

Spring annual  
dates

# Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society  
Volume 31 Number 9 May 1997



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

**Potluck Dinner and General Meeting.** Thursday, May 15. Sugarloaf Ridge State Park at 6:00 PM. We will meet at the Group Campground (end of the road past the stables). The potluck dinner will begin at 6:00 PM, followed by the short business meeting, and then the owl/poorwill walk. Comfortable shoes, a warm coat, and a flashlight are recommended if you wish to go on the owl/poorwill walk. **Do not pay the parking fee.** It has been paid by RROS. **Note the change of meeting date from 2nd Thursday to 3rd Thursday of the month.**

**Potluck Dinner and General Meeting.** Thursday, Sept. 11. See the September Kite Tales for details.

**Field Trip to Pine Flat Road.** Saturday, May 17. Meet at 8:00 AM at the first bridge on Pine Flat Road off Hwy 129. Bring a lunch and dress appropriately. The leader will be Mike Parmeter. Mike can be reached at 255-6757 if you have questions regarding this trip.

**Field Trip to Lava Beds /Klamath Basin Area.** Friday, July 4 through Sunday, July 6. We will be camping at Lava Beds National Monument. These campgrounds have running water, but no showers. Motels are available in Tulelake (Ellis Motel) and Klamath Falls (Motel 6). The weather should be dry and warm, cooling off in the evening. We will visit the Lava Beds, Medicine Lake, Tule Lake and Lower Klamath NWR, etc. The leader will be Betty Burrige. If you plan on going call Betty at (707)527-0225 for further details.

## Membership Dues

Membership dues are now being accepted for the 1997-1998 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, Betty Burrige, 1653 Arroyo Sierra, Santa Rosa, CA 95404. Make the checks payable to RROS.

## Kite Tale 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 Ruth Rudesill) is the 25th of the month.

## Field Trip Report

Mitchell Canyon/Contra Costa County, April 19, 1997

Thirteen birders made their way up this lovely canyon for a nice day of birds, plants, and butterflies. The number and variety of migrant birds in the canyon was less this year than in previous years, but we still managed to find many "spring" birds. The highlights of the day were two Nashville Warblers, two adult Golden Eagles, one male Rufous Hummingbird, and a heard-only Sage Sparrow. Fifty-three species of birds were encountered. This canyon is a great place to see butterflies. The butterflies that we saw follow:

Two-tailed Swallowtail	West Coast Lady	California Sister
Pale Swallowtail	Buckeye	California Ringlet
Sara Orange-tip	Mylitta Crescent	Monarch (caterpillar)
Behr's Blue	Northern Checkerspot	
Acmon Blue	Chalcedon Checkerspot	<b><u>13 species</u></b>

The birds were:

Turkey Vulture	Hairy Woodpecker	Western Bluebird	Blk-headed Grosbeak
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Western Wood-pewee	Hermit Thrush	Lazuli Bunting
Cooper's Hawk	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	American Robin	Spotted Towhee
Red-tailed Hawk	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Wrentit	California Towhee
Golden Eagle	Violet-green Swallow	California Thrasher	Sage Sparrow
American Kestrel	Cliff Swallow	European Starling	Song Sparrow
California Quail	Western Scrub Jay	Solitary Vireo	White-crwn'd Sparrow
Mourning Dove	Common Raven	Hutton's Vireo	Dark-eyed Junco
White-throated Swift	Plain Titmouse	Warbling Vireo	Bullock's Oriole
Anna's Hummingbird	Bushtit	Orange-crowned Warbler	Purple Finch
Rufous Hummingbird	White-breasted Nuthatch	Nashville Warbler	Lesser Goldfinch
Acorn Woodpecker	Bewick's Wren	Blck-thrtd Gray Warbler	
Nuttall's Woodpecker	House Wren	Wilson's Warbler	
Downy Woodpecker	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Western Tanager	

**53 species**

Participants: Ted Eliot, Doug Ellis, Pat and Paul MacEachern, Mike Parmeter, Linda Petrulias, Bertha and Bob Rains, Ann Stone, Susan Watson, Alan Wight, Ned Wynn, and Cindy Young.

## 1997-1998 Officer Elections

The following officers for the 1997-1998 year were elected at the April meeting:

President	Bertha Rains
Vice-President	Mike Nelligan
Secretary	? (we need a volunteer)
Treasurer	Betty Burridge

## SPRING ARRIVALS—1997

The 1997 spring early arrival dates for Sonoma County's returning birds are listed below. Thank you for reporting your sightings.

