

Kite



Tales

Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Volume 36 Number VI

March 2002

Coming Attractions

March 9th, Saturday, 8:00 AM - RRROS 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.

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

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

Birds of the Tropical Pacific

Peter Pyle, distinguished biologist of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, will give a talk with slides on Birds of the Tropical Pacific.

March 20th, Wednesday - Observations Deadline

The 20th is the deadline for Kite Tales observations. Please forward sightings to: Ned Wynn, 129-B Powell Ave., Healdsburg, CA 95448, via email: ekwynn@pon.net, or call him after 8:00 AM and before 8:00 PM at (707) 431-8412.

March 25th, Monday - Kite Tales Deadline

Send announcements, articles, complaints, trivia, errata and letters to the editor to: Linda Allen, PO Box 548, Kenwood CA 95452 or via email: lsallen@sonic.net.

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

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

Members' Slide Night and Annual Election of Officers

The April meeting will feature a showing of slides by members, all of whom are urged to bring slides which they would like to show their fellow birders.

Coming Attractions (continued)
**April 20th Saturday, 7:30/9:00 AM - RR0S Field Trip
Mitchell Canyon, Contra Costa County**

This beautiful canyon on the slopes of Mt. Diablo is a wonderful place to observe newly-arrived spring migrants. It's a magnet for less common migrating birds such as Hammond's Flycatcher, Calliope Hummingbird, Nashville Warbler, and Hermit Warbler. Along with the birds come a nice variety of butterflies, reptiles, and wildflowers. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Petaluma Park-and-Ride for carpooling or meet at the Mitchell Canyon parking lot at 9:00 a.m. The Petaluma Park-and-Ride is located on Lakeville Highway in Petaluma just west of US101. To get to Mitchell Canyon, take Highway 680 south to Walnut Creek. Take the Ygnacio Valley Road exit east. Once on Ygnacio Valley Road, drive east 7.7 miles and turn south on Clayton Road. Drive one mile and turn right onto Mitchell Canyon Road. Follow this road for 1.6 miles to the end. Bring binoculars, hiking shoes, water, and a lunch. We will walk about three miles at a leisurely pace. Leader is Alan Wight. Please call Alan (weekdays 7-9 PM or weekends any time) at 763-8572 if you plan to meet the group at Mitchell Canyon or if you have any questions.

Field Trip Reports
Tule Lake and Klamath Basin Field Trip Report - February 16-18, 2002

Twelve of us enjoyed the scenery and abundance of birds of this area. Some snow fell on the morning of the second day, but other than that, the weather was quite nice. Lower Klamath and Tule Lake had lots of Tundra Swans, geese of all four species, and well over 100 Bald Eagles. Highlights included three Prairie Falcons, lots of Eurasian Wigeons, a flock of ten Great Blue Herons flying together, and a nice variety of ducks, including Redheads, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Hooded Mergansers, and a flock of several hundred Common Mergansers. We ended the trip at Lava Beds National Monument, where we saw Golden-crowned Kinglets, Cassin's Finches, and Clark's Nutcrackers. 98 bird species were observed. In addition to the birds seen on the field trip, several of us saw the Common Redpoll in Anderson on either the way up or the way back. The field trip participants were Rich Bertoli, Linda Bertoli, Richard Hurley, Tony Kroha, Rick Lebaudour, Becky Olsen, Mike Parmeter, Chris Traub, Alan Wight, Ken Wilson, Jon Winter, and Ned Wynn.

Birds observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Western Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Tundra Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Ross's Goose, Canada Goose, Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, American Wigeon, Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Golden Eagle, American Kestrel, Merlin, Prairie Falcon, Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Herring Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Barn Owl, Great Horned Owl, Northern Pygmy-Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Say's Phoebe, Horned Lark, Steller's Jay, Western Scrub-Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Black-billed Magpie, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, Mountain Chickadee, Oak Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Rock Wren, Canyon Wren, Bewick's Wren, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Western Bluebird, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, European Starling, Spotted Towhee, California Towhee, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Tricolored Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, Cassin's Finch, House Finch, Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin, House Sparrow.

