

SCBC MEETING NOTES (90th meeting)

34 present

JULY 5, 2014

Bob Franz opened the meeting at 9:00.

Jim Semelroth introduced his friend **Dave Salahi**, who recently retired and was interested in photography. **Chuck Nelson** is a science teacher at two elementary schools in Irvine (University Elem and Bonita Elem). He has started a LIFE CLUB (Little Individuals for the Environment) and would like speakers to come and he would like suggestions for activities. **Gillian Martin** is going to be in touch with him.

Treasurer's Report for SCBC: We had a total of \$553.00 income this past month from T-shirt sales, caps, books, and donations. We have a total of \$1180.00 in expenses. \$1,000. For the Saddleback Grant, the rest was for reimbursement, and insurance. Current Balance is \$5613.00.

Treasurer's Report for CCI: Gillian received a grant for \$4150. From the Edison Co. She received a donation of \$500.00 from Judith Tanasse. The total expenses were \$1703.40 for teaching mat, printing and education mat for patch. Current Balance is \$7528.54.

Jim Semelroth is going to look into the cost for the Strap Lifter versus the Purvis Lifter.

JoAnn Coller handed out the envelopes with the passes for the OC Fair for the people who have signed up. There are more spots that need to be filled. You get a free entrance pass, free parking pass, and free shuttle to the Fair. Its great fun and you get to meet a lot of nice people. Contact JoAnn if you are interested.

Bob Franz discussed the Nestbox Hook Material: It has been discovered that not all 9 gage wire is the same. There are variable strengths and we can't judge from looking at it. JoAnn Coller mentioned and **Bob Franz and Dick Purvis** agreed that if you are concerned about the hooks that you should make a sharp bend (an upside down v shape) at the top to help it hold onto the tree better.

Jim Semelroth discussed his motion last month about a establishing a Scholarship fund. He never proposed to award money to anyone. To make it as easy as possible we would give the money to an already established scholarship fund and only request that the person getting it would be doing some research about birds. This way we wouldn't have to make up all the rules or interview students.

Bob Franz presented his idea about a nestbox decal. It would have our club name, that this box held a protected bird, and what to do if they found the box. Some suggestions were that there

would be a blank area that individuals could write in the information that they felt comfortable with such as name, **email address, or telephone number.**

Gillian Martin reported on the CCI project. Two hundred and seventy Girl Scouts heard a program on the value of dead trees at their end-of-the-school year camp at Hart Park in Orange. Following the program the Scouts created a large mural and several posters illustrating the value of snags to wildlife. The mural will be hung in the Scout headquarters. Gillian had help from **Ann Green, Bob Hodgins and Joan Miller** in providing this all day event. During this camp event a small group of the Scouts painted 21 nest boxes for the club.

Gillian has been working on three products for the educational program all of which were included and almost totally covered by the Edison grant. The first is the creation of a large wildlife tree poster. The services of a professional illustrator and a post-doctorate biologist are being used to ensure the quality and biological accuracy of the poster. The poster is expected to be completed by mid-September. It will be donated to classrooms which incorporate the snag program into their curriculum and will be sold to other sources in the hope of partly replenishing printing costs.

The second item is the production of an embroidered patch to be used as an award to kids who complete a field study of snags. An order has been placed for 500 patches for a total of \$425. Half of this cost was covered by the grant from the Edison Company.

The third item covered by the grant is the production of the woodpecker mascot for the teacher's loaner kit. The mascot is now completed and ready to be included in the teacher's loaner kit. His name will be Mr. Edison, in credit to the Edison Company which has funded the cost of the teacher's loaner kit.

Jim Semelroth: He has given his Bluebird Power Point presentation to over 3,000 people. He uses the equipment that the club purchased. He passed around a thank you book that was put together for him from a kindergarten class. He next has a nest box building presentation with a church youth program.

Guest Speaker: **Steve Kaye**, photographer and speaker. He presented a beautiful, informative and funny slide show about birds. He gave three suggestions on how we can help the birds: Keep your cats inside, Do not use poisons, and contact officials that make policy about our environment and let them know where you stand on issues. He told about Elfin Forest and how it was saved from houses being built by people in the area purchasing the land. He requested we go to www.respect.works and click on the link "meet the Western Bluebird."