



Kite Tales

Volume 45 Number 9

May 2010

POTLUCK/PICNIC MEETING - EVENING BIRD WALK
THURSDAY, MAY 13TH

**SUGARLOAF RIDGE STATE PARK - 6:30 PM IN THE
 PICNIC AREA ACROSS FROM DAY USE PARKING LOT**

Directions: Take Hwy 12 to Adobe Canyon Rd. (at the western edge of Kenwood). Drive north to State Park contact station, **pay entry fee or display pass**, and park in Day Use Lot 100 yards ahead. Look for RROS at picnic area across from parking lot. Bring food, plates, utensils, beverages, and binoculars.

Message to RROS Members from Kite Tales Editor Carol Brant

This is the last issue of Kite Tales that I will be doing. RROS needs a new editor. The job may appear to be very difficult, time consuming and too challenging but that's not true. Necessary computer skills involve cut and paste, changing font and type size and sending attachments. The writing is done almost totally by the board members. Terry Haag provides the general meeting notices, Ellen Blustein sends the field trip news and Ruth Rudesill does the observations. Occasionally it's necessary to type the field trip report but some leaders submit them by email. Board members and Betty Burrige also send interesting pieces they find or write. Don Howard takes care of printing and distributing the paper and email versions. Ron Storey does the webpage; just send him the latest issue. So, what's left? About 3 hours a month Sept. through May organizing the material, editing it, making it all fit onto 4 or 6 pages. This can be done bit by bit or all at once. The biggest hurdle, besides making the commitment to become editor, is to figure out how to get your computer to send the PDF version of Kite Tales to Don. There must be someone who would be willing to help with this part. I will be glad to provide help with the rest. Carol Brant 823-2806

COMING ATTRACTIONS**May 8th, Saturday - Field Trip to Pine Flat Road and Geysers Road**

Pine Flat Road and Geysers Road have wonderful rare wildflowers, great butterflies and terrific birds. All the spring nesting species should be in. Meet at 8 am at the first bridge on Pine Flat Road. We will drive from there to Geysers Road. Possible birds include Grasshopper Sparrow, Purple Martin, Mountain Quail, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Bring optics, water, food, sunscreen hats etc. Co-leaders Lisa Hug and Ellen Blustein. Questions: call Ellen at 707-789-0970. Be prepared to carpool.

June 5th, Saturday - Field Trip to Pepperwood Preserve Rescheduled!

RROS has been invited to the Pepperwood Preserve for a spring field trip. Pepperwood Preserve is a 3117 acre property of The Pepperwood Foundation operated in cooperation with Santa Rosa JC and Sonoma State University. It was established in 1979.

We will expect fabulous wildflowers and land birds. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, hats, lunch, water, snacks and sunscreen. For carpooling meet at the Park N' Ride on the west side of HWY 101 at the River Road/MarkWest Exit at 7:30 a.m. Or meet at the preserve at 8a.m. Directions are available on the website or: 3450 Franz Valley Road. From Hwy 101 take River Road/MarkWest exit. Go east on Mark West Road. Continue on Porter Creek road. Turn left onto Franz Valley Road. Preserve will be on the left. Porta-potties at Preserve headquarters only.

Questions: call Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970

August 28 & 29, 30, Owen's Lake and Eastern Sierra Field Trip

This is a great opportunity to bird this historic environmental area at the height of shorebird migration. The official field trip will begin Saturday morning. Mike Prather, a local guide and Lone Pine resident, will be our leader. The trip will finish Monday, midday. We have 7 rooms held at the Best Western in Lone Pine, 760-876-5571 ask for RROS. The rate is \$85/double, \$73/single a negotiated high season price. Rooms can be changed until 2 weeks prior to the trip. We will each donate \$20/day to Mike. Questions or to save a place on the trip: Call or e-mail Ellen Blustein evireo@gmail.com or 707-789-0970. Mike writes;

We will spend both mornings out on Owen's Lake. Saturday maybe Owen's Lake all day. Sunday we can do Owen's Lake in the morning and Sierra in the afternoon. Dress in layers, hats, sunscreen. Would you like to bring lunches with us each day or stop for lunch at a local eatery? I recommend bringing our lunches on Saturday for sure since we will likely be out on the lake all day. Valley temperatures 80's-90's. Sierra temps 60's-70's.

Possible birds: **Owen's Lake:** Baird's Sandpiper, Sabine's Gull, Snowy Plover, White-faced Ibis, Long-billed Curlew, Peregrine Falcon, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Great-tailed Grackle, Large numbers of peeps of various species, Bonaparte's Gull, Franklin's Gull, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Dowitchers, LeConte's Thrasher **Sierra:** Mountain Chickadee, Hairy Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Sooty Grouse, Dipper, Brown Creeper, migrating neotropicals (Wood Warblers), Cassin's Finch, Fox Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Western Wood-Pewee, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Nighthawks.

www.easternsierrabirdingtrail.org

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 2010-2011 Board of Directors

RROS Officers

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 Observations Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452 ruthier@sonic.net 833-6026
 Christmas Count Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452 ruthier@sonic.net 833-6026
 Kite Tales

