

# Kite Tales

MAY

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
Vol. 15, No. 9

1981

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### May 14, Thursday, RROS General Meeting and Potluck Supper

Sugarloaf Ridge State Park will be the location for our final meeting before summer (and our potluck dinner!) Plan on dinner about 6pm, then a short business meeting and we'll adjourn to owling and poorwilling. Bring your own utensils (silverware, plates and cups) and a favorite goodie. Take Highway 12 from Santa Rosa or Sonoma areas and follow the signs to Kenwood. About ½ mile north of Kenwood, turn onto Adobe Canyon Road. Follow this road to the park; from the ranger booth proceed on the main road to the group picnic area. There will be no admission charge to RROS members and guests.

### May 16, Saturday, 7:30 am, Field Trip to Ida Clayton Road

Meet leader Mike Parmeter at the junction of Highway 128 and Ida Clayton Road at 7:30 am. Bring lunch (maybe breakfast?) and be ready for a good day of birding-- Sage Sparrows, Lazuli Buntings, Pygmy Owls, Mountain Quail and more.

### June 13, 14 Saturday and Sunday, Field Trip to Gualala

Contact Mike Parmeter now (255-6757) to make campsite reservations for this weekend of birding on the coast. The birds should be good and the weather terrific!

## ELECTION RETURNS

Our new officers have been elected with one vacancy left--we need a Field Trip Chairperson--any volunteers? Thank you to the new officers, old officers and nominating committee. Your new officers are: President-Doug Ellis, Vice-President Hal Corey, Secretary-Ruth Hawksley, and Treasurer-Ellen Falconer.

## FIELD TRIP RESULTS

Thirteen birders enjoyed a spring day at Sugarloaf tallying 62 species.

Great Blue Heron 1	Chesnut-backed Chickadee 6	Hermit Warbler 1
Turkey Vulture 15	Plain Titmouse 6	McGillivray's Warbler 2
Red-tailed Hawk 1	Bushtit 8	Wilson's Warbler 4
Peregrine Falcon 1	White-breasted Nuthatch 2	Western Meadowlark 1
California Quail 3	Brown Creeper 15	Red-winged Blackbird 6
Mountain Quail 10	House Wren 10	Northern Oriole 6
Mourning Dove 4	Bewick's Wren 1	Brewer's Blackbird 8
Pygmy Owl 1	California Thrasher 1	Brown-headed Cowbird 6
Anna's Hummingbird 2	American Robin 20	Black-headed Grosbeak 15
Common Flicker 2	Hermit Thrush 1	Lazuli Bunting 2
Acorn Woodpecker 6	Western Bluebird 2	Purple Finch 2
Downy Woodpecker 4	Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2	House Finch 1
Nuttall's Woodpecker 6	Starling 2	Pine Siskin 1
Ash-throated Flycatcher 3	Hutton's Vireo 3	Lesser Goldfinch 12
Black Phoebe 2	Solitary Vireo 4	Rufous-sided Towhee 10
Western Flycatcher 10	Warbling Vireo 20	Brown Towhee 10
Western Wood Peewee 2	Orange-crowned Warbler 15	Dark-eyed Junco 10

## Field Trip (cont)

Violet-green Swallow 15	Yellow Warbler 12	Chipping Sparrow 3
Steller's Jay 12	Yellow-rumped Warbler 1	Golden-crowned Sparrow 1
Common Raven 2	Black-throated Gray Warbler 1	Song Sparrow 6
Common Crow 1	Townsend's Warbler 2	

## DUES

Your Treasurer will be happy to receive your dues payment. Mail to her (Ellen Falconer, 1151 Corby Av, Santa Rosa 95401) or give it to her at the next meeting. Dues are: \$6.00 for family, \$4.50 for individuals, \$2.00 for students.

## OBSERVATIONS--Gerry Mugele and Dan Nelson

Ah--Spring has sprung, the green hills are already turning golden. It seems a little early for things to be sodry, but our rainfall was light this winter and we've had much drying wind. Breeding is underway, most migrants have returned though some stragglers are still waiting to start northward.

