

Kite Tales

OCTOBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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Sonoma County

1981

COMING ATTRACTIONS

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

Clark Nattkemper will present his program on the Galapagos Islands with excellent photos of birds, animals and plants.

October 11, Sunday, 6 a.m., Offshore Trip to Cordelle Banks

Rick Lebadour has gotten the Bodega Marine Lab boat, the Stephanie, for our offshore trip. She is berthed in Slip 64 at Porto Bodega. This is the first marina on the left after turning off Highway 1 onto Bay Flat Road. The cost is \$24.00 per person, the limit is 25 people. Mail your check (to RROS) to Ellen Falconer, 1151 Corby Av, Santa Rosa, 95401. Meet at the boat at 6 a.m., bringing chum (popcorn, suet, etc.), lunch (if you can face it), and wear soft-soled shoes (like tennies). This is short notice, so act fast if you want to go!

PRBO BIRDATHON

A few early results are in...a group in Monterey had 172 species for the day, John & Mike Parmeter had 165, and Richard Merriss & Rick Lebadour had 135... sounds like a good day!

DUES

Dues payment can be mailed to Ellen Falconer, 1151 Corby Av, Santa Rosa, 95401 or given to her at the meeting. Dues are: \$6.00 for family, \$4.50 for individuals, \$2.00 for students. Ellen also has Sonoma State Field Cards for 10¢ each.

OBSERVATIONS--Dan Nelson

400+ White Pelicans were seen at Skaggs^o Island on 9-22 (RH, SC, HC). On his birdathon, Doug Ellis found 20 Wood Ducks at Lake Solano on 9-24. He found 154 species alone on that date. Arriving early for the winter was a male Black Scoter at the mouth of the Russian River on 9-26 (BDP,JP). Many Golden Eagles have been seen recently, with sightings as follows: 1 in Willow Creek Canyon, 9-1 (DE); 1 two miles north of Jenner, 9-14 (DE); 2 birds at Annadel on 9-16 (HC, et al); 2 at Salmon Creek on 9-26 (JP,BDP); and 1 imm. was seen on 9-20 over Sonoma and again on 9-25 (BP). The ponds off Cader Lane in Petaluma had many Am Avocets throughout the past few weeks, and Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpipers, Baird's Sandpipers and Lesser Golden Plover were seen there sporadically (MOB). Another Lesser Golden Plover was seen at Doran Park on 9-7 (DE); and one was seen there on 9-12 still in breeding plumage! (DN). Big News at Salmon Creek was the Stilt Sandpiper that arrived on 9-7 (DE). It was seen for the next two days only (LCB,BDP,JP). There are many reports of Pectoral Sandpipers migrating through, dates as follows: 2 at Salmon Creek on 9-7 (DE); 2 also noted there on 9-9 (BDP,JP); with 3 there on 9-12 (DE). 3 Pectorals were seen at the Mendoza Ranch pond Pt Reyes on 9-13 (DN). Another was at Doran Park 9-24 (RM, DE), and 2

Observations...cont.

there on 9-26 (BDP,JP). 5 Pectorals were at Salmon Creek on (-27 (DN). 2 Red Knots were at Doran on 9-24 (RM, DE). 6 Baird's Sandpipers were at Mendoza Ranch on 9-13 (DN). A Parasitic Jaeger was seen off Doran Park on 8-26 (SC, RH, HC). Another was off the Russian River on 9-24 (DE). Several Marbled Murrelets were seen in September, but the 60+ birds counted off the Russian River were amazing! (JP,BDP). A Common Tern Was seen off Hwy 37, Vallejo on 9-24 (DE). A juvenile Spotted Owl seen at Russian Gulch on 9-26 was out of place (BDP,JP). A Lewis Woodpecker was at Bear Valley, Marin County on 9-7 (DS).

PASSERINES

An Eastern Kingbird was found at the Jewish Cemetery in Santa Rosa on 9-8 (CMCM, BB) and remained in the area for several days. A Willow Flycatcher was in Owl Canyon on 9-7, another was at Russian Gulch on 9-12 (both DE). Another was on Willow Creek Road on 9-12 (DN). Another Willow Flycatcher was at Point Reyes Lighthouse on 9-14 (DN). A Hammonds/Dusky type Flycatcher was at Russian Gulch on 9-4 (BDP, JP). During migration, these two species can be impossible to separate, but the bird was thought to be a Dusky. This is an excellent find, as neither species had been found in Sonoma County before. A Townsend's Solitaire was on Cobb Mountain on 9-11 (JM). Sonoma County was rewarded with its 2nd & 3rd Red-eyed Vireo. One was in Owl Canyon 9-13 (JP, BDP), and the other was in the trees behind the Rail Ponds at Bodega Bay on 9-19 (DE). Another Red-eyed Vireo graced the New Willows, Pt Reyes from 9-9 thru 9-12 (JR, DN,BDP,JP).

