



By Peggy

BLUEBIRDS FLY!

California Bluebird Recovery Program Newsletter

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

\$2.50 Per Issue
Suggested
Donation

www.cbrp.org

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

Results for 2013 are similar to those for 2012. Reports were received covering 20 counties, 169 monitors and 304 trails. These show that the 5664 boxes installed yielded some 19754 fledges of which 13477 were Western Blue Birds and 6277 were distributed among 23 other cavity nesting species. It should come as no surprise that Orange County was again the top producing county for the number of trails, nest tries, total fledges and Western Bluebird fledges. See the table which follows the county-by-county results. It should also not come as a surprise that the top producers were **Steve Simmons** (Merced) with 2406 fledges (mostly Wood Ducks), **Dick Purvis** (Orange) with 1902 fledges (all Western Bluebirds) followed by **Lee Pauser** (Santa Clara), **Irv Tiessen** (Alameda), **Bob Franz** (Orange), **Jim Rogers** (Santa Clara), and **Susan Bulger** (Orange) each of whom fledged more than 500. See the partial table which follows for results by monitor.

The last table summarizes results for 18 years. From 1996 thru 2006 trail-by-trail data were collected from handwritten worksheets, summarized by county coordinators and entered into a statewide spreadsheet. From 2007 thru 2011 box-by-box, trail-by-trail data were entered by monitors directly into a homegrown database. For the past two years trail-by-trail data were entered by monitors directly into a shared spreadsheet. Each method has had its own problems resulting in some inaccuracies. In particular the number of nest tries was incorrect from 2007-2011 leading to errors in all ratios and percentages based on that quantity. Note that for the past two years the number of nest tries is again approximately equal to the number of boxes and so, the resulting ratios are more accurate. **Dick Blaine, CBRP Director**

| Monitor | Tot Fledge | WEBL Fledge | Monitor | Tot Fledge | WEBL Fledge |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|
| 169 | 19754 | 13477 | 169 | 19754 | 13477 |
| Simmons, Steve | 2406 | 260 | Kneeland, Roger | 221 | 225 |
| Purvis, Dick | 1902 | 1902 | Jordan, Kim | 210 | 210 |
| Pauser, Lee | 1066 | 487 | Pahl, Janel | 190 | 190 |
| Tiessen, Irvin | 1062 | 707 | Hurst, Kappy & Fred | 188 | 178 |
| Franz, Bob | 825 | 789 | Semelroth, Jim | 187 | 187 |
| Rogers, Jim | 775 | 522 | Ralph, Bill | 186 | 11 |
| Bulger, Susan | 650 | 650 | Guerrero, Susana | 183 | 178 |
| Violett, Linda | 454 | 417 | Hall, Luise | 170 | 116 |
| Tischer, Christine | 347 | 59 | Herron, John | 151 | 45 |
| Perry, Steve | 316 | 316 | Herder, Rick | 149 | 53 |
| Keally, Bob | 274 | 257 | Vargas, Norm | 148 | 132 |
| Carder, Susan | 270 | 196 | Fulton, Larry | 144 | 144 |
| Coller, Jo-Ann | 267 | 225 | Wetzel, Peter | 141 | 72 |
| Butler, Vicki | 256 | 233 | Wallace, Inge & Bill | 140 | 140 |
| Willey, Richard | 253 | 202 | O'Neal, Martha | 139 | 35 |
| Butler, Vicki | 249 | 0 | Wright, Steve | 136 | 136 |
| Quinlivan, Keith | 241 | 241 | Johnson, Lee | 123 | 123 |
| Howington, Georgette | 241 | 126 | Jordan, Larry | 122 | 72 |
| Merritt, Dick | 230 | 194 | Goldberg, Toby | 121 | 11 |



The Director's Chair

Another nesting season - another year! Happy New Year to all of you and many thanks for participating in our program.

Thanks to all of you who entered your 2013 nestbox results on-line. We simplified data collection by gathering trail-by-trail rather than box-by-box data. In spite of a few hiccups data collection went well. Collecting data by means of a shared spreadsheet residing on Google Drives has one big pitfall – there is no way to protect existing data against accidental damage from other users. By backing up and checking daily I was able to resolve problems as they occurred. In addition data entry using an internet-based spreadsheet is sluggish. Nor was I happy about the functional differences between the Google Drive spreadsheet and Excel; these caused me problems in development and maintenance and data entry as well. This year I added a second worksheet so that I could acquire information about new trails and monitors. This worked for some people but added complexity for others. I will be looking for a different way to collect data in 2014 and will probably simplify the process by eliminating the monitor and trail drop-down lists as well as the NEW worksheet. Although this will simplify data entry I will not be able to maintain consistency in monitor names or trails from year-to-year. Your comments about data collection would be most welcome.

