



# Kite Tales

Volume 46 Number 5

January 2011

**RROS General Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 13, 2011 7- 9 PM**

***“Raptors of Sonoma County”***  
***Speaker: Larry Broderick***

Larry Broderick, Birding Consultant for the Sonoma Land Trust, where they call him the “Raptor Magnet,” will offer his skills with recognizing and understanding some of Nature’s most magnificent predators. Larry is a nature enthusiast who loves all things wild. He has introduced hundreds of eager bird watchers to birds of prey, teaching them how to distinguish the various species and morphs by size, behavior, habitat, color and markings. But he goes beyond the basic science to help his audience understand the risks these beautiful creatures face as well, from giant wind turbines to poisons we use for common pest control. We are very pleased that Larry has offered to share his love of birds with us.

**Directions to the meeting:** 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. Plant is on left.

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**Dinner Before the meeting:** Join some of us at 5:30 p.m. at the Star Restaurant, 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati (west of Hwy 101, at exit for Hwy 116 West).

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**Breeding Bird Atlas – Observations begin in January for revision**

Folks interested in attending the January orientation or signing up for a block should contact Veronica Bowers at [ylbowers@gmail.com](mailto:ylbowers@gmail.com) or phone 829-2955. Atlas field surveyors are the category that is most in demand, but other volunteer jobs are available.

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**We welcome New Members –**

Leslie Bellis of Santa Rosa and Eugene & Nancy Hunn from Sonoma.

**2011 FIELD TRIPS*****Las Gallinas Sewage Ponds - January 8, 2011***

This popular Marin birding spot is just south of Petaluma. We are likely to see a variety of raptor, dabbling and diving ducks, shorebirds and land birds in field and trees. Plan to walk. Bring optics, layers of clothes, water, snack and lunch, field guides, hats and sunscreen. Meet at the Petaluma Hwy 116 & Lakeville Park'n'Ride for carpooling at 8 a.m. Trip begins at 8:30 a.m. at Las Gallinas. Heavy rain cancels. Questions: Ellen Blustein 707-623-9404 Leaders: Len Blumin and Don Reinberg

***Lake County - February 12, 2011***

Local Guide, Darlene Hecomovich, Lake County CBC compiler and lifelong Lake County birder, will take us to her favorite Lake County birding spots. We will begin the birding day at Rodman Slough (possible Least Bittern). Other spots might include Reclamation Road, Lakeside Community Park, Clear Lake State Park, Anderson Marsh and Borax Lake. There will be stops in between as time allows. Bring optics, layers of clothes, sunscreen, food for a long day, field guides, plenty of water and a fun attitude. Meet at the PG&E substation on River Road for carpooling at 7:15 A.M. We will travel up Hwy 101 to Ukiah to Hwy 20 east. Time to Rodman Slough is about 1 Hr, 30 Min. Birding Leader is Lisa Hug. Heavy rain cancels. Questions: Ellen Blustein 623-9404.

***Special June Fieldtrip in Kernville area***

**Thursday, June 23 - Monday, June 27, 2011** - This will be an incredible trip lead by Bob Barnes, a highly respected professional birding leader in the Kernville area. He will lead us into varied habitats for 3 ½ days (see below). Rooms are reserved at the Sequoia Lodge, located 3 miles north of Kernville on the river. You must call Pat at 760-376-2535 to reserve one of the RR0S rooms in your name with a credit card. Do not do this on line. Unreserved rooms will be held until June 15<sup>th</sup> then released. There is camping in the area, as well. The trip is limited to 15 people. Expect to carpool, no exceptions. Parking spots are minimal at many of his stops. Bob charges \$250/ day which covers all of his expenses. That amount will be divided among the participants. Bob's fees are due by June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Bob's comments: Due to the style of birding (participant limit) and places to pull-off the road (vehicle limit), I recommend setting a limit of 15 participants and 4-5 cars for the Kern trip. 250.00 per day (\$25 per day per person based on ten people; \$16.67 per day per person based on fifteen people) all inclusive covering: 1. my driving for two other people who wish to ride with me; 2. my gasoline; 3. my leadership; 4. my lodging; 5. my meals & snacks; 6. a tax deductible donation to the Arthur & Sidney R. Barnes Family Foundation (after my out-of-pocketed expenses are subtracted); 7. my tip (the donation included in the cost), and 8. my thorough scouting during the weeks and days leading up to the trip, plus field checklists, itineraries, maps, and target birds list. Four days on site will give us one full day off the weekend (Friday) in Mojave Desert/Great Basin habitat; two weekend mornings on the Kern River Preserve, two weekend afternoons in the mountains (Great Basin and/or traditional west side Sierra Nevada), and one morning in the Giant Sequoia National Monument. To reserve your space or for questions e-mail Ellen Blustein; [evireo@gmail.com](mailto:evireo@gmail.com)

**Save the dates for other future 2011 field trips;** March 12, leader Lisa Hug, April 17, Bodega Bay, leader Ken Wilson , May 14, Pine Flat Road, leader Ron Storey.

