



Kite Tales

Volume 43 Number 6

February 2008

FEBRUARY 14, General Meeting
BETTY AND JACK GROCE will show a video of

ANTARCTICA, including tales of the RESCUE
of PASSENGERS & CREW of the SINKING "EXPLORER"

How about dinner before the meeting? Meet at 5:30 p. m. at Star Restaurant, 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati (west of Hwy 101, at exit for Hwy 116 West.)
Directions to the meetings: From Hwy 101 take Hwy 116 West toward Sebastopol. Turn right (north) on Llano Rd. and go ~ 1 mile to **Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant at 4300 Llano Rd, Santa Rosa.** Look for an open gate on right. Proceed to Administration Bldg. at SE corner of the plant. From Hwy. 12, take Llano Rd. south about 3 miles.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Grace Harris & Fernando Dizon, Valerie Cramer, Thomas Oliver Ruseff & Darren Peterie

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THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY BREEDING BIRD ATLAS
IS NOW AVAILABLE. SCVAS@SCVAS.ORG
Congratulations to author William G. Bousman

FIELD TRIPS -

Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008. Vic Fazio Wildlife Area Meet in Sonoma at the corner of Broadway & Napa Rd. Park in the grocery market lot. Be prepared to carpool. 7:30 am. Trip will feature waterbirds, shorebirds and raptors. Bring binocs, scopes, field guides, lunch, water, layered clothes, hats and sunscreen. Leader is Rick Le Baudour 707-935-3654. Heavy rain cancels. Questions? Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970

Thurs, March 27 - Sun. March 30 Anza-Borrego Desert State Park
Anza-Borrego in spring! Wildflowers, birds, butterflies, the timing each spring is different but it is always beautiful.

We have reserved two campsites at the Tamarisk Grove Campground. Each site accommodates 2 vehicles and up to 8 people. Camping is reserved Thursday-Sunday nights. Motels are available in Borrego Springs.

Field trips will be Friday- Sunday. Meeting place and time TBA.

RROS member Peter Colasanti will be pre-scouting the area to determine the best spots.

Carpooling and camping reservations are a must. Make \$25 check out to RROS-camp site deposit, & mail to 979 Hogwarts Circle ASAP to hold your camp site. Call Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970 til February 15, Betty Burrige 707-527-0225

thereafter to confirm that you will attend, whether staying in a motel or camp site. **Lack of interest will cancel.**

FIELD TRIP REPORT - NOV. 1, 2007 Field Trip to Shollenberger Park, Tolay Park, & Port Sonoma

On a cloudy morning with rain predicted, 24 birders began their quest at Shollenberger Park in Petaluma, where Peter Colasanti combined Petaluma Wetland Alliance's monthly bird survey with our field trip. Sixty-three species were found there, with great views of both **Sora** and **Virginia Rails**, and **Blue-winged Teal** among the highlights.

At Gray's Mud an incoming tide pushed hundreds of shorebirds way out, including **Marbled Godwits**, **Long-billed Curlews** and **4 Pacific Golden Plovers**. Cloud cover improved the views of many **Green-winged Teal**, and **3 Saltmarsh Common Yellowthroats**.

A gentle rain began during lunch at Tolay Park, accompanied by a Sharp-shinned Hawk hunting and a Brown Creeper on a eucalyptus. We hunkered down in the barn with a couple of Barn Owls as the rain increased, then headed out to bird the headquarters residential area where a late **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** was the last bird found.

En route to Port Sonoma we stopped at the Cannon Lane farm pond and picked up a few Ring-necked Ducks and Gadwall. The Port held a large and active flotilla of mostly Surf Scoters and Greater Scaup. By then it was "nice weather for ducks" so we called it a day with 85 species.

