



# BLUEBIRDS FLY!

California Bluebird Recovery Program's newsletter

jointly sponsored by National  
Audubon Society—California &  
North American Bluebird Society

*for the encouragement and preservation of cavity nesters—especially bluebirds—anywhere the West*

## BLUEBIRDERS FLOCK TO NEWPORT BEACH

**DICK PURVIS HOISTS BLUEBIRDS; DON YODER RECEIVES  
NATIONAL BLUEBIRD CONSERVATION AWARD**

*by Hutch Graham*

### Field trip highlights

Dick Purvis' field trip and presentation at the NABS 20th Annual meeting, May 15-17, was a "slam-dunk," exciting bluebirders from as far away as New York and Saskatchewan. Demonstrating his cherry-picker-type box hoist in Yorba Regional Park in Orange County, Dick would bring down his boxes from as high as 30 feet up on a tree branch. As he approached one of the boxes, the western bluebird tenants flew to a nearby branch in apparent anticipation of the vertical displacement of their home.

Dick deftly enclosed the nestbox within his lifter, raised it so the bail on the box cleared the limb and neatly lowered it to the ground. He took the nestbox out of the carrier box, lifted its front-opening door and monitored the contents. This and each of the five boxes he presented had eggs or nestlings of various ages.

Each box was easily replaced and the parent blues seemed perhaps less disturbed than by conventional monitoring. Dick reports almost no predation or vandalism, even though all of his 400 boxes are in public parks, golf courses, and cemeteries.

### 1997 Bluebird Conservation Award

At the Saturday business meeting, our Program Director, Don Yoder, received one of five 1997 Bluebird Conservation Awards from NABS President Charlotte Jernigan. Don's nomination for the award read in part:

Member: North American Bluebird Society; National Audubon Society; Mt. Diablo Audubon Society; Founder and Program Director: California Bluebird Recovery Program.

Don has been active in cavity nester conservation since 1971—that's 26 years.

Since retirement from a paying job in 1984, he has expanded his trail from the six boxes he originally put up at the local golf course, to 105 boxes there and throughout his community. He's built at least an additional 100 boxes and given them to others.

Don was elected to the Board of Directors of NABS in 1992. Support of NABS and the bluebird program was sporadic and unorganized in California, and Don set about righting the situation by contacting as many NABS members as possible to determine if there was statewide sentiment in favor

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## NABS invites— CBRP accepts affiliation:

California joins Minnesota Bluebird Recovery Committee and Ohio Bluebird Society in affiliation with NABS.

The Board of Directors of NABS, in May, sent an Invitation to Affiliate to all State/Provincial/Regional Bluebird Groups. NABS asked the individual groups to affiliate with NABS in "a loose confederation of equals all working together toward a common goal..., a partnership in international bluebird conservation."

The letter went on to say, "We are inviting your affiliation in order that NABS can be a more effective communicator and do an even better job as the parent organization for North American bluebirding."

Donald E. Yoder, California Bluebird Recovery Program's founder and Program Director, was quick to accept the invitation: "In consideration of our current relationship with NABS..., we readily express...that we wish to affiliate with NABS for the purposes outlined in your memorandum."

No cost or legally binding obligation proceeds from this affiliating action. Existing relationships with Audubon chapters or other sponsoring organizations are not affected. It is a partnership with NABS, the parent bluebirding group in North America.

## Protecting native bluebird habitats

Two studies by the University of California and a major cooperative campaign by public and private land managers augur well for the future of bluebirds and cavity nesters.

### Effects of grazing

*Oaks 'n' Folks*, a publication of UC's Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program, reports on grazing in oak woodlands and its effect on bird communities. Pointing out that livestock have been grazing the oak woodland habitat since Spanish introduced them in the sixteenth century, and today over 80% of the habitat is still grazed, it concludes "Overall, our results do not demonstrate that grazing has led to the loss of any bird species that regularly nests in the foothill oak-pine woodland habitat. The availability of trees, especially oaks, to provide nesting and foraging sites is the most important vegetative component contributing to avian biodiversity in this habitat."

