

Are your nestboxes ready?

FIRST EGGS APPEAR BEFORE LAST YEAR'S REPORT

While working on the Annual Report for 2001, we received word from **Dick Purvis**, Orange, that he and others already had eggs in some boxes. He calculates his first egg arrived on March 4. He says Yorba Linda is earlier than the rest of Orange County.

It's certainly earlier than counties in the Mother Lode where freezing weather still prevailed in early March; snow fell in the foothills on the 17th as insectivorous birds scrambled for food. A banded female succumbed in one of **Bill Singley's** boxes in El Dorado Co. Your annual report, included in this issue, is

remarkable in a number of ways. Many of our old timers failed to send in their reports. El Dorado and Amador Counties, usually with more reporters than most others, fell short this year. Yet nearly as many total reports as usual came in. Many from San Mateo County were reports of new boxes put up too late for success but welcome for their prompt reports. Last year, reports covered 4167 boxes; this year we report on 4209. Total birds exceeded last year's total by 1600 birds reaching 17,339. **Bob Franz**, Orange, helped with analysis. More details follow.



BLUEBIRDS FLY!

\$2.50 per issue
suggested donation

California Bluebird Recovery Program's newsletter

—assisted by Mt Diablo Audubon Society & Audubon~California
—an affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society

for the encouragement and conservation of cavity-nesters—especially bluebirds—anywhere in the West

TOP COUNTIES, TOP LANDLORDS

The highest total we've yet reported, **17,339**, includes a record number of Western Bluebirds as well, with 7814 new fledgling blues for 2001.

Orange County, as no surprise, led the State in total number of fledglings with 4228. Orange County also had the second most volunteers reporting in 2001 with 36.

Holding second place was Merced Co with 3237. This is all the more remarkable since they were all fledged by one volunteer, **Steve Simmons**. Included in this total was a whopping 2470 Wood Ducks. Steve reports to the **California Waterfowl Assn** as well as **CBRP**. This was the largest fledging of Wood Ducks by anyone in the State.

Following the leaders was the Yuba/Sutter complex with 902, then Ventura with 866 and Santa Clara with 832.

Most reports came from San Mateo with 42 reporting followed by Orange Co with 36, and Santa Clara with 23.

Fledge-rate shows good monitoring

We've noted that bluebirders with only one box often achieve the highest fledging rate. This may be because of the attention given to protecting a single box.

In year 2001, the highest ratio went to **Betty M Lovejoy** of Orange whose single box was home to 2 broods of 7 bluebirds giving her a ratio of 14 birds/box. **Kevin Putman** with 176 boxes including his prolific Wood Ducks had 11.46 per box.

Alice & Grady Pennington of Placer Co had 2 broods of bluebirds totalling 11 in their single box; 11 birds fledged/box.

Tables summarizing the leaders appear on the back of Sheet 4 of the Annual Report after the total tabulation. In the tabulation, highest ratios are listed first under each County. The statewide ratio was 4.11 birds/box. Counties exceeding the statewide average are also summarized on sheet 4. Our thanks to **Bob Franz** for his analyses.

Diversity is fun. Ask these folks.

In Alameda County, wherever you see nestboxes, you are likely seeing one of **Irvin Tiessen's** 9 trails located on East Bay MUD or San Francisco Water District lands or on several ranches and at individual residences.

Located as they are in a variety of habitats, Irv reported on 8 different species in 2001. His 8 led all other monitors while reporting a total of 524 new fledglings.

Hatch & Judy Graham, monitoring 3 trails in 3 counties, Alpine, Amador, & El Dorado, picked up both Mountain Bluebirds and Mountain Chickadees in the high elevations (8000' +), and the typical Oak Woodland-Savannah birds of the foothills. They had 342 fledged with 7 species. Right behind, also with 7 species, was **Don Yoder**, Contra Costa, fledging 250 birds in and around Rossmoor G.C. **Norman Watenpaugh**, Santa Clara Co, had 7 species, too, as did **June Schellhaus** of Placer Co. Norm fledged 75 birds and June fledged 61.

Are Bewick's Wrens making a comeback in the Bay Area ?