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**Redwood Region Ornithological Society** ([WWW.RROS.org](http://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 RR0S Treas. Don Howard, 979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma CA 94954.

**RROS Officers**

President - Rhio Reigh	604 Austin Way, Santa Rosa 95404	<a href="mailto:rhioreigh@juno.com">rhioreigh@juno.com</a>	579-3400
Vice Pres - Terry Haag	1340 Big Plum Dr., Sebastopol 95472	<a href="mailto:teresitahaag@comcast.net">teresitahaag@comcast.net</a>	823-8527
Secretary - Lisa Hug	PO Box 67, Sebastopol 95472	<a href="mailto:lisahug@sonic.net">lisahug@sonic.net</a>	824-1067
Treasurer - Don Howard	979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma 94954	<a href="mailto:binkybunji2@comcast.net">binkybunji2@comcast.net</a>	637-0868

**Committee Chairs**

Field Trips - Ellen Blustein	2424 MelBrook Way, Santa Rosa 95404	<a href="mailto:evireo@gmail.com">evireo@gmail.com</a>	623-9404
Observations - Ruth Rudesill	PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452	<a href="mailto:ruthier@sonic.net">ruthier@sonic.net</a>	833-6026
Christmas Count - Ruth Rudesill	PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452	<a href="mailto:ruthier@sonic.net">ruthier@sonic.net</a>	833-6026
Kite Tales - Glo Wellman	862 Green Way, Santa Rosa CA 95404	<a href="mailto:glo26@sonic.net">glo26@sonic.net</a>	548-8911

**Kite Tales Deadlines:** Submit observations to Ruth Rudesill, all other items to Glo Wellman by the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Observations**

reported by Ruth Rudesill

Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers	Notes
Gr White-fronted Goose	10/20/10	near Jenner	SON	14	LHug	
Gr White-fronted Goose	12/12/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	6	Survey	
Snow Goose	12/12/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	8	Survey	
Ross's Goose	12/12/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1	Survey	
Cackling Goose	11/25/10	Santa Rosa	SON	4	DBa	
Cackling Goose	12/12/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	84	Survey	
Canvasback	12/6/10	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	2	DF	
Harlequin Duck	11/29-12/1/10	Bodega Harbor	SON	2	ScC, RAR	1m,1f
Long-tailed Duck	11/29-12/12/10	Bodega Harbor	SON	1f	ScC, RS	
White-winged Scoter	10/20/10	off Gleason Beach	SON	1	LHg	
White-winged Scoter	12/12/10	off Bodega Head	SON	3	RS	
Common Merganser	12/8/10	Shollenberger Park	SON	1f	RS	
Barrow's Goldeneye	12/8/10	Shollenberger Park	SON	1m	RS	
Barrow's Goldeneye	12/14/10	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1-2 f	RAR	
Hooded Merganser	11/20/10	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	1f	MH	
Hooded Merganser	12/11/10	Willow Crk campground	SON	1f	RoM	
Hooded Merganser	12/19/10	Shiloh Ranch park	SON	2 pr	DShw	
Pacific Loon	12/11-19/10	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1juv	GW, RAR	mob
Red-necked Grebe	12/1-12/10	Bodega Bay	SON	2	RAR, Rs	
Eared Grebe	12/11-14/10	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	2-4	GW, RAR	
Northern Fulmar	11/23/10	off Bodega Head	SON	50+	ScC	
Northern Fulmar	12/1/10	off Bodega Head	SON	1	RAR	
Short-tailed Albatross	11/21/10	Bodega Canyon	SON	1juv	DSi, SNGH	
Cattle Egret	12/20/10	Hwy 12 near Sebastopol	SON	5	LHg	
Bald Eagle	12/16/10	Bodega Harbor	SON	1ad	RLeb	
Northern Goshawk	11/21/10	Westside Park	SON	1imm	RMe	
Common Black Hawk	12/12/10	Laguna Area	SON	1	SM	
Ferruginous Hawk	10/21/10	near Jenner	SON	1	LHg	
Ferruginous Hawk	12/12/10	Jenner area	SON	1	RS	
Merlin	11/23/10	north Santa Rosa yard	SON	1	DShw	
Merlin	12/11/10	Willow Creek Rd	SON	1	RoM	
American Golden-Plover	12/8-15/10	Shollenberger park	SON	1	RS, PBC	continuing
Pacific Golden-Plover	12/8-15/10	Shollenberger Park	SON	3	RS, RAR, PBC	continuing
Surfbird	11/20/10	off Bodega Head	SON	24	CT	
Sanderling	12/8/10	Shollenberger Park	SON	2	RS	
Red Phalarope	11/29/10	Bodega Harbor jetty	SON	1	MJ	
Black-legged Kittiwake	11/29/10	off Salmon Creek Beach	SON	1	ScC	
Mew Gull	10/21/10	Salmon Creek Beach	SON	2	LHg	
Glaucous Gull	11/22/10	Lucchesi Park	SON	1imm	PBC	
Glaucous Gull	12/1/10	Bodega Bay	SON	1imm	RAR	
Glaucous Gull	12/19/10	Rohnert Park	SN	1	RLeb, RMe	first winter
Forster's Tern	12/11/10	Bodega Harbor	SON	27	DF	
Marbled Murrelet	11/29/10	off Bodega Head	SON	4	ScC	
Marbled Murrelet	11/29/10	off Salmon Creek Beach	SON	12	ScC	
Marbled Murrelet	12/12/10	Duncan's Landing	SON	7	RS	
Ancient Murrelet	12/12/10	off Bodega Head	SON	26	RS	high #
Rhinoceros Auklet	11/29-12/1/10	Bodega Harbor Channel	SON	1	RAR, ScC	
Rhinoceros Auklet	12/12/10	off Bodega Head	SON	3	RS	
Red-breasted Sapsucker	12/15/10	Sea Haven	MRN	1	PBC	
White-headed Woodpecker	12/9/10	The Sea Ranch	SON	1m	D&BH	1 <sup>st</sup> County Record
Burrowing Owl	12/12-19/10	old Santa Rosa Airport	SON	1	RAR, RRh, LHg	
Brown Shrike	12/15/10	Clam Beach Park	HUM	1	RAR, DF,	mob continuing

