

CHABOT COLLEGE
SIXTH ANNUAL

CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ
PLAZA

—

APRIL 15, 2008

—

11:30-1:30pm

—

WELCOME

—

FREE THE
PIGEONS

—

CONTEST
WINNERS

—

POETRY
& SONG

RETURNS
OF THE SWALLOWS
FESTIVAL

Kerry Workman, Chabot College, March 2008

TUESDAY • APRIL 15, 2008 • 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 América 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 América 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 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. There is meaning to supporting endeavors of such "close to nature" and "close to home" events. May we all feel the joy and satisfaction from such basic experience. 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:

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Prof. J. Francisco Zermefio C. at Chabot College

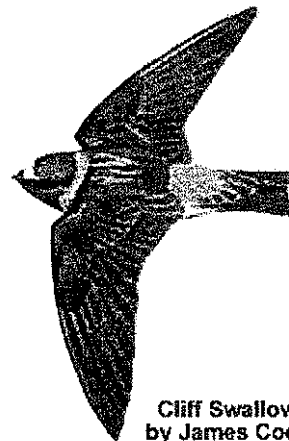
or at machetez@sbcglobal.net

2008 Exhibitors

Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District - Erika Castillo
 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 -
 Hayward Clean and Green Task Force, Chuck Horner and Kathy Super
 Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center- Adrienne DePonte
 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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Cliff Swallow
by James Coe



Names for “Swallow” around the world

الخطاف	-	Arabic (<i>Al-hotaaf</i>)	燕子	-	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
بوسستو	-	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
tulgarnaq	-	Greenlandic	swael	-	Swahili
fecske	-	Hungarian	te'gla	-	Tire'lhat
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 - “Father of American Bird Painting” and an astute observer and author of animal behavior - we read about 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 self-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 tirelessly darting hither and thither wherever their fancy leads. 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, Whip-poorwills, 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 insects 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

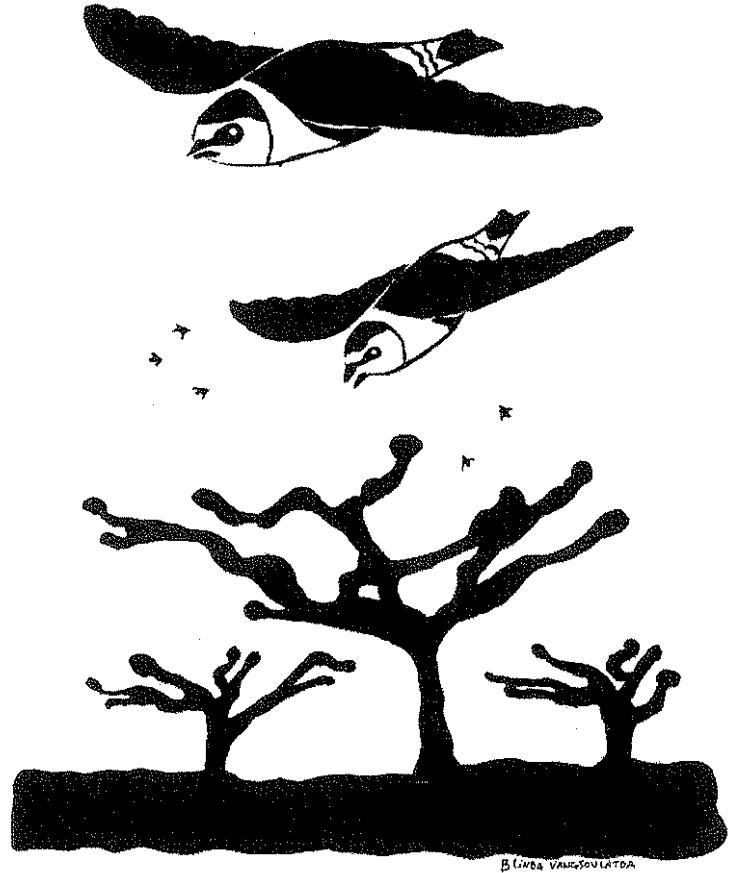
• “If Cliff Swallows had teeth they could *grit* them.” When parents feed baby Cliff Swallows, sand and grit grains are passed into the hungry mouths along with the hundreds of insects caught on wing, as the parents sweep the air. The adults must creep on the ground to pick up this material to give to 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’s 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.

Golondrinas



Swallow facts



• “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?

• **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 any insect pest species upon which it feeds when that pest is at or near peak abundance.

5. The Purple Martin is one of 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 far less risk of crashing.

• **"Is bigger faster?"** Air speed of birds has been recorded for many species. Of our swallows, the Purple Martin is largest (1.75 oz.). Its flight speed tops out at 41 mph, with a normal range of 17 - 23 mph (1965). Our smallest swallow is the Bank Swallow (0.5 oz.). Its normal flight speed range is 13 - 31 mph (1965). At the middle size (0.75 oz.), the Barn Swallow's comparable normal flight speed is 17 - 33 mph (1965). Although in a California test (1930) it measured 42-46 mph. Other speeds show: Tree Swallow (O.S - .75 oz.) normal flight speed, 5 - 19 (1965); tops at 25 mph (1933); Violet-green Swallow (0.6 oz.) top Speed, 28 mph (1942). Northern Rough-winged Swallow (0.5 - .66 oz.) is without data on speed. Cliff Swallow (0.8 oz.) normal flight speed, 9 - 23 mph (1965 tops at 29 (1942).

• "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* Viellot, 1808) [New York, NY] Golondrina Arbolera, Golondrina

Bicolor. Some winter in S.F. Bay Area (e.g. CA, Hayward-Fremont Audubon 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.

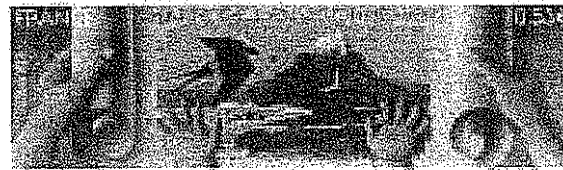
5. Bank Swallow (Sand Martin) (*Riparia riparia* Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden] Golondrina Ribereña. Mostly South America (south to N. Argentina, Paraguay, N. Chile). Migrates through Tobago & Trinidad. Species occurs in Old World: wintering in Africa, Madagascar, Arabia, S. India, SE. Asia, Borneo, Phillipines. 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 Calif.

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!

Golondrinas



Swallow facts



- Cliff swallow, Golondrina Risquera (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*, Vieillot 1817):
 - * Length: 5 1/2 inches (5 inches in life)
 - * Wingspan: 12 inches
 - * Mass: 0.8 ounce
 - * Tiny bill
 - * Blackish cap, throat and upperparts
 - * Side of neck brown
 - * Tip of tail squared
 - * Juveniles similar to adults but duller
 - * 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.”

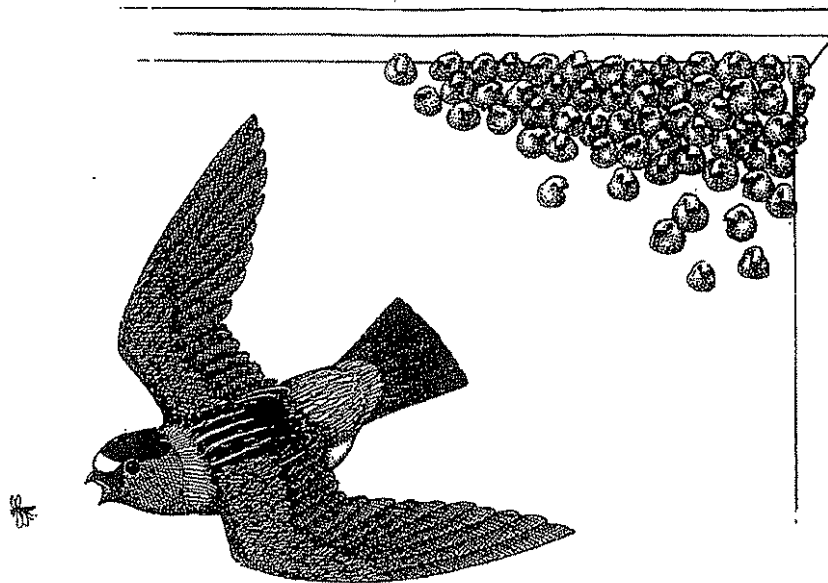
No, mosquitos carry that.

“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.



Cliff Swallows: How to Live with Them

Swallows, particularly cliff swallows (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), frequently live closely associated to man. While enjoyable to watch, cliff swallows nesting in colonies on buildings and other structures can become a nuisance, especially because of the droppings they deposit. They can interfere with man's activities by fouling machinery, creating aesthetic problems and

causing potential health hazards by contaminating foodstuffs. Their characteristic mud nests eventually fall to the ground and can cause similar problems. In addition, swallow nests frequently contain such insects as swallow bugs, (*Oeciacus vicarius*); these are related to bed bugs and will bite humans, although man is not their usual host.

There are 90 species of swallows worldwide. They are found in most areas and climates except the extreme latitudes and some oceanic islands. They are insectivorous and spend a large part of each day in the air catching insects: flies, beetles and mosquitos. Their long, pointed wings given them great speed and maneuverability. Normally swallows are not seen on the ground. Most do not have musical voices, but only twitter or squeak.

Seven members of the swallow family breed in California: The tree swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*), violet-green swallow (*Tachycineta Thalassina*), purple martin (*Progne subis*), bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*), rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*), barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) and cliff swallow. The first three nest in such cavities as woodpecker holes or birdhouses. The bank and rough-winged swallows nest in natural crevices or burrows dug in earthen banks. Barn and cliff swallows build mud nests attached to buildings and other structures, a habit that sometimes puts them in conflict with man. This is particularly true of the cliff swallow---the swallow of San Juan Capistrano---which nests in large colonies up to several hundred pairs. In contrast, barn swallows tend to nest as single pairs, and consequently, do not cause many problems.

Biology of the Cliff Swallow

The cliff swallow is 13 to 15 cm (5 to 6 inches) in length and is the only square-tailed swallow in California. (In contrast, the barn swallow is distinguished by its long, deeply-forked tail.) The cliff swallow is recognized by a pale, orange-brown rump, white forehead, dark rust-colored throat, steel-blue crown and back.

