



# Kite Tales

Volume 40 Number VII

March 2005

## **GENERAL MEETING March 10, Thursday 7:30 p. m.**

at the Administration Building, Laguna Wastewater Plant, 4100 Llano Rd., Santa Rosa

**ALAN HOPKINS** – Avid birder and bird advocate, and former president of Golden Gate Audubon speaks on **“BIRDS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO AREA AND MAJOR ISSUES AFFECTING THEM”**

**Directions:** From Hwy 101 take Hwy 116 West toward Sebastopol. Turn right (north) on Llano Rd. and go ~ 1 mile to an open gate on right. Proceed to Admin. Bldg. at SE corner of the plant.

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## **Calendar:**

**March 5, Saturday, RROS Field Trip, King Ridge Road, Details Page 2**

**March 10, Thursday at 7:30. RROS General Meeting-** Details above

**March 21, Monday at 7:30. Madrone Audubon General Meeting:**  
**Gwen Heistand**, biologist from Audubon Canyon Ranch. **“LIFE IN THE MUD-  
WHO’S DOING WHAT TO WHOM?”** First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa

**April 30, Saturday, RROS Field Trip, Mitchell Canyon, Details Page 2**

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## **WWW.RROS.ORG**

**Visit our new Website**, which was created and is being maintained by RROS member **RON STOREY**. We are very grateful for his generosity. Contact Ian Morrison ([ianlm@svn.net](mailto:ianlm@svn.net)) Re: content suggestions.

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**FIELD TRIPS**

**Saturday, March 5 - Field Trip to King Ridge Road**

Meet north of Santa Rosa at the park-and-ride on River Road just west of US101. Meeting time is 7:30 am. We will carpool from here to Cazadero and then bird our way north along King Ridge Road. Possibilities include Blue Grouse, American Dipper, Pileated Woodpecker, and Northern Pygmy-Owl. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, lunch, water, and warm clothes. Leader is Alan Wight. Call Alan at 763-8572 (weekdays 7-9 p.m. or weekends until 9 p.m.) if you have any questions or would like to meet the group in Cazadero. Heavy rain cancels.

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

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 Flycatcher, Calliope Hummingbird, Nashville Warbler, and Hermit Warbler. Along with the birds come a nice variety of butterflies 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, go south on I-680 from the Martinez Bridge and take the Treat Boulevard exit north of Walnut Creek. Turn left (south) at the first light and proceed a short distance to Treat Boulevard. Turn left (east) on Treat Boulevard. Drive 1.1 miles to Bancroft Road and turn right. Drive 0.6 mile to Ignacio Valley Road and turn left. Travel 5.1 miles to Clayton Road and turn right. 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 and eat lunch on the trail. 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.

**RROS MEMBERS WANTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST BIRD**

**SURVEY OF THE NEW GALBREATH NATURE PRESERVE, be**

sure to contact Bryant Hichwa at [bryant.hichwa@sonoma.edu](mailto:bryant.hichwa@sonoma.edu) This magnificent property, an unspoiled wilderness located north of Lake Sonoma and west of Hwy 101 in southern Mendocino County, was recently donated to Sonoma State University for educational purposes by that institution.

## OBSERVATIONS – FEBRUARY 2005 – RUTH RUDESILL

Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers
✓Gr White-fronted Goose	1/27/05	Skaggs Island	SON	1	DASH,TE,RSmob,
Gr White-fronted Goose	2/03/05	near Bolinas	MRN	10	BDP
✓Snow Goose	1/27/05	Skaggs Island	SON/SOL	1	DASH,TE,RS,mob
✓Snow Goose	2/16/05	Tomaes Rd	SON	1	LHg
Blue Form near Two Rock Coast Guard Station					
✓Ross's Goose	2/3/05	Petaluma River	SON	1	RLeb
✓Ross Goose	1/27/05	Skaggs Island	SON/SOL	1	DASH,RS,TE,mob
✓Cackling Goose	1/30/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	sev	BDP,TE
Trumpeter Swan	2/6-26/05	Nicasio Reservoir	MRN	3	RS,AW,BDPmob 2 adults and 1 imm
✓Tundra Swan	1/27/05	Viansa Winery	SON	1	RS
✓Wood Duck	2/20/05	Shiloh Ranch Reg Park	SON	7	DSh
✓Blue-winged Teal	1/30/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	2pr	BDP,TE
✓Canvasback	1/30/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	70	BDP,TE
✓Canvasback	2/01/05	Shollenberger park	SON	8	BDP
✓Canvasback	2/14/05	Viansa Wetlands	SON	600	DASH, TE
✓Redhead	2/14/05	Viansa Wetlands	SON	2	DASH, TE
White-winged Scoter	1/2/05	Bodega Harbor	SON	1	BDP
✓Long-tailed Duck	2/23/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	DF
✓Northern Pintail	2/14/05	Viansa Wetlands	SON	1000	DASH, TE
✓Long-tailed Duck	1/24/05	mouth of Petaluma River	SON	1	StG
✓Long-tailed Duck	2/23/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	DF
Hooded Mergansers	2/17/05	Carmody Rd. pond	SON	3	TE
Hooded Merganser	2/16/05	Shiloh Reg Park Windsor	SON	1m	DSh
Red-necked Grebe	1/28-31/05	Bodega Harbor jetty	SON	1	BDP, KAR
Red-necked Grebe	2/9/05	Bodega Harbor jetty	SON	1	DHo DED
Red-necked Grebe	2/17/05	Bodega Harbor	SON	1	TE
American Bittern	2/9/05	Bucchi Station	NAP	1	BDP
White-faced Ibis	2/1-9/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	2	BDP
White-faced Ibis	2/23/05	over Bald Mt	SON	1	KAck
Brown Pelican	1/28/05	Bodega Head	SON	1 imm	BDP
✓Bald Eagle	2/20/05	Occidental Rd	SON	1 subad	KAck
✓Bald Eagle	1/29/05	Laguna de Santa Rosa	SON	2ad and imm	BBu
Bald Eagle	2/19/05	Richardson Bay near 101	MRN	1imm	RAR
✓Red-tailed Hawk	1/25/05	Skaggs Island	SON/SOL	1	dark morph DASH
✓Rough-legged Hawk	1/25/05	Skaggs Island	SON/SOL	5	DASH
light morph male, female and immature, dark morph immature, dark morph female					
✓Rough-legged Hawk	2/20/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	1 dark	TE
✓Rough-legged Hawk	2/26/05	Ramal Rd	SON	1	RAR
✓Ferruginous Hawk	2/3/05	Ramal Rd	SON	1	RLeb

