

SOUTHERN CALIFRONA BLUEBIRD CLUB

May 3, 2014

Minutes

Bob Franz opened the meeting at 9:05 am. There were 35 in attendance. Visitors introduced: **Cynthia, David, and Robert** from Laguna Woods.

Update on **Dick Purvis**: He is recovering at home from Triple Bypass surgery. He is not to do anything more than walk for at least 3 months. **Bill Wallace** reported that several people have volunteered to help out with his trails. **Norm Franz**, Bob's son, is looking after the boxes in Irvine.

Treasurer's Report by **JoAnn Coller**: SCBC Received \$1300.00 from the Green Scene for merchandise and donations. Received additional donations of \$1,634.00. Net total in bank account is \$5,933.75. CCI has a net balance in the bank of \$4,731.82.

JoAnn Coller reported that College Canyon needs 20 more boxes. 40 boxes will be needed by July.

Jim Semelroth presented in Laguna Woods to a small group of 10 ladies. Donation of \$65.00. Bob Franz presented to Friends of the Canyon Hills Library, received \$50.00.

Gillian Martin's CCI Report

To date students from 26 elementary school classes have received a lesson on the value of snags and needs of cavity nesters.

Casper's Park Adventure Day was very gratifying. Intern, **Lexy Stanley**, was indispensable to Gillian. Elena Heary and her husband also helped.

On Friday, 25 April, Lexy did a program at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary for a group of 20 from her homeschool. She will report more about that at her presentation for the club at the June meeting.

By next Tuesday we will have Wildlife Tree metal plate signs suitable for nailing to dead trees. Gillian ordered 50 of them at a cost of \$6.50 each.

Gillian and Star Howard from Sea and Sage Audubon obtained permission from UCI to scout a large section of open space adjacent to the campus. The goal is to survey the great number of dead trees there to determine their value to cavity nesting birds and other wildlife. This survey is scheduled for May 18th

Gillian made contact with the Supervisor of Landscaping of the City of Irvine, Dennis Chiotti, to start a conversation about snag retention in the city's parks. He was polite but very circumspect

about the prospect. Gillian has sent him a short slide show and several other printed materials but as yet has not heard from him.

Gillian has added many educational resources to the CCI website which are suitable for teachers. The resources are listed by grade level and there is a separate category of resources for use on field trips.

Gillian shared an article about the CCI and the value of dead trees which was written by Jennifer Meyers for The Register on Saturday April 19th.

Gillian read a letter from John Gannaway of OC Parks in which he responded to the Wildlife Tree Program proposal that she submitted to the county. The letter states his support of the program as well as the proposed pilot project for Craig Park. The proposal will proceed to Jacky Cordero, Manager overseeing our Operations Support Group who will be assigned to develop an all-inclusive OC Parks policy outlining department expectations for a Wildlife Tree Program to be included throughout all regional parks where feasible and to be written into park policy for perpetuity.

Kiwanis Duck Race: **Sue Bolger** reported a donation of \$67.50.

Green Scene: **Bill Wallace** reported that this was the 4th year he had a booth at the Green Scene. Last year we received \$900.00 in donations and this year we received \$1,300.00. He has a sign that encourages people to pick up the Easter grass left in the parks after Easter Egg Hunts. **Gillian Martin** suggested it was a great way to give back to the parks. Bill talked to some homeless people and found them to be very interested and concerned about the Easter grass.

OC Fair: **JoAnn Coller** handed out a signup sheet for the OC Fair, July 11th to August 10th, 2014. The spots are for 4 hrs. You get a free pass and free parking.

NASBS Conference: Bob Franz reported that the date will be June 13-15 in Boise, Idaho. It will be hosted by Lens, INC with help from the Golden Eagle Audubon Society.

Girl Scouts Silver Award Project: **Carly Wimer and Katie Toblesky** partnered with **Bob Keally** in making 16 boxes. Bob Franz installed and is monitoring them at the Tri-City Park and Yorba Regional Park. They were placed near existing boxes to determine which boxes the birds would prefer. At this time the old boxes are being used more.

Love Fullerton: **Sue Bulger** reported that this was an opportunity to volunteer at the 1st Annual City Wide service day. May 17th, 2014. There will be over 50 different work projects. Meet at 8:00am at 121 E. Wilshire, Fullerton, Ca.

Bird Rehabbers: Vicki Anderson is the only know private bird rehabber that we can call on. He requested we make a list to put on the web site of any others that are in our area. **Gillian Martin** said she would get the list that the Sea and Sage Audubon Society has.

Speaker: **Ellen Sorensen** presented her research about Bluebird nests. She is a student at CSUF. **Susan Bulger, Jim Rogers and Bob Franz** partnered with Ellen and **Jeanne Tiegs** in their analytical study. Their advisor from the CSUF was **Dr. William Hoese**. They studied the first and second nests to determine if the nest were different in their insulation properties. There were no significant differences in nest measurements from the nests at the beginning of the season and the nest later in the season. The study raised more questions that might be addressed by others next year as Ellen has graduated.

Respectfully Submitted by **Danette Davis**