### Effects of wood cutting

In the other study on the effects of wood cutting in the blue oak woodlands in the northern Sacramento Valley, it's noted that the ash-throated flycatcher and the western bluebird favor tree habitats with open canopies. To minimize negative effects and have some positive effects, wood cutting should be directed to trees of all sizes and more large trees should be left. The California Dept. of Fish & Game requires that tree canopy retention be between 25-40% immediately after cutting to minimize adverse effects to wildlife. Furthermore, snags, shrubs, downed woody debris, acorn-producing trees, brushpiles, and other habitat elements should remain or be enhanced.

Incidentally, oaks are host to mistletoe, a major item in the diet of wintering bluebirds.

### Animal Inn

In a related effort, private organizations representing the forest products industry, in cooperation with the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Agriculture Extension Service have launched a campaign to protect dead, dying, and hollow trees to provide food and shelter for a wide variety of animals.

The program, entitled "Animal Inn," seeks to educate the public about the value of hollow trees, trees with broken tops or visible nest cavities, fallen trees (both in the forest and in streams), and stumps, all of which are termed animal inns.



For more information call or write Animal Inn, % Susan Yasuda at 916-644-2324, USFS, 4260 Eight Mile Road, Camino, CA 95709.

## SISKIYOU COUNTY ORGANIZES: Old trail adopted by CBRP'ers

Siskiyou County Coordinator **Elizabeth Crispin**, reports that 8 members of CBRP met last February near Yreka where an old trail had been established (perhaps as an Eagle Scout project) in 1989.

They found 31 boxes and cleaned out soggy old nests (apparently bluebirds, as the nests were of grass). This was the first joint effort of their group on an existing trail.

Their group includes **Mike Hauptman**, who edits and is a contributor to the Mt Shasta Area Audubon and the Marble Mountain Audubon chapter newsletters. Their next step is to seek newspaper publicity.

Elizabeth attended the NABS annual meeting and is well on the way to forming an effective county organization in the north end of the state which is scantily populated by people but productive of bluebird habitat.

## Are we leading predators to our nestboxes?

by Hatch Graham

I've worked with search and rescue dogs for over 20 years and regularly lecture on the theory of scent to professional and volunteer canine handlers.

At the NABS conference, an old myth came up in the discussion of predators. The idea is that as we monitor our nestboxes, we leave a trail which is then followed by the raccoon and it is our scent that leads the predator to the box. Bunk!

Predators' noses are certainly no worse than our search dogs'. A raccoon is seeking birds to eat, and believe me, he can smell a bird in a box. He may well follow the trail we've walked because we've mashed down the grass. Most animals follow "game" trails in their foraging. The bird's scent falls to the ground

and "pools" under and around the nestbox. High boxes are slightly more difficult for the scenting predator to pinpoint.

People have tried hanging mothballs and other items from nestboxes to confuse or mask the scent from the predator.

A waste of time. Trained dogs have located felons, dope, and explosives in buildings so filled with capicum spray (CS or pepper gas) that no human could remain there without a gasmask. Marijuana sealed in a plastic bag submerged in a gasoline tank has been scented by dogs.

Don't worry about leading a predator to the nestboxes. They can find them very well without help, thank you. You can't use this as an excuse to skip your monitoring.

## "Bluebird recovery program underway," crows Santa Clara Valley Audubon

In their January 1997 newsletter *The Avocet*, **Carol Hankermeyer** explains the plight of bluebirds in California. She reiterates CBRP's newsletter (Sep. '95) reporting on the Breeding Bird Survey. BBS showed a 36.4% decline from 1968 through 1995, and an even worse decline, 28.5%, from 1980 on. She outlines the various causes of the decline and alerts her chapter members to bluebird behavior, habitat needs, and environmental problems such as pesticides and destruction of habitat, including nest sites, bioinvasions—the house sparrow and European starling—and other negative changes.