The 2013 Annual Report is not included in this issue because of the size and cost of printing and mailing. The report is available for viewing and/or downloading on our web site: at http://www.cbrp.org/annual_reports/2013ar.pdf. Several articles summarizing the 2013 results will be found in this issue of BBF. 2013 results are similar to those for 2012. Note that this and previous newsletters and annual reports as well as updated, State results (18 year history, box-by-box and trail-by-trail data) are also available on our web site. Link to <http://www.cbrp.org> and look under “Program Results”.

Special thanks to the 22 of you who made donations to CBRP in 2013 (amounting to \$870) - see the 2nd half 2013 contributor list elsewhere in this issue. Donations this year do not quite cover the cost of printing and mailing this issue of the newsletter. I am reluctant to ask for dues and prefer to encourage donations. If donations continue to decline I will revert to on-line newsletters only. Several of you asked me to remind you periodically about the date of your last donation. I have added two numbers after your name on the mailing label for this issue of *Bluebirds Fly!* The first is the date of your most recent contribution in the form yyymm and the second is the amount in the form \$\$\$\$. If these fields are blank then you have not made a contribution in the past three years. My practice is to remove monitors/contributors after three years with no activity.

Remember to start getting ready for the 2014 nesting season by cleaning your nest boxes by March. Happy birding.

Dick Blaine - dick@theblaines.net

California Bluebird Recovery Program (CBRP) Board Members

Dick Blaine, Program Director — dick@theblaines.net

Dave Cook, Board Member — justdave50@comcast.net

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

Jim Semelroth, Editor,— jimsemweed@cox.net

Dick Purvis, Recruiting — dickersly@aol.com

LONGTIME BLUEBIRD BOX BUILDER, MANNY ACKERMAN DIES

Manny Ackerman of Laguna Woods, CA died at 93 in August 2013. Manny, a nature lover had been an active Audubon member, newsletter editor, officer, and an active nestbox builder. He built and hung over 1600 nestboxes in Laguna Woods, a Leisure World retirement community in Orange County. He received many accolades for his work with Audubon. His presence will be missed by those who share his passion for birds and conservation.

Ron Loutherback fell down and fractured his hip this AM, January 13 and is in Hoag hospital. **Therese Loutherback**

Bob Franz received the **Outstanding Contribution to Bluebird Conservation Award** from NABS at their annual conference in Aiken, SC. Bob currently monitors 150 plus nestboxes and fledged 789 WEBLs in 2013. Bob also has been a frequent contributor to this newsletter and NABS' *Bluebird* magazine. He is a founding member and currently chairs the monthly meeting of the Southern California Bluebird Club and also does presentations to clubs and organizations through Orange County. Bob was instrumental in convincing Huell Howser to do a show, **Bluebirds** on his TV show, *California Green*, shown around the state on PBS stations. **Dick Purvis** received the award for Bob, who couldn't attend the NABS meeting in SC.



to

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 nestboxes 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 nestbox 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.nabluebirdssociety.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 12. You can also contact **Dick Blaine** (dick@theblaines.net) or **Dick Purvis** (dickersly@aol.com).

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.

HOW BLUEBIRDS WILL SAVE THE EARTH

The nest box monitor peers into the box and marvels at the little bluebird nestlings inside. Her friend has joined her today and looks in approvingly. With the box closed and the young tallied, the women make their way to the next box down the fence-line. As they walk, the friend poses a simple question. "Why do you do it? What makes all the time and effort helping bluebirds worth it?" The monitor winces a little. She's heard this question before. "Bluebirds are beautiful and I'd hate to see a world without them." she says.



Photo by Peggy Honda

The monitor knows that what she is doing is worthwhile but she has trouble expressing why it is important. The friend knew that bluebirds were beautiful. She assumed there was more to it. She smiles and politely changes the subject.

