



Kite Tales

Volume 48 Number 8

April 2013

**RROS General Meeting
April 11, 2013, 7:00pm
Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant**

"A Carbon Free Big Year"

Birder and artist Keith Hansen set out to see as many species of birds as he could in one calendar year. What sets his quest apart is that he did all his birding on foot, by bicycle, by kayak and other carbon free means of travel. He will show us a video and tell us about this experience. He will also bring some of the artwork for his soon to be published book, "Birds of the Sierra Nevada, Their Natural History, Status and Distribution." Keith has been working on the 1400 individual images in the book for 15 years. His illustrations combine meticulously accurate depictions of the bird with beautiful artistic composition.



***Pacific Slope Flycatcher
By Rick Le Baudour***

Directions to the monthly 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.

Dinner before April General meeting : This month, join us at **5:30pm** at the **Outback Steakhouse**, 4619 Redwood Dr., Rohnert Park. Take the Golf Course Exit from Highway 101. The restaurant is located at the north end of the Wal-Mart Center just west of Highway 101.

Save the Date: Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Potluck/Picnic Meeting and Bird Walk at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park.
Meet in the Picnic Area across from the Day Use Parking Lot.

FIELD TRIPS – April 2013 and beyond:

Saturday, April 13, 2013 - King Ridge Road

Why not take a break from your taxes and join us on one of the quietest country roads in Sonoma County? We'll ride the ridge for Lark Sparrows and Golden Eagles and stop to listen for booming Sooty Grouse and early Neotropical migrants. Meet at the Petaluma Park n' Ride at Lakeville x SR 101 at 6:30 AM, or the coffee shop at Duncan's Mills at 7:30. Bring your lunch or prepare for some mighty lean foraging opportunities. Oh, and bring a good pair of ears to help the hearing impaired leader, Peter.

Saturday, May 11, 2013 - Mines Road

Tell Mom you'll see her Sunday, but Saturday you'll be birding Mines Road. It runs south from Livermore along the eastern edge of Alameda County and can yield such surprises as Greater Roadrunner. Meet at the Petaluma Park n' Ride at 6:00 AM or look for details regarding a Livermore meeting place in our May edition. I can find the spots, but I'm looking for a leader to help find the birds. Email me at peter_colasanti@yahoo.com.

Saturday, June 8 - Sunday June 9, 2013 - Sierra Owling

Join Gene Hunn in Foresthill, Placer County and environs looking for night birds. We'll bird Mosquito Ridge to French Meadows Reservoir by day, then do it all again after dinner for 6 possible owls, including Flammulated, and Poorwill too. Sunday we'll explore Foresthill divide Road to Robinson Flat and maybe hike up Duncan Peak Lookout. Contact me if you're interested in joining, there are options for a bed in Foresthill or camping on Mosquito Ridge, I'd like to get a handle on folks' preference. Details in upcoming issues of Kite Tales.

Late Winter at Carrizo Plain

Our trip to Carrizo Plain felt more like late winter than early spring as a passing front gave the area's clay a soaking the day before. After filling our wheel wells with it at Quail Springs Road Saturday morning, we restricted our explorations to gravel roads. We managed to find some quality, despite the low numbers of birds due, no doubt, to the dry winter past. A dozen Mountain Bluebirds early on looked splendid juxtaposed against the gray sky. At Panorama Road, Terry and I went 4 wheeling to the terminal bog in search of Mountain Plovers, but to no avail. While we were gone, Gene Hunn found a solo bird for the group. There were plenty of Ferruginous Hawks seen, including one dark morph kind enough to fly by a light morph for comparison. Prairie Falcon, Curlews, Sage Sparrows and one flock of many hundreds of Horned Larks were also seen by the core group. Additionally, Ruth reported Rough-legged Hawk, Lawrence's Goldfinch and a Sage Thrasher.

The next two days were spent birding from Taft to Cayucos on the SLO County coast. After breakfast, many of the group stopped at Petroleum Club Road for killer looks at LeConte's Thrasher. Later Craig found us a pair of Phainopeplas high in Kern on Route 58. We had a Cassin's Kingbird at Laguna Lake Park on Sunday and Great-tailed Grackles there Monday

morning. At Morro Strand we finished up with a flock of Semipalmated Plovers and 39 Snowy Plovers. My own records show 115 species seen over the three days.

Peter Colasanti

A Partial List of Attendees: Peter Colasanti, Diane & Terry Colburn, Jim Fritzhand, Gary & Teresita Haag, Don Howard, Gene & Nancy Hunn, Richard Hurley, Andy Lacasse, Rob O'Donnell, Gerry Pacis, Linda Petrulias, Elaine Pruett, Tom Reynolds, Annette & Craig Roth, Ruth Rudesill.

