



Kite Tales

Volume 44 Number 7

March 2009

General Meeting, Thursday, March 12, 7:00 pm

Stephen Shunk of Paradise Birding will present "Southern California: Cactus Blossoms and Spring Migration."

Southern California from San Diego to Anza Borrego Desert harbors some of the greatest bird diversity in the United States. In late March, with the onset of the spring bird migration, the countryside bursts into bloom. Highlights include Costa's Hummingbirds, California and Black-tailed Gnatcatchers, Crissal and LeConte's Thrashers and fabulous flowers. Stephen will show slides of this beautiful area.

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.

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.)

WELCOME - New members Jacqueline Sones - Sebastopol and Celilia A. Dearborn - Healdsburg.

THANKS - To Celilia Dearborn for a generous donation.

CORRECTION - Santa Rosa CBC species list - a Burrowing Owl was left off the list that had been found by Lisa Hug's team.

FIELD TRIPS

Friday – Sunday, March 13, 14, 15 Susanville area.

Meet 8 am River Inn Motel, Susanville.

Possible itinerary: Friday; Honey Lake- Dakin & Fleming Units for waterbirds

Town of Janesville, Lewis's Woodpecker; Janesville Grade, Mountain birds.

Saturday; Sage Grouse Lek 10 miles out of Susanville, Foothills near Wendel, grassland birds, Chuckar, Prairie Falcon, Sage Sparrow.

Sunday: Birding on the way home. Possible locations; Eagle Lake, Chester, Lake Almanor. We should have plenty of Golden Eagles, Bald Eagles and Geese on this trip.

Leader: Rick Le Baudour 707-974-0004 or 707-935-3654. Call Rick to get your name on the trip list. He needs a head count and car count 1 week prior to the trip, please, confirm and provide your cell phone contact. Extreme weather could cancel.

Be prepared for cold weather, warm clothes, layers, hats, sunscreen, H2O, Field lunch & snacks, optics, field guides. Breakfast and Dinner out. Lunch in the field.

River Inn Motel, Susanville 530-257-6051. The motel is holding 6 nonsmoking double rooms, until March 1, for us at their best rate. Rooms have microwave & fridge. 24 hr. cancellation.

WORKSHOP – Saturday March 14th – Woodpeckers in the Wild 9 a.m. – 4 p.m

Join Oregon naturalist and woodpecker expert Steve Shunk for a day with the woodpeckers of central California. In this field workshop, we will observe the dynamic behaviors of our resident and migrant woodpecker species. Steve will share his enthusiasm and expertise in woodpecker natural history as we study foraging techniques, communication styles, and social dynamics. We will search for up to 8 woodpecker species, while we will observe signs of woodpecker carpentry and discuss current ecology and conservation issues facing the woodpecker populations of our region.

Location: Annadel State Park

Cost: \$70 per person, maximum of 12 participants, minimum of 4 participants.

Pre-register by calling Steve at 541-408-1753 or emailing steve@paradisebirding.com

FIELD TRIP – Saturday April 18 – Mitchell Canyon

FIELD TRIP – May – Pine Flat Road

FIELD TRIP REPORT - Southern Sonoma County and Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant, February 14th

Early morning cold, wind, and rain started our Valentine's Day field trip with fogged binoculars and dripping scopes. Ruth spotted a crisp male Barrow's Goldeneye in the middle of a large flock of Commons on the Marin side of the Petaluma River, and a Barrow's female was found on the Sonoma side. A first cycle Glaucous Gull flew north overhead, and one participant fled by car. The ongoing Sonoma Baylands project was our next stop where we added a few shorebirds and lost a few more participants. The field trip then took a carpool detour to the Davis Wastewater Treatment plant and landfill where the *glaucoides* Iceland Gull had been discovered a few days before. The weather was comparatively better in the Sacramento Valley, where we joined knots of birders picking through the gulls. We had wonderful views of the Iceland Gull, a life bird for all present, flying over the landfill, and later, close-ups of the bird loafing in a large group of mixed gulls on a dike. Two Kumlein's Gulls and an exquisite adult Glaucous Gull were also seen. Adult Thayer's were present in the hundreds. A Rough-legged Hawk and Merlin were seen from Skaggs Island Road on the way back.

Participants: Jim Castle, Dea Freid, Ruth Rudesill, Don Howard, Gary and Terry Haag, Bill Doyle, Helen Kochenderfer (continued on page 3)

Birds Observed: Canada Goose, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, Surf Scoter, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Barrow's Goldeneye, Ring-necked Pheasant, Pied-billed Grebe, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, American Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Herring Gull, Thayer's Gull, Iceland Gull, Western Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Glaucous Gull, Forster's Tern, Rock Pigeon, Black Phoebe, Yellow-billed Magpie, American Crow, Common Raven, Marsh Wren, European Starling, American Pipit, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch.

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 2008-2009 Board of Directors

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 Christmas Count Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452 ruthier@sonic.net 833-6026
 Kite Tales Carol Brant 211 Florence Ave., Sebastopol 95472 cwbrant@sonic.net 823-2806

Kite Tales Deadlines: Submit observations to Ruth Rudesill, all other items to Carol Brant by 20th of the month.