As a child, I was prepared to be altruistic for animals. I loved them and all I needed was to know that animals needed my help and I was there. I was disappointed to learn that people need to understand how they benefit from a species before they feel justified in giving of their time, effort or money. Oh, there's the catch-all concept of the food web. It says that if one animal species dies, there are consequences for a surprising array of other animals that depend upon that animal both directly and indirectly. Unfortunately, nebulous concepts are often not enough for many people. They need more.

Here it is. Our rivers and streams flow with pesticides. Many landowners don't even consider bringing in the birds that eat lawn pests for a living. They rely instead upon chemicals. Those chemicals do indeed kill the insects we don't want and then they kill the insects we do want. Then the chemicals find their way eventually to our streams and rivers and kill insects that by all rights have nothing to do with our lawns. In fact, environmental pesticides have been blamed for birth defects, tumors, genetic changes, blood and nerve disorders, endocrine disruption, and even coma or death in humans. Their impact on wildlife is not largely understood but as studies are performed, they seem to be telling us to end our reliance on chemical pesticides. Bluebirds, on the other hand, provide a free, non-toxic, aesthetic valuable service to anyone who appreciates a pest free lawn. Without the bluebirds, we have little alternative but to use more chemicals leading to more environmental build-up of chemicals already shown to hurt our children.

The impact that pesticides have on our environment has not gone unnoticed. The county of Santa Clara, California has policies in place heavily restricting the use of chemical herbicides and insecticides in maintaining parks and trails and others are following suit. In fact, public agencies around the country are on notice that they will soon need to find alternatives to the ease and reliability of chemical pesticides as their true effect is uncovered. Residential use of pesticides have been found to be the cause of just as much if not more water pollution as commercial applications.

Nest box programs have led to a marked increase in populations of bluebirds and other cavity

nesters. Rather than spend money on expensive chemicals that end up in the environment, the time we put into our nest box programs seems like a non-toxic bargain where we get to see beautiful birds, beautiful lawns and a better world. So can we say that bluebirds will save the earth? As George Carlin once said, the earth will be fine. The people are....” Well, you get the gist. Reducing the chemicals in our environment and replacing them with bluebirds will save the earth for humans. Our water will be cleaner, our food will be cleaner and our children will be healthier. So in the most selfish way possible from a human’s standpoint, helping bluebirds is helping ourselves to a better world.

Now when you are asked “Why you do it?”, say proudly “Because bluebirds are beautiful and I would hate to see a world without them. And of course because in their own little way, bluebirds will save the earth”.

-Mike Azevedo

Nestbox Coordinator, Santa Clara County

THE LAW WE CAN'T IGNORE

We all love bluebirds and want to do everything we can to ensure their survival and their nesting success. In the process of monitoring we are sometimes faced with tough decisions. Common sense tell us that certain actions may help nesting or just-fledged bluebirds that are in trouble, but some actions are in fact illegal without a permit. Let’s review the **Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act**. Without a waiver it is unlawful to hunt, take, capture, kill or sell migratory birds. (The European Starling and House Sparrow are among several exceptions.) The statute does not discriminate between live or dead birds and also grants full protection to any bird parts including feathers, eggs and nests. Over 800 species are currently on the list. The word *take* includes move or relocate. That’s the tough part for some monitors. This is relevant not only when we monitor boxes on our trails but in our backyards. Relocation increases susceptibility to disease brought on by the stress of capture and relocation. A relocated bird may have difficulty establishing territory at the new location, and separation of family members may stunt juveniles' natural progression into adulthood. We all understand the reason for this law and we also recognize that enforcement in our well-intended occupation is unlikely, but in view of a recent, very sobering legal action involving a well-intentioned naturalist here in Orange County who was unaware of the law, I thought a reminder was advisable. **Gillian Martin**



Two or three months ago I was checking a pair of bluebird boxes at The City Of Hope in Duarte, CA. When I opened one of the boxes I was surprised to see a Downy Woodpecker sleepily looking up at me as if it was saying, What do you want? I quietly closed the box and carefully put the box with that beautiful little Woodpecker back up in the tree. Wish I could have taken a photo of this special surprise! The Woodpeckers sometimes have provided tree cavities for Bluebirds to nest in I believe. They deserve respect also. **Marty Marino**.

