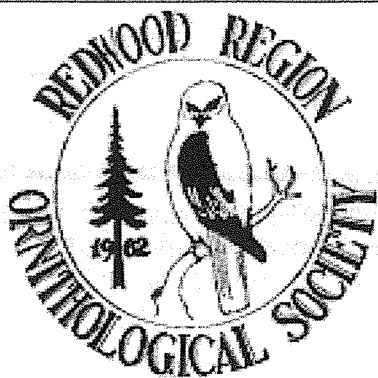


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Kite Tales

Volume 37 Number VIII

April 2003

Coming Attractions

Thursday April 10, 7:30 p.m. – General Meeting at Administration Building, Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant –4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa

The April program will be: **“An Introduction to Dragonfly Watching”**

Birder and dragonfly expert Tim Manolis will give a program on dragonflies and how to get involved in watching and identifying them. These large insects are becoming more and more popular and many birders are becoming interested in the seeking out and studying dragonflies. Tim will discuss all aspects dragonfly field study. Tim is the author and illustrator of the new book *Dragonflies and Damselflies of California* and will be glad to sign copies his new book which will be available for sale at the meeting. Our own local Kathy Biggs has provided some of her dragonfly slides for the talk . (Thank you Eric Lichtwardt for arranging such wonderful programs this past year!)

Saturday, April 26, 7:30/9:00 a.m. - Field Trip to Mitchell Canyon, Contra Costa Co.

This beautiful canyon on the slopes of Mt. Diablo is a great place to observe newly-arrived spring migrants. It's a magnet for less common migrating birds such as Hammond's Fly-catcher, 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 am. This 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 (this exit may only be available going north, you may have to turn around after passing Walnut Creek). Once on Ygnacio Valley Rd, drive east 7.7 miles and turn south on Clayton Rd. 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.

May Field Trip will likely be Pine Flat Road or Geysers Road. No date yet - details to be announced in May Kite Tales.

Welcome new member - Corinne Williams from Petaluma ☺

Reminder: An informal no-host dinner takes place at 6:00 pm at Mary's Pizza Shack in Rohnert Park before each regular meeting. Ask for the bird club table(s). This Mary's is near the Double Tree Inn east of the Wilfred Avenue Exit of Hwy 101. All members and friends of RROS are welcome.

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Field Trip Report – Susanville Area, March 27-30 -detailed report in May Kite Tales

We had a very successful trip to the Susanville/Honey Lake/ Eagle Lake/Lake Almandor area. The weather was near perfect and lots of birds were seen by all 12 participants. The highlight was 14 male and 3-4 female Sage Grouse on their lek and stayed well after the sun rose – despite a nearby perched adult Golden Eagle. These were a life and state bird for several participants. Unfortunately, the Falcated Duck was not seen - hopefully he'll migrate back next year!

Special thank you to Rick Lebaudour and Alan Wight for a great trip!

* * * * *

Submitting Observations- new format suggested (or a plea for help from your Observation Chair and Kite Tales Editor)

As you may have noticed the Observations have been growing this past year- which is great because people are out looking for birds! But we are getting these observations submitted to us in a very haphazard way. Some notes are unreadable or have abbreviations which cannot be deciphered.

When submitting your observations please try to do it via e-mail or if snail mailed please type it, if possible. Include in this order: **Bird species** sighted, **Date** observed, **Location** including county, **Number** seen/heard, **Observers** full names, and **Notes** which could include age and sex of the bird, interesting behavior and any other information.

This way we will avoid incorrect information and observers being published. Also, I take this data and resubmit it to the North American Birds /ABA database. They require the observations to be in the format described above.

Thank you for your help and cooperation. Keep on submitting your bird sightings!

Redwood Region Ornithological Society 2002-2003- Officers

Board of Directors

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 Bob Evans 823-0609
 Kite Tales Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371 Kenwood CA 95452 rar@pcweb.net 833-6026

Kite Tales Deadlines

April 20th Observations Deadline
 Submit sightings to New Wynn
 via email or call between 8 am and 8 pm

April 24th Submission Deadline
 Submit all announcements, articles,
 trivia, letters, etc. to Ruth Rudesill
 via email, mail or phone call