Participants: Linda Allen, Ellen Blustein, Sue Chickman, Peter Colasanti, Alice Goyhenetche, Betty Groce, Deyea and Jack Harper, Sabrina Hearst, Don Howard, Richard Hurley, Don Kirker, Sue Kirks, Helen Kochenderfer, Amanda Krauss, Andy Lacasse, Kathy Mugele, Len Nelson, Duy Nguyen, Elaine Pruett, Bob Speckels, Ron Storey, Jean and Ruth Tonascia

THANKS TO Mike & Ruthmary Parmeter for a generous donation in memory of Olive Corey

FIELD TRIP REPORT - Jan. 12, 2008 Lake Hennessey & Lake Berryessa

What better way to start a field trip than to have a pair of Hooded Mergansers floating lazily at the base of the Con Dam spillway. The trip progressed along the lake fronts, with 10 adult and immature Bald Eagles, and a wide variety of water and land birds. More than 200 Lewis Woodpeckers called and played 'flycatcher' farther north along the shores of Lake Berryessa and up Knoxville Berryessa Road. The weather wasn't bad either, clear and sunny. Attendees: Richard Merriss - leader, Rick Le Baudour, Mike Parmeter, Betty Burrige, Mike Nelligan, Jim Castle, Helen Kochenderfer, Don Kirker, Bob Speckels, Betty Groce, Richard Hurley. Species: Cackling Goose, Canada Goose, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, Shoveler, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Ruddy Duck, California Quail, Common Loon, Pied-billed, Eared, Western & Clark's Grebes, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, White-tailed Kite, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Kestrel, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Prairie Falcon, American Coot, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Herring Gull, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Short-eared Owl, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Lewis's Woodpecker, Acorn Woodpecker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Loggerhead Shrike, Stellers' Jay, Western Scrub-Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Tree Swallow, Oak Titmouse, Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Rock Wren, Bewick's Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Western Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, American Robin, Wrentit, European Starling, American Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Spotted Towhee, California Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Tri-colored Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch.

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Redwood Region Ornithological Society (WWW.RROS.org) 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, at 7:00 pm at the Laguna Waste Water Treatment Plant, 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa California, unless otherwise announced. Dues are \$20 per family, \$15 per individual or \$5 per student for a one-year membership. Send dues to RROS Treas. Don Howard, 979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma CA 94954.

RROS 2007-2008 Board of Directors

RROS Officers

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Committee Chairs

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 Christmas Count Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452 ruthier@sonic.net 833-6026
 Kite Tales Betty Burrige 1653 Arroyo Sierra, Santa Rosa 95405 bburridge@sbcglobal.net 527-0225

Kite Tales Deadlines: Submit Observations by Feb. 20th to Ruth Rudesill, all other items to Editor Betty Burrige by Feb.25.

