



BLUEBIRDS FLY!

\$2.50 Per Issue
Suggested

California Bluebird Recovery Program Newsletter

—Assisted by Mount Diablo Audubon Society —
— An affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society —

“For the encouragement and conservation of cavity-nesters — especially bluebirds — anywhere in the West”

Dick Purvis of Orange County is top producer for 2009

Inside this issue

Director’s Chair 2-3

Top Counties 4-5

Editor’s Notes 6

14 Yr. results 7

Tales from the Trails 8-9

County Coordina- 12

9

This year 174 trail monitors reported results for 265 trails in 19 counties. There were 4189 boxes on these trails producing a total of 15,781 fledglings of which 11,588 were Western Bluebirds. See the 14 year results article elsewhere in this issue for overall data and the Annual Report for all of the details.

Dick Purvis monitored nine trails in two counties for a total of 2207 fledglings of which 2194 were Western Bluebirds. Congratulations to him. Note that of the top ten monitors, seven are primarily Orange county monitors.

Top Producers 2009

Following are the 10 top producers for 2009 (counts are for all counties/trails monitored):

Monitor Name	County	#Trails	#Boxes	#WEBL Fldg	#Total Fledged
Purvis, Dick	Orange	9	350	1558	1563
Tiessen, Irvin	Alameda	1	259	520	1002
Franz, Bob	Orange	1	179	702	844
Purvis, Dick	Los Angeles	4	70	636	644
Tischler, Christine	Orange	2	100	90	461
Bulger, Susan	Orange	1	112	430	430
Violett, Linda	Orange	3	92	357	371
Pauser, Lee & Janna	Santa Clara	8	146	219	345
Reallon, Sully	Orange	5	57	270	336
Croom, Tom	Orange	1	55	156	264



The Director's Chair

Another nesting season ... another year! Happy New Year to all of you.

The major accomplishments for the California Bluebird Recovery Program (CBRP) in 2009 are:

- Participation in the Mountain Bluebird Trail's Children's Bluebird Activity Book as memorial to Don Yoder, founder of CBRP.
- Addition of K-12 educational material to the CBRP web site
- Addition of presentation material to the CBRP web site

And, of course, over 15,000 fledglings

Link to <http://www.mountainbluebirdtrails.com> for a free downloadable PDF version of the Children's Bluebird Activity Book. This activity book is suitable for use with our own children or in a classroom environment. The hardcopy version can be ordered and is available with a discount for multiple copies.

References to material suitable for K-12 education have been added to CBRP.org. Most of these are links to other web sites having well developed curriculum; others are references to sites which are useful for developing your own. If you have educational material which you are willing to share, please let me know.

Several of our members have provided presentations which they have used at garden clubs, Audubon meetings, and etc. These could be useful in making your own presentations. Additional material would be welcome.

Thanks to all of you who entered your 2009 nestbox results into the on-line data base. There is entirely too much data for me to do so. The 2009 Annual Report is included in this issue along with several articles summarizing that data. The results are similar to last year. A brief summary of results is: reports for 265 trails in 19 counties with 4129 nestboxes were reported by 174 trail monitors. A total of 11,588 of the fledgling were Bluebirds (some Mountain but mostly Western) for a total of 15,781 fledglings. See the articles and annual report elsewhere in this issue for details. Also note that this and previous newsletters and annual reports are available for viewing and/or download from <http://cbrp.org>. (Cont. on page 3)

California Bluebird Recovery Program (CBRP) Board Members

Dick Blaine, Program Director — dick@theblaines.net

Georgette Howington, Asst Program Director — georgette@birdscape.net

Dick Purvis, Recruiting — dickersly@aol.com

Dave Cook, Board Member — justdave50@earthlink.net

Michael Spohn, — mspohn@socalbluebirds.org

Jim Semelroth, Editor, — jimsemweed@cox.net

If any of you is interested in looking at or analyzing the information for this or the previous 3 seasons, look at the online database, <http://www.eichlerrealtor.com/birds3>. Log on (or access the database as 'guest' and go the REPORTS section. You will be able to see numerous reports by trail, species, county, etc. In addition any report and/or the entire database can be downloaded into an Excel work-book and further analyzed.

Some goals for CBRP which I brought up in previous newsletters, such as a closer relationship with Audubon chapters and finding additional trail monitors/county coordinators have turned out to be more elusive than I expected and little progress has been made. If any of you have suggestions, please contact me or any of the board members.

