

The Southern California Bluebird Club

Meeting Notes

September 6, 2014

Bob Franz opened the meeting at 9:00. 36 people were in attendance.

Bob Keely introduced Eagle Scout **James Richy**. James had completed his project of building 50 bluebird boxes and wanted to donate his left over supplies. He also donated \$162.76 from the funds he raised to build the boxes.

JoAnn Coller was recognized by the club for her significant contributions to the Southern California Bluebird Club. She is the Treasurer, she was the secretary until recently, JoAnn led the efforts in organizing the California NAB'S convention, maintains the spread sheet that document nestbox locations, quantities and monitor names in OC. She also organized and manned the booth at the OC Fair with the help of 32 of her friends. JoAnn was presented a plaque made by **Dick Purvis**, **Bob Keely** gave her a bluebird cap, and **Bob Franz** presented her with two gift certificates for dinners with a card signed by many of her grateful friends.

JoAnn Coller presented the Treasury Report for SCBC Total OC Fair Income \$1672.28, received a \$500.00 donation from Chevron Corp due to Floyd Sabins' donation of the bluebird boxes he made for us. Net balance is \$7948.82. CCI: Wildlife signs \$20.00, teaching materials and print \$369.77, Net balance \$6973.92.

CCI Report: **Gillian Martin** attended a workshop for environmental educators to prepare them for upcoming changes in educational standards and methods for elementary and secondary schools. Substantial changes are planned for what is now termed the Next Generation Science Standards. It was made very clear that if environmental educators wish to have schools use their indoors or outdoors programs they will also have to be in compliance with these new standards and teaching strategies.

Gillian also attended a two-day workshop on grant writing. The cost of the workshop was \$455. Gillian personally contributed 50% of the cost and the remaining charge will be withdrawn from CCI funds. Prior approval was given by the SCBC.

The CCI had two more requests from out of state for Wildlife Tree Signs. Gillian's uses the shipping opportunity to send materials about the CCI as well as a free Wildlife Tree Warden patch.

More changes have had to be made to the teacher's loaner kit in order to meet the requests of Sea and Sage Audubon. This has required a few minor additional purchases, some editing of materials and several more trips to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary.

Gillian introduced **Lexy Stanley**, a 19th grade intern who worked with her this past spring. Lexy did a slide show presentation for club members which illustrated her many experiences as an intern with the CCI. Because of her experience with Gillian, Lexy gained an internship with the Marine Institute.

Gillian and Lexy worked with a professional videographer to video tape Lexy singing a new song created for the youth program by **Gary Livesey and Gillian**. The song is titled *This Old Tree*. It delivers the message of the program. The song will be used in the school program, placed on the CCI website and probably posted on social media.

Bob Franz requested a vote on purchasing a decal he designed for the bluebird boxes that would deter people from disturbing the boxes, but if it fell it would give information of who to contact. They would be waterproof and would stick to the bottom, sides, or top of the boxes. For \$310.00 we could get 1,000 with two colors. It was voted and approved.

Bob Franz discussed the three types of lifters. Dick Purvis' cost about \$3.00 for him to make. The strap lifter from South County cost \$17.00, and the 3rd option was \$25.00. It was decided that if a member wanted a different lifter than Dick's we could put in an order.

Bob Franz: Year End Activities

Clean our nest boxes (don't have to sanitize).

Inspect structure, hooks, nails, cracks.

Move if in bad spot: too much sun, water hitting it, predatory animals bothering it.

Fill out Database

BrightSource Energy plant in the Mojave Desert is having an alarming impact on the birds that fly through the plant's concentrated sun rays. The workers have a name for the birds – "streamers", for the smoke plume that comes from birds that ignite in midair. The Audubon Society is calling for a thorough track of bird kills there for a year, including during annual migratory seasons, before granting any more permits for that kind of solar technology.

Jim Semelroth presented a slideshow of his visit to the Heartland of the U.S. He just couldn't get away from us. He had many pictures of a bluebird box trail and a pub named "Sully".

Respectfully submitted by

Danette Davis