

Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society
Volume 30 Number 7 March 1996



COMING ATTRACTIONS

General Meeting. Thursday, March 14. Darwin Hall, Room 221, Sonoma State University at 7:30 PM. The parking fee at Sonoma State University is \$1.50.

General Meeting. Thursday, April 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.

Field Trip to Bodega Bay/Salmon Creek Road. Saturday, March 16. Meet at 1:00 PM at the "rail ponds" in Bodega Bay. We will check out what is in the harbor area that afternoon. We will break for dinner and then meet again at 6:00 PM at the "rail ponds". Then we will go owling. We will proceed either to Salmon Creek Road or to Willow Creek Road to look for owls. Renown owling expert, Doug Ellis, will be the leader of this always exciting trip.

Field Trip to Bodega Bay/Salmon Creek Road. Saturday, April 20. Meet at 8:00 AM at the "rail ponds" in Bodega Bay. This is a good time to see late wintering birds along with the new spring migrants that are just arriving. The leader will be announced in the next Kite Tales.

PELAGIC TRIP OFF MENDOCINO COAST

The Peregrine Audubon Chapter in Mendocino County is organizing a pelagic trip to the Vizcaino Sea Mount, 30 miles off Fort Bragg, for Sunday, May 5. The cost is a reasonable \$60.00. Reservations are a first come basis, limited to 27 people. Departure is 7:00 AM from Noyo (Fort Bragg) Harbor. Dr. Stan Harris/birds, and Greg Grantham/mammals will be the leaders. Last years trip produced Ashy, Leach's, and Fork-tailed Storm-petrels, South Polar Skua, and (10) species of marine mammals. For further details contact Bob Keiffer at (707)744-1160 or e-mail to cevaughn@ucdavis.edu. A check made payable to **Peregrine Audubon Chapter** for \$60.00 should be mailed to:

**Pelagic Field Trip
c/o Bob Keiffer
P.O. Box 354
Hopland, CA 95449**

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.

Field Trip Report

Lake Hennessey, February 10, 1996

Seventeen birders were out this beautiful spring day with temperatures in the 70 degree range. Of the sixty-four species of birds seen, the highlights were the male Eurasian Wigeon, an adult Bald Eagle, a Pygmy Owl, a calling Pileated Woodpecker, the returning Tree Swallows, the Rock Wren, and a White-throated Sparrow.

Participants: Avis Anderson, Jack Arnold, Ted Eliot, Betty Groce, Barbara Gumtow, David Hofmann, Richard Hurley, Jo Maillard, Herb & Linda McGrew, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Linda Petruvias, Bob & Bertha Rains, Richard Stein, and Jim & Jean Tonascia.-----Benjamin D. "Mike" Parmeter

Pied-billed Grebe	Osprey	Tree Swallow	American Pipit
Western Grebe	Bald Eagle	Steller's Jay	European Starling
Clark's Grebe	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Scrub Jay	Hutton's Vireo
Double-crstd Cormorant	Red-shouldered Hawk	American Crow	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Great Blue Heron	Red-tailed Hawk	Common Raven	Rufous-sided Towhee
Great Egret	American Kestrel	Chstnt-bcked Chickadee	California Towhee
Canada Goose	American Coot	Plain Titmouse	Song Sparrow
Mallard	Killdeer	Bushtit	White-throated Sparrow
Eurasian Wigeon	California Gull	White-breasted Nuthatch	Golden-crowned Sparrow
American Wigeon	Northern Pygmy Owl	Rock Wren	White-crowned Sparrow
Ring-necked Duck	Anna's Hummingbird	Bewick's Wren	Dark-eyed Junco
Greater Scaup	Acorn Woodpecker	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Red-winged Blackbird
Lesser Scaup	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Western Bluebird	Western Meadowlark
Bufflehead	Northern Flicker	Hermit Thrush	Purple Finch
Ruddy Duck	Pileated Woodpecker	American Robin	House Finch
Turkey Vulture	Black Phoebe	Northern Mockingbird	Lesser Goldfinch

Field Trip Report

Tule Lake/Klamath Basin Area February 17 to 19.