I want to extend special thanks to the 34 of you who made donations to CBRP in 2009 (amounting to \$937) - see the contributor list elsewhere in this issue.. The cost for printing and mailing two issues of *Bluebirds Fly!* to 350 people was approximately \$1500. Neither Don Yoder, before me, nor I want to charge annual dues for belonging to CBRP. The policy I have been following is that if a trail monitor submits a report or interested parties contribute there should be no dues. Consequently, I encourage you to donate at least \$5-10 per year to cover the cost of the newsletter. If you would like to contribute more, many, many thanks!

I also want to acknowledge and thank Cynthia Berg, CBRP database programmer, fellow birder and bicyclist for her continued support.

My contact list is missing mailing addresses or email addresses for some of you. If you receive this mailing I have your mailing address. If you receive occasional email (4-6 times per year) I also have your email address. Otherwise, I am missing one or both and would appreciate an update.

Dick Blaine - dick@theblaines.net

About the California Bluebird Recovery Program Founder - Don Yoder; Emeritus - Hatch Graham

Our Mission

Enlist current bluebirders and recruit others who will help reestablish bluebirds to their normal habitat

- ◆ Locate preferred habitat for the placement of nest-boxes suitable for bluebirds
- ◆ Secure monitors to care for the boxes and keep systematic records of the development of young birds during the nesting season
- ◆ Record and analyze all annual summaries of nest-box records
- ◆ Provide a forum (newsletter) through which fellow trail monitors can exchange information and secure help in solving problems encountered in the field.

Learn More

To learn more about the California Bluebird Recovery Program and other cavity nester conservation programs, visit the below web sites:

<http://www.cbrp.org>

<http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org>

<http://www.socalbluebirds.org>

<http://www.sialis.org>

If you are looking for a mentor, start by contacting the county coordinator in your county listed on page 10. You can also contact **Dick Blaine** (dick@theblaines.net) or **Mike Spohn** (mispohn@socalbluebirds.org).

Please consider supporting our efforts. There is a donation form on the back page of this newsletter. Your contribution is tax-deductible and goes a long way in helping us conserve the bluebird population in California.

TopCounties 2009				
County	Trails	#Boxes	#Total Fledged	#WEBL Fldg
Orange	97	1701	7728	6847
Santa Clara	64	833	2398	848
Los Angeles	23	341	1847	1819
Alameda	3	280	1066	552
San Mateo	22	266	555	214
Contra Costa	14	207	523	250
San Diego	17	126	407	112
Riverside	6	89	373	306
Santa Bar- bara	3	62	237	171
El Dorado	2	58	224	171
Amador	1	44	163	146
Shasta	3	21	76	32
Sonoma	2	30	56	23
San Bernar- dino	1	9	54	54
Butte	2	45	29	21
Ventura	1	5	18	4
Sacramento	1	3	12	12
Nevada	2	6	11	6
Mendocino	1	3	4	

ORANGE COUNTY LEADS IN FLEDGLINGS AND NEST-BOXES

With 1701 active nestboxes and 7728 (6847 are WEBL) fledglings, Orange County once more is the top cavity nesting county in the state and produced the most Western Bluebirds in the state. The number of fledgling jumped 15% from 2008 thanks to the dedicated efforts of Orange County trail monitors in general and in particular the Southern California Bluebird Club. This remarkable feat is primarily because of the nearly vandal free hanging boxes placed in parks, golf courses, cemeteries, and urban gardens developed by Dick Purvis, Orange County CBRP Coordinator. Very few of their locations could be considered native habitat but, rather, man-made habitat that would never see a bluebird except for the artificial cavities provided by dedicated blue birders

BLUEBIRD BEHAVIOR/INTELLIGENCE

by **Bob Franz**

A few weeks ago as I approached a nestbox with four eggs in Vaqueros Park in Placentia, I decided it was located much too low in the tree and thus it might attract some unwanted attention. After taking it down and checking the inside, I found a more suitable, and higher, branch in a nearby tree, hung it up, and backed away to insure that the adult pair found it. Five minutes went by, then ten, then fifteen. All this time both adults twittered near the previous location and never showed one visible reaction to the new location. Being a dedicated bluebirder, I returned the nestbox to the original location and this was greeted by loud sounds from both adults as they took turn entering it. Although I still didn't like the low site, I decided to wait until the brood had fledged and move the nestbox to the higher location.