In 1997, we reported the Bewick's Wren had shown a 49% decrease in California according to the 29-yr records from the Breeding Bird Survey, a National census. CBRP's annual reports would occasionally carry a few BEWR fledglings reported here and there up and down the state. We listed them in the "other" category.

This year, they appeared often enough to carry a column of their own. Here are 6-yr totals for this tiny cavity-nester:

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
10	18	55	21	33	74

Although there was a bounce in 1998, the rise to 74 in 2001 is worthy of note. Any conjectures from our monitors? We'd especially like to hear from Santa Clara and San Mateo Co landlords.

NABS PLANS FOR 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Just a hop, skip and jump over the border beyond Washington is Penticton, BC, site of the Silver Anniversary meeting of our international organization. Sponsored by the Southern Interior Bluebird Trail Society, we will meet as the "Blue Turns to Silver" to enjoy a most interesting program and lineup of exciting speakers and a choice of 3 field trips.

The field trips will visit excellent birding territories and access some scenic areas of our neighbor to the north. The monetary rates of exchange are most favorable for U.S. visitors.

For quick delivery we can forward an application with full particulars to you in the next mail following your phone, fax, or e-mail to the Program Director. Numbers in the lower right of this page.

Six-year comparison shows status of CBRP's program

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
No. of Counties*	21	31	33	37	33	26
No. of volunteers	169	293	326	264	178	175
No. of species	16	17	16	20	20	18
No. of nestboxes(N)**	2400	3642	4142	4596	4167	4209
No. of tries(T)	1526	2442	3214	3527	3783	4023
T/N	64%	67%	78%	77%	91%	96%
No. of eggs(E)	NA	NA	NA	NA	23015	23470***
E/N	—	—	—	—	5.5	5.6
E/T	—	—	—	—	6.1	5.8
No. of hatchlings(H)	NA	NA	NA	NA	17204	18501***
H/N	—	—	—	—	4.1	4.4
H/T	—	—	—	—	4.5	4.6
H/E	—	—	—	—	75%	79%
No. of fledglings(F)	5077	8393	11326	13122	15703	17339
F/N	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.9	3.8	4.1
F/T	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.7	4.2	4.3
F/E	—	—	—	—	68%	72%
F/H	—	—	—	—	91%	92%

* Yuba/Sutter counted as one county since one set of data is provided for both.

** Standard, large, & small boxes.

*** These totals, ratios and %s are lower than they should be because of some gaps in reported totals of eggs and hatchlings.

California Bluebird Recovery Program

Founded in 1994, supported by Audubon ~California and affiliated with the North American Bluebird Society, CBRP is "for the encouragement and conservation 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 more than 4,000 nestboxes by the end of 2001, with more than 17,000 cavity-nesters fledged—nearly half 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.

CBRP can furnish nestbox plans, a monitoring guide, forms for monitoring and reports, technical advice through a network of county coordinators, and sometimes the nestboxes themselves.

Membership, which includes this quarterly newsletter, is available for a donation of \$5 or more made payable to "MDAS—Bluebirds" and mailed to CBRP, 2021 Ptarmigan Dr #1, Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Donations are tax-deductible.

California Bluebird Recovery Program

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BLUEBIRDS FLY!

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DON YODER'S

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Now hear this: It just may be possible that *Sialia sialis*, Eastern cousins of our favorite native family members are a bit more precocious than our own residents.

By the time you read this your nestboxes should be in place, clean, and ready for new tenants to start house-keeping in this great new year. We have it on good authority that, on January 1 with the temperature standing at 26°, a male Eastern Bluebird was seen checking out a nestbox in Salisbury N.C. He probably liked what he found: After a couple of head pokes into the nestbox he flew off into the nearby woods, possibly to try to arrange financing for the new project. We'll try for later reports on the progress at that box.



If you did not follow the currently preferred practice of cleaning boxes at the end of the nesting season, you have a job in the immediate future. And if you did do the fall cleaning, your job is not over—they should be cleaned again to get out all those nasty spider webs, ants, earwigs, paperwasps, rodents, and other beasties that like to call a nestbox home for the winter and may have moved in while your back was turned. Brush and spray the interior with a weak bleach solution. The box should have adequate ventilation to dry it even if you close it right away.



