SCBC Meeting Notes

February 1, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 by Bob Franz. There were 38 in attendance.

New Attendees: **Fran and Joe Gionet**, heard about the club at Acorn Day. **Betsy Starkweather** is making boxes for the club. **Colleen and Chris Kvaska**, this is their 5th year monitoring boxes. They have 15 boxes in Anaheim Hills. **James Rictchey** and his father, James is working on his Eagle Scout project. He plans to make 25 boxes. He is from Troop 319 in Huntington Beach. Four girls from Two Girl Scout Troops were present selling Girl Scout Cookies after the meeting. **Katie and Carla**, from Troop 1010 made 18 boxes. Nine boxes were placed in the Tri City Park and nine will be placed in Yorba Regional Park.

Treasurer's Report by **JoAnn Coller** for SCBC: Start of the year balance was $6,607.03. Donations $183.00, Sales Tax $97.00 for 2013, Special Events $155.00, Total Expenses $252.00, Net on February 1, 2014 was $6,538.03. JoAnn announced we now have collared shirts with our logo on the back and SCBC on the front.

Treasurer's Report by **JoAnn Coller** for CCI: Start of the year balance was $2,170.02, Grant received $1,000.00, Printing Cost $519.48, Net Balance for February 1, 2014 $2,650.54.

CCI Report by **Gillian Martin**:

OC Register Article: How to fill an empty nest box: The box needs to be the right size for the species, correct size of hole, no perches, adequate ventilation and drainage holes, grooved interior walls for certain birds. Bluebirds do not need the grooves to assist them getting out of the box, roof should be made of wood , not metal, and consider location, location! In the shade, facing away from the wind, and high in a tree.

Interesting article published in the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1915 about the Diet of Bluebirds. The concern was that the birds were danger to agriculture and horticulture. It was determined that they rarely ate the fruit of cultivated plants. It was established that they are predominately insectivorous. The principal prey is protein, especially for the young.

Nestbox Refurbishing checklist: It is important to check the integrity of your boxes every year and if you have received new boxes you need to check: the roof attachment (that it wasn't attached with a nail gun), the hole is of proper dimensions and the hole is smooth, tightness of seams (don't use caulking), hook is of the proper metal and that it is attached properly inside the lid of the box.

Origin of the **Dick Purvis** hook and lifter: In 1984 Dick went to a NABS Convention in Boise, Oregon. He heard a speaker describe how he added a hook to the back of his boxes to enable him to place them high above the ground – as much as 18 feet. He also fashioned a square box with an open top, just large enough to hold a nest box, which he clamped to an aluminum extension pole. Dick went home and designed a yoke from PVC onto which he installed his wood nestbox holder that would enable it to

swivel freely when lifted on the end of a pool pole – and so the Purvis lifter was born. It is estimated that he has built over 100 lifters. Dick says it takes 1 hr 15 min, while he is watching TV.

A volunteer to take over the spreadsheet of all the trails was requested for to relieve JoAnn of some of her many duties. **Bill Wallace** said he would do it.

Flyers for golf courses to try to get more monitors were made by Gillian Martin with the help of JoAnn and **Susan Bulger**.

Presentations: **Bob Franz** did one at Wild Birds Unlimited and received $100.00 donation. Jim Semelroth and **Gillian Martin** did a presentation at O'Neil Park for 20 kids and 8 parents.

It was suggested that a plaque should be made for Wild Birds Unlimited to hang in their shop because they have been very generous to our club. Over the years they have donated over $600.00.

The Autubon House at the San Joaquin Marsh in Irvine is selling Bluebird Boxes.

It was suggested that when we recruit new monitors that they be given small trails to not over whelm them.

Respectfully submitted by **Danette Davis**