On the other end of the spectrum was an occurrence a few weeks later in Eucalyptus Park in Anaheim Hills. Although the existing nestbox location was suitable and high enough, I decided to move it closer to my car so as to shorten my walk. Initially, I moved it about 20 feet to an adjacent tree and watched the male immediately perch on the top. Flushed with success, I decided to move it to another tree and I was met with similar success.

Why no success in the first situation and immediate success - two times - in the second situation? A difference in intelligence? A difference in eyesight? Just a matter of odds? I'm not sure, but it makes for interesting speculation. .



Bluebirds Everywhere

**Datsun Bluebird begun in 1957
and sold under various names in
different countries.**

Editor's Notes



Bluebirds to Eagles

The latest issue of NABS' Bluebird has an article about Boy Scouts earning merit badges by helping to recover bluebirds. Two Californians, **Alex Krebs and Sean Brady** recently received badges and the prestigious William T. Hornaday Award for Distinguished Service to Conservation. Bluebirders are pleased to work with scouts such as these to help them learn about conservation and advance in their scouting endeavors.

Alex Krebs worked with **Dick Purvis** in building nest boxes, placing them on a trail, monitoring them and recording results. But it didn't end there. Alex set up a wonderful website to spread the word of his achievements with the bluebird trail. See it here.

<http://oc-bluebirds.blogspot.com/> .

Both scouts are also leaders in school, athletics, and community activities. Sean, in receiving the Hornaday award, received it forty years later to the day his father received the same award.

It is rewarding to bluebirders to assist outstanding leaders like Sean and Alex. Our bluebird recovery project is a natural for scouts in their pursuit of advancement and recognition. Everyone wins, we bluebirders, the scouts and the birds.

Jim Semelroth, Editor—*Bluebirds Fly!*

WONDERFUL VIDEO AVAILABLE

<http://videos.birdsandblooms.com/video/Connies-Bluebird-Nest/player>. Check out this great stop action bluebird feeding. Copy the URL into your browser address line.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

The Great Backyard Bird Count, a joint project of the Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, will take place from February 12-15, 2010. This is a fun event and allows all of us to participate.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual four-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent and in Hawaii. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds.

Participants count birds anywhere for as little or as long as they wish during the four-day period. They tally the highest number of birds of each species seen together at any one time. To report their counts, they fill out an online checklist at the [Great Backyard Bird Count web site](#).

As the count progresses, anyone with Internet access can explore what is being reported from their own towns or anywhere in the United States and Canada. They can also see how this year's numbers compare with those from previous years. Participants may also send in photographs of the birds they see. A selection of images is posted in the [online photo gallery](#).

California Bluebird Recovery Program Fourteen Year Results

(Years 1997 to 2000 omitted to allow table to fit on page. The full fourteen year table ma be seen at cbrp.org)

	1996	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Average*
Counties	21	26	28	30	25	25	19	22	23	19	23.8
Reporters	169	175	193	163	176	148	152	128	163	174	164.1
Species	16	18	18	18	18	19	20	20	18	17	18.2
Boxes (N)	2400	4209	4027	4055	4129	5139	3942	4032	3739	4189	3986.1
Tries (T)	1526	4023	3937	3514	4026	4177	4142	2789	3704	2937	3477.5
T/N	64%	96%	98%	87%	98%	81%	105%	69%	99%	70%	87%
Eggs (E)		23470	23981	17816	19109	22879	24093	20729	20162	21762	21555.7
E/N		5.6	5.9	4.4	4.6	4.5	6.1	5.1	5.4	5.2	5.2
E/T		5.8	6.1	5.1	4.7	4.5	5.8	7.4	5.4	7.4	5.8
Chicks (H)		18501	19250	14429	15500	17888	18707	15889	16475	17967	17178.4
H/N		4.4	4.8	3.6	3.8	3.5	4.7	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.2
H/T		4.6	4.9	4.1	3.8	4.3	4.5	5.7	4.4	6.1	4.7
H/E		79%	80%	81%	81%	78%	78%	77%	82%	82%	80%
Fledged (F)	5077	17399	16201	12720	13700	18414	17330	14188	14222	15781	14503.2
F/N	2.1	4.1	4.0	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.4	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.6
F/T	3.3	4.3	4.1	3.6	3.4	4.4	4.2	5.1	3.8	5.4	4.2
F/E		72%	68%	71%	72%	80%	72%	68%	71%	73%	72%
F/H		92%	84%	88%	88%	103%	93%	89%	86%	88%	90%

