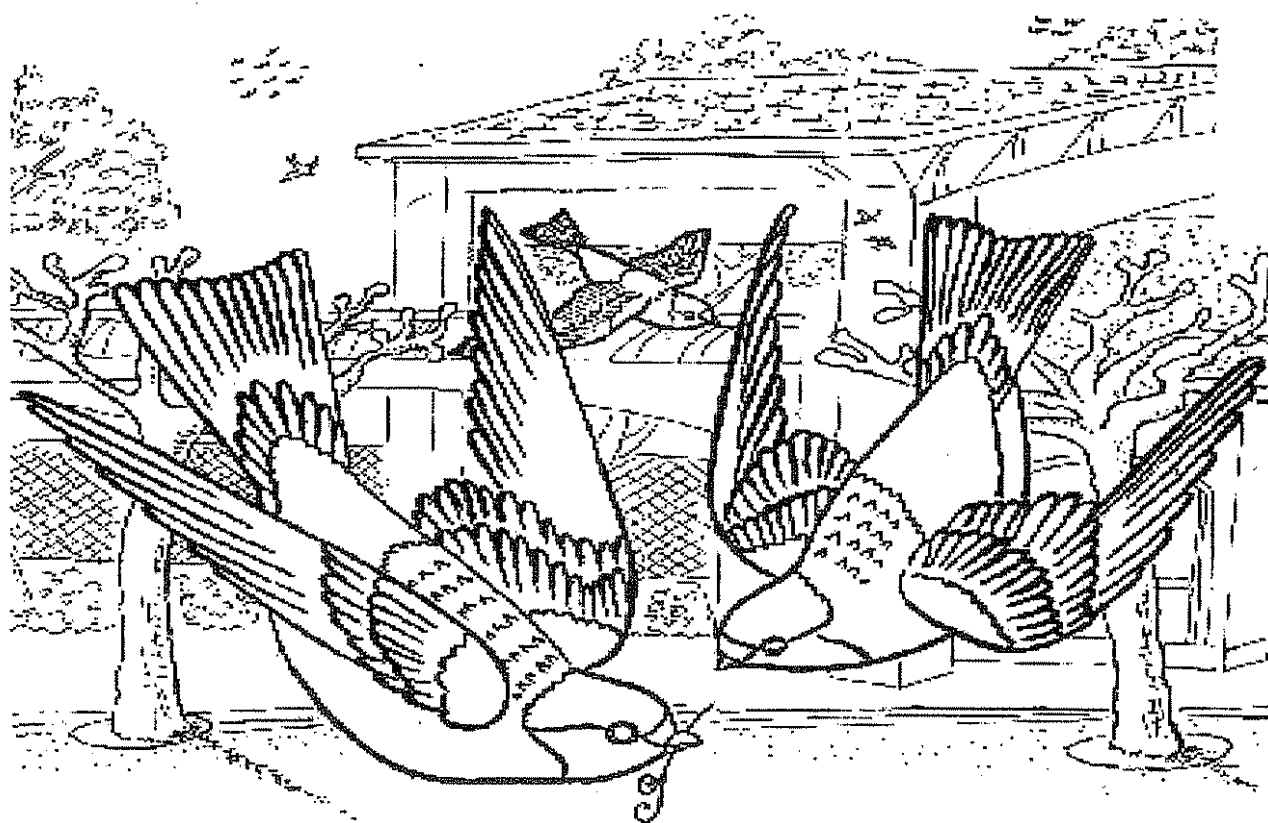


# CHABOT COLLEGE'S 5TH ANNUAL RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS FESTIVAL



## SCHEDULE

11:30 - WELCOME • EXHIBITS • BOOTHS • INTRODUCTIONS • WHAT IS A SWALLOW?

12:20 - FREE THE PIGEONS

12:30 - CONTEST WINNERS

12:40 - SWALLOW POETRY AND SONG

1:00 - THANK YOU • GRACIAS  
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

**CELEBRATING THE RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS TO CHABOT COLLEGE!**

TUESDAY

APRIL 3, 2007

11:30 - 1:30 P.M.

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ PLAZA  
CHABOT COLLEGE  
HAYWARD

*Cosponsored by the Ohlone Audobon Society, Chabot College, TriCed and Video Z*



Hello, hola,

Welcome to Chabot College's 5th Annual Return of the Swallows Festival.

We are pleased to have you join us in this community and family celebration of our local Swallows, and their amazing transcontinental migration from South America to Chabot College here in Hayward, California and back again. It is our deepest hope that this public tribute will be an enjoyable and informative experience for you; and ultimately, will inspire your interest and concerns for the well-being of swallows throughout the world - and bird life in general.

Few festivals in the world are focused on swallows; therefore, you are participating in a unique international experience.

Our objective is the education, the protection, and the preservation of these birds. Through this Festival, it is our sincerest wish that the Hayward community may learn about our winged 'friends' who yearly travel to southern South America during our winter, and then fly back to stay with us during our spring and summer.

We believe that the Cliff Swallow's primary negative aspect, *guano* (bird droppings), is easily outweighed by all the positives. For the record, not one human has become ill or died due to a cliff swallow droppings. That their collection of guano creates a somewhat unsightly scene on the ground is also known. However, it is also well known that one of Ecuador's principal industries is the production of guano, which contains exceptionally rich fertilizing substances, so, at most, we receive some natural fertilizer.

This little industrious and hard working community bird, which has chosen Chabot College as its summer home, needs to be celebrated for what it represents: the best natural defense against flying insects and mosquitos (think about the West Nile virus carried by mosquitos) that compete with us for agricultural products and outdoors enjoyment. Protecting swallows represents the conservation of our environment, the protection of our fauna for our children, and according to legend, the good luck it brings to Chabot College and Hayward.

Please, start today to become more sensitive about your environment by learning about our Cliff Swallows. Enjoy the exhibits and the tours. Ask questions, and learn about this amazing manifestation of nature. See you next year!

¡Vivan las Golondrinas de Chabot! Hurrah for the Chabot Swallows! Vive les hirondelles de Chabot!

If you would like more information about birding and other elements of our Festival, please contact the members of the Ohlone Audubon Society:

Phil and Pat Gordon at [PAGPEG@aol.com](mailto:PAGPEG@aol.com)

Evelyn Cormier at [evcormier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:evcormier@sbcglobal.net)

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Prof. J. Francisco Zermefio C. at Chabot College

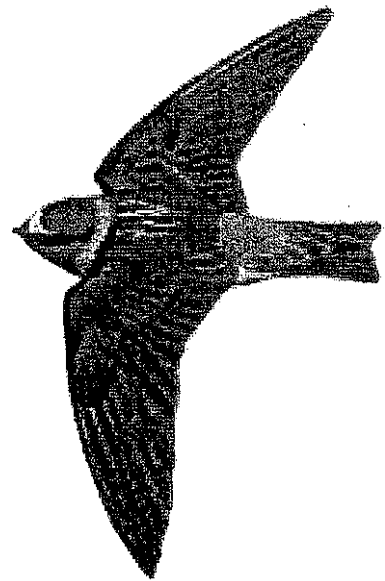
or at [machetez@sbcglobal.net](mailto:machetez@sbcglobal.net)

## 2006 Exhibitors

Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District - William Hamersky  
 Alameda County Water Conservation and Flood Control  
 Chabot College Bookstore - Sharon Daniels  
 Chabot College Library - Carol Baumann  
 City of Hayward, Department of Public Works - Lori Marra  
 CurbCycle/TriCED - Mangee Wong  
 East Bay Regional Park District  
 Hayward Area Historical Society - Gina Díaz  
 Hayward Area Recreation Department - Michael E. Koslosky  
 Hayward Arts Council - Clarice Roberts  
 Hayward Homing Pigeon Club - Olivia Rayas  
 Ohlone Audubon Society - Phil Gordon  
 Ohlone College - Joe Zermeño  
 Sierra Club - Elizabeth (Betsy) Porter  
 St. Rose Hospital - Audrey Swann and Denise González  
 Wild Birds Unlimited - Bill Rose  
 W.D.Gordon Museum of Discovery & Math/Science Nucleus of Fremont -  
 'Boy Paleontologists' of Hayward

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## Names for "Swallow" around the world

الخطاف	-	Arabic ( <i>Al-hotaaf</i> )	燕	-	Japanese ( <i>tsubame</i> )
燕子	-	Cantonese ( <i>yeen chee</i> )	thubaba	-	Jemez (USA)
lastavica	-	Croatian	urpa	-	Quechua (Perú)
vlastovka	-	Czech	hirundo	-	Latin
svale	-	Danish	燕子	-	Mandarin ( <i>yen chi</i> )
slikt	-	Dutch	kaqchikel	-	Mayan
swallow	-	English	tohztti	-	Navajo
pääsuke	-	Estonian	svale	-	Norwegian
بوسو	-	Farsi ( <i>parastoo</i> )	jaskolka	-	Polish
lakâba	-	Fijian ( <i>lakamba</i> )	andorinha	-	Portuguese
paasky	-	Finnish	lastochka	-	Russian
hirondelle	-	French	lastovka	-	Slovene
Schwalben	-	German	golondrina	-	Spanish
chelidon	-	Greek	svala	-	Swedish
tulgamaq	-	Greenlandic	swael	-	Swahili
fecske	-	Hungarian	te'gla	-	Tire'hat
rondine	-	Italian	kirlangic	-	Turkish
つばめ	-	Japanese ( <i>tsubame</i> )			
ツバメ	-	Japanese ( <i>tsubame</i> )			

## World Countries with Swallows

Albania	Egypt	Liberia	Rwanda
Angola	El Salvador	Lichtenstein	Senegal
Austria	Eritrea	Lithuania	Sierra Leone
Bali	Estonia	Macedonia	Slovakia
Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Malaysia	Slovenia
Belgium	Finland	Mali	Spain
Benin	France	Maluku	Somalia
Bosnia	Gabon	Malvides	Sri Lanka
Botswana	Gambia	México	Sulawesi
Brazil	Germany	Moldavia	Sumatra
Bulgaria	Ghana	Monaco	Swaziland
Burkina Faso	Greece	Mozambique	Sweden
Burundi	Guatemala	Namibia	Switzerland
Butan	Guinea	Nepal	Taiwan
Byelarus	Guinea Bissau	Netherlands	Thailand
Cambodia	Hercegovina	New Zealand	Togo
Cameroon	Honduras	Niger	Trinidad & Tobago
Canada	Hungary	Nigeria	Uganda
Chad	India	Norway	Ukraine
China	Ireland	Nusa Teggara	United Kingdom
Central African Republic	Italy	Perú	United States
Croatia	Kalimantan	Poland	Venezuela
Czech Republic	Kenya	Portugal	Vietnam
Democratic Republic of Congo	Laos	Panamá	Zambia
Denmark	Latvia	Romania	Zimbabwe
Golondrinas	Lesotho	Russia	

## Swallow facts



- Similar species: The Cliff Swallow can be distinguished easily from all swallows except the Cave Swallow (not found in California), by its pale, cinnamon-beige rump. The Cave Swallow has a darker forehead and a paler throat than the Cliff Swallow. When viewed from below, the Cliff Swallow stands apart from other swallows by its squared tail and dark throat; and by its length, wingspan, and mass – not to mention its unique voice.

- “Beating the Storm:” Our largest swallow, the Purple Martin, is rarely inhibited by storms on its daytime migrations. In the writings of John James Audubon (the “Father of American Bird Painting” and an astute observer and author of animal behavior) we read (regarding migrating Purple Martins) (ca. 1821): “So powerful is their flight that when they meet the gust of a violent storm, they appear to slide along the edges of it, as if determined not to lose an inch of their gains. The front ranks face the storm with pertinacity - - up - - down - - along the skirts of the opposing currents and into their undulating recesses. They are determined to force their way through. The rest follow close behind, all huddled together into a mass, like one large black spot. Not a twitter can be heard. The instant that they pass the current they relax their efforts, refresh themselves, and twitter in united congratulation that they have won the battle.”

