



Coming Attractions

Thursday, May 13, 7:30 General Meeting at Administration Building, Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa

Program is: "Twenty Years of Raptor Study at Golden Gate Raptor Observatory - More Questions Than Answers" by Allen Fish, Director of the GGRO

Another excellent speaker! You don't want to miss this program. This is the last meeting of the season, but Alan Wight has some great field trips planned. See Below:

Saturday, May 22, 8:00 a.m. - Field Trip to Pine Flat Road

We'll search for chaparral, grassland, and woodland birds along the length of Pine Flat Road. Meet at the first bridge on Pine Flat Road at 8:00 a.m. Bring binoculars, hiking shoes, water, and a lunch. Leader is Alan Wight. Please call Alan (weekdays 7-9 pm or weekends before 9 p.m.) at 763-8572 if you have any questions.

Friday, June 11 to Monday, June 14 - Field Trip to Kern River Preserve and Surrounding Area

Join us for a long weekend of birding at the Kern River Preserve and surrounding area. Kern River Preserve is located about one hour's drive east of Bakersfield at the south end of the Sierra Nevada. We will be led by Bob Barnes, Outreach Director for Audubon-California's Kern River Preserve. Bob is very knowledgeable about the birds and birding locations in this area. We will visit the Kern River Preserve (an area of extensive riparian habitat) as well as surrounding mountain and desert areas. The bird possibilities are numerous and include Yellow-billed Cuckoo (hopefully just arriving on their breeding grounds at the time of our visit), Summer Tanager, Willow Flycatcher, Indigo Bunting, Lawrence's Goldfinch, Tricolored Blackbird, Scott's Oriole, Cactus Wren, and Ladder-backed Woodpecker.

Details of trip continue on page 2

For more information on this area, please visit the Audubon web site:

<http://www.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/kernriver/> Participants in this field trip may come for all four days, or for only a portion of the four days, as desired. There will be a fee for the trip that will depend on how many people attend. The total fee is \$600 for four days, so if 10 people attend the fee per person will be \$60. This field trip will be limited to a maximum of 15 participants in order to preserve the quality of the trip. Please contact Alan Wight for more information or to sign up at 763-8572 (weekdays 7-9 p.m. or weekends before 9 p.m.) or by email at shwand@sonic.net. The first 15 people to sign up will go on the trip. If the trip fills up, Alan will keep a waiting list in case anyone cancels. There are a number of motels, inns, and campgrounds near the Kern River Preserve. Once you sign up for the trip Alan will send you further information.

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Shollenberger Park Field Trip Report

March 20, 2004

by Alan Wight

Seven of us hiked around the loop at Shollenberger Park. Highlights included four Ross' Geese, nice looks at a male and a female Eurasian Wigeon, 19 Blue-winged Teal, one Peregrine Falcon, and one Merlin. There were several Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, and a Great Blue Heron perched in the rookery across the Petaluma River from the east side of the park. A total of 70 species of birds were observed. The field trip participants were Harriet Davidson, Lisa Hug, Louise Johnston, Rick Lebaudo, David Leland, Mike Parmeter, and Alan Wight.

Birds observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Eared Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Turkey Vulture, Ross' Goose, Canada Goose, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, American Wigeon, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Greater Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, White-tailed Kite, Northern Harrier, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Virginia Rail, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Least Sandpiper, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Western Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Forster's Tern, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Black Phoebe, Western Scrub-Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Bushtit, Marsh Wren, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, American Pipit, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

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Election of Officers for year beginning 6/1/04

President: Ian Morrison, Vice President: Lisa Hug, Secretary: Deyea Harper, Treasurer: Mike Nelligan. Ken Ackerman will be taking over Christmas Count. Alan Wight continues as Field Trip Chairman. Ruth Rudesill will do Observations.

Big THANK YOU to Eric Lichtwardt, Ted Eliot, Bob Evans, and Ned Wynn for their help in the past years(s). And THANK YOU to Ian, Lisa, Deyea, Mike, Ken, and Alan for volunteering to continue to keep this club running.