- 2005 notes** No data on T,E, H from Ventura or Merced Cos.in 2005
- 2006 notes** 6 counties which reported in 2005 did not report in 2006 & no data on T, E, H from Merced Co. in 2006
- 2007 notes ...** 172 trails reported. Few major producers reported results
- 2008 notes ...** 228 trails reported but several major producers did not report
- 2009 notes ...** 265 trails reported - nest tries down but fledges up? Major producers from 2007 did not report



Fledgling helps feed sisters and brothers



The oldest bluebird spotted this year, 60 years old

TALES FROM THE TRAILS

On my trip to Bozeman, Montana for a nephew's wedding, his Mom, my niece Lisa, picked me up at airport. As we were driving to her home I was wondering where I might find bluebirds in her area. I even had my binoculars in my travel bag. As we began to enter her driveway I suddenly saw a group of our little bluebirds flying about in her own front yard! I exclaimed so loud I startled my niece. The family of bluebirds were also on her back deck with the 3 young ones being cared for under the patio table and under a small overhanging shrub to avoid the occasional hawk. The neighbor has a few low set pole nest boxes, a distance away. I think I saw one male Mountain bluebird. This area is the foothills next to the mountains. I think birds eat Huckleberries besides the many insects from large lawns. Needless to say I was pleasantly amazed. **Marty Marino**

There is always something interesting to see on the trail. Here is a photo taken last Monday of a nest where both Bluebirds and Tree Swallows have eggs in the same nest.



Bluebirds already fledged one clutch from the box earlier in the season.

Then last week, there was one Bluebird egg laid in a normal looking Bluebird nest.

Now the nest has Bluebird eggs in a Tree Swallow nest alongside Tree Swallow eggs.

The first Bluebird egg(s) were probably covered when Tree Swallows built their

nest and started laying, but we won't know for sure until the nest can be dissected after the hatch/fledge.

After taking the photo, I watched to see which species would enter to incubate (a Tree Swallow entered). Therefore, if the Bluebird eggs hatch, they will have to be placed in a foster nest so the fledglings will be fed and cared for after the fledge.

Linda Violet

While on vacation in South Dakota I took a Jeep Safari into the back country of Custer State Park. Along the way I noticed nest boxes mounted on several fence posts. The driver explained that an elderly gentleman placed the boxes there and monitors the birds each year. Upon return to the staging area I saw a Bluebird on the ground next to my car so I took it's picture. A Bird book in the park gift shop confirmed it is a Mountain Bluebird. **Earl Garrison**

There is a vertical cavity in a cypress in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Point Loma, San Diego. The male would sit on the cut off peak with worms for the nestlings. The female usually went right in. There were three chicks in the cavity.

Starlings nested close by, but didn't like this vertical one. **Joseph Worley**

Pair of bluebirds raised their 1st brood in a Sycamore Tree on the east end of Mira Costa Park, after the 1st brood fledged, they moved to the nesting box in a Pine Tree on the west end of the park, and fledged the 2nd brood there. **Diane Etchison**

TALES FROM THE TRAILS

Abandoned Nestlings

I was surprised and delighted to discover a bluebird pair building a nest in my box on my birthday, April 13th of this year. I had hung the box two years earlier and never expected bluebirds to nest in this box. I live in Orange in a suburban neighborhood. The nearest yard for bluebirds to feed is a school yard half a mile from my home.

They accepted my meal worm offerings and succeeded in raising six healthy chicks. They fledged four of the chicks on June 2nd and left my yard. However, two healthy chicks were still in the nest. I waited all day for the parents to return for them but they never came back.

I removed the chicks and began hand-feeding them meal worms. I continued feeding them for three days still hoping the parents would return. Then, while walking my dogs, I found the bluebird parents with their four fledglings in the school yard. They had begun a second brood in an empty box I had hung earlier in the season. I immediately returned home to retrieve the two nestlings. After tossing a handful of meal worms down for the parents, I released the two chicks. As soon as they spotted their parents they began begging for food. I brought them meal worms every day for the next two weeks. **Jo-Ann M. Coller**

After box #1 fledged the 2nd brood, the parents moved to box #2 and fledged a 3rd brood. I do believe it was the same pair of bluebirds. The whole family still comes

back to bath in our birdbath and to eat all the meal worms I put out twice a day. **Sheryn Scherer**

Asked City of Menlo Park to not spray Bt for oak tree caterpillars during nesting season. City complied by not spraying trees wherein nest boxes were located.

