

KITE TALES

OCTOBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 10 - No. 2 SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

1975

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

October 9, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.: RROS meeting.

This month's program will be "Birding in Columbia: the Andes and the Amazon". Members Mike and John Parmeter and Gordon Bolander will present a slide talk about their birding expedition to South America this past summer. The trip yielded an almost-overwhelming abundance of exotic species, and some exciting adventures, also. RROS meetings are held in Rm. 221 Darwin Hall, Calif. State College, Suisun, Rohnert Park.

October 11, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.: S.R.J.C. Audubon Wildlife Film. The first wildlife film-lecture of the season will feature Kent Durden with "Death Valley - Land of Contrast". Tickets are available at the door. Luther Burbank Auditorium, S.R.J.C. campus.

October 18, Saturday: Deadline for November Kite Tales contributions.

October 19, Sunday: Bedaga Off-Shore Trip.

There may still be openings. Contact Mike Parmeter immediately if interested.

October 26, Sunday: RROS Lake County Field Trip led by Carmen Patterson.

Carmen will escort us through three fine birding areas around Clear Lake: Anderson Marsh, Little Borax Lake, and Clear Lake State Park. She and her husband will then host a chili and hot dog feed at their cabin on Mt. Kenecti. A carpool will form at Black Forest Inn (Hiway 32 and Calistoga Rd. in Santa Rosa) at 7:30 a.m. The field trip will begin at the Hiway 29 - Hiway 32 intersection in Lower Lake (Shell Station) at 9:00. The Pattersons will supply the chili and "dogs". Carmen says "Bring anything else you desire". Please contact her if you are coming.

November 13, Thursday: RROS meeting.

The program will feature a speaker from the Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

November 16, Sunday: RROS Grey Lodge Field Trip.

December 21, Sunday: Santa Rosa Christmas Counts

More information on this Count, and a complete calendar of other local counts will appear in November Kite Tales.

FINE FALL FEAST

September's festive and very tasty potluck dinner at the home of Dr and Mrs. Jack Arnold, was a fine way to begin RRCS fall activities. Many members came, ate gourmet food, and exchanged talk of summer trips near and far. Many, many thanks are due to the Arnolds for all of their work that went into a marvelous evening!

SEPTEMBER COMES THROUGH by Gordon Bolander

At the time of this writing (the 16th of Sept.) it seems evident that the influx of vagrants is certainly underway and shall probably (I hope) continue through the balance of the month. Bodega has produced a new species to the Sonoma County list, A Swainson Hawk, which was recorded on the 20th, and a goodly number of other interesting items including: Common Tern, Lewis Woodpecker, Willow Flycatcher, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Black and White Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, a probable Connecticut Warbler a Rose-breasted Grosbeak and an Evening Grosbeak.

We hope you took the opportunity to see some of these.

REPORT OF THE POINT REYES FIELD TRIP

Seventeen people ventured out in the cold fog on September 21. Unusual species were very limited, a late Western Kingbird being about the best find. However, Point Reyes is always rich, and the following 82 species were recorded.

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|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Common Loon | Cooper's Hawk | Heermann's Gull |
| Arctic Loon | Red-tailed Hawk | Pigeon Guillemot |
| Pied-billed Grebe | Marsh Hawk | Band-tailed Pigeon |
| Brown Pelican | American Kestrel | Mourning Dove |
| Brahd's Cormorant | California Quail | Barn Owl |
| Great Blue Heron | Virginia Rail | Great Horned Owl |
| Great Egret | Coot | Anna's Hummingbird |
| Mallard | Killdeer | Allen's Hummingbird |
| Gadwall | Whimbrel | Belted Kingfisher |
| Pintail | Willet | Common Flicker (Red-shafted) |
| Green-winged Teal | Western Sandpiper | Western Kingbird |
| Cinnamon Teal | Marbled Godwit | Bald Pheobe |
| Surf Scoter | Northern Phalarope | Say's Pheobe |
| Ruddy Duck | Glaucous-winged Gull | Willow Flycatcher |
| Red-breasted Merganser | Western Gull | Barn Swallow |
| Turkey Vulture | California Gull | Stellar's Jay |
| | Ring-billed Gull | |