Donner Canyon, Mt. Diablo Field Trip Report April 24, 2004 by Alan Wight

Twenty-seven (!) of us hiked up Donner Canyon at Mt. Diablo State Park on this quite warm spring day. Highlights included an immature Golden Eagle, three Hammond's Flycatchers, a few accipiters, a young male Hooded Oriole, and a nice variety of other spring birds. The field trip participants were Ken Ackerman, Dick Ashford, Ted Eliot, Rigdon Currie, Betty Groce, Don Howard, Lisa Hug, Richard Hurley, Heidi LeBaudour, Rick LeBaudour, Martie Leys, Robert Leys, Gloria Markowitz, Shirl Maxson, Tom Maxson, Joan Merriss, Richard Merriss, Karen Nagel, Mike Nelligan, Linda Petruvias, Don Reinberg, Ruth Rudesill, Shirley Spina, Chris Traub, Alan Wight, and Jon Winter.

Birds observed: Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, American Kestrel, California Quail, Mourning Dove, White-throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Acorn Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Hammond's Flycatcher, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Western Kingbird, Cassin's Vireo, Hutton's Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Steller's Jay, Western Scrub-Jay, Violet-green Swallow, Oak Titmouse, Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Wrentit, Northern Mockingbird, California Thrasher, European Starling, Phainopepla, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Western Tanager, Spotted Towhee, California Towhee, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Western Meadowlark, Hooded Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch.

Field trip report from Klamath Basin area trip February 20-22, 2004

Five birders braved the weather and found a total of 99 species! Participants were: Mike Parmeter, Rick Lebaudour (leader), Richard Merriss, Don Howard, and Richard Hurley.

Bird Observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Am. White Pelican, American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose (5 blue phase), Ross' Goose, Canada Goose, Tundra Swan, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, (16!) American Wigeon, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Northern Pintail, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Common Meganser, Ruddy Duck, Bald Eagle (233), Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Northern Goshawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk (6 dark phase), Golden Eagle (6) American Kestrel, Prairie Falcon, Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Dunlin, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Herring Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Great-horned Owl, Northern Pygmy-owl (5) Belted Kingfisher, Acorn Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Loggerhead Shrike, Steller's Jay, Western Scrub-jay, Clark's Nutcracker, Black-billed Magpie, Common Raven, Horned Lark, Black-capped Chickadee, Mountain Chickadee, Juniper Titmouse, Bushtit, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Pygmy Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Canyon Wren, Bewick's Wren, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Western Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, American Robin, Varied Thrush, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Common Yellowthroat, Spotted Towhee, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, Cassin's Finch, Purple Finch, House Finch, Red Crossbill, Pine Siskin, House Sparrow.

Santa Rosa Nesting Colony made Regional News, Sunday April 25,2004

The San Francisco Chronicle and Bay Area radio stations reported on the large heron-egret colony in eucalyptus trees on West Ninth Street (between Dutton and Stony Point) in Santa Rosa. The two inner lanes of the street have been closed during the nesting season. The colony was first discovered in 1997 and last year had 169 nests of Black-crowned Night Herons, Snowy Egrets, Cattle Egrets and a few Great Egrets. The article quoted John Kelly, Diane Hichwa, and Martha Bentley.

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Redwood Region Ornithological Society 2004-2005- Officers/Board of Directors

President	Ian Morrison	Adobe Canyon Rd	Kenwood CA 95452	ian@svn.net	833-2065
Vice President	Lisa Hug				
Secretary	Deyea Harper	2310 Northwood Dr	Santa Rosa CA95404		542-1542
Treasurer	Mike Nelligan	1653 Arroyo Sierra Way	Santa Rosa CA 95405	bandm@monitor.net	527-0225

Committee Chairs

Field Trips	Alan Wight			shwand@sonic.net	763-8572
Observations	Ruth Rudesill	PO Box 371	Kenwood CA 95452	rar@pcweb.net	833-6026
Christmas Count	Ken Ackerman				
Kite Tales	To Be Announced				

Kite Tales Deadlines:

August 20th Observations Deadline
Submit sightings to Ruth Rudesill

August 24th Submission Deadline
Submit all announcements, articles, trivia, letters
etc. to Ruth Rudesill until new editor is named

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Jack Arnold Memorial Fund Update

Our club (via Mike Nelligan) was sent a letter on March 15, 2004 from Derek J Girman, Associate Professor at Sonoma State University, Department of Biology. The letter is two full pages long, so here is a summary-

Dr. Girman thanked our club for its inquiry regarding the Fund. He said Dr. Arnold was a cherished member of the department and they are grateful for the recognition from his many friends and colleagues. RRROS support of the department is greatly appreciated. The Fund has \$8916.95 and they are using \$1000 of this for two Jack Arnold Memorial Student Research Awards, one for undergraduate and the other for graduate students. Students will have to apply with oral presentation of original research. (They had hoped to have a dinner for these presentations, but the budget crisis has prevented this.)