City sprayed Bt for caterpillars in April. We attempted to stop them but they only agreed to not spray trees wherein nest boxes were hung. Fledgling mortality related to loss of caterpillars to feed young, we surmise. **Nancy Arbuckle and Anne Miller**

We enjoyed Mom and Dad caring for their 8 chicks. Very entertaining. **Deanna Flintzer**

First Season for Monarch Beach Golf Links in Dana Point CA. Box #62: On May 18th female WEBL was sitting on top of box, male WEBL flew out of box. I opened box and removed a completed wren's nest. On June 02 I checked box, and found a complete WEBL nest with 6 blue WEBL eggs. Chalk one up for the WEBLS. **Sully Reallon**

Boxes 1 & 2 at lower and mid-park had nests and were fiercely guarded by one bluebird pair, with aggressive male who dived at us from time to time. No eggs appeared in either box all season, though I removed box 2 mid-season to help "focus" the pair!

Becky Scholten

SAN DIEGO BIRDERS GATHER

San Diego County has had a history of active bluebirders with individuals in a vast area monitoring nest boxes from sea to mountain. In early November under the leadership of **Marty Marino**, birders from Orange and San Diego Counties gathered for an organizational meeting at Buena Vista Audubon to hear a Power Point presentation from **Sully Reallon and Jim Semelroth**. The attendees shared information, stories, pictures and a video presentation. A follow up meeting is planned to bring county blue birders together on a regular basis to share and build on past experiences and to recruit other bluebirders.



Photo by Zane Poulson

ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY

The eggs were due to hatch the next day and I wanted to see the situation. A city crew was trimming trees I the park. The male and first fledglings were nowhere to be seen. Mama was holding up one leg. Two days later I checked again. One chick was dead, a second was very cold but alive. I gathered the chicks and the two cold eggs and rushed them to my home. Soon the chick was peeping as it warmed. I had another clutch the same age at another site and placed the orphans in that box. The remaining egg looked cracked, but it was only a down hair. The chick was attempting to get out of the shell. I could see it was breathing. I carefully removed part of the shell and the chick joined the others in the nest. I knew that this combined clutch would need extra food, so I hung a food box nearby. The adoptive parents quickly learned to use the new source of mealworms. Every day I checked the box and was so happy that all six chicks fledged. Amazing that the parents accept another pair's orphans. Another part of the mystery of these wonderful birds. **Sue Bulger**

ARTICLES WANTED FOR

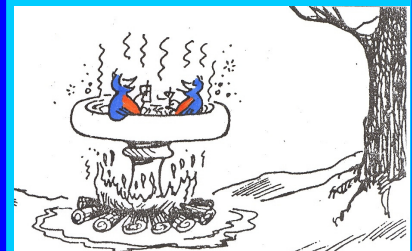
Bluebirds Fly!

Have you had some unusual experiences you would like to share with other bluebirders? *Bluebirds Fly* can always use interesting experiences with our beloved avians. Send them along to me with any photos you might have at

jimsemweed@cox.net. Also, if you have any comments regarding this newsletter, good or bad, let me know. **Jim Semelroth**



Wow, *Bluebirds Fly* really looks great in color on my screen.



Success carried too far

So, they build us these nest boxes, see, then clean them, feed us mealworms, and set up spas. I even found some logs they left. What a life! Hic.

BLUEBIRD EGG PIGMENTATION

Bob Franz

Very often on my bluebird trail when I show a bystander a nest with eggs, the observer asks why the blue color – and how appropriate that bluebirds have blue eggs? I had never been able to answer that question until I read an article on this subject by Scott W. Gillihan in the Winter 2008-09 issue of the NABS newsletter *Bluebird*. Scott bases his article on a study completed by L. Siefertman, K.J. Navara and G.E. Hill, titled “Coloration is Correlated with Female Condition in Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialis sialis*). Although this article is based on the Eastern Bluebird, the information is valid for Western Bluebird as well.