And a safety warning: Look in before you reach. And now is the time to be sure every box has a number, either attached to it or readably printed on it.



With those jobs out of the way there is time to get your Monitoring Records book set up. There are numerous systems that make this job easy—some of them light and easy to carry, others a bit more bulky but performing the task very well throughout the season. Just be sure your record asks for the basic informa-

tion so you can complete the Annual Report covering all of your boxes at the end of the nesting season. How is that for exercising foresight to make the reporting function quite simple in September? (Just remember that Monitoring and Reporting are two of the key functions connected with operating a nestbox trail. You are the Manager).



While your vacation plans begin to bubble amidst the new nests being built for this year, here is an account in his own words from **Kevin Putman**, CoCo Yuba/Sutter, partially debunking the usually-observed docile nature of bluebirds, even in close relationship with others of their own kind:

"I was replacing some old pipes at my mother's house; it was half way between sundown and dark when I noticed a considerable commotion coming from the catalpa tree a few feet away. This tree has a nestbox mounted on it, and it seemed that the bluebird family (I assumed) was coming in to roost for the night. But there was an awful lot of chirping, chattering, coming from the bluebirds, so I walked over to get a closer look.

"What I thought was a family turned out (apparently) to be two different pairs of bluebirds, and they were fighting over the nestbox. The males were absolutely trying to demolish one another—diving headlong at each other with a full head of steam—just as they occasionally swoop at intruders (us) near their nestbox while nesting, except that they were making full contact—while the females were nervously chattering and even fighting each other now and then. The birds were so preoccupied that they didn't even notice me standing under them.

The male that had owned this box during summer was banded, so I was trying to see if either male had a band; neither one did.

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Support our associates



Founded in 1978, the **North American Bluebird Society** (NABS) is a non-profit organization determined to increase the populations of the three species of bluebirds on this continent. Inasmuch as the populations of these birds have diminished due to the maladroit actions of human beings, as well as natural disasters, the society strives to explain the importance of preserving native cavity-nesters.

The society works within the bounds of effective conservation to study obstacles impeding bluebird recovery and to promote ideas and actions which might reduce their effect.

Membership is \$15. NABS's mailing address is The Wilderness Center, PO Box 244, Wilmot, OH 44689-0244.

National Audubon Society



There are local chapters of the **National Audubon Society** (NAS) in all fifty states, Guam, and Latin America. In California there are over fifty local chapters. Chapters have newsletters, monthly programs, and field trips to local areas of interest. The Mt Diablo chapter actively assists **CBRP** with its business administration; Audubon ~ California with mailing.

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

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

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“Then, the two males locked up and fluttered towards the ground together in a stranglehold. They hit the gravel pretty hard. I was amazed that both quickly ascended back into the tree, seemingly unhurt, only to go right back into battle again. The females continued their excited bickering.

“The males plummeted again, and again, hit hard. I moved towards them and nearly caught them on the ground as they hit and rolled around there. (I was thinking how easily any cat or hawk could have caught them in their distracted state.) But they both flew back up into the tree.

“They locked up again, but this time I moved under their fall to try to catch them. They fell right into my hands but both instantly avoided my grasp and again ascended into the tree, continuing to fight.

“Once again they fell, and again right into my hands. Still I couldn’t grasp anything (I could easily have caught them with a rough, two-hand grab, but I was being gentle—trying to cup them into my hands as they hit).

“Suddenly it seemed to end without a clear winner, and both pairs left the area.

“After years of watching these gentle birds in normal activity, I was astounded at the ferocity with which these two males threw themselves at each other—one at the other with full speed—total impact. And again, these birds were not the recent owners of the nestbox. They must have been fighting over possession for purpose of roosting. I wish I had it on film.

“Quite a battle!”

~Kevin Putman 12/11/2001



The larger portion of our Annual Reports come from trail monitors in the central and southern part of the state. It is therefore a great pleasure to receive reports and figures from northern areas

of lighter populations but with equally dedicated birders who fledge badly needed additions to the bird populations. In Glenn Co, **Ron & Kari Keyawa** believe that feeding mealworms to one set of parents got them off to an early start at nest building on Feb. 27. Another box started a nest on March 10; both broods ran into the second following month before fledging occurred.