Observations - January 2008 Report - Ruth Rudesill

Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers
Snow Goose	12/28/07	near Arnold Dr x116	SON	6	DShaw blue phase
Gr White-fronted Goose	12/28/07	near Arnold Drx116	Son	1	DShaw
Eurasian Wigeon	12/4/07	Doran pond/bayside	SON	1-2m	DF, RAR
Cinnamon Teal	12/28-30/07	Doran ponds	SON	2-8	DF, RAR, BGr
Green-winged Teal	12/4/07	Doran Park ponds	SON	100+	DF
Green-winged Teal	12/16/07	W Olivet Rd pond	SON	700	BDP, BL
Surf Scoter	12/23/07-1/1/08	Petaluma River	SON	1 juv	BDy, KWi, BOI, AWgh
✓ White-winged Scoter	12/2-23/07	Bodega Harbor	SON	10-16	L&CL, BDP
✓ Long-tailed Duck	12/2-30/07	Bodega Harbor	SON	1f	L&CL, mob
✓ Long-tailed Duck	12/18/07-1/8/08	Campbell Cove/harbor	SON	1-2m	BDP, DF.mob
✓ Harlequin Duck	1/6/08	Bodega Harbor	SON	1m	RLeb
✓ Barrow's Goldeneye	12/8/07	Shollenberger park	SON	1f	Chris Selvig
✓ Barrow's Goldeneye	12/18/07-1/1/08	Petaluma River	SON	2 mf	BDy, RAR mob
Hooded Merganser	11/19/07	pond Glen Ellen	SON	2m 6f	GMu new location
Hooded Merganser	1/9/08	Nagasawa Park Santa Rosa	SON	1	AWgh
Horned Grebe	12/16/07	Delta Pond	SON	1	BDP, BL
✓ Cattle Egret	12/16/07	Hall Rd	SON	125	BDP, BL
✓ Magnificent Frigatebird	1/5/08	near Healdsburg	SON	1juv	fide BBu
		taken to care center after storm-f. D. by Peter Pyle			
✓ Bald Eagle	12/16-26/07	Laguna/ Hall Rd	SON	1-2ad	LHg, BDP, BL
✓ Bald Eagle	12/28/07	Hills above Bodega Bay	SON	1ad	LW, LF
✓ Bald Eagle	12/31/07	Spring Lake Park	SON	1	J&RT fide RRh
✓ Bald Eagle	1/1/08	Ramal Rd	SON?	1 ad	FO
✓ Red-tailed Hawk	11/21-23/07	Freestone-Valley Ford Rd	SON	1	RS, JKI Harlan's
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	11/23/07	Franklin School Rd area	SON	1-5	J Ki 1dark morph
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	12/23/07	Bodega	SON	1	BDP
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	12/28/07	Adobe Rd near 116	SON	1	RAR
✓ Rough-legged Hawk	11/23/07	Franklin School Rd	SON	2	JKIo
✓ Rough-legged Hawk	12/11/07	Ramal Rd	SON	1	FO
✓ Rough-legged Hawk	12/28/07	Tolay Park	SON	1	PC
✓ Rough-legged Hawk	12/30/07	hills above Bodega Bay	SON	1	LW,LF
Peregrine Falcon	12/30/07-1/8/08	Bodega Harbor	SON	1	RLeb, mob
Peregrine Falcon	1/12/08	Petaluma	SON	1	AWgh
✓ Prairie Falcon	12/14-28/07	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	PC, PL
✓ Prairie Falcon	12/30/07	hills above Bodega Bay	SON	1	LF, LW
✓ Clapper Rail	12/22/07	Buchli Station	NAP	1	BDP, JP
✓ Common Moorhen	1/9/08	Nagasawa Park Santa Rosa	SON	2	AWgh
✓ Lesser Yellowlegs	12/28/07	Lakeville Hwy	SON	7	PC
✓ Red Knot	12/23/07	Spud Point	SON	1	BDP
✓ Surfbird	12/23/26/07	near Marine Lab Entr.	SON	200+	LHg, BDP
✓ Pacific Golden-plover	12/11-28/07	Shollenberger Park	SON	1-3	RS, PC
Semi-palmated Plover	12/22/07	Milton Rd	NAP	43	BDP, JP
Red Phalarope	12/15/07	Abbott's Lagoon	MRN	1	BDP, RLeb
✓ Iceland Gull	1/9/08	mouth of Salmon Creek	SON	1	LHg "Kumlien's"
✓ Iceland Gull	1/13/08	near Carnet/Goat Rock	SON	1imm	Floyd Hayes "Kumlien's"
Bonaparte's Gull	12/28-30/07	Bodega Harbor	SON	1	DF, RAR, BDP
✓ Bonaparte's Gull	12/25/07-1/1/08	Shollenberger Park	SON	6-100	BDP, AWgh
✓ "black-headed" Gull	12/30/07	over Doran entrance	SON	1	DF, RAR flying away Franklin's?
Marbled Murrelet	12/23/07	off Bodega Head	SON	2	BDP
Rhinoceros Auklet	12/15/07	Abbott's Lagoon	MRN	1	BDP, RLeb
Rhinoceros Auklet	12/28/07	off Bodega jetties	SON	1	DF, RAR
✓ Lewis's Woodpecker	12/14-25/07	Crane Creek Park	SON	2-3	RAR, GMu continuing
✓ Mountain Quail	12/16/07	Timberline Rd	SON	1	IM calling
Short-eared Owl	12/22/07	Buchli Station	NAP	1	BDP, JP
✓ Western Screech-owl	12/4/07	Sonoma yard	SON	1	TRu
✓ Burrowing Owl	12/28/07	Tolay Park	SON	1	PC
✓ Selasphorus sp.	1/2/08	Occidental yard	SON	1	Emily Evans
✓ Northern Shrike	12/14/07	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	PC, PL

