

Kite Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Volume 32 Number 1 September 1997



COMING ATTRACTIONS

Thursday September 11th - POTLUCK DINNER & MEETING at Shiloh Regional Park at 6:00 pm. The potluck dinner will begin at 6:00 followed by a short business meeting. Then we will have an evening owl walk. Bring your favorite dish, utensils, comfortable shoes, a sweater/coat and flashlight. There is a small parking fee - free to Gold Card or County Park Pass holders. We have special permission to stay beyond sunset.

Saturday September 13th - FIELD TRIP PT. REYES NATL. SEASHORE meet at 7:30 am at the White House Pool Parking lot for car pooling. Bring lunch, and warm clothes/ layers (remember Pt. Reyes can be cold and windy.) The group will look for those wonderful fall migrants! Leader: Mike Parmeter. Any questions call Mike at 255-6757.

Saturday October 11th - FIELD TRIP BODEGA BAY meet at 7:00 am at Rail Ponds. Leader: TBA.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues are due now for 1997-1998 year. Dues are \$15.00 per family or \$8.00 per individual. Student dues are only \$3.00 year. Bring to meeting or mail to Treasurer Betty Burridge (address on back) Make checks payable to RROS.

KITE TALES DEADLINES

Please observe the following deadlines when providing information for inclusion in the Kite Tales: deadline for observations to Ned Wynn is the 20th of the month and for announcements/ articles to Ruth Rudesill by the 25th of the month. (Addresses and phone numbers on back)

JACK ARNOLD'S BIRTHDAY

by Betty Burridge

Over sixty of Jack's friends and associates gathered at his home June 27th to honor him on his 87th birthday. His caregivers and housekeeper graciously organized the party and all those attending, many of them 'old timers' from RROS and Sonoma State University, reminisced lovingly about all the good times they had had with Jack.

Notable was a quiet announcement to Jack by Louis Baptista, PhD, chair and curator of ornithology and mammalogy at the California Academy of Sciences. He told Jack that a beetle that Jack had once collected from the fur of a mouse in Oaxaca Mexico, has been determined to be an as yet undescribed species. Lets hope for 'arnoldii' when it is named.

A few days later, I received the following note from Jack's Daughter-in-law. She asked me to share it with all of his friends.

"To see what was nonce common place at Jack and Ardell Arnold's home was an awesome sight to behold last Friday. Both were big on entertaining and most generous and thoughtful to others for a special occasion or event, as well as being most grateful, by never forgetting to acknowledge a kindness with a note of thanks. Which is why I'm writing to all of yo u now.

Nothing I can put in writing could express my feelings toward all of you including Dolores, her family of caretakers, and Cheryl, Jack's long time housekeeper, for making this possible. Ardell surely was in all her glory to see her party utensils in use for the thing she loved doing the most. She was definitely there in mind and spirit. And to have a living room full of the best of all their friends. All of you have become Jack's family over the years. Me only regret was that I, Jack's daughter-in-law, and his grandson could not have met each one of you. Unfortunately my disabled mother is dependent on us, and I work full time so I barely had time to kiss Jack before I had to leave. Hopefully he'll see the millennium for his 90th. We will do this again in grand style, then.

Had I only known that he was loved and admired by all of you as much as we do! Who could imagine the turnout! Ardell, the love of Jack's life, could not have been more pleased. I choose stationary for this note with a picture of a lighthouse on it because Ardell loved lighthouses and Jack was always her beaming light.

Sincerely grateful, Judy Spotswood and Sean Arnold"

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REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Report of Finances

1996 - 1997

Beginning bank balance, 7-1-96		\$1,619.97*
Receipts		
Dues	\$ 973.00	
Book sales	221.00	
Interest on savings	62.00	
Checklist sales and misc.	28.94	
Total receipts for year		1,284.94
Disbursements		
Kite Tales newsletter	696.75	
Donation, SSU Biology Department	200.00	
Book sales proceeds to heirs of co-author	110.00	
Guest speakers	100.00	
Meeting place rent, potluck	96.75	
Purchase checklists	47.00	
Christmas count expenses	32.24	
Annual corporation fee and misc.	22.70	
Total disbursements for year		-1,305.44
Ending bank balance 6-30-97		\$1,599.47*

*Includes \$1,250.00 certificate of deposit

Michael F. Nelligan
Treasurer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UP FOR GRABS- BACK ISSUES "AMERICAN BIRDS" from the 1970's. Christmas Bird Count issues and quarterly magazines can be had for the asking by calling Marianne Caratti at 542-2975.