Distribution and Habitat

Cliff swallows are found throughout California, except in high mountains and dry southeastern desert. Four basic conditions are found at all cliff swallow colonies: (1) an open habitat

for foraging; (2) a vertical surface beneath an overhang for attaching the nest; (3) a supply of mud of proper consistency for nest building; and (4) a body of fresh water for drinking.



The original nesting sites of cliff swallows were cliffs and walls of canyons. Man's structures (e.g., buildings, bridges, overpasses and agricultural activities have increased the number and distribution of suitable nesting sites and cliff swallow populations have increased accordingly. In general, wherever irrigation water and buildings or other structures are found, suitable breeding conditions may exist.

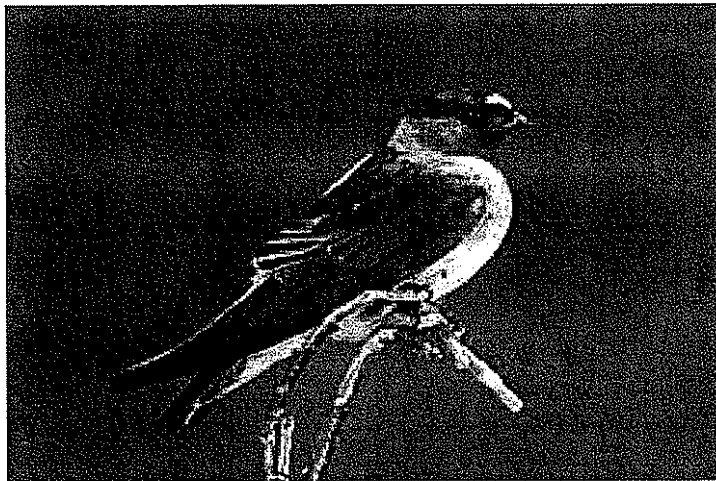
Migration

Cliff swallows spend the winter months in South America. In late winter and early spring, they begin a northward overland migration through Central America and Mexico. Arrival dates can vary greatly because of weather conditions. Usually by late February or early March, the first migrants appear in southern California. Two or three weeks later, cliff swallows begin arriving in northern California. Cliff swallows migrate during the day and catch flying insects enroute. Swallows will not penetrate regions unless flying insects are available for food. This occurs after a few days of relatively warm weather, 21°C (70°F) or more.

Site Selection

Cliff swallows arrive at nest colonies in successive waves. There is a definite homing tendency among adults that previously nested at the colony. These birds are the first to return, followed by adults who bred being the first to return, followed by adults who bred at other colonies and by young birds who have not yet bred. The younger birds include individuals not born at the selected colony.

In addition to their homing tendency, breeding swallows are attracted to old nests. Under suitable conditions, a nest is quite durable and can be used in successive years. Old nests are usually claimed on the first day of arrival,



although probably not by the original makers. Dilapidated nests are quickly occupied and repaired.

Nest Construction

Cliff swallow nests are gourd-shaped enclosed structures built of mud pellets, consisting primarily of sand with smaller amounts of silt and clay. In contrast, barn swallow nests are cup-shaped and the pellets contain coarse organic matter such as grass stems, horsehairs and feathers. The cliff swallow nest chamber is globular and extends forward into an entrance tunnel which opens downward. The tunnel may be absent from some nests. Nest dimensions vary from 14 to 27 cm (5 1/2 to 10 1/2 inches) in length and 14 to 20 cm (5 to 8 inches) basal width, and the opening averages 4.4 cm (1 inch) in diameter. The nest is cemented with mud under the eave of a building, bridge or other vertical surface. Usually the first nests are located at the highest point possible with subsequent nests attached below it, forming a dense cluster.

Both sexes construct nests, proceeding slowly to allow the mud to dry and harden. Depending on mud supply and weather, nest construction takes one to two weeks. Mud is collected at ponds,



puddles, ditches and other sites up to 0.8 km (1/2 mile) away with many birds participating at the same mud source. A typical nest contains 1000 to 1400 pellets, each representing one trip to and from the nest. Cliff swallows sometimes build two or three nests per season; not all nests are used, however.

Egg laying

Egg laying usually begins before the nest is completely finished. Each day one egg is laid until the clutch of three to four eggs is completed. In central California, egg laying generally occurs between late April and the end of May. In southern California, nesting can begin during late March and in the extreme northeastern of the state as late as June. Within a colony, the date of egg laying varies due to the staggered arrival dates of the birds.

Nest Failures

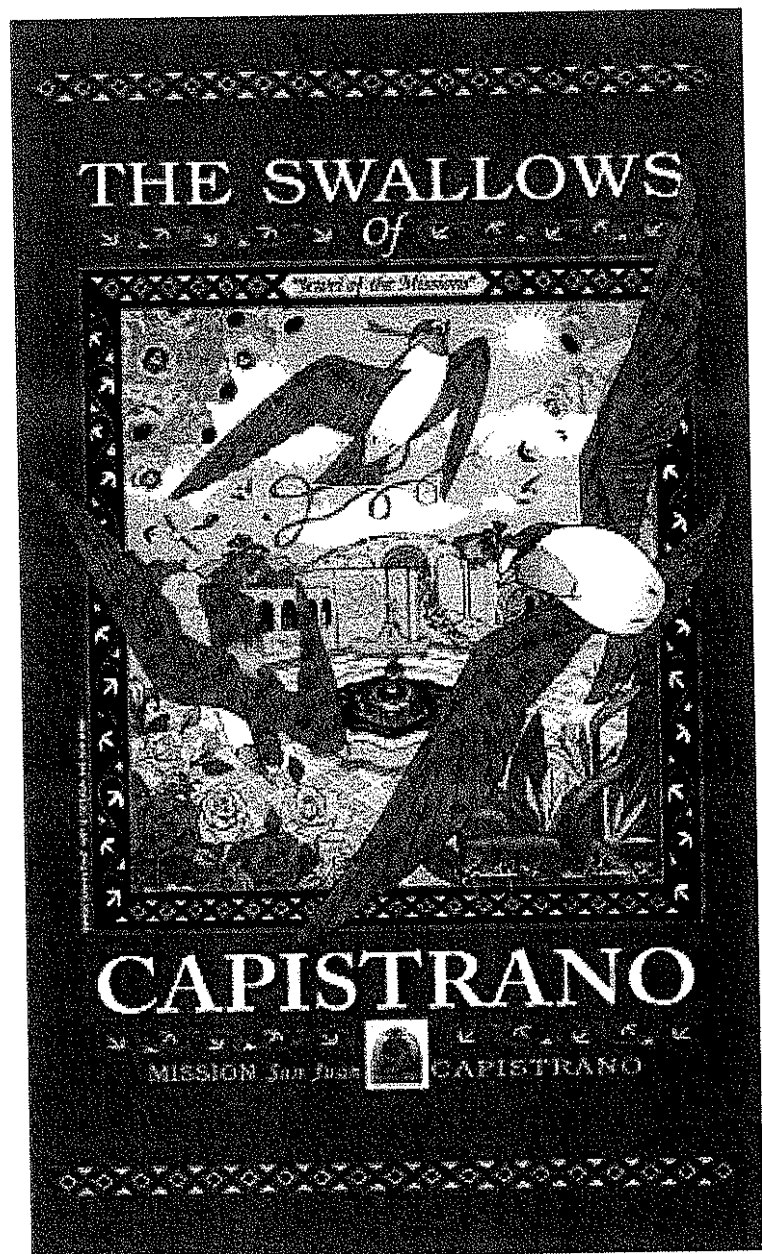
Re-nesting will occur if nests or eggs are destroyed. For example, nests may fall because they were built too rapidly or they may crumble because of prolonged humid weather. House sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) sometimes take over empty swallow nests and have been known to drive off shallows from new nests. A cliff swallow nest taken over by house swallows is identified by the abundant nest lining (grasses, weeds and feathers) protruding from the entrance.

Hatching and Feeding

Both sexes incubate the eggs, which hatch in 15 or 16 days. The adults are kept busy feeding the nestlings by foraging over an area sometimes 3.2 to 6.4 km (2 to 4 miles) from the nest. Occasionally, long periods of continuous rainfall make it difficult for the adults to find food and they abandon the nestlings. A sign of a successful nest is white excrement rimming the nest entrance, indicating the presence inside of young swallows.

Fledging and Post-nesting period

In mid-May to mid-June 20 to 25 days after hatching, the young take their first flight (fledge). They look similar to adults but are dullish colored and have less sharply defined color patterns. The young will return to the nest for 2 to 3 days to be *Golondrinas*



fed before leaving it permanently. They remain near the colony about a week.

In California most cliff swallows raise one brood each year, although some may raise two. The time required from start of nest building to departure after raising one brood is 47 to 64 days. Swallows are usually present at the colony for up to 1000 days.



After leaving the nesting colony, cliff swallows will remain in the general area for several weeks. By mid-August there is a general southward movement, and by the end of September few swallows remain, except in southern California where a few linger into October.

Solving Problems

Actions to solve problems with swallows should be started as soon as they are identified. Remember, cliff swallows are colonial and the number of nesting birds can increase significantly from year to year.

Legal Status

All swallows are classified under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 as migratory insectivorous birds and are protected by state and federal regulations. It is illegal for any person to take, possess, transport, sell or purchase them or their parts; such as feathers, nests or eggs, without a permit issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, certain activities affecting swallows are subject to legal restrictions.



Permit Requirements

Regardless of the time of year, a permit issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is required before swallow nests can be removed. This includes nests under construction, completed nests and nests abandoned after the breeding season. During nesting, a permit authorizing nest removal will be issued only if strong compelling reasons exist. Some examples are safety and health hazards posed by a nesting colony located over a doorway/entrance, near loading areas at warehouses and food processing centers, or at airports where aircraft safety is impaired. A past history of problems and the expectation of future problems are also considered.

During the nonbreeding season and before nests are completed, the justification required to issue a permit for nest removal is not as strong and a permit application may be obtained by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Animal Damage Control (Federal Building, Room E2717, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, phone (916) 484-4551). The permit is issued for one nesting season only and is free of charge. For all permit requirements, contact the main office of USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services in your state. In California the address is P.O. Box 255348, Sacramento, CA 95865, phone (916) 979-2675

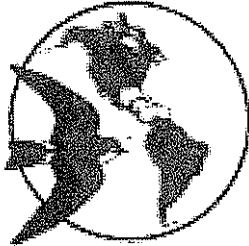
Timing is critical. It usually takes one to two weeks to obtain a permit so you must plan ahead if a problem is expected. It is not advisable to wait until nest building begins to apply for a permit, since swallows build their nests and lay eggs in a short time. Remember, if eggs or young are in the nest, you probably won't get a permit - for whatever purpose!

