

Kite Tales

NOVEMBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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Sonoma County

1985

COMING ATTRACTIONS

November 3, Sunday, Pelagic Trip to Cordell Banks with Rich Stallcup

The "Stardust" will leave Bodega Harbor 7:30 AM this date with the man who wrote the book on pelagic birds leading the trip. We have been seeing many kinds of shearwaters, petrels, auklets and jaegers on the expeditions this fall...besides whales and dolphins. Spaces are \$33 each. For information, please call Kurt Campbell, (707) 795-8492. Checks should be sent to him at PO Box 268, Cotati, CA 94928.

November 14, Thursday, 7:30 P.M., General Meeting

"Pileated Woodpeckers and the Gentle Art of Nestwatching" will be offered for our program by Roger Harris, who has been studying these birds, camera in hand, for years. His slides of the nesting woodpeckers are spectacular. Mr. Harris is a wildlife biologist.

December 8, Sunday, Field Trip to East Bay

Kurt Campbell will lead an expedition to some productive birding spots in the Berkeley-Albany region and other parts of the East Bay. Tilden Park will likely be an early stop. We will meet for carpooling at 7 AM, Bailey Field, heading for the Berkley Pier at 8 AM.

RROS Christmas Count - December 15, Sunday

Doug Ellis will be the Coordinator again. If you haven't yet signed up as a team member, speak to him at the General Meeting. Or drop him a note at PO Box 155, Eldridge 95431.

The pot luck supper will again be at the Wikiup Greens Clubhouse, courtesy of Bob and Bertha Rains. More details of the Count and the supper will be in the December KITE TALES.

Madrone's Western Sonoma Christmas Count, December 29, Sunday

Betty Burrige is the one to get in touch with - 527-0225.

Angwin's Christmas Count, January 1, 1986, Wednesday

Phil Burton, 963-5744, is looking for more team members to help with the Angwin Count. So give him a call if you can join them.

OBSERVATIONS - Hal Corey (542-8429)

8/31-Duncan's Landing: 2 Marbled Murrelet. Hudemann's Slough: 2-3 Clapper Rails calling. Ramel Pond: Lesser Yellowlegs. Off Bodega Head: a few Sooty Shearwater, Surfbirds. (BDP)

9/13-Pt Reyes: White-winged dove, Burrowing Owl (KC, LCB, WN, DN).

9/10-Pt Reyes: Clay-colored Sparrow (LCB). 9/12-Abbott's Lagoon: Yellow Wagtail (AE). 9/14- Abbott's Lagoon: Black Tern, Semi-Palmated Sandpiper, 2 Pectoral Sandpipers, 5 Lesser Yellowlegs, 5 Baird's Sandpipers. New Willows: American Redstart, Willow Flycatcher. Spaletta Ranch: 5 Lesser Golden Plover, Solitary Sandpiper, 3 Pectoral Sandpiper (LCB, WT, EM, BDP)

9/19-Petaluma Sewer Pond: Prairie Falcon (DN)

9/21- Pt Reyes, Abandoned Ranch: Long-eared Owl (DN) and another at New Willows 10/1 (WN). 9/22-Spaletta Ranch, Stock Pond: Common Snipe (DN); Spaletta Ranch: Lapland Longspur, Buff-breasted Sandpiper; Fish Docks: Blackpoll, Black-and-White Warbler; New Willows: Long-eared Owl (BDP).

9/23-Bodega Bay: 4 White Pelican, Canada Goose, Red Knot; Bodega Head: Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled Murrelet; Rail Pond: Philadelphia Vireo (BDP).

9/24-Pt Reyes from Lighthouse: 22 Buller's Shearwater, 6 Pink-footed Shearwater, several hundred Sooty Shearwater, 50 Black-vented Shearwater, 2 Pomarine Jaeger, Rock Wren; New Willows: Tennessee Warbler (LCB, BDP, JP, EM). 9/28-Nunes Ranch: Rose-breasted Grosbeak (DN). 9/29-New Willows: Philadelphia Vireo (DN).

9/29-Sonoma Co. PRBD-Mono Lake Birdathon: Willow Creek Rd: Western Screech, Great Horned, Spotted, Northern Saw-whet Owl; Common Poorwill, Vaux's Swift; Annadel Park: Wood Duck; Estero Lane: Golden Eagle; Salmon Creek: Peregrine Falcon; Doran Park: 2 Parasitic Jaeger; Llano Ponds: Bank Swallow; Bay Flat Rd: Orchard and Hooded Oriole (NC, KC, Roger M., Richard M.)

9/29-Limantour Estero, Muddy Hollow: Eurasian Wigeon (MM, JS). 9/30-Pt Reyes Fish Docks: Western Kingbird, Blackburnian Warbler; New Willows: Philadelphia Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Northern Waterthrush; Nunes Ranch: Blackpoll and Black-throated Blue Warbler (BDP, JP, LCB).

10/2-Bodega Bay: 14 Forster's, 4 Elegant, 1 Common Tern; 2 Peregrine Falcon, 7 Surfbird, 1 Parasitic Jaeger, 1 Black-shouldered Kite, Belted Kingfisher, 1 Pectoral Sandpiper (FB, MOB).

10/6-Cordell Banks Pelagic Trip: fine weather, 44 sailors; 3 Black-footed Albatross, Fulmar, Pomarine Jaeger, 1 South Polar Skua, Pink-footed and Buller's Shearwater, Rhinoceros and Cassin's Auklets, Leach's and Ashy Storm Petrel (KC, RM, JE, JS, JT, CW and MOB).