.Observations

Bird Species	Date	Location	Cty	#	Observers	Notes
Red-necked Grebe	3/15/03	Bodega Bay, @ Coast G. pier1			DN	
✓Northern Fulmar	2/26/03	off Bodega Head	15-20		DN	
✓Short-tailed Shearwater	2/26/03	200 m off Bodega Head			SON 1 DN	
White Pelican	3/7/03	south of Napa	NAP	4	BDP	
✓Brown Pelican	3/15/03	Bodega Harbor	SON	1	DN	
✓Am White Pelican	3/1/03	over Hudemann Slough	SON	38	DN	
✓Am White Pelican	3/8/03	Adobe Rd @ Stage Gulch	SON	4	DN	
Green Heron	3/15 /03	Petaluma; Veterans Bldg	SON	1	DN	
✓American Bittern	2/26/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	2	BDP,DHo	
✓Canada Goose	3/2/03	Lakeville Highway	SON	1	DN/AWAleutian	
✓Snow Goose	3/19/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	3	RLe	2ad/1juv
“blue phase”						
✓Blue-winged Teal	2/22/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	13	BDP	7m,6f
Cinnamon Teal	2/21/03	Hudemann Slough	SON	2 m.	BDP	
✓Barrow's Goldeneye	2/26/03	Porto Sonoma	SON	1	DN	
Wood Duck	2/25/03	6 mi. E. of Geyserville	SON	4	CB	
✓Black Scoter	3/9/03	Coleman Beach	SON	6-8	RM, KG	
Common Merganser	2/21/03	Hudemann Slough	SON	5 f.	BDP	
✓Hooded Merganser	2/9/03	Buchli Station Rd	NAP	19	LH	
✓Hooded Merganser	2/21/03	Hudemann Slough	SON	12 f.	BDP	
Hooded Merganser	2/25/03	6mi. e of Geyserville	SON	2	CB	

Observations -cont.

Bird Species	Date	Location	Cty	#	Observers	Notes
Hooded Merganser	2/26 /03	Occidental Rd	SON	4	CS	
✓Hooded Merganser	2/27/03	Hudemann Slough	SON	5	BDP	
✓Redhead	2/6/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	4	D&LR	
✓Redhead	2/22/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	1 m	BDP	
Tufted Duck	2/9/03 -	pond on Las Amigas	NAP	1 f	LH,BDP	mob
Tufted Duck	2/27/03	pond on Las Amigas	NAP	1 f	BDP,	mob
✓Tufted Duck/Greater Scaup hybrid	3/13/03	Port Sonoma	SON	1 m	RLe	
✓Blue Grouse	Feb	inland from Ft Ross	SON	1 m	Trini Amador	
Sora	2/22/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	BDP	
Virginia Rail	2/21/03	6 mi.e. of Geyserville	SON	1	CB	
✓Black Rail	2/22/03	W. of Lakeville	SON	6	DN	
✓Black Rail	2/22/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	BDP	calling
✓Black Rail	2/28/03	Hudemann Slough	SON	10	DN	
✓Prairie Falcon	2/22/03	Skaggs' Island	SON	1	RROS	
Prairie Falcon	3/10/03	Hwy 33	SLO	1	D&LR	
✓Golden Eagle	2/22/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	BDP	juv
✓Golden Eagle	3/1/03	Skaggs' Island	SON	3	DN	
✓Rough-legged Hawk	2/22- 2/28/03	Skaggs' Island	SON	2	RROS, DN	
Rough-legged hawk	3/11/33	Carrizo NM	SLO	1	D&LR	
Ferruginous Hawk	3/10/03	Hwy 33	SLO	1	D&LR	
✓Swainson's Hawk (dark juv.)	2/22-3/1/03	Skaggs' Island	SON	1	DAsh, DN,	mob
Swainson's Hawk	3/10/03	Hwy 33	SLO	1	D&LR	
✓Heermann's Gull	3/18/03	Campbell Cove	SON	1	BDP	1 st winter
✓Heermann's Gull	3/15/03	Campbell Cove	SON	4	DN	
✓Bonaparte's Gull	3/16/03	Lakeville treatment ponds	SON	16	DN	
✓Long-billed Curlew	2/26/03	Laguna Wetlands Presrve	SON	40	CS	
✓Spotted Sandpiper	2/22/03	Lake Ralphine	SON	1	CS	
✓Marbled Murrelet	3/9/03	off Duncan's Landing	SON	3	RM,KG	
Pigeon Guillemot	3/18/03	Bodega Harbor jetty	SON	1	BDP, SP	alt plumage
Yellow-Chevroned Parakeet	3/15/03	LA Arboretum	LA	10	D&LR	
Barred Owl	3/21/03	Muir Woods	MRN	1	RAR	calling
Spotted Owl	3/21/03	Muir Woods	MRN	2	RAR	calling
N Pygmy-Owl	3/7/03	Sugarloaf Park	SON	1	BDP, TE	
N Pygmy-owl	3/21/03	Muir Woods	MRN	1	RAR	calling
✓Short-eared Owl	2/22-3/1/03	Skaggs' Island	SON	12-15-	DN RR	OS
✓Short-eared Owl	2/28/03	S. of Schollenberger Prk	SON	2-3	DN	
✓Short-eared Owl	2/28/03	Lakeville Hwy @ Stage Gulch Rd	SON	2	DN	
Saw-whet Owl	2/24/03	Samuel P. Taylor Park	MRN	1	DN	

