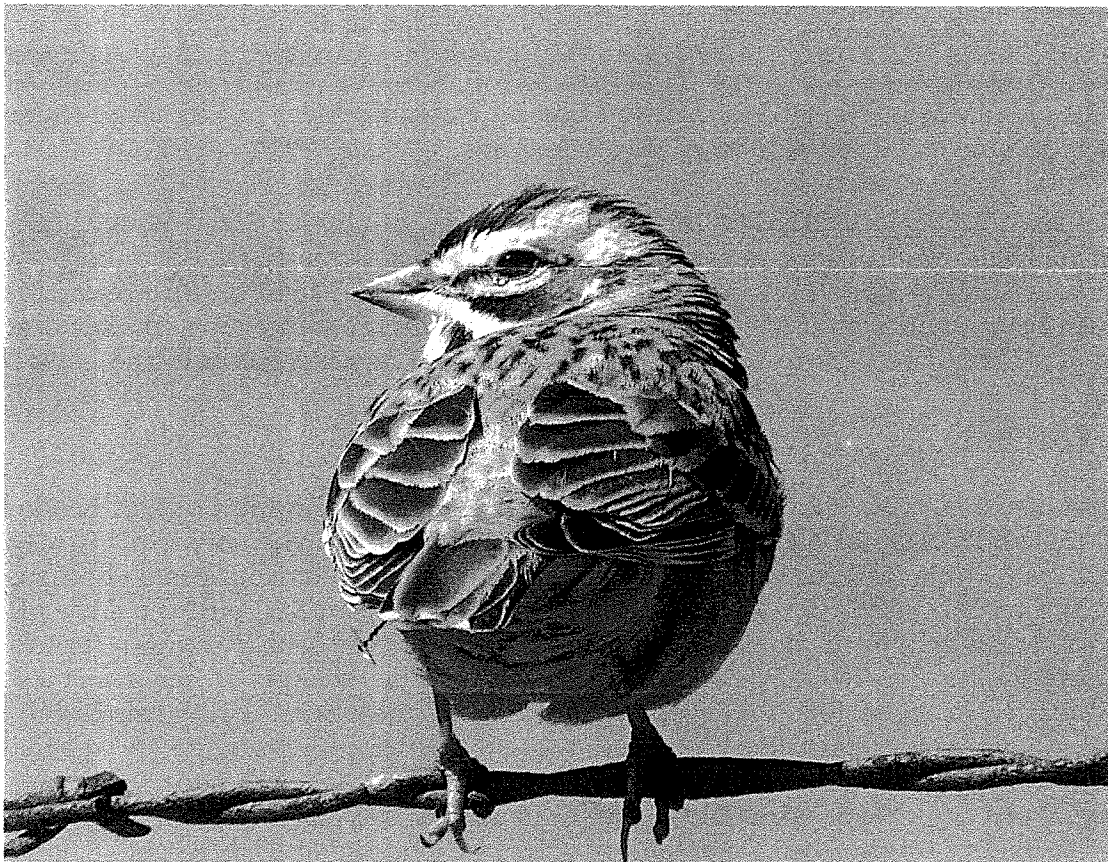




Kite Tales

Volume 51 Number 8

April 2016



Lark Sparrow, by Will German

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

Monthly Meeting, April 13, 2016:

Gordon Beebe, President of Madrone Audubon Society, will present "Three weeks in the Ecuadorian Andes, from east to west". Experience the visual beauty and unique songs and calls of the birds of the varied mountain habitats of Ecuador, said to have the highest biodiversity per acre of any country in the world. Not to be outdone, the variety of caterpillars and butterflies encountered rival any bird species seen.

Gordon Beebe is a project coordinator for the Sonoma County Breeding Bird Atlas, the Saturday bird walk leader and website editor for Madrone Audubon. He

lives with his wife Judy in Santa Rosa, Ca.



Save the date: May 11, 2016: Annual Spring Potluck: Meet at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, at 6:00 pm. Look for details in May Kite Tales.