The permit will authorize the permittee, or its employees, to use specified methods to remove nests. The permittee is required to record the number of nests removed and to report these removals within 10 days after the permit expires.



Nest Removal

Method(s) of nest removal will be specified by the permit. Usually nests may be washed down with water or knocked down with a pole. Swallows are strongly attracted to old nests or to the remnants of deteriorated nests, so all traces of mud should be removed. During nest building, nest removal will require many days because cliff swallows persistently rebuild nests for most of the breeding season. They usually return the following year and the whole process must be repeated.



Golondrinas de las Americas

Exclusion

Exclusion refers to any control method that denies physical access to the nest site area. Exclusion represents a relatively permanent, long term solution to the problem. A permit is not required for this method if it is done before the birds arrive or after they have left for the winter. If swallows are nesting and have eggs or young, exclusion may not be used without a permit.

Plastic net or poultry wire can provide a physical barrier between the birds and the nest site. The mesh size should be 1.3 to 1.9 cm (1/2 to 1 inch); however, 2.5 cm (1 inch) has been used successfully. If plastic net is used, it should be fairly rigid and attached so that it can be pulled taut. This prevents flapping in the wind, which looks unsightly and which also results in tangles or breakage at mounting points. The net should not be made of a very thin, flexible material or have any loose pockets or wrinkles that could trap and entangle birds.

Netting or poultry wire may be attached to buildings before the birds arrive and may be left up permanently or removed after nesting season. It can be attached using tape, staples or hooks on the eaves and the side of the building. An advantage of hooks is that the net can be taken down during the nonbreeding period or for maintenance of light fixtures, painting, etc. If staples are used, they should be rust-resistant to avoid unsightly rust stains on the building. For netting, a supporting framework of wooden dowels, wood laths or metal rods along the edges will ease attachment to the hooks and create more equal tension on the net. Netting may also be wrapped once or twice around wood laths and nailed directly to the building. The netting or wire should extend from the outer edge of the eave down to the side of the building so that the protection from the elements given by the eaves is lost. Be sure there are no openings where swallows might enter.

Some individuals have reported that hanging a curtain of netting from the eave will prevent nesting. The curtain should be 7.6 to 10cm (3 to 4 inches) from the wall and extend down from the eave 46 cm (18 inches) or more.

Blocking the entrance will prevent cliff swallows from nesting inside buildings. Strip doors of vinyl plastic or similar material, or nesting should be hung like curtains, allowing passage through of vehicles, materials or people. Weighting the bottom of the netting will help keep it reasonably taut and in position during windy weather. Cliff swallows have been known to abandon nests inside a barn loft when the entrance was partially close; reducing it less than 2.4 x 2.4 m. (8 x 8 feet).

Usually, swallows will not fly into a net but will stop and hover in front of it. If only that section of a building where swallows have nested is netted, the swallows will often choose alternative sites on the same structure. Therefore, any part of a building suitable for nesting must be netted. After the netting or wire is installed, monitor the area for entry points and make necessary adjustments.

Other Methods

Nesting is sometimes discouraged by using metal projectors. These are sharp, needle-like wire devices generally installed along building ledges and windowsills to discourage birds from roosting. This method is not always successful in preventing swallows from nesting. In one instance cliff swallows learned to land on the metal spines and eventually built nests attached to them. Attach the metal projectors to cover the area where swallows prefer to build nests; especially horizontally along walls protected by eaves. Additional projectors running vertically should be attached along interior corners. Metal projectors, once installed, are left in place permanently.

Fiberglass panels 15.2 cm (6 inches) wide have been used to prevent nesting in some situations. The panels are installed between the eave and wall, forming a smooth concave surface which makes nest attachment difficult.

Modification of the surface where swallow nests would be attached sometimes effectively discourages nesting. Swallows prefer rough, uneven surfaces that provide a good foothold and suitable surface for nest attachment. Removing the rough surface of the wall and overhang can make the site less attractive to swallows. Attaching glass, sheet metal or other very smooth surfaced materials to the potential nest site can inhibit swallow nesting. A fresh coat of oil-based or epoxy paint will dry with a slick surface and may therefore discourage nesting. Removing old nests and painting the area with oil or latex paint may discourage re-nesting the following year. A 30.5-cm (12-inch) curtain of aluminum foil or plastic tape draped from a wire strung along the junction of the wall and roof overhang has prevented nesting in some situations.

Other methods have shown little success or are unproven against cliff swallows. These include

employing hawk, owl or snake models or using taped alarm calls, noisemakers, revolving lights and chemical roost repellents. There are no chemical toxicants registered for cliff swallow control and shooting, trapping or harming swallows is not permitted.



Sources of Control Material

A partial list of sources of supply for netting and metal or plastic projectors is given below. Netting is also available at many hardware and farm supply stores.

Bird Barrier America
Carson, CA 90746
www.birdbarrier.com

Sutton Agricultural Enterprises, Inc., Salinas, CA
(831) 422-9693; fax (831) 422-4201

Wildlife Control Technology, Inc., Fresno, CA

(800) 235-0262; fax (559) 490-2260

Bird-X, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.bird-x.com

Cat claw, Inc., Johnstown, PA, www.catclaw.com

ECOPIC, Birmingham, MI
(313) 647-0505; fax (313) 647-7811

The Huge Company, St. Louis, MO
(314) 725-2555; fax (800) 873-4843

Nixalite Company of America, East Moline, IL.
(800) 624-1189; fax (309) 755-0077

To simplify information, trade names of products have been used. No endorsement of name products is intended nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

Pages 12-17, the authors are Terrell P. Salmon, Wildlife Specialist, and W. Paul Gorenzel, Staff Research Associate, Cooperative Extension, University of California, Davis. Drawings are by Arlene Chin, Senior Artist, Davis. Division of agricultural Sciences, University of California. Leaflet # 21264, Dec., 1981.





Swallows of the World

HOTEL



Order

Passeriformes-- Perching (song) Birds

Family

Hirundinidae – Swallows

Vernacular Name

Number
sub-
species

	Location	Binomial Name	
1. African River Martin	South Africa, Gabon-Africa	<i>Pseudochelidon eurystomina</i>	1
2. White-eyed River Martin	Thailand- Asia	<i>P. sirintarae</i>	1 <i>extinct?</i>
3. Brown-chested Martin	Colombia-Argentina, South Am.	<i>Progne tapera</i>	2
4. Purple Martin	Canada-Brazil-N.-S Am.	<i>P. subis</i>	3
5. Cuban Martin	Cuba, Florida-N. – Am.	<i>P. cryptoleuca</i>	1
6. Caribbean Martin	West Indies, Tobago-W Indies	<i>P. dominicensis</i>	1
7. Sinaloa Marin	México-N. Am.	<i>P. sinaloae</i>	1
8. Gray- breasted Martin	México-S Am-N&S Am.	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	2
9. Southern Martin	Colombia-Argentina -S Am.	<i>P. elegans</i>	1
10. Galapagos Martin	Galapagos-S Am.	<i>P. modesta</i>	1
11. Peruvian Martin	Peru-Chile-S Am.	<i>P. murphyi</i>	1
12. Tree Swallow	Alaska-S Am.	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	1
13. Mangrove Swallow	México-Panamá-C Am.	<i>T. albilinea</i>	1
14. Tumbes Swallow	Peru- S Am.	<i>T. stolzmanni</i>	1
15. White-winged Swallow	Venezuela-Brazil, TT –S Am.	<i>T. albiventer</i>	1
16. White-rumped Swallow	Bolivia-Argentina-S Am	<i>T. leucorhoa</i>	1
17. Chilean Swallow	Bolivia-Chile-S Am.	<i>T. meyeri</i>	1
18. Golden Swallow	Jamaica-Hispaniola-W Indies	<i>T. euchrysea</i>	2
19. Violet-geen Swallow	Alaska-México-N Am.	<i>T. thalassina</i>	3
20. Bahama Swallow	Bahamas-Cuba	<i>T. cyaneoviridis</i>	1
21. Blue- and – white Swallow	Costa Rica-Tierra del Fuego-C&S Am.	<i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	3
22. Brown-bellied Swallow	Colombia-Peru-S Am.	<i>Notichelidon murina</i>	1
23. Pale-footed Swallow	Colombia-Venezuela-S Am	<i>N. fravipes</i>	1
24. Black-capped Swallow	México-Honduras	<i>N. pileata</i>	1
25. White-banded Swallow	Venezuela-Brazil-S Am	<i>Atticora fascista</i>	1
26. Black-collared Swallow	Venezuela-Brazil-S Am.	<i>A. melanoleuca</i>	1

Golondrinas

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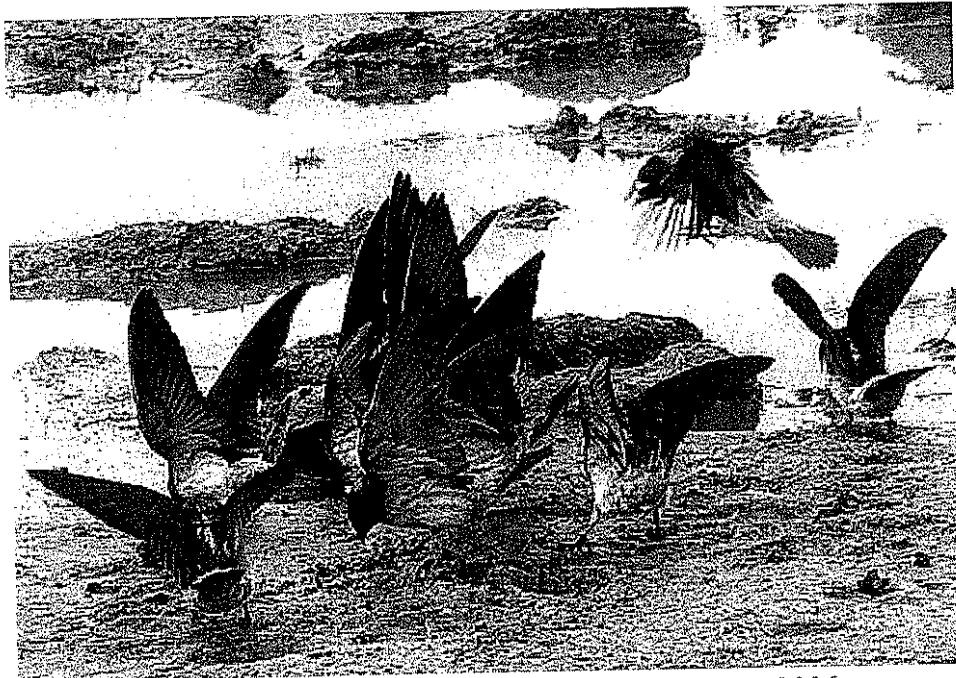