Common Poorwill	No Report	
Vaux's Swift	No Report	
Allen's Hummingbird	1/11/97	Bodega Dunes Campground
Olive-sided Flycatcher	4/23/97	Salmon Creek Road
Western Wood Pewee	No Report	
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	3/21/97	Wallace Creek Road
Ash-throated Flycatcher	4/20/97	I Street/Petaluma
Western Kingbird	4/14/97	N. of Penngrove
Purple Martin	No Report	
Violet-green Swallow	3/8/97	Hudeman Slough
No. Rough-winged Swallow	3/14/97	Penngrove
Cliff Swallow	3/14/97	Willow Creek Road
Barn Swallow	3/4/97	Sebastopol Community Center
House Wren	3/26/97	Shiloh Ranch Regional Park
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4/8/97	Pine Flat Road
Swainson's Thrush	4/25/97	Salmon Creek Road
Solitary Vireo	3/27/97	Bodega Head/Owl Canyon
Warbling Vireo	3/21/97	Wallace Creek Road
Nashville Warbler	4/12/97	Pine Flat Road
Yellow Warbler	4/17/97	Santa Rosa Creek X Willowside Rd
Black-throated Gray Warbler	4/15/97	Sugarloaf Ridge State Park
Hermit Warbler	3/29/97	Gualala County Campground
MacGillivray's Warbler	No Report	
Wilson's Warbler	3/26/97	Bodega Dunes Campground
Yellow-breasted Chat	No Report	
Western Tanager	4/30/97	Ida Clayton Road
Black-headed Grosbeak	3/29/97	King's Ridge Road
Lazuli Bunting	4/25/97	Salmon Creek Road
Chipping Sparrow	4/1/97	Sonoma Mountain Road
Grasshopper Sparrow	4/20/97	I Street/Petaluma
Hooded Oriole	4/6/97	Petaluma
Bullock's Oriole	3/18/97	Petaluma

Observers: Dennis Beale, Anthony Cermak, Lew Edmondson, Marilyn Edmondson, Ted Eliot, Doug Ellis, Betty Groce, David Hofmann, John Lundblatt, Dan Nelson, Mike Parmeter, Jean Tonascia, Jim Tonascia, Alan Wight, Ned Wynn

## PRBO ANNUAL BIRDATHON

Point Reyes Bird Observatory is holding its annual birdathon on Sept. 20th. PRBO does considerable ornithological research and publishes articles regularly in scientific journals. It is an organization well worth supporting. Several members of RROS will be counting for the birdathon and are looking for persons to sponsor them. Mike Parmeter is the organizer of the count this year. If you do not know one of the counters, and wish to be a sponsor call Mike at (707)255-6757. Lets help PRBO raise some badly needed funds for its research programs.

## RROS OBSERVATIONS, APRIL 1997 (SONOMA COUNTY)

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Cattle Egret	5	4/2	Sebastopol/High School Road	SON	DH	
<b>Emperor Goose</b>	1	present	Bodega Harbor/Westside Cty Pk	SON	MOB	
Eurasian Wigeon	1	4/2	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	DH, JT, JiT	male
Hooded Merganser	1	4/20	Bodega Ave X Tomales Rd	SON	AW	female
Red-breasted Merganser	1	3/30	Shollenberger Park/Petaluma	SON	DE, DH, BDP	female
Bald Eagle	1	4/8	Denman Hill/Petaluma	SON	CC, LH	immature
Golden Eagle	1	4/5	Stage Gulch Road	SON	AW	
Blue Grouse	2+	3/29	King's Ridge Road	SON	DE, DH, BDP	
Black Rail	1	3/22	Tubbs Island	SON	DeE, BD, CV	calling
Common Moorhen	1	3/30	Shollenberger Park/Petaluma	SON	DE, DH, BDP	
Whimbrel	29	4/2	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	DH, JT, JiT	large flock
Bonaparte's Gull	44	3/27	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	DH	large flock
Parasitic Jaeger	1	3/29	Gualala Regional Park (Mendo)	SON	DE, BDP	
Rufous Hummingbird	1	3/29	King's Ridge Road	SON	DE, DH, BDP	male
American Dipper	2	3/29	King's Ridge Road	SON	DE, DH, BDP	
Rock Wren	2	4/1	Sonoma Mountain Road	SON	LE, DN	
Orange-crowned Warbler	6+	3/8	Cavedale Road	SON	AW, NW	
Sage Sparrow	1	4/12	Pine Flat Road	SON	AW, NW	
Grasshopper Sparrow	2	4/20	I Street/Petaluma	SON	AW	
Tricolored Blackbird	30+	4/13	Two Rock Road	SON	AW	
Tricolored Blackbird	175+	4/20	Carmody Road	SON	AW	
Red Crossbill	9	4/20	Bodega Dunes Campground	SON	AW	
Red Crossbill	3	4/23	Salmon Creek Road	SON	BDP	
Evening Grosbeak	6+	3/29	Austin Creek X Hwy 116	SON	DE, DH, BDP	

Observers: Chris Corbin, Barbara Dolan, Demian Ebert, Lew Edmondson, Doug Ellis, David Hofmann, Lisa Hug, Dan Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Jean Tonascia, Jim Tonascia, Chuck Vaughn, Alan Wight, Ned Wynn, Many Observers.

## RROS OBSERVATIONS, APRIL 1997

Species	Number	Date	Location	County	Observers	Notes
Black Rail	1	4/24	Pine Gulch Creek	MRN	BDP	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	2	3/20	Novato/Mt. Burdell	MRN	DH, BDP	
Cassin's Kingbird	1	3/22	Tracy Golf Course	SJ	AW	
Vesper Sparrow	1	4/14	Hopland Field Station	MEN	CV	

Observers: David Hofmann, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Chuck Vaughn, Alan Wight.

**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.

**1997-1998 Officers**

President:	Bertha Rains, 450A Las Casitas, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	528-6785
Vice-President:	Mike Nelligan, 124 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403	576-1475
Secretary:		
Treasurer:	Betty Burrige, 1653 Arroyo Sierra, Santa Rosa, CA 95404	527-0225

**1997-1998 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:	Ruth Rudesill, PO Box 371, Kenwood, CA 95452	833-6026

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