Jeannette Knight, CoCo, Lake, enjoyed nestings by five varieties during good weather in the spring semester. But homework slacked off to zero during the second semester and no starts were even attempted. Maybe the birds know why—heat, nasty weather, poor food supplies, or none of the above. Only they could tell us.



An unappreciative beaver cut down a tree supporting one of the nestboxes supplied by **M.A. Morris** who lives in Davis but travels up to the Upper Truckee R in El Dorado County for nestbox surveillance. A second box simply disappeared. Life is so hard for the birds, even when boxes remain in place as intended.



Early in April, **Robert Yohr**, Calaveras, supplied nestboxes in time for early nesters to go to work. The effort was delayed however, when cold weather slammed the area and held up progress for 10 days. The golf course boxes raised some birds; boxes were removed and have been given seasonal cleaning, ready for the new 2002 occupancies.



Sue Cossins, San Mateo, speculates that Crystal Springs Golf Course may be a bit cold for bluebirds, but the temperature didn’t discourage Chestnut-backed Chickadees from utilizing the apartment and adding 7 youngsters to the official count.



Whether warmer or not, **Tom Croom**,

Orange, reports lower fledgings, more deaths and more abandonments than year 2000. Losses are also attributed to vandalism of boxes, overbearing tree swallows, and swarming bees who will drive almost any bird from their quarters.



In the first year of overseeing a nestbox trail **Toni Diltz**, Orange, started with 3 boxes, all of which had productive occupancies and all of which enjoyed mealworms to hasten their early growth. One family had support of a mother only—dad was not in evidence. One member of the family succumbed, in spite of a very normal appearance.



After offering nestboxes for three years **Andy Hall**, San Mateo, was finally rewarded with bluebird occupants in his nestboxes mounted on riding-ring fence posts. Patience win out.



And **Dawn Williams**, also San Mateo, reports a second brood, tended by a male, female and a youngster from an earlier family.



Howard Rathlesberger, head honcho for San Mateo, couldn’t wait for our compiler and combined reports of 38 contributors. His totals were slightly different than our editor’s 97 version of Microsoft Excel but impressive either way. We show San Mateo leading the state with 42 reporters. A birdy area indeed, with lots of caretaker trail tenders. And 364 birds were banded.



Max Grandfield, San Mateo, monitored 23 nestboxes and had the not-too-frequent experience of recovering a banded OATI. She received her memento 1 year before and 100 yards away from the recovery point.



Lorry Hukill, Nevada, reports seeing

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Opinion:**LARGER ENTRANCE HOLES PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY**

Four years ago, **Garth Harwood**, then Santa Clara County Coordinator, wrote an editorial for these pages making a case for “nestbox diversity.” The thrust of his argument was that more boxes of the chickadee/titmouse size, typically with entry holes of 1¼", would promote more nesting of our smaller cavity-nesters and therefore increase the variety or diversity of the species we assist.

Our Program Director, **Don Yoder**, added his comments suggesting such nestboxes can easily be constructed by simply scaling down the standard bluebird box. In Santa Clara Co in particular, a number of trails consisting mainly of smaller boxes have been established. While these trails produce a number of smaller birds, there are neither bluebirds nor Ash-throated Flycatchers in their numbers.

In our last issue, **Sully Reallon**, Orange Co, reported that he had hung a box with the 1¼" hole after observing (with **Dick Purvis**) a Mountain Chickadee near his bluebird trail. Soon after, a pair of Western Bluebirds who had to struggle to get in and out occupied the box. Sully quickly filed the hole larger (to 1⅞") to accommodate the blues.

In 2001, I had Tree Swallows nest in my American Kestrel box, which has a 3" round entry hole.