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 -

Saturday, April 9, 2016: Field Trip to the Pope Valley area of Napa County. Leader: Ruth Rudesill (707-833-6026 or ruthier@sonic.net). Meet at 8 AM at the corner of Hwy 128 and Silverado Trail, Napa Valley. We will bird the south end of Lake Hennessey (bathroom stop at boat launch,) and then travel to Pope Valley, where we will bird the Cedar Roughs Wildlife Area and local farm ponds. Then to the north end of Lake Berryessa for lunch. In early afternoon, hit Knoxville Rd for possible Lewis's Woodpeckers. Other possibles: Hooded Merganser, waterfowl and grebes, Bald Eagles and otters. Bring lunch and money for parking. Heavy rain cancels.

Saturday, April 23, 2016: King Ridge Road. Leader is Bill Doyle (shortbill@comcast.net). Meet at the bakery on the south side of Hwy 116 in Duncan's Mills at 8 a.m. This is a great spring trip which should have some nice wildflowers. We'll be on the lookout for all land birds. Possible highlights are American Dipper, Mountain Quail, and Sooty Grouse. Bring lunch, snacks, optics, sunscreen, layers, hats. We will carpool from Duncan's Mills. Heavy rain cancels.

Saturday, May 14, 2016: Pine Flat Road. Leader TBA. This is our last local field trip of the season. Pine Flat Road has wonderful rare wildflowers, great butterflies, and terrific birds. All the spring nesting species should be in. Meet 8 a.m. at Pine Flat Road past the Jimtown store, where the road narrows, at the bridge. From Hwy 101, take Dry Creek exit to Healdsburg Av., to Alexander Valley Road, to Pine Flat Road. Bring optics, field guides, water, lunch, sunscreen, hats. Heavy rain cancels

Special Memorial Weekend Fieldtrip to Inyo and Mono Counties –

Friday, May 27 through Monday, May 30, 2016: We will stay in Bishop, a 7 hour drive from Santa Rosa, on Friday and Saturday nights, and in Lee Vining Sunday night, at to-be-designated motels. Camping is also an option. Bishop is at 4000 feet elevation, at the head of the Owens River Valley, sandwiched between the towering summits (to 14,000 feet) of the eastern Sierra Nevada and the White Mountains. The valley floor varies from pasture, to wetlands, to high desert shrub steppe. The valleys cut into the Sierras lead along tumbling streams, through forests of pinyon, juniper, and Jeffrey pine, up to Lodgepole Pine and White Fir at roads end. Wildflowers abound. East from Big Pine, just down 6 & 395 from Bishop, the road climbs up to Westgard Pass, from which we will climb to the Bristlecone Pine groves, at 11,000 feet on the White Mountain crest. We will enjoy stunning vistas west to the High Sierras. From Westgard Pass we drop east into the Deep Springs Valley. Deep Springs College and the Fish Lake Valley are oases that are magnets for vagrants in late May. On the west side of the Deep Spring Valley is Wyman Canyon, draining east from high in the White Mountains. Rare California nesting species may be found here, such as Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Plumbeous Vireo, Virginia's Warbler, Juniper Titmouse, and the Gray-headed race of the Dark-eyed Junco. Sunday we will drive north again, to Lee Vining, overlooking Mono Lake. Monday morning, we'll explore the ghost town of Bodie for possible Sage Grouse, and Pinyon Jay, before heading home. Arrive Thursday night if possible. Stay tuned for additional details. Contact Gene Hunn at enhunn323@comcast.net or 707-981-7301.

Sunday, August 14, 2016: High Summer Pelagic Join RROS on an "early season" pelagic trip to Bodega Canyon and Cordell Bank. Later in summer we get bigger numbers of the usual species, but August offers a better chance for rarities. Think about South Pacific Albatrosses, Pterodroma Petrels, Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrels and Frigatebirds. Rare birds indeed, but you sure won't see them from shore. I'm working up a study list of faint but intriguing possibilities...for a copy, or further information, call me at (707) 763-2450, or send me an email at peter_colasanti@yahoo.com.

