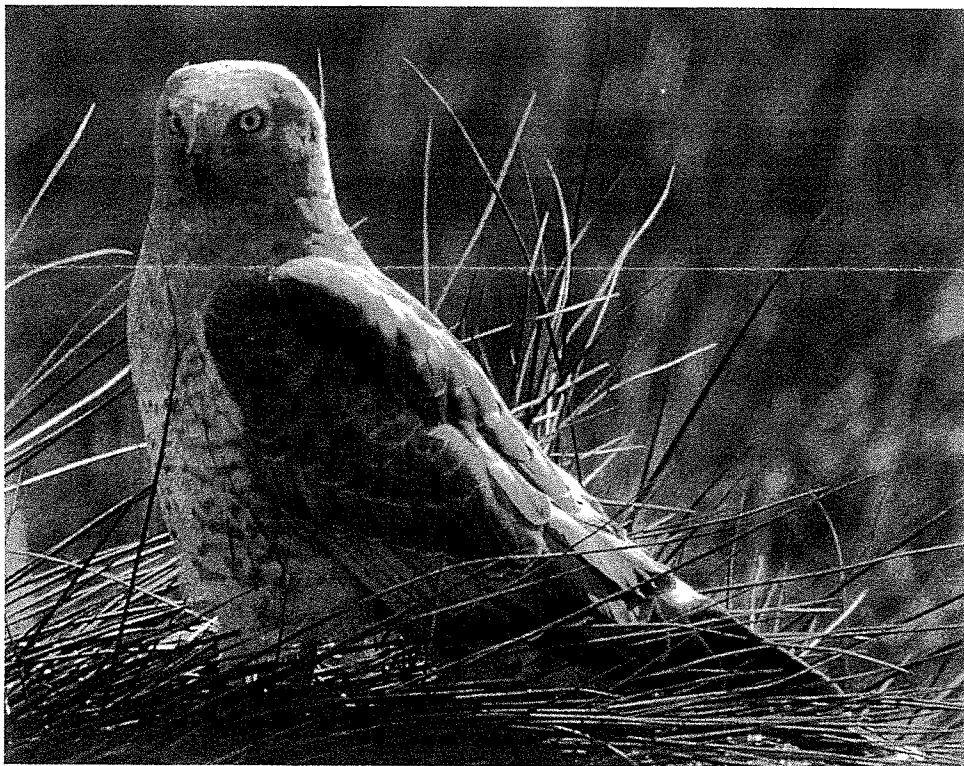




# Kite Tales

Volume 51 Number 5

January 2016



*Male Northern Harrier, Tom Reynolds*

**RROS General Meeting,  
First United Methodist Church  
1551 Montgomery Ave., Santa Rosa, CA  
January 13, 2016, 7:00 pm**

**Monthly Meeting, January 13, 2016: Dr. Tessa Hill. Ocean acidification on the California coast: Impacts on native species and ecosystems-** Increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations have fundamentally changed the chemistry of the ocean, making it more acidic. This chemical change impacts many of the organisms living in the ocean. This talk will review the ongoing research at UC Davis Bodega Marine Lab that focuses on understanding the impacts of ocean acidification on our local environment, including a partnership with the Hog Island Oyster Company to investigate impacts on sustainable seafood.

**Save the date: February 10, 2016- Larry Broderick,** of West County Hawkwatch, will share his knowledge of local raptors. He will give instruction on raptor identification. He will also discuss where and when to find raptors in our area.

**DINNER BEFORE MEETING:** Join us at 5:30 p.m., at **Mary's Pizza Shack**, 535 Summerfield Rd., Santa Rosa, across from Howarth Park. From Hwy. 101 take Hwy. 12 east. Turn left on Farmer's Ln., right on Montgomery Dr. and right on Summerfield Rd. Mary's will be on your right. They do not accept reservations for groups smaller than 15, so when you arrive just ask to be seated with the RROS birders' group in the back room.

**FIELD TRIPS – January 9, 2016, Saturday:** Gulls of the Sonoma County coast. Meet in Bodega Bay, at the horse trailer parking lot along Bay Flat Rd., at 8:30 am. We will check Bodega Bay, Bodega Head, Salmon Creek beach, and Goat Rock Beach (and points between) for roosting flocks of gulls (and other birds of interest). The usual suspects include (of all ages): Heermann's, Mew, Ring-billed, Western, California, Herring, Thayer's, Glaucous-winged, and maybe Bonaparte's, with the slim possibility of rarities such as Glaucous, Black-legged Kittiwake, Iceland, and/or Slaty-backed (but don't hold your breath), plus hybrids (aarrgh!). There will be lots of non-gulls to look at also. Gene Hunn leads ([enhunn323@comcast.net](mailto:enhunn323@comcast.net), 707-981-7301). Bring lunch, or forage en route. Heavy rains cancel.

