

TBS Seeks Administrative Assistant

Executive Committee seeks Admin Assistant (OneDrive, Excel, Word, PowerPoint) with willingness to also serve as website editor. \$10/hour (contract employee) Time commitment will vary from a few minutes in a week to more than 20 hours.

Contact execs@txblues.org

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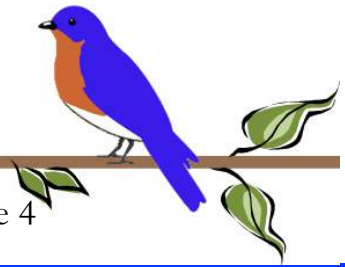
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Share TX Blues with family and friends!

TEXAS Blues



Texas Bluebird Society Newsletter October 2014 • Volume 13. Issue 4

Nestbox Certification Program Solves Construction Dilemma

For the last ten years *Texas Blues* has been featuring nestbox builders Brian and Judy Hetherington, Bob Houck, and volunteers from their Master Naturalist group, assembling over 10,000 customized Texas style nestboxes for distribution by TBS. However, all good things must come to an end. We tearfully said our goodbyes and many, many thanks to Brian and Judy as they moved back to Australian last April. Thanks mates!

Seeking volunteers to be our new “official” Nestbox Builders, TBS began soliciting interested members. As individuals began volunteering, TBS realized that our former perfect solution, a few builders all in one area, was not going to be realized. Complications! The TBS Board arrived at an innovative solution to the multiple locations dilemma.

With his background in quality control procedures, board member, Don Lawrence, volunteered to create a “Nestbox Builder” program complete with TBS certification. This process would guarantee each nestbox the organization distributes would be exactly the same. The building plans are based on the TB-1 series Nestbox plans found on our website. The customized nestbox includes a 19/16-inch hole, a revised vent height, kerfs (a bird ladder for baby Tree Swallows), and our “trademark” woodburned TBS logo on the front.



Don fabricates jig.

Don started with the basics. In order to assure uniformity for all measurements—both sides, entrance hole, and screw spacing—Don spent extensive hours designing and fabricating professional metal master jigs that will place drilled holes in exactly the same space on each nestbox. Don tested the jigs by assembling about three dozens nestboxes. Now understanding every nuance of the building process, Don is ready to start the program.

Don contacted volunteers willing to build at least 250 nestboxes, during a 2-month window per year and explained the certification process. Each builder receives training from Don on “our” most economical and accurate method for building our nestbox. After a satisfactory session, each volunteer builds four Nest Boxes on his/her own, sends those four nestboxes to TBS for inspection and approval. Once approved, one nestbox will serve as a production sample from that volunteer, and will be saved as an archived sample. One of the four production prototype nestboxes will be mailed back to the volunteer so all his/her future helpers will have a TBS approved nestbox as a model to review and compare with the nestboxes they are building. The other two nestboxes will be added to the TBS inventory.



Don explains, “We utilize a 1" X12" x12' Select Western Red Cedar; each one of these boards will make four nestboxes.” McCoy's Building Supply has extended TBS a \$10,000 line of credit, which streamlines our accounting details. Don Lawrence, Nestbox Construction Coordinator, orders enough cedar and screws for 250 nestboxes through McCoy's. The invoice is sent to the treasurer for payment. McCoy's has many locations throughout the state so supplies are delivered to our certified nestbox builder within a few days.

Of course, Don volunteered to start the training sessions and has been traveling to various locations across Texas to meet with volunteers. To date Don has certified four volunteers with another volunteer awaiting his visit. Congratulations, and a BIG THANK YOU to **Mike Price** (Flint), **Shannon Ramsey** (Timpson), **Don Mitchell** (Midlothian), and **Jim Estes** (Lockhart). Your hard work and dedication enables TBS to continue its conservation mission.



FALL Into SPRING Activities

The time to prepare for nesting season is now!

Performing a few chores around your habitat in the fall gives your bluebirds, and other cavity-nesters, an edge finding just the right house for next year's family. Remember, Mr. Bluebird will scout possible locations, but the Mrs. has the final vote on selection. Bluebirds start nestbox hunting as early as December in many parts of Texas. Make sure your nestbox has the right curb appeal!

