

Kite Tales

March

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 17, No. 7

Sonoma County

1983

COMING ATTRACTIONS

March 10, Thursday, 7:30 pm, RROS General Meeting

Jon Winter will present his program on the "Status and Ecology of the Great Gray Owl in California". This promises to be a special treat for us all. Don't miss it!

FLASH: Our April program will be Dr. Lawrence Binford on the Birds of India.

Proposed Revision of Constitution and By-Laws

All members present at the February 10th meeting were given copies of a proposed revision of the Constitution and By-Laws. Each was asked to read and study them, then bring the copies to the March 10th meeting for discussion, any changes and final approval for acceptance by a vote of members present. There will be copies available for those who missed the February meeting.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee, consisting of Dr. John Arnold, Betty Burrige and Jerry Mugele, is hard at work and will bring a slate of officers to the April meeting for our consideration.

March 25, 26, 27 -- Field Trip to Honey Lake

Motel reservations have been made for RROS on this weekend, but you must let Rick LeBaudour (525-9158) know if you are planning to attend as soon as possible. Call Rick for details. Plan to go on this traditional RROS trip and see the Sage Grouse, Bald Eagles, Sand Hill Cranes, Falcons, Longspurs and Northern Shrikes. Rick will be the leader.

Christmas Count Trivia

Much of the data for the Santa Rosa Christmas Count has now been updated and a list of all species found compiled. A total of 192 species has been found on count days, with an additional 3 species during the count period in the 23 counts since 1960. 70 species have been found on all counts with 94 on 20 or more counts, 100 on 16 or more counts and 121 on 50% of the counts. 22 species have been found only once. Highest total species of 139 were reached in 1979 and 1982. Highest total birds of 566,135 were found in 1975 mainly due to Starling flocks. 130 or more species have been found on 10 counts.

Christmas Count Trivia (Cont.)

This year's count produced new highs for 17 species (does not include those with total of one). Notable were Western Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Egret, Bufflehead, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Mountain Quail, Red Phalarope, Bonaparte's Gull, Rock Dove, Anna's Ummingbird, Black Phoebe, Brown Creeper, Wrentit, Hutton's Vireo, Hermit Warbler and For Sparrow (see January issue for totals). The only other years with this many high counts were 1975 and 1977. A new low for those species found on all counts was had by Common Snipe with 6. For the first time Common Moorhen (Gallinule) was not found either on the count or in the count period.

Some of the data produced include the above and also highs and lows for each species, number of counts for each species, and first year each species was found on the count. In addition, graphs are being prepared for the more common species to show their fluctuations of numbers over the years. Those wishing information regarding the data found on the count, or who have suggestions for some type of data that can be produced from it may write Doug Ellis, P. O. Box 155, Eldridge, CA 95431.

OBSERVATIONS -- Dan Nelson (762-6152)

A Red-necked Grebe was in Tomales Bay near Marshall on 2/21 (DN). On 2/9, Doug Ellis counted 32 Double-crested Cormorants on Lake Ralphine and 30 more on Spring Lake, totaling 62. This number is twice that on the SRCBC, which was a new record at 31. A flock of 12 Common Mergansers were in Santa Rosa Cr. off Willowside Rd. on 2/10 (DE). 1 male and 4 fem. Hooded Mergansers were found near Valley Ford on 2/12 (C&DB). 1 male and 5 fem. Hooded Mergansers were on the pond at Five Brooks, Marin Co. on 2/12 (EN,MS). The Rough-legged Hawk at Sears Pt. was still there as of 2/17 (LH). A Ferruginous Hawk was near Marshall on 2/21 (DN,WN). An Osprey was seen at Spring Lake on 2/3 (H&OC). A Merlin was seen three different times in Glen Ellen during the month (G&KM). 14 Cattle Egrets were counted along Hwy. 12 east of Sebastopol on 1/25 (HC, RH,SC). 10 Tree Swallows were along Willowside Rd. on 2/10 (DE), and a single Tree Swallow was in Glen Ellen on 2/11 (KM). Early Violet-green Swallows were noted at Sonoma Marina on 1/23 (HC,et.al). A White-throated Sparrow visited the Biggs' yard near Sebastopol on 2/17 (C&DB). At least 1 White-throated Sparrow continues to visit the Kent Hall area of SRJC (DN), and the White-throated Sparrow in Petaluma was last seen on 2/28 (DN,WN).

CONTRIBUTORS: Cathy and Dave Biggs, Stan Carpenter, Hal & Olive Corey, Doug Ellis, Ruth Hawksley, Leslie Hood, Gerry & Kathy Mugele, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Eric Nelson and Martha Spencer.

KITE TALES DEADLINE: 25TH OF EACH MONTH

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, Sept. thru May, at 7:30 pm in Rm 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State College, Rohnert Park.

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OFFICERS

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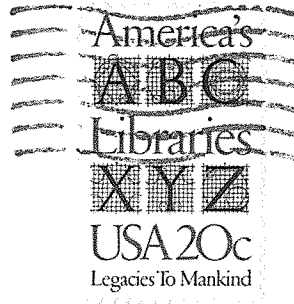
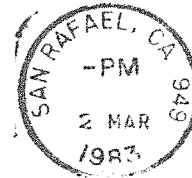
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