



Kite Tales

Volume 37 Number I

September 2002

Coming Attractions

September 12th, Thursday, 6:00 pm - New Season Potluck Meeting
Doran County Park, Bodega Bay

Begin the exciting fall season by driving to Bodega Bay, maybe a little early, to check around for migrants. Doran Park is off Hwy 1, just as you enter the town of Bodega Bay, on the left. Just follow the signs. At 6:00 we will meet at the first paved parking lot on the left with sheltered tables and a real restroom. Bring a potluck dish and plate, cup, utensils. It will likely be cold and windy so dress in layers and bring a jacket. There is a small fee if you do not have a county park pass.

September 14th, Saturday, 7:30 am - RROS Field Trip
Point Reyes National Seashore

Our traditional trip to this wonderful birding spot. Meet at 7:30 am at the Petaluma Park-and-Ride (located at Highway 101 and Lakeville Highway just west of Highway 101) for carpooling. We will be searching the usual spots for fall migrants and vagrants. Bring binoculars, spotting 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.

October 3rd, Thursday, 7:30 pm - General Meeting (moved up a week due to WFO convention)
Administration Building, Laguna Waste Water Treatment Plant- 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa

Natural History and Birds of Guadeloupe Island, Mexico presented by Eric Lichtwardt

Eric, Vice President of RROS, is an avid birder and field naturalist. He works as a biologist for an environmental consulting company in the Bay Area.

Guadeloupe Island is a rugged volcanic island located 135 miles west of Baja California and about 250 miles south-southwest of San Diego. Eric traveled to the remote island with a group of botanists aboard the Pacific Queen. He will share his experience of this trip and discuss the unique natural history of the mysterious, seldom visited, island.

October 19th 8:00 am, Saturday Field trip to Bodega Harbor details next issue

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Report of Finances 2001 – 2002

Beginning Bank Balance, 7-01-2001		\$3,241
Receipts	Dues	1350
	Book sales	2668
	Collected for tax and s/h	245
	Interest on savings	19
	Donations	132
	Total receipts for year	\$4,414
Disbursements		
	Kite Tales Newsletter	596
	Book sales shipping and handling	137
	Guest speakers	100
	Supplies	19
	Sec'y of State filing	20
	Production costs: Birds of Sonoma County	1627
	Total disbursements for year	\$2,499
Excess receipts over disbursements		\$1,915
Ending Bank Balance 6-30-02		\$5,156 (1) (2) (3)
	(1) includes \$546 and \$365 Arnold and Ellis memorial funds	
	(2) includes \$137 reserved for sales tax payment	
	(3) includes \$387 reserved for book gifts to school (share of book profits \$349, other \$38)	

Respectfully submitted, Betty Burrige, Treasurer July 14, 2002

Redwood Region Ornithological Society 2002 – 2003 Officers

Board of Directors

President	Ted Eliot	5850 Grove Street Sonoma CA 95476	patted@sonic.net 935-3410
Vice President	Eric Lichtwardt		bufo@pacbell.net
Secretary	Linda Allen	6332 Stone Bridge Rd Santa Rosa CA 95409	lsallen@sonic.net 538-9194
Treasurer	Betty Burrige	1653 Arroyo Sierra Way Santas Rosa CA 95405	bandm@monitor.net 527-0225

Committee Chairs

Field trips	Alan Wight	19 Wooddale Drive Petaluma CA 94952	shwand@sonic.net 763-8572
Observations	Ned Wynn	129-B Powell Ave Healdsburg CA 95448	ekwvnn@pon.net 431-8412
Christmas Count	Ted Eliot		
	Bob Evans		
Kite Tales	Ruth Rudesill	PO Box 371 Kenwood CA 95452	rar@pcweb.net 833-6026

Kite Tales Deadlines

September 20th Observations Deadline
 Submit sightings to Ned Wynn via e-mail
 Or call between 8 am and 8 pm

September 23rd Submissions Deadline
 Send all announcements, articles, trivia, letters, etc. to
 Ruth Rudesill via email, mail, or call in pm

Thank you to all who submitted for this issue – we had too many to print this time so look for those in the next issue.

BIRDS NAMED AFTER PEOPLE

By Michael F. Nelligan

Have you ever wondered, as I have, who are the people for whom some of our most common birds are named? Most people know something about John James Audubon; but who was James William Abert or Dr. John Bachman. My curiosity led me to the Sonoma County Library. There I discovered two publications: Words for Birds, A Lexicon of North American Birds with Biographical Notes by Edward Gruson and The Dictionary of American Birds by Earnest A. Choate.