Her article outlines SCVAS's plans to establish trails in favorable habitat which will include (1) coordination with Bay Area parks to locate suitable nesting sites, (2) construction of nestboxes to specification, (3) placement of boxes, (4) monitoring throughout the nesting season to collect data as well as to provide protection from competitors, pests, and predators.

In an accompanying article, **Garth Harwood**, CBRP County Coordinator for Santa Clara County and Chapter Manager of SCVAS, appeals to the Chapter members to "join the bluebird crew." He lauds his construction team of **Jack Kramer**, **Gene Heaney**, **Gus Constant**, **Jim Lundstrom**, and **Dick Elliot** for building 40 nestboxes.

His program coordinators, **Carol Hankermeyer** and **Dave Cook**, are actively engaged in implementing the plan outlined above. "At this point," he says, "everything is in place except for the volunteers we're counting on to actually install and maintain the trails at area parks and open spaces." He concludes, "You can serve as either a trail leader, taking primary responsibility for a group of nestboxes, or as a member of a trail team coordinated by someone else." Garth's energy and leadership serve as an example to other county programs.

### NAME THIS NEWSLETTER

As you may have noticed, your editors pro tem, in frustration, have given this newsletter a name:

**BLUEBIRDS FLY!**

We're not here to justify it. But we think it should be more than "CBRP Newsletter." On the other hand, maybe that's sufficient. What do you think? Submit your ideas for a name for the newsletter, object to or endorse our suggestion, or don't, if you don't care. It's your group and your opinion counts.

In addition, we solicit articles from each of you. We're especially interested in unique, unusual, amusing, exciting, or strange happenings at your boxes, or on your trails.

If you have questions, address them to us. We'll try to respond.

### Grant from NABS funds brochure

An attractive brochure printed in blue on blue—what else?—is now available for use at fundraising events thanks to a financial grant from the North American Bluebird Society and volunteer efforts of CBRP member **Pamela Keiser** from Contra Costa County who did the layout and graphics and produced camera-ready copy for the printer. The folding was donated, also.

The grant, one of the first given to a state organization, was on the basis of a request from **Don Yoder** to **Mary Janetatos**, NABS's executive director. The 2,000 brochures can be used at county fairs and other presentations to solicit membership in CBRP.

### DON YODER RECEIVES AWARD

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of a more local group affiliated with the NABS goals. There was.

In 1994, only 13 annual reports were submitted to NABS from the entire state of California. Through his membership in Mt. Diablo Audubon, Don learned of the NAS Birds in Balance program and sought assistance in forming a California Bluebird Recovery Program "for the encouragement and preservation of cavity nesters—especially bluebirds—anywhere in the West." He was determined to organize bluebirders in California into a responsive and active group.

He set about locating County Coordinators (following the successful plans of states like Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ohio), logging over 4000 miles attending promotional meetings at various Audubon Chapters and other meetings. He provided his new coordinators with informational materials from a variety of sources—*Sialia*, regional newsletters, and personal experience. Some of his recruits had extensive experience with bluebirds, some were novices; Don inspired them all with his knowledge, dedication, and perseverance.

Some of the coordinators began presenting programs, setting up booths at fairs, providing nestbox kits for youth groups and schools. Others built boxes and distributed them to anyone willing to monitor and report. With desktop publishing skills, one coordinator designed forms for statewide distribution, and prepared a monitoring booklet. A "Wanted" poster was put up at supermarkets, feed stores, post offices, and elsewhere in some of the rural counties asking for monitors, use of land, scrap lumber, and woodworking skills. Material and hundreds of nestboxes have been donated as a

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# NOTES FROM THE FIELD

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touches a limb or even a leaf, the critters have a free path back to the box.



We maintain that monitoring your boxes will make you a better observer, especially if you are relatively new at the game. For instance: if a box contains a swallow nest, you may be content to write *swallow* on your record—or *wren* if one of these little critters has moved in on you. But you may soon realize the swallow is not a tree but a violet-green because the white of the chin goes up *over* the eye instead of having black above the eye as in the tree.—or that the wren has a white bar over the eye and must be a Bewick's instead of a house. And in this case, Bewick's uses much softer nesting material than the sticks carried in by the male house wren. Vocally, they're different, too. Watch for such key differences for greater accuracy in your monitoring records.



