



# Kite

# Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Volume 36 Number V

February 2002

## Coming Attractions

### February 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM - General Meeting

Administration Building, Laguna Waste Water Treatment Plant - 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa

#### The Status of the Laguna de Santa Rosa

Bob Evans, member of the board of the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation and RROS member, will speak to us on the current status of this local resource and important part of our Santa Rosa Christmas Bird Count.

### February 16-18, Saturday-Monday - Field Trip to Tule Lake and Klamath Basin

We will explore this interesting area over Presidents' Day weekend. This is a great winter spot for Bald Eagles and waterfowl. Previous field trips have found rarities such as Northern Shrike, Trumpeter Swan, and Bohemian Waxwing. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, lunches, water, and very warm clothes. We will be staying at the Motel 6 in Klamath Falls, Oregon. The phone number for making reservations is (541) 884-2110. We will meet in the hotel parking lot each morning (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday) at 7:45 AM to go out for the day. There is a restaurant available for breakfast next to the hotel. Bring food for lunches in the field. We plan on eating dinners at restaurants in Klamath Falls. Leader is Alan Wight. Please email Alan or call 763-8572 (weekdays 7-9 PM or weekends any time) if you plan to go on this trip.

### February 20th, Wednesday - Observations Deadline

The 20th is our deadline for Kite Tales observations. Please forward sightings to:

Ned Wynn, 129-B Powell Ave., Healdsburg, Ca 95448, (707) 431-8412 or via email: ekwynn@pon.net

### February 25th, Monday - Kite Tales Deadline

Send announcements, articles, complaints, trivia, errata and letters to the editor to:

Linda Allen, PO Box 548, Kenwood 95452 or via email: lsallen@sonic.net.

### March 9, Saturday - Field Trip to Shollenberger Park

We will walk the loop at this local birding hotspot. Meet in the Shollenberger Park parking lot in Petaluma at 8:00 am. Shollenberger Park is reached from US 101 by taking the Lakeville Highway exit. Proceed southeast on Lakeville Highway to South McDowell Boulevard and turn right. The entrance to Shollenberger Park is opposite the end of Cader Lane. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, lunch, water, and warm clothes. Leader is Alan Wight. Call Alan at 763-8572 (weekdays 7-9 PM or weekends any time) if you have any questions.

## Coming Attractions (continued)

## March 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM - General Meeting

The March meeting will feature a talk by Peter Pyle, distinguished biologist at the Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory, on Birds of the Tropical Pacific.

## Field Trip Reports

## Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Field Trip Report January 12, 2002

The highlights of this trip were several White-faced Ibis, a single blue phase Snow Goose amidst a large Snow Goose flock, two Blue-winged Teal, two Eurasian Wigeons, several Sandhill Cranes, one Short-eared Owl, three Lewis's Woodpeckers, two Rock Wrens, two male Mountain Bluebirds, and one female/immature Yellow-headed Blackbird. A total of 99 bird species was observed. The field trip participants were Linda Allen, Sharon Audiss, Audrey Bell, Joan Dranginis, Betty Groce, Jack Groce, Deyea Harper, Jack Harper, Joel Hornstein, Linda Hornstein, Rick Lebaudour, Eric Lichtwardt, Bob MacLachlan, Don McCarthy, Herb McGrew, Gerry Mugele, Dan Noreen, Mike Parmeter, Cynthia Rathkey, John Rathkey, Rhio Reigh, Mary Rooney, Ann Stone, Carole Sunlight, Wayne Tillay, and Alan Wight.