MOLLYMAWK PELAGIC TOURS - SONOMA COUNTY EXCLUSIVE TRIP SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14th!
Add to your county list by participating on this special trip. 9-10 hours and 25-35 miles offshore in Sonoma County. Departs 7:00 am. \$65.00/ person. Call Dan Nelson at 762-5167. Dan also has Cordell Bank trips in September and October so call for information/reservations.

MENDOCINO PELAGIC TRIP - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 1997 Our friends in Mendocino County, Peregrine Audubon, have this trip planned for a voyage out of Noyo Harbor to 20-30 miles offshore - 7:00am departure, \$65.00. Leaders will be: Dr. Stan Harris, Dr. Jake Houck, and Ron LeValley. On last fall's trip they had 20 minutes of breaching Humpback Whales! Call Bob Kieffer for details 707-744-1160 or e-mail rjkeiffer@ucdavis.edu.

PLANNING A MID-ATLANTIC PELAGIC TRIP? I have a brochure for Brian Patteson, Inc. who organizes tours for trips out of MD, VA, and NC. He runs trips all year and will add to your life lists (including the recent Fea's Petrel sightings.) If you're planning a trip back east, call me (Ruth) for info.

PRBO ANNUAL BIRDATHON Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory is holding its annual birdathon on Saturday, September 20th. Several members will be participating and Mike Parmeter will be organizing a team this year. If you wish to sponsor Mike for this very worthwhile cause, please call him at 707-255-6757. Another team to sponsor will be Richard, Rick Lebaudour, and Ned Wynn. Please help!
Merriss

SEARCH FOR RROS SECRETARY - CAN YOU HELP?! We need someone to volunteer to be the secretary for this year. Because of job conflicts, I (Ruth) am unable to attend most meetings. If you can do this, please contact Bertha Rains or speak up at the meeting.

CALIFORNIA FALL CHALLENGE THRU SFBBO -



P.O. Box 247 1290 Hope Street Alviso, CA 95002

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 30 July, 1997
TO: All California Audubon Chapters
CONTACT: Janet T. Hanson 408/946-6548, SFBBO@aol.com

A NEW STATE-WIDE BIRDING COMPETITION!

The California Fall Challenge 1997 is a unique, state-wide birding event that puts a new twist on the traditional Bird-a-Thon and essentially levels the playing field across the 58 counties. The event takes place over a fifteen-day period (September 12-27, 1997) and is sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing knowledge of the birds of the San Francisco Bay area, located in Alviso, California. The grand prize will be awarded to the team that identifies the largest overall percentage of their county list. Other prizes will be awarded for highest overall species count, highest number of vagrants seen, best bird seen and best fundraising effort.

The Challenge is an opportunity for California Audubon chapters to raise money while engaging in a little friendly rivalry with their fellow chapters. Each team has the option of designating half of their sponsorship proceeds to the bird-related non-profit of their choice. We anticipate that the Challenge will provide a fun fundraising event for the fall months and may even produce some new county records. We heartily welcome your participation. Give us a call at (408) 946-6548 or email us at SFBBO@aol.com for information and registration materials.

Materials will be at meeting, if interested.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Pine Flat Road, May 17, 1997

Mike Parmeter led a trip up Pine Flat Road where the group saw/heard 67 species. Note the variety of sparrows. Here is the list of birds:

Green-backed Heron	Mallard	Turkey Vulture	Wh-tailed Kite
Cooper's Hawk	Golden Eagle	American Kestrel	Mountain Quail
Killdeer	Mourning Dove	Anna's Hummingbird	Allen's Hmgbrd
Acorn Woodpecker	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Downy Woodpecker	Hairy Woodpkr
Northern Flicker	Pileated Woodpecker	Olive-sided Flychr	W. Wood Pewee
Pacific-s. Flytchr	Ash-thr. Flycatcher	Western Kingbird	Purple Martin
Tree Swallow	Violet-green Swllw	Barn Swallow	Steller's Jay
Scrub Jay	American Crow	Northern Raven	Plain Titmouse
Ches-b. Chickadee	Bushtit	White-br. Nuthatch	Bewick's Wren
House Wren	Bl-gray Gnatcatcher	Western Bluebird	American Robin
Wrentit	Mockingbird	Calif. Thrasher	Eur. Starling
Solitary Vireo	Hutton's Vireo	Warbling Vireo	Or.-cr. Warbler
Yellow-r. Warbler	Bl-thr Gray Warbler	Hermit Warbler	Western Tanager
Bl-headed Grosbeak	Lazuli Bunting	Spotted Towhee	Calif. Towhee
Rufous-cr. Sparrow	Chipping Sparrow	Sage Sparrow	Grasshopper Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco	Red-winged Blackbird	Western Meadowlark	Brewers Blckbrd
Brown-headed Cowbrd	Purple Finch	Lesser Goldfinch	

Participants: Ted Eliot, Doug Ellis, Bob Evans, Betty Groce, Richard Hurley, Richard Merriss, Mike Parmeter (leader), Linda Petruvias, Bob and Bertha Rains, Ned Wynn

4th of July Klamath Basin Trip, July 4 & 5 1997

by Betty Burrige

Yes, it was hot during the day in the flats, but cool in the mountains. The mosquitoes near Mt. McLaughlin were a challenge but the birds and the butterflies were plentiful, the campers happy and the food excellent. The list of 117 birds seen by the group did not include several important species seen by most of us individually: Golden Eagle, Loggerhead Skrike, American Bittern, Sandhill Crane, Rufflehead, Black Tern, Prairie Falcon, Snowy Egret.

Participants: Betty Burrige, Mike Nelligan (leaders), Richard Merriss (chief guide), Bob and Bertha Rains, Don Toms (who picked up several lifers) and Jean Smith, who had her own agenda and discreetly peeked in on us occasionally.

Pied-billed Grebe	American Kestrel	Rufous Hummingbird	Mountain Chickadee	Brewer's Sparrow	Butterflies Western Tiger Swallowtail Pale Swallowtail Two-tailed Swallowtail Clodius Pamassian Monarch Butterfly Veined White Cabbage White Alfalfa Butterfly Leto Fritillery Common Checkerspot Northern Checkerspot Myiitta Crescent Satyr Anglewing Woodland Satyr California Tortoiseshell Mourning Cloak Red Admiral Lorquin's Admiral California Sister California Ringlet Echo Blue Greenish Blue California Hairstreak Purplish Copper Northern Cloudywing
Red-necked Grebe	Ring-necked Pheasant	Allen's Hummingbird	Plain Titmouse	Savannah Sparrow	
Eared Grebe	California Quail	Belted Kingfisher	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Song Sparrow	
Western Grebe	American Coot	Red-breasted Sapsucker	Pygmy Nuthatch	Dark-eyed Junco	
Clark's Grebe	Killdeer	Hairy Woodpecker	Brown Creeper	Red-winged Blackbird	
American White Pelican	Black-necked Stilt	Northern Flicker	Rock Wren	Western Meadowlark	
Double-crested Cormorant	American Avocet	Pileated Woodpecker	House Wren	Yellow-headed Blackbird	
Great Blue Heron	Greater Yellowlegs	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Marsh Wren	Brewer's Blackbird	
Great Egret	Spotted Sandpiper	Western Wood-Pewee	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Brown-headed Cowbird	
Green Heron	Western Sandpiper	Say's Phoebe	Western Bluebird	Northern Oriole	
Canada Goose	Least Sandpiper	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Mountain Bluebird	Purple Finch	
Mallard	Common Snipe	Western Kingbird	Townsend's Solitaire	Cassin's Finch	
Northern Pintail	Wilson's Phalarope	Purple Martin	American Robin	House Finch	
Cinnamon Teal	Ring-billed Gull	Tree Swallow	Sage Thrasher	Red Crossbill	
Gadwall	Caspian Tern	Violet-green Swallow	European Starling	Pine Siskin	
American Wigeon	Forster's Tern	Bank Swallow	Solitary Vireo	House Sparrow	
Canvasback	Black Tern	Cliff Swallow	Warbling Vireo		
Redhead	Rock Dove	Barn Swallow	Yellow Warbler		
Ring-necked Duck	Mourning Dove	Steller's Jay	Yellow-rumped Warbler		
Lesser Scaup	Great Horned Owl	Scrub Jay	Hermit Warbler		
Ruddy Duck	Common Nighthawk	Clark's Nutcracker	Common Yellowthroat		
Turkey Vulture	Vaux's Swift	Black-billed Magpie	Western Tanager		
Osprey	Black-chinned Hummingbird	American Crow	Black-headed Grosbeak		
Bald Eagle	Anna's Hummingbird	Common Raven	Green-tailed Towhee		
Red-tailed Hawk		Black-capped Chickadee	Rufous-sided Towhee		
			Chipping Sparrow		