We were lucky with the weather (especially on Saturday) as it did not rain on us until the evenings of both Saturday and Sunday. There was very little snow on the ground and therefore lots of flooded fields for the waterfowl.

We spent Saturday at Lower Klamath and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge as well as driving through the northern edge of Lava Beds National Monument. It was actually sunny (and windy) most of the day. Highlights included: dark-phased Rough-legged and Ferruginous Hawks; a pair of Coyotes; a male Hooded Merganser; several male Eurasian Wigeon; a very out of place White-throated Swift on Hill Road; Prairie Falcons (3) at Petroglyph Cliffs; and an immature **Northern Shrike** at Captain Jack's Stronghold.

Tule Lake/Klamath Basin Area February 17 to 19, cont'd

Sunday was cloudy and cool, and we spent the entire day in Oregon at local parks in Klamath Falls. Moore Park had fresh Mountain Lion tracks. We saw lots of winter and mountain birds. Highlights included: an Orange-crowned Warbler at Veteran's Park; great looks at Barrow's Goldeneye on the Link River; and flocks of hundreds of American Robins and Cedar Waxwings feeding on Western Juniper berries (unfortunately a **Bohemian Waxwing** sighted by one of us could not be relocated in the flocks).

Monday was a little unsettled but we enjoyed thousands of geese and nearly a hundred Bald Eagles. On the way home, several of us observed a small flock of Pinyon Jays at the Lava Beds -----Ruth Rudesill

Participants: Avis Anderson, Ted Eliot, Doug Ellis, Barbara Gumtow, David Hofmann, John O'Connell, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Linda Petrulias, Bob & Bertha Rains, Ruth Rudesill, Alan Wight, and Ned & Donna Wynn.

Pied-billed Grebe	Ruddy Duck	Hairy Woodpecker	Bohemian Waxwing
<u>Horned Grebe</u>	Bald Eagle	White-headed Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing
Eared Grebe	Northern Harrier	Northern Flicker	Northern Shrike
Western Grebe	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<u>Say's Phoebe</u>	Loggerhead Shrike
Clark's Grebe	Red-tailed Hawk	Horned Lark	European Starling
Dbl-crstd Cormorant	Ferruginous Hawk	<u>Tree Swallow</u>	<u>Orng-crwnd Warbler</u>
Great Blue Heron	Rough-iegged Hawk	Steller's Jay	Yllw-rmpd Warbler
Great Egret	Golden Eagle	Scrub Jay	Rufus-sided Towhee
Tundra Swan	American Kestrel	Pinyon Jay	<u>Lark Sparrow</u>
Grtr White-frntd Goose	Merlin	Black-billed Magpie	Savannah Sparrow
Snow Goose	Prairie Falcon	Common Raven	Song Sparrow
Ross' Goose	Ring-necked Pheasant	Mountain Chickadee	Lincoln's Sparrow
Canada Goose	California Quail	Plain Titmouse	Gldn-crwnd Sparrow
Green-winged Teal	American Coot	Bushtit	Wht-crwnd Sparrow
Mallard	Sandhill Crane	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Pintail	Killdeer	White-breasted Nuthatch	Red-wngd Blackbird
Northern Shoveler	<u>American Avocet</u>	Pygmy Nuthatch	Tri-colored Blackbird
Gadwall	Greater Yellowlegs	Brown Creeper	Western Meadowlark
Eurasian Wigeon	Common Snipe	<u>Rock Wren</u>	Yllw-hded Blackbird
American Wigeon	Ring-billed Gull	Canyon Wren	Brewer's Blackbird
Canvasback	California Gull	Winter Wren	Brwn-hded Cowbird
Redhead	Herring Gull	Marsh Wren	Purple Finch
Ring-necked Duck	Rock Dove	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Cassin's Finch
Lesser Scaup	Mourning Dove	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	House Finch
Common Goldeneye	Barn Owl	Mountain Bluebird	Red Crossbill
Barrow's Goldeneye	Great Horned Owl	Townsend's Solitaire	Pine Siskin
Bufflehead	<u>White-throated Swift</u>	American Robin	Evening Grosbeak
Hooded Merganser	Belted Kingfisher	Varied Thrush	House Sparrow
Common Merganser	Downy Woodpecker	<u>American Pipit</u>	= 115 species