✓ Golden Eagle	1/3/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	1ad	BDP
✓ Golden Eagle	2/24/05	Lakeville Hwy	SON	1ad	RAR
✓ Golden Eagle	1/25/05	Skaggs Island	SON/SOL	7	DASH
				2 adults, 3-4 immatures, 1 subadult	
✓ Prairie Falcon	1/25/05	Skaggs Island	SON /SOL	2	DASH
Peregrine Falcon	2/3/05	Ramal Rd	SON	2	RLeb
✓ Merlin	1/25/05	Skaggs Island	SON /SOL	3	DASH
				2 Richardson's, 1 Columbarius	
✓ Merlin	2/3/05	Ramal Rd	SON	1	RLeb
✓ Merlin	2/5/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	1	BDP
✓ Merlin	2/14/05	Viansa Wetlands	SON	1	DASH, TE
✓ Bonaparte's Gull	2/01/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	7	BDP
✓ Bonaparte's Gull	2/20/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	36	TE
✓ Heerman's Gull	1/28/05	mouth Russian River	SON	sev	BDP
✓ Thayers Gull	1/28/05	mouth Russian River	SON	3	BDP
✓ Glaucous Gull	1/28/05	mouth Russian River	SON	1 winter	BDP
✓ Glaucous Gull	1/28/05	mouth Russian River	SON	1	LHg
Glaucous Gull	2/19/05	Venice Beach	San Mateo	2 imm	RAR
Slaty-backed Gull	2/19/05	Venice Beach	San Mateo	3 <sup>rd</sup> yr	RAR
Continuing (note: next day the 2nd winter Slaty-backed Gull was seen again.)					
✓ American Avocet	1/28/05	Doran Pond	SON	25	BDP
✓ Rock Sandpiper	2/-89/05	Bodega Head	SON	1	DEd, DHo
✓ Red Phalarope	1/2/05	off Bodega Head	SON	100+	BDP
✓ Wilson's Snipe	2/5/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	1	BDP
✓ Wilson's Snipe	2/7/05	north Petaluma	SON	7	DEd
✓ Rhinoceros Auklet	1/2/05	off Bodega Head	SON	2	BDP
Short-eared Owl	1/3/05	Bucchli Station	NAP	1	BDP
✓ Short-eared Owl	1/26/05	High School Rd	SON	1	Wendy Peterson Per Rhio Reigh
✓ Short-eared Owl	1/27/05	Skaggs Island	SON /SOL	4	DASH
✓ Short eared Owl	1/27/05	Petaluma Hill Road	SON	1	EP
✓ Short-eared Owl	2/19/05	Tolay Creek wetland	SON	1	KACK
Burrowing Owl	2/9/05	Bucchli Station	NAP	1	BDP
✓ White-throated Swift	1/3/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	10	BDP
✓ Allen's Hummingbird	1/17/05	Diekmann's Bodega Bay	SON	1 ad	D&DH
				an adult male displaying	
✓ Bohemian Waxwing	1/25/05	Oakmont	SON	2	KAK, GMA
Tree Swallow	1/30/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	2	BDP, TE
Tree Swallow	2/05/05	Hudemann Slough	SON	100+	BDP
✓ Phainopepla	2/15/05	Foothill Reg Park Windsor	SON	1	DSH heard
Fox Sparrow	1/31/05	Petaluma	SON	1	AGo
				very dark sooty form	
✓ Chipping Sparrow	2/3/05	Sonoma	SON	1	RLeb