Birds observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, White-faced Ibis, Tundra Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Ross's Goose, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, American Wigeon, Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Golden Eagle, American Kestrel, Prairie Falcon, Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, Common Moorhen, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Great Horned Owl, Short-eared Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Lewis's Woodpecker, Acorn Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Black Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Western Scrub-Jay, Yellow-billed Magpie, American Crow, Oak Titmouse, Bushtit, Rock Wren, Bewick's Wren, House Wren, Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Western Bluebird, Mountain Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, American Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, European Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Spotted Towhee, California Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Tricolored Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

Alan Wight

## Observations

Species	#	Date(s)	Place	CO	Observer(s)	Notes
Arctic Loon	1	10-Jan	Pt. Reyes	MAR	MAud	North Beach
Tundra Swan	1	13/21-Jan	Arnold Dr. at Bonness	SON	AW	Immature
Eurasian Wigeon	1	20-Jan	Rush Creek Marsh	MAR	GM	male
Tufted Duck	1	24-Jan	Clear Lake	LAKE	DW	male
Black Scoter	1	10-Jan	Pt. Reyes	MAR	MAud	
Hooded Merganser	4	20-Jan	Rush Creek Marsh	MAR	GM	2 male
Peregrine Falcon	1	10-Jan	Pt. Reyes	MAR	MAud	
Peregrine Falcon	1	19-Jan	Rush Creek	MAR	MAud	
Peregrine Falcon	1	20-Jan	Bahia	MAR	GM	Petaluma River
Ferruginous Hawk	1	20-Jan	Black Point	MAR	GM	Nearly all white
Golden Eagle	2	16-Jan	Glen Ellen	SON	GM	
Ruff	1	19-Jan	Bodega Bay	SON	BG, JG	
Tree Swallow	50+	20-Jan	Black Point	MAR	GM	
Violet-Green Swallow	4	20-Jan	Black Point	MAR	GM	
Varied Thrush	50	10-Jan	Pt. Reyes	MAR	MAud	
Vesper Sparrow	3	9-Jan	Inverness Ave.	SON	AW	Continuing
White-throated Sparrow	2	1-Jan	Glen Ellen yard	SON	GM	Continuing
Common Grackle	1	19-Jan	Guerneville	SON	AW,BG,JG	Continuing

Observers: Betty Groce, Jack Groce, Gerry Mugele, Madrone Audubon, Alan Wight, and Dave Woodward

### Sharpen Your Quill: You Are Needed

Now is the time for all good birders to come to the aid of their club. Well okay, make that one good birder. Heck, you can be a mediocre birder like that guy who did it the last couple of years. RROS needs you to be the editor of the Kite Tales.

President Ken is desperately seeking a replacement for the former editor. Linda Allen, already doing yeoman service as our secretary, has graciously volunteered to fill in for the remainder of this season. But Linda is sharp; she has carefully hedged her bets to preclude a long-term commitment. We will need a permanent editor beginning with the September 2002 issue. If we are unable to find a volunteer for this important role for the 2002-2003 season will RROS be able to continue?

Please help. Coerce your birding buddy. Cajole that binocular-toting wordsmith into taking on this vital job. It will be appreciated by all of us.

Gerry Mugele

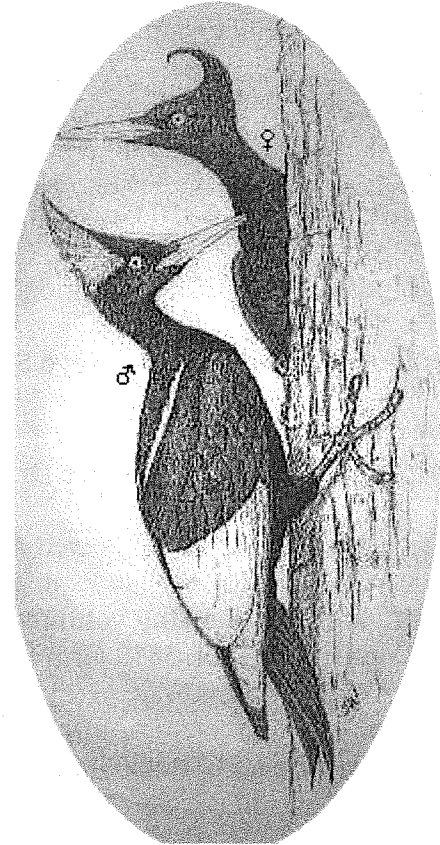
### An Open Invitation

Prior to the General Meetings, October through April, join us for dinner at 6 PM. We have a standing reservation for the RROS table at Mary's Pizza Shack, 101 Golf Course Drive, Rohnert Park. You'll recognize us. In spite of Olive Corey's best efforts, it's the rowdiest group in the place.