**January 22, 2016, Friday: Photography Workshop, Rick LeBaudour, Leader** ([sct-rick@vom.com](mailto:sct-rick@vom.com))- Meet at the horse trailer parking lot along Bay Flat Rd., in Bodega Bay, at 8:30 am. Bring camera gear. Heavy rain cancels.

**February 13, 2016, Saturday: Wintering Raptors and Waterfowl of the Central Valley:** (Leader TBA), 8:00am - 4:00pm. The open agricultural lands of the Central Valley provide excellent foraging habitat for scores of wintering raptors, while the wetlands of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area are the winter home for thousands of waterfowl, including ducks, geese, swans and many shorebirds. This all-day field trip will visit several local habitats in search of wintering raptors. With some luck we may encounter a Ferruginous or Rough-legged Hawk. The uncommon Prairie Falcon and Merlin are also possibilities. We expect to see a representative sampling of the wintering waterfowl, and a variety of shorebirds at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. If there is interest, and time permits, we could make the drive to Solano County in search of the elusive Mt. Plover, whose numbers have been in steady decline for the past decade. Meet at 8:00 am in south Davis, at the Nugget Center parking lot, behind Burger King (403 Mace Blvd, Davis), on the corner on Mace and Chiles Road. Bring a lunch/snacks and liquids; dress in layers. This is a good outing for both beginners and experienced birders alike. Heavy rain cancels.

**RROS, Santa Rosa CBC, December 20, 2015:** The Santa Rosa CBC was conducted on Sunday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of December, in a steady rain over most of the count area. Stalwart counters got the job done, and some even claimed to have had a "great time". The compilation dinner was held at Adel's Restaurant, on Mendocino Ave. Attendance was light, with a crowd about half normal size, probably due to participants' lack of interest in going back out into the continuing rain. Many thanks to those who did attend, and to all who took part. The final species tally, 130, was lower than average, and certainly due to the weather. We need all the rain we can get, and a good winter will encourage an equally good bird season to follow. We'll hope for fine weather next year!