Bird Species	Date	Location	Cty	#	Observers	Notes
Northern Flicker	Feb	Glen Echo Dr Santa Rosa	SON	1	LB	A very odd individual of this species was described from the Glen Echo Dr. It was said to be entirely "gold across underparts with the black bib. However no black dots like normal flickers.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3/8/03	Willow Creek	SON	1 m	PG	
Pileated Woodpecker	2/19/03	6 mi. e of Geyserville	SON	2	CB	
Mountain Quail	3/7/03	Sugarloaf Park	SON	3-4	BDP, TE	
White-throated Swift	2/25/03	Skyline Park	NAP	2	BDP	
Rufous Hummingbird	3/13-15/03	Cazedero yard	SON	1 m	DBe, PC	
Rufous Hummingbird	3/10-11/03	Healdsburg yard	SON	1 m	EKW, DW	
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	2/27/03	Kenwood yard	SON	1	RAR calling	
Gray Flycatcher	3/15/03	LA Arboritum	LA	1	D&LR	
Violet-green Swallow	2/26/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	3	BDP, DHo	
Tree Swallow	2/21/03	Hudemann Slough	SON	15	BDP	
Cliff Swallow	3/11/03	near KernNWR	KRN	100	D&LR	
Cliff Swallow	3/15/03	Hwy 101 @ Petaluma R. Bridge	SON	10	DN	
Barn Swallow	3/15/03	Carmody Rd.	SON	2	DN	
House Wren	3/19/03	Carneros Creek	NAP	1	BDP	
Mountain Bluebird	3/11/03	Carrizo NM	SLO	6	D&LR	
American Pipits	3/11/03	Carrizo NM	SLO	500	D&LR	
Cedar Waxwing	3/15/03	LA Arboretum	LA	10	D&LR	
Loggerhead Shrike	2/22/03	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	BDP	
Red-whiskered Bulbul	3/15/03	LA Arboretum	LA	1	D&LR	
Warbling Vireo	3/17/03	Skyline Park	NAP	1	BDP singing	
Bl Thr Gray Warbler	3/17/03	Skyline Park	NAP	1	BDP singing	
Orange-crowned Warbler	3/9/03	Kenwood yard	SON	1 m	RAR	
Horned Lark	2/22/03	Schollenberger park	SON	1	BDP	
Horned Lark	3/11/03	Carrizo NM	SLO	100	D&LR	
Hooded Oriole	2/9/03	Healdsburg	SON	1 m	EKW wintering or early arrival?	
Bullocks Oriole	3/23/03	Sonoma Valley Park	SON	1m	RAR	
Great-tailed Grackle	3/12/03	Tiburon	MRN	1 f	RLe	
Vesper Sparrow	3/11/03	Hwy 33	SLO	4	D&LR	
Lark Sparrow	3/11/03	Carrizo MN	SLO	5	D&LR	
White-throated Sparrow	2/12/03	Lake Ralphine	SON	1	CS	
White-throated Sparrow	2/14-25/03	Santa Rosa	SON	1	LB	
Lawrence's Goldfinch	3/11/03	Carrizo NM	SLO	40	D&LR	

Observers: Dick Ashford, Dennis Beall, Larry Broderick, Pam Conley, Ted Eliot, Phil Gordon, Kevin Guse, David Hofmann, Lisa Hug, Chris Kuhn, Rick Lebaudour, Roger Marlowe, Dan Nelson, BDP-Mike Parmeter, Don & LaVerne Richert, Ruth Rudesill, Claire Shurvington, Alan Wight, EKW-Ned Wynn, Donna Wynn