- In their endless aerial foraging, swallows feed by scooping myriads of tiny insects out of the air. On a related note, bird legend has it that a single purple martin may eat as many as 2,000 mosquitoes in a day.

- All swallows feed mainly on small flying insects — capturing them in flight. Some species may also eat small wild fruits on occasion. For example, Tree Swallows wintering in the southeastern United States often feed on bayberries – especially in cold weather when few insects are about.

- From a human point of view, there could be no more delightful way of earning a living for a bird, than sailing about in the air all day, playing “cross-tag on the wing” with its companions, skimming low across the meadows, ponds, and marshes, or rising high above them and darting hither and thither wherever their fancy leads, without knowing what it means to be tired. Swallows are as much in their element when in the air as fish are in water; but of course they are not there simply for fun. Their long, blade-like wings, which cut the air with such easy yet powerful strokes, propel them enormous distances in order to collect enough mosquitoes, gnats, and other gauzy-winged insects to satisfy their hunger. With their mouth widely gaping, and leaving an opening in the front of their broad heads that stretches from ear to ear, they must get a tremendous draft down their little throats. But they gather-in a dinner piecemeal just as the Chimney-Swifts, Whippoorwills, and Nighthawks do. Viscid saliva in the bird’s mouth, glues the little victims as fast as if they were caught on sticky fly-paper. When enough have been trapped to make a pellet, the swallow ingests it. However, one pellet alone is not sufficient to constitute a complete meal. We might say that one swallowing does not make a dinner, any more than “one swallow makes a summer.”

- The Barn Swallow prefers to nest upon the rafters inside the barn, but the Eaves (an old name of Cliff Swallow) Swallow is content to stay outside under the shelter of a projecting roof. Before men built barns on this continent, the nests were cemented to the face of a cliff, and in some regions the bird is still known as the Cliff Swallow. In such a place you find not just one, but numerous odd mud tenements plastered in a row against the wall; for Eaves Swallows are always remarkably sociable, even during the nesting season. A photograph of a colony in Ohio shows one hundred and fifteen nests, nearly all of which, touch one another. The entrance to the flask-shaped nest is long, drawn out, tunnel-like, and small. Although so often noticed circling about outbuildings on the farm, or the Chabot College campus, one may know by the rusty patch on the lower part of his steel-blue back, the crescent-shaped white mark on his forehead, and the squared-off (not deeply forked) tail, that the Eaves Swallow can be distinguished from the Barn Swallow.



## Swallow facts

- “If Cliff Swallows had teeth they could *grit* them.” When parents feed baby Cliff Swallows, sand and grit grains are passed into the hungry mouths along with the hundreds of insects caught on wing, as the parents sweep the air. The adults must creep on the ground to pick up this material to give to their young, who then grind up the hard invertebrate skeletons for additional protein in their developing gizzards.

- “Are Bluebirds better than Martins?” John James Audubon once decided to put up several “apartments” in which Eastern Bluebirds could nest along with all of his Purple Martins nest boxes. When the migrating Martins arrived, they drove the Bluebirds out, to take over what they thought were much better homes. One little Bluebird resisted with “as much courage as his antagonist,” returning again and again after being driven away by this big blue-black, noisy intruder. Audubon, feeling sorry for the Bluebird, even caught the male Martin and trimmed its tail, then, when that didn’t work to drive him away, he clipped its wing tips. As J.J. Audubon put it, “The pertinacious Martin kept the box despite my wishes that he should give it up.” The end can only be imagined!

- “Timing can be everything.” Purple Martin condo-apartments are put up commonly in the central and eastern towns of the U. S. and Canada. European settlers released 100 European Starlings into Central Park, New York, between 1890 & 1891. They spread and reached the S.F. Bay Area about 1948. Along the way, they discovered the perfect nest holes of Martin Houses, and were able to drive the Martins away — much to the disdain of residents! So, to thwart these “thieves” (besides the many who were angrily “disposed of”), little doors were placed on each nest hole (Starlings seek nests early in the season, so they may have 3-4 broods of 4-5 young each - millions of them). By waiting until most Starlings had found and established their nests, the folks were then able to open up the little Martin Box doors, just in time for their proper occupation!

- “Swallow happiness is where flying insects are, but when would a swallow put fun of flying before food?” Many times bird watchers get out in the field before dawn. That way they can record the sequence of bird singing as the day begins: who sings 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. Almost invariably (well before any morning light glows in the East) the twitter of swallows flying above can be heard in the dark. In wooded locations of the greater S.F. Bay Area the species is usually the Violet-green Swallow. Can swallows find flying insects in the dark, without the bio-sonar that bats and Oil birds have? The answer is no.

- “What goes out must come in.” Swallows need a high metabolism to maintain the energy (“out-going”) it takes for so many hours of active flight, while chasing and collecting insects (“in-going”). This is why they migrate during the day -- feeding along the way so that intake will equal outgo as they proceed. If the young are still being fed by parents at the onset of migration, one can see birds coming close (touching mid-air) as mom or dad pass delectables to the begging offspring as they travel — mid-air, diurnally.

- “Well, thank you very much!” When breeding in Costa Rica (and north in U.S.), the Northern ‘Rough-winged Swallow’ takes advantage of well prepared, deep holes, excavated by one of the great bird-beauties of the tropics; the Motmot, – a close relative of the Kingfisher. It also nests in earthen burrows of its own making.

- “Go find a bodyguard - for free!” Cliff Swallows have been shown to deliberately construct their mud nests near Prairie Falcon nest sites. Any winged intruder threatening the adult or young Cliff Swallows, gets promptly escorted out of sight. Such a deal! Interestingly, the mammal-eating Red-tailed Hawks catch and eat Cliff Swallows; unlike the bird-eating Prairie Falcons. Maybe the Prairie Falcons are getting some benefit in return?

## Swallow facts



• **More feeding behavior notes:** Most Swallows feed by the 'sweeping motion.' This results in an effective means of gathering swarms of smaller insects. Purple Martins feed by another way, the 'selective method.' This is an effective means of gathering the larger insects, one by one. Occasionally, Purple Martins may use the 'sweeping method' to feed opportunistically on high density swarms of mosquitoes or other dipterous insects. For example, Kale (1968) reports that "D.W. Micks recently wrote (in lit.) that he examined the stomach contents of a Purple Martin killed by a vehicle near Gilchrist, TX one spring, approximately 10 years ago, and found the stomach full of mosquitoes; most of which were identifiable as *Aedes sollicitans*, a salt marsh species that was present there in huge numbers." This was quite exceptional to all other exhaustive studies where mosquitoes were at the most, 3% of the diet of 7 to 34 Purple Martins studied. In other studies, Martins ate other insects, especially the larger beetles, and later (after July), bees, ants, and wasps (Johnson, 1967). Baby Purple Martins are fed smaller to larger and less crushed insects as they grow larger, including large dragonflies, damsel flies, grasshoppers, butterflies, and cicadas.

A review of the pertinent scientific and popular ornithological literature leads to the following conclusions:

1. Mosquitoes appear to be a negligible item in the diets of the Purple Martin.
2. Behavior patterns of mosquitoes and martins are such that most mosquitoes do not fly in martin feeding areas when martins are active. Contact between the two is minimal during daylight hours. Also, mosquito abundance tapers off from August to late Winter/early Spring.
3. None of the published statements appearing in the popular and ethnological literature which attribute a mosquito-feeding habit to the Purple Martin are based on factual study; the oft-quoted statement 'a martin eats 2,000 mosquitoes per day' has no statistical support.
4. No evidence exists that any given avian species can effectively control a species of insect pest upon which it feeds when that pest is at or near peak abundance.
5. The Purple Martin is one of the our most beautiful and friendly birds. It daily consumes a large number of insects. Its aesthetic qualities alone recommend it highly to man. There is no need to ascribe to the martin, abilities greater than those it already possesses in order to encourage its protection and propagation.' From Kale, "The Auk," Volume 85(4): 654-661, 1968.

• **Wing-Loading ratios** determine whether they crash or float. If a Barn Swallow's wing surface area is 118.5 square centimeters and divided by its body mass, 17.0 grams, then the wing-load is 7.0 (sq. cm./gm). This has been compared to the large Mute Swan, whose measurements are 6,808.0 sq. cm./11,602.0 gm = 0.6 wing-load. This is near the absolute limit of wing-loading, or barely enough wing surface to hold up the bird in flight. To be as efficiently adapted (same wing-loading as the Barn Swallow) the Mute Swan's 6,800 sq. cm. wing area would have to be 81,000 sq. cm., or a ratio of 6:1. Each wing would have to be 7 meters or a total wing span of 46 feet (normally 8 feet)! What an absurd monster it would be. Thus, the Barn Swallow is a remarkably efficient flyer, with food requirements far less than the Swan, and with a far less risk of crashing.

• "What forces drive us together - apart?" Two opposing forces have been observed when swallows (and many other birds) flock together; especially at roosting time. Mutual attraction or "gregariousness" versus mutual repulsion or "social intolerance" determines how crowded the birds will allow themselves to become. Cliff Swallows (1952) perching "gregoriously" never sat closer to one another than 4 inches, even as new birds came to perch on the same wire when they had to continually change position. It appears that mutual attraction is the neutral or resting state and that negative social elements create disruptive states of tension, e.g. arrival of someone who wants your perch site. Thus, according



to many authorities, swallows (birds in general) are basically social creatures. Therefore, humans should really like these birds, as they reflect some of our own social behavior; an aspect which (in peace-time) we have reason to believe has species survival value.

• Where do our swallows go in Winter, when the volume of insect food is below the ratio needed to sustain their life activities? They go to where the climate allows insects to flourish, to the equator and the land of reversed seasons. Below is a summary of swallow destinations found by recording many years of capturing and banding, and capturing again. These records are made “official” as published periodically by the American Ornithologists’ Union in their volume (now 2,008 species), “Check-list of North American Birds,” 7th edition, 1998. Other references are incorporated in this summary.

• **Wintering Distribution of Swallow species** (with emphasis on Central California breeders) :

1. Purple Martin (*Progne subis* Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay, Canada?] Golondron, Martin Azul, Martin Purpu’rea Tropical Zones of South America; Amazonia and south-central Brazil. (No valid wintering records in North or Meso-America).

2. Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor* Vieillot, 1808) [New York, NY] Golondrina Arbolera, Golondrina Bicolor. Some winter in S.F. Bay Area (e.g. CA, Hayward-Fremont Christmas Bird Count), and south along the Pacific Coast of Mexico to Baja Sur and Colima. Eastern populations reach Florida Keys, Greater Antilles, Nicaragua, Gulf-Caribbean coast of Costa Rica, western Panamá (sporadically), and the northern coast of South America (Colombia, Guayana).

3. Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina* Swainson, 1827) [Hidalgo, Mex.] Golondrina Cariblanca, Golondrina Verde Viola’cea. Some winter in S.F. Bay Area (e.g. CA H-F CBC); and south into Mexico (S. Sonora, Sinaloa, S. Chihuahua, S. Coahuila, Querétaro, Puebla), to Honduras -- irregular in Costa Rica & Chiriqui’ Province, Panamá.

4. Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis* Audubon, 1838). [Charleston, South Carolina] Golondrina-aliserrada norteña, Golondrina Alirrasposa Norteña. Southern California, Mexico (incl. Mexico, Baja Norte & Baja Sur) to Meso-America (Costa Rica to Panamá) (not sedentary populations in lowlands & C interior of México). Eastern populations may winter or go through S. Florida, S. Veracruz, Tabasco, Mex., N. Bahama, Virgin Islands.

5. Bank Swallow (Sand Martin) (*Riparia riparia* Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden] Golondrina Ribereña. Mostly South America (south to N. Argentina, Paraguay, N. Chile). Migrates through Tobago & Trinidad. Species occurs in Old World: wintering in Africa, Madagascar, Arabia, S. India, SE. Asia, Borneo, Phillipines. Note: This is not the world’s most common Swallow!

6. Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* Vieillot, 1817) [Paraguay]. Mostly South America (from Paraguay, and C. & SE. Brazil south to C. Argentina, e.g. Rio de Janeiro). Rare (casual) north to California.

7. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica* Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden]. Golondrina Ranchera, Golondrina Tijereta. Few Winter (casually) C. California (even CA H-F CBC) and N. México. Most along Pacific slope of C. México, W. Panamá south throughout South America even to Tierra del Fuego. Eastern populations go to Puerto Rico and lesser Antilles (West Indies), passing along continental coasts or central areas through Meso-America into South America.

#### Taxonomic Hierarchy:

- Kingdom Animalia -- animals
- Phylum Chordata -- chordates
- Subphylum Vertebrata -- vertebrates
- Class Aves -- birds
- Order Passeriformes -- perching birds
- Family *Hirundinidae* -- swallows



Genus	Petrochelidon Cabanis, 1850
Species	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota (Vieillot, 1817)
	Direct Children:
Subspecies	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota hypopolia (Breeds: Central Alaska, Saskatchewan, south & central B.C. Canada, eastern central CA, central NA, northwestern Wyoming)
Subspecies	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota minima (Breeds: Southeastern Arizona, eastern Sonora, western Chihuahua, Sinaloa, Nayarit, México)
Subspecies	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota pyrrhonota (Breeds: Southwestern B.C. Canada, CA [not Mono or northern Inyo Cos.] northwestern Baja CA, México, Nova Scotia, northern Maryland)
Subspecies	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota tachina (Breeds: Lower Colorado R. Valley (CA & AZ & México), northern Arizona, central New Mexico, southern Texas)



### Swallow fun facts from around the world

- In France

- The police officers of old were called “gironnelles” because, as they rode around on their bicycles, their capes made them look like swallows.
- If swallows fly low, it is going to rain.

- In the U.S.A. - Legend holds that the celebrated swallows of Capistrano return every year on the same date: March 19 — even in leap years. In real life, these birds are Cliff Swallows, and they come back to Capistrano (and the rest of Southern California) with less precision; often by late February. But their return, like the return of all migrant birds, is still well worth celebrating.

- Is it play or practice when Barn Swallows carrying a white feather (found somewhere) circle up with it, then repeatedly drop and capture it — time and time again? Swallows do line their mud-cup nest with some feathers.

- “Free as a bird” The phrase could have been invented for swallows. Sweeping high overhead with musical calls, skimming low over stream or meadow with wing-beats of liquid grace, they seem bound neither by worldly cares nor by the law of gravity. Free in their lifestyles as well, swallows are not bound to precise habitats in the way of most birds. A pair of swallows needs little more than open air for flight and someplace to build a nest. Modern man has provided a multitude of nesting sites on buildings and bridges, in culverts, crevices, and birdhouses, so swallows have become our closest neighbors among native birds. There are probably far more swallows in North America today than there were when Columbus landed.

- “How many swallow nests do you want on your barn? One farmer in Wisconsin encouraged Cliff Swallows to nest on his barn until he had 2,000 pairs!



## Swallow facts

- Cliff swallow, Golondrina Risquera (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*, Vieillot 1817):
  - \* Length: 5 1/2 inches (5 inches in life)
  - \* Mass: 0.8 ounce
  - \* Blackish cap, throat and upperparts
  - \* Tip of tail squared
  - \* Pale orange rump and forehead (dark in some southwestern birds)
  - \* Most often seen flying in elliptical glides or soaring — rests on wires
  - \* Will nest communally in mud nests made in south to west exposure under bridges, in barns and caves, under eaves on vertical walls of urban buildings such as: Chabot College, Hayward, Alameda County, California, etc.
- They make a 14,000 mile round trip from South America to Chabot College.
- “Way to go” would appropriately be said for the migrating Barn Swallow that was found in Bolivia, South America in the winter of 1935 with a labeled band that had been put around its leg in Saskatchewan, Canada in the year 1929 -- six years before! Another one banded in Wisconsin was found in Brazil 11 years later.
- They make their nests with up to 1,000 gobs of mud.
- Winter Range of Migratory Cliff Swallows:

Argentina	Bolivia	Brazil	Chile	Colombia	Costa Rica
Ecuador	Panamá	Paraguay	Perú	Venezuela	Uruguay
México (Yucatán Peninsula, Uxmal)					

### Swallow nests in the Hayward area

Alameda Creek Channel and 880 overpass	Canyon Middle School, Castro Valley
Chabot College	Lake Elizabeth, Fremont at the boat-dock bridge
Merrit College	Ohlone College
Petco, Castro Valley	Dumbarton Bridge (close to Coyote Hills)

### Swallow myths and misconceptions

“I will die if bird sh--t (swallow dropping) falls on me.”

No, you will not die. The chemical makeup of a typical swallow dropping is relatively harmless. As a matter of fact, since no biological studies have been found on Swallows droppings, we can assume that no one is worried about any harmful effects.

“Swallow nests destroy stucco on the buildings.”

No! Swallow nests made from mud only stain stucco, not destroy it.

“Swallows can transmit West Nile Virus to humans.”

No, mosquitos carry that.

“Swallows will attack me!”

No, swallows do not attack anyone, nor have they ever attacked anyone.

“Swallow guano (droppings), on a sack around your neck, will keep the flu away.”

We are not sure about this one, but if you would like to try, please do so, and report it to us. You must also provide your own sack.

# Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes



## The Swallow

I've forgotten the word I meant to say.  
A blind swallow returns to the palace of shadows  
On clipped wings, to play with transparent things.  
A night song's sung in unconsciousness.

Birds are silent. The immortelle won't bloom.  
Transparent are the manes of midnight's herd,  
An empty bark floats on a dried up river,  
Among grasshoppers words loose consciousness.

Some sort of tent or temple grows slowly;  
Now flings itself up like mad Antigone,  
Now throws itself down like a dead swallow  
With Stygian tenderness and a green twig.

If only I could regain the shameful sighted fingers,  
And the palpable joy of knowledge.  
I am so afraid of the Muses' lament,  
The mist, the ringing, the abyss.

To love and know are mortals' powers,  
Sound, too, will flow into their fingers,  
But I've forgotten what I meant say,  
And disembodied thought returns to the palace of shadows.

The transparent thing keeps repeating something else,  
Something about a swallow, a woman, Antigone...  
But on my lips, like black ice, burns  
The recollection of Stygian ringing.

*D.E.Mandelstam, Russia, (1891-1938)*  
*The Swallow (1920)*

## Alte Freundschaft

Da ist die liebe Schwalbe wieder,  
Sie blieb uns fast fil lange aus;  
Sie zwitschert ihre alten Lieder  
Und zieht ins alte, kleine Haus.

Sie trägt den Frack, den schwarzen, alten,  
Den sie im vor'gen Jahre trug;  
Die Weste hat sie gut gehalten,  
Sie ist noch weiß und rein genug.

Wer weiß, was alles sie getrieben,  
Seit sie gereist ins ferne Land,  
Doch ist die alte sie geblieben,  
Die Sonne hat sie nicht verbrannt.

Drum hab'ich sie auch auf der Stelle  
Erkannt am Frack und am Gesicht.  
Mein Schwälbchen komm, flieg nicht so  
schnelle,  
Du thust, als kenntest du mich nicht.

Nicht waht, ich bin recht groß geworden,  
Seit wir uns sah'n flun letztenmal  
Seit fort du zogst nach fernen Orten  
Weit über Meer und Berg und Thal.

Komm nur, wir sind ja doch die Alten  
Und bleiben's auch in diesem Jahr;  
Wir wollen gute Freundschaft halten,  
So wie's im vor'gen Sommer war.

*Georg Christian Dieffenbach*

Date of Arrival	Date of Departure	Number of Nests
March 10, 2003	August 10	413
March 08, 2004	August 09	441
March 11, 2005	August 06	452
March 13, 2006	August 08	484
March 09, 2007	August ??	
March ??, 2008	August ??	



## Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes

Golondrina mesajera

Golondrina de ojos negros

Volverás Golondrina de Ojos Negros  
que te vas cruzando el mar.  
Volverás porque sabes que te quiero  
y no te puedo olvidar  
al llegar a otras playas, más lejanas  
de mi amor te acordarás.

Y verás la esmeralda de sus aguas  
en tus alas salpicar.  
Volverás a buscar calor del nido  
que dejaste en el olvido  
nuevamente volverás.  
Ya verás cuando sientas el hastío  
de tras tierras volverás.

*bolero de Agustín Lara, México*

Golondrina presumida

De allá del mar vendrás  
golondrina presumida  
golondrina consentida  
preferida de este amor.

De allá del mar vendrás,  
de allá del mar vendrás.  
Primero Dios...  
verdad de Dios,  
seguro estoy mi amor,  
que cuando llegues a mis playas.  
La gaviota de mi cielo,  
con tristeza te dirán;  
que envejecí de tanto esperarte.

La noche cubre ya  
mi pobre vida  
y el faro de amor,  
sigue buscándote en la noche,  
y mis ojos en el día.

De allá del mar vendrás,  
tienes que regresar,  
porque tú traes...  
porque tú traes  
mi vida.

**Golondrinas**

*Ranchera de Tomás Méndez*

Vuela hacia allá  
agraciada golondrina  
toma esta carta  
y a mi amada se la llevas.

Toma este plomo de olor  
y en el pecho se lo riegas, ¡ay!  
y que me mande de amor la contestación.

En el sobre lleva escrito  
que se llama Mariquita:  
pero es mentira,  
pues se llama Jesusita.

Toma de este pomo de olor  
y en el pecho se lo riegas, ¡ay!  
y que me mande de amor la contestación.

*L. y M. de A. Esparza*

LIII

Volverán las oscuras golondrinas  
en tu balcón sus nidos a colgar,  
y otra vez con el ala en sus cristales,  
jugando llamarán;

pero aquellas que el vuelo refrenaban  
tu hermosura y mi dicha al contemplar;  
aquellas que aprendieron nuestros nombres,  
ésas... ¡no volverán!

Volverán las tupidas madre selvas  
de tu jardín las tapias a escalar,  
y otra vez a la tarde, aún más hermosas,  
sus flores abrirán;

pero aquellas cuajadas de rocío,  
cuyas gotas mirábamos temblar  
y caer, como lágrimas del día...  
ésas... ¡no volverán!

Volverán del amor en tus oídos  
las palabras ardientes a sonar;  
tu corazón, de su profundo sueño  
tal vez despertará;

pero mudo y absorto y de rodillas  
como se adora a Dios ante su altar,  
como yo te he querido... desengáñate,  
¡así no querrán!

*Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer, España (1836-1870)*

# Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes



## Rondine al nido

I.  
Sotto la gronda de la torre antica  
Una rondine amica,  
Allo sbocciar del mandorlo È tornata.  
Ritorna tutti gli anni,  
Sempre alla stessa data;  
Monti e mare essa varca  
per tornare.  
Solo amore  
Quando fugge e va lontano  
Speri invano  
ma non torna piú,  
Speri invano  
Ma non torna piú.

II.  
Ne la penombra dolce della sera  
Passa la primavera.  
Cinguettano le rondini nel volo,  
Ebbre di luce e d'aria.  
Ed io son triste e solo;  
Monti e mare tu non varchi  
per ritornar.