underlined species denote early date

SPRING MIGRATION ARRIVAL DATES

Once again the editor would like to find out what the earliest arrival dates will be for our returning spring birds. Please call David Hofmann at 546-0325 or Ned Wynn at 431-8412 to report your first encounter this spring with the following listed birds. Please only report bird observations that are within Sonoma County and that might be early arrival dates. Report species, number of individuals, date, location, and your name. The earliest record of each species will be included in the May Kite Tales.

Common Poorwill	Purple Martin	Solitary Vireo	Western Tanager
Vaux's Swift	Violet-green Swallow	Warbling Vireo	Black-headed Grosbeak
Allen's Hummingbird	N. Rgh-winged Swallow	Yellow Warbler	Lazuli Bunting
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Cliff Swallow	Blck-thrtd Gray Warbler	Chipping Sparrow
Western Wood-Pewee	Barn Swallow	Hermit Warbler	Grasshopper Sparrow
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	House Wren	MacGillivray's Warbler	Hooded Oriole
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Wilson's Warbler	Northern Oriole
Western Kingbird	Swainson's Thrush	Yellow-breasted Chat	

RROS OBSERVATIONS, FEBRUARY 1996 (SONOMA COUNTY)

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
American Bittern	1	2/6	Cader Lane/Petaluma	SON	DN	
Tundra Swan	1	2/3	Carmody Road Ponds	SON	BDP	immature
Grtr White-frtd Goose	1	1/31	Lakeville Ponds	SON	DN	
Grtr White-frtd Goose	1	2/9	Spring Hill Road/Petaluma	SON	RL	
Eurasian Wigeon	2	2/3	Bodega Harbor	SON	BDP	males
Eurasian Wigeon	1	2/25	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	RL, RM	
Redhead	6	1/31	Lakeville Ponds	SON	DN	
Redhead	2	2/3	Salmon Creek Pond	SON	BDP	females
Harlequin Duck	1	2/25	Sea Ranch/Cormorant Close Cove	SON	RL, RM	
Oldsquaw	2	1/22	Bodega Harbor	SON	RL	
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	2/3	Bodega Harbor	SON	BDP	female
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	2/14	Spring Lake Park	SON	BG	female
Hooded Merganser	11	1/22	Wilson Hill Road/Petaluma	SON	RL	
Hooded Merganser	3	2/3	Carmody Road Ponds	SON	BDP	females
Bald Eagle	1	1/24	Warm Springs Dam/Dry Creek	SON	DN	adult
Bald Eagle	1	2/5	Hudeman Slough	SON	RL	2nd year plumage
Rough-legged Hawk	1	2/6	Willow Creek Road	SON	DN	
Burrowing Owl	1	2/6	Cader Lane/Petaluma	SON	DN	
Short-eared Owl	1	1/22	Bodega Head/Hole-in-the-Head	SON	RL	
Rufous Hummingbird	1	2/24	Bodega Bay/"rail ponds"	SON	BG	
Allen's Hummingbird	1	2/11	Oakmont/@ Betty Groce's yard	SON	BG	male
Gray Jay	1	2/25	Gualala County Campground	SON	RM, RL	
Yellow-billed Magpie	1	2/14-	Healdsburg (Ned's backyard)	SON	NW, mob	
Black-and-white Warbler	1	2/22	Willow Creek Road	SON	DN	male
Harris' Sparrow	1	1/22-	Windsor	SON	DN	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1	2/5-	K-Mart/Santa Rosa	SON	DN	male
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1	2/2	Healdsburg	SON	KM	female
Lawrence's Goldfinch	1	2/25	Santa Rosa/Gambel Way	SON	BR	

Observers: Rick LeBadour, Betty Groce, Richard Merriss, Ken Murphy, Dan Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Bill Richard, Ned Wynn, many observers.