From time to time as the spirit moves me and as the Kite Tales Editor indicates space is available, I will share the information gleaned from these publications. I hope you find it as interesting as I have. To begin with, one needs to consider a rendition of such people alphabetically or by reputation. Either avenue leads to the same person.

AUDUBON, JOHN JAMES (1785-1851)

No, Audubon did not found the Audubon Society, rather its founders named it in his honor. Audubon was born in Haiti, educated in France, and came to live in the United States at age 18. While living near Philadelphia he met his future wife, Lucy, (Lucy's Warbler?) and began his lifelong preoccupation with American birds. His years of making notes and drawings of birds were dedicated to the area east of the Rocky Mountains. His first publication, Birds of America contained descriptions and illustrations of birds that were of inspiration and lasting influence. His work Ornithological Biography and Synopsis of the Birds of North America (with MacGillivray) established his reputation. In order to include in his work birds west of the Rockies, he made an agreement with John Townsend to use his collection of western birds. During his career Audubon named dozens of birds, frequently honoring his friends and associates. Some of those so honored were Bachman, Nuttall, and Townsend.

ABERT, JAMES WILLIAM (1820-1897)

As a major in the United States Army in the southwestern part of the United States, he collected birds among which was a towhee named in his honor by Baird.

ANNA, DUCHESS OF RIVOLI (1806-1896)

She was the wife of Prince Victor Messena. The type specimen of Anna's Hummingbird was in Prince Victor's collection. Lesson named the bird in Anna's honor in 1829.

ALLEN, CHARLES ANDREW (1841-1930)

He was a collector in California who secured several new species. What was thought to be a new species was collected by Allen in 1877 and named for him. When it was discovered that the hummingbird had been described in 1830, Allen's name was dropped from the scientific term but retained in the common name.

ANDERSON, VIRGINIA

Her husband, Dr. William Anderson, served as a surgeon in the United States Army. While stationed in New Mexico in 1860 he discovered a new warbler. At Dr. Anderson's request the warbler was named by Baird after Dr. Anderson's wife, Virginia.

Thank to Linda Allen for her wonderful editorship of the Kite Tales and help with this issue! Thank you to Carole Sunlight for organizing the RROS and KT files!

Field Trip Reports by Alan Wight

Geysers Road May 18, 2002

In addition to a nice variety of spring birds, the highlights were a singing Grasshopper Sparrow, a Red-tailed Hawk on a nest, two distant flying Peregrine Falcons, and a flock of swallows which included a few Purple Martins and a White-throated Swift. The field trip participants were Linda Allen, Sharon Audiss, Betty Groce, Jack Groce, Richard Hurley, Rick Lebaudour, Don McCarthy, Tom McCuller, Richard Merriss, Ian Morrisson, Don Reinberg, Carole Sunlight, and Alan Wight.

Birds observed: Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Peregrine Falcon, California Quail, Mountain Quail, Mourning Dove, White-throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Acorn Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Western Kingbird, Purple Martin, Violet-green Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Steller's Jay, Western Scrub-Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Oak Titmouse, Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Wrentit, California Thrasher, European Starling, Cassin's Vireo, Hutton's Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Spotted Towhee, California Towhee, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Western Meadowlark, Brown-headed Cowbird, Bullock's Oriole, Purple Finch, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch.

Lava Beds National Monument and Surrounding Area June 21-23, 2002

This area has a great diversity of birds and we were fortunate to see many of them. Some of the highlights were a dark morph Swainson's Hawk along State Line Road, three Franklin's Gulls at Lower Klamath NWR, many Redheads on Tule Lake, and a Williamson's Sapsucker and a brief Black-backed Woodpecker at Medicine Lake. We went owling one night near Lava Beds and heard and then saw both a Northern Saw-whet Owl and a Flammulated Owl. After driving north into Oregon to Silver Lake Road one evening, we were rewarded by the simultaneous sounds of three Yellow Rails, an American Bittern, a Sora, and a winnowing Common Snipe. On our way home, the Bank Swallow colony in Fall River Mills was very active, providing close looks at adults bringing food to holes full of young birds. Finally, at McArthur-Burney Falls State Park, we saw a Black Swift, American Dippers, and a Bald Eagle nest with two young birds in it and two adults tending to them. A total of 147 species of birds were observed. The field trip participants were Linda Allen, Audrey Bell, Lisa Hug, Don Howard, Richard Hurley, Tony Kroha, Tom McCuller, Mike Parmeter, Cynthia Rathkey, John Rathkey, and Alan Wight.

