

Kite Tales

FEBRUARY

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 13, No. 5 Sonoma County, Calif.

1978

COMING ATTRACTIONS

February 8, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. RROS General Meeting

Once again it's "Bring your own slides" night! This was one of our most successful programs last year. Here's a chance to show off those rare bird slides, or just a special favorite, or maybe a candid shot of some famous (or not so famous) bird person! A limit of about 5-10 slides per person should give us a good show.

February 17, Saturday, 2-5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. til ?, Field Trip

This field trip will be to bird at Limantour Beach, then an owling expedition to Bolinas Ridge. There will be an hour and a half break for dinner. Meet at 2 p.m. at the parking lot at Limantour Beach (Point Reyes National Seashore). Leader will be Doug Ellis.

March 8, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. RROS General Meeting

"Arizona Birding Experiences", a slide show and talk, will be presented by Dr. John Arnold and Mike Parmeter.

BIRDS OF SONOMA COUNTY

Sales of "our" book are moving right along. It has been placed in the book store in Montgomery Village and at the Sea Gull Gift Shop in Jenner. It is available by mail order from Dr. John Arnold, 199 Calistoga Road, Santa Rosa, Ca 95404. Please include a check for 4.74 per copy made out to RROS. This covers \$4.00 per book + .24 tax + .50 handling.

"Public Access Projects of the Wildlife Conservation Board"

This is a map showing the locations and facilities of nearly 200 areas throughout California which are open to the public for outdoor recreation. They include fishing piers, wildlife areas, boat launching ramps and access roads which enable the public to reach public land and waters. Copies are available by writing: Conservation Education, Dept. of Fish Game, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento, Ca 95814. Enclose a self-addressed stamped legal-sized envelope.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY FIELD TRIP

Our 2 day trip to the Sacramento Valley refuges gave us clear, warm weather for Saturday, and windy, cold weather on Sunday. Ninety-seven species were tallied for both days.

Eared Grebe	Ring-necked Pheasant	Long-billed Marsh Wren
Pied-billed Grebe	Sandhill Crane	Mockingbird
White Pelican	Virginia Rail	American Robin
Double-crested Cormorant	Common Gallinule	Western Bluebird
Great Blue Heron	American Coot	✓ Mountain Bluebird
✓ Cattle Egret	Killdeer	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Snowy Egret	Common Snipe	Water Pipit
American Bittern	Spotted Sandpiper	Loggerhead Shrike

Whistling Swan	Greater Yellowlegs	Starling
Canada Goose	Long-billed Dowitcher	Yellow-rumped Warbler
White-fronted Goose	American Avocet	House Sparrow
Snow Goose	✓ Black-necked Stilt	Western Meadowlark
Ross' Goose	Herring Gull	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Mallard	California Gull	Red-winged Blackbird
Gadwall	Ring-billed Gull	Tri-colored Blackbird
Pintail	Rock Dove	Brewer's Blackbird
Green-winged Teal	Mourning Dove	Brown-headed Cowbird
Cinnamon Teal	Great Horned Owl	House Finch
✓ European Wigeon	Burrowing Owl	American Goldfinch
American Wigeon	Belted Kingfisher	Lesser Goldfinch
Northern Shoveler	Common Flicker	Rufous-sided Towhee
Bufflehead	Acorn Woodpecker	Brown Towhee
Ruddy Duck	Lewis Woodpecker	Savannah Sparrow
Turkey Vulture	✓ Downy Woodpecker	✓ Vesper Sparrow
White-tailed Kite	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Lark Sparrow
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Black Phoebe	Dark-eyed Junco
Red-tailed Hawk	Say's Phoebe	White-crowned Sparrow
Golden Eagle	Scrub Jay	Golden-crowned Sparrow
✓ Bald Eagle	Yellow-billed Magpie	✓ White-throated Sparrow (2)
Marsh Hawk	Common Crow	Lincoln's Sparrow
American Kestrel	Plain Titmouse	Song Sparrow
California Quail	Bewick's Wren	

OBSERVATIONS by John Parmeter

As usual, birders were very active during the first month of the year, and January produced many good sightings. The WFO offshore trip to the Cordelle Banks 1-13 recorded 8 Black-footed Albatross; 2 Manx, 2 Flesh-footed, 1 New Zealand and numerous Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters; about 10 Pomarine Jaegers, 5 Ancient Murrelets, and a Glaucous Gull in the Harbour. The trip a week later (1-21) had 2 Tufted Puffins, a Short-tailed Shearwater and an Oldsquaw in the harbor.

A Cattle Egret was seen on Arnold Drive, near Sonoma, 1-7 (L&LS). Four Whistling Swans were noted in a flood field near Schelleville, 1-20 (GM). The Tufted Duck at Muddy Hollow remained until at least 1-6 (JP,DE), and 3 Oldsquaws were seen from the fishdocks the same day (JP). Two Ferruginous Hawks were around Bodega Lagoon 1-13 (BDP). An immature Bald Eagle was seen at Annadel Park 1-31 (HC,RH). A Peregrine Falcon (DS,BB,DE) and a Merlin (LCB, BDP) were around Doran Park on and off all month.

A flock of 50 Mountain Plover was seen on Tule Road, Colusa County, 1-27 (KVV) and one was at Pt. Reyes until at least 1-6 (DE,JP). Up to four Golden Plovers have been near the Spalleta Ranch, Pt. Reyes all month (mob). Up to 5 Black-necked Stilts were seen at the pond at the entrance to Doran Park, 1-5 to 7 (HC,JA). A Pomarine Jaeger was seen from shore at Duncan's Landing 1-27 (JP).

A Selasphorus Hummingbird was at Deekman's Store on Bodega Bay until at least 1-10 (DS). Lewis' Woodpecker are widespread this winter with many reports from southern Sonoma County and the Central Valley. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was at Lake Solano, Solano Co., 1-7 (JP,JA) and the same locality had a Phainopepla (BDP) and a Chipping Sparrow (KVV) on 1-27.

An Orange-crowned Warbler has been seen at Deekman's Store several times this month (DS, BDP). Many Lapland Longspurs remain at the Hall Ranch, Pt. Reyes, along with the "mystery lark".

Observers: Jack Arnold, Laurence C. Binford, Betty Burrridge, Hal Corey, Doug Ellis, Ruth Hawksley, Gerry Mugele, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Dave Schuford, Lynn and Liz Stafford, Kent Van Vuren, WFO.

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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, September 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 individuals, and \$2.00 for students. This includes a subscription to the Kite Tales. Dues may be mailed to Ruth Hawksley or presented to her at meetings.

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OFFICERS

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