Also, on these pages, we have suggested methods of preventing woodpeckers from enlarging our standard size holes. Why do we do this? Some of the reasons given are to prevent larger birds such as the Corvids—jays, nutcrackers, magpies—from reaching in and preying on the nestlings or eggs. Another reason, of course, is to prevent starlings from usurping the nestbox. Woodpeckers sometimes fill the boxes with their cache of acorns but this occurs mainly in fall and winter. The hoard can be dumped in early spring and the box will subsequently be used by other cavity-nesters. In Ventura County, we have a report that Tree Swallows will avoid areas where Acorn Woodpeckers have nesting colonies.

I applaud Garth's intention to increase the biodiversity in our program by encouraging as many species as possible. However, I have come to believe that the smaller hole-size decreases the range of opportunity for many birds to nest. In our records we see birds varying in size from the House and Bewick's Wrens (that can use a 1" hole) to Mountain Bluebirds and Ash-throated Flycatchers (1⅞") all using the same-sized standard box.

To increase use of our standard boxes by more species, we need only (1) place nestboxes at distances close enough to create intraspecific territoriality (birds will defend against pairs of their own species); (2) locate them in habitat favored by the others (denser brush, areas of tall weeds rather than grass, etc.); or (3) place them in locations higher in the tree crowns (nuthatches prefer cavities over 15' high on trunks of trees).

In my opinion, the only reason to worry about holes enlarged to sizes larger than 1⅞" is if you have avian predators, starlings, or colonizing woodpeckers, or if the larger opening gives greater access to raccoons and cats. Monitors can assess their individual situations, but there are remedies (guards, baffles, etc.) other than reducing hole size. Smaller hole sizes will only result in exclusion of some of our desirable cavity-nesters.

~Hatch Graham, Coordinator, Amador/El Dorado Cos.

NOTES...

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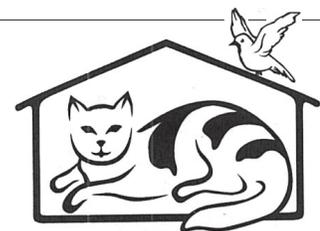
twenty bluebirds on a phone line visible from her kitchen window. She was kept busy watching a frontyard box producing 3 Ash-throated Flycatchers and one in the back producing 5 bluebirds. A combined report on 9 monitors, includes 2 families of Wood Ducks fledged by **Torbin Erickson**, and a triple clutch of bluebirds by **Debby Sekerak**. The first fledged 5; in the second, 6 eggs were abandoned; and the third hatched 5 but were eaten by bees. Ten eggs in two boxes were also abandoned for two other monitors.



Really dedicated birders **George & Marti Oetzel**, San Mateo, not only reported the production results of their 2 trails but also included an address for their web page which includes several good points for birders. Some very attractive and colorful pictures prove the viability of nestboxes placed within short distances of urban activity. In fact, George was able to monitor some boxes on his way to his office and to take some pictures during his lunch breaks. Enjoy with other birders the website: <http://www.birdhike.com/bluebirds.htm> and thanks to George and Marti.



Bob Justice, Contra Costa, reports for one box the “first siting of male bluebird” on February 16. He held a stop watch on box #2 wherein nest building started on June 2 and all 5 fledged—the first at 1:50 on the hot afternoon of July 15 and the other 4 before nightfall.



CATS INDOORS!

THE CAMPAIGN FOR SAFER BIRDS & CATS

More Annual Report

WOOD DUCKS & TREE SWALLOWS

Once again, Steve Simmons of Merced County led the flock in the number of Wood Ducks reported. With 402 large nestboxes in use, same as last year, he reported 222 WODU tries, 3209 eggs, 2483 hatchlings, and 2470 fledglings. But amazingly, these numbers are down from those in 2000 in all categories but one—the hatchling survival rate. In 2000, it was 99.17% and last year it was 99.47%! Pretty consistent.

But this year the tries (attempts) were down 24%—222 to 293, and the rest of the ratios were down correspondingly as follows:

- Eggs: down 21%—3209 from 4044
- Hatchlings: -11%—2483 from 2783
- Fledglings: -11%—2470 from 2760

Kevin Putman of Yuba/Sutter counties reported the second highest total of fledglings in 46 nestboxes with 130 WODU tries, 2491 eggs, 1183 hatchlings, and 1150 fledglings. His numbers were also down from 2000 when he reported on 142 large nestboxes with 149 WODU tries, 2751 eggs, 1150 hatchlings, and 1111 fledglings.

