

Southern California Bluebird Club

Minutes January 7, 2012

Irvine Ranch water District

Bob Franz opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. there were twenty one people present with no new members. **Jo-Ann Collier** gave the treasurer report. The club has a balance of \$5393.00 with outstanding bills for lumber and supplies of \$345.70, which leaves a balance of \$5047.30. The club has \$500 in petty cash.

Jim Semelroth reported on publicity for the NABS bluebird conference. NABS will feature our registration forms in their Spring Journal. **Bob Franz** will be distributing conference flyers to wild bird stores and nature centers. Members were encouraged to take a few flyers to pass out to friends and family.

Bob Franz reminded members to call the Orange County Vector Control if they find dead birds. The birds will be tested for West Nile Virus.

Jo-Ann Collier reported that four people have sent in their registration forms for the conference, including Rosie Shultz from Germany. Rosie attended the last conference in Jackson Tennessee. Jo-Ann has set up an account with PayPal which anyone can use to pay their registration fee with a credit card.

Robin Suan suggested we create a live video of a bluebird nest box and put it on our web page. **Jim Semelroth** said that **Mike Spohn** has a solar powered webcam he hopes to have operational this season and which will be linked to the club website. There was some discussion. **Susan Bulger** has a camera in one of her nest boxes. **Bill Wallace** said it would have to be connected to a computer.

Jo-Ann Collier suggested that our club tape a "Three Word Presentation," for ABC news: "We Help Bluebirds". If you are interested in participating we will video tape this after our next meeting on February 11th.

Bill Wallace has located an 80" diagonal screen we can use for our conference for \$258.18. The club agreed to purchase the screen and Bill will order it.

Jim Semelroth has been working with **Dick Blaine** on a new data base for year- end totals. It is a simple process that only requires a total egg, hatchling, and fledgling count for broods 1-3. It should be ready for use at the end of the 2012 season.

Dick Purvis will be doing a presentation for the Whittier Audubon in the near future. **Jim Semelroth** and **Bob Franz** also have presentations scheduled.

Jim Rogers volunteered to redo **Bob Franz's** maps which have stars to indicate where our nest boxes are located. Jim will use his CAD system.

Bob Franz read an article on how birds change the pitch of their song in urban areas to compensate for city noise. The study was done by Marra, a conservation scientist at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute. The article and the bird calls are linked on the club website.

Dick Purvis reported we have several Golf Courses available for monitoring, including the Santa Ana Country Club Golf Course. He encouraged members to recruit new monitors. **Bob Franz** suggested setting up a table at a busy park to recruit monitors.

Susan Bulger is looking for anyone interested in adopting pet rabbits that have been abandoned in her local park.

Respectfully submitted, **Jo-Ann Coller**