WOOD DUCK TALES

The first Wood Ducks to nest in Orange County were in 1991 in boxes I put up at Laguna Lake Park in Fullerton. Refer to the book "Breeding Birds of Orange County". I eventually had ten boxes there, nearly all of which had nesting birds. I expanded into Craig Park and Yorba Park with about twenty boxes each. About 75% of those boxes had nesting Wood Ducks. I was assisted by **Fred Pedley** of the California Wood Duck Club. I even had a couple of boxes at Mason Park which were successful and more than 10 at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (Sea and Sage

Audubon) and 2 at the Fullerton Arboretum. Problems arose. Bees began taking over these large boxes and they were much harder to handle than those in our small hanging bluebird boxes. Park Rangers became concerned and among the actions taken were to remove the tops when it was not nesting season. The Wood Duck Club began to lose interest and some birders because these were not really "wild ducks" and certainly not available for hunting by the Club. They largely lived on bread crumbs from the park visitors. Also the survival of the ducklings was a big question.. They were taken by herons, egrets, hawks, and even catfish and bass. You can still see a number of these old broken non-functional boxes in some of the parks. I would question the value of reviving this effort just to provide more bread crumb eating park ducks. Alternatively, there are several Wood Duck boxes being maintained at Prado Dam and Hidden Valley which produce truly wild Wood Ducks. **Dick Purvis**

Box on Old Ranch Rd. had activity on 10/22-hopeful sign for next season. Nest in pipe at this location failed with 2 young almost ready to fledge found dead. pipe has been used here for several years. Only the box in my backyard that has been continuously occupied since 2008 had a nesting pair. **Paula Theobald**

Many fewer second nests this year. **Janet Powers**

A number of dead owlets. suspect poisoned food. Monitoring every two weeks, missed some songbird hatches. **Ralph Bill**

Bob Keally points Scouts to the location of the first nest box in Orange County in O'Neill Regional Park



Researchers for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority found over 200 dead crows near greater Boston recently, and there was concern that they may have died from Avian Flu. A bird Pathologist examined the remains of all the crows, and, to everyone's relief, confirmed the problem was definitely NOT Avian Flu. The cause of death appeared to be vehicular impacts.

However, during the detailed analysis it was noted that varying colors of paints appeared on the bird's beaks and claws. By analyzing these paint residues it was determined that 98% of the crows had been killed by impact with trucks, while only 2% were killed by an impact with a car.

MTA then hired an Ornithological Behaviorist to determine if there was a cause for the disproportionate percentages of truck kills versus car kills.

The Ornithological Behaviorist very quickly concluded the cause:

"When crows are eating on a road, they always have a look-out crow in a nearby tree to warn of impending danger. They discovered that while all the lookout crows could call out "Cah-Cah", not a single one could call out "Truck, Truck" Yuck, Yuck. Gotcha.

A Northern Flying Squirrel built her nest in one of the bluebird nestboxes on Lake Arrowhead Country Club Golf Course. The bluebirds had fledged and she built on top of their nest. When lowered the nest box for monitoring the mother squirrel came out of the box on June 20, 2013. What a surprise! She stayed close to the nestbox while the lid was slowly opened. Inside there were three tiny pink 1-2 week old babies clinging to each other. ON July 1, I slightly touched the nestbox and a small nose peeked out the hole. I didn't open the box and was thankful that none of the squirrels jumped out. Flying squirrels are nocturnal and can glide using folds of skin stretched from front to hind legs. I don't know how long the squirrels will remain in the nestbox. Maybe they will stay for the winter. **Linda Gray**, Bluebird Monitor, Lake Arrowhead, CA.



Seth Watkins, an Eagle Scout, from Troop 842, presented a slide show of his project named *The Spirit Project*. Seth says,

"My Eagle Project started in the middle of 2012 when I went to the Santa Ana Zoo in search of a project. After several uninteresting possibilities for my project, my guide told me that that was all there was. On our way out, I asked, as a joke, if there had ever been any eagle Eagle Projects. There actually had been a young man who had built a bald eagle nest and brought wooden statue of an eagle with it. Then my guide begrudgingly told me there was this one other thing. That "other thing" became my Eagle Project, a complete renovation of the bald eagle's exhibit at the zoo.

