offers a wide variety of habitats for good birds to be found.

**Field Trip to West Sonoma County/Bodega Bay.** Saturday, January 13. Meet at 8:00 AM at the rail ponds on the west side of Bodega Harbor. We will be looking for those unusual birds found on the Christmas Bird Count and more. Ruth Rudesill will be the leader, if you have questions call 833-6026.

**Field Trip to Tule Lake/Klamath Basin Area.** Saturday, February 17 to Monday, February 19. Please plan to join us for the annual President's Day trip to this wonderful area. We are planning to stay at the Motel 6 in Klamath Falls, Oregon (503)884-2110. We will meet each morning (Sat., Sun., & Mon.) at 7:45 AM at the Motel 6 to go out for the day. Look for further details in the January Kite Tales.

## 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 20th of the month. The deadline for inclusion of announcements (to David Hofmann) is the 25th of the month.

**Special Note:** Ned Wynn will be unavailable between December 18 thru January 1. You can send your observations for December directly to the editor, David Hofmann.

## RROS OBSERVATIONS, NOVEMBER 1995 (SONOMA COUNTY)

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Red-necked Grebe	1	11/24	Doran County Park	SON	BDP, JP, LP, JA	
Red-necked Grebe	1	11/24	Carmet	SON	BDP, JP, LP, JA	
Northern Fulmar	10	11/23-24	Bodega Head State Park	SON	TC, GMc, DH, BDP, JP, LP, JA	
Black-vented Shearwater	1	11/5	Bodega Head State Park	SON	RM	
Hooded Merganser	1m	11/4	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	FT	
Ferruginous Hawk	1	11/27	southeast Petaluma	SON	LE	
Golden Eagle	1imm	11/27	southeast Petaluma	SON	LE	
Merlin	1	11/6	Doran County Park	SON	BDP	
Peregrine Falcon	1	11/6	Doran County Park	SON	BDP	anatum race
Peregrine Falcon	2	11/24	Doran County Park	SON	BDP, JP, LP, JA	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1imm	11/5-8	Doran County Park	SON	L&CL, BDP, NW	
Red Knot	10	11/6	Doran County Park	SON	BDP	
Red Knot	2	11/24	Doran County Park	SON	BDP, JP, LP, JA	
Marbled Murrelet	8	11/23	Bodega Head State Park	SON	TC, GMc, DH	
Ancient Murrelet	2	11/23-24	Bodega Head State Park	SON	TC, GMc, DH, BDP, JP, LP, JA	
Eastern Phoebe	1	10/28-11/24	Bodega Bay/Owl Canyon	SON	BDP, mob	
American Dipper	1	11/5	Sonoma Creek	SON	DL, AH	
Tennessee Warbler	1	11/6	Bodega Bay/Owl Canyon	SON	DB	
Black-thrt'd Blue Warbler	1m	11/1	Bodega Bay/Owl Canyon	SON	SC, LS, BDP	
Black-thrt'd Blue Warbler	1f	11/6	Bodega Bay/Owl Canyon	SON	DB, AA, BG	
Wilson's Warbler	1m	11/1	Bodega Bay/Owl Canyon	SON	BDP	
White-throated Sparrow	1	11/7	Santa Rosa/W. Hearne Ave	SON	RM	
White-throated Sparrow	1	11/8	Healdsburg/Rio Linda Academy	SON	DR, LR	
White-throated Sparrow	1	11/18	Santa Rosa	SON	JMc, KMc	

Observers: Avis Anderson, Jack Arnold, Dennis Beall, Therese Clawson, Susanne Cogen, Lew Edmondson, Barbara Gumtow, David Hofmann, Anne Howard, David Leland, Leslie & Cindy Lieurance, John McDonagh, Kathy McDonagh, Guy McGaskie, Richard Merriss, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Larry Parmeter, Don Rickert, LaVerne Rickert, Lynn Stafford, Forest Tomlinson, Ned Wynn.

## SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA

Who would go to Southeastern Arizona in August to willingly encounter oppressive heat and spectacular "toad-floater" thunderstorms? The McDonaghs, John and Virginia, made the effort in order to attend both the Wings and ABA Conferences in Sierra Vista.

These events, held back-to-back, were highly organized, superbly staffed with experts in ornithology and highly competent local field trip leaders. The weather moderates during the monsoon at this time of the year and was tolerable, even pleasant at times.

Selected areas of the Santa Rita, Huachuca and Chiricahua Mountains, the Nogales area, along with the BLM complex on the San Pedro River were visited. A total of 149 bird species were observed. Highlights of these fascinating trips included: Lucifer and White-eared Hummingbirds, Rose-throated Becard, Mexican Chickadee, Northern Beardless Tyrannulet, Varied Bunting, Bronzed Cowbird, Buff-breasted Flycatcher, and Five-striped Sparrow.

