

KITE TALES

APRIL

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 11 - No. 8 SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

1977

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

April 14, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.: RROS meeting

Slides of habitats, birds and mammals of S. Kenya will be shown at our April meeting. Devony Lehner, one of Dr. Arnold's graduate students at Sonoma State College who has recently returned from Africa, will present the program.

April 16, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.: Field Trip to Annadel State Park

Jerry and Kathy Mugele will lead this spring Annadel outing. We will meet at the main parking lot at the end of Channel Drive in Santa Rosa.

The proposed trip to the Sutter Buttes was called off due to a \$20.00 per person charge to get in!

April 22, Friday: Deadline for KITE TALES contributions

Contributions are sorely needed! How about book reviews, observations and other items of avian interest? Let's make the last issue of the year a good one.

May 1, Sunday, 7:00 a.m.: Spring Pelagic Boat Trip

The annual Spring Bodega pelagic boat leaves from the Tides dock in Bodega Bay at 7:00 a.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person paid in advance to Mike Parmeter, 2500 Emerson Street, Napa, California, 94558

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

RROS received notice of the following exhibition from the California Academy of Sciences which they called "possibly the finest photographic passerine portraiture yet shown anywhere".

"THE BEAUTIFUL BIRDS OF RON SHUNK"
(40 11x14/16x20 color photographs)

Lower Cowell Hall Gallery
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Feb. 15, through July 1, 1977

MARCH FIELD TRIP REPORT

Seventeen people attended the March 13, 1977 field trip to Harvey Smith's Game Farm in Sebastopol. Most of the time was spent admiring the Smith's antique car collection (a big hit with the men), frontier town, ducks, geese and pheasants on ponds and in enclosures, and still tallied a few wild birds too, including a Great Blue Heron on its nest. 54 species were sighted as follows:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Great Blue Heron | Tree Swallow |
| Common Egret | Rough-winged Swallow |
| Snowy Egret | Barn Swallow |
| Mallard | Scrub Jay |
| Pintail | Common Crow |
| Cinnamon Teal | Chestnut-backed Chickadee |
| American Widgeon | Plain Titmouse |
| Canvasback | Common Bushtit |
| Turkey Vulture | Bewick's Wren |
| White-tailed Kite | Mockingbird |
| Red-tailed Hawk | Robin |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | Western Bluebird |
| Marsh Hawk | Ruby-crowned kinglet |
| American Kestrel | Loggerhead Shrike |
| Coot | Starling |
| Killdeer | Myrtle Warbler |
| Common Snipe | Audubon's Warbler |
| Greater Yellowlegs | Western Meadowlark |
| Glaucous-winged Gull | Red-winged Blackbird |
| California Gull | Brewer's Blackbird |
| Ring-billed Gull | House Finch |
| Mourning Dove | Lesser Goldfinch |
| Anna's Hummingbird | Rufous-sided Towhee |
| Belted Kingfisher | Brown Towhee |
| Yellow-shafted Flicker
(2 pure - 1 hybrid) | Dark-eyed junco |
| Red-shafted Flicker | White-crowned Sparrow |
| Acorn Woodpecker | Golden-crowned Sparrow |
| Violet-green Swallow | Fox Sparrow |

BLACK RAIL STUDY

The Department of Fish and Game is currently conducting a study of Black Rails in the Bay Area. This ongoing study will continue until July, and is being carried out by Tim Manolis. He would very much appreciate hearing about any Black Rail sightings and can be reached at the following address and phone number:

Tim Manolis
4409 44th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824
(916) 428-3833

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY 1977 NATURAL EXCURSIONS

- April 1-3, Birds and Mammals of Farallon Gulf, Ron Le Valley
(by boat) between \$40-\$65
- June 4-5 Bird Song, Bob Stewart \$20
- June 4-5 Birds of Monterey Bay, leader: Rich Stallcup \$45
(Sun. boat trip)
- June 12-18 Birds of the High Sierra, Rich Stallcup and Art Earle
\$150
- August 6-13 Birds & Natural History of SE Arizona, Stallcup
and Earle \$250
- November 18-26 Birds of San Blas, Mexico. Art Earle and Bob
Stewart \$350
- February 1978 Birds of Costa Rica
- February 1978 Birds of Tikal, Guatemala

For further information about any of these trips, contact PRBO,
4990 Shoreline Hwy., Stinson Beach, CA 94970.

SPRING BIRD RECORDS

RROS member Gordon Bolander was recently the subject of an article in AMERICAN BIRDS due to his extraordinary record of birds sighted on his property (over 200 species). Recent studies by sociologists have indicated that most Americans rarely stay in one place more than five years; we have become a nation of transients. The following type of data, then, if the trend continues, will become increasingly difficult to obtain. The table below lists the average and earliest arrival dates of 22 selected species of spring migrants recorded by Gordon Bolander in his yard in Santa Rosa over the past 26 years. The table is arranged from the earliest to the latest migrants and is not in phylogenetic order.

<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
Western flycatcher	Mar. 31	Mar. 11
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
Yellow warbler	Apr. 16	Apr. 7
Solitary vireo	Apr. 19	Mar. 30
Ash-throated flycatcher	Apr. 19	Apr. 10

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

(Reprinted from AMERICAN BIRDS, August 1976)

. . . 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, Sonoma State College, 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 Adeene Nelligan, at the address below, or presented to her at the meetings.

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

OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT Carmen Patterson, 5577 Inverness, SR 544-7031
- VICE-PRES Herb Klassen, 19715 5th St. E, Sonoma, 95476 (938-8297)
- SECRETARY Clarence Tucker, 1309 Denlyn St., Novato, 94947 415-392-319
- TREASURER Adeene Nelligan, 5424 Alta Monte, SR 95404 (542-8389)
- K.T. EDITOR Melanie Perry, 5665 Gravenstein Hwy. N., Forestville (887-18)
- K.T. STAFF Lynn and Elizabeth Stafford, P.O. Box 361, Kenwood (833-6491)

PARKING PERMIT

CALIF. STATE COLLEGE, SONOMA - NON-RESERVED SECTION

For use Thursday, April 14, 1977

R.R.O.S., ROOM 221, DARWIN

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