The large disparity between eggs and hatchlings with Wood Ducks is partly predation but more often a phenomenon called dumping. Several hens may lay in the same nestbox and then the eggs are abandoned.

Again this year, Jan Wasserman of Ventura Co., wins the honors by reporting 848 Tree Swallows (4.1 per try). Others with large totals are Christine Mukai of Orange Co., with 323 and Barbara Moore of Nevada Co. with 188.

Survival rates of 100% were reported by the following:

	Tries	Eggs	Hatch	Fledge
Dave Cook	6	30	24	24
- Santa Clara				
Tom Croom	5	26	23	23
- Orange				
K & P Barnes	3	14	14	14
- Orange				
Cecelia Perez	2	12	12	12
- Orange				
J & R McGinnis	1	4	4	4
- Santa Clara				

Other high survival rates:

	Tries	Eggs	Hatch	Fledge
Dave Harvey	27	138	135	131
- Kern	97%			
H & J Graham	30	173	127	119
- Amador	94%			
Dee Warencyia	31	154	126	117
- Placer	93%			
Kevin Putman	2	15	15	14
Yuba/Sutter	93%			

~Bob Franz

**What are alpha codes?
Arcane codes explained**

The annual report included in this issue has column headings of 4 letters abbreviating each bird species. WEBL is used for Western Bluebird, for example. Why not WBB you may ask.

The authority for bird's names in the western hemisphere is the American Ornithologist's Union. They assign a number to each bird. The numbers are difficult for some to remember, so the Bird Banding Lab of the US government in cooperation with Canada and Mexico, developed "alpha codes" for each of the AOU's birds. These are used by many professional ornithologists in North America.

The codes normally consist of the 1st two letters of the bird's 1st name and last name, as in WEstern BLuebird.

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Book Review:

THE BLUEBIRD MONITOR'S GUIDE

by Cynthia Berger, Keith Kridler, Jack Griggs, 2001, HarperCollins, NY. \$14.95

This new slick 128-page guide in a large 8½x11" format with beautiful colored photographs on nearly every page is a must for anyone devoted to bluebirds and other small cavity-nesters.

Covering the entire North American continent, it provides information on nearly every aspect of nestbox monitoring. Especially helpful are the close-up photographs of various species' nests and eggs and the 16-photo series showing the egg-laying, pipping, and growth of bluebird nestlings up till their final day before fledging.

Many experts and innovators from across the country are quoted or featured in the guide including the Cal bluebirders who contributed: Hatch Graham, Wendy Guglieri, Dick Purvis, Kevin Putman, Linda Violet, and Don Yoder.

Divided into 5 sections, the guide covers attracting bluebirds, monitoring backyard blues, trails for bluebirds, an advice section, and homes and hardware.

The advice section covers feeding, legal concerns, problems with House Sparrows, blowflies, and tools for monitors.

With 128 pages, it is advisable to thumb through the whole book to become familiar with it's organization. While it has a fairly thorough index, it's scope is so great, you may have some difficulty at first in finding what you want to know.

While your reviewer is also author of CBRP's 32-page booklet, *Monitoring Your Bluebird Trail in California*, we heartily recommend this new guide to you. Our own is more like a quick outline; this is the whole story well-fleshed out.

Sponsored by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the North American Bluebird Society, it will be a welcome addition to anyone's library. Put it on your wish list for your next birthday or anniversary.

~Hatch Graham

ATTENTION ORANGE CO MONITORS

Bob Franz, your neighbor, who organized much of the statistics for this issue, has special tables applicable specifically to Orange Co. He will be glad to share them with you. Call or email him at (714) 528-5082 or BOBFRAZ@cs.com

Need advice? Where should I put my nestbox? What kind of bird builds this nest? What do I do about wasps-ants-earwigs-mites? Mama bird is missing- what do I do now? How do I know they fledged?

CALL YOUR COORDINATOR—KEEP IN TOUCH!