### Hot Off the Press

The revised *Birds of Sonoma County California* has just been published. The first update in almost ten years, this full-sized book contains species accounts of all birds occurring in Sonoma County with abundance graphed by month. It offers geographic and habitat information, a fascinating table of spring arrival dates and detailed directions to many of the county's best birding locations.

In spite of a limited press run, we have copies available to those who respond promptly. Send \$15 per copy, plus \$3 s/h to Betty Burrige, 1653 Arroyo Sierra Way, Santa Rosa CA 95405 or call her at (707) 527-0225 to arrange pick-up/delivery. Copies are also available at Wild Birds Unlimited in Santa Rosa and Copperfield's Books.



### Extirpated or Not?

Dr. Van Rensen, of Louisiana State University, has launched a search for Ivory-billed Woodpeckers, possibly sighted three years ago by turkey hunter David Kulivan. The search team going into the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area about 40 miles north of New Orleans includes two scientists, three woodpecker specialists, and an electronics expert. A combination of satellite imagery, aerial photographs, timber data, and the first-hand experience of some of the Planning Team members is being used to prioritize the 35,000 acres within the WMA in terms of likelihood of supporting Ivory-billed Woodpeckers. Reporters and recording equipment are included too, so we will be kept well informed of their progress! For the background story, see [www.museum.lsu.edu/~Rensen/IBW.html](http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Rensen/IBW.html). Daily updates are posted at [www.zeiss.com/](http://www.zeiss.com/).

### Nominating Committee Being Formed

Anyone interested in serving on the Nominating Committee for 2002-2003, please contact President Ken Wilson by the February meeting.

**Redwood Region Ornithological Society** was organized in 1962 "to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their natural habitat". Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through May. Regular general meetings (October through April) are held at 7:30 PM at the Laguna Waste Water Treatment Plant, 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa, California. Dues are \$15 per family, \$8 per individual, or \$3 per student for one year membership. Send dues to the treasurer shown below.

**2001 - 2002 Officers:**

**President:** Ken Wilson, 8 Pine Tree Circle., Cotati, CA 94931

707 795-7547

E-Mail: talontours@yahoo.com

707 935-3410

**Vice President:** Ted Eliot, 5850 Grove St., Sonoma CA 95476-6095

E-Mail: patted@sonic.net

707 538-9194

**Secretary:** Linda Allen, 6332 Stone Bridge Road, Santa Rosa CA 95409-5824

E-Mail: lsallen@sonic.net

707 527-0225

**Treasurer:** Betty Burrige, 1653 Arroyo Sierra Way, Santa Rosa CA 95405

E-Mail: bandm@monitor.net

**2001 - 2002 Chairs:**

**Field Trips:** Alan Wight, 19 Wooddale Dr., Petaluma CA 94952

707 763-8572

E-Mail: shwand@sonic.net

707 431-8412

**Observations:** Ned Wynn, 129-B Powell Ave., Healdsburg CA 95448-3413

E-Mail: ekwynn@pon.net

**Social: Position Open. Seeking volunteers**

**Christmas Count:** Ted Eliot, 5850 Grove St., Sonoma CA 95476-6095

707 935-3410

Bob Evans

707 823-0609

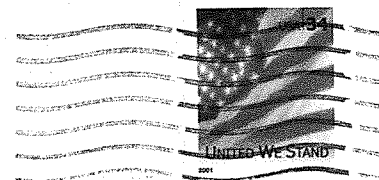
**Kite Tales:** Linda Allen, PO Box 548, Kenwood 95452

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