*****OBSERVATIONS JAN. - FEB. 2009 Ruth Rudesill*****

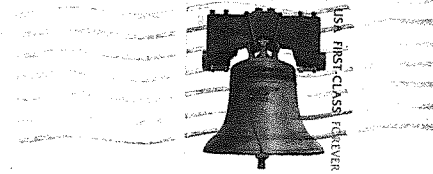
Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers	Notes
✓ Gr White-frontedxCanada Goose	1/21-23/09	Spring Lake Reg. Park	SON	1	RAR	continuing
✓ Snow Goose	2/4/09	Porto Bodega	SON	1imm	GW	
✓ Mute Swan	2/8/09	field across Infineon Raceway	SON	2	RAR mob	
✓ Mandarin Duck	1/21-31/09	Spring Lake Reg. Park	SON	1 m	RAR, RLeb	escapee
✓ Wood Duck	2/5/09	Sonoma State	SON	1m	BOI	
✓ Eurasian Wigeon	2/11/09	Shollenberger Park	SON	1m	RAR	
✓ Eurasian Teal	continuing	Las Gallinas Ponds	MRN	1m	mob	
✓ Eurasian Teal	2/10-11/09	Alman Marsh Petaluma	SON	1m	BDy, mob	hybrid?
✓ White-winged Scoter	1/24/09	Bodega Harbor	SON	1	RSc	
✓ Barrow's Goldeneye	1/21-23/09	Spring Lake Reg. Park	SON	1-2f	RAR, SCa mob	continuing
✓ Common Merganser	1/21/09	Russian River	SON	1f	BDP, DHo	
✓ Yellow-billed Loon	2/1-5/09	mouth Russian River	SON	1	SD fide EP, DF	mob
✓ Red-necked Grebe	2/10/09	Bodega Bay channel	SON	2	DWi	
✓ Pied-billed Grebe	2/17/09	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	43	BSp	high #
✓ Brown Pelican	1/21/09	mouth Russian River	SON	95	BDP, DHo	
✓ Osprey	1/21/09	mouth Russian River	SON	2	BDP, DHo	
✓ Bald Eagle	1/29/09	Tomales-Petaluma Rd	SON	1ad	SMo	
✓ Bald Eagle	1/23/09	e Lake Berryessa	NAP	9	BDP	6 imm, 3 ad
✓ Sharp-shinned Hawk	1/23/09	Kenwood yard	SON	1m	RAR	chasing juncos
✓ Common Black Hawk	2/11/09	Laguna area	SON	1	SMo	continuing
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	2/11/09	Pepper Rd	SON	1ad	SMo	

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✓ Rough-legged Hawk	2/11/09	Adobe x Frates Rds	SON	1	RAR	
Golden Eagle	2/16/09	Ramal Rd	SON	1	KM, KP	
✓ Merlin	1/24/09	Lakeville Hwy	SON	1	SMo	Richardson's
✓ Prairie Falcon	2/16/09	Skaggs island	SPM	1	KM, KP	
✓ Prairie Falcon	2/20/09	Guglielmetti Rd	SON	1	SMo	
✓ Pacific Golden-Plover	2/11/09	Shollenberger Park	SON	2	RAR	continuing
Mountain Plover	2/1/09	FlanneryxRobinson Rds	SOL	41	BSp	
Heermann's Gull	1/21/09	mouth Russian River	SON	2	BDP, DHo	
✓ Glaucous Gull	1/31/09	Goat Rock State Beach	SON	1 imm	FH	first cycle
✓ Glaucous Gull	2/17/09	Shollenberger Park	SON	1 juv	RAR	
✓ Glaucous Gull	2/22/09	mouth Russian River	SON	1 ad	BD	
Marbled Murrelet	2/7/09	off Bodega Head	SON	sev	KWi	
✓ Ancient Murrelet	2/7/09	Off Bodega Head	SON	sev	KWi	
✓ Inca Dove	2/1/09	yard feeder	SON	1	DS	escapee???
✓ Burrowing Owl	2/19/09	Napa/Sonoma Marsh	SON	1	RAR	
Allen's Hummingbird	2/1/09	Occidental yard	SON	1	RoM	
Selasphorus sp	2/22/09	Sonoma yard	SON	1	KP	
Lewis's Woodpecker	1/23/09	e Lake Berryessa	NAP	2	BDP	
Yellow-billed Magpie	1/23/09	near Lake Berryessa	NAP	16	BDP	
✓ Northern Shrike	2/14-18/09	Napa/Sonoma Marsh	NAP/SON	1	MB, mob	
Rock Wren	1/23/09	n Lake Berryessa	NAP	1	BDP	
✓ Yellow Warbler	2/10/09	below Diekmann's	SON	1	DWi	
✓ Yellow Warbler	2/20/09	Spring Lake	SON	1	BSp, RAR	
Vesper Sparrow	1/23/09	near Lake Berryessa	NAP	4	BDP	
White-throated Sparrow	1/21-2/22/09	Kenwood yard	SON	1 ad	RAR	white stripe /singing
Slate-colored Junco	1/25/09	Napa yard feeder	NAP	1	BDP	slate-colored

Observers: Murray Berner, Scott Carey, Stephen Davies, Bill Doyle, Dea Freid, Floyd Hayes, David Hofmann, Rick LeBaudour, Roger Marlowe, Stan Moore, Kathy Mugele, Becky Olsen, Benjamin D. "Mike" Parmeter, Eric Preston, Kathi Province, Ruth A Rudesill, Dianne Samples, Rusty Scalf, Bob Speckels, Glo Wellman, Alan Wight, Dave Wimpfheimer, and Ken Wilson



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979 Hogwarts Circle
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