I have included Scott’s article in its entirety below.

“What influences egg pigmentation in Eastern Bluebirds?”

Bluebird eggs come in various shades of blue. The blue pigment comes from a substance called biliverdin, which is produced by the female. But biliverdin also serves other important functions in birds, and using it to color eggs diverts it from these other functions. The authors of the study recognized that coloring eggs must be so important that it outweighs the other functions. But why is it important that their eggs be blue?

One theory is that blue eggs send a message to males that the female is in good physical condition. The authors tested this theory by measuring the health of nesting females, and comparing that to the color of their eggs. They gauged health by calculating the ratio

of body mass to leg length - healthy females should have a higher ratio than less-healthy females because they weigh more. The researchers used a spectrometer to measure how “blue” the eggs were.

What they found was that healthier females laid eggs that were darker blue (the eggs were heavier, too). They also found that older females were more likely to lay “bluer” eggs than younger females. These findings support the idea that females *could* be using pigmentation to let males know that they are healthy. However, the researchers pointed out that the dark interior of nest cavities might prevent males from seeing the egg color. An alternative explanation is that older and healthier females just produce more biliverdin, and more of it ends up in the eggshells. As is often the case, this study answers some questions but raises others, so more research is needed to get to the bottom of why bluebird eggs are blue.”



Eagle Scout Alex Krebs and Dick Purvis

**California Bluebird Recovery Program
County Coordinators
January 2010**

County	First	Last	City	Home#	Email
Alameda	Georgette	Howington	Pleasant Hill	925-686-4392	Georgette@birdscape.net
Amador	Doris & Bill	Allison	Plymouth	209-245-3135	allison@gotsky.com
Calvaras	Jack	Lynch	Angles Camp	209-736-2349	jackplynch@sbcglobal.net
Contra Costa	Georgette	Howington	Pleasant Hill	925-686-4392	Georgette@birdscape.net
Lassen	Tom	Rickman	Susanville	530-251-4949	trickman@fs.fed.us
Los Angeles	Dick	Purvis	Anaheim	714-776-8878	dickersly@aol.com
Madera	William	Righ	Coarsegold		
Marin	Ruth	Beckner	San Rafael	415 479-9542	jabeck1924@cs.com
Mendocino	Michael & Mary- beth	Arago	Fort Bragg	707-962-0507	mmbargo@mcn.org
Merced	Steve	Simmons	Merced	209-722-3540	simwoodduk@aol.com
Napa	David	Graves	Napa	530-755-1480	wavey@saintsbury.com
Orange	Dick	Purvis	Anaheim	714-776-8878	dickersly@aol.com
Placer	Heath	Wakelee	Granite Bay	916 797-4536	towa1@cs.com
Riverside	Erin	Snyder	Riverside	951-683-7691 x 207	snyder@rcrcd.com
Sacramento	Vicki	Butler	Sacramento	(916) 448-8030	butlerrowe@sbcglobal.net
San Bernardino	Glen	Chappell	Redlands	909-794-3470	NG glen.chap@adelphia.net
San Diego	Martin	Marino	Encinitas	626-826-4336	martin.marino@sbcglobal.net
San Joaquin	Thomas	Hoffman	Acmpo	209 369-8578	
San Louis Obispo	Paul & Judy	Burkhardt	Creston Portola Val- ley	805 438-4491	tinhornranch@sbcglobal.net
San Mateo	Susan	Kritzik		650-851-4529	sgkritzik@sbcglobal.net
Santa Barbara	Richard	Willey	Lompoc	805-733-5383	dick.willey@verizon.net
Santa Clara	Mike	Azevedo	Fremont	510-792-4632	levinbluebird@comcast.net
Shasta	Larry	Jordan	Oak Run	530-472-3131	larrytech@frontiernet.net
Solano/Yolo	Melanie	Truan	Davis	530-754-4975	mltruan@ucdavis.edu
Sonoma	Mike	Crumly	Sonoma	707 996-7256	mikec@freixenetusa.com
Tehama	Pete	Flower	Red Bluff	530-527-0392	
Tulare	Peter	Morrison	Visalia	209-733-1154	
Tuolumne	Kathleen & An- drew	Aldrich	Soulsbyville	209-536-1515	

Contributors January - May 2009

BROOD PATCH

A brood patch is a patch of featherless skin that is visible on the underside of [birds](#) during the nesting season. This patch of skin is well supplied with blood vessels at the surface making it possible for the birds to transfer heat to their eggs when incubating. In most species the feathers in the region are shed automatically but ducks and geese may pluck the feathers and use them to line the nest. The feathers of the region regrow soon after the eggs hatch in the case of [pre-social](#) birds but may be delayed in those birds having [altricial](#) young.

