

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BLUEBIRD CLUB

April 2, 2016

Bill Wallace opened the meeting at 9:05. There were 37 present. New comers were invited to introduce themselves: **Susan Pomaltto** from N. Tustin and **Jim Keally, Bob Keally's** brother.

Jo-Ann Collier proposed that SCBC give an honorarium of \$100.00 to **Floyd Sabins**. Floyd has been making boxes for the club for many years. Through a program from his former employer, Chevron, we have been the recipient of \$1,500.00. For every 40 hours of volunteering by Floyd, for a nonprofit, Chevron will give the nonprofit \$500.00. We will soon be receiving another \$500.00. There was a discussion and **Jim Semelroth** seconded the motion which was approved.

Jo-Ann Collier presented her latest art project that she is donating to the club to help raise funds. She has painted animals that use dead and dying trees on a rock. Each rock has one animal. On the lid of the box they come in she has created a poem that describes the animal and asks what animal they think is in the box. In the box is a card with the correct answer and the painted rock. She is asking a donation of \$10.00 each. She plans to have many available to sell at the Greenscene at Cal State Fullerton on April 16 and 17th. **Jo-Ann** also brought squeeze bottles that contain Diatomaceous Earth, food grade. It is used to kill bugs that can infest the bluebird box nests and harm the nestlings. She explained that if there are nestlings in the box to dust under the nest so the nestlings won't breathe in the dust.

Treasurer's report by Jo-Ann Collier: SCBC income \$257.00, expenses \$646.92 for the new flyers, Net total \$2617.99. CCI income \$86.40 from Laguna Hills Audubon, expenses \$287.50, professional services, other expenses \$242.62, Net total \$6598.03. Total combined Net \$9216.02.

Cavity Conservation Initiative Report by Gillian Martin: Gillian was unable to attend. She forwarded a power point presentation to **Jim Semelroth**.

At a conference in Portland, Oregon Gillian presented information on how to recruit a snag and how to expediate a snag's value by de-limbing a tree by 25% and leaving jagged cuts. Then she discussed how to create a cavity in the dead tree, creating a wood cover with an entrance and nail that over the opening.

Gillian presented her program for a class of environmental education students at Pitzer College in Claremont.

The Tennessee Bluebird Society sent their logo to show support of CCI and requested an article for their newsletter.

Bluebirds found woodpecker cavities in Mason Park and Carbon Canyon in Orange County.

100 new Wildlife tree signs for dead and dying trees are now available for \$5.00 each. They are available for purchase on the SCBC web site using Paypal.

The first of several snag surveys for our Audubon California Grant were completed with Laguna Hills Audubon. 18 dead trees were recovered for the Laguna Niguel Regional Park's tree inventory. Three new snags were retained in January 2016. They have new site excavations started by Woodpeckers. Two other trees have active woodpecker nests.

Bill Wallace reminded us about Greenscene at the Fullerton Arboretum, Cal State Fullerton, on April 16-17. Saturday and Sunday 10:00 to 4:00. \$8.00

Bob Franz will be doing a Bluebird presentation at Roger's Garden, Newport Bch, on April 9th at 9:00 am.

Bob Keally is refurbishing boxes. He said that the boxes we got from a scout last month needed some attention. Check for roughness on hole, check the hook to make sure it is secure inside the box, possibly putting more caulking on it, and also check to sure the screws are tight.

Jo-Ann Collie has a nest that had eggs in it on March 4th. **Bill Wallace** said he had eggs in one of his nest on March 8th.

Susan Bulger presented the new handouts that she and Gillian have put many hours into to bring them up to date and concise. **Bird Protection Laws, Why We Report Yearly Totals, The Secret Life of Western Bluebirds, and How to Monitor a Nest Box in Southern California.**

Susan Bulger discussed the need to keep birdbaths and feeders clean with fresh water and food. Fresh water every day and clean every three days. The birdbaths and feeders can be a source of germs and disease. Hummingbirds tongues can swell from dirty feeders. One tablespoon of bleach can be put in one gallon of water for the birdbaths.

Susan Bulger notified us that 30 boxes in Brea need a monitor. The woman that was taking care of them has cancer.

Respectfully Submitted by

Danette Davis