We consider it a streak of luck that up to press-time no known losses of hatchlings have occurred on a certain golf course on which a pre-emergent weed killer called Tri-Mec was recently applied. Application equipment operators wore protective masks while doing their work; the trail monitor, pantlegs tucked into socks, developed an ankle rash after just one hour of walking on the fairways. Swallows hatching in boxes hung 4-5 feet off the ground seem to have fared well inasmuch as they are not ground feeders. No bluebirds or other ground

feeders are currently nesting in those boxes. We suggest you establish contacts with local golf course managers and, where possible, try to discourage use of materials that may endanger the birds.



In the same vein, El Dorado monitors, **Grant & Lori Nelson**, who had two nestboxes with bluebirds nesting, tell a scary story: Grant applied a granular pesticide called Oftanol, designed to kill grubs and other soil insects in their small lawn. Shortly after, a male bluebird was found having convulsions on the lawn. They took him to Sierra Animal Hospital. He had muscle twitching and clenched feet, typical of organophosphate poisoning. He was given 0.1cc of Atropine sulphate and showed some immediate improvement. After an hour he was given another 0.1cc. The next morning he had recovered, was taken home and flew off. The Nelsons wanted to share this story to remind others to use biological controls

rather than heavy pesticides.



The only reliable way of tracing birds originating in your boxes is by banding. It should be done only at certain stages in the hatchling's life, and of course can only be done by someone holding the required federal permit. Your monitoring records are most important in determining when hatching occurs, and thus the age of the youngsters. The amount of feather development is a strong indicator of age. Attempting to band too late in the juvenile's life can cause explosive premature fledging—exposing the young to outside hazards before they are able to cope and survive. Optimum age for bluebird banding is 12-13 days; for wrens, 9-10. Beyond those ages don't open the box or you may be asking for trouble. **Lynn Smart** arranged for banding her 13-day-olds. The first one out of the box had less than ¼ inch of feather tips out of the pins—indicating a 10-day-old bird. All the others were

truly 13 days old—verified by close monitoring—leading to the discovery there was a 3-day gap between the oldest and the tyke who hoped to catch up and get his share of food offerings. Have you ever found such a spread of ages in your birds? Let us know if you have—it may be some kind of a record.



Review of the above ages for wren banding explained difficulties experienced by **Wendy Guglieri** and **Hatch Graham** when preparing to band 9 house wrens at 12 days. They erupted from the box. While

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CLIP THIS FORM FOR YOUR ANNUAL REPORT →→→

### A Nest of Swallows

Last week I counted six white eggs. Now it's a twist and tangle of bald limbs and bellies, a spaghetti bowl of unwinged elbows, fleshy nodules and unfeathered ribs.

The throats pulse. They're alive. I count the beaks and bulging eyes of six pale egg-shell creatures.

By June these nestlings will be swooping lake-skin for the fall of sunlight on their brilliant wings, so swallow-high above me.

Taylor Graham

first appeared in *ArtLife*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Location of Nestbox or Trail: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Latitude & Longitude (if known): \_\_\_\_\_ Elevation: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you monitor more than one trail: \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Boxes on this Trail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please send a separate report for each trail.

How many of your boxes are paired (less than 25 feet apart)? \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIES	No. of nesting Attempts*	No. of young Fledged**
Western Bluebird		
Mountain Bluebird		
Tree Swallow		
Violet-Green Swallow		
House Wren		
Bewick's Wren		
Black-Capped Chickadee		
Chestnut-Backed Chickadee		
Mountain Chickadee		
Plain Titmouse		
White-Breasted Nuthatch		
Red-Breasted Nuthatch		
Pygmy Nuthatch		
Ash-Throated Flycatcher		
House Finch		
Kestrel		
Common Barn Owl		
Wood Duck		
Other (List):		

**FORM NO LONGER CURRENT**

\* An Attempt is a bird building a nest and laying at least one egg.

