

Kite Tales

MAY

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 13, No. 8 Sonoma County

1979

COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 5, Saturday, 8 a.m. Field Trip to Ida Clayton Road

This is a traditional RROS trip. Last year yielded such goodies as: Sage Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting and Pygmy Owl. Bring a lunch and meet leader Mike Parmeter at 8 a.m. at the bottom of Ida Clayton Road. (Off Highway 128 between Calistoga and Geyserville.)

May 6, Sunday, Second Annual Arroyo Cheap Thrills Spring Bird Count

This count centers around the Petaluma River-north Marin areas. If you're interested in participating, contact Dave Schuford, P.O. Box 781, Bodega Bay, Ca 94923, 875-3706.

May 10, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. RROS General Meeting

The program will be presented by Bruce Sorrie, a research associate of PRBO. He has recently returned from 5 months in Peru gathering life history and distribution information, particularly of jungle birds. The slide show will emphasize birds (including in-hand photos of little-known species), but will also introduce you to mammals, insects, orchids and the incomparable ruins of Machu Picchu.

June 2, Saturday, Boat Trip to Cordelle Banks

If you're interested in this trip, please let Doug Ellis know by the May meeting. He has 6 people signed up and needs at least 20 or the trip will be cancelled. The cost is only \$18.00 per person. Give Doug a call (833-4344) or talk to him at the meeting.

THE BOOK

Mike Parmeter's and Gordon Bolander's book (Birds of Sonoma County) is still available. If you don't have your copy yet, they can be purchased at meetings or by mail order from Dr. John Arnold, 155 Calistoga Rd, Santa Rosa, Ca 95404. (Send a check for \$4.74--\$4.00 + \$.24 tax + \$.50 handling.)

HELP!

Rocky Thompsen and Craig Thomsen would like the assistance of RROS in their survey of the bird fauna of the Middle Reach and Alexander Valley region of the Russian River. Rocky and Craig are especially in need of data on migrants and birds of riparian habitat. Information will be forwarded to them by Dr. John Arnold, 199 Calistoga Road, Santa Rosa Ca 95404.

INSTANT ELECTION RETURNS

The new officers were elected by an overwhelming majority. Congratulations and thanks to:

President--Bob McLean
Vice-president & Programs--Betty Burridge
Secretary--Deyea Harper

Results (cont)

Treasurer--Ruth Hawksley
 Field Trips--Mike Parmeter
 Kite Tales--Kathy Mugele
 Social Chairperson--Terry Colburn
 Christmas Count Compiler--Gerry Mugele

And thank you to the nominating committee (Hal Corey, Ruth Hawksley, Jack Arnold, Bob McLean, Kathy Mugele) for a job well-done.

Mono Lake Field Trips

"Auduboners are invited to spend a day exploring the geology, botany, zoology and human history of the Mono Lake region and to learn first hand how water diversions are effecting this irreplaceable natural treasure.

"Half day trips (8 a.m. to 2 p.m.) are scheduled for every Saturday or Sunday from June 9 through Sept. 9. The trips are free but limited to 40 people.

"To sign up, send a preferred and an alternate date, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Mono Lake Field Trip, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, Ca 93541." (from Audubon Conservation Topics, West)

OBSERVATIONS by John Parmeter

April, as usual, saw the return of most of our summer residents. Early dates are as follows:

Northern Phalarope	4-19	Bodega Bay	JS
Caspian Tern	3-31	Bodega Bay	MP
Poorwill	4-10	Ida Clayton Rd	JP
Western Kingbird*	3-31	Schelleville	MP
Ash-throated Flycatcher	4-15	Lake Berryessa	JP
Western Flycatcher	3-27	St. Helena	JS
Western Wood Peewee	4-21	Aetna Springs	MP
Olive-sided Flycatcher	3-27	Aetna Springs	MP
Purple Martin	4-15	Gualala	JS
House Wren	3-27	St. Helena	JS
Swainson's Thrush	4-21	Angwin	MP
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4-14	Sonoma	BM
Solitary Vireo*	3-27	St. Helena	JS
Warbling Vireo	3-31	Willow Creek	MP
Nashville Warbler	4-21	Aetna Springs	JP
Black-throated Gray Warbler	4-7	Bothe St. Park	JP
Yellow Warbler*	3-20	Willow Creek	DE
Hermit Warbler	4-21	Aetna Springs	MP
MacGillivray's Warbler	4-19	Ida Clayton Rd	JS
Yellow-breasted Chat	4-28	Glen Ellen	GM
Wilson's Warbler	3-31	Willow Creek	MP
Northern Oriole	3-30	Santa Rosa	RH
Hooded Oriole	4-16	Sonoma	B&HH
Western Tanager	4-21	Aetna Springs	MP
Black-headed Grosbeak	4-9	Lake Hennessey	JP
Lazuli Bunting	4-21	Aetna Springs	MP
Lawrence's Goldfinch	4-21	Lake Berryessa	JS

Chipping Sparrow 3-31 Lake Hennessey MP
Species marked with * beat Gordon Bolander's early Timber Hill arrival dates.

An unusually large flock of 5-700 Brant was at Bodega Bay 4-17 (RH). A Goshawk east of Pt Arena, Mendocino County 4-15 (JS) was at a very low elevation. A Peregrine at Lake Hennessey 4-9 (JP) was one of the few Napa County records. A Spotted Owl was at Bothe State Park 4-7 (Bill Grummer, MP). At least two Lewis Woodpeckers are still near Stornetta's Dairy on the Napa-Sonoma county line. A Hammond's/Dusky Flycatcher at Aetna Springs 4-21 (MP) was the first Napa County record for this type. The two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers near Sonoma were a nesting pair. Hooded Orioles have returned to Napa as well as Sonoma (MP). A singing White-throated Sparrow was in Napa 4-6&7 (KVV).

Observers: Doug Ellis, Bill & Helen Heneks, Ruth Hawksley, Bob McLean, Gerry Mugele, John Parmeter, Mike Parmeter, John Sterling, Kent Van Vuren.

DUES

Membership dues are due this month. They may be mailed to Ruth Hawksley or presented to her at meetings. You may wish to use this handy order form:

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Enclosed are RROS dues (1979-1980) for Family (\$6.00) Individual (\$4.50)
Student (\$2.00)

Name Mailing Address

Phone City Zip
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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 thru May, at 7:30 p.m. in room 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State College, Rohnert Park.

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President Gerald Mugele P.O. Box 790 Sonoma 938-2134
Vice-President Bob McLean 20715 5th St East Sonoma 938-5012
Secretary Betty Burrridge 963 Crest Dr Santa Rosa 527-0225
Treasurer Ruth Hawksley 51 Shadyleaf Ct Santa Rosa 539-0560
Kite Tales Editor Kathy Mugele P.O. Box 790 Sonoma 938-2134
Field Trips Doug Ellis P.O. Box 155 Eldridge 833-4344
Social Chairperson Eleanor Tucker 1309 Denlyn St Novato 415-892-2193
Observations John Parmeter 2500 Emerson St Napa 255-6757