All of these were "lifers" and were enjoyed immensely. A great trip and we are ready to go again to try for the Montezuma Quail, the Buff-collared Nightjar, etc. -----John & Virginia McDonagh

## RROS OBSERVATIONS, NOVEMBER 1995

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Common Loon	1	11/23	Lake Hennessy	NAPA	BDP, JP, JA	
Red-necked Grebe	1	11/5	MacKerricher State Park	MEN	DT	
American Bittern	1	11/25	Sacramento NWR	GLN	BDP, JP, NW	
Tundra Swan	60	11/25	N. Butte Road	BUT	BDP, JP, NW	
Snow Goose	100+	11/2	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV	
Snow Goose	1	11/15	Garcia River flats	MEN	DT	
Snow Goose	3	11/25	Sacramento NWR	GLN	BDP, JP, NW	"blue goose"
Blue-winged Teal	1	11/4	Bolinas Sewage Ponds	MRN	AW, BDP, RM	
Blue-winged Teal	1	11/26	Grizzly Island	SOL	RM	
Eurasian Wigeon	1m	11/15	Bolinas	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Harlequin Duck	3	11/11	Fort Bragg/Glass Beach	MEN	DT	
Harlequin Duck	2	11/18	Fort Bragg/Glass Beach	MEN	DT	
Oldsquaw	1	11/11	Mendocino Headlands	MEN	DT	
Hooded Merganser	6	11/12	Caspar	MEN	DR, LR	
Hooded Merganser	1	11/9	Stafford Lake	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Osprey	1	11/23	Lake Hennessy	NAPA	BDP, JP, JA	
Bald Eagle	1	11/15	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV, BK	adult
Bald Eagle	1	11/23	Lake Hennessy	NAPA	BDP, JP, JA	adult
Ferruginous Hawk	1	11/9	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK	
Ferruginous Hawk	1	11/25	Panoche Valley	S.BT	RM	
Rough-legged Hawk	1	11/25	Arbuckle	COL	BDP, JP, NW	
Golden Eagle	1	11/25	Panoche Valley	S.BT	RM	
Merlin	2	11/16-17	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV	
Merlin	1	11/15	Pt. Reyes	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Merlin	1	11/25	W. Butte Road	SUT	BDP, JP, NW	
Prairie Falcon	1	11/13	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV	
Prairie Falcon	1	11/25	Little Panoche Valley	S.BT	RM	
Peregrine Falcon	1	11/9	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK	
Peregrine Falcon	1	11/15	Bolinas Lagoon	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Peregrine Falcon	1	11/19	Novato	MRN	RM	
Peregrine Falcon	1	11/23	Lake Hennessy	NAPA	BDP, JP, JA	
Common Moorhen	1	10/27	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV, BK	
Common Moorhen	1	11/23	Lake Hennessy	NAPA	BDP, JP, JA	
Sora	1	11/9	Stafford Lake	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Pacific Golden Plover	1	11/18	MacKerricher State Park	MEN	DT	
<b>Lesser Black-backd Gull</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11/12-25</b>	<b>Alviso Marina</b>	<b>S.CL</b>	<b>DE, DH, BDP, RM</b>	
Black-legged Kittiwake	1	11/5	MacKerricher State Park	MEN	DT	
Greater Roadrunner	1	11/25	Little Panoche Road	S.BT	RM	
Lewis' Woodpecker	1	11/25	Panoche Valley	S.BT	RM	
Lewis' Woodpecker	2	11/25	N. Butte Road	BUT	BDP, JP, NW	
Red-breasted Sapsucker	1	11/9	Stafford Lake	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Pileated Woodpecker	2	11/23	Lake Hennessy	NAPA	BDP, JP, JA	
Rock Wren	1	11/25	W. Butte Road	SUT	BDP, JP, NW	
<b>Black-backed Wagtail</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11/4</b>	<b>Bolinas Beach</b>	<b>MRN</b>	<b>RS, BR, BeR</b>	<b>immature</b>
<b>Yellow-green Vireo</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11/7</b>	<b>Lake Merced</b>	<b>S.F.</b>	<b>JG</b>	
Palm Warbler	1	11/1	Ft. Bragg/Toby's yard	MEN	DT	
Palm Warbler	2	11/4	Caspar Pond	MEN	DT	
Palm Warbler	1	11/4	Pine Gulch Creek	MRN	AW	
Palm Warbler	1	11/11	Caspar Pond	MEN	DT	
Blackpoll Warbler	1	10/29	Pt. Reyes	MRN	DR, LR	
Hooded Warbler	1	11/19	Golden Gate Pk/Mallard Lake	S.F.	RM	adult male
<b>Painted Bunting</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11/12</b>	<b>Santa Cruz</b>	<b>S.CZ</b>	<b>DE, DH, BDP</b>	
Lark Bunting	1	11/25	Panoche Valley	S.BT	RM	
White-throated Sparrow	1	11/5	Ft. Bragg/Toby's yard	MEN	DT	
White-throated Sparrow	2	10/24	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK, CV	
White-throated Sparrow	1	11/15	Pt. Reyes	MRN	JMc, MAS Field Trip	
Lapland Longspur	1	11/12	Mendocino Headlands	MEN	DR, LR	
Lawrence's Goldfinch	1	10/23	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK	

Observers: Jack Arnold, Doug Ellis, Jeff Goodwin, David Hofmann, Bob Keiffer, John McDonagh, Richard Merriss, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Bob Rains, Bertha Rains, Don Rickert, LaVerne Rickert, Rich Stallcup, Dorothy Tobkin, Chuck Vaughn, Alan Wight, Ned Wynn.