- Clean out old nesting materials, spray inside with 10% chlorine solution if necessary.
- Trim away any plant materials encroaching on the nestbox space.
- Mow often, low vegetation encourages insects which is the staple summer food source.
- Paint nestbox exterior white, or other light color, to help reduce impact of our hot Texas summers.
- Install HeatShields on your nestbox or place in location with afternoon shade.
- Soap the inside roof to discourage wasps from building a nest.
- Install a Kingston Predator Baffle on the pole to serve as a predator deterrent.
- Provide a source of clean water. (Change every 3 to 4 days to discourage mosquitos from breeding.)
- Build more nestboxes. (Visit <http://txblues.org/BuildingPlans.php> for TB-1 nestbox plans.)
- Report to nestwatch.org any remaining observations from this year. Add new nestbox locations.
- Plant berry-producing shrubs such as American holly, American beautyberry, parsley hawthorn, flame-leaf sumac, pokeweed, elderberry and two yaupon species: *Ilex vomitoria* and *Ilex decidua*. (for more information on plants to attract bluebirds, visit <http://txblues.org/Resources.php> and opt for "Bluebird Facts." (Read native plant article on page 5.)

"Food is the biggest issue for birds when we have severe ice and or snow storms. IF they have good quality food sources all during these storms, then the birds will survive fine. If they go a couple of days with all of their food covered in ice and snow then in just two or three days they will burn off what little fat they have stored, their body temperatures will slowly drop and they will end up dying, more from a lack of food than from actual cold temperatures." Keith Kridler

Help Others Get Ready For Nesting Season Using "Share"

TBS makes it easy to share your knowledge with local clubs and other organizations using an online version of our standard "Bluebird Basics" presentation. Just download the PowerPoint slides to your desktop and save. Use as is, or customize the slides as needed. TBS also provides "notes" for each of the 71 slides. Don't forget to practice your delivery and include a question and answer segment at the end. Promoting TBS' free nestbox with membership promotion provides new habitat options for the bluebirds and hours of enjoyment for the members! Remind everyone to record observations through nestwatch.org.

Go to: txblues.org/share

Follow download instructions.

Questions? Contact tbs@txblues.org



Carol Clark demonstrates how to use SHARE at Summer Symposium held August 23rd in Mansfield.

Summer Symposium Highlights

By **Judy and Ken Ray**

Photos by **Walter Davis** and **Ron Tom**

The Texas Bluebird Society's 2014 Summer Symposium was held August 23, in Mansfield, Texas at the Mansfield I.S.D. Center for the Performing Arts. This is a new, state-of-the-art facility that was an absolutely perfect venue. The technology was superb, the rooms were large, cool, and well lit, and the staff was gracious.



More than 30 volunteers arrived early on Friday to set up for the event. After a hard day's work, we all flocked to Spring Creek Bar-be-cue for dinner, and then migrated to the La Quinta

conference room for a social hour. Thanks go to Jimmie Konvicka for providing and filling the "bird-feeder." It was a pleasure to get to know newcomers to bluebirding and to catch up with the old gang. People who love bluebirds are the best!

Our morning program began with Master Naturalist, Carol Clark explaining how to give a Bluebird presentation using share.txblues.org. This is a 71-slide PowerPoint presentation that is available to members wanting to give a talk on bluebirds. It's a great tool to help us spread the word to schools, civic organizations, youth groups, etc.



One of the high points of the morning was watching the documentary, *Bluebird Man*, about 91-year-old Al Larson who lives in Southwest Idaho, and has monitored over 300 mountain bluebird

nestboxes for 35 years. Bags of popcorn and soft drinks were passed out to create a movie theatre ambience. For those of you who were not able to attend, you can see the trailer or purchase the movie at bluebirdman.com.

The morning session concluded with a presentation by Texas Bluebird Society's co-founder, Keith Kridler who also co-authored *The Bluebird Monitor's Guide*. Keith is the leading expert on bluebirds in Texas, and often honors our events with his passion, expertise, and humorous birding tales.