27. White-thighed Swallow	Panamá-Brazil-South America	<i>Neochelidon tibialis</i>	2
28. Andean Swallow	Bolivia-Chile-South Am.	<i>Stelgidopteryx andecola</i>	1
29. Tawny-headed Swallow	Venezuela-Argentina-S Am.	<i>S. fucata</i>	5
30. Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Alaska-Guatemala-N&C Am.	<i>S. serripennis</i>	4
31. Southern Rough-winged Swallow	Honduras-Argentina-C&S Am.	<i>S. ruficolis</i>	1
32. White-backed Swallow	Australia-Australia	<i>Cheramoeca leucosternus</i>	5
33. Bank swallow (Sand martin)	Cosmopolitan	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	9
34. Plain Martin	Africa, Madagascar-India-Phillip.	<i>R. paludicola</i>	1
35. Congo Martin	South Africa-Africa	<i>R. congica</i>	5
36. Banded Martin	Ethiopia-Cape Providence-Africa	<i>R. cincta</i>	2
37. Mascarine martin	Mauritania-Madagascar-Africa	<i>Phidina borbanica</i>	1
38. Brazza's Martin	South Africa-Ang-Africa	<i>P. brazzae</i>	4
39. Cliff Swallow	Canada-Argentina-NS Am	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonata</i>	2
40. Chestnut-collared Swallow	Ecuador-Perú-S Am	<i>P. rufocallaris</i>	6
41. Cave Swallow	Arizona-Puerto Rico-N Am.&WI	<i>P. fulva</i>	3
42. Gray-rumped Swallow	Ethiopia-South Africa-Africa	<i>Hirundo gryseopyga</i>	2
43. Eurasian Crag-Martin	Palaearctic&C Asia	<i>H. rupestris</i>	7
44. Pale Crag-Martin	Mauritius-Eurasia	<i>H. obsoleta</i>	9
45. Rock Crag-Martin	Nigeria-Pakistan-Africa-Asia	<i>H. fuligula</i>	2
46. Dusky Crag-Martin	India-Indochina	<i>H. concolor</i>	6
47. Barn Swallow	Holarctic-Eurasia	<i>H. rustica</i>	4
48. Red-chested Swallow	Sahara-Ethiopia-Africa	<i>H. lucida</i>	2
49. Ethiopian Swallow	Sudan-Kenya-Africa	<i>H. aethiopica</i>	2
50. Angola Swallow	Uganda-Malawi-Africa	<i>H. angolensis</i>	2
51. Whit-throated Swallow	Angola.-South Africa-Afri.	<i>H. albigularis</i>	1
52. Hill Swallow	Sri Lanka-Ind.-Asia	<i>H. domicola</i>	8
53. Pacific Swallow	Malaysia-Polynesia.	<i>H. tahitica</i>	3
54. Welcome Swallow	Australia-Tasmania-Australia	<i>H. noexena</i>	2
55. Wire-tailed Swallow	Africa-Indochina-africa	<i>H. smithii</i>	1
56. White-throated Blue Swallow	Sierra Leone-Angola-Africa	<i>H. negrita</i>	1
57. Black-and rufous Swallow	Angola-Zimbabwe-Africa	<i>H. nigrofrufa</i>	2
58. Blue Swallow	Tanzania-Kenya-Africa	<i>H. atrocaerulea</i>	1
59. Pied-winged Swallow	Senegambia-Cameroon-Africa	<i>H. leucosoma</i>	1
60. White-tailed swallow	Etiopia-Africa	<i>H. magaensis</i>	2
61. Pearl-breasted Swallow	Angola-South Africa-Africa	<i>H. dimdiata</i>	1
62. Greater Striped-Swallow	Kenya-South Africa-Africa	<i>H. cucullata</i>	6
63. Lesser Striped-Swallow	Sudan—Zimbabwe-Africa	<i>H. abyssinica</i>	2
64. Rufous-Chested Swallow	Senegal-Cape Providence-Africa	<i>H. semifusa</i>	3
65. Mosque Swallow	Mauritania-Mozambique	<i>H. senegalensis</i>	12
66. Re-rumped Swallow	Siberia-Ethiopia-Asia Africa	<i>H. daurica</i>	5
67. Striated Swallow	India-Taiwan-Asia	<i>H. striolata</i>	1
68. Red Sea Swallow	Senegal-Africa	<i>H. perdita</i>	1
69. Preuss' Swallow	Guinea Bissau-South Africa-Africa	<i>H. preussi</i>	1



70. Red-throated Swallow	Gabon-Sambia-Africa	<i>H. rufigula</i>	1
71. South African Swallow	Zimbabwe-Congo-Africa	<i>H. spilodera</i>	3
72. Tree martin	Timor-Tasmania-Australia	<i>H. nigricans</i>	1
73. Streak-throated Swallow	Africa-India-Asia	<i>H. fluvicola</i>	1
74. Fairy Martin	Australia-PG-Australia	<i>H. ariel</i>	1
75. Forest Swallow	Nigeria-Gambia-Africa	<i>H. fuliginosa</i>	3
76. House martin	Europe-Thailand-Eurasia-Africa	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	3
77. Asian Martin	Siberia-Ethiopia-Asia	<i>D. dsypus</i>	2
78. Nepal Martin	Himalayas-Ton.-Asia	<i>D. nipalensis</i>	2
79. Square-tailed sawing	Guinea-South Africa-Africa	<i>Psolidoprocne nitens</i>	1
80. Mountain Sawwing	Nigeria-Bioko.-Africa	<i>P. fuliginosa</i>	2
81. White-headed sawing	Sudan-South Africa-Africa	<i>P. albiceps</i>	1
82. Shari Sawwing	Nigeria-South Africa-Africa	<i>P. chalybea</i>	1
83. Petit's Sawwing	Nigeria-Congo-Africa	<i>P. petiti</i>	1
84. Mangbettu Sawwing	South Africa-Sudan-Africa	<i>P. mangbettorum</i>	1
85. Ethiopian Sawwing	Etiopia-Africa	<i>P. oleaginea</i>	2
86. Brown Sawwing	Etiopia-Africa	<i>P. antinorii</i>	1
87. Blue sawing	ER -Somalia-Africa	<i>P. pristoptera</i>	1
88. Eastern Sawwing	Gabon-Mozambique-Africa	<i>P. orientalis</i>	3
89. Black Sawwing	Kenya-Tanzania-Africa	<i>P. holomelas</i>	1
90. Fanti Sawwing	Senegambia-CF-Africa	<i>P. obscura</i>	

*Reference: Clements. 2000. Birds of the World: A Checklist
Prepared by Phil E. Gordon (PEG) 25 March 2006*



Cliff Swallows mudding, by TerryGrey's Photos, 2006

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 07	495
March 08, 2008	August ??	
March ??, 2009	August ??	



Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes

Rondine al nido

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.

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

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.

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)



Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center, Jean Bidwell, 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

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 madreseñas
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)

Golondrinas de la paz

Denme sus alas
golondrinas, golondrinas
para volar
a mi Baja California.

Denme guitarras
con listones de colores
para encelar, para encelar
a ese sol crepuscular.

Dios dejó su diestra mano
en mi patria mexicana
y eres tú, puerto de paz
un sol temple de mi raza.

Denme sus alas
golondrinas, golondrinas
para volar, para volar
a ese puerto de la paz.

Canción ranchera de Tomás Méndez

Golondrinas

Golondrina mesajera

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

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*

Latin

Vergil, Georgics

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

This is done as soon as the west winds push the waves,
before the meadows blush with new colors, before
the twittering swallow hangs her nest on the roof beams.

Ovid, Fasti

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

The herd sports and plays in the meadows.
The suns are mild, and the swallow gone for so long appears
and attaches its muddy creation beneath the high room beam

Ovid, Fasti

fallimur, an veris praenuntia venit hirundo,
nec metuit ne qua versa recurat hiems?

Are we mistaken, or has the swallow, harbinger of spring arrived,
and did she not fear that winter would turn and come back?

Avienus, Periegesis

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

When in early spring the hard ground softens itself
and the winged swallow in the hollow roofs sings its sweet song....

To The Swallow of Springtime

A andorinha da primavera

Pedro Ayres Magalhaes

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

Swallow of black wings,
where are you going?
As you fly up so high
Let me soar to the skies with you, go
So that from up high I can say goodbye
to my love
Oh, Swallow of Springtime
Ah, how I wish I could fly, too
How good it would be
Oh, Swallow
in Springtime
to fly, too.

Translated by Nevenka H. Morris

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.

Ranchera de Tomás

Swallows



“Las golondrinas”
(a traditional mariachi song)

Golondrina, de volar ligero,
golondrina, que buscas anhelos;
llegaste a mi ventana, cuando yo
componía,
uno de tantos salmos, de
melancolía.

Golondrina, que rozas mi
vidriera,
con tus alas de negro terciopelo;
golondrina, fugaz y aventurera,
que arrullas sus quereres junto
al cielo.

Golondrina, de vuelo trashumante,
que su ruta de amores ha perdido
yo te daré el calor vivificante.

Bolero de Agustín Lara, México

Alte Freundschaft

Da ist die liebe Schwalbe wieder,
Sie blieb uns fast fl 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
Erkennt 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
(Melodie - Franz Wilhelm Abt,
1819-1885)*

Liebe Schwalbe

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.

Old Friendship

Here is the dear swallow again,
She stayed away from us much too long;
She is twittering her old refrains
And moving back into the little old house.

She is wearing the same old black tails
That she wore in years past;
She has taken good care of her vest,
It is still quite white and clean.

Who knows what all she has seen
Since flying away to distant lands,
Yet she has stayed the same,
The sun has not scorched her.

That is why I recognized her on the spot
By her tails and by her face.
Come, my little swallow, do not fly so
quickly,
You are acting as if you don’t know me.

I have grown quite tall, haven’t I,
Since we saw one another last,
Since you’ve nown off to distant places
Far, over the seas, the mountains and the
valleys.