Dr Girman also reported on plans for Darwin Hall to be remodeled. He, Dr. Phil Northern and Dr. Geist are supervising students in re-organizing and cataloging the Jack Arnold Vertebrate collection. This is being done prior to a temporary move to a storage location for the two years the remodel will take.

Observations

Bird Species	Date	Location	Cty	#	Observers Notes
✓Ross's Goose	3/20/04	Schollenberger Park	SON	4	RROS, AW
✓Ross's Goose	4/4/04	Shollenberger Park	SON	1 imm	JMo
✓Gr. White-fronted Goose	3/6/04	Adobe. @ Stage Gulch Rd.	SON	3	AW
✓Long-tailed Duck	4/6/04	Fish Docks	MRN	1m	KAc, GMa
✓Eurasian Wigeon	3/20-4/4/04	Shollenberger Park	SON	2pr	RROS, JMo
✓Blue-winged Teal	3/20/04	Shollenberger Park	SON	19	RROS
✓Blue-winged Teal	4/4/04	Shollenberger Park	SON	12+	JMo
✓Ring-necked Duck	4/18/04	Carmody Road pond	SON	1f	AW late
Peregrine Falcon	3/20/04	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	DN
carrying prey					
Merlin	4/6/04	downtown Petaluma	SON	1	DN
being chased by a crow					
White-tailed Kite	3/17-19/04	Bodega Dunes	SON	2	NC
courtship display		Campground			
Golden Eagle	4/17/04	Pine Flat Road	SON	1	AW, NW
Bonaparte's Gull	4/11/04	Hwy101 /Petaluma River	SON	3	DN
✓Solitary Sandpiper	4/21-24/04	Oakmont pond	SON	1	TMc. JT, mob
alternate plumage		nest to Channel Drive			AW photo
✓Red Knots	4/23/04	Bodega Harbor	SON	2	LH
Vaux's Swifts	4/23-24/04	Healdsburg	SON	3	NW
Rufous Hummingbird	4/6/04	Oakmont	SON	1m	BGr
Rufous Hummingbird	4/15/04	Petaluma, Paula Ln.	SON	1m	DN
Lewis' Woodpecker	4/5/04	Inverness	MRN	1	RS
Western Kingbird	3/17/04	Ramal Rd.	SON	1	DN
Ash-throated Flycatcher	4/7/04	Glen Ellen	SON	1	KM
Warbling Vireo	4/4/04	Ida Clyton Rd	SON	sev	RAR
✓Nashville Warbler	4/17/04	Pine Flat Road	SON	3+	AW, NW
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3/24/04	Mt St Helena	NAP	1	KAc
✓Black-headed Grosbeak*	3/31/04	Silvia Dr. Cazadero	SON	1f	DB, PC
earliest date at this location					
White-throated Sparrow	3/24-4/7/04	Sonoma, yard	SON	1	KM
✓Great-tailed Grackle	3/25-4/5/04	Rooster Run G.C.	SON	m	DN
✓Great-tailed Grackle	4/18/04	Rooster Run Golf Course	SON	2	AW photo
male displaying for female		east Petaluma			
Bullock's Oriole	3/16/04	Petaluma; Paula Ln	SON	1m	DN
Bullock's Oriole	4/2/04	Petaluma; Paula Ln	SON	1f	DN
Hooded Oriole	3/24/04	Santa Rosa	SON	1m	JT

CONTRIBUTORS: Ken Ackerman, Dennis Beall, Pam Conley, Nancy Conzett, Betty Groce, Lisa Hug, Gloria Markowitz, Tom McCuller, Joe Morlan, Kathleen Mugele, Dan Nelson, Redwood Region Ornithological Society, Ruth Rudesill, Claire Shurvinton, Rich Stallcup, Jean Tonascia, Alan Wight, Ken Wilson and Ned Wynn