Mia piccina,  
Fosti tutta la mia vita;  
Sei fuggita  
E non torni piú.  
Sei fuggita  
E non torni piú

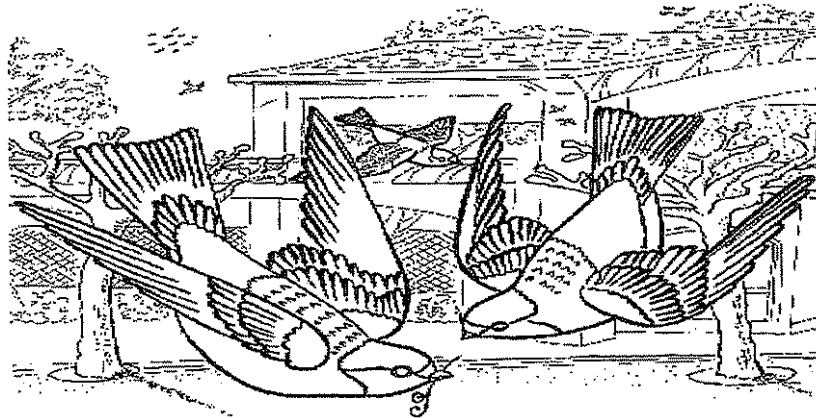
## Nesting Swallows

I.  
Beneath the eaves of the ancient tower,  
as the almond tree first blossoms,  
a swallow friend returns.  
She returns each year,  
ever timely to the day;  
crossing mountains and seas  
just to get back.  
Tis only with love,  
when it escapes and flees afar,  
that one hopes in vain;  
for it returns no more.  
One hopes in vain,  
for it returns no more.

II.  
In the soft twilight of the evening,  
springtime transpires.  
Swallows chatter in their flight  
inebriated with light and air.  
Yet I am cheerless and alone;  
no mountains or seas will you venture  
to return.

My precious one  
purpose of my life;  
you have taken flight,  
and shall return no more.  
You have taken flight,  
and shall return no more.

*Translation by William Charles  
(Chabot College, 2004)*





## Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes

### Commentary on “Rondine al Nido”

This beautiful ‘love lament’ was first published in 1925, and is considered one of the masterpieces of the Neapolitan composer Vincenzo De Crescenzo (words by L. Sica). De Crescenzo emigrated to the United States in 1903, where his unequivocal Italian style earned him the title of ‘the American Tosti.’ As with many of De Crescenzo’s Neapolitan songs, *Rondine al nido* has been embraced in the repertoires of many of the twentieth century’s greatest tenors, both on the concert stage, and in numerous recordings; among which: Enrico Caruso, Al Martino, Benamino Gigli, Richard Tucker, Mario Del Monaco, Giuseppe De Stefano, and most recently, the splendid and dramatic interpretation by Luciano Pavarotti, on a “London label” double-platinum CD: Carreras, Domingo, Pavarotti in Concert. This beautiful edition was recorded on July 7, 1990 in an outdoor concert at the “Terme di Caracalla” in Rome, with the “Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino” under the direction of Zubin Mehta.

In this lovely song, the consistency and punctuality of the Swallow’s yearly return to its nest serve as a metaphoric contrast to ‘lost love,’ which, in this instance, is never to be regained. Although ‘mountains’ and ‘seas’ have served for millennia as poetic metaphors for passionate love relationships which have evaporated into the ‘beyond’ or the ‘forever,’ these terms are also recurrent in Italian literature throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, in association with the massive emigration of Italians (especially from southern Italy -- Naples to Palermo) to America, Canada, Australia, or South America. In this context the word “sea” was (and still is) often used as a poetic synonym for “ocean,” and in that circumstance, the objects of ‘lost love’ beyond mountains and oceans, were/are either ‘a lover,’ ‘a loved one,’ ‘or loved ones,’ who, of course, never returned again to their beloved, in the Motherland.

The texts of the Neapolitan songs are often characterized by the ‘simplicity of poetic expression.’ And in this regard, they have even been accused of “Much-a-do-About-Nothing,” or “too-much-a-do-about -too-little.” Pavarotti’s dramatic and heartfelt interpretation of ‘*Rondine al nido*,’ might in fact, appear as the case in point. However, when we take a closer look at the L. Sica text, we find that beneath the surface of these ungarnished and unembroidered words, there lie truly profound sentiments (It must be admitted, that no English translation can render true poetic justice to the Italian text, as is so often the case). In a few brief and transparent verses, Sica’s lyrics give us a complete and idealistic vision of the woman, as seen by the cosmopolitan Neapolitan male (in the given space-time). The genius of the composer Vincenzo De Crescenzo, was in capturing and exploiting the profound spirit of those sentiments, both melodically and harmonically; and in a pure expression of the “*stile napoletano*.”

Of course, what pleases us, in the context of our festival, is the fact that Sica chose ‘our friend the Swallow’ to metaphorically embody and personify that time-clad idealistic Neapolitan vision: fidelity, consistency, friendship, togetherness, illumination, joy, courage, strength, and motherhood — it’s all there in the flight of the poet’s eye!

Notwithstanding one’s viewpoint as to what constitutes the virtues of womanness in our own social sphere, and regardless of the fact that our ‘Return of the Swallows Festival’ is motivated by environmental and ecological concerns, and is a modest attempt to achieve balance and unity within the ecosystems, as opposed to the ecocatastrophe which increasingly defines man’s relationship to his natural environment, this song is anthropomorphism at its best, and our little feathered friend the swallow is most deserving of the high place it has gained in musical literature!

*William Charles  
(Chabot College, 2004)*

# Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes



## Lasta, lastavica

Lasta sam lastavica ja  
Bila sam vila s Jadrana  
Daleko mi je dom  
Kad ja nisam sa tobom  
Daleko mi je dom  
Kad ja nisam sa tobom

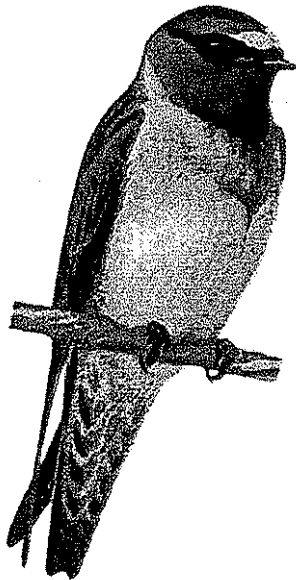
Napisi mi barem jedan redak  
Da od njega sutra zivim ja  
Posalji mi poljubac u Petak  
Da i meni svane Nedjelja

Lasta sam lastavica ja  
Letim do tvoga pozdrava  
A sto ce mi pozdravi  
Kad te oko moje ne vidi

Gore bijele sve bi nebu htjele  
Svatko trazi sto mu srce da

A kad bi te moje ruke srele  
Ne bi mene zvali skitnica.

*Anonymous*



Swallows

## Lastavica

Ti se spremas na dalek put, moje misli su s tobom  
Nad gradom zadnji dok pravis krug s ceznjom gledam te ja  
U daljine gdje modri svod tiho spaja se s vodom  
Pronadi luku i njegov brod sto u suncu sja

Leti, leti daleko, iznad dubokih voda  
Lastavice moja mala, sjajna zvijezdo moga svoda  
Leti, leti daleko, tvoja krila su meka  
Lastavice moja mala, zvijezdo sjajna i daleka

Sleti na njegov dlan, udi u njegov san  
Leti, leti daleko, leti nad krivom vala  
Lastavice moja mala, lastavice moja mala

Dok na nebu tvoj pratim let tako sama na svijetu  
U kljunu svome ti nosis cvijet da ga njemu das

*Lyrics and music: Zdenko Runjic (1980)*

## Golondrinas yucatecas

Vinieron en tardes serenas de estío  
cruzando los aires con vuelo veloz;  
y en tibios aleros formaron sus nidos,  
sus nidos formaron, piando de amor.

¡Qué blancos sus pechos! ¡Sus alas que inquietas!

¡Qué inquietas y leves, abriéndose en cruz!

¡Y cómo alegraban las tardes aquéllas,  
las tardes aquéllas bañadas de luz!

Así en la mañana jovial de mi vida,  
vinieron en alas de la juventud,  
amores y ensueños, como golondrinas,  
como golondrinas bañadas en luz.

Mas trajo el invierno sus nieblas sombrías;  
la rubia mañana llorosa se fue;  
se fueron los sueños, y las golondrinas,  
y las golondrinas se fueron también.

*L. de Luis Rosado Vega  
M. de Ricardo Palmerín*



## Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes

### Un ballet d'hirondelles

Déjà depuis quelques jours  
Le temps change... Tout autour  
De chez nous, se rassemblent les hirondelles.  
Toutes regroupées, qu'elles sont belles !

Le ciel est gris aujourd'hui  
Et les hirondelles sont en folie.  
Ces senteurs d'automne sont les prémices  
Pour elles d'un futur départ bien propice.

Je me surprends à regarder voler  
Dans tous les sens ces petits oiseaux futés.  
Là-bas au loin, trois rangées de fils  
Sont remplies de ces petits volatiles.

Elles sont toutes en conciliabules,  
Dans un entretien secret, elles fabulent.  
Pour nous c'est un baromètre bien pensant,  
Car elles font la pluie ou le beau temps.

Parfois elles se posent en ribambelles,  
Puis repartent de nouveau à tire-d'aile.  
L'instant d'après, dans le ciel, plus rien...  
Mais où sont-elles passées dans ce va-et-vient ?

Ce ballet, en bandes folles, de partout piaille.  
Toutes ensemble, elles sont de taille  
A préparer ce voyage prochain,  
Qui va les conduire vers un pays lointain.

Bonne route, petites hirondelles,  
Revenez-nous vite à la Chapelle !  
Car votre arrivée parmi nous en Savoie,  
Présage les beaux jours et la chaleur sur nos toits.

*Tinah, La Chapelle (73)*

### A andorinha da primavera

Andorinha de asa negra aonde vais?  
Que andas a voar tao alta  
Leva-me ao céu contigo, vá  
Qu'eu lá de cima digo adeus  
ao meu amor  
Ó Andorinha  
da Primavera  
Ai quem me dera também voar  
Que bom que era  
Ó Andorinha na Primavera  
também voar

*Golondrinas Pedro Ayres Magalhaes*

### Le retour des hirondelles

Elles sont bientôt de retour  
Toutes nos belles hirondelles  
Dans nos villes et nos faubourgs  
Joyeuses et toujours fidèles.

Tout en poussant de petits cris  
Nous saluant à leur passage  
Aux yeux souriant et surpris  
Elles lanceront un doux message.

Fatiguées mais très courageuses  
Ayant choisi notre pays  
Elles s'y installeront, heureuses  
D'avoir pu retrouver leur nid.

En attendant l'année nouvelle  
Poudre déjà d'or...de saphir,  
Pour accueillir nos hirondelles,  
Tous les bourgeons qui vont s'ouvrir.

*Mme. Pastou, Paris, France, 2002*

The bank swallows veer and dip,  
Diving down at my windows,  
Then flying almost straight upward,  
Like bats in daytime,  
And their shadows, bigger,  
Race over the thick grass...

*Theodore Roethke's poem, "The Siskins,"*

The breezy call of incense-breathing Morn,  
The swallow twitt'ring from the straw-built shed,  
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,  
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

*Thomas Gray*

*Ellegy written in a country churchyard*



# Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes



Liebe Schwalbe

When the Swallows Ruined Winter

The groundhog doesn't see his shadow  
Six more week of soothing rain  
Liquid nails crash on my roof  
Like a live concert on my brain.

The rain just stops,  
It comes to a pause  
Wings flutter rapidly  
Like a haunting applause.

The swallows have returned  
Winter is long gone.  
A silhouette's by my windowsill.  
On my bed I ebb and flow,  
Alfred Hitchcock's vision  
In real life, filmed from Brazil.

Though they aren't birds of prey  
I pray the sparrows, I'm sorry, the swallows  
would leave  
What are these long winged Hirundinidae good  
for?

I'm sure they lack the taste of poultry.  
So, I sit at my table with proper cutlery,  
An encyclopedia, pencil, paper, and a whistle.

Equipped with my covert binoculars,  
In my sight I see the secular clan  
One foot on the chair,  
Palms planted on the slippery roof.  
My ankle twists, my palms lose grip,  
Now the confederacy is aloof.

Back inside I hear them fly as they taunt,  
"Winter is a long time away!"

