

KITE TALES

APRIL

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 10 - No. 8 SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

1976

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS.

April 8, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.: RROS Meeting

A Visit with the Penguins. Dr. Russell Lockner, Animal Behaviorist and Assistant Professor of Biology at Cal. State, Sonoma, will present this slide lecture on the natural history of islands within the Antarctica region.

April 24-25 Saturday and Sunday: Spring Round-up!

Our field trip chairman, Gordon Bolander presents an intriguing and unusual field experience for April. The goal is for our organization to identify as many species as possible in Sonoma County. Instead of working as one group, individual parties will fit their birding into the weekend as they wish. The results will be compiled and published. See page 2 of the Kite Tales for details. Let's all support this effort. The results could be very interesting if the county is well covered.

May 9, Sunday: Bodega Off-Shore aboard the "Fiuback".

This trip is probably filled. However, if interested, contact Mike Parmeter to be placed on the alternate list (see back page for Mike's address and phone.)

MAY 13, Thursday, 7:00 p.m.: End-of-Year Potluck.

The bicentennial year is a good excuse for us to acknowledge the history of our own organization. Mike and Adeene Nelligan have graciously offered their home for the evening. Please dig out any slides, stories, etc. of club activities. More details and a map will be in the May issue.

May (?): RROS Field Trip

The final field trip of the year, probably to Ida Clayton Road on Mt. St. Helena. (See May issue).

SONOMA COUNTY WEEKEND ROUND-UP: SAT. APR. 24 AND SUN. APR. 25

Bird either or both days at your convenience. We'd like to be able to list every species in the county on this experimental round-up. Be thorough and accurate. If any doubt about an identity exists, leave it out.

Fourteen routes described below should give us the opportunity to find all the birds if we can get coverage on them. Contact Gordon Bolander at the April meeting, or by phone (542-5216) if you would like to help out with this pilot effort. Send your list to him immediately after the weekend (1650 Timberhill Rd., Santa Rosa, Ca. 95401.) Lists from any birding in Sonoma County on these dates are wanted. Remember, number of individuals of birds is of no concern.

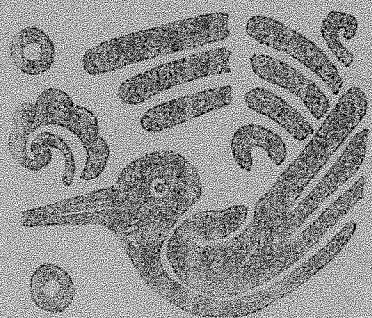
1. Geyserville to Gualala R. via Annapolis Rd. via Stewarts Pt.
2. Cazadero from Russian R. to Seaview to Plantation to the coast and south to Jenner.
3. Geyserville, the Geysers, Cloverdale loop.
4. Ida Clayton Rd., Kellog, Hiway 128 to Alexander Valley, Pine Flst Rd.
5. Graton to Occidental, Coleman Valley Rd. to coast, north to Goat Rock, and back via Willow Cr. Rd.
6. Sebastopol to Bodega (town), Salmon Cr. Rd., to Bodega Bay, Salmon Creek Lagoon.
7. Laguna and Plains area west of 101 Freeway, north of Highway 12, east of Hiway 116 and south of River Rd.
8. Southwest corner: west of 101 Freeway, south of Hiway 12 bodega Hiway.
9. South east corner: east of 101 Freeway, South of Hiway 116 and combined Hiways 121 and 12.
10. Valley of Moon north of #9 as far as Glen Ellen and Trinity Rd.
11. Annadel and Sugarloaf Parks, Los Alamos Rd., and Hood Mtn County Park.
12. East of 101 Freeway, Petaluma to Santa Rosa, east to Bennett Valley, Sonoma Mtn., and Presley Rds.
13. East of 101 Freeway, south of Mark West Springs Rd., Porter Cr. Rd. and Petrified Forest Rd., and north of Sonoma Hiway.
14. Lake Ralphine, Spring Cr. Lake, S.R. city parks.

Results will be mailed to all participants as soon as compiled, and will be included in the next issue of KUTER TALES. Any ambitious owlers for Sat. night? Coastal people keep an eye off-shore: no boat is scheduled.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

Following is the list of 70 species recorded on the March 14th trip to Sears Pt. - Tolay Creek area. Sixteen members participated. Tree Sparrows were added to the all-time RROS field trip list.

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|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Great Egret | California Gull | Western Bluebird |
| Snowy Egret | Mourning Dove | Ruby-crowned Kinglet |
| Mallard | Barn Owl | Water Pipit |
| Pintail | Furrowing Owl | Loggerhead Shrike |
| Green-winged Teal | Hummingbird, sp. | Common Starling |
| Cinnamon Teal | Common Flicker | Yellow-rumped Warbler |
| American Wigeon | Downy Woodpecker | House Sparrow |
| Northern Shoveler | Nuttall's Woodpecker | Western Meadowlark |
| Turkey Vulture | Black Phoebe | Red-winged Blackbird |
| White-tailed Kite | Say's Phoebe | Brewer's Blackbird |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | Forned-Lark | House Finch |
| Cooper's Hawk | Violet-green Swallow | Pine Siskin |
| Red-tailed Hawk | Barn Swallow | American Goldfinch |
| Golden Eagle | Scrub Jay | Lesser Goldfinch |
| Marsh Hawk | Common Raven | Rufous-sided Towhee |
| American Kestrel | Common Crow | Brown Towhee |
| American Coot | Plain Titmouse | Savannah Sparrow |
| Killdeer | Bushtit | Dark-eyed Junco |
| Common Snipe | White-breasted Nuthatch | Tree Sparrow |
| Willet | Brown Creeper | White-crowned Sparrow |
| Greater Yellowlegs | Long-billed Marsh Wren | Golden-crowned Sparrow |
| Least Sandpiper | Hockingbird | Lincoln's Sparrow |
| Long-billed Dowitcher | American Robin | Song Sparrow |
| American Avocet | | |