Barn Swallow	12/26/07	Hwy 505/Hwy 5	YOL?	!	BDP
✓ Violet-green Swallow	12/27/07-1/1/08	Lake Hennessey	NAP	1-2	JP, BDP, DHo
✓ Tree Swallow	12/11/07	Shollenberger Park	SON	100+	RS
✓ Tree Swallow	12/16-26/07	Delta Pond/ Hall Rd	SON	182	BDP, BL, LHg
Tree Swallow	1/1/08	Lake Hennessey	NAP	152	BDP, DHo
House Wren	1/1/08	Lake Hennessey	NAP	1	BDP, DHo
Pygmy Nuthatch	12/30/07	Bonneau Rd	SON	sev	DShaw ; BMc
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	12/27/07-1/1/08	Lake Hennessey	NAP	1	BDP, JP, DHo
✓ Orange-crowned Warbler	1/8/08	Diekman's Bodega Bay	SON	2	RLeb
Black-thr. Gray Warbler	12/16/07	Holst Rd	SON	1	IM
✓ Nashville Warbler	11/28/07	Mark West creek	SON	1	Daniel Edelstein
✓ Nashville Warbler	1/8/08	Diekman's Bodega Bay	SON	1	RLeb
✓ Brewer's Sparrow	12/28/07	Tolay Area	SON	1	PC
✓ Fox Sparrow	12/16-28/07	Sonoma State Univ	SON	1	RLeb, RMe, AW Red race
White-throated Sparrow	1/4/08	Oakmont yard	SON	1	BGr tan-striped
✓ Harris's Sparrow	12/25/07	nw Santa Rosa	SON	1	DKI
✓ Chipping Sparrow	12/12/07	Adobe Canyon Rd	SON	1 imm	IM
✓ Chipping Sparrow	12/28/07	Petaluma Adobe St Park	SON	1 imm	RAR
✓ Lawrence's Goldfinch	12/30/07	Petaluma yard	SON	sev	Mary Fazekas
✓ Lawrence's Goldfinch	12/23/07-1/7/08	Temelec area	SON	10 +	Elinor Taylor, TRu
✓ Great-tailed Grackle	12/30/07	near Bonness Rd	SON	1m	DShaw
Great-tailed Grackle	12/24/07	east side of Fairfield	SOL	1m	BDP, JP

Observers: Betty Burridge, Peter Colasanti, Pam Conley, Bob Dyer, Daniel Edelstein, Ted Eliot, Dea Freid, Betty Groce, David Hofmann, Lisa Hug, Don Kirker, John Klobas, Rick Lebaudour, Bill Lenarz, Peter Leveque, Leslie & Cindy Lieurance, Bob McLean, Richard Merriss, Ian Morrison, Gerry Mugele, Dan Nelson, Frances Oliver, Becky Olsen, Benjamin D "Mike" Parmeter, John Parmeter, Rhio Reigh, Ruth A Rudesill, Tom Rusert, Doug Shaw, Rich Stallcup, Ron Storey, Jean & Ruth Tonascia, Al & Glo Wellman, Jim White, Alan Wight, and Ken Wilson

Results of the Santa Rosa Christmas Count, Dec. 16, 2007 by Ruth Rudesill

We had decent weather and 45 energetic counter tallying 145 species and 63,607 birds (although half were starlings!) Two new species were Bald Eagle (1) and Eurasian Collared-dove (1). Thanks to everyone, especially the leaders, and Don Howard for handling the dinner bill.