Vishaal Sing  
Poetry Winner, 2004  
Chabot College Student

Liebe Schwalbe, kleine Schwalbe,

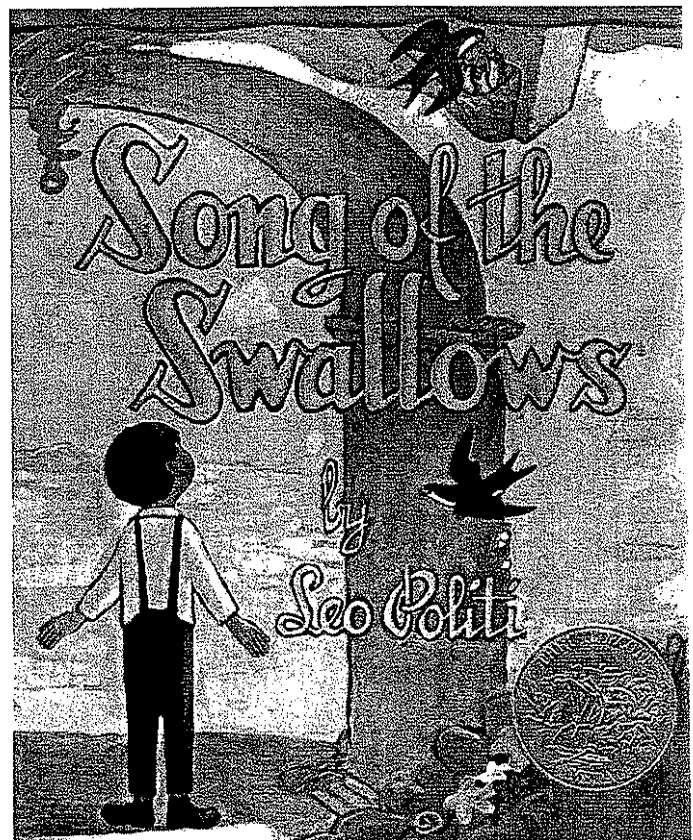
Du fliegst auf und singst so früh,  
Streuest durch die Himmelsbläue  
Deine süße Melodie.

Die da schlafen noch am Morgen,  
Alle Liebenden in Ruh',  
Mit dem zwitschernden Gesange  
Die Versunk'nen weckest du.

Auf! nun auf! ihr LiebesschlSäfer,  
Weil die Morgenschwalbe rief:  
Denn die Nacht wird den betrügen,  
Der den hellen Tag verschlief.

*Ferdinand Gregorovius (1821-1891)*

...hoc geritur Zephyris primum impellentibus undas,  
ante novis rubeant quam prata coloribus, ante  
garrula quam tignis nidum suspendat hirundo.  
Vergil, Georgics





## Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes

Daffodils,  
That come before the swallow dares, and take  
The winds of March with beauty.

*The Winter's Tale*, William Shakespeare

True hope is swift, and flies with swallows wings;  
*King Henry*, William Shakespeare

O Swallow, Swallow, flying, flying South,  
Fly to her, and fall upon her gilded eaves,  
And tell her, tell her, what I tell to thee.  
*O Swallow*, Lord Tennyson

One swallow does not make a summer.  
Aristotle

One swallow maketh not summer  
*Proverbs*, John Heywood

One swallow makes a summer  
*Fall*, Robert Lowell

Swallows are more confident and fly nearer to man than most birds. It may be because they are more protected by the sentiment and superstitions of man.  
Henry David Thoreau

“a vol d’hirondelle” > == “as the swallow flies”

“one swallow does not a summer make”  
(as translated from a Greek proverb)

“see the swallows, comes the spring”  
(as thought by Europeans )

“in the swallow I see my inner spirit; my link with  
angels, flights of fancy, and the supernatural”  
(as viewed by Carl G. Jung, Psychiatrist, Philosopher)

### In Latin

ludit et in pratis luxuriatque pecus  
tum blandi soles, ignotaque prodit hirundo  
et luteum celsa sub trabe figit opus  
Ovid, Fasti

fallimur, an veris praenuntia venit hirundo,  
nec metuit ne qua versa recurrat hiems?  
Ovid, Fasti

cum vere novo tellus se dura relaxat,  
culminibusque cavis blandum strepit ales hirundo....  
Avienus, Periegesis

## Swallow Websites



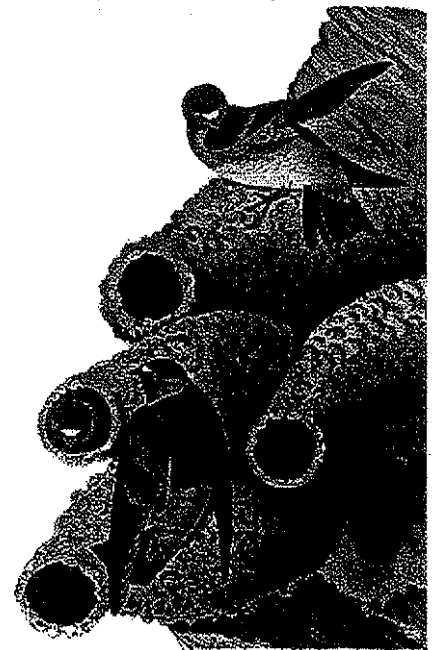
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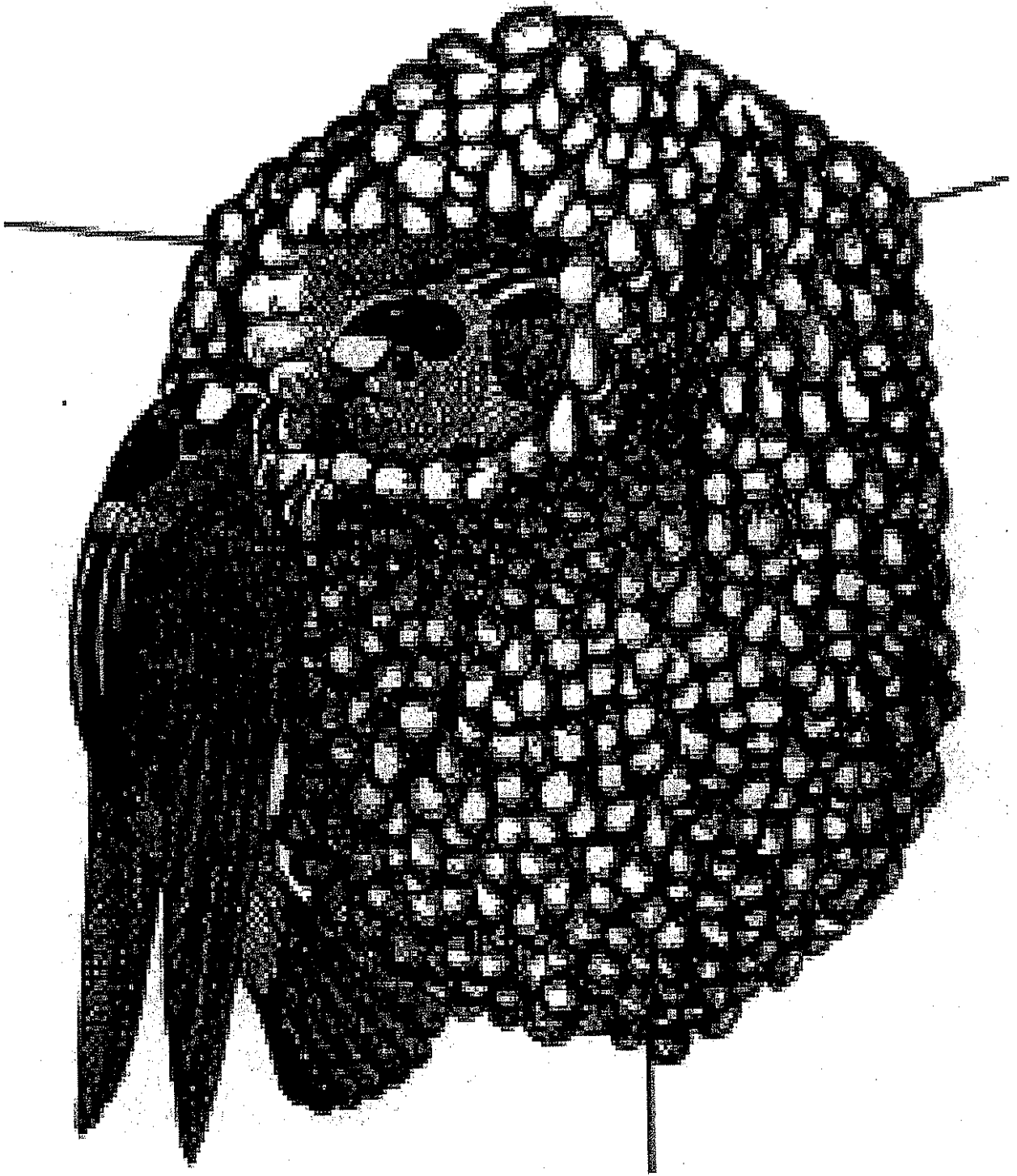


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- \* Swinburne, Stephen R., Swallows in the Birdhouse, the Mill brook Press, CT, 1996.
- \* Terres, John K. 1982. The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds. Alfred A. Knopf.
- \* Turner, Angela K. 1989. Swallows and Martins: An Identification Guide and Handbook. Houghton-Mifflin.
- \* Wilds, C. 1985. Unraveling the mysteries of brown swallows. Birding 17: 209-211.