Do come, we are the same old buddies
And will be so this year, too;
We want to keep our good friendship,
Just as it was last summer.

Translated by Nevenka H. Morris

Dear swallow

Dear swallow, small swallow,
you fly up and sing so early,
strewing through the blue heavens
your sweet melody.

Those who still are sleeping in the morning,
all lovers at rest,
with your twittering songs
you awaken them from their slumber.

Up! get up! you sleeping lovers -
the morning swallow is calling:
for the night will cheat
those who sleep away the bright day.

Rondine al nido

Sotto la gronda della torre antica
Une rondine amica,
Allo sbocciar del mandorlo é tornata.
Ritorna tutti gli anni,
Sempre alla stessa data;
Monti e mare essa varca per tornar.
Solo amore
Quando fugge e va lontano
Speri in vano e non torna piú.

Nella 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 tornar.
Mia piccina, fosti tutta la mia vita;
Sei fuggita e non torni piú.

L. Sica - 1925

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)

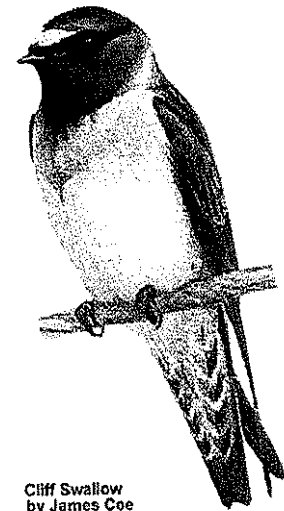
Swallows

Golondrina viajera



Golondrina viajera
de mirar dulce y triste
que tu nido formaste
dentro de mi corazón.
Di, ¿por qué me has amado?
Si tan pronto te fuiste
golondrina que vuela
como una canción.
Mi tristeza es profunda
mi dolor es callado,
recordando los besos
que me hicieron soñar.
Nadie sabe, viajera,
que tu ausencia he llorado,
con la dulce esperanza
de que habrás de tornar,
golondrina viajera,
yo te habré de esperar.

L. y M. de Gutty Cárdenas



Cliff Swallow
by James Coe

The Swallow

You are preparing for a distant journey, my
thoughts are with you
As you circle over the city for the last time with
longing I look at you
In faraway places where the azure heavens softly
join the waters

Find the port and his ship glistening in the sun
Fly, fly far away, over the deep waters
My little swallow, the bright star of my
heavens

Fly, fly far away, your wings are soft
My little swallow, a brilliant and distant
star

Land in the palm of his hand, enter in his
dreams

Fly, fly far away, fly over the curves of the
waves

My little swallow, my little swallow
As I follow your flight in the sky, so alone in the
world

In your beak you carry a flower to give to him



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



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 recurat hiems?
Ovid, Fasti

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

A Swallow, A Little Swallow

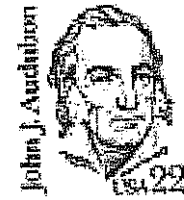
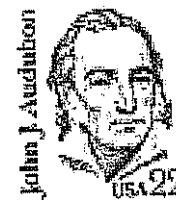
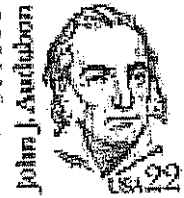
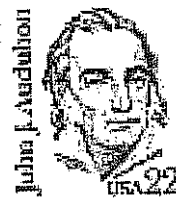
A swallow, a little swallow am I
A fairy was I from the Adriatic Sea
Far away is my honne
When I am not with you
Far away is my home
When I am not with you

Write me a line at least
And tomorrow I will live from it
Send me a kiss on Friday
And Sunday will dawn for me

A swallow, a little swallow am I
I fly towards your greetings
But what will greetings avail
When my eyes do not see you

Mountains all white long for the skies
Everyone seeks his heart's yearnings
And if my hands could meet you
They would no more call me a bird of passage

Translated by Nevenka H. Morris





Swallows in Music, Poetry and Quotes

When the Swallows Ruined Winter

The groundhog doesn't see his shadow
Six more weeks 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

Liebe Schwalbe, kleine Schwalbe,

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

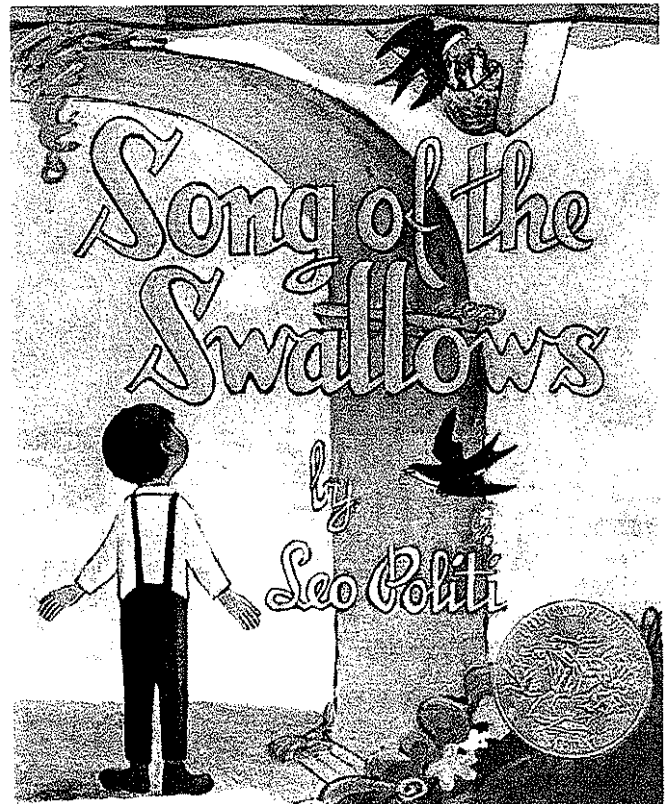
Die da schlafen noch am Morgen,
Alle Liebenden in Ruh',
Mit dem zwitschernden Gesange
Die Versunk'nen weckest du.

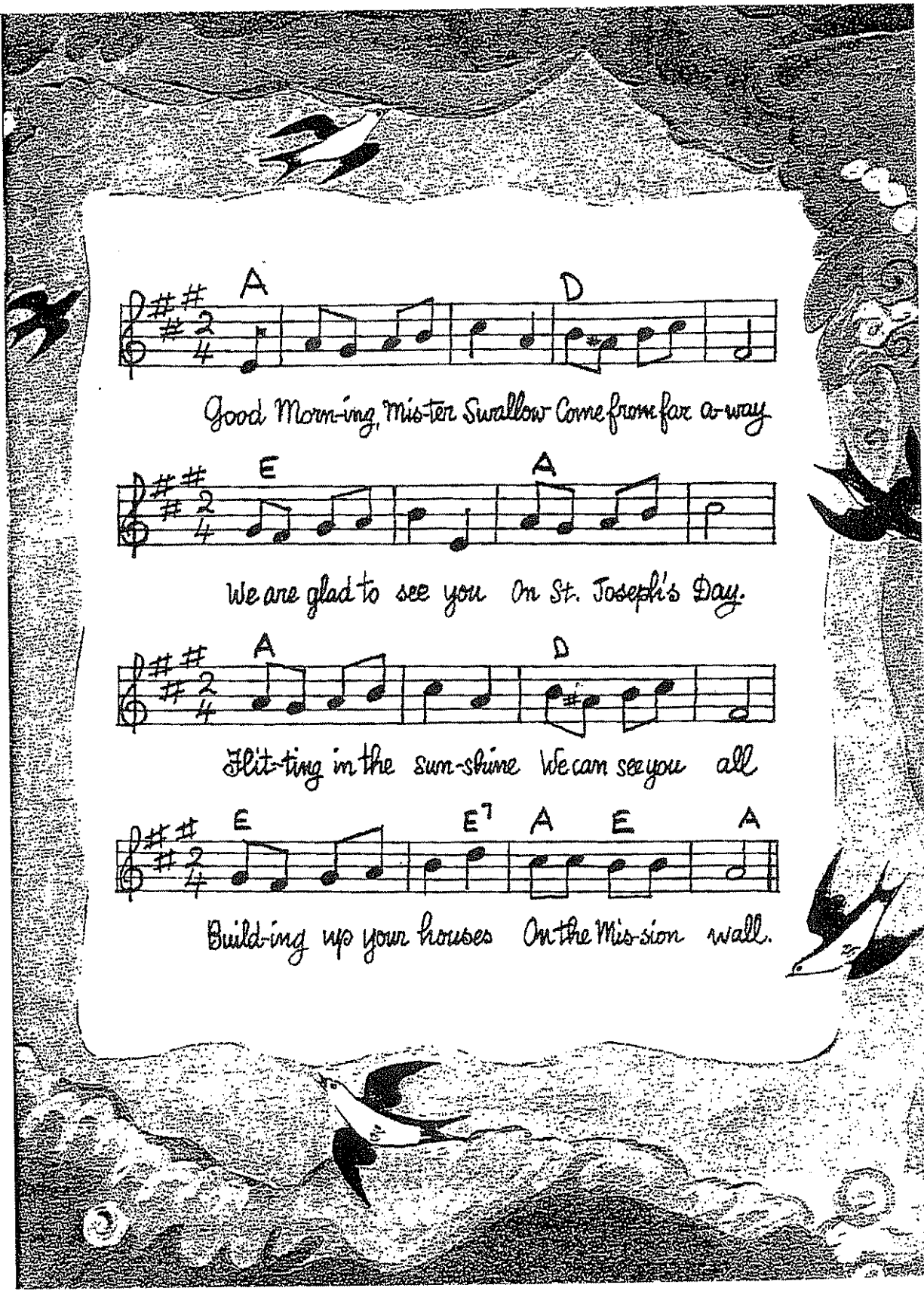
Auf! nun auf! ihr LiebesschlSäfer,
Weil die Morgenschwalbe rief:
Denn die Nacht wird den betrügen,
Der den hellen Tag verschlief.