White-throated Sparrow	2/15/05	Foothill Reg Park Windsor	SON	1	DSh Tan Morph
✓ Harris Sparrow	1/17-24/05	El Verano/Sonoma	SON	1	D&DH, StG
Hooded/Orchard Oriole	1/22-2/19/05	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	RMe, PC,

Len Nelson and Lisa Hug - photos

**Observers:** Ken Ackerman, Ken Archibald, Dick Ashford, Betty Burrige, Peter Colasanti, Daniel Edelstein, Ted Eliot, Dea Fried, Steve Glover, Alice Goyheneche, Denise and Dennis Hamilton, David Hofmann, Lisa Hug, Rick LeBaudour, Gloria Markowitz, Richard Merris, Len Nelson, Benjamin D. (Mike) Parmeter, Erv Peterson, Ruth A. Rudesill, Doug Shaw, Rich Stallcup, Alan Wight.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR OBSERVATIONS TO RUTH RUDESILL IN THE PREFERRED ORDER:** species, date(s) [including year], locale, co. abbrev., number of birds, and observer. Then, on a second line, any comments. Please separate these sections by a "tab" (except just a space between locale and county abbreviation) on electronic versions submitted. Here's an example of the correct format:

Grace's Warbler 12/13/98-2/20/99 Jacks Peak MTY 1 RFT, mob  
A second record for the Region (the first was 6/26/91 at Deer Spring, Glass Mt. MNO) which wintered with a large flock of Townsend's & Hermit warblers at the very top of Jacks Peak in Jacks Peak Regional Park. Details by Tintle and others are enclosed.

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

President	Ian Morrison	905 Adobe Canyon Rd., Kenwood CA 95452	<a href="mailto:ian@svn.net">ian@svn.net</a>	833-2065
Vice President	Lisa Hug	507 N. Main St., Sebastopol CA 95472	<a href="mailto:lisahug@earthlink.net">lisahug@earthlink.net</a>	824-1067
Secretary	Deyea Harper	2310 Northwood Dr., Santa Rosa CA 95404	<a href="mailto:deveah@sbcglobal.net">deveah@sbcglobal.net</a>	542-1542
Treasurer	Mike Nelligan	4663 Sullivan Way, Santa Rosa 95409	<a href="mailto:mnbudvymn@sonic.net">mnbudvymn@sonic.net</a>	539-1897

### Committee Chairs

Field Trips	Alan Wight	1940 Bristol St., Petaluma 94954	<a href="mailto:shwand@sonic.net">shwand@sonic.net</a>	763-8572
Observations	Ruth Rudesill	PO Box 371 Kenwood CA 95452	<a href="mailto:rar@pcweb.net">rar@pcweb.net</a>	833-6026
Christmas Count	Ken Ackerman	477 Oakbrook Ct., Santa Rosa CA 95409	<a href="mailto:markandack@aol.com">markandack@aol.com</a>	538-2038
Kite Tales	Betty Burrige	1653 Arroyo Sierra Way, Santa Rosa CA 95405	<a href="mailto:bandm@sonic.net">bandm@sonic.net</a>	527-0225
Hospitality	Adeene Nelligan	29 Sequoia Circle, Santa Rosa CA 95401		523-1116

### Kite Tales Deadlines:

Submit Observations to Ruth Rudesill by March 20th, other items to Betty Burrige by March 25th

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 a one-year membership. Send dues to RRROS 4663 Sullivan Way, Santa Rosa CA 95409.

**“THE WILD PARROTS OF TELEGRAPH HILL”**

A MUST-SEE MOVIE - rated 4 ‘Caws’ (out of a possible 5)

Exquisitely photographed, creatively directed and thoughtfully scripted, this charming documentary featuring a feral flock of Cherry-headed Conures captures your attention from the very beginning. And through the next 80 minutes there is thought-provoking dialogue, wit, and warm family-friendly entertainment with a great surprise ending.

While much of the film centers around the care that an unemployed musician providing for these birds, the film also gently chronicles his changing attitudes toward his own life, as well as that of his adopted charges.

There will be some discomfort among us who do not champion non-native wild birds. However, a wide range of alternative points of view on how to handle feral animals, including the ideas of conservationists, are clearly, if briefly, presented. And the eventual decisions regarding the future of the flock seem both compassionate and appropriate.

This film is now playing at the Rialto Theater in Santa Rosa. Review by Betty Burridge

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**“WHEN ONE TUGS AT A SINGLE THING IN NATURE, ONE FINDS IT ATTACHED TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.”**

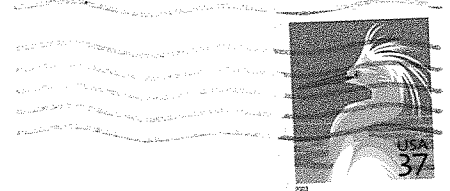
**JOHN MUIR, CONSERVATIONIST, (1838 – 1914)**

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**Kite Tales**

**1653 Arroyo Sierra Way  
Santa Rosa CA 95405**

**March 2005**



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