Canada Geese were seen at Fountain Grove Ranch 3-28 (DE), Pope Valley 4-13 (JM) and as late as 4-27 in Glen Ellen (GM). Five hundred Brant were reported from Morro Bay 4-5 (DE), and 4 from Bodega Bay 4-16 (DE). Two Wood Ducks were at Pinkeye (?) Lake, Lake County 3-25 (JM). Fifteen Green-winged Teal and 250 Cinnamon Teal were at Port Chicago 4-14 (DE). Two Gadwall were at Franklin Park Cemetery Pond 3-28 (DE). A single Ring-necked Duck was seen at Ida Clayton Road 4-18 (DE).

A Rough-legged Hawk was seen near Grapevine, Kern Co. 4-1 (DE). Golden Eagles were seen 3-28 at Bouverie Ranch (DE), 4-20 from Los Alamos Road (RL), and over Glen Ellen 4-26 (G&KM). Peregrine Falcons were at the Morro Rock nest site 4-5 (DE) and one was seen at Sugarloaf on 4-18 (RROS).

Up to 12 Blue Grouse were seen and heard in the area north of Warm Springs Dam on Rock Pile Road, Sonoma County from 4-4 at least thru 4-12 (MOB). These birds also prompted the first exercise of our PHONE CHAIN, which appears to function sucessfully.

Black Rails were at Port Chicago Marsh throughout the period with a high count of 12 on 4-14 (DE). A Sora was at Ida Clayton Rd 4-18 (DE).

As many as 5000 (5-1) migrating Bonaparte's Gulls were reported at Bodega Bay (SC,RH). Joel Hornstein found a Least Tern in adult plumage at Doran Park on 4-19. White-throated Swifts were at Bouverie Ranch 3-28 (DE) and Los Alamos Rd (RL). A Black-chinned Hummingbird was seen on Morgan Valley Rd, Lake County 4-13 (JM) and a female Hummer of the Black-chinned/Costa's type was at Ida Clayton Rd 4-18 (JH,DE). Lewis' Woodpeckers were seen at Lower Lake 3-23 (JM) and at Crane County Park on Roberts Rd 4-14 (RL, RM).

A Dipper was seen in Kelsey Creek in Cobb Valley on 4-9 (JM). Jim also reported Canyon Wrens singing from their usual place at the entrance of Clearlake State Park 4-15. Four Townsend's Solitaires were seen at Cobb Mountain on 3-1 and 2 were seen on 4-4 (JM). Phainopepla were seen at the Sespe Condor Sanctuary on Doug Ellis' trip south. Early Solitary Vireos were reported at Morro Bay on 4-5 (DE), Warbling Vireos at Bouverie Ranch on 3-28 (DE) and at Ettawa Springs (Lake County) on 4-14 (JM).

Doug Ellis reported a Yellow Warbler at Sespe Sanctuary on 4-2 and 3 Black-throated

OBSERVATIONS--cont.

Gray Warblers. One McGillivray's Warbler was seen on Ida Clayton Rd on 4-18 (DE). Yellow-breasted Chats have been seen and heard; 4-18 near Channel Drive (RL) and 4-25 on Henno Rd in Glen Ellen (G&KM).

A high count of 10 Red Crossbills were reported from Cobb Valley 3-7 & 3-8 (JM). Rufous-crowned Sparrows on Ida Clayton Rd on 4-18 (DE) and on Los Alamos Rd on 4-20 (RL). Two Chipping Sparrows were seen at Bouverie Ranch on 3-28 (DE).

Summer is coming and we'll all be off to find birds in far off exotic places like Arizona and Bakersfield, so send us your cards and letters and keep us informed.

OBSERVERS: Stan Carpenter, Ruth Hawksley, Joel Hornstein, Rick Lebadour, Jim Jim Matzinger, Richard Merriss, Gerry Mugele, Kathy Mugele, Doug Ellis.

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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 habitat.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, September thru May, at 7:30 pm in Room 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State College, Rohnert Park.

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OFFICERS

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