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







Swallow Websites

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- <http://ghs.gresham.k12.or.us/science/ps/nature/animal/bird/swallow/cliff.htm>
- <http://rvsd.marin.k12.ca.us/brookside/swallows.htm>
- <http://museum.gov.ns.ca/mnh/nature/nsbirds/bns0260.htm>
- <http://users.ev1.net/~big2000/cliffswallow.htm>
- http://www.birdbarrier.com/BirdBarrier/Site%20Pages/Swallows_id.htm
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- http://www.stanfordalumni.org/birdsite/text/essays/Parasitic_Swallows.html
- <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/view/SS/tbs2.html>
- <http://www.wbu.com/edu/swl.htm>
- <http://www.wcsv.org/education/specieshighlight/swallow.htm>
- <http://web.birdbarrier.com/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/ExecMacro/>

Biological community Las Golondrinas de América - <http://golondrinas.cornell.edu/>

Boat Ferries, Barcelona, Spain - <http://www.lasgolondrinas.com/>

Fundación Golondrinas, Ecuador - <http://www.ecuadorexplorer.com/golondrinas/>

Fundación Las Golondrinas, Medellín, Colombia - <http://interconnection.org/lasgolondrinas/>

Home Rentals Las Golondrinas, Asturias, Spain - <http://www.fade.es/lasgolondrinas/u.htm>

Hotel Las Golondrinas, Playa del Carmen, Yucatán, México - <http://hotellasgolondrinas.com/>

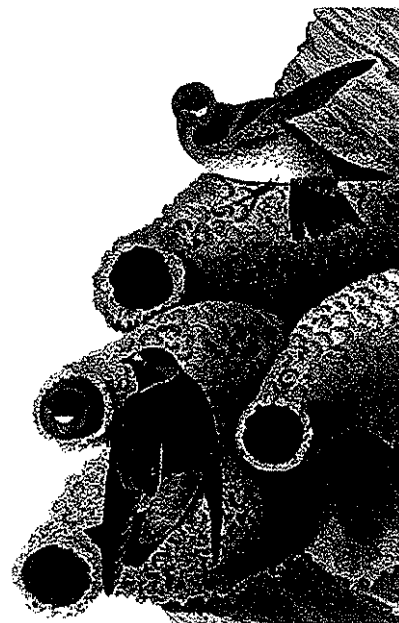
El Rancho de las Golondrinas - Santa Fe, New México - <http://www.golondrinas.org/>



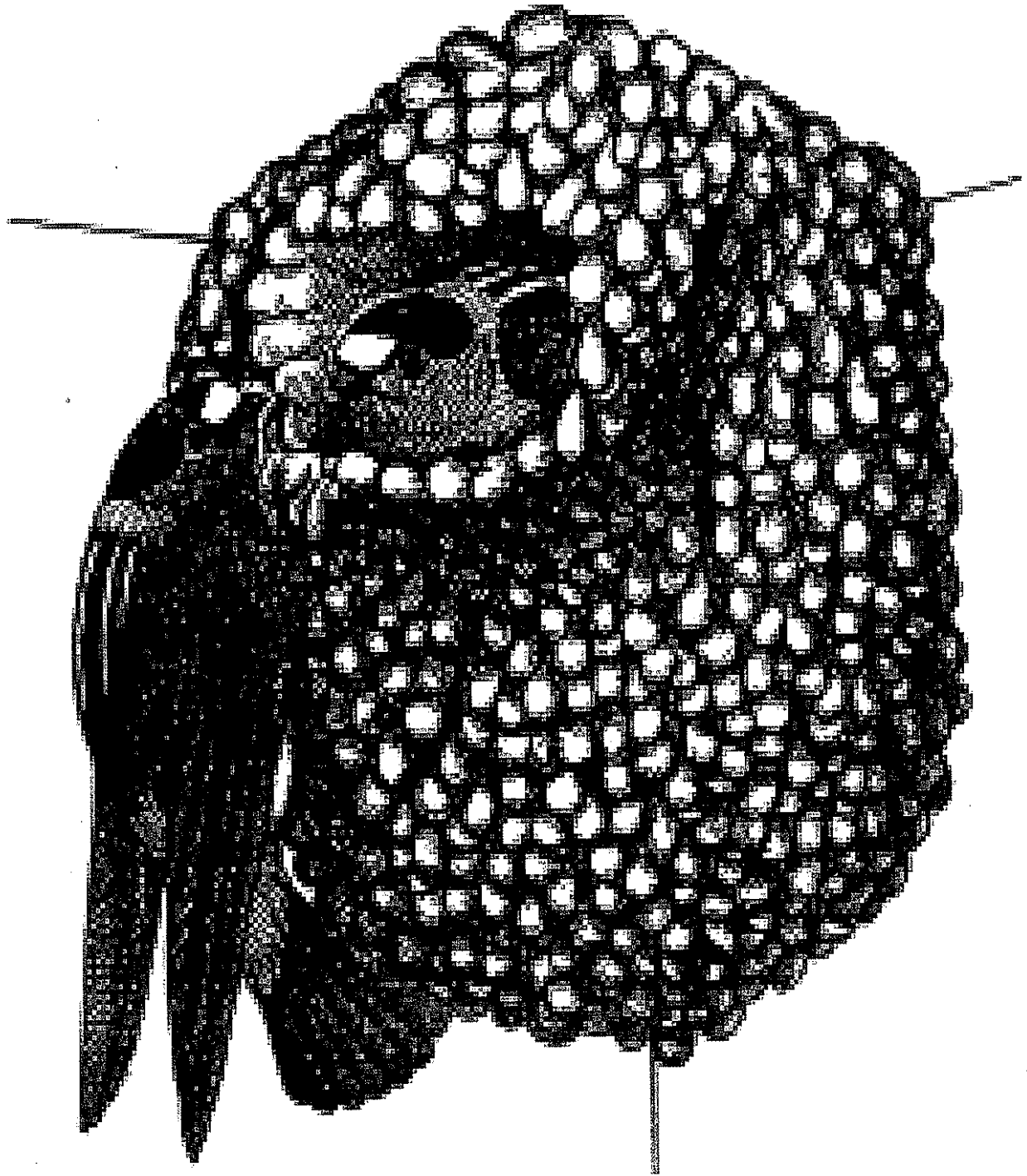
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Cliff Swallows, John James Audubon, ca. 1839

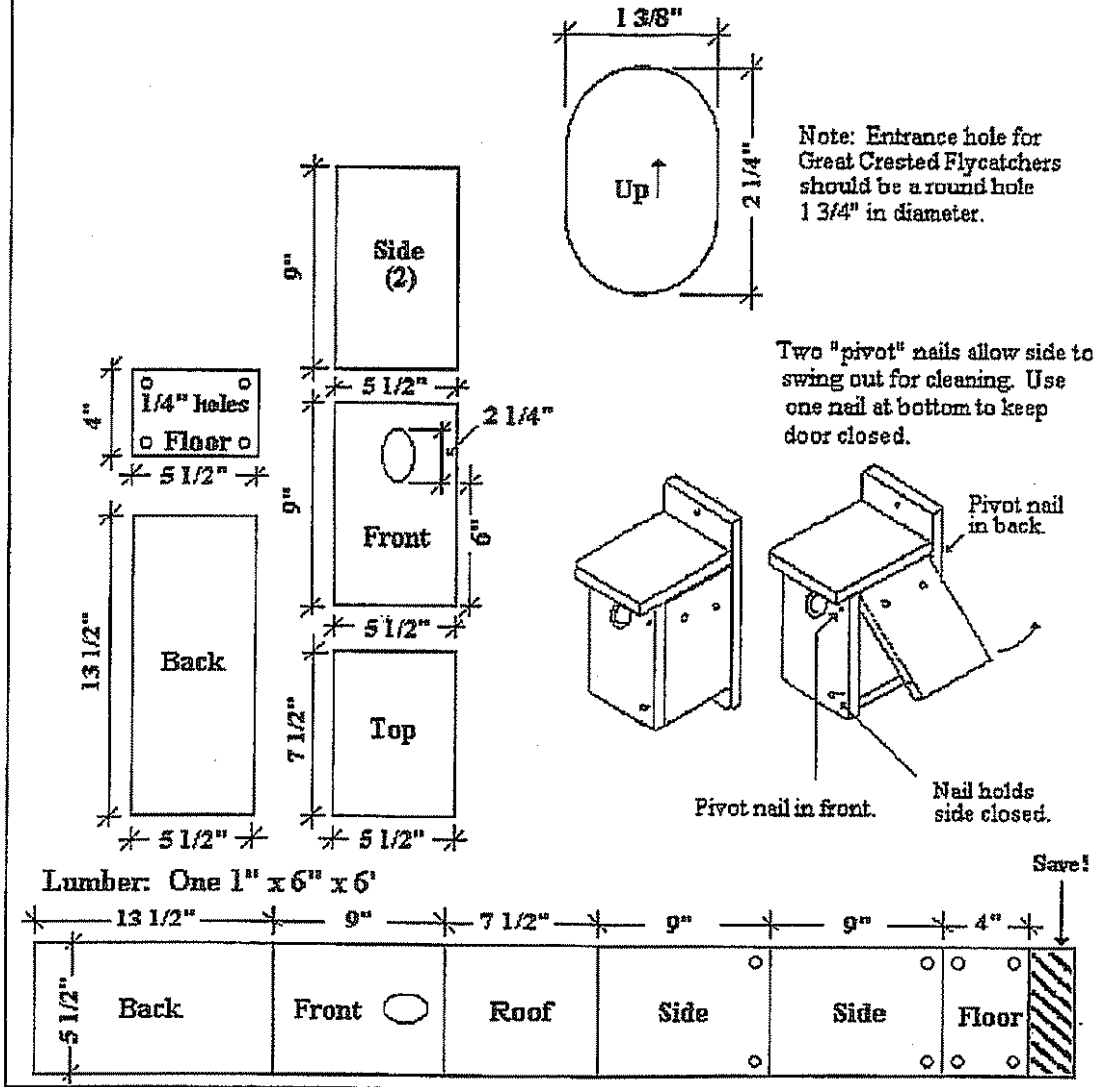


Golondrinas

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

Tree Swallow and Eastern Bluebird

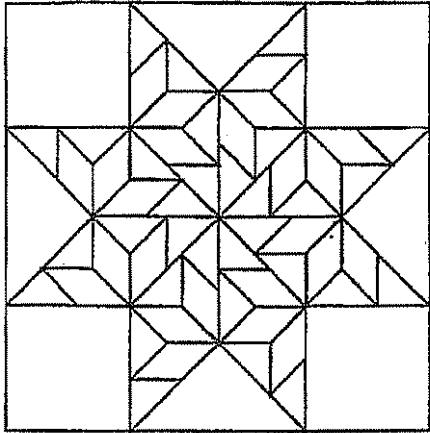
Eastern bluebirds nest throughout North Dakota. The best habitat consists of areas comprised of short grasses with nearby fence posts, high line wires, or sparse trees where birds can perch. Bluebirds normally will not nest within city limits or farmsteads where competition from house sparrows is intense. 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](#)