Alan Wight

THE ABA RECOMMENDS THE USE OF CHANNEL 11, SUBCODE 22 FOR FRS (FAMILY RADIO SERVICE) RADIO COMMUNICATION AMONG BIRDERS.

The Passing of an Era

Recently our much-valued Kite Tales editor of three years was forced to concede his editorship to enable him to pursue other important facets of his life. During the past three years, members of RROS waited expectantly for each new issue of the Kite Tales to see what quirky addition of 'birdy' fact that Gerry had managed to glean from who knows what source.

Although the clear and precise format we have come to enjoy has been skillfully adapted from Macintosh to PC formatting by our interim Editor, Linda Allen, we can only hope the Gerry Mugele will continue to brighten the pages from time to time with more of his 'dry and witty' humor.

And so it is with appreciation that we say thank you to Gerry for his wonderful service to RROS, and to Linda Allen for helping us out as we look for a new editor.

Please remember that we do not have a Kite Tales Editor for next year and that the newsletter is an important part of our organization. If you are interested in, or know someone who would be interested in, the position of Editor, please contact Ken Wilson to discuss it.

President Ken Wilson

Website Update

As some of you may be aware, we were approached by Jason Smith, who offered his services to set up a website for RROS. Though this is happening slowly, it is moving ahead and we are at the point of researching such things as 'domain names' and 'web hosting' for on-line storage space and the costs involved. Due to the help of Alan Wight we have found that the more convenient names such as RROS.net or RROS.org are not available and so we will have to settle for something a little longer. If any members are knowledgeable in the workings of websites and would like to help out, please contact Ken Wilson.

To look at our sample website page log on to <http://users.ev1.net/~jlsmith/rros>

Observations

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
✓ Barn Swallow	1	27-Jan	Ramal Road pond	SON	AW	early
✓ Tundra Swan	1	27-Jan	Arnold Drive	SON	AW	continuing
✓ Bullock's Oriole	1	27-Jan	Jenner	SON	RL	female
✓ Allen's Hummingbird	1	30-Jan	Sonoma Creek at Hwy 121	SON	RL	
✓ Burrowing Owl	1	2-Feb	Hudeman Slough	SON	TE	
✓ Prairie Falcon	1	2-Feb	" "	SON	TE	
Hammond's Flycatcher	1	2-Feb	Pt Reyes Station	SON	RL	found by Jules Evens
Eurasian Wigeon	1	8-Feb	Skagg's Is. Rd.	SOL	TE	also seen in SON
Long-tailed Duck	1	8-Feb	" " "	SOL	TE	also seen in SON
Rough-legged Hawk	1	8-Feb	" " "	SON	TE	
Evening Grosbeak	1	9-Feb	Bear Valley V.S.	MAR	TE, DA	
Hooded Merganser	4	9-Feb	Sonoma Creek at Hwy 121	SON	AW	
✓ Palm Warbler	1	9-Feb	Adobe Road at Stage Gulch Rd	SON	AW	
✓ Golden Eagle	2	9-Feb	Lakeville Highway	SON	AW	
✓ Bald Eagle	1	10-Feb	Sebastopol	SON	RL	adult
✓ Yellow Warbler	1	11-Feb	Port Sonoma	SON	TE, DA	early
✓ Vesper Sparrow	1	11-Feb	Port Sonoma	SON	TE, DA	
White-throated Sparrow	1	11-Feb	Port Sonoma	SON	TE, DA	
✓ Rock Sandpiper	1	13-Feb	Bodega Harbor	SON	TE	South breakwater
Merlin	1	19-Feb	Penngrove	SON	RL	yard
✓ Eurasian Wigeon	3	21-Feb	1 mi E of Sears Point	SON	RL	males

Observers: Ted Eliot, Dick Ashford, Alan Wight, Rick Lebadour

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

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