When the zoo took in Spirit, the bald eagle, they threw together a temporary exhibit to take care of her, intending to fix it to be more befitting for her needs later. When I got there, zip

ties held the exhibit mesh together, with pine needles and feathers sticking out of it in many directions. Plus, if Spirit jumped into the mesh, she could get entangled and hurt. My project became changing that old mesh to stainless steel mesh, with new iron brackets to hold it on to the stucco walls. We made the brackets and ordered the mesh, and slowly got ready to change the exhibit completely. After almost a year and a half, we brought together many boys from my troop to the zoo and made the switch. The new exhibit is now safe for Spirit and also allows for better viewing of her than the old exhibit. I am proud to have finished this project and allowed Spirit a better home. I'm especially proud or now being able to be called an Eagle Scout after my final meeting, my Board of Review, on the 7th of January. I hope to see other young men like me take on similar projects in the future that will challenge them to do something difficult but rewarding. **Seth Watkins**

Early in season, CBCH pair tried to "claim" several boxes by leaving bits of material in 3 different boxes. Day 14 fledge of four CBCH, but only 3 could fly. Towards dusk I accidentally "watered" the late bloomer while gardening. Still sitting on the ground in a corner at sundown in an area where cats do damage, I scooped the grounded chick into a warm box, stuffed him with meal worms and then set him back in the nest box for the night, hoping that the parents would come back for him. Sure enough, bright and early the next day, the parents were feeding. Later in the day he was sitting in the nestbox entrance still being fed. By mid-afternoon he made his way to the roof of the box and took flight to follow a parent after a feeding. Not only could he now fly straight, I watched him gain some altitude. Apparently all that he needed was one more day. **Michael and Mary Arago**

I had to remove Easter Basket "twine" from several boxes with eggs (most boxes are in cemetery) - in two boxes this disturbed the parents who abandoned eggs/nest and built a new nest with new eggs on top - so I considered both a new nest try. **Chuck George**

1st time ever had WBNU, **Dick Blaine**

Worst year for WEBL since 1999! TRES numbers remain very low! **Doris Allison**

Box on Old Ranch Rd. had activity on 10/22-hopeful sign for next season. Nest in pipe at this location failed with 2 young almost ready to fledge found dead. pipe has been used here for several years. Only the box in my backyard that has been continuously occupied since 2008 had a nesting pair. **Paula Theobald**

I swear I had two chicks from one egg. **Ian Kimbrey**

Nesting began late in 2013. Honeybees took over barn owl boxes. **John Lange**

A PROMISING PARTNERSHIP TO HELP CAVITY-NESTERS

The Southern California Bluebird Club (SCBC) was recently rewarded for pursuing the seemingly impossible...a plan to help cavity-nesters in the long term by preserving dying trees in urban areas. We met with Orange County Parks and their tree trimming contractor, West Coast Arborists (WCA). Together we forged guidelines for the safe retention of dying trees and also for a more beneficial pruning procedure when trees contain active nest boxes. Training meetings with regional groups of WCA foremen followed. The message Gillian Martin, Program Director of the Cavity Conservation Initiative, delivered was this. "Your saw can do more than remove. By leaving critical habitat in place it can be a tool for conservation." She called the company "leaders in their industry."



Now that the tree trimming season has begun we have been identifying trees for special management in advance of the working crews. White tape tied around a tree signals "Wildlife Tree." Like a patient sent to the ICU, the tree is assigned a special care status as long as it can be safely retained. A deeply satisfying moment occurred early on. A foreman at work in a park with Gillian came excitedly to her to report a tree she had missed. It held a woodpecker cavity. Gillian knew that a conservationist had been born. Like all long-term plans, this one will require persistence and regular evaluation. We recognize that the road to sustainable conservation is slow but it is where our vision now lies.

Would you care to join this effort? We readily share our resources to help you. **Please go to <http://cavityconservation.com>.** Under the IDEAS AND RESOURCES tab at the top of the home page you can find helpful materials for tree trimmers and land managers. Look for [A Quick Photo Guide to Selecting Wildlife Trees](#) and for [Wildlife Tree Management Guidelines](#). The other is titled [Five Requests of Tree Trimmers](#). Under the MEDIA tab you can also find a downloadable PowerPoint for tree trimmers. All are free to you. To discover the rewards that could be yours, check out the ACCOMPLISHMENTS tab. **Gillian Martin**

Some trail news from the north Orange County area - veteran monitor **Colleen Kvaska**, had to leave her trail in Fullerton because she moved to Anaheim Hills. The good news is that she will be taking over 19 nestboxes in the Anaheim Hills area trails from **Bob Franz**. Way to go, Colleen!