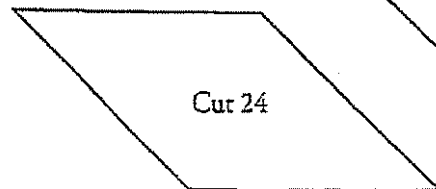
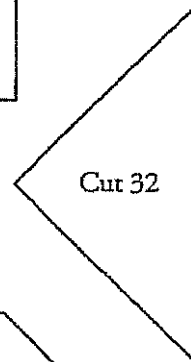
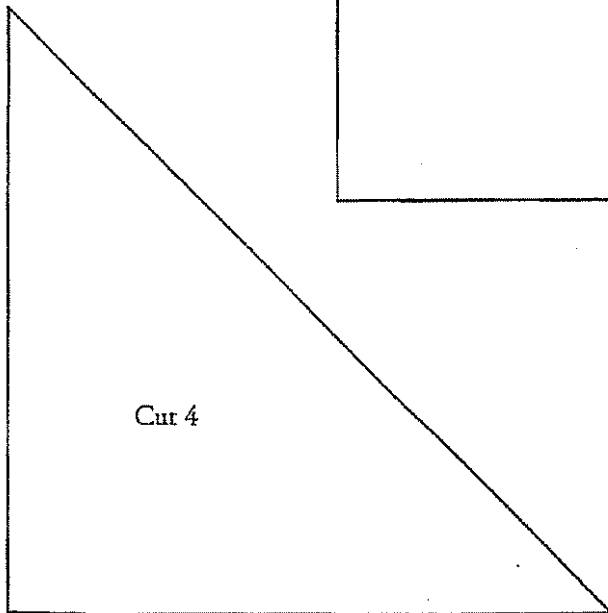
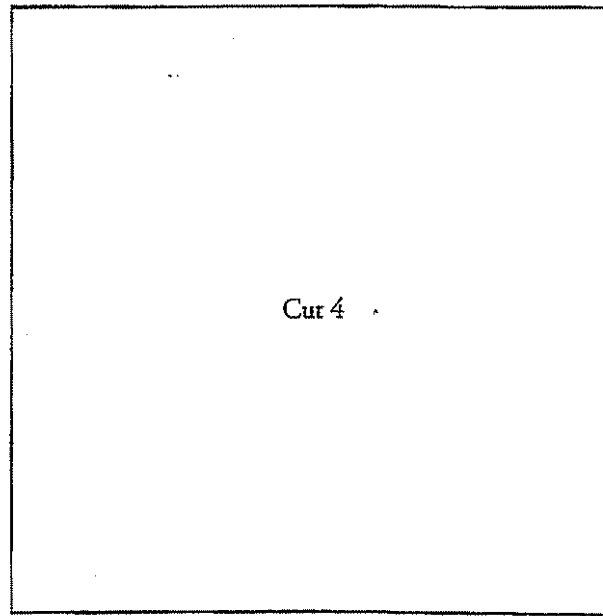
[Next Section](#)--Peterson Bluebird House

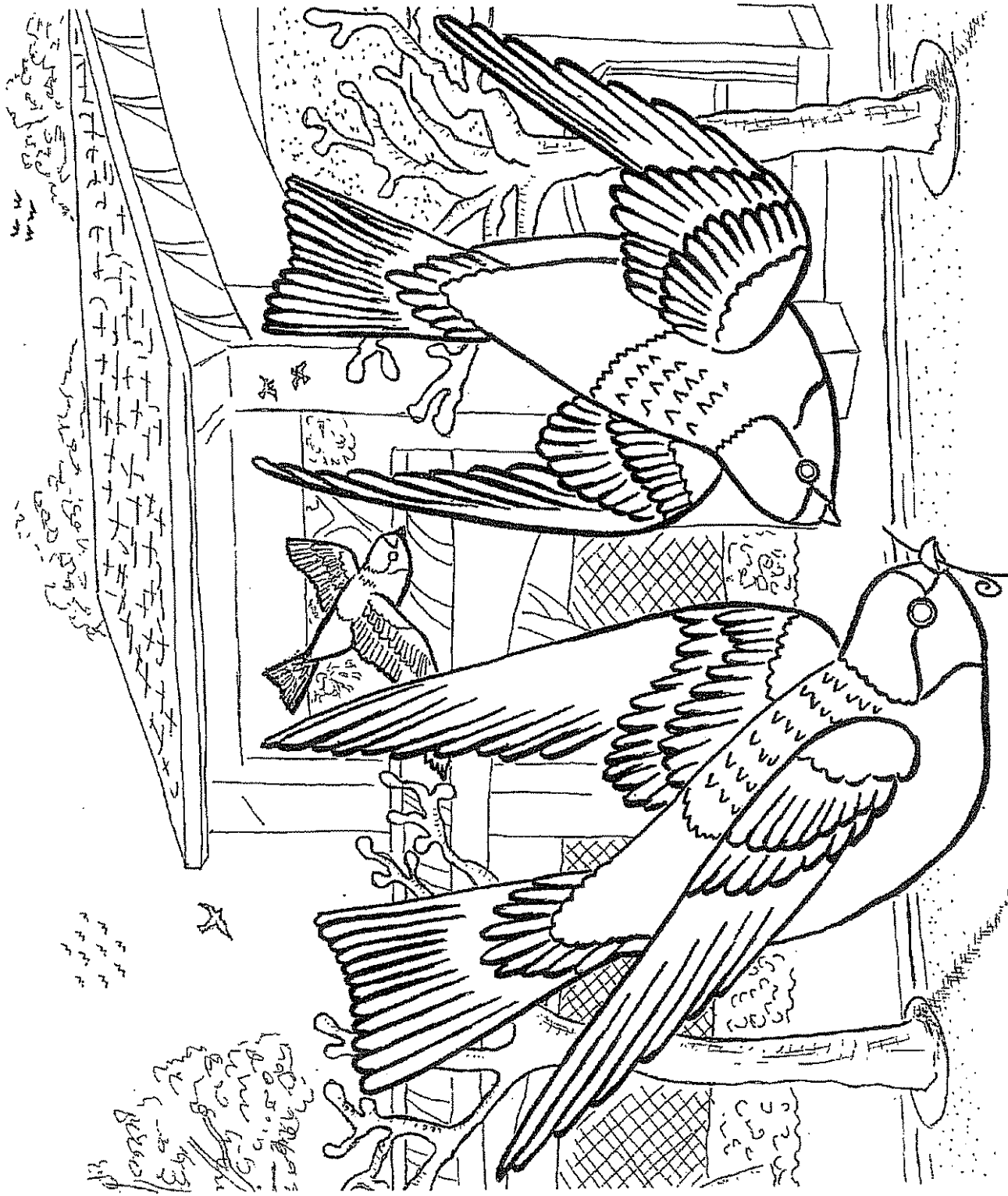


Flying Swallows

makes 12" block

seam allowances not included

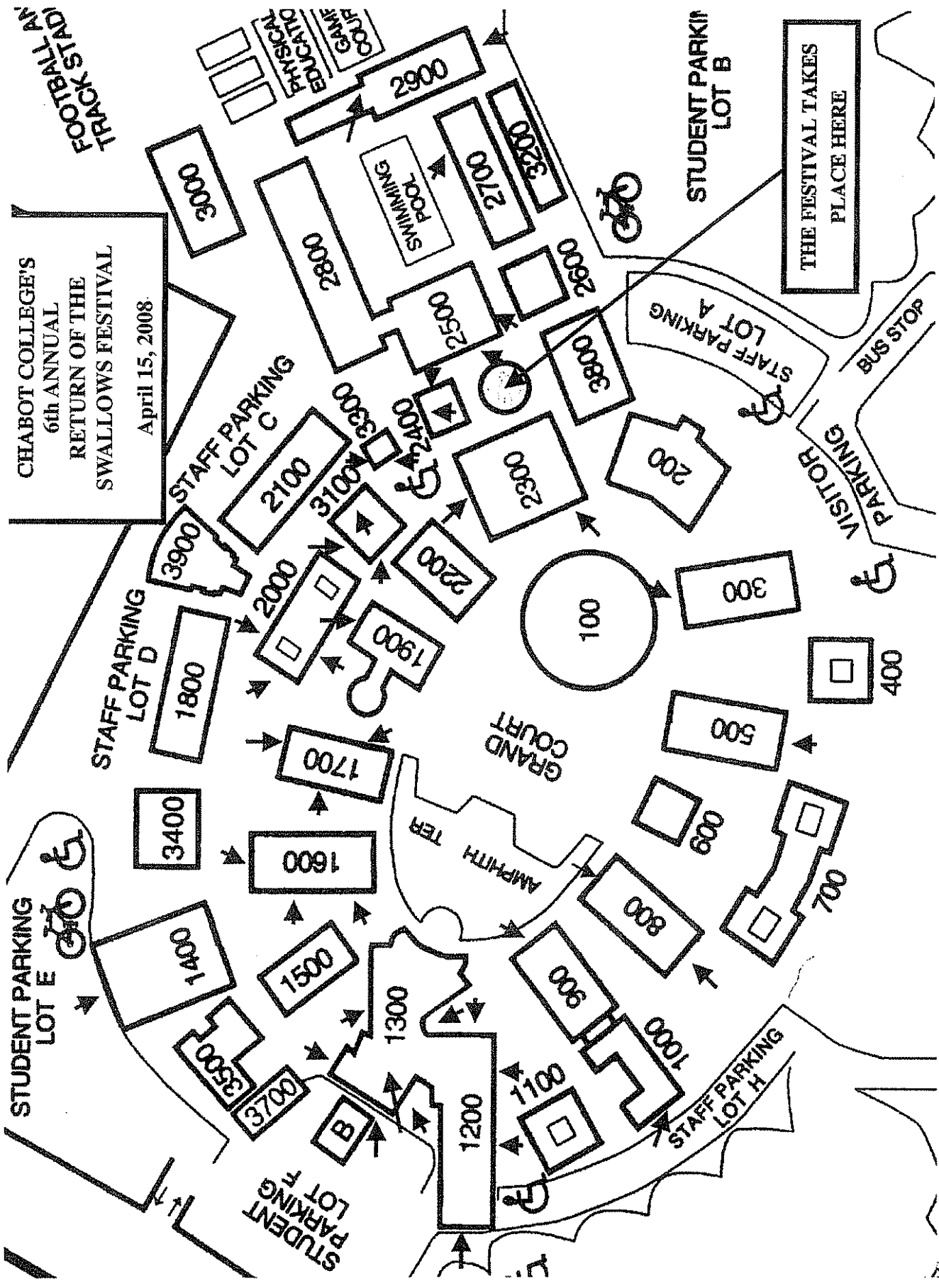




We are Chabot College Cliff Swallows – Color us!

