

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BLUEBIRD CLUB

December 3, 2016

### Irvine Water District Meeting Room

**Bill Wallace** opened the meeting at 9:05. There were about 23 people in attendance.

**Jo-Ann Collier's Treasurer Report:** SCBC Income \$18.00, Expenses (Green Scene booth) \$325.00, Net \$4057.33. CCI Expenses \$121.15, Net \$6750.70. Combined Net \$10,808.03.

**Gillian Martin's CCI Review:** Presented in Power Point form with Gillian expanding on the info. **Tree Care for Birds and other Wildlife Project** held their 5<sup>th</sup> workshop. It is a 3-year project. They are half-way through that time frame. **Best Management Practices** is 38 pages so far. There are illustrations of 10 nest and habitat types. They are developing educational strategies for the public to understand why it is important to hire the tree trimmers that are trained in best practices, and to educate the professionals.

**Wood Duck Society** agreed to write an article promoting dead trees. **Laguna Hills Audubon** is collaborating with CCI providing a funding grant. San Diego Naturalist museum and the US Fish and Wildlife Service rediscovered the **San Bernardino Flying Squirrel in the San Jacinto Mountains**. They haven't been seen there in 100 years. They are cavity nesters. US Forest Service records over 66 million dead trees in California Forests. There are several reasons for this: Four consecutive years of drought, The bark beetle infestations, warmer temperature, this level has allowed the beetles to breed longer. Governor Brown has formed a Tree Mortality Task Force to remove trees, 77,000 to date. There is a debate about the conflicting priorities: fire prevention, salvage lumber industry and ecological benefits of dead trees. 56% of last year's budget of the US Forest Service was consumed by fire management, therefor depleting its funds for forest clearing and restoration.

**Do Not Transport Firewood.** It can spread the bark beetle. February meeting Gillian will present the status and future of the bluebird. Larry Mantle on KPCC has a podcast on Snags. **Do not use recorded bird songs during mating and breeding season!**

**SCBC LIBRARY – Susan Bulger:** Many books and magazines are available for borrowing. Preferably for one month at a time.

**Cheri Miller: American Birding Association Code of Ethics:** [www.ABA.org](http://www.ABA.org). Common sense ethics in the treatment of birds. To report banded birds: [reportband.gov](http://reportband.gov). 800-327-band, Pete Bloom. Cheri received a certificate of appreciation from The North American Bird Banding Program.

Bird banding is important for studying the movement, survival and behavior of birds. About 60 million birds representing hundreds of species have been banded in North America since 1904. About 4 million bands have been recovered and reported.

Data from banded birds are used in monitoring populations, setting hunting regulations, restoring endangered species, studying effects of environmental contaminants, and addressing such issues as Avian Influenza, bird hazards at airports, and crop depredations. Results from banding studies support national and international bird conservation programs such as Partners in Flight, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and Wetlands for the Americas.

The North American Bird Banding Program is under the general direction of the U.S. Geological Survey and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Cooperators include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mexico's National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity and Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources; other federal, state and provincial conservation agencies; universities; amateur ornithologists; bird observatories; nature centers; nongovernmental organizations such as Ducks Unlimited and the National Audubon Society; environmental consulting firms and other private sector businesses. However, the most important partner in this cooperative venture is you, the person who voluntarily reported a recovered band. Thank you for your help.

U.S. Geological Survey  
Canadian Wildlife Service

Please Report Bands at  
[www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov)  
or  
call 1-800-327-BAND

**Jim Semelroth** discussed tweaking nestbox design. Submit ideas to **Bill Wallace**.

Next meeting January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully Submitted by

**Danette Davis**