*Cliff Swallows, John James Audubon, ca. 1839*

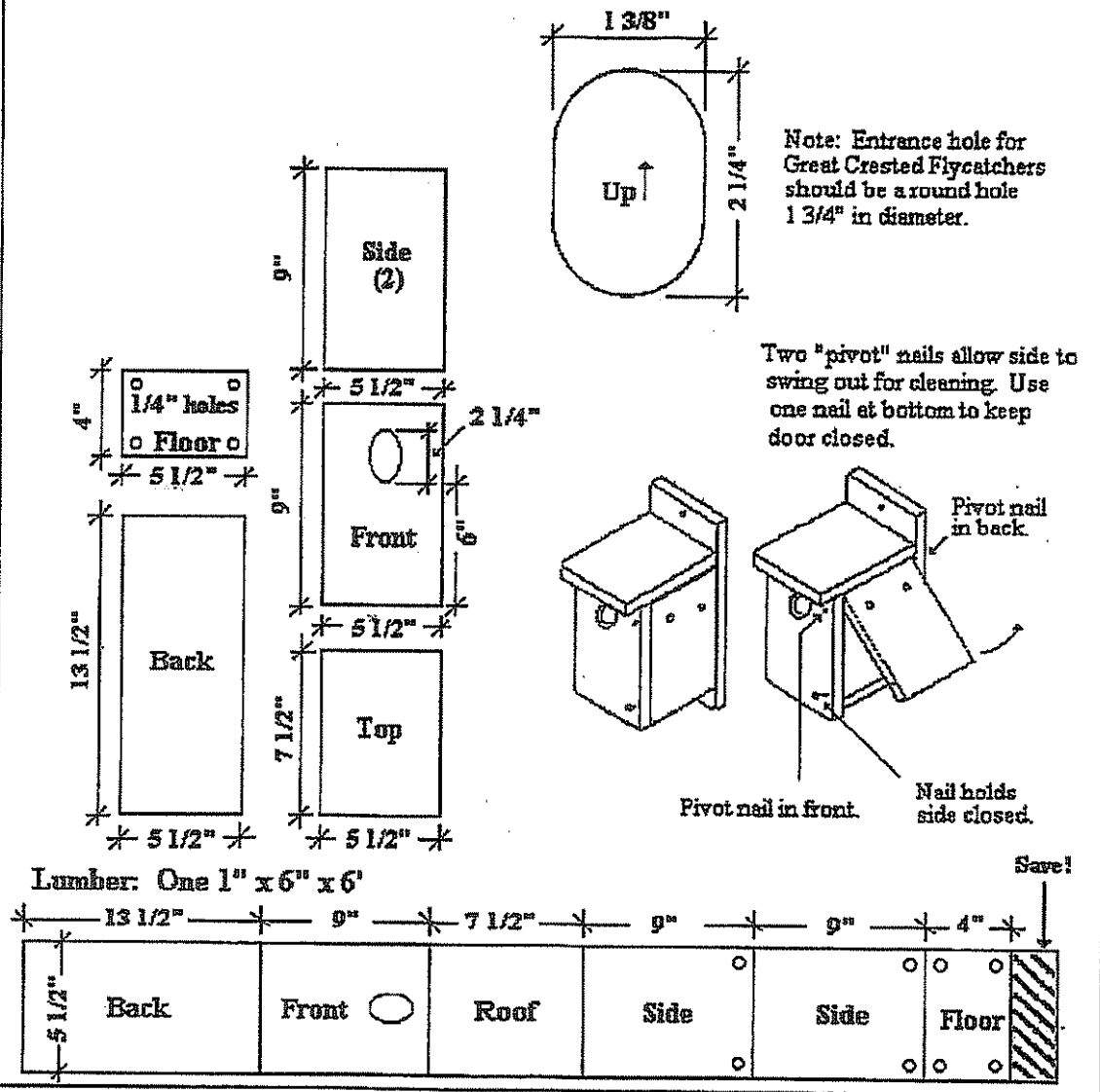


**Swallows**

*Golondrina Risqueras and nest*  
*Arlene Chin, Davis, CA. Artist. 1981*

### Tree Swallow and Eastern Bluebird

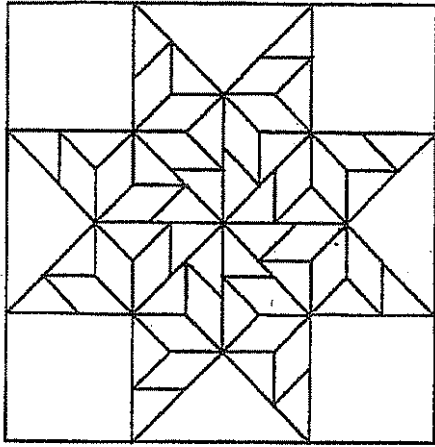
Eastern bluebirds nest throughout North Dakota. The best habitat consists of areas comprised of short grasses with nearby fence posts, high line wires, or sparse trees where birds can perch. Bluebirds normally will not nest within city limits or farmsteads where competition from house sparrows is intense. For best results, nest boxes should be placed in pairs about 10-25 feet apart and 100-200 yards between pairs. They should be put 4-6 feet above the ground on steel posts or wood posts with predator guards. The entrance hole should face in a general northeast direction to prevent sun from shining in and over-heating the box.



[Previous Section](#)--House Wren, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch

[Return to Contents](#)

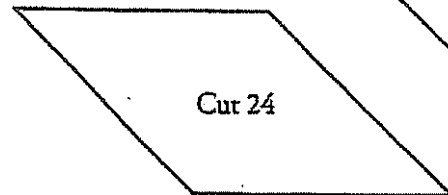
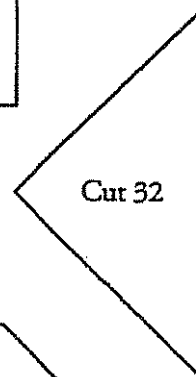
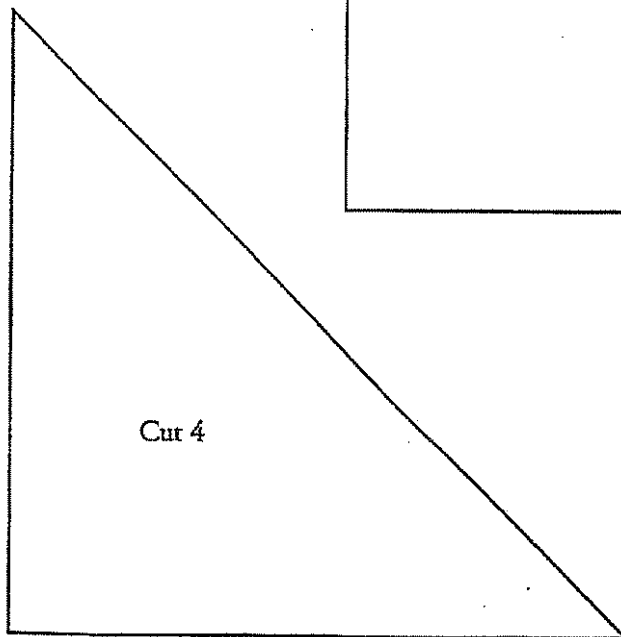
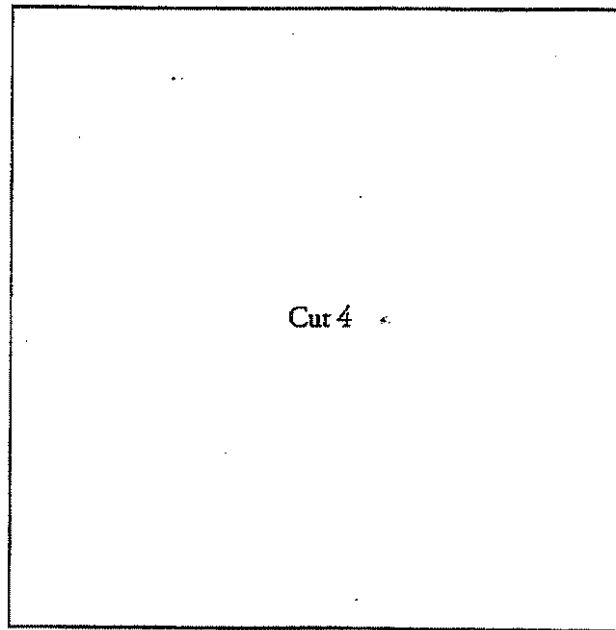
[Next Section](#)--Peterson Bluebird House



# Flying Swallows

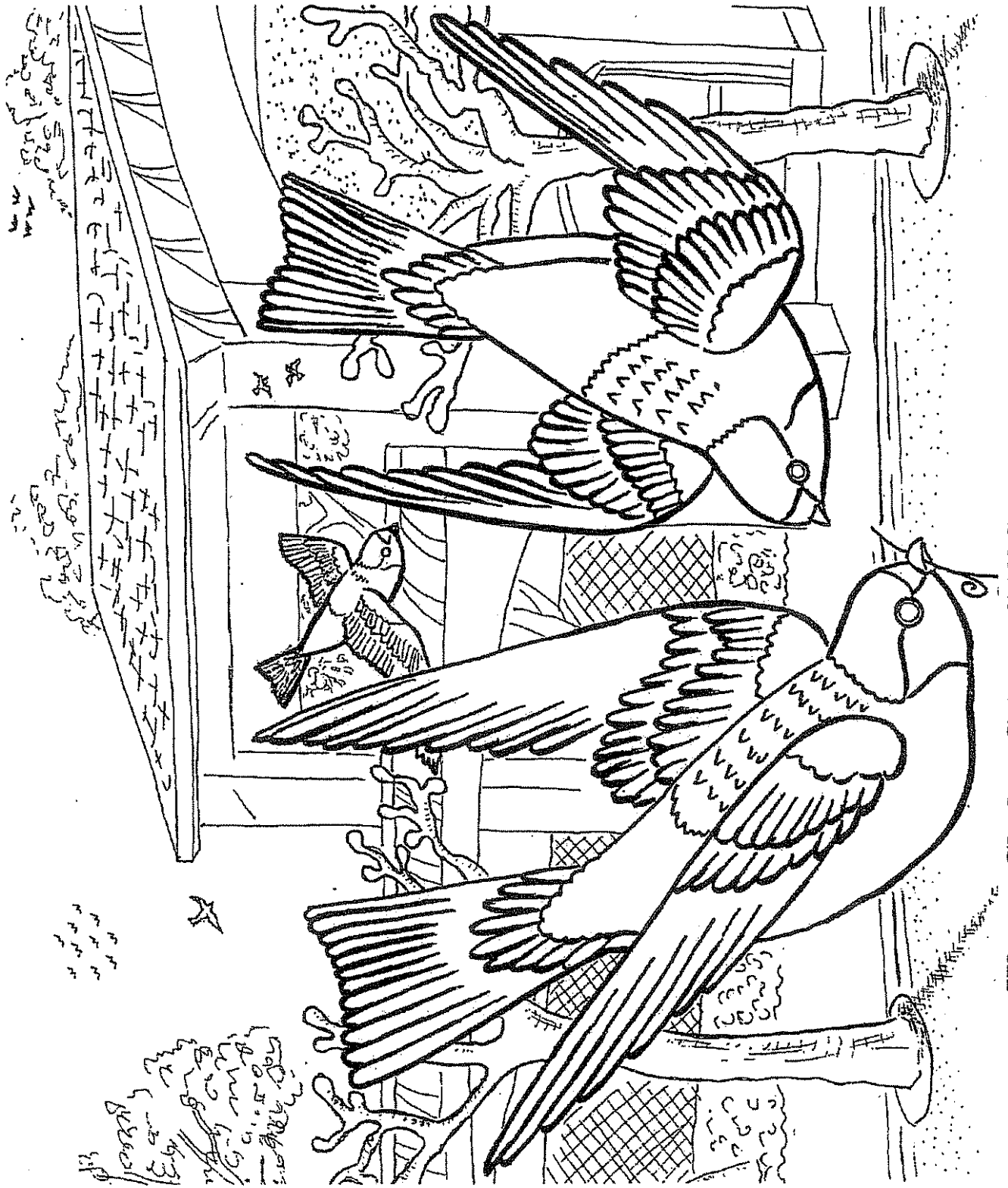
makes 12" block

seam allowances not included



Templates by Naomi Parkhurst, 2002. Feel free to copy or pass on to friends.

**Swallows**



We are Chabot College Cliff Swallows – Color us!



