

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BLUEBIRD CLUB

January 7, 2017

Irvine Water District Meeting Room

Bill Wallace opened meeting at 9:05. There were no new attendees. There were 29 present.

JoAnn Collier gave treasurers report: **CCI** donations \$317.78, expenses \$333.53, Net total \$6734.95.

SCBC donations \$88.00, expenses \$1.76, sales tax sent in \$23.64, Net total \$4174.45. Combined total \$10,909.40.

Gillian Martin CCI Report: **Gillian** has developed the poster for the Bird Festival in San Diego. She will be giving a presentation. February 23-26, \$10 registration to attend, Sunday is family day and **Bill Wallace** will help man a booth.

She has discussed with the President of the Wood Duck club, after reading many of their articles, that all cavity nester clubs should meet and discuss similar problems and solutions. She also mentioned that they should be open to letting the Northern Flicker nest in their boxes since the NOFL is in danger due to habitat loss. The Tree of Life Nursery has asked her to create a list of plants which would support bluebirds in the fall and winter and give a talk on that. She noticed in a neighbor’s yard a huge magnolia tree. In the tree, there was a large flock of bluebirds eating the fruit from it. She talked to Cornell’s Nest Watch Program staff, Robyn Bailey. They discussed that the Northern Flicker and Oak Titmouse need more help with nest boxes than Western/Eastern Bluebirds. **Gillian** reported that in Mason Park in Irvine there was an owl that used a tree to hunt from that bluebirds and woodpeckers use to nest in. She found an owl pellet on the ground by the tree.

CBRP: Nestbox Data Summary for all Spaces 1996 – 2016

1996	169 reporters	2,400 boxes	21 counties	16 species	5,077 fledglings
2016	178	5,793	21	21	19,873

AVERAGES

Counties 24 (high was 37 in 1999)

Reporters 177 (high 326 in 1998)

Species 19 (high 24 in 2013)

Fledglings 14,740 (high 20,737 in 2010, first time reports from Merced)

Species other than bluebirds 23 (most frequent were violet green swallow, oak titmouse, house wren)

Estimated total fledgling’s 20 years 294,800 (50% believe to die in first year)

Total fledglings for Orange County 2007 – 2015 about 65,046

Woodpeckers will make a cavity in Saguaro Cactus. They excavate the hole and then must wait until it dries and hardens. During that time, they must protect it from other birds. Gila Woodpeckers, Gilded Flickers, Ash throated Flycatchers, Purple Martins , and House Sparrows will also nest in the Saguaro Boot. Gila Woodpeckers act as pollinators for the plant and will disperse the seeds.

Date Palms also support cavity nesters. In Hawaii the only cavity nester, Akepa, will only nest in the Ohia tree. Unfortunately, that tree is being killed due to two non-native fungi.

Meeting ended with a cute video of Burrowing Owls shown by **Jim Semelroth** and trail tales.

Respectfully Submitted

By **Danette Davis**, Secretary