10/11-Dry Creek Rd: 47 Cedar Waxwings (CW, OC). 10/16-Abbott's Lagoon: 9 Pin-tail, 6 Canvasbacks, 61 American Wigeon, 2 Burrowing Owl, Wrentit, Say's Phoebe, Water Pipit, 2 Virginia Rail (FB, MOB).

P.S. Thanks to all you contributors who made this Observations Page so varied and interesting!

OBSERVERS: Faye Beeman, Dr. L. C. Binford, Kurt Campbell, Nancy Conzett, Olive Corey, Art Edwards, Jules Evens, Roger Marlowe, Richard Merriss, Elton Morel, Marge McCulley, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Jean Smith, Wayne Tillay, Jack Troutfetter, Clarence Wolcott.

FIELD TRIP RESULTS

The Hawk Watchers at Point Diablo with Dr. Monte Kirven on October 5 saw some 250 raptors sail by, mostly accipiters: about 150 Sharp-shinned and 75 Cooper's Hawks. They also saw an Osprey, 2 Red-shouldered and 6 Red-tailed Hawks. The day's observations included Red-breasted Nuthatch, Common Flicker, Glaucous-winged Gull, Band-tailed Pigeons (3 flocks), Kestrel, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, White-crowned Sparrow, "Audubon's" Warblers, Bewick's Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Bushtits, and a Pectoral Sandpiper at Rodeo Lagoon.

The Pelagic Trip to the Cordell Banks on October 6 sighted two whales, close enough for a good look. One was unquestionably a Humpback; the other had some of the experts wondering - was it definitely a Gray? or possibly a Blue? The pelagic birds observed included 14 Sooty Shearwaters, 120 Buller's Shearwaters, Pink-footed Shearwater, 2 South Polar Skuas, Pomerine Jaegers, Black-footed Albatross, Merlin! Kurt Campbell, Jules Evens and Roger Marlowe led this trip. The day was sunny, the water smooth as a lagoon.

The October 13th Monterey Bay Pelagic Trip on Debbie Shearwater's boat turned up rafts of Ashy Storm Petrels, maybe 200, with a sprinkling of Black Petrels. Pink-footed Shearwaters were numerous, with a number of Buller's Shearwaters and a few Sootys. An extraordinary 15 Parasitic Jaegers were around, harassing the Elegant Terns and whatever else came by with food. Four Pomerine Jaegers were sighted and 2 Marbled Murrelets. The day was foggy, said Richard Merriss, who led the trip, so no whales were sighted. But four species of dolphin were seen: Rizzo's, Right Whale Dolphin, Pacific White-sided Dolphin and Dall Porpoises. Blue Sharks with their small triangular double fins were common.

On a PRBO Pelagic Trip in Monterey Bay the following weekend, October 19, a rare Thick-billed Murre was carefully watched by two boatloads of birders as it floated with a raft of Common Murres. This bird had not been seen on the California coast for four years, and only four times before that, always in Monterey Bay. On this same trip, a Black-footed Albatross checked in briefly; and the tall, black fin of an Orca sailed by. The rest of the sightings were much the same as on the October 13th trip. The day was overcast but clear.

GALAPAGOS-EQUADOR-PERU and AMAZON, too! A benefit for Mono Lake in 1986

Mono Lake Committee is sponsoring this excursion, June 24 - July 10, and part of the fee would be tax-deductible. This trip offers participants 8 days aboard the cruise ship M/V Santa Cruz, experiencing the natural heritage of the Galapagos Islands. An additional 5 days, optional, may be spent exploring some of Peru's colorful cities and the ancient Inca civilization at Machu Picchu. Another 3 days, also optional, offer a trip into the headwaters of the Amazon. Reservations made by January 15 are \$100 less than those made after that date. Reservations close February 15. For full information, please send self-addressed, stamped 4½"x9" envelope to: Adventure for MLC, c/o M. Bennett, 2719 Marin Ave, Berkeley 94708.

LAST CALL FOR DUES...POSITIVELY! New membership rolls will be in effect with the December issue of KITE TALES. Treasurer Don Johnston is still accepting checks, made out to RROS, at 475 Vine Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472. The dues are \$7 for a Family, \$5.50 for an individual, and \$3 for a Student. Dues run from June 1985 to June 1986 and include a subscription to KITE TALES.

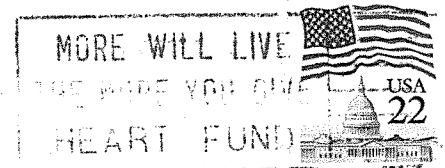
Organized in 1962, the purpose of the club is to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitat. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, Sept. through May, at 7:30 p.m. in room 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA 94928

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OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	Kathy Mugele	15420 Woodside, Glen Ellen, CA 95442	938-2134
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<u>Field Trips</u>	Richard Merriss	2046 Hearn Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401	525-8629
<u>Observations</u>	Hal Corey	422 Ridgeway Santa Rosa, CA 95401	542-8429
<u>Social</u>	Shirley Myers	4815 Valley Quail Ln. Santa Rosa, CA 95401	823-9512
<u>Site Tales</u>	Jean Smith	519 Sunnyvale Healdsburg, CA 95448	433-2542
<u>Christmas Count</u>	Doug Ellis	P.O.Box 155 Eldridge, CA	833-4344

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