Observations: Feb 19 – Mar 22, 2016

Compiled by David A. Hofmann

Species	Date/s	Location	Cty	#	Observer/s
Grtr White-fronted Goose	2/26/16	Occidental yard	SON	40	MiH fly-over
Snow Goose	3/07/16	Hwy 1 x Hwy 116	SON	1	LiH
Eurasian Wigeon	2/21-3/16/16	Doran Regional Park	SON	1m	DeF, mob
Harlequin Duck	3/09/16	Doran Regional Park	SON	1f	BrO
Barrow's Goldeneye	3/18/16	Willow Creek	SON	1f	BrO
Hooded Merganser	2/28/16	Schollenberger Park	SON	2	BoD, mob
Hooded Merganser	3/14/16	Spring Lake Reg. Pk	SON	2	RAR, WeD, mob
Hooded Merganser	3/05/16	Willowbrook Court	SON	6	AIW
Red-necked Grebe	3/16-18/16	Doran Regional Park	SON	3+	EuH,DAH,mob
White-faced Ibis	2/21-3/19/16	Ellis Creek Ponds	SON	9	BoD, mob
Bald Eagle	2/26/16	Lower Austin Creek	SON	1a	PaC
Bald Eagle	2/29/16	Fountaingrove Pkwy	SON	1a	AIW
Ferruginous Hawk	2/26/16	Chileno Valley Road	SON	1	DaS, mob
Peregrine Falcon	2/26/16	Carmody Road pond	SON	1	DaS, mob
Prairie Falcon	2/28/16	Maxwell Farms Reg. Pk	SON	1	ChH
Sandhill Crane	2/21-3/20/16	Delta Pond fields	SON	1	ChS, mob
Iceland Gull (Kumlien's)	2/23-3/14/16	Luchessi Park	SON	1im	ChH, mob
Note: Identification must be confirmed by the CBRC.					
Black-legged Kittiwake	3/07/16	Russian River mouth	SON	1	LiH
Rufous Hummingbird	3/14/16	Sebastopol yard	SON	1m	ScC
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3/18/16	S.R. Mem. Pk Cem.	SON	1	DeD
Barn Swallow	3/05/16	Willow Creek Road	SON	1	ScS, DoK, GaT
Vesper Sparrow	2/21-2/20/16	Tolay Regional Park	SON	1	ChH, mob
Vesper Sparrow	2/25/16	W. Copeland Crk Trl	SON	1	ScS
Grasshopper Sparrow	2/24/16	Crane Creek Reg. Pk	SON	1	Ma&LuS
Red Fox Sparrow	2/28-3/06/16	Kenwood yard	SON	1	RAR
Great-tailed Grackle	3/10/16	M. L. King Jr. Park	SON	13	Br&OrO

Observer/s for this period: Scott Carey, Pamela Conley, Wendy Danridge, Debbie Drechsler, Bob Dyer, Dea Freid, Chris Harbard, Mike Heffernon, David A. Hofmann, Lisa Hug, Eugene Hunn, Don Kirker, Brook & Orion OConnor, Ruth Ann Rudesill, Chris Shuck, Dave Shuford, Scott Sorby, Mark & Lucas Stephenson, Alan Wight

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

PISHING WITH PARMETER- SOUTHERN COLUMBIA, 1975

In July, 1975, Gordie Bolander, John Parmeter, and myself were fortunate to be invited by Dr. Van Remsen on a 4 week birding tour of Columbia. Van was finishing up his doctoral studies of the Neotropical Kingfishers in South America. He is now a distinguished ornithologist, Professor of Zoology at LSU, curator of the Natural History Museum at that institution, and chairman of the South American Checklist Committee. There were ten of us in the group. Gordie, John, and I arrived in Cali in southern Columbia, in the Cauca Valley between the West and Central Andes, on July 4th. We proceeded into the city by taxi, where the 3 of us from Sonoma County were to meet the others at the Aristi Hotel. On the way into town, we crossed a heavily wooded stream and talked the driver into stopping for a few minutes. We were very fortunate to locate Dwarf Cuckoos! The following day our entire group returned to observe this species.