\*\* A young bird has fledged if it leaves the nestbox on its own.

Use the other side of this sheet to describe interesting or unusual observations, predator problems, or other comments.

**PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED REPORT BY SEPTEMBER 15, IF POSSIBLE, TO YOUR COUNTY COORDINATOR OR TO CBRP c/o DON YODER, 2021 PTARMIGAN DRIVE #1, WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595 OR FAX TO (510) 937-5974**

—a summary of your report will be forwarded to the North American Bluebird Society—





Use this sheet to describe interesting or unusual observations, predator problems, or other comments.

A large rectangular area with horizontal ruling lines, intended for handwritten notes. The lines are evenly spaced and cover most of the page area below the instructions. There are three binder holes on the right side of the page.



## Well, it is a blue bird, isn't it?

The NABS office in Silver Spring, MD forwarded this message to CRBP for an answer:

"Dear Sirs, I got your address out of a library book entitled, *The Complete Bird House Book*, by Don Stokes. Something very unusual happened in our yard about a month ago. A large Blue Bird came into our yard, buried shelled peanuts in our hedge—where did he come from & who's feeding him? For a week he peered into our kitchen window so I put out a few peanuts for him & shortly another came in with him; The 2nd one left after a week or so, & we've been hand-feeding the other one. I went to the Library & got several books on birds & from one 1912 book I think I found the one we have; It appears to be a 'Mt. Blue Bird' & Blue Birds are rare here in Ventura. I called the top Bird Man here in Ventura & he said he can't believe it & they don't eat peanuts. Can you help me a little bit. Thank you. Bill C."

Hatch Graham wrote him: "Dear Bill: When I was a young lad about 60 years ago in the Santa Monica Mts. of LA County, we had a big blue bird we called 'Peanuts,' because he ate peanuts out of our hands. He'd come when we called his name, and he had a loud, raucous voice: 'zhreek!' He was a Western Scrub Jay. Bigger than a Mtn Bluebird, he has a gray-brownish back, a gray line through his eye, a thin white 'eyebrow' over it, and a white throat with a blue 'necklace.' He usually lives in the chaparral in the Coast Range but will come right into town for peanuts.

"Your top Bird Man is right—the Mountain Bluebird lives in the high mountains and doesn't eat peanuts. But Scrub Jays sure do..."

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD

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most were gathered into a cloth holding bag, one was missed and another got loose and required a two-hour search through the tall grass and weeds for retrieval. (Another instance of the need for accurate hatching date records.)



Destruction of nests and young birds does occur naturally. Our intervention in their life cycles should lessen those losses if possible, but we do expect to lose a certain number. Our interest arises in trying to determine the reason(s) for our casualties. And answers are not always apparent. Some examples: **Doris Allison** reports two or three broken eggs outside several of her boxes. Not many wrens or jays hang around the area. What's behind the problem? **Jim Guthrie** has loads of boxes in some ideal oak-pine woodland and savanna (grassland) habitat in which a number of birds have disappeared from boxes only to be found in pieces in the immediate areas. Jim believes the cause lies with numerous feral cats roaming the county. Hatch Graham maintains that cats carry their prey away to another location, whereas raccoons leave the victims under the box with wings and feathers easily visible. What have you experienced—if you have any such losses?



Are our western bluebirds tougher than their eastern counterparts? Much of our information on behaviour of bluebirds is based on observations in the East. From El Dorado County, **Barbara Pratt** reported a serious fight between a western bluebird and a house sparrow over a nestbox. The two males collided in the air, tumbled to the ground and the sparrow fled. The bluebirds nested in the box. And on

one of **Hatch Graham's** trails in Amador County, a pair of bluebirds usurped an occupied house wren box, built on top of the pile of twigs in it and buried 8 wren eggs! The bluebirds went on to fledge five healthy babies. What are the rest of you finding about interspecies competition? Are the western blues truly a tougher breed or are these just rare aberrations?