OBSERVATIONS

Species	#	Date	Location	Cty	Observers
Laysan Albatross	1	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Fork-tailed Storm petrel	2	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Ashy Storm-petrel	50	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Wilson's Storm-petrel	1	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Little Blue Heron	1	7/25	Tomales Bay	MRN	DC, NW, RoR
Brant	1	5/31	Gualala River	SON	BDP
Oldsquaw	1	6/1			
		6/9	Bodega Bay off	SON	Lynn Stafford
		6/17	Doran Beach		DE, DH
Harlequin Duck	1	4/12	Fort Ross	SON	PL, RM
Black Scoter	1	6/14	off Chimney Rck	MRN	RAR
Peregrine Falcon	1	6/14	Chimney Rock	MRN	RAR
Elegant Tern	300+	6/29	Bolinas Lagoon	MRN	BDP
Long-tailed Jaeger	1	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
South Polar Skua	1	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Sabine's Gull	8	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Craveri's Murrelet	2	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Xantu's Murrelet	2	7/13	Cordell Bank	MRN	BDP, AW, NW
Ancient Murrelet	1	6/7	off Chimney	MRN	BDP
	2	6/14	Rock, Pt Reyes		RAR
Horned Puffin	2	6/3	off Chimney	MRN	BDP, AW, NW <i>adult, subadult</i>
	1	6/7	Rock, Pt Reyes		mob <i>adult</i>
	1	6/14			RAR <i>adult</i>
Common Nighthawk	3	7/5	Hwy 80 Kingvale	NEV	RAR <i>calling</i>
Common Poorwil	1	4/26	Pine Flat Rd	SON	NW
Vaux's Swift	many	summer	Healdsburg	SON	DW, NW
	sev	summer	Wikiup, Santa Rosa	SON	B&BR <i>nested in chimney</i>
Nashville Warbler	1	8/21	Russian Gulch	SON	NW
Lucy's Warbler	1	8/19	Russian Gulch	SON	Chris Corbin
	1	8/21	Russian Gulch	SON	DN, NW
Chesnut-sided Warbler	1	6/1	The Sea Ranch	SON	BDP <i>singing</i>
Nor. Waterthrush	1	8/15	Hole-in-the-Head	SON	DH
MacGillivray's Warbler	1	6/1	Old Stage Rd	SON	BDP
Indigo Bunting	1	7/11	Stage Gulch Rd	SON	RAR <i>singing</i>

Observers: Drew Cronk, Doug Ellis, David Hoffman, Peter Leveque, Roger Marlowe, Dan Nelson, Mike Parmeter (BDP), Bob & Bertha Rains, Robin Robinson (RoR), Ruth Rudesill (RAR), Alan Wight, Donna Wynn, Ned Wynn

ATTENTION LISTERS! AOU CHECK-LIST CHANGES

The July issue of "The Auk" contained the 41st Supplement to the AOU Checklist. There were many changes including families, genera, and species. Of interest to us were:

Long-billed Murrelet (B. perdux) was split from Marbled Murrelet.

Plain Titmouse was split into Juniper Titmouse (Baeolophus ridgwayi) interior and Oak Titmouse (B. inornatus) coastal -note new genus.

Solitary Vireo was split into 3 species - eastern Blue-headed Vireo (Vireo solitarius), interior Plumbeous Vireo (V. plumbeus) and our west coast Cassin's Vireo (V. cassinii).

New (Old) Names: Mexican Crow to Tamaulipas Crow; Falcated Teal to Duck.

And the Light-mantled Albatross was moved to Main List.

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 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 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

**RUTH RUDESILL
PO BOX 371
KENWOOD CA 95452**

