

Kite Tales

JANUARY

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 18 No. 5 Sonoma County

1984

COMING ATTRACTIONS

January 12, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. RROS General Meeting

Come and enjoy the program to be presented by Richard Merriss, titled "Birding in the Mexican Central Highlands Under Adverse Conditions". (With slides) The trip was made in the Summer of '83. Come and hear his explanation!!

January 14, Saturday, 8 a.m. Field Trip to Tubbs Island

The field trip for January will be to Tubbs Island, with Bob McLean as leader. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the entrance to Tubbs island just east of the intersection of Hwys 37 & 121 (Sears Point). We will then carpool into the refuge. Bring binoculars, a lunch and warm clothing.

DUES

There are still some "regular" RROS members who have not paid their 1984 dues. If you wish to continue to receive the Kite Tales, please send your dues to the Treasurer, Clarence Wolcott, 4455 Dry Creek Rd., Healdsburg, 95448 or see him at the January meeting. Dues are: \$6.00 for a family; \$4.50 for individuals and \$2.00 for students.

The 1983 Santa Rosa CBC Bird Count

Doug Ellis, Christmas Count Ch. reports that due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, ALL of the Christmas Count results will be published in the February Kite Tales. This was our 24th annual Santa Rosa count and the participants produced a record 140 species (plus 2 extra during the count period) for the count. Details next month.

OBSERVATIONS -- Dan Nelson (762-6152)

NON-PASSERINES

3 Brant were noted at Doran Park on 12/6 (RH). A Peregrine Falcon graced the Fish Docks, Pt. Reyes on 11/6 (BDP,LCB). 7-8 Cattle Egrets were along High School Rd. near Analy High School on 12/6 (RH,BDP,RM), and another single Cattle Egret was at Lakeville on 11/25 (BDP,JP,J&ES). 22 Red-necked Phalaropes were in Bodega Harbor on 12/6 (RH). The Rock Sandpiper had returned to Bodega Head on 11/26 (BDP,J&ES,RH). At the Stockton Sewer ponds, both the

OBSERVATIONS -- (Cont)

Common Black-headed Gull and Little Gull have returned and were seen on 11/9 (BDP,LCB). 2 Short-eared Owls haunted the Spaletta Ranch, Pt. Reyes on 11/5 (BDP,HMcG,LH).

PASSERIFORMES

At the Llano Rd. sewer ponds, 2 Palm Warblers were present on 12/12 (LCB). A Black-throated Gray Warbler was seen along Brush Cr. Rd. on 12/18 (DN,WN). A Nashville Warbler, along with a Western Tanager were seen at Bassignani Nursery on 12/12 (LCB). A Wood Thrush was found in late December in Golden Gate Park, one of the few to ever be seen in California (JP, DN, PL, LCB, BDP, et.al). The Common Skylark had returned to Pt. Reyes in early November, but hasn't been seen recently (BDP, LH, HMcG). A Clay-colored Sparrow visited the Fish Docks on 11/5 (BDP, LH, HMcG). Swamp Sparrows were noted at Shield's Marsh (1 bird) and Pine Gulch Cr. (2 birds) in Marin Co. on 11/25 (BDP, JP, J&ES). A Harris' Sparrow was seen at the Santa Rosa sewage treatment plant on 12/12 (LCB). As many as 5 Lapland and 1 Chestnut-collared Longspurs were seen during November at the Spaletta Ranch, Pt. Reyes (BDP, et.al.)

From SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

As usual, many good birds are wintering down south, especially in areas near Santa Barbara. The two Grace's Warblers have returned for their 5th consecutive winter to Montecito, and were seen well on 10/22 (BDP, JP). Other good birds seen that day include 9 Bobolinks, Northern "Baltimore" Oriole, (ad. male) Sage Thrasher, Vesper Sparrow, and Solitary Vireo. On 12/26, a wintering Least Flycatcher was seen on the UCSB campus (WN, DN), and a Kentucky Warbler was seen in Goleta (DN).

CONTRIBUTORS: Dr. Laurence C. Binford, Ruth Hawksley, Les Hood, Phil Lenna, Richard Merriss, Herb McGrew, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter and John & Ellen Strauss.

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. through May, at 7:30 p.m. in Rm 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park.

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