There are some reliable reports that a certain number of nestboxes are being used for purposes other than that intended by the builders. Sizes notwithstanding we now know of boxes being used for STORAGE!—by acorn woodpeckers! Acorns by the quart are sometimes stashed in spaces in which they take no nesting interest, thus depriving intended tenants of a needed site for their habitation. Can you beat that? Why, these fellows have the bravado to stack their hordes even in the rear compartment of Tree Branch nestboxes, thus exhibiting their scheming intent to occupy space intended for others. It is pretty obvious that bluebirds will never go for this!

### Strunk and White: *The Elements of Style*

In their classic book, Strunk and White set forth basic rules of usage and a few matters of form to guide students in the mastery of English.

One dictum is: "Do not use a hyphen between words that can better be written as one word: water-fowl, waterfowl.... The steady state of evolution of the language seems to favor union: two words eventually become one...."

Thus our use of nestbox—as in lunchbox, mailbox, etc. —*ed.*

## Bluebirding on the web

by Tom Hoffman

If you have an Internet connection in your home or office, there are lots of opportunities to learn more about bluebirds or discover what our sister associations across the country are doing. Just write in "bluebird" on the home page of your favorite search engine (Yahoo and WebCrawler are good ones) and see what pops up. Or, write in one of these addresses and go from there.

**Phil's Bluebird Page:** <http://websterskypoint.net/members/pheo/Blueb.html>  
Phil's information is on the Bluebird Recovery Program of Minnesota. He has the story of the bluebird, information on starting a nestbox trail, as well as links to NABS, Bluebirds in Quebec, The Bluebird Box, and the Breeding Bird Survey with information on bluebird population dynamics. He also recommends a couple of useful books. His e-mail address is [pheo@skypoint.com](mailto:pheo@skypoint.com)

**North American Bluebird Society:** <http://www.WSD.com/WSD/nabs/pics>  
Yep, NABS is right there in full color with lots of nice clear pictures to download. There is also information about the society. E-mail questions about bluebirds directly to them at [nabluebird@look.net](mailto:nabluebird@look.net)

**The Bluebird Box:** <http://users.aol.com/jimmcl/index.html>  
**Jim McLochlin** has set up his site as a link to a number of homepages: Bluebirds Across Nebraska (BAN), Audubon Society of Omaha and many other sites. It is supported by BBRP (Minn) and BAN. This site is a comprehensive resource on box designs, predator and pest information, and is the best web source on nestbox building I've found. It has numerous designs—all the standard ones—with building points, diagrams, and lots of tips.

**Bluebirding Folder:** <http://www.hmco.com/cj-bin/WebX?mil14@@ee6b52b>  
This is a part of Houghton-Mifflin Company's Peterson Online Guide. Jim McLochlin is the interim host. The forum just got started in early May but is off to a good start. You can post questions and get good answers—initially by Jim but then expanded upon by others from all over the country.

**The Nest Box:** <http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/3663/>  
This site is **Arlene Ripley's** personal homepage, but what a wonderful place she has created! It serves as one of the most interesting bird-related sites I have found, containing information on gardening, travel, birding in general, and bluebirds in particular. She has a photo gallery of birds, a story about bluebirds; you can click on bird sounds, and she has tons of stuff on general birding information, books, and optics. It's also a great place to start a search because she has links to WebCrawler and Yahoo. Incidentally, the link she provides to Yahoo is not too shabby, either:

[http://www.yahoo.com/Recreation/Hobbies\\_and\\_Crafts/Birding](http://www.yahoo.com/Recreation/Hobbies_and_Crafts/Birding)

Here you'll find a myriad of places to visit about birds in general—more than you can look at in an evening.

### CORNELL LABORATORY OF ORNITHOLOGY LAUNCHES NESTBOX STUDIES

Cornell University has established a nestbox network and is seeking information currently on four projects.

The **Clutch Size Study** is designed to determine if birds lay different size clutches at different latitudes and different altitudes. By gathering information nationwide, a

database is established of sufficient size to yield accurate information. Regular monitoring is all that is needed along with accurate information on your location and nestboxes.

