

# Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society  
Volume 31 Number 3 November 1996



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

**General Meeting.** Thursday, November 14. Darwin Hall, Room 221. Sonoma State University at 7:30 PM. The program will be given by Dan Nelson. He will show slides of the shorebirds that can be found in Sonoma County.

**General Meeting.** Thursday, December 12. Darwin Hall, Room 221. Sonoma State University at 7:30 PM. See November Kite Tales for details.

**Field Trip to Willow Creek Road, Jenner to Bodega Bay.** Saturday, November 16. Meet at 8:00 AM at the first bridge on Willow Creek Road off Hwy 1. The leader will be Doug Ellis.

**Santa Rosa Christmas Bird Count.** Sunday, December 22, 1996. It's almost time once again for the annual Santa Rosa Christmas Bird Count. This will be the 37th annual count which started in 1960. You may sign up at the November or December meetings or write Doug Ellis at P.O. Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95431. As usual, preferences for territories are given to previous counters, but this year we do need at least one new leader to step in. If you can lead an area of your own let us know ASAP. We do need extra volunteers, because many areas are undermanned. 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. There is a \$5.00 fee to participate on the count. At the end of the day everyone gets together for compilation of the count and a potluck dinner.

### REMEMBER YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Membership dues are **now being accepted** for the 1996-1997 year. Dues are \$15 per family or \$8 per individual per year. Student dues are \$3 per year. Send your check to the RROS treasurer, Mike Nelligan, 124 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Make checks payable to RROS.

### 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

Bodega Bay, October 12, 1996.

No report was received for the Kite Tales

### RROS OBSERVATIONS, OCTOBER 1996 (SONOMA COUNTY)

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Tricolored Heron	1	10/1	Doran County Park	SON	DE	since 9/17
Black Scoter	?	10/17	Arched Rock Beach	SON	DE	
Ferruginous Hawk	1	10/8	Jenner	SON	DE	immature
Ferruginous Hawk	1	10/17	Salmon Creek	SON	DE	immature
Ferruginous Hawk	2	10/24	Ramal Road	SON	RL	
Ferruginous Hawk	3	10/26	Coleman Valley Road	SON	DE	1 dark phase adult, 2 imm.
Golden Eagle	2	10/5	Cheney Gulch	SON	DE	
Golden Eagle	1	10/6	Penngrove	SON	RL	
Golden Eagle	2	10/14	Santa Rosa/Oakmont	SON	BG	
Merlin	1	10/8	Russian Gulch State Beach	SON	DE	
Merlin	1	10/19	Santa Rosa Crk X Willowside Rd	SON	DE	
Peregrine Falcon	1	10/24	Ramal Road	SON	RL	
American Golden Plover	1	10/1	Doran County Park	SON	DE	
Pacific Golden Plover	1	10/8	Doran County Park	SON	DN, DE	
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	10/3	Petaluma/Cader Lane Ponds	SON	RL	
Stilt Sandpiper	1	10/8	Doran County Park	SON	DE, TE	
Red Knot	22	10/8	Doran County Park	SON	DN	
Pomarine Jaeger	1	10/17	Duncan's Landing	SON	DE	
Common Poorwill	1	10/15	Sonoma Mountain	SON	TE	
Tree Swallow	5	10/15	Bridgehaven	SON	DE	
Violet-green Swallow	40+	10/15	Bridgehaven	SON	DE	
Cliff Swallow	"flock"	10/19	Penngrove	SON	RL	
Barn Swallow	2	10/5	Doran County Park	SON	DE	
Varied Thrush	200+	10/20	Penngrove	SON	RL	
Nashville Warbler	1	10/16	Cazadero/Austin Creek	SON	PC	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	9/21	Willow Creek Road	SON	RL	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	10/8	Russian Gulch State Beach	SON	DE	
Palm Warbler	2	10/5-8	Russian Gulch State Beach	SON	DE	
Blackpoll Warbler	1	10/8	Russian Gulch State Beach	SON	TE	
American Redstart	1	10/8	Russian Gulch State Beach	SON	TE	
Northern Waterthrush	1	10/23-26	Bodega Bay/"rail ponds"	SON	RS, MOB	
Red Crossbill	7	10/20	Penngrove	SON	RL	
Evening Grosbeak	5	10/20	Penngrove	SON	RL	

Observers: Pam Conley, Ted Eliot, Doug Ellis, Betty Groce, Rick Lebadour, Dan Nelson, Rich Stallcup, Many Observers.