Birds observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, White-faced Ibis, Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Common Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Swainson's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Prairie Falcon, Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, Yellow Rail, Virginia Rail, Sora, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, Spotted Sandpiper, Long-billed Curlew, Common Snipe, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Barn Owl, Flammulated Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Common Nighthawk, Common Poorwill, Black Swift, White-throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Calliope Hummingbird, Rufous Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Lewis's Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Hammond's

Field Trip report cont.

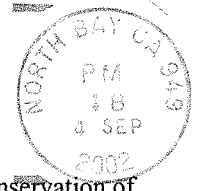
Flycatcher,

Dusky Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Western Kingbird, Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Steller's Jay, Western Scrub-Jay, Pinyon Jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Black-billed Magpie, Common Raven, Mountain Chickadee, Oak/Juniper Titmouse, Bushtit, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Pygmy Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Rock Wren, Canyon Wren, Bewick's Wren, House Wren, Marsh Wren, American Dipper, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Western Bluebird, Mountain Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, American Robin, European Starling, Cassin's Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Green-tailed Towhee, Spotted Towhee, California Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Tricolored Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Bullock's Oriole, Cassin's Finch, House Finch, Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, House Sparrow

OBSERVATIONS

Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers	Notes
White-faced Ibis	7/18/02	Across Petaluma Sewer ponds	SON	3	RAR	
White-faced Ibis	5/17/02	Schollenberger Park	SON	65	LH	High #
Bl.-footed Albatross	6/1/02	Off Bodega Head	SON	6	DN	
Blue-winged Teal	6/19/02	Tubbs Island	SON	2	BDP	2 pairs
Tundra Swan	5/9/02	Schollenberger Park	SON	¹	BDP	
Harlequin Duck	7/14-15/02	Ft Bragg	MEN	¹⁰	BDP	Eclipse/molt
Black Rail	6/19/02	Tubbs Island	SON	1	BDP	calling
Black Rail	7/25/02	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	AW	calling
Merlin	8/21/02	Sea Ranch	SON	1	BBu	f or imm
Swainson's Hawk	5/6/02	Sebastopol	SON	1	LH, CC	
Bald Eagle	6/7/02 6/24/02	Lake Sonoma	SON	2	BBu Randy Gibbons	fledglings
Bald Eagle	6/19/02	Near Sebastopol	SON	1	Ruth Zulli	adult
Baird's Sandpiper	8/24/02	Schollenberger Park	SON	9	KW,BOI	
Lesser Yellowlegs	8/14/02	Doran Park	SON	1	DH	
Ruff	8/25-26/02	Doran Park	SON	1	BBu, DASH	Juv.
Pacific Golden Plover	8/25/02	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	KW,BOI	female
Wilson's Phalarope	7/20/02	Doran Park	SON	5	L & C Lu	
Red-necked Phalarope	8/25/02	Rodeo Lagoon	MRN	30	KW,BOI	
Horned Puffin	7/21/02	Cordell Bank	MRN	1	BDP, DN, AW, mob	
Long-tailed Jaeger	7/21/02	Cordell Bank	MRN	14	BDP, DN, TE, mob	
Rufous Hummingbird	7/2/02	Oakmont	SON	1	Betty Groce	m. yard
Purple Martin	5/25/02	Gualala Bridge	SON	4	BDP	m and f
Gray Jay	7/14/02	Van Damme SP	MEN	3	BDP	2 ad /1 juv
Yellow-br.Chat	5/12-9/02 6/1/02	Owl Canyon	SON	1	BDP, LH DN	
Yellow-br.Chat	6/6/02	Kenwood	SON	1	RAR	yardbird
Rose-br. Grosbeak	6/18/02	Napa yard	NAP	1	BDP	yardbird
Rose-br. Grosbeak	7/17/02	Owl Canyon	SON	1	DN	male
Hooded Oriole	7/17/02	East Santa Rosa	SON	2	Rod Hug	
Vesper Sparrow	Late May	King Ridge Rd	SON	1	KW	

Observers: Dick Ashford, Betty Burrige, Chris Corbin, Ted Eliot, Betty Groce, David Hofmann, Lisa Hug, Leslie & Cindy Lieurance,,Dan Nelson, Becky Olsen, BD-MikeParmeter, Ruth Rudesill, Ken Wilson, Alan Wight



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 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 RROS 1653 Arroyo Sierra Way Santa Rosa CA 95405.

CALENDAR		
September 12 th	Potluck Doran Park	6:00 pm
September 14 th	Field Trip Pt Reyes	7:30 am
September 20 th	Observations Deadline	
September 23 rd	Kite Tales Deadline	
October 3 rd	General Meeting	7:30 pm
October 19 th	Field Trip Bodega Bay	8:00am

Kite Tales
PO Box 371
Kenwood CA 95452-0371



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