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>	<u>STREET</u>	<u>CITY/STATE/ZIP</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>FAX</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Alameda	Ann Kositsky	1090 Miller Ave	Berkeley, CA 94708	510-527-5091		ajpa@pacbell.net
Alameda	Raymond A Fontaine	PO Box 92	Livermore, CA 94551	510-447-0213		
Amador	Hatch Graham	PO Box 39	Somerset, CA 95684	530-621-1833	530-621-3939	birdsfly@innercite.com
Butte	Emily Harbison	3536 Butte Campus Dr	Oroville, CA 95965	530-895-2449		deb@cin.butte.cc.ca
Calaveras	La Verne Hagel	466 Thompson Ln	Copperopolis, CA 95228	209-785-2363		
Contra Costa	Shirley & Warren Engstrom	232 Tharp Dr	Moraga, CA 94556	925-376-4695		wiese@juno.com
Contra Costa	Oscar Enstrom	1932 Golden Rain Rd	Walnut Creek, CA 94595	925-952-9261		bigo@lanset.com
El Dorado	Hatch Graham	PO Box 39	Somerset, CA 95684	530-621-1833	530-621-3939	birdsfly@innercite.com
	Geotwn Div	Viola Sampert	Greenwood, CA 95635	530-333-0318		
Lake	Jeannette Knight	PO Box 152	Cobb, CA 95426	707-928-5250		
Lassen	Edward Bertotti	470 413 Wingfield	Susanville, CA 96130	530-257-3774		
	Almanor RD	Terry Nelson	Chester, CA 96020	530-258-2141		
	Lassen NF	Tom Rickman	Susanville, CA 96130	530-257-2151		
Los Angeles	Doug Martin	13066 Shenley St	Sylmar, CA 91342	818-367-8967		
Madera	William Rihn	PO Box 1648	Coarsegold, CA 93614	209-683-3052		
Marin	Ruth Beckner	15 Portola Ave	San Rafael, CA 94903	415-479-9542		
Marin	Meryl Sundove	37 Greenwood Beach Rd	Tiburon, CA 94920	415-388-2524	415-388-0717	
Mariposa	Lawrence Punte	9443 Banderillo Dr	La Grange, CA 95329	209-852-2559		
Modoc	Charles Welch	PO Box 825	Alturas, CA 96101	530-233-4534		
Napa	David Graves	1500 Los Cameros Ave	Napa, CA 94559	707-257-0843		
Nevada	Walt Carnahan	12821 Bradford Dr	Grass Valley, CA 95945	530-273-4599		walt@oro.net
Orange	Dick Purvis	936 S Siet Pl	Anaheim, CA 92806	714-776-8878		dickersly@aol.com
Placer	Heath Wakelee	6019 Princeton Reach Wy	Granite Bay, CA 95746	916-797-4538		hwakelee@minolta.com
Plumas (NF)	Patricia Johnson	PO Box 767	Chester, CA 96020	530-258-2141		
Riverside	Melissa Browning	10154 Beaumont Ave	Cherry Valley, CA 92223	909-845-9266		
S Bernardino	Glen Chappell	1923 Abbie Way	Upland, CA 91784	909-981-1996		Chappell@CHS.Chaffey.K12.CA.US
San Diego	Rosemary Fey	PO Box 1245	Borrego Springs, CA 92004	619-767-5810		
San Joaquin	Thomas Hoffman	10122 E Woodbridge Rd	Acampo, CA 95220	209-369-8578		thoffman@lodinet.com
SLuisObispo	Judith Burkhardt	8560 El Corte	Atascadero, CA 93422	805-466-3272		burkhardt@thegrid.net3.
San Mateo	Howard Rathlesberger	230 Ridgeway	Woodside, CA 94062	650-367-1296	650-369-4788	HJRath@aol.com
Sta Barbara	Richard Willey	4172 Vanguard Dr	Lompoc, CA 93436	805-733-5383		willey@utech.net
Santa Clara	David 'Tex' Houston	1099 Fife Ave	Palo Alto, CA 94301	650-326-3402		tex@acterra.org
Santa Cruz	Nanda Currant	530 Amigo Rd	Soquel, CA 95073	408-462-3703		hearth@cruzio.com
Sonoma	Mike Crumly	23555 Hwy 21	Sonoma, CA 95475	707-996-7256		
Sutter	Kevin Putman	2884 Coy Dr	Yuba City, CA 95993	530-755-1480		dputman@syix.com
Tehama	Pete Flower	331 Oak St	Red Bluff, CA 96080	530-527-0392		
Tulare	Peter C Morrison	325 S Willis	Visalia, CA 93291	209-733-1154		
Ventura	Jan Wasserman	1158 Beechwood St	Camarillo, CA 93010	805-987-3928		bandlady@treeswallows.org
Yuba	Kevin Putman	2884 Coy Dr	Yuba City, CA 95993	530-755-1480		dputman@syix.com
All Others	Don Yoder, Program Dir	2021 Ptarmigan Dr #1	Walnut Creek, CA 94595	925-937-5974	925-935-4480	cbpr@value.net