Observations: Feb 21 - Mar 20, 2013

Compiled by David A. Hofmann

Bird Species	Date/s	Location	County.	#	Observers / Notes
Cackling Goose	2/22/13	Ellis Creek Ponds	SON	15-30	BoD
Eurasian Wigeon	2/22/13	Hudemann Slough	SON	2 m	BoB
Eurasian Wigeon	3/10/13	Hudemann Slough	SON	4 m 1f	MuB
Eurasian Wigeon	2/27/13	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	1 m	PBC
Eurasian Wigeon	3/15/13	Estero Americano	MRN/SON	2 m	DeF
Barrow's Goldeneye	2/22/13	Goat Rock State Park	SON	2+ f	ScC
American Bittern	2/23/13	Spring Lake Reg. Park	SON	1	ROD
Bald Eagle	2/25/13	Bridgehaven	SON	1 juv	KaM, KaP, MaR
Cooper's Hawk	3/02/13	Occidental house	SON	1 ad	MiH "flew inside house"
Rough-legged Hawk	2/27-3/3/13	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	1	PBC, ToP
Merlin	2/22/13	Hudemann Slough	SON	1	BoB
Merlin	2/23/13	Taylor Mtn Reg. Park	SON	1	CoT, mob
Merlin	3/14/13	Sonoma State Univ.	SON	1	BeO
Snowy Plover	2/25/13	Doran Regional Park	SON	19	BOC
Rock Sandpiper	3/02/13	Bodega Marine Lab	SON	1	JaS, continuing
Bonaparte's Gull	2/22/13	Hudemann Slough	SON	17	BoB
Glaucous Gull	2/21/13	Luchessi Pk, Ptlma	SON	1	FIH
Rufous Hummingbird	3/05/13	Santa Rosa yard	SON	1 m	HeK
Red-naped Sapsucker	2/24-3/19/13	Spring Lake Reg. Pk.	SON	1	BeO, KeW, RAR, cont'g
Nashville Warbler	2/22-3/12/13	Diekmann's Store	SON	2	ScC, LiH, KaK, mob cont'g
Black-and-white Warbler	3/06/13	Willow Creek Road	SON	1	ToM, mob
Swamp Sparrow	2/23-3/05/13	Spring Lake Reg. Pk.	SON	1	ROD, RAR
White-throated Sp.	2/23/13	Occidental yard	SON	1 m	MiH
White-throated Sp.	2/23-3/05/13	Spring Lake Reg. Pk.	SON	1	BeO, KeW, RAR
Slate-colored Junco	2/23/13	Kenwood yard	SON	1 f	RAR
Red Crossbill	3/5/13	Salmon Crk Rd, Bdga	SON	10	LiH
Evening Grosbeak	3/12/13	Hinebaugh Cr., R.P.	SON	1 m	EuH

Observers for this period: Bob Battagin, Murray Berner, Scott Carey, Peter B. Colasanti, Bob Dyer, Floyd Hayes, Dea Freid, Mike Heffernon, Lisa Hug, Karen Kienitz, Helen Kochenderfer, Tom McCuller, Kathleen Mugele, Brook O'Connor, Rob O'Donnell, Becky Olsen, Todd Plummer, Kathi Province, Mary Rooney, Ruth Ann Rudesill, Jackie Sones, Colin Talcroft, Ken Wilson

The compiler apologizes and takes full responsibility for omissions or errors regarding this list.

"PISHING with PARMETER"

Mike is away from the column this month. Look for another good story in May. (Ed.)

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 Officers

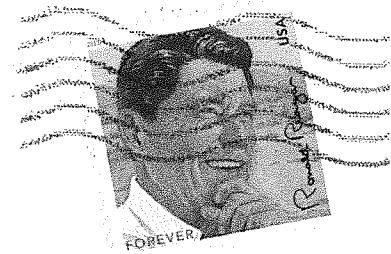
President - Bill Doyle-	1966 Belmont Ct, Santa Rosa, 95404	shortbill@comcast.net	483-8773
Vice Pres - Terry Haag-	1340 Big Plum Dr, Sebastopol, 95472	teresitahaag@comcast.net	823-8527
Secretary - Mike Nelligan-	4663 Sullivan Way, Santa Rosa, 95409	mnbudymn@sonic.net	539-1897
Treasurer - Don Howard-	979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma, 94954	binkybunji2@comcast.net	637-0868

Committee Chairs

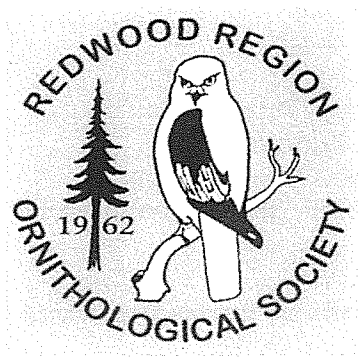
Field Trips - Peter B Colasanti-	524 East D St, Petaluma 94954	peter_colasanti@yahoo.com	763-2450
Observations- David Hofmann	2021 Pioneer Wy #47, Santa Rosa, 95403	nnamfoh@comcast.net	546-0325
Christmas Count - Bill Doyle-	1966 Belmont Ct, SRosa, 95404	shortbill@comcast.net	483-8773
Kite Tales - Bill Doyle	1966 Belmont Ct, Santa Rosa, 95404	shortbill@comcast.net	483-8773

Kite Tales Deadlines: Submit observations to David Hofmann, all other items to Bill Doyle by the 20th of the month.

OAKLAND CA 945
27 MAR 2013 FRI 1



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