

KITE TALES

FEBRUARY

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 12 - No. 6 SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

1978

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

February 8, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.: RROS meeting

Bob Nelson of the U.S. Forest Service will present February's program. We will see a slide film on the California Condor and one entitled "Forest and Wildlife Management".

February 18, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.: Field Trip to Souverie Ranch in Valley of the Moon

The trip will be led by ranch resident naturalists Gail Scott and Ralph Frazier (both RROS members). This ranch will soon be turned over to Nature Conservancy for preservation as a valuable nature sanctuary. Its resources include redwoods, Douglas fir, chaparral and a canyon with a beautiful water fall. Many birds will await us - including California Thrashers and Sage Sparrows.

The Ranch driveway turns east off of Highway 12 3/4 mile south of Arnold Drive. For those traveling south from Santa Rosa, turn on your left turn signal at the Mobil station in preparation for turning 1,000 feet later at the small and hard-to-find driveway opposite the State Forestry Division building. Once the ranch road begins, proceed across two cattle guards to the second bend where Ralph and Gail will welcome us.

February 24, Friday: Deadline for KITE TALES contributions.

March 11 and 12, Saturday and Sunday: Field Trip to Honey Lake

Start making your plans to brave the elements in northeastern California where we will see an assortment of raptors that will boggle your minds. Also longspurs, Harris sparrows, sage grouse and others. Mike Parameter will lead.

This trip will be made in conjunction with Madrone Audubon. The Audubon Society hopes to charter a cruiser-type bus which holds up to 39 and will cost \$12.60 per person round trip. If you would like bus reservations please contact Melanie Perry at 867-1871. Please make checks payable to Madrone Audubon Society and mail them to Melanie, 5665 Gravenstein Hwy. No., Forestville, CA 95436, by February 15.

April 13, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.: RROS meeting

Plan ahead! April 13 will be favorite slide night - start fishing out your bird or critter slides.

December 17, Sunday: Santa Rosa Christmas Count

If you really like to plan ahead, mark this date on your calendar now!

JANUARY FIELD TRIP REPORT

Exactly 104 species were observed by approximately 15 birders. The Spotted Owl was seen by only a few on a pre-trip owling jaunt to Willow Creek. Species seen are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Common Loon | Black-bellied Plover |
| Arctic Loon | Ruddy Turnstone |
| Red-throated Loon | Black Turnstone |
| Red-necked Grebe | Whimbrel |
| Horned Grebe | Wandering Tattler |
| Eared Grebe | Willet |
| Western Grebe | Surfbird |
| Pied-billed Grebe | Rock Sandpiper |
| Northern Fulmar | Dunlin |
| Brown Pelican | Western Sandpiper |
| Double-crested Cormorant | Sanderling |
| Brandt's Cormorant | Marbled Godwit |
| Psiagic Cormorant | Red Phalarope |
| Great Blue Heron | Glaucous-winged Gull |
| Snowy Egret | Western Gull |
| Black-crowned Night Heron | Herring Gull |
| Pintail | California Gull |
| Green-winged Teal | Ring-billed Gull |
| American Wigeon | Mew Gull |
| Canvasback | Bonaparte's Gull |
| Greater Scaup | Heermann's Gull |
| Common Goldeneye | Forster's Tern |
| Bufflehead | Common Nurre |
| Oldsquaw | Asstent Murrelet |
| White-winged Scoter | Rhinoceros Auklet |
| Surf Scoter | Rock Dove |
| Red-breasted Merganser | Barn Owl |
| Turkey Vulture | Great Horned Owl |
| White-tailed Kite | Pygmy Owl |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | Spotted Owl |
| Red-tailed Hawk | Anna's Hummingbird |
| Rough-legged Hawk | Belted Kingfisher |
| American Kestrel | Common Flicker |
| California Quail | Black-bellied Plover |
| Sora | Ruddy Turnstone |
| American Coot | Black Turnstone |
| Semipalmated Plover | Chimney-backed Chickadee |
| Killdeer | Wandering Tattler |
| | Willet |
| | Surfbird |
| | Rock Sandpiper |
| | Dunlin |
| | Western Sandpiper |
| | Sanderling |
| | Marbled Godwit |

Winter Wren
Bewick's Wren
Mockingbird
American Robin
Varied Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Western Bluebird
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Water Pipit
Loggerhead Shrike
Starling
Orange-crowned Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Common Yellowthroat

House Sparrow
Western Meadowlark
Red-winged Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
House Finch
Pine siskin
American Goldfinch
Lesser Goldfinch
Brown Towhee
Dark-eyed Junco
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow

OBSERVATIONS

The only observation received was a report of a Blue-throated Hummingbird in Tulare County during late January. The American Redstart on the Perry property in Forestville is still here and was last seen on January 28, 1978.

FIELD IDENTIFICATION CLASSES

PROS member Jon Winter will teach in-depth field identification classes at Whittell Education Center in Tiburon, Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. as follows:

Feb. 5 - Orioles, thrushes, juncos, blackbirds, empidonax and myiarchus flycatchers

Feb. 12 - Swans, female ducks, accipiter and buteo hawks, falcons, winter loons, grebes, terns

Registration, at \$6.50 for each seminar, can be by mail or at the Center. Please make check payable to National Audubon Society and send to 375 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon, CA 94920. The classes are open to all.

PRBO TRIPS SCHEDULED

The Point Reyes Bird Observatory has scheduled the following field trips for February and March:

Birds of Panama, February 22 - March 3: Explore with Bill Clow and help scout a new region for a future PRBO excursion; \$100.00

Birds of Costa Rica, March 6 - 19: 14-day visit to three famous birding spots - the cloud forest at Monte Verde, the middle

elevations at Las Cruces and the lowlands of Palo Verde. Become acquainted with the Quetzal, the white-faced monkey and the anteater. Bill Clow, Leader. \$800.00 includes hotels, meals and travel within the country, but not to and from Costa Rica.

Birds of the California Desert, March 20-23: 4-days car-camping to see the wildlife in the Mojave and Sonoran deserts from Yuma to San Bernardino Mts. Jules Evens and Bill Manolis, Leaders. \$50.00 (does not include travel or food costs).

For more information, write PHSO, 4990 Sausaline Highway, Sausalito Beach, CA 94970.

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, payable in May, are \$6.00 for a family, \$4.50 for an individual, and \$2.00 for a student. This includes the subscriptions to the RITE 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 Terry Sabineaux, 2277 Crane Canyon Road, SR 95405 (944-7754)
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