RROS OBSERVATIONS, FEBRUARY 1996

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Red-necked Grebe	20	2/11	North of Westport	MEN	DT	
American Bittern	1	2/4	Sacramento NWR	GLN	RL, RM	
Blue-winged Teal	4	2/1	Grizzley Island	SOL	RL	
Eurasian Wigeon	1	2/3	Garcia Flats/Manchester	MEN	DT	
Tufted Duck	1m	2/7	N. end of Lake Hennessey	NAPA	RL	
Harlequin Duck	2	2/5	Fish Docks/Pt. Reyes Nat'l Pk	MRN	BDP, TE	male & female
Harlequin Duck	2	2/10	Glass Beach/Ft. Bragg	MEN	DT	male & female
Oldsquaw	1	1/21	MacKerricher State Park	MEN	DT	male
Black Scoter	2	2/5	Fish Docks/Pt. Reyes Nat'l Pk	MRN	BDP, TE	
Bald Eagle	2	1/30-2/7	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK, CV	
Bald Eagle	1	2/14	Eel River Guard Station	MEN	RI, KC	adult
Rough-legged Hawk	1	2/4	Sacramento NWR	GLN	RL, RM	
Common Moorhen	1	1/22	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV	
Common Snipe	1	2/5	Olema Marsh/Pt. Reyes	MRN	BDP, TE	
Cassin's Auklet	1	2/3	Point Arena Cove	MEN	DT	
Burrowing Owl	1	1/31	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK, CV	
Burrowing Owl	1	2/10-27	Las Galinas Sewage Ponds	MRN	RL, BR, BeR	
White-throated Swift	60+	2/2	Las Galinas Sewage Ponds	MRN	RL	
Allen's Hummingbird	1	2/5	Shield's Marsh/Tomales Bay	MRN	BDP, TE	male
Lewis' Woodpecker	21+	2/14	Mendocino Pass Road	MEN	RI, KC	
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	1	1/25-2/22	Fort Funston State Park	S.F.	DN, RL	
Tree Swallow	10	2/5	Pt. Reyes	MRN	BDP, TE	
Nashville Warbler	1	1/23	Middle Lake/G.G. Park	S.F.	DN	
Worm-eating Warbler	1	1/23	Middle Lake/G.G. Park	S.F.	DN	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	2/3	North of Ukiah	MEN	BE, WE, mob	1st winter plumage
Tri-colored Blackbird	10000	2/4	Colusa Airport	COL	RL, RM	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	7	2/4	Colusa Airport	COL	RL, RM	
Common Grackle	1	12/30-2/3	Garcia River area	MEN	RS, RL, RM, mob	male

Observers: Kris Carter, Ben Eizinger, Willie Eizinger, Ted Eliot, Richard Irwin, Rick LeBadour, Richard Merriss, Dan Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Bob Rains, Bertha Rains, Rich Stallcup, Dorothy Tobkin, Chuck Vaughn, many observers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Dan Nelson saw his **500th state bird** in Long Beach on January 14, 1996. He drove down from Petaluma to see the **Groove-billed Ani**. This was his second trip down to see this milestone bird.

Doug Ellis set out on January 1, 1996 to find 200 species of birds in **Sonoma County** within the month of **January**. He birded the county to the last day and was able to tally an impressive **202 species**. Interestingly Doug feels that at least (5) species that were very possible were missed by him.

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	578-6986
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, 129-B 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

