

Kite Tales

September

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 19 No. 1 Sonoma County

1984

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Sept. 13, Thursday, 6:00 p.m. RROS Potluck & General Meeting

Once again it is time for the first meeting of the season.... our annual potluck! The location will be the North Campground in Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. Bring a favorite goodie to share and your own utensils. There will be no admission charge to RROS members and guests. Plan on dinner at 6 p.m., then a short business meeting followed by owling & poor-willing. Directions: Take Hwy 12 from Santa Rosa or Sonoma areas and follow signs to Kenwood. About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Kenwood, turn onto Adobe Canyon Rd. Follow this road to the group picnic area at North Campground.

Plan to come and bring a friend and share your summer birding experiences.

Sept. 23, Sunday, 8:00 a.m., Field Trip to Point Reyes

Meet at the Fish Docks parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Start the Fall off right. Leader for this field trip will be Mike Parmeter. Bring binoculars, warm clothes, a lunch and a friend. If you have any questions or need further information, call Bob McLean, 938-5012.

Fall Seabirds and Whale Trips: Sun. Sept 16 & Sun. Oct. 21

Spaces are still available on 2 eight-hour boat trips to the Cordell Banks, leaving out of Bodega Bay. Trip dates are Sun. Sept. 16th and Sun. Oct. 21st. The Cordell Banks are a seamount (submarine mountain) 22 miles west of Pt. Reyes. Seabirds and mammals often concentrate there in response to an abundant supply of food. The area is currently under consideration as a national marine sanctuary. Space reservations are \$35 each, and may be made by sending check or money order To: Kurt Campbell, P.O.Box 268, Cotati, CA 94928. Those making reservations will receive further details. For inquiries only, call (707) 664-0104.

DUES

Your 1984-85 dues were due and payable on June 1st. Payment should be made to continue receiving the Kite Tales. \$7.00 for a family; \$5.50 for individuals and \$3.00 for students. Please mail to the Treasurer, Don Johnston, 475 Vine Ave., Sebastopol, CA 95472

ANNOUNCEMENTSDepartment of Fish & Game

The Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game is undertaking a study of the Willow Flycatcher (Empidonax traillii) in California to document distribution, abundance, habitat requirements and reproductive success. Please send any reports of recent sightings (within the past decade) of breeding Willow Flycatchers to Ronald W. Schlorff, Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Please include your name, address and phone number, along with the following: location of sighting, date of observation, behavioral notes and any other relevant information. This information will assist State and Federal agencies in developing habitat protection & species management plans for this bird species of special concern.

NATURAL HISTORY STUDY TOURS - WINTER 1985

The following is a line-up of upcoming winter Natural History Study Tours to be led by Hala Araj. January - 14 day birding trip to Trinidad & Tobago, West Indies; February - 14 day trip to Costa Rica; March - 18 day tour to Ecuador, the Amazon & the Galapagos Islands. Hala Araj is a geographer-naturalist who leads birding & natural history trips to the tropical areas of the Americas. If you are interested or would like further information she can be contacted at 5326 Thomas Ave., Oakland, CA 94618. Space on each of these tours is limited to 15.

FIELD TRIP RESULTS - IDA CLAYTON RD., May 19

Leader Mike Parmeter was joined by about a dozen RROS members who tallied 67 species. Species seen: Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, California Quail, Mountain Quail, American Coot, Mourning Dove, Roadrunner, Poorwill (dead), Anna's Hummingbird, Common Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Western Kingbird, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Western Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Violet-green Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bush-tit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, California Thrasher, American Robin, Western Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Hermit Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wilson's Warbler, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Brewer's

FIELD TRIP RESULTS (Cont.)

Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Brown Towhee, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Sage Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Black-chinned Sparrow.

OBSERVATIONS -- Hal Corey (542-8429)