How will I know if it's the same bird with the 2nd brood? Is that the same pair I had last year? I've had a titmouse in that box for 3 years but how do I know it's the same one?

**CONTACT YOUR NEAREST BIRD BANDER.
GIVE YOUR BANDER & YOUR BIRDS A RING.**

<u>BANDING AREA</u>	<u>BANDER</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Amador & Southern El Dorado	Hatch Graham	530-621-1833	birdsfly@innercite.com
Northern El Dorado - Georgetown Divide	Dave Delongchamp	530-333-2304	selkaijen@jps.net
Eastern El Dorado	Susan Yasuda	530-644-2324	syasuda@fs.fed.us
Los Angeles	Walter Sakai	310-434-4702	saikai_walter@smc.edu
Mendocino & Lake Counties	Janet King	707-462-3277	kingfarm@sonic.net
Orange County	Christine Mukai		cmukai@chambersgroupinc.com
Placer & Northern Sacramento	Dee Warenycia	916-786-5056	warbler5@aol.com
Placer & Northern Sacramento	Barry Baba	916-484-3234	bbaba07@earthlink.net
San Francisco Peninsula	Howard Rathlesberg	650-367-1296	HJRath@aol.com
Solano & Yolo Counties	Melanie Truan	530-750-3825	mltruan@ucdavis.edu
Sutter & Yuba Counties	Kevin Putman	530-755-1480	dputman@syix.com
Ventura County	Jan Wasserman	805-987-3928	bandlady@west.net

Only 176 reported Here's the 2001 Annual Report

Thanks to all of you who submitted your Annual Reports. A copy comes to you even if you've never joined.

We ask only \$5 for an annual subscription. Won't you please join if you have not; renew if you haven't already in the last year.

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Thanks for your help.

Codes deciphered *from page 6*

However, there are exceptions to the rule. If the bird's name is a hyphenated compound like Ash-throated Flycatcher, the 1st letter of the two compound words and the 1st two of the last word are used: Ash-Throated Flycatcher = **ATFL**; White-Breasted Nuthatch = **WBNU**. A three word name usually follows the same pattern: 1st letter of each of the 1st two names and 1st two letters of the last.

An overriding rule is that no two codes can be the same for different birds. One of our common cavity-nesters ran afoul of this rule. The Tree Swallow would normally be **TRSW**. But then what do you do with the Trumpeter Swan? Rather than favor the big bird over the little bird or vice-versa, both are changed giving the 1st three letters of the 1st name and the single initial of the last: **TRES** and **TRUS**. A list of most of the codes we use are on the bottom of Sheet 4.

The Poet's Corner

CHANCES

Theses are the birds who nest
in our chimneys,
bundling combustibles
where the draft sucks flame. Or
in a ramshackle weave of sticks and string,
hang their breakable young
on a high thin twig
over nothing.
And if the birdlings grow
to any weight and feather,
they show them, by flapping
of parent wings,
one has only to outstep the edge
to fly.

*Taylor Graham
first published in
Confrontation No. 42-43,
Spring/Summer 1990*

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BLUEBIRDS FLY!
California Bluebird Recovery Program's
Newsletter
Vol 7, No. 4, Winter 2001-02

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