Our first full day was spent at West Crest, a few miles west of Cali. Highlights that day included: Southern Lapwing, Shiny Catbird, Wattled Jacana, Ruddy-winged Flycatcher, Blue-and-White Swallow, Flame-rumped Tanager, Spectacled Parrolet, Ruddy-breasted Seedeater, Dark-billed Cuckoo, Rieffer's Hummingbird, Gray Seedeater, Pied Water-Tyrant, Pale-breasted Spinetail, and, at day's end, back to the Dwarf Cuckoo.

We returned to the same area the next day, adding these lifers: Azara's Spinetail, Metallic-green Tanager, Three-striped Warbler, Red-faced Spinetail, Golden Tanager, Oleaginous Hemispingus, Speckled Hummingbird, Streak-necked Flycatcher, Black-billed Robin, Saffron-crowned Tanager, Beryl-spangled Tanager, Booted Racket-tail Hummingbird, Glossy-backed Thrush, Golden-naped Tanager, Multicolored Tanager, Olivaceous Piculet, Bronzy Inca, Yellow-billed Siskin (same genus as our siskin), Green Honeycreeper, Bay-headed Tanager, Streaked Saltator, Orange-bellied Euphonia, Andean Solitaire (same genus as ours), Crimson-rumped Toucanet, Greenish Puffleg Hummingbird, Scrub Tanager, Crested Quetzal, Ash-throated Bush Tanager, Blue-winged Mountain-tanager, Chestnut-crowned Ant Pitta, Yellow-faced Grassquit, and Chestnut-breasted Wren.

Quite a list for 2 days; all lifers! It was raining one of the days, and we missed breakfast. An inn owner opened his restaurant for us, serving us bacon and eggs. A wonderful meal! That evening we had dinner at the Aristi Hotel while working on the day list.

The trip continued in this fashion, with lots of lifers every day. We spent 10 days in the Andes, then flew to Leticia on the Amazon, spending another two weeks there. More to follow..... *Mike~*

Report from our President:

Election of 2016-2017 RROS Officers-

No nominations were made from the floor, so here is the slate:

President - Ruth Rudesill
Vice President - Will Anderson
Secretary - Rita Bevans
Treasurer - Don Howard

We will vote at the April meeting. We have created a new Committee Chair - Membership (was a part of Treasurer job) **Rob O'Donnell** has accepted this new role. Thank you, Rob.

RROS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS:

Rick and Dede Sabbag, Sonoma, CA

Al Hesla, Peteluma, CA

Deb Shepparo, Petaluma, CA

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 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	ruthier@sonic.net	833-6026
Vice Pres - Terry Haag	1340 Big Plum Dr., Sebastopol 95472	teresitahaag@comcast.net	823-8527
Secretary - Rita Bevans	237 Deanna Pl. Windsor, Ca. 95492	ritanbill@comcast.net	484-3704
Treasurer - Don Howard	979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma 94954	binkybunji2@comcast.net	637-0868

Committee Chairs

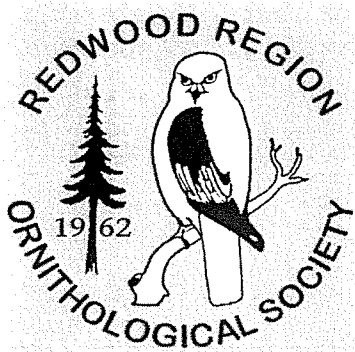
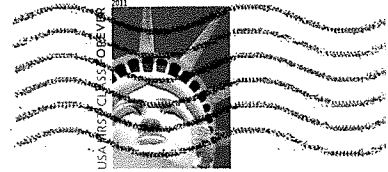
Field Trips - Gene Hunn,	204 Fair Ave., Petaluma, 94954	enhunn323@comcast.net	981-7301
Observations- David Hofmann	2021 Pioneer Wy #47 Santa Rosa 95403	nnamfoh@comcast.net	546-0325
Christmas Bird Count - Bill Doyle	86 Westgate Circle, SRosa, 95401	shortbill@comcast.net	483-8773
Kite Tales - - Bill Doyle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

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

KITE TALES
979 Hogwarts Circle
Petaluma CA 94954

SAN FRANCISCO CA 941

25 MAR 2016 PM 4 L



BENJAMIN D PARMETER, MD
2500 EMERSON ST
NAPA, CA 94558