## Phone Wheel

This is the new phone wheel. Please follow the following rules when using the phone wheel.

1. When you receive word of a rare or unusual bird, call the person whose name follows your name on the list (the last person calls the first).
2. Report the following information:
  - a. bird species (including age and sex information if relevant)
  - b. location (including directions of how to get there if required)
  - c. when the bird was seen
  - d. who found and identified the bird
  - e. who started the phone wheel
3. If you reach an answering machine, leave a short message so that the person can call back for details. Next call the following person on the list. Repeat until you reach a person who can pass on the information.
4. As a courtesy, try to phone the people you were unable to reach at a later time.

1.	Jack Arnold	539-4544	
2.	Bob & Bertha Rains	528-6785	
3.	Ned Wynn	431-8412	
4.	Richard Merriss	525-8629 (home)	573-3933 (work)
5.	Deyea Harper	542-1542	
6.	David Hofmann	546-0325 (home)	544-5833 (work)
7.	Ruth Rudesill	833-6026	
8.	Jed Cooper	833-5704 (home)	539-2532 (work)
9.	Ted Eliot	935-3410	
10.	Betty Burrige	527-0225	
11.	Avis Anderson	539-0470	
12.	Betty Groce	539-8664	
13.	John McDonagh	527-9115	
14.	Cindy Young	585-8826	
15.	Linda Petrulias	632-5532	
16.	Carol Brant	823-2806	
17.	Jeff Holtzman	823-8290	
18.	Alan Wight	763-8572	
19.	Winnie Nelson	762-6152	
20.	Dan Wilson	579-3949	

## BIRD CENSUS AT MAYACAMAS MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY

Madrone Audubon Society, in co-operation with National Audubon Society, is developing plans to conduct a bird census at the new Mayacamas Mountain Sanctuary on Pine Flat Road. Censusing will begin in early 1996 and will continue for at least one year. RROS members as well as other interested individuals are invited to participate in this important endeavor.

Volunteer orientation to the census methodology will be held at the Environmental Center of Sonoma County, 632 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon on December 16, 1995, and will be conducted by a representative of National Audubon Society. Following the morning session, weather permitting, we will visit the Sanctuary to orient volunteers to the census areas. Bring lunch, water, field equipment and wear sturdy shoes for the afternoon session.

The census is being directed locally by Ken Wilson (823-8408) and Bill Payne (546-3331) as a project of National Audubon's Birds in the Balance program.

**Field Trip Report**

Willow Creek Canyon, Russian River, & Bodega Bay Area, November 11, 1995

No report was received for this field trip in time for inclusion in the Kite Tales. -----Editor

**COASTAL RIDGE COALITION BIRDATHON**

The Coastal Ridge Coalition is conducting a Birdathon on February 10, 1996 to protect the Willow Creek watershed from further logging. The area that they are concerned with is 5000 acres upstream from Willow Creek State Park. The Coastal Ridge Coalition seeks to acquire, as public land, this important habitat. A legal challenge to stop the logging is combined with public education about the area. The funds to acquire this land are being sought from private groups, public agencies, and the community.

For further information regarding the Birdathon you can call (707)522-8533 or (707)0874-3088.

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Please include this pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per bird species identified during your Coastal Ridge Coalition Birdathon. (We encourage \$1 per species but we'll be pleased with whatever you can pledge. over 10 cents a bird).

Send the results of the count with a bill for the pledge amount to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (If you would like a call)

mail to: The Coastal Ridge Coalition  
P.O. Box 1113  
Occidental, CA 95465

**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. Dues are \$15 per family, \$8 per individual, or \$3 per student for one year membership. Send dues checks to the treasurer shown below.

**1995-1996 Officers**

President:	Bob Rains, 450A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	528-6785
Vice-president:	Jeff Goodwin, 15 Arbor Court, Cotati, CA 94931	794-7297
Secretary:	Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952	762-6152
Treasurer:	Mike Nelligan, 124 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	576-1475

**1995-1996 Chairpersons**

Field Trips:	Benjamin D. Parmeter, 2500 Emerson Street, Napa, CA 94558	255-6757
Observations:	Ned Wynn, 1298 Powell Avenue, Healdsburg, CA 95448	431-8412
Social:	Barbara Gumtow, 7915 Bella Vista Drive, Sebastopol, CA 95472	823-7869
Christmas Count:	Doug Ellis, PO Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95431	326-2464
Kite Tales:	David A. Hofmann, 2021 Pioneer Way #47, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	546-0325

David A. Hofmann  
2021 Pioneer Way #47  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