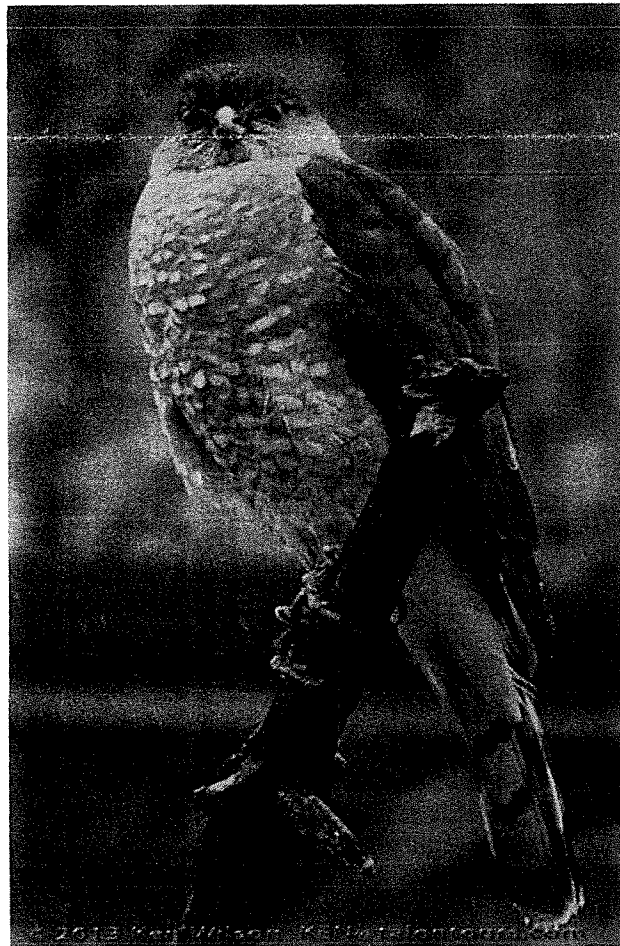
**Observations: Nov 21-Dec 20, 2015****Compiled by David A. Hofmann**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date/s</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cty</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Observer/s</u>
Tundra Swan	11/22-12/01/15	Hudeman's Slough	SON	1	MuB, RoS photos
Tundra Swan	12/16/15	Bodega harbor	SON	4	MAS field trip, mob
Eurasian Wigeon	12/09-16/15	Doran Regional Park	SON	1 m	DeF
Tufted Duck	11/05/15	Hudeman's Slough	SON	1 f	MaS
Barrow's Goldeneye	12/19/15	Port Sonoma	SON	1	ScS, DoK
Hooded Merganser	11/26/15	Bodega Bay Sewage	SON	3	DeF
Hooded Merganser	12/20/15	Hwy 12 x Melita Rd	SON	4	IaM
Flesh-footed Shearwater	12/01/15	Pelagic cruise	SON	1	PaL, mob
Short-tailed Shearwater	12/04/15	Bodega Head St. Pk	SON	1	ScC
Red-taild Hawk (Harlan's)	11/21/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	1	RoS photos
Red-taild Hawk (Harlan's)	11/29/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	1	LiH photo
Ferruginous Hawk	11/28/15	Estero Americano	MAR/SON	1	JiC, AnG
Ferruginous Hawk	12/02/15	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	1	RAR, AnL, BrO, JoM
Ferruginous Hawk	12/04/15	Hardin Lane	SON	1	EuH
Ferruginous Hawk	12/18/15	Penngrove E. Railrod	SON	1	LiS dark mo
Peregrine Falcon	11/27/15	Riverfront Reg. Park	SON	1	DaE
Prairie Falcon	11/27/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	1	EuH, mob
Prairie Falcon	11/29/15	Schollenberger Park	SON	1	LiH
Prairie Falcon	12/02/15	Tolay Creek Ranch	SON	2	RAR, AnL, BrO, JoM
Prairie Falcon	12/14/15	W. Copeland Crk Trl	SON	1	ScS
Wilson's Snipe	11/23/15	Shiloh Ranch Reg. Pk	SON	1	PeL
<b>Iceland Gull</b>	12/10/15	Lucchesi Park	SON	1	MaS, LuS
Note: This bird is extremely rare in California, and must be submitted to the CRBC to be accepted.					
Glaucous Gull	12/10/15	Lucchesi Park	SON	1	MaS, LuS
Burrowing Owl	11/27/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	2	EuH, mob
Allen's Hummingbird	12/06/15	Santa Rosa yard	SON	1 m	DaW
Lewis' Woodpecker	11/21/15	Crane Crk Reg. Park	SON	2	JaS photo
Lewis' Woodpecker	11/27/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	1	EuH, mob
Townsend's Solitaire	11/23/15	Mount St. Helena	SON	12	Br&OrO, BiG photo
Summer Tanager	12/16/15	Lucchesi Park	SON	1 f	MaB photos
Vesper Sparrow	11/21-12/05/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	2	GoB, RoS, mob photos
Vesper Sparrow	11/29/15	Petaluma yard	SON	1	YvM photos
Red Fox Sparrow	11/26-12/13/15	Kenwood yard	SON	1	RAR
White-throated Sparrow	11/23-27/15	Tolay Regional Park	SON	1	RoS, EuH, mob
Evening Grosbeak	11/23-12/08/15	Windsor yard	SON	3	DoS flyover
Evening Grosbeak	11/28-12/10/15	Santa Rosa yard	SON	9+	RhR, LiH, mob
Lawrence's Goldfinch	11/07/15	Laguna de Santa Rosa	SON	3 f	SME

**Observers for this period:** Mario Balitbit, Gordon Beebe, Murray Berner, Scott Carey, Jim Chiropolos, Daniel Edelstein, Santiago M. Escruceria, Dea Freid, Ann Griffith, Bill Grummer, Lisa Hug, Eugene Hunn, Don Kirker, Andy Lacasse, Paul Lehman, Peter Levegue, Madrone Audubon Society, Joy Mander, Ian Morrison, Yvonne Motherwell, Brook & Orion O'Connor, Rhio Reigh, Ruth Ann Rudesill, Linda Schneider, Doug Shaw, Jackie Sones, Scott Sorby, Luke Stephenson, Mark Stephenson, Ron Storey, David Wayte