Dick Purvis, Jo-Ann Coller, Bill and Inge Wallace attended the NABS 36th Annual Conference in Aiken, SC in October.

This is the first year since 2000 that we didn't have a single successful fledgling. So, it was kind of a sad experience. We're hoping for next year. **Michael Arago**

California Bluebird Recovery Program Eighteen Year Results
All species

| | 1996 | 1997 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | Average* |
|-------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| Counties | 21 | 31 | 25 | 19 | 22 | 23 | 19 | 24 | 24 | 20 | 20 | 24 |
| Reporters | 169 | 293 | 148 | 152 | 128 | 163 | 174 | 192 | 168 | 170 | 169 | 180 |
| Species | 16 | 17 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 23 | 26 | 21 | 24 | 18 |
| Boxes (N) | 2400 | 3642 | 5139 | 3942 | 4032 | 3739 | 4189 | 5274 | 5426 | 5293 | 5664 | 4022 |
| Tries (T) | 1526 | 2442 | 4177 | 4142 | 2789 | 3704 | 2937 | 3939 | 3202 | 5715 | 5715 | 3367 |
| T/N | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.8 |
| Eggs (E) | | | 22879 | 24093 | 20729 | 20162 | 21762 | 28751 | 28386 | 28423 | 27876 | 23411 |
| E/N | | | 4.5 | 6.1 | 5.1 | 5.4 | 5.2 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.4 | 4.9 | 5.2 |
| E/T | | | 4.5 | 5.8 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 8.9 | 5.0 | 4.9 | 6.0 |
| Chicks (H) | | | 18414 | 18707 | 15889 | 16475 | 17967 | 23014 | 22794 | 22747 | 22489 | 18813 |
| H/N | | | 3.5 | 4.7 | 3.9 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.2 |
| H/T | | | 4.3 | 4.5 | 5.7 | 4.4 | 6.1 | 5.8 | 7.1 | 4.0 | 3.9 | 4.8 |
| H/E | | | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Fledged (F) | 5077 | 8393 | 17888 | 17330 | 14188 | 14222 | 15781 | 20737 | 20323 | 20477 | 19754 | 15241 |
| F/N | 2.1 | 2.3 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| F/T | 3.3 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 5.1 | 3.8 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 6.3 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 4.2 |
| F/E | | | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| F/H | | | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 |

2005 notes No data on T,E, H from Ventura or Merced Cos.in 2005
 6 counties which reported in 2005 did not report in 2006 & no data on T, E, H from Merced Co. in 2006

2006 notes 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 2008 did not report

2010 notes ... Nest Tries underestimated as many large producers did not provide bob-by-box detail; each species was reported as 1 box in these cases.
 ... Large increases in boxes, eggs, hatchlings and fledglings are primarily the result of Merced county reporting after a lapse of several years

2011 notes ... Nest Tries underestimated as many large producers did not provide bob-by-box detail; each species was reported as 1 box in these cases.
 ... Ditto - boxes. All ratios based on nest tries or boxes are low as a result.

2012 notes ... Nest tries and boxes much more realistic this year - accounts for large change in related ratios
 ... Based on trail results not box-by-box results

2013 notes ... Ditto 2012

2103 NESTBOX RESULTS BY COUNTY

| | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| Orange | 7984 | 7336 |
| Santa Clara | 2965 | 1327 |
| Merced | 2429 | 260 |
| Los Angeles | 1722 | 1701 |
| Alameda | 1062 | 707 |
| Contra Costa | 939 | 619 |
| San Mateo | 653 | 292 |
| Sacramento | 511 | 239 |
| Riverside | 273 | 250 |
| Santa Barbara | 253 | 202 |
| San Diego | 176 | 111 |
| Madera | 163 | 11 |
| Amador | 148 | 105 |
| San Bernardino | 135 | 123 |
| Shasta | 122 | 72 |
| Sonoma | 121 | 51 |
| Nevada | 52 | 47 |
| Tuolumne | 42 | 20 |
| Ventura | 4 | 4 |
| Mendocino | 0 | 0 |

**HOW DOES ORANGE COUNTY
PRODUCE SO MANY FLEDGLINGS?**

The Orange County numbers are a result of an active club of nestbox monitors, several hundred in number. The club meets monthly in central Orange County to talk about birds and conservation of cavities in trees. It earns money by producing nestboxes, lifters, books, shirts and pins and Power Point presentations for donations. Its websites are www.socalbluebirds.org and www.cavityconservation.com. Recently the club celebrated its seventh anniversary by reenacting the original formation meeting at a coffee shop. A video of the reenactment may be seen on the SCBC history page of its website. at <http://bluebirdssc.wordpress.com/about/scbc-history-2/>