TRACK STADIUM  
FOOTBALL FIELD

CHABOT COLLEGE'S  
5th ANNUAL  
RETURN OF THE  
SWALLOWS FESTIVAL  
April 3, 2007

ADVISORY  
OFFICE  
PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION

SWIMMING  
POOL

STUDENT PARKING  
LOT B

THE FESTIVAL TAKES  
PLACE HERE

STAFF PARKING  
LOT A

BUS STOP

VISITOR  
PARKING

STAFF PARKING  
LOT D

STAFF PARKING  
LOT C

GRAND  
COURT

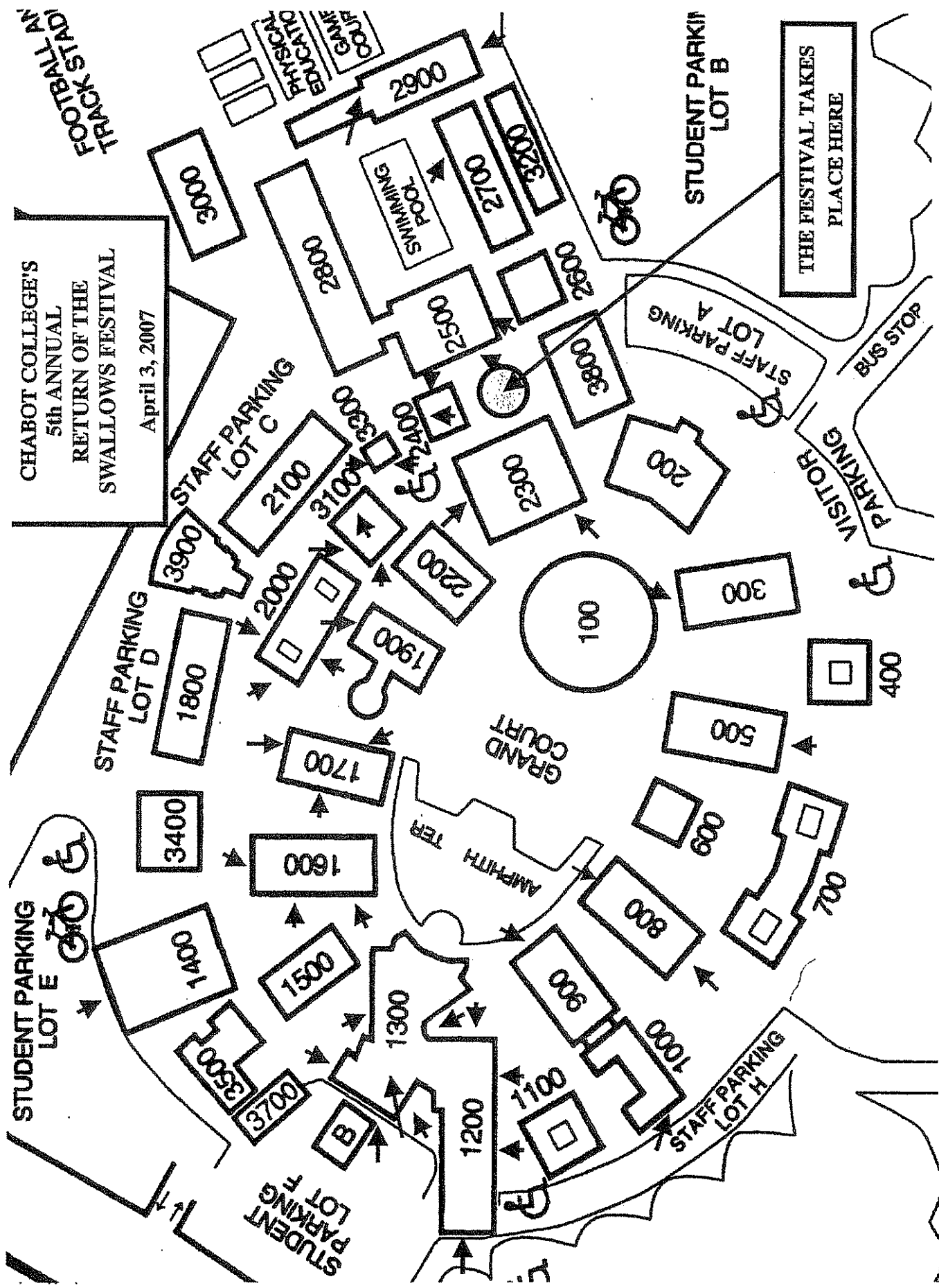
STUDENT PARKING  
LOT E



AMPHITH  
THEATER

STAFF PARKING  
LOT H

STUDENT  
PARKING  
LOT F





## Winners of the Swallow's Contests

### Winners of the Art & Poetry Contest, 2003

Certificate of Honorable Mention	- Tiffney Davis
Certificate of Honorable Mention	- Volinda V. King
Certificate of First Place	- Naga Nago
Certificate of Second Place	- Shannon Stuart
Certificate of Award Third Place	- Naga Nago

### Winners of the Art & Poetry Contest, 2004

Art - 1st Place	Nikki Lam
Art - 2nd Place	Alice Wong
Art - 3rd Place	Durg Vittanela
Art - Honorable Mention	Mark Wooten
Art - Honorable Mention	Mark Wooten

Poetry - 1st Place	Vishaal Singh
Poetry - 2nd Place	Desirae Stairs
Poetry - 3rd Place	Ramon Matibag
Poetry - Honorable Mention	Matt Colter

### Winners of the Art Contest, 2005

1st Place	Diane Morrison
2nd Place	Masumi Boshita
3rd Place	Wendy Hertle
Honorable Mention	Laurianne Uy

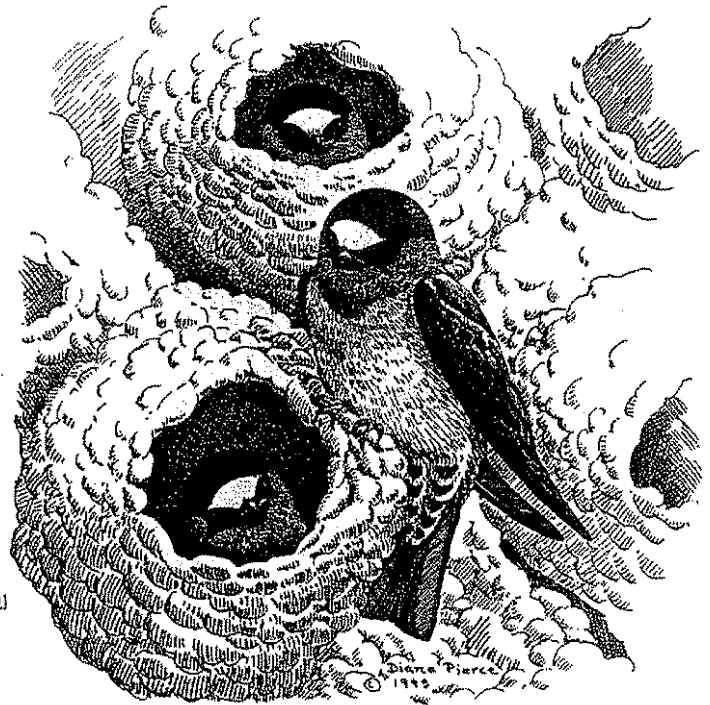
### Winners of the Contests, 2006

Art - 1st Place	Masumi Boshita
Art - 2nd Place	Masumi Boshita
Art - 3rd Place	Nga Ngo

Poetry - 1st Place	Esther Patterson
Poetry - 2nd Place	Dañiella Aviña
Poetry - 3rd Place	Art Medrano

### Winners of the Contests, 2007

Art, 1st	- Alice Wong (Parrot in water color)
Art, 2nd	- Christine Peterson (Owl in scratchboard)
Art, 3rd	- Ken Yiem (Connecticut Warbler in ink)



# Contest for Return of the Swallows Festival, 2007 Questions



## ANSWER SHEET TO "RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS" QUESTIONS

(Deposit in an Answer Box by 12:30 pm - WINNERS & PRIZES to be presented today)

**QUESTION 1.** How many NESTS of Cliff Swallows can be found on Chabot's campus this nesting season (2007)?

NOTE:

See the special Map in Festival Booklet showing on which buildings and walls nests are located).

YOUR ANSWER TO 1. \_\_\_\_\_

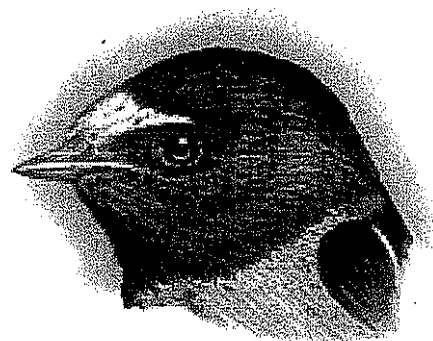
**QUESTION 2.** Given: a wet NEST weighs 1750 grams (3.86 pounds) and dries an average of 37.5%, then how much does the average Cliff Swallow NEST weigh dry?

YOUR ANSWER TO 2. \_\_\_\_\_

(Grams or Pounds)

**QUESTION 3.**

The average mosquito-sized insect scooped up by a Cliff Swallow has been estimated to weigh .0006 grams. What would be the total weight of its food by the end of a day that averages 1,000 bugs?



YOUR ANSWER TO 3. \_\_\_\_\_

(Grams)

### Tie Breaking Questions:

(A.) If the average Cliff Swallow nest contains 1,000 mud pellets (a standard average), how much would one (1) pellet weigh wet?

Or, (B.) how many mosquitoes weigh one (1) pound?

YOUR ANSWER TIE BREAKING QUESTION: \_\_\_\_\_

(A or B) (Grams or #)

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR TEL.#: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Remember:

(Deposit in an Answer box by 12:30 pm - Winners & Prizes presented today)

PEG & FZ: peg 19 March 2007

Swallows



## Return of the Swallows Festival Field Trip (# 1)

**WHAT:** View individual and/or colonies of several swallow species: Northern Rough-winged, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Violet-green. Other rare species not expected are: Bank Swallow and Purple Martin. NO FEE.

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, 21 APRIL 2007; 8:30 AM to 2:30 pm

**LEADER:** Phil Gordon, Ohlone Audubon Society, Festival Co-coordinator. Bird Study Instructor, Castro Valley and Acalanes Adult Education Schools; Lindsay Wildlife Museum.

**TAKE:** Binoculars, Notebook, Field Guide, Windbreaker, Walking shoes, Sun Screen, Bag Lunch.

**MEET FOR FIRST STOP:** 8:30 AM - Chabot College, Hayward. North parking lot (entrance at Turner Ct. X Hesperian Blvd.), Parking Lot B near College Bookstore (beware of possible \$2.00 parking fee) Activity: Locate and view Cliff Swallows at nest sites on college building walls. Good photo opportunity.

### CHABOT COLLEGE LOCATION

Hayward: From Hwy 880 (South) > Jackson (=Hwy 92; West) > Hesperian Blvd. (North) > Chabot College (Left into Parking Lot B, see above).

**SECOND STOP:** At Harder Rd. X Whitman St. overpass, Hayward. Activity: On Route, finding nesting locations of Northern Rough-winged Swallows.

**THIRD STOP:** At entrance to Pleasanton Ridge Regional Trail, Foothill Rd., Sunol. Activity: On Route, finding nesting area of Violet-green Swallows.

**FOURTH STOP:** At Hwy 84 X Calaveras Rd., Sunol. Finding Northern Rough-winged Swallow nesting location (with Cliff Swallows and White-throated Swifts).

**FIFTH STOP:** (\$4/ vehicle): COYOTE HILLS REGIONAL PARK: Meet in front of the Interpretive Center. Activity: Lunch (If not already eaten) BYO Brown Bag Lunch on lawn or tables.

**Activity:** 1:00 PM Swallow & Marsh Walk with Phil Gordon. Visiting eastern and western marsh trails and grassy hills habitats; plus, levees and bay ponds.

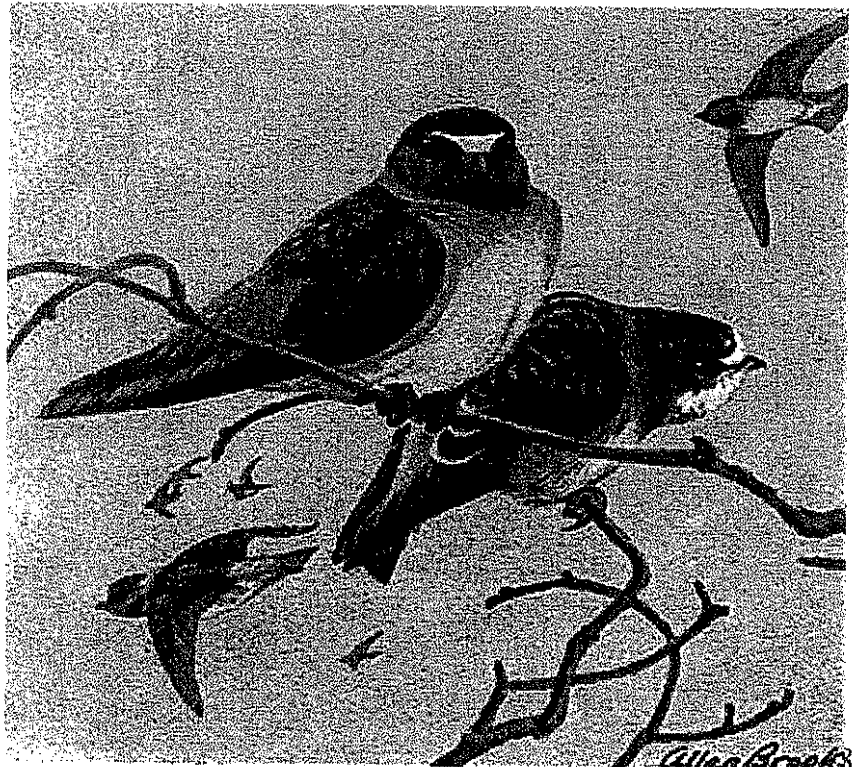
**LOCATION:** Sunol > Niles Canyon (Hwy 84), Fremont > Mission Blvd. (South) to Mowry (over Alameda Ck.) > Mowry > Peralta > Paseo Padre Pkwy > Patterson Ranch Rd. > into Coyote Hills Regional Park.