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

**From the President, Ruthie Rudesill:** A big thank you to everyone who participated in our awesome Members Night meeting last month. We had folks not only show their pictures and video, but also had other artistic displays: Gene Hunn serenaded us with his guitar and a song about a Cuckoo. Craig Roth brought his clever metalwork, made with old tools, into birds and other objects. Monica Schwalbenberg-Peña shared her beautiful watercolors. Mookie Fudenberg brought supercute wool and fiber work nests, and birds ornaments. Great photos and videos were shared by Tom Reynolds, Bill Bevans, & Rick LeBaudour. I'm hoping I didn't forget anyone. This was one of our more well-attended meetings, with everyone enjoying the artwork, and entertainment. ~ Ruthie



***Sharp-shinned Hawk, Ken Wilson***

***Donations in honor of Gary Haag:***

LINDA HORNSTEIN

MIKE &amp; RUTHMARY PARMETER

MONICA SCHWALBENBERG - PENA

JEANNE HILL of Leland, IL

SANDRA MARTENSEN of Santa Rosa

RICHARD HURLEY

JACK &amp; DEYEA HARPER

WILLIAM &amp; RITA BEVANS

MONICA SCHWALBENBERG-PENA

KEITH &amp; ROSE STURGESS of Sedona, AZ

***Fishing with Parmeter~ OFFSHORE TRIP***

RROS held its 24<sup>th</sup> offshore trip on 5/9/76. This trip was to the Cordell Banks. Our very early trips were just straight off the Sonoma coast, but, once having discovered the Banks, almost all subsequent trips visited this very productive birding spot. The boat was George Sumner's fishing boat, the Finback. It was a bit slow, about 7-8 knots/hour. A trip to the Banks took 3 hours, then a couple of hours at or near the birds, then return to port. While the boat was slow, it provided an excellent and stable base for birding. The cost was \$10 per person, and the boat could accommodate 15 birders. Gordon Bolander was the leader. Dr. John Arnold and myself were also aboard. Sorry I don't recall the others.

Birds seen included: Black-footed Albatross 26+, Fulmar 30+, Pink-footed Shearwater 10, Sooty Shearwater 18, Fork-tailed Storm Petrel 30+, Leach's Storm Petrel 4, and Ashy Storm Petrel 20+. Red Phalaropes were recorded along with a few Northern Phalaropes. Both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were present. Black-legged Kittiwake 9, Sabine's Gull 18, Arctic Tern 15+, Common Murre 150, Pigeon Guillemot 16, Cassin's Auklet 11, Rhinoceros Auklet 15, and Tufted Puffin 1.

I don't recall water conditions or the incidence of seasickness. A good productive trip, enjoyed by all.

**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 Wednesday of each month September through May, at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 1515 Montgomery Ave, Santa Rosa California. Dues are \$20 per individual or family, and \$5 per student for a one-year membership. Send dues to RROS Treas. Don Howard, 979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma CA 94954.

**RROS Officers**

President – Ruth Rudesill	POB 371 Kenwood, CA 95452	<a href="mailto:ruthier@sonic.net">ruthier@sonic.net</a>	833-6026
Vice Pres - Terry Haag	1340 Big Plum Dr., Sebastopol 95472	<a href="mailto:teresitahaag@comcast.net">teresitahaag@comcast.net</a>	823-8521
Secretary – Rita Bevans	237 Deanna Pl. Windsor, Ca. 95492	<a href="mailto:ritanbill@comcast.net">ritanbill@comcast.net</a>	
	484-3704		
Treasurer - Don Howard	979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma 94954	<a href="mailto:binkybunji2@comcast.net">binkybunji2@comcast.net</a>	637-0868

**Committee Chairs**

Field Trips – Gene Hunn,	204 Fair Ave., Petaluma, 94954	<a href="mailto:enhunn323@comcast.net">enhunn323@comcast.net</a>	981-7301
Observations-	David Hofmann 2021 Pioneer Wy #47 Santa Rosa 95403	<a href="mailto:nnamfoh@comcast.net">nnamfoh@comcast.net</a>	546-0325
Christmas Count – Bill Doyle	86 Westgate Circle, SRosa, 95401	<a href="mailto:shortbill@comcast.net">shortbill@comcast.net</a>	483-8773
Kite Tales - - Bill Doyle	86 Westgate Circle, SRosa, 95401	<a href="mailto:shortbill@comcast.net">shortbill@comcast.net</a>	483-8773
YAMS Coordinator – Lisa Hug,	Sebastopol	<a href="mailto:lisahug@sonic.net">lisahug@sonic.net</a>	535-9370

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

**KITE TALE**  
**979 Hogwarts Circle**  
**Petaluma CA 94954**



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