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

OBSERVATIONS MARCH - APRIL 2010 BY RUTH RUDESILL

Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers	Notes
✓ Northern Pintail	4/14/10	corner Hwy 37 & Lakeville	SON	1pr	D&MR fide BBu	nest 5 eggs
✓ Hooded Merganser	3/25-27/10	Shiloh Reg Park pond	SON	1 pr	LP, mob	
✓ Hooded Merganser	3/4/10	Oakmont Golf Course	SON	1 pr	BGr	
Hooded Merganser	4/7/10	Putah Creek	SOL/YOL	1 pr	RAR	
Mountain Quail	3/29/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	1	BMa, TH	calling
Mountain Quail	4/4/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	1m	RAR	on road
✓ American Bittern	4/10/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1-2	BDy, Survey	booming
✓ American Bittern	4/12/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	3	LHg	courting/feeding
✓ Cattle Egret	4/11/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1	AWt	
✓ White-tailed Kite	3/23/10	Chase & 2nd St	Sonoma SON	6-10	AC	migrant roost
✓ Bald Eagle	4/18/10	Laguna	SON	1ad	JMi	
✓ Common Black-Hawk	4/9/10	Laguna	SON	1	LHg	by kayak
Swainson's Hawk	4/7/10	near Winters	SOL	4	RAR	
Swainson's Hawk	4/18/10	Hwy 29 x Hwy 221	NAP	2	AWt	
✓ Golden Eagle	3/25/10	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	1 pr	ALa,GC,EP, LN	
✓ Golden Eagle	4/18/10	Hwy 12 south Sonoma	SON	2	AWt	
Merlin	3/27-29/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	1	RAR,BSp, BMa, TH	
Caspian Tern	4/18/10	Clear Lake	LAK	1	RAR	
Great Horned Owl	4/17/10	Spring Lake Reg park	SON	1	RAR, mob	nesting
Northern Pygmy-Owl	3/29/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	1	BMa, TH	coughing pellet
White-throated Swift	4/18/10	Napa River Bridge Hwy 29	SON	1	AWt	
✓ Black-chinned Hummingbird	4/18/10	Occidental yard	SON	1m	RoM, JM	
✓ Rufous Hummingbird	3/6/10	Oakmont yard	SON	1m	BGr	
✓ Lewis's Woodpecker	4/15/10	off Pine Flat Rd	SON	1	KWI, BSp	
Ash-throated Flycatcher	4/15-19/10	Geyserville	SON	1	TER	
Western Kingbird	4/14/10	Sonoma yard	SON	3	TR	
Cassin's Vireo	3/8/10	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1	RAR,BSp	early singing
Warbling Vireo	3/28/10	Jenner Headlands	SON	2	MH	fos
Horned Lark	4/14/10	Spring Lake x Annadel	SON	sev	AMc	
✓ Purple Martin	4/18/10	Laguna area	SON	5	JMi	

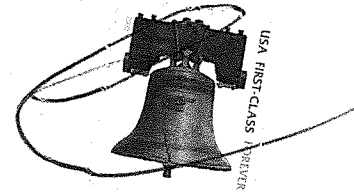
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✓ Rock Wren	3/25/10	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	1	ALa, GC, EP, LN
✓ American Dipper	3/27/10	north end Geysers Rd	SON	1pr	BSp, RAR
✓ Swainson's Thrush	4/1/10	Channel Dr Annadel SP	SON	1	BD fos early
✓ Cedar Waxwing	4/10/10	Kenwood	SON	100+	RAR
Yellow-rumped Warbler	3/25/10	Shiloh Reg Park	SON	100+	LP, RAR migrant flight
Black-thr Gray Warbler	4/15/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	sev	KWi
Wilson's Warbler	3/23/10	SSU campus	SON	1	BOI fos
✓ Rufous-cr. Sparrow	3/29-4/17/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	2-6	BMa, TH, JMi
✓ Sage Sparrow	3/29/10	Pine Flat Rd	SON	sev	BMa. TH
✓ Vesper Sparrow	4/18/10	The Sea Ranch	SON	1	RK
✓ White-cr. Golden-cr Sparrow	3/31/10	Sebastopol	SON	1m	LHg photo hybrid
Hooded Oriole	4/17/10	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1	RAR
Hooded Oriole	4/19/10	SSU campus	SON	1	BOI
✓ Great-tailed Grackle	4/10/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1-2	BDy, Survey
Bullock's Oriole	3/25/10	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	1m	ALa, GC, EP, LN

Observers: Betty Burrige, Gary Compari, Bill Doyle, Bob Dyer, Tiffany Erickson, Betty Groce, Mike Heffernon, Tim Howe, Lisa Hug, Richard Kuehn, Andy Lacasse, Julie Marlowe, Roger Marlowe, Bruce Mast, Alexandra McDonald, Jeff Miller, Len Nelson, Becky Olsen, Elaine Pruett, Dan & Mary Rooney, Ruth A Rudesill, Tom Rusert, Bob Speckels, Alan Wight and Ken Wilson.

Please send me your late spring & summertime observations before the Kite Tales August deadline as the North American Birds deadline is August 10th - thank you and have a great spring/summer! Ruth ruthier@sonic.net

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May 2010



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