Violet-green Swallow	11/23/10	Bodega Farm Pond	SON	10	ScC
Tree Swallow	12/12/10	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	DM
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11/20/10	Rail Ponds	SON	1	CT
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	10/21/10	Pinnacle Gulch	SON	1	LHg
Varied Thrush	11/21/10	Calistoga yard	NAP	2	JF
Black-thr Gray Warbler	12/19/10	Doye Park	SON	1	PBC
California Towhee	12/11/10	Roseland area	SON	1	LP albinistic
Lincoln's Sparrow	11/28/10	Coleman Valley Rd yard	SON	1	RoM
White-throated Sparrow	12/11-12/10	Sebastopol yard	SON	1	WP
Zonotrichia hybrid	12/15/10	Sea Haven	MRN	1	PBC
Dark-eyed Junco	11/22/10	Santa Rosa yard	SON	1m	BBu Slate-colored
Dark-eyed Junco	11/28/10	Coleman Valley Rd yard	SON	1m	RoM Slate-colored
Dark-eyed Junco	12/2-20/10	Santa Rosa yard	SON	1m	CT Slate-colored
Tricolored Blackbird	10/21/10	Chancellor Ranch /Salmon Crk	SON	200+	LHg
Rusty Blackbird	11/18/10	Doran Reg Park	SON	1m	DBr
Red Crossbill	12/6/10	north Santa Rosa yard	SON	1	DShw
Evening Grosbeak	11/27/10	Sebastopol yard	SON	10	LK
Evening Grosbeak	12/3/10	Napa yard	NAP	3	D&DH
Evening Grosbeak	12/4/10	north Santa Rosa yard	SON	2	DShw
Evening Grosbeak	12/17-19/10	near Airport Blvd	SON	2	DShw
Evening Grosbeak	12/19/10	on SRJC Campus	SON	15	GW
Evening Grosbeak	12/2-19/10	Corporate Ctr area SR	SON	23+	LP, CB, LHg mob
Eurasian Starling	12/19/10	Shiloh area	SON	258000+	DShw huge #

Observers: Dave Barry, Carol Brant, Dan Brown, Betty Burridge, Scott Carey, Peter B Colasanti, Dea Freid, Jim Fritzhand, Denise & David Hamilton, Mike Heffernon, Diane & Bryant Hichwa, Steven NG Howell, Lisa Hug, Marilyn Jones, Logan Kayle, Roger Marlowe, Richard Merriss, Stan Moore, Dominik Mosar, Wendy Peterson, Linda Petrulias, Rhio Reigh, Ruth A Rudesill, Doug Shaw, Dan Singer, Rich Stallcup, Colin Talcroft, Glo Wellman

**KITE TALES**  
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