

Southern California Bluebird Club

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 2, 2007
8:30 AM

I. Call to order

The monthly meeting of the *Southern California Bluebird Club* was called to order on Saturday, June 2, 2007, at *It's a Grind Coffee Shop*, 24801 Alicia Pkwy #C, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

II. Members Present

Dick Purvis
Bob Franz
Mike Spohn
Sully Reallon
Kappy Hurst
Stan Newton

III. California Bluebird Recovery Program (CBRP)

Mike Spohn advised he has received good material from members for the CBRP newsletter. Thanks to all who submitted articles.

IV. Sea & Sage Audubon Society

Dick Purvis said the affiliation with the S&S Audubon is not going to happen. There are strict requirements we would have to follow including having a member of our club seated on the S&S council. We would also have to change our name to include Audubon. A final requirement would require us to restrict our membership to Orange County residents.

This is very disappointing news for us and it makes you wonder if S&S Audubon's main focus is supporting birders and increasing membership. Sounds like the bureaucracy is in charge.

V. North America Bluebird Society (NABS)

Brian Swanson of NABS contacted Mike Spohn and discussed the possibility of our club becoming a NABS affiliate. Unfortunately, NABS requires affiliates to be organized as a non-profit corporation under 501(c)(3). Now that the S&S Audubon affiliation idea is dead, this is going to be a problem.

Mike Spohn will contact Brian and advise him of our situation. There is agreement by all, an affiliation with NABS would be a good thing for us.

VI. Huell Howser - -PBS Special

Bob Franz reminded everyone to be sure and watch our segment on the Huell Howser *California Green Show* June 19th and July 24th 2007 at 7:30 PM on KCET.

We will be sure to have DVD's of the program for those who miss it. Below is a pre-broadcast description of the program. You can find it here at the bottom of the page. <http://www.calgold.com/green/>

California's Green #128 - BLUEBIRDS

The Western Bluebird once flew across most of California and beyond, but now they are in dire need of our help. Huell joins up with Bob Franz and the Southern California Bluebird Club, who have been working with many other groups across our state to help bluebirds make a recovery. They suffer as much from habitat loss as they do from the introduction of non-native species. Huell takes a springtime tour of some of the nest-boxes filled with hatchlings as he learns about what has been and can be done to help these blue feathered friends that are part of California's Green! Southern California Bluebird Club www.socalbluebirds.org

VII. West Nile Virus

Bob Franz presented a recent article in the OC Register about the problems West Nile Virus is causing. The Eastern bluebird population is seriously affected by this and it is just a matter of time before we start to see it affect our bluebird population. We have a close relationship with Orange County Vector Control who is giving us advice and has sent us information.

VIII. Bluebird Activity

All members present said they have active bluebirds on all their trails. Dick Purvis believes the season has started late and he figures his nesting activity is about 30 days behind last year. This may affect the number of second nestings.

Sully Reallon and Mike Spohn reported good results in their San Clement trails. There are bluebirds nesting in every San Clemente city park except one. This is a terrific start in the reintroduction of bluebirds in South County.

Bob Franz brought a very interesting box created by a new member of the club. It is made out of old wooden wine bottle boxes. This innovative box was created by Gene Mulholland. Mike Spohn said he would take a photo of it and put it on the web site for all to see.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Southern Californian Bluebird Club will be Saturday, July 7, 2007. Location to be determined. We are going to try and find a place closer to the center of Orange County. Keep an eye on the web site for updates.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Minutes submitted by: Michael G. Spohn