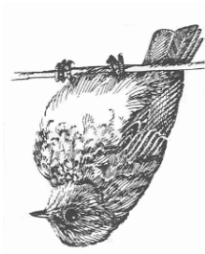
CONTRIBUTIONS REQUESTED

With the many programs CBRP provides, such as the grants, support for the Children’s Bluebird Activity Book and other ongoing programs, CBRP can use more contributions. There is a form on the final page of this newsletter to make a tax-deductible donation. Please consider a contribution so we may continue to support programs that help in the recovery of our beloved birds.



California Bluebird Recovery Program - Contributors
Contributions were \$937 for 2009

Contributor	County	Contributor	County
Nancy Arbuckle	San Mateo	Lee & Sharon Kramer	Orange
Meg Bogue	Butte	Toni & William Link	Contra Costa
Richard Brewster	Orange	Cynthia Lockhart	San Mateo
Sue Carder	San Mateo	Don & Nancy Lorenzen	Santa Clara
Gilbert Collins	Orange	Charles Lowrie	Amador
Deb Conway	Bute	Ken & Lucille Morrison	Amador
David Cook	Santa Clara	Laurie Morrison	Contra Costa
Kurt & Evie Davix	El Dorato	Ken & Lucille Morrison	Amador
Ray DiBasilo	Placerville	Rodney & Marilyn Penland	Sacramento
Ruth Foster	Contra Costa	M & P Ruggles	Placer
Marjorie & James Freda	San Diego	Walter Sakai	Los Angeles
Patricia & Michael Hickey	Sonoma	Barbara Sibio	Sonoma
Barbara Ingle	El Dorado	Bill & Francie Singley	El Dorado
Melvin C Johnson	Riverside	Sam Sperry	Contra Costa
Jean & Robert Jorgensen	Orange	Dorothy Stutzman	IL
Richard Kemmpton	Ventura	Pam Winegar	San Mateo
Carol Killebrew	San Diego	Steve. Wright	Santa Clara



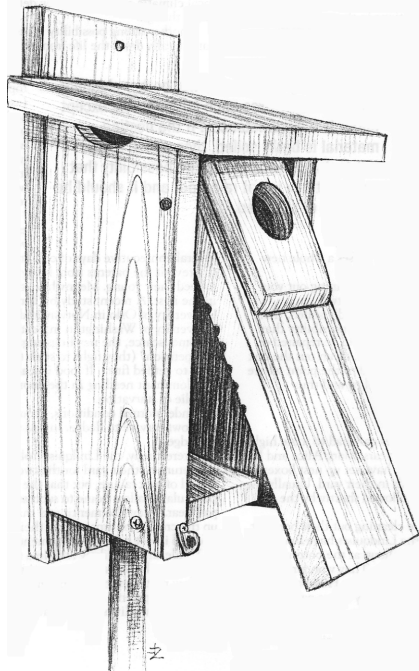
A service of
Mt. Diablo Audubon Society
P O Box 53
Walnut Creek CA 94597-0053

California Bluebird Recovery Program's
Newsletter
Vol. 16, No. 1 Winter, 2010

BLUEBIRDS FLY!

Please send correspondence to CBRP
22284 N. De Anza Circle Cupertino, CA 95014

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Concord, CA
Permit 66



“For the encouragement and preservation of cavity nesters—especially bluebirds—anywhere in the West”

California Bluebird Recovery Program
 A non-profit project
 --Affiliate of North American Bluebird Society
 --Sponsored by National Audubon Society – California

Yes, I want to help encourage Bluebirds in California
Please enroll me in the California Bluebird Recovery Program
 Here is my donation of:

\$10 Subscriber \$15 Supporter \$25 Contributor \$35 or \$_____ Sponsor

Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

County _____

Please make your tax-deductible contribution payable to **MDAS BLUEBIRDS** and mail to:

California Bluebird Recovery Program
22284 N. De Anza Circle
Cupertino, CA 95014