Scrub Jay	Swainson's Thrush	Brown-headed Cowbird
Common Raven	Loggerhead Shrike	Lazuli Bunting
Common Crow	Starling	House Finch
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Yellow Warbler	Pine Siskin
Bushtit	Yellow-rumped Warbler	American Goldfinch
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Yellowthroat	Lesser Goldfinch
House Wren	House Sparrow	Brown Towhee
Winter Wren	Western Meadowlark	Savannah Sparrow
Bewick's Wren	Redwinged Blackbird	White-crowned Sparrow
Long-billed Marsh Wren	Tricolored Blackbird	Fox Sparrow
	Brewer's Blackbird	Song Sparrow

OCTOBER, A TRANSITION PERIOD by Gordon Bolander

October is a month in which bird sightings are probably more at the mercy of the elements than in any other. Lingering summer visitors will be with us well into a warm and open month with a corresponding delay in the influx of wintering species. Early rains or a continued cold snap can result in the opposite situation. So it's an interesting month, particularly so if you keep a record of the comings and goings of the non-resident species. This is a practice which is rewarding to the observer in its own right and which is also of value in determining the true status of the birds in an area. Most birders are well aware of their first spring or fall sightings of returning species but few are aware of just when their final sightings of departing species were made. Get into the habit of keeping records. Add to your store of knowledge.

Will yours be the latest Western Flycatcher, or Allen Hummingbird? Or will you produce the earliest Pigeon Hawk or Varied Thrush? We need the information.

RARE BIRD HOT LINE

As you may already know, there is a Bay Area phone number that gives weekly rare species information. Wayne Tillay tapes these messages each week, and has offered to bring his tapes to each meeting. These will be played at the end of each meeting for those interested.

NOW TRY THIS QUIZ

This paragraph contains an oddity which you might miss. Try to find what it is. It might occur to you that it has nothing to do with birds but ban that thought for that is not it. Or you may think it has a cryptic solution. Wrong again. You must still look for a thing which is so unusual that it is in fact a rarity. By now you must know what it is, so at this point I shall stop. Having Fun??

Answer is on page 5

Submitted by Gordon Bolander
(so blame him, not the editor!)

..... Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Organized in 1962, the purpose of the club is to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitats.

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, Oct. through May, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 221 of Darwin Hall, California State College, Sonoma, Robert Park.

Membership dues are \$6.00 for a family, \$4.50 for an individual, and \$2.00 for a student. This includes the subscriptions to the Kite Tales. Dues may be mailed to Carmen Patterson, with the tear off form on this page, or presented to her at the meetings.

We welcome guests at our meetings and on our field trips.

OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT Wayne Tilley, 100 Cold Springs Rd., Angwin 94508, 965-2978
- VICE-PRES Bruce Andre, 541 Rainsville Rd., Petaluma 94952
- SECRETARY Ron Pezzi, 4967 Arcadia, Santa Rosa 95401, 545-4517
- TREASURER Carmen Patterson, 5577 Inverness, Santa Rosa 95404, 544-7992
- FIELD TRIPS Gordon Bolander, 1650 Timber Hill Rd., Santa Rosa 95401, 542-5216
- PROGRAMS Mike Parmeter, 2500 Emerson St., Napa 94558, 255-6757
- EDITOR
- KITE TALES Lynn Stafford, P.O. Box 361, Kenwood 95452, 833-6491
- KITE TALES STAFF Deyea Harper and Elizabeth Stafford

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Enclosed are RRGS dues (1975-76) for

Family (\$6.00)	Individual (\$4.50)	Student (\$2.00)
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name

mailing address

_____	_____	_____
phone	city	zip

Answer to Quiz on Page 3:

The oddity in the paragraph is that it does not contain the letter 'e', which is the most used letter in the English language. (There are fourteen in this one sentence.)

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PARKING PERMIT

COURTESY OF

CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGE, SONOMA

For use in NON-RESERVED SECTION only

on Thursday, October 9, 1975

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ROOM 221 - DARWIN

(Display clearly in driver's compartment of car)