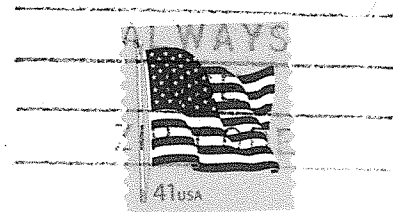
Birds counted: Greater White-fronted Goose 1, Snow Goose 4, Ross's Goose 1, Cackling Goose 24, Canada Goose 794, Wood Duck 12, Gadwall, 9, American Wigeon 260, Mallard 1015, Northern Shoveler 123, Northern Pintail 13, Green-winged Teal 758, Canvasback 1, Ring-necked Duck 273, Greater Scaup 6, Lesser Scaup 4, Bufflehead 157, Common Goldeneye 22, Hooded Merganser 2, Common Merganser 28, Ruddy Duck 393, Ring-necked Pheasant 5, Wild Turkey 218, Mountain Quail 1, California Quail 203, Red-throated Loon 1, Pied-billed Grebe 61, Eared Grebe 7, Horned Grebe 1, Western Grebe 10, Clark's Grebe 1, Am White Pelican 1, Double-crested Cormorant 204, American Bittern 2, Great Blue Heron 20, Great Egret 38, Snowy Egret 40, Cattle Egret 203, Green Heron 4, Black-crowned Night Heron 33, Turkey Vulture 236, Osprey 2, White-tailed Kite 41, Northern Harrier 13, Sharp-shinned Hawk 5, Cooper's Hawk 5, Accipiter Sp. 4, Red-shouldered Hawk 69, Red-tailed Hawk 104, Ferruginous Hawk 2, Golden Eagle 2, American Kestrel 63, Merlin 8, Peregrine Falcon 3, Virginia Rail 2, Common Moorhen 1, American Coot 1165, Killdeer 70, Black-necked Stilt 10, American Avocet 2, Spotted Sandpiper 3, Greater Yellowlegs 5, Least Sandpiper 23, Dunlin 1, Long-billed Dowitcher 19, Wilson's Snipe 13, Mew Gull 50, Ring-billed Gull 410, California Gull 55, Herring Gull 32, Thayer's Gull 2, Western Gull 3, Glaucous-winged Gull 26, Larus sp. 221, Rock Pigeon 824, Band-tailed Pigeon 14, Mourning Dove 307, Western Screech-owl 12, Great Horned Owl 5, Northern Pygmy-owl 3, Spotted Owl 1, Northern Saw-whet Owl 3, Anna's Hummingbird 174, Belted Kingfisher 9, Lewis's Woodpecker 1, Red-breasted Sapsucker 6,

Nuttall's Woodpecker 55, Downy Woodpecker 23, Hairy Woodpecker 7, Northern Flicker 147, (Red-Shafted 4, Yellow-shafted 2,) Pileated Woodpecker 6, Black Phoebe 156, Say's Phoebe 18, Loggerhead Shrike 1, Hutton's Vireo 20, Steller's Jay 40, Western Scrub-jay 226, American Crow 1991, Common Raven 62, Tree Swallow 182, Chestnut-backed Chickadee 146, Oak Titmouse 161, Bushtit 727, Red-breasted Nuthatch 1, White-breasted Nuthatch 92, Brown Creeper 11, Bewick's Wren 20, Winter Wren 2, Marsh Wren 6, Golden-crowned Kinglet 19, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 271, Western Bluebird 41, Hermit Thrush 41, American Robin 5774, Varied Thrush 17, Wrentit 4, Northern Mockingbird 52, European Starling 30,350, American Pipit 156, Cedar Waxwing 407, Orange-crowned Warbler 1, Yellow-rumped Warbler 297 (Audubon's 133, Myrtle 5,) Black-throated Gray Warbler 1, Townsend's Warbler 16, Spotted Towhee 84, California Towhee 271, Lark Sparrow 10, Savannah Sparrow 40, Fox Sparrow 70, Song Sparrow 152, Lincoln's Sparrow 42, White-throated Sparrow 4, White-crowned Sparrow 878, Golden-crowned Sparrow 642, sparrow sp. 24, Dark-eyed Junco 851, Red-winged Blackbird 1726, Western Meadowlark 191, Brewer's Blackbird 5949, Brown-headed Cowbird 4, blackbird sp. 220, Purple Finch 12, House Finch 497, Pine Siskin 50, Lesser Goldfinch 369, American Goldfinch 186, House Sparrow 120

The Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation is now recruiting docents for their watershed educational programs for 3rd to 5th grade students. Contact Christine Fontaine 527-9277 x102 or Christine@lagunafoundation.org

KITE TALES
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Feb. 2008



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