**NOTE:** See announcement of next day, Sunday Lake Elizabeth Trip. (OAS Web Site: [www.ohloneaudubon.org](http://www.ohloneaudubon.org))

### Information:

Contact Phil Gordon at  
510.538.3550 or at  
[PAGPEG@aol.com](mailto:PAGPEG@aol.com).

**Golondrinas**



## Return of the Swallows Festival Field Trip #2



**WHAT:** View several nesting swallow species: Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow and possibly others known to occur: Violet-green Swallow, Northern Rough-winged, or rarely: Bank Swallow and Purple Martin. No fee.

**WHEN:** SUNDAY, 22 APRIL 2007; PART I: 9:30 AM to 11:30 PM; PART II: 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

**LEADERS:** Sandy Ferreira, Senior Ranger and Naturalist, City of Fremont, Recreation Department; Phil Gordon, Bird Study Instructor, Castro Valley and Acalanes Adult Education Schools; Lindsay Wildlife Museum.

**TAKE:** Binoculars, notebook, Field Guide, Beverage, Bag Lunch, Windbreaker, Walking shoes, Sun Screen (we hope).

**WHERE: CENTRAL PARK, LAKE ELIZABETH (PART I); COYOTE HILLS RP (PART II)**

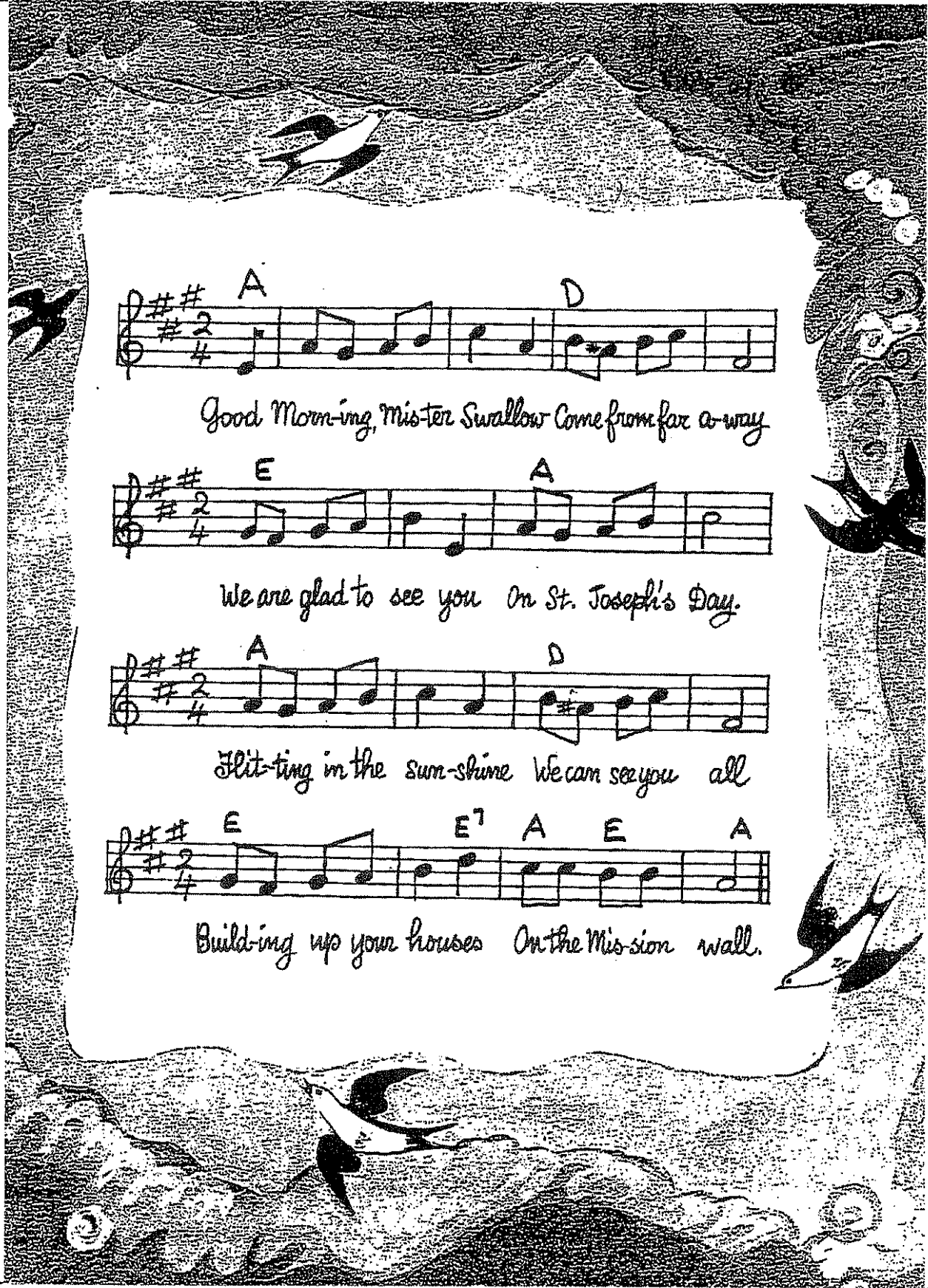
Fremont. From Hwy 880 (South) > Stevenson Blvd. (East) > Paseo Padre Parkway (South) to South Parking Area near Lake Elizabeth and Five (5) Palms.

**WHAT: (PART I)** Meet Sandy Ferreira at 9:30 AM for her program. Session ends at 11:30 AM. This will include a visit to the two species of swallows that nest near the Boat House, Barn and Cliff Swallows. Special will be examination of the nest boxes of Tree Swallows (to see eggs and young with ladders and mirrors - fun!). Participants are encouraged to bring bag lunches to enjoy the day and continue watching behavior of these summering and nesting visitors, who go "out of town." for almost (or more than) half of their lives. **(PART II)** Continue trip with Phil Gordon to Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont.

**WHERE: (PART II)** Paseo Padre Pkwy (North) > Ardenwood Rd. > Patterson Ranch Rd. (to Coyote Hills RP sign) > main parking at Visitor Center > BYO Bag Lunch on lawn/tables.

**WHAT:** Lunch: 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm; Swallow and Marsh Walk: 1:00 - 2:30

More Information?: Contact Phil Gordon at (510) 538-3550 or [PAGPEG@aol.com](mailto:PAGPEG@aol.com).



A D

G# # 2/4

Good Morn-ing, Mis-ter Swallow Come from far a-way

E A

G# # 2/4

We are glad to see you On St. Joseph's Day.

A D

G# # 2/4

Flit-ting in the sun-shine We can see you all

E E<sup>7</sup> A E A

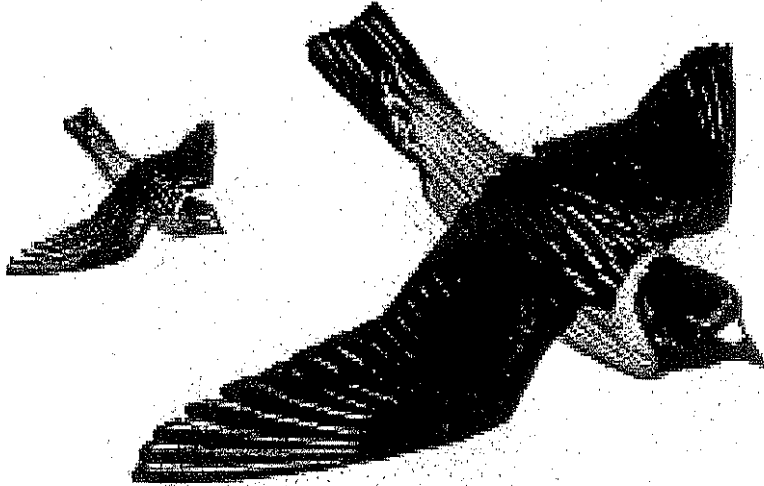
G# # 2/4

Build-ing up your houses On the Mis-sion wall.

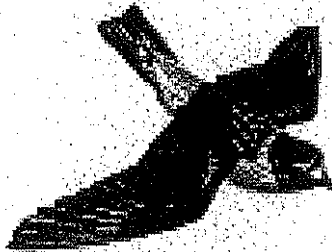
CHABOT COLLEGE'S 5TH ANNUAL



RETURN  
OF THE  
SWALLOWS  
FESTIVAL



ART, MUSIC,  
POETRY &  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
CONTEST



TO ENTER,  
SUBMIT  
AN ART OR MUSICAL PIECE,  
A POEM, OR  
A PHOTOGRAPH

INSPIRED BY OUR  
SWALLOWS

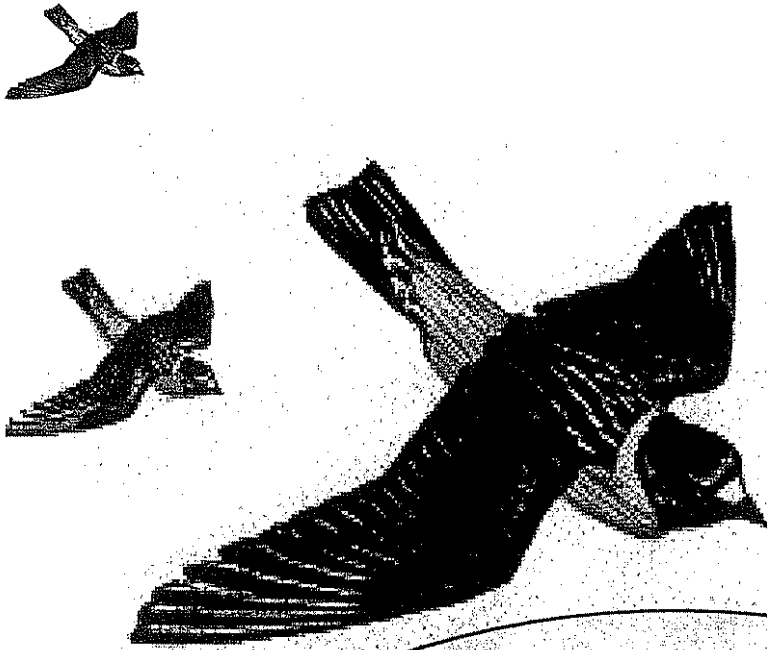
PRIZES ARE  
1ST, 2ND, 3RD,

SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY TO PROFESOR ZERMEÑO IN ROOM 910, OR 1126, BY MARCH 16, 2007

CELEBRATING THE RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS TO CHABOT COLLEGE!

TUESDAY  
APRIL 3, 2007  
11:30 - 1:30 P.M.

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ PLAZA  
CHABOT COLLEGE  
HAYWARD



**Our sincerest thanks to**

Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District  
ASCC of Chabot College  
Carol Bauman and the Staff Development Committee of Chabot College  
President Robert Carlson, Chabot College  
Janice Golojuch, Art Professor, Art Contest Judge, Chabot College, 2003  
Office of Student Life, Chabot College  
William Hamersky, Environmental Specialist, Alameda County Mosquito  
Abatement District  
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M&O of Chabot College  
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Phil, Vi, Ramona, Bill, William,  
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Joe Zermefio, Staff, Ohlone College, Fremont  
Francisco Zermefio, a birding novice, for this Swallows Booklet  
The Swallows of Chabot College  
And our sponsors  
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Booklet Authors: Phil Gordon, William Gordon and Francisco Zermefio