SPRING ARRIVAL DATES

The following table includes very valuable and difficult-to-obtain data. Gordon Bolander has compiled the average and earliest arrival dates in Sonoma County for 25 summer resident species. The information comes from Gordon's records back to 1950.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Average Arrival</u>	<u>Earliest Arrival</u>
Allen's Hummingbird	Feb. 22	Jan. 26
Rufous Hummingbird	Mar. 17	Feb. 21
Rough-winged Swallow	Mar. 18	Feb. 27
Cliff Swallow	Mar. 21	Mar. 1
Barn Swallow	Mar. 23	Mar. 8
*Common Yellowthroat	Mar. 27	Mar. 8
Western Flycatcher	Mar. 31	Mar. 11
*Osprey	Apr. 2	Mar. 4
Northern Oriole	Apr. 3	Mar. 23
Wilson's Warbler	Apr. 4	Mar. 21
Warbling Vireo	Apr. 6	Mar. 11
Black-headed Grosbeak	Apr. 12	Mar. 31
*Green Heron	Apr. 14	Mar. 16
Yellow Warbler	Apr. 16	Apr. 7
Solitary Vireo	Apr. 19	Mar. 30
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Apr. 19	Apr. 10
Western Kingbird	Apr. 23	Apr. 6
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Apr. 24	Apr. 7
Purple Martin	Apr. 25	Mar. 31
Swainson's Thrush	Apr. 29	Apr. 2
Western Tanager	Apr. 29	Apr. 19
Western Wood Pewee	May 1	Apr. 21
Olive-sided Flycatcher	May 1	Apr. 19
Yellow-breasted Chat	May 1	Apr. 16
Lazuli Bunting	May 1	Apr. 19

Violet-green and Tree Swallows and Orange-crowned Warblers usually winter over and so are not included. Those species marked (*) sometimes winter over, particularly along the coast. A judgement was necessary in deciding the dates to use for them.

P.R.B.C. BREEDING BIRDS PROJECT

Distribution of Breeding Birds of Marin County

1976-1978

Point Reyes Bird Observatory needs a minimum of 40 bird watchers who have any 6 days free between May 1 and June 30, 1976 to begin a three year study of the distribution of breeding birds in Marin County. Using subdivisions of USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps, we have divided the county into 250 blocks each about 2.5 square miles. We want to know what species breed in each block. We are not after numbers. You don't have to count birds. All you have to do is cover the habitats in your block and obtain evidence of breeding for each species. When you finish you will have a list of species breeding in your block with evidence ranging from seeing a bird in suitable breeding habitat to finding a nest with young. We will do this for three years to ensure good coverage. You don't have to participate for three years - just this year if you want. From these list distributional maps will be made. Future studies will be conducted to detect changes in distribution. Such atlas projects have been completed in England and are underway in many counties of Europe. Maryland and Massachusetts have similar studies underway. Marin County could be a pilot project for other California counties.

For those persons interested in more detail come to any of the following organizational meetings:

Sunday	4	April	1300	PRNS Bear Valley Headquarters, Information Bldg
Saturday	10	April	1300	" " " "
Thursday	22	April	0730	" " " "

These meetings will also include refresher sessions on songs and nest finding strategies. For those who would like more training we recommend PRBO courses "Birds of the Bay Area" April 24-25 and May 15-16, "Bird Song" May 1-2, and "Landbird Ecology" May 22-23.

This is a chance to use your birding abilities and also contribute in a cooperative way to our knowledge of Marin County birds. This breeding season should be particularly interesting because dry conditions should entice species usually breeding further south to coastal Marin.

..... 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, Rohnert 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, at the address below, or presented to her at the meetings.

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

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	Wayne Tilley, 100 Cold Spr. Rd., Angwin 94508, 965-2978
VICE-PRES	
SECRETARY	Ron Pozzi, 4967 Arcadia, Santa Rosa 95401, 545-4517
TREASURER	Carmen Patterson, 5577 Inverness, S.R. 95404, 544-7031-
FIELD TRIPS	Gordon Bolander, 1650 Timber Hill Rd., S.R. 95401, 542-5216
PROGRAMS	Mike Parmeter, 2500 Emerson St., Napa 94558, 225-6757
K.T. EDITOR	Lynn Stafford, P.O. Box 361, Kenwood 95452, 833-6491
K.T. STAFF	Dayes Harper and Elizabeth Stafford

PARKING PERMIT

COURTESY OF

CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGE, SONOMA

For use in NON-RESERVED SECTION only

on Thursday, April 8, 1976

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ROOM 221 - DARWIN

(Display clearly in driver's compartment of car.)