PARULIDS

Northern California had a good show of warblers in September, with several good waves and numerous species. A definite climax was noted on 9-13, 9-14. On 9-14, John Parmeter and Phil Lenna found a remarkable 18 species of warblers, 11 of which are classified as eastern. A summary of eastern vagrants follow:

<u>Black-and-white</u>	9-5 Fish Docks Pt. Reyes	(BDP,JP,PL,DN)
	9-14 Pt. Reyes	(JP, PL)
<u>Tennessee</u>	7-7 Russian Gulch	(JP,BDP)
	9-14 Pt. Reyes	(JP,PL)
	9-26 Fish Docks	(RL, RMe)
<u>Northern Parula</u>	9-5 Russian Gulch	(JP,BDP)
<u>Magnolia</u>	9-13 PR Lighthouse	(DN)
	9-14-15 Mendoza Ranch	(JP,PL,RH)
<u>Cape May</u>	9-13,14 PR Lighthouse	(DN,JP, PL)
<u>Black-throated Green</u>	9-14,15 Nunes Ranch, PR	(JP,PL,RH)
	9-20 Fish Docks	(JM,DL,BH)
<u>Blackburnian</u>	9-14,15 Nunes Ranch	(JP,PL, RH)
<u>Chesnut-sided</u>	9-14,15 Nunes Ranch	(JP,PL,RH)
<u>Blackpoll</u>	9-4 Russian Gulch	(BDP,JP)
	9-5 Mendoza Ranch	(BDP,JP,PL,DN)
	9-12 Fish Docks	(JP,BDP)
	9-12 Mendoza Ranch	(BDP,JP)
	(2)9-13 Lighthouse	(DN)
	9-13 Mendoza Ranch	(DN)
	9-13 Nunes Ranch	(DN)
	(8) (!) 9-14 Pt Reyes	(JP,PL)

Observations---cont.

<u>Blackpoll</u>	9-15	Mendoza Ranch	(RH)
	(2) 9-19	Nunes Ranch	(DN,JP,BDP)
	9-19	Fish Docks	(BDP,JP)
	9-24	Russian Gulch	(DE)
<u>Palm</u>	9-14	Fish Docks	(JP,PL)
	9-26	Fish Docks	(RL,RMe)
<u>Northern Waterthrush</u>	(2) 9-9	New Willows	(DN,BDP,JP)
	9-13	New Willows	(DN)
<u>Mourning Warbler*</u>	9-7-9-12	New Willows	(JP,BDP,DN,LCB,HC,OC,MOB)
<u>Canada</u>	9-7	Tennessee Valley, Marin County	(GM)
<u>American Redstart</u>			
adult male	9-4,5	Russian Gulch	(BDP,JP)
	9-5	Fish Docks	(BDP,JP,DN,PL)
	9-9	New Willows	(JP,BDP,DN)
	9-9	Owl Canyon	(JP,BDP)
subadult male	9-12	New Willows	(BDP,JP)
	9-12	Russian Gulch	(DE)
	9-12	Lighthouse	(BDP,JP)
	9-12	Owl Canyon	(DE,DN)
	9-13	Owl Canyon	(JP,BDP)
	9-13	Lighthouse	(DN)
	(5) 9-14	Pt Reyes	(JP,PL)
	9-19	Nunes Ranch	(DN)
	9-26	Lighthouse	(DN)

*This is only the 18th record for California.

A MacGillivray's Warbler was at Russian Gulch on 9-12 (DE).

ICTERIDS

A Yellow-headed Blackbird was in a large flock of blackbirds near the Petaluma sewer ponds on 9-24 (DE). An Orchard Oriole spent the day at the New Willows 9-12 (BDP,JP). Interesting was the Hooded Oriole on Moonlight Way off Guerneville Rd on 9-2 (H&OC).

FRINGILLIDS

Two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were found in Sonoma County, one at Russian Gulch on 9-4 (JS) and an imm. male in Owl Canyon on 9-13 (JP,BDP). An Evening Grosbeak was heard in Willow Creek Canyon on 9-24 (DE). A Sage Sparrow was at the Pt Reyes Lighthouse on 9-19 (BDP,JP). Both a Brewers and a Clay-colored Sparrow were seen along the road to the lighthouse on 9-12 (JP,BDP). Lincoln's Sparrows have returned for the winter, with the first found on Willow Creek Rd on 9-24 (DE).

Contributors: Dr IC Binford, Betty Burrige, Stan Carpenter, Hal & Olive Corey, Doug Ellis, Brad Hanson, Ruth Hawksley, Rick Lebadour, Phil Lenna, David Lowe, Gloria Markowitz, Roger Marlowe, Richard Merriss, Jim Matzinger, Carol Mc-Millan, Dan Nelson, Dr BD Parmeter, John Parmeter, Bill Payne, John Robeson, Dave Shuford and John Sterling.

Write or call Dan Nelson with your interesting sightings (400 Sunnyslope, Petaluma or 762- 6152.)