The **Tree Swallow Feather Study** seeks to find out about the number of feathers swallows use and how "feather-hungry" they are to take risks to gather feathers. It's too late to undertake this study this season but any of you with tree

## SWALLOWS HELP BLUEBIRDS

**Dorene Scriven** of Bluebird Recovery Program of Minnesota writes: we here in the BBRP believe pairing is a very reasonable answer when tree swallows start to outnumber bluebirds. A distance of 22-25 feet seems to work best between pairs, then 100 yards to next pair. They end up helping each other, especially the tree swallows fending off house sparrows from both the bluebird box and the tree swallow box.

*(Ed Note: 8-12 feet apart is successful in parts of California.)*

swallows using your boxes should contact us for information for next year.

Those of you who have a nestbox in your backyard can participate in the **Calcium Study** by feeding crushed eggshells in front of the nestbox throughout the breeding season.

Finally, the **Nest Selection Study** is designed to determine, once and for all, whether or not birds prefer to use boxes with old nests in them. This is a paired box study and requires the placing of two identical boxes facing the same way 10

feet or less from each other: one, clean and empty, the other with an old nest. The used nest may be imported from another box.

If you wish to participate in any of these studies, CBRP has a group membership in the Cornell Nest Box Network. Hatch Graham is the group representative. Write, call, or e-mail to receive the special forms you will need to fill out. (Hatch is listed as the El Dorado County Coordinator on page 11.)

# THESE COORDINATORS ARE READY TO HELP YOU

**Alameda County**

Ann Kositsky  
1090 Miller Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94708  
(510) 527-5091

**El Dorado (cont.)**

Viola Sampert,  
Trail Coordinator-Geo'twn  
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(916) 333-0318

**Madera County**

William Rihn  
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**Orange County**

Dick Purvis  
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**San Mateo County**

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Raymond A. Fontaine  
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(510) 447-0213

Jim or Martha Fletcher,  
Trail Coordinators  
3731 Leisure Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(916) 644-4895

**Marin County**

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**Placer County**

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**Mariposa County**

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**Sonoma County**

(see Napa & Sonoma)

**Calaveras County**

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**Lassen County**

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470 413 Wingfield  
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### California Bluebird Recovery Program

Founded in 1994, and affiliated with National Audubon Society—California and the North American Bluebird Society, CBRP is "for the encouragement and preservation of cavity nesters—especially bluebirds—anywhere in the West."

CBRP is non-profit, has no paid staff, and is supported entirely by the efforts of volunteers and donations accepted by the Mt.Diablo Audubon Society on CBRP's behalf.

CBRP members had located and reported on 2,400 nestboxes by the end of 1996, with more than 5,000 cavity nesters fledged—over 3,000 of them western and mountain bluebirds.

CBRP welcomes membership from the public who wish to support its program, and especially seeks those who will place appropriate nestboxes in the proper habitat, faithfully monitor the birds' progress through the nesting season, and report yearly on the results.

Send \$5 or more made payable to "MDAS—Bluebirds" to Don Yoder at the address shown on the far right.

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The North American Bluebird Society (NABS) is a non-profit organization determined to increase the populations of Eastern Bluebirds, Western Bluebirds, and Mountain Bluebirds on this continent.

NABS studies obstacles impeding bluebird recovery, publishes results of studies, and encourages participation by its membership in all facets of its programs. Through its quarterly journal, *Sialia*, the Society addresses such issues as improved nest box design, control of competitors and predators, and enhanced techniques for increasing winter food supply. NABS's mailing address is Box 6295, Silver Spring, MD 20916.

The National Audubon Society (NAS) has local chapters in all fifty states, Guam, and Latin America. In California there are over fifty local chapters. All local chapters have newsletters, monthly programs, and field trips to local areas of interest.

To join NAS, contact your local Audubon Chapter, or call NAS—California at (916) 481-5332. National dues are \$20 for new members, and include a bi-monthly magazine and membership privileges in your local Audubon chapter.

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