### THANKSGIVING BIRD COUNT

Not as well known as the Christmas Count, the annual Thanksgiving Bird Count was begun in 1966. Dr. John Hewston is coordinating and compiling Thanksgiving Bird Counts for the Western States for the fifth year. Last year Dr. Hewston received 261 reports tallying 144 species from the 13 western states reporting to him.

Thanksgiving Bird Counts take place on Thanksgiving Day and last for **only one hour**. Participants select the hour that best fits their schedules. The count is to be made within a 15-foot diameter circle. The same circle should be used each year. The circle may contain feeders, bird baths, anything attractive to birds. Counters may count any bird that enters the circle either in the air or on the ground.

A Thanksgiving Bird Count Form with complete directions is available from Dr. John G. Hewston, Natural Resources Bldg, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521, or from the editor of the Kite Tales.

## RROS OBSERVATIONS, OCTOBER 1996

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Blue-winged Teal	2	10/17	Palo Alto	S.CL	BG	
Eurasian Wigeon	1	10/11-13	Adobe Creek Reservoir	LAKE	BM, JW	
Redhead	3	10/10	Las Gallinas Sewage Ponds	MRN	RL	
Harlequin Duck	6	9/20-10/12	Fort Bragg/Glass Beach	MEN	DT	
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	9/29	Lake Mendocino	MEN	DT	female
Peregrine Falcon	2	10/10	Las Gallinas Sewage Ponds	MRN	RL	adults
Pacific Golden Plover	4	9/18	Pt. Reyes/Spalleta Plateau	MRN	RL	
American Golden Plover	1	10/15	Manchester Beach	MEN	CV, DE	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1	9/20-22	Pudding Creek Estuary	MEN	DT	1st county record
Wilson's Phalarope	1	9/24	Manchester State Beach	MEN	DT	
Black Skimmer	2	10/17	Palo Alto/Charleston Slough	S.CL	BG	
Burrowing Owl	2	10/18	Hopland Field Station	MEN	BK	
Black Swift	3	10/6	Marin Headlands/Hill 129	MRN	RL, RM	
Lewis' Woodpecker	1	10/3	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV	
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	10/17	Sinkyone Wilderness State Park	MEN	DT	
Tropical Kingbird	1	10/10-11	Pt. Arena/Miner Hole Road	MEN	DT	
Clark's Nutcracker	1	10/6	Marin Headlands/Hill 129	MRN	RL, RM	
Island Scrub Jay	1	10/20	Santa Cruz Island	S.BB	BG	
Sage Thrasher	1	10/12	Pt. Reyes/Lighthouse Road	MRN	TE	
Red-throated Pipit	3	10/12	Pt. Reyes/Abbott's Lagoon	MRN	TE	
Black-backed Wagtail	1	9/27-29	Caspar Headlands State Park	MEN	JW, MOB	1st county record
Palm Warbler	1	10/4	Pt. Arena/Miner Hole Road	MEN	JW	
Palm Warbler	2	10/11	Pt. Arena/Miner Hole Road	MEN	DT	eastern race
Palm Warbler	1	10/17	USAL Road	MEN	DT	
Bay-breasted Warbler	1	10/6	Pt. Reyes/Drake's Beach	MRN	DN	
Prothonotary Warbler	1	10/16	Golden Gate State Pk/N. Lake	S.F.	RL	
Clay-colored Sparrow	2	10/10	Pt. Arena/Miner Hole Road	MEN	DT	immatures
Vesper Sparrow	1	9/19	Anderson Marsh	LAKE	JW	
Lapland Longspur	15	10/11	Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore	MRN	RL	
Red Crossbill	15	10/16	Pt. Reyes/Limantour	MRN	BDP	
Lawrence's Goldfinch	1	10/6	Marin Headlands/Hill 129	MRN	RL, RM	

Observers: Demian Ebert, Ted Eliot, Bob Keiffer, Rick Lebadour, Bayan McIntosh, Richard Merriss, Dan Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Dorothy Tobkin, Chuck Vaughn, Jerry White, Many OBservers.

**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.

**1996-1997 Officers**

President:	Jeff Goodwin, 3768 Mocha Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	578-6986
Vice-President:	Bertha Rains 450A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	528-6785
Secretary:	Wini Nelson, 400 Sunnyslope Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952	762-6152
Treasurer:	Mike Nelligan, 124 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	576-1475

**1996-1997 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  
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