CHABOT COLLEGE'S
6th ANNUAL
RETURN OF THE
SWALLOWS FESTIVAL
April 15, 2008

CHABOT COLLEGE'S
6th ANNUAL
RETURN OF THE
SWALLOWS FESTIVAL
April 15, 2008



THE FESTIVAL TAKES
PLACE HERE

STUDENT PARKING
LOT E

STAFF PARKING
LOT D

STAFF PARKING
LOT C

STAFF PARKING
LOT A

STUDENT PARKING
LOT B

VISITOR
PARKING

BUS STOP

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

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

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

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.

Winners of the Art Contest, 2005

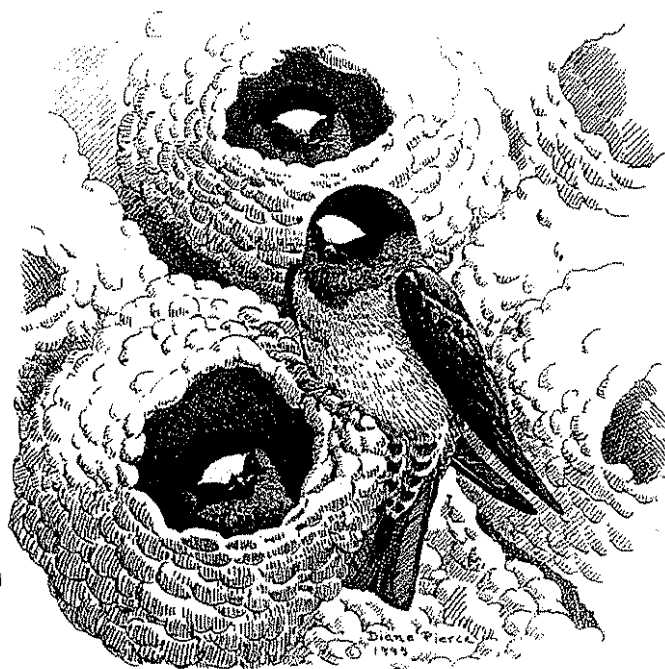
1st Place	Diane Morrison
2nd Place	Masumi Boshita
3rd Place	Wendy Hertle
Honorable Mention	Laurianne Uy

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	Dañella 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)



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 2008; 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.

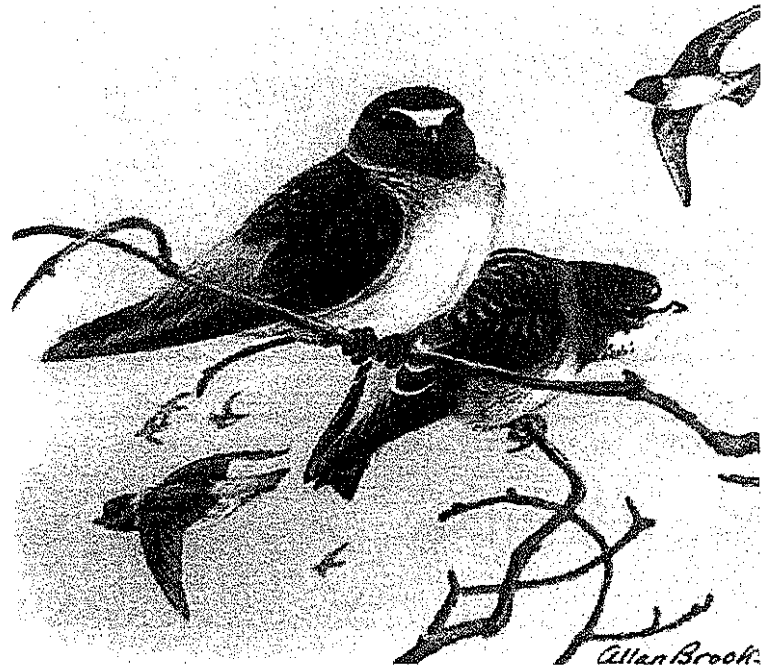
Activity: 1:00 PM Swallow & Marsh Walk with Phil Gordon. Visiting eastern and western marsh trails and grassy hills habitats; plus, levees and bay ponds.

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)

Information:

Contact Phil Gordon at
510.538.3550 or at
PAGPEG@aol.com.





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 2008; 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.

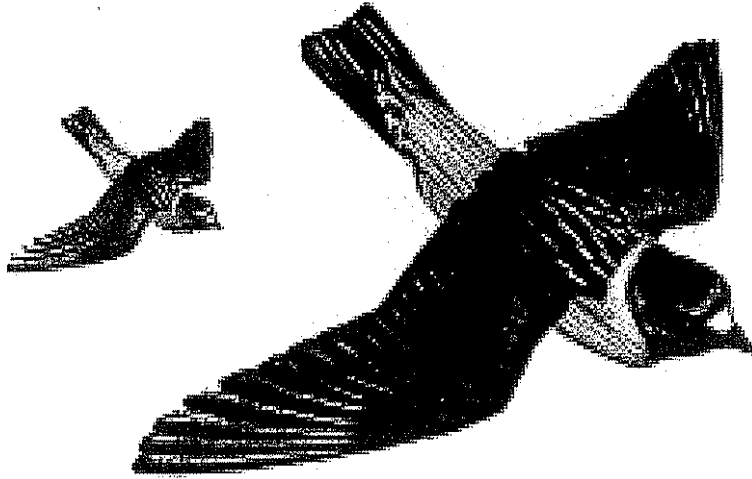
WHAT: Lunch: 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm; Swallow and Marsh Walk: 1:00 - 2:30

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

CHABOT COLLEGE'S 6TH 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

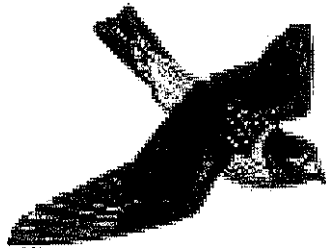
PRIZES ARE
1ST, 2ND, 3RD,

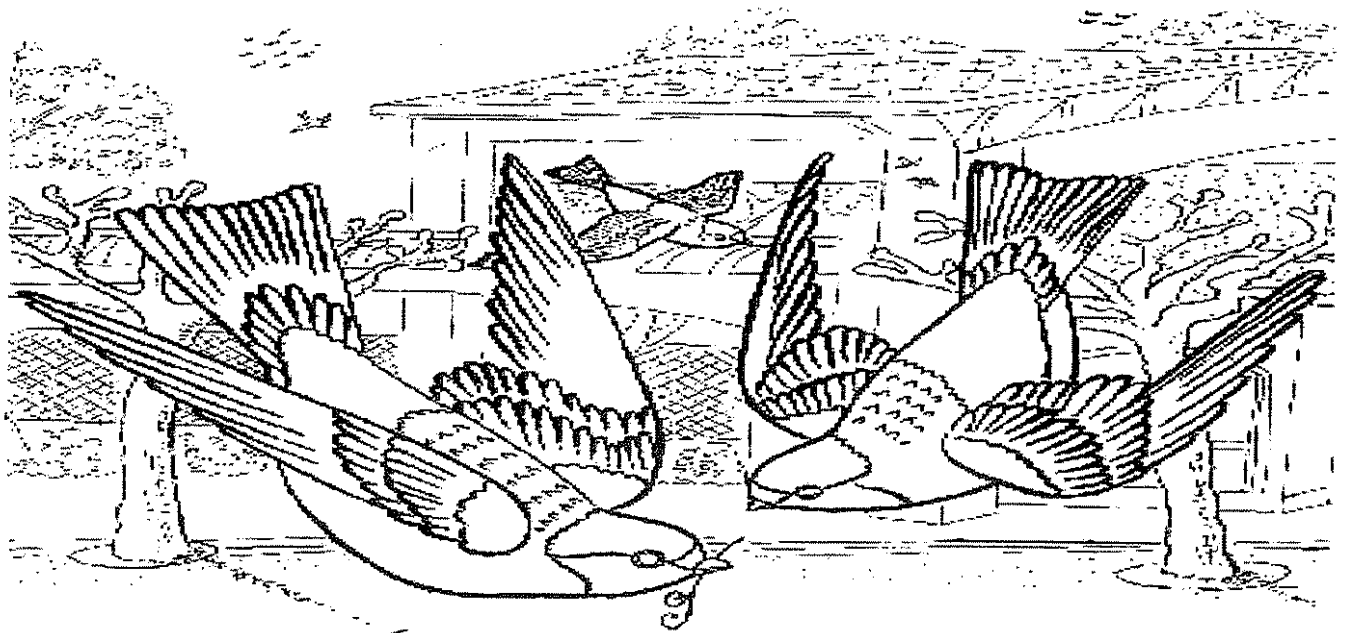
SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY TO PROFESOR ZERMEÑO IN OFFICE 1126, BY MARCH 31, 2008

CELEBRATING THE RETURN OF THE SWALLOWS TO CHABOT COLLEGE!

TUESDAY
APRIL 15, 2008
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 Celia Barberena, 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
Adrienne DePonte Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center, H.A.R.D.
M&O of Chabot College
Nevenka Morris, researcher, translator and student, Chabot College, 2003
Phil, Vi, Ramona, Bill, William,
members of the Education Committee of the Ohlone Audubon Society
Olivia Rayas, demonstration, Hayward Homing Pigeon Club
Nga Ngo, 2004 cover design, Art Student, Chabot College
René Peraza, 2004 color poster, Art Student, Chabot College
Julius San Pedro, 2003 cover design, Art Student, Chabot College
Shoshana Tenn, English Professor, Poetry Contest Judge, Chabot College, 2004
Joe Zermeño, Staff, Ohlone College, Fremont
Francisco Zermeño, a birding novice, for this Swallows Booklet
The Swallows of Chabot College
And our sponsors
CurbCycle, Terlingua Translation Services,
Video Z
Booklet Authors: Phil Gordon, William Charles and Francisco Zermeño