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Donors since July 2013 | 2013 Total: |
| | \$870 |
| Name | County |
| Donna Alger | Santa Clara |
| Susanne Bohan | Marin |
| Jean Caggiano | San Diego |
| Susan Carder | San Mateo |
| Linda Gray | San Bernardino |
| Sharon Kramer | Orange |
| Carol Langford | Ventura |
| Ken & Lucille Morrison | Amador |
| North American Bluebird Society (NABS) | National |
| Cindy Nelson | Orange |
| Martha O'Neal | San Mateo |
| Lee & Janna Pauser | Santa Clara |
| Philip Persons | Sonoma |
| Megan Sandri | Contra Costa |
| Sheryn Sherer | San Diego |

With much gratitude, we accept these donations.

To donate to the CBRP, please use the form or information on the last page of this newsletter

California Bluebird Recovery Program County Coordinators, 2014

| 'County' | 'First' | 'Last' | City | Home # | Email1 |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Alameda | Georgette | Howington | Martinez | 925-686-4372 | Georgette@birdscape.net |
| Amador | Doris & Bill | Allison | Plymouth | 209-245-3135 | allison1932@att.net |
| Contra Costa | Georgette | Howington | Martinez | 925-686-4372 | Georgette@birdscape.net |
| Los Angeles | Dick | Purvis | Anaheim | 714-776-8878 | joann1@socal.rr.com |
| Madera | Bill & Megan | Ralph | Raymond | 209- 966-2250 | bill@dryadranch.com |
| Mendocino | Michael & Marybeth | Arago | Fort Bragg | 707-962-0507 | mambarago@mcn.org |
| Merced | Steve | Simmons | Merced | 209-722-3540 | simwoodduk@aol.com |
| Nevada | Kate | Brennan | Grass Valley | 530-268-1682 | wolfcreekfarms@goskywest.com |
| Orange | Dick | Purvis | Anaheim | 714-776-8878 | dickersly@aol.com |
| Placer | Heath | Wakelee | Granite Bay | 916 797-4536 | |
| Riverside | Erin | Snyder | Riverside | 951-683-7691 | snyder@rcred.com |
| Sacramento | Vicki | Butler | Sacramento | 916-448-8030 | butlerrowe@sbcglobal.net |
| San Bernardino | Glen | Chappell | Redlands | 909-794-3470 | |
| San Diego | Martin | Marino | Encinitas | 626-826-4336 | martin.marino@sbcglobal.net |
| San Louis Obispo | Paul & Judy | Burkhardt | Creston | 805 438-4491 | tinhornranch@sbcglobal.net |
| San Mateo | Pat | Neumann | | 650-712-0642 | pneumann716@gmail.com |
| Santa Barbara | Richard | Willey | Lompoc | 805-733-5383 | willey@willeyweb.com |
| 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 |



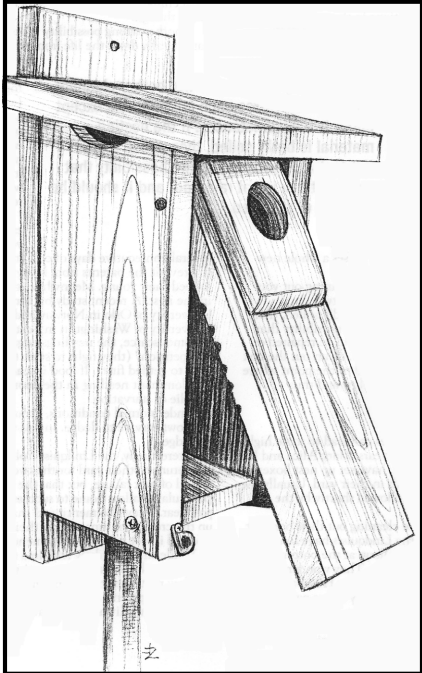
A service of
 Mt. Diablo Audubon Society
 P O Box 53
 Walnut Creek CA 94597-0053

California Bluebird Recovery Program's
 Newsletter
 Bluebirds Fly!, Vol. 20, No. 1 Winter

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