2 Lawrence's Goldfinch, 5/10, Sugarloaf, were a surprise (T&LB). Adult Little Blue Heron 5/24, Bolinas Lagoon (Madrone Group). 8 Purple Martins 5/24, circled Salt Point Park (DE). At least 5 MacGillivray's Warblers were seen along Channel Drive throughout May, probably due to increased habitat (DN). Black Rail 6/3, Lakeville Hwy. answered Doug Ellis' call. Bodega Bay 6/6, Long-billed Curlew, Semi-palmated Plover, Black-bellied Plover, 3 Western Sandpipers, 3 Brant, 1 Pigeon Guillemot (DE). On June 14, 15, a most unusual appearance of a Sabine's Gull in breeding plumage in Bodega Harbor (NC, PC, PG, H&OC, WN). 2 Male Blue-winged Teal, on Cader Lane ponds, 6/16, with Canvasback, Bufflehead, 3 Lesser Yellowlegs, Wilson's Phalaropes (KC). 1 male Chestnut-sided Warbler 6/16, Mendoza Ranch, 1 male Rose-breasted Grosbeak 6/16, the Fish Docks and a pair of Northern Parulas feeding their young in the trees near Inverness Park 6/17 (WN). 6/19 also on Cader Lane ponds, were nesting Black-necked Stilts, Avocets, 37 Cinnamon Teal, Wilson's Phalaropes, 1 Brant (CW, HC). Least Sandpiper 6/27, Rohnert Park (KC). Brown Booby at Farallon Islands 7/1 (KC). Swainson's Hawk near Sacramento Refuge 7/8, Spotted Sandpiper (pair) 7/9, Lassen Park. Bank Swallow colony at Fall River Mills 7/10. Sandhill Cranes, Short-eared Owl, 7/11, Modoc Refuge. 7/12, Caspian, Black and Forster's Tern, Prairie Falcon, Peregrine Falcon, near Blue Lake, Warner Mountains. 7/14, at Yuba Pass, 3 Red Crossbills, 9 Evening Grosbeaks (JS, H&OC). Purple Martin 7/14, Gualala, 2 Marbled Murrelets, Mouth of Russian River (JP). Adult Semi-palmated Sandpiper, 1 Wilson's Phalarope 7/15, Bodega Harbor, 2 Tufted Puffins off Bodega Head (LCB, JP, BDP). 7/17, Bufflehead, 11 Common Loon, Glaucous-winged Gull, Bodega Harbor, 9 Whimbrel, Salmon Creek, 16 Surfbirds, 202 Common Murre, 2 Pigeon Guillemots, 3 Black Turnstone, all at Duncan's Landing (DE). Hooded Oriole 7/19, in Rohnert Park (KC). Another in Santa Rosa 8/12 (JA). Red Knot 7/21, Bodega Hwy (KC). 2 Spotted Owls 7/22, Willow Creek Rd. (JP, BDP, LCB). Cader Lane Ponds 7/22, Wilson's Phalaropes with young, Lesser Yellowlegs (LCB, BDP, JP). 22 Brandt 7/24, Bodega Bay (DE). 5 Baird's Sandpipers, 7/29, Bodega Harbor (KC). Pink-footed Shearwater 8/3, Bodega Head (B&BR). Olive-sided Flycatcher 8/7, Wikiup (B&BR). Elegant Tern, 150, Brant 14, Barn Owl, Grt Horned Owl, MacGillivray's Warbler, Lazuli Bunting 8/8, Bodega Bay, and at Salmon Creek, Common Moorhen, American Avocet (DE, KC). 15 White Pelicans, 2 Brandt 8/14, Bodega Bay (KC, DE). Sooty Shearwaters, Imm. Common Murres, 8/15, off Muir Beach (JA). Fem. Rose-breasted Grosbeak 8/22, Dry Creek (CW). At Pt. Reyes on 8/26, 2 Pectoral Sandpipers, a breeding plumaged Red-necked Grebe,

OBSERVATIONS --- (Cont.)

a MacGillivray's Warbler, plus hundreds of Elegant Terns. A striking number of Barn Owls were flushed from every grove of trees (DN,WN).

CONTRIBUTORS: Dr. John Arnold, Terry & Lee Babineaux, Dr. L. C. Binford, Kurt Campbell, Peter Connors, Nancy Conzett, Hal & Olive Corey, Doug Ellis, Phil Greuner, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Bob & Bertha Rains, Jean Smith, Clarence Wolcott.

***** SUMMER BIRD TRIPS *****

In May and June, Bob & Bertha Rains drove across the country to Nova Scotia and back - birding all the way. Best birds were Razorbill, Atlantic Puffin, Common Eider, Great Cormorant, Northern Gannet, most of the eastern Warblers, Flycatchers, Vireos, Grouse, etc. You name it, they saw it!

In June and July, Faye Beeman drove east to Kentucky and back, including many side roads - looking for birds. Picked up 21 Life Birds including: Olivaceous Cormorant, Mississippi Kite, Scaled Quail, Orchard Oriole, Dickcissel, Painted Bunting, Sharp-tailed Sparrow and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.

Mike Parmeter's trip to Australia to find some fancy birds which he will show and describe on his coming program for RROS.

Dan Nelson's eastern trip was a success. Best were: Louisiana Waterthrush, (Penn), American Woodcock and singing Mourning Warblers (Maine), nesting Philadelphia Vireo and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (Vermont), Golden-winged and many Cerulean Warblers, plus a Yellow Rail (!) in West Virginia.

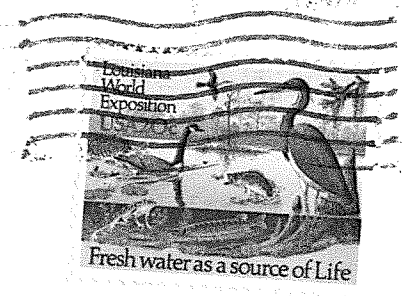
KITE TALES DEADLINE: 25TH OF EACH MONTH

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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OFFICERS

- President Kathy Mugele 15420 Woodside, Glen Ellen, CA 95442 938-2134
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