In the afternoon, Master Naturalist Jim Varnum spoke on "Native Plant Gardening to Attract Birds and Butterflies." Jim has an amazing knowledge of our native North Texas plants, birds, and insects. He often leads tours in the DFW area explaining in detail about local plants and the birds and butterflies that love them. If you missed his presentation, you missed quite a bit. Go to the North Texas Master Naturalist website at www.ntmn.org. From their homepage, click on "Jim's this & that" to read a wealth of information that he publishes.

Following Jim, Master Naturalist Carrie McLaughlin spoke on, "Texas Natives—Wildscaping and Habitat Management for Bluebirds." Her bluebird ecosystem includes diverse life forms from lichens to horses. She showed how plants, structures, and pastureland combined to make an ideal bluebird habitat. For more information on wildscaping in your area, visit the website for the Native Plant Society of Texas website npsot.org. Click "Resources." click on "Wildscaping."



The final presentation was given by Master Gardener and Naturalist, Linda Crum who spoke on "House Sparrow Control—Not for the Faint of Heart." If you've been bluebirding any length of time, you know that the House Sparrow is a despicable intruder to our continent, and can be very hostile to bluebirds. But there are some strategies to defeat this beast which Linda has mastered and shares with a great deal of humor. She continues to fight them with diligence and clarity. After all, they are NOT cute—they are "flying cockroaches."

Thanks to all our presenters for making this year's symposium a great success. And thanks to everyone who attended and participated in the silent auctions. TBS raised slightly more than \$3,000 in the silent auctions. A special thanks to Paul Nelson for flawlessly performing the duties of emcee. Paul's talent is always the icing on the cake at our events. We are fortunate to have him as a fellow-bluebirder.

2014 Award Winners

Blue Feather Award

“In recognition of the countless hours of extraordinary service that positively impact our mission”

CONGRATULATIONS DON LAWRENCE



Nominating Don was an easy decision this year. Don has devoted countless hours to the start-up of our new nestbox production process that made possible the continuation of our main mission, nestbox construction and distribution, many at a time.

Throughout Don's service as a Board Member since 2012, he has assisted—and always with a smiling face and encouraging words—with the numerous tasks involved to create the smooth-running, successful Kickoff and Summer Symposium events.

Although these activities require many hours of Don's time, he doesn't laze around the rest of the year. In addition to maintaining his own bluebird habitat, including his famous “restaurant row,” huge trough like feeders that feed the masses, Don is happy to provide

new online members with our member packet and nestbox coupon. A task that is growing steadily thanks to our stable website technology.

Little did Don know his background in quality control for production procedures would be such a boon for TBS. With the departure of long time (10 years in fact) Brian and Judy Hetherington, our very talented and dedicated nestbox builders, Don saw a real opportunity to put his skills to work for TBS. Don is now our product quality control advisor for nestbox builders and participates in the competency program to authorize production. (See lead story *Nestbox Certification Program Solves Construction Dilemma* on page one for complete details.)

Thanks for all of your hard work and dedication to TBS! Noted and appreciated.

Bluebirder of the Year

“Recognizing his many initiatives and accomplishments that further the mission of TBS”

CONGRATULATIONS DAVID PRUITT

Anyone who read *David Pruitt Receives Prestigious Hornaday Award* in our March 2014 newsletter recognizes David's contributions to the bluebirding world. How encouraging to know the younger generation is not only aware, but willing to work towards, conservation of nature and our environment. Definitive proof of David's dedication is evident through his demanding Eagle Scout badge accomplishments, and as recipient of the Boy Scouts' very prestigious Hornaday Award.

David isn't content to limit his enthusiasm for nature conservation to himself. He finds great joy in involving his fellow Eagle Scouts to join him in his many endeavors. Over the last three years David has been building nestboxes, establishing nestbox trails, monitoring these trails, and faithfully recording observations on NestWatch.

Culminating in a twenty-two nestbox trail at Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, David also instructs adults and other scouts on proper trail and monitoring procedures ensuring “his” trail will continue to be NestWatched when he departs for college and other adventures.



TBS is extremely proud to recognize David's achievements. Best wishes in all of your future endeavors!

DONATE!

Silent
Auction Open
Until
12:45

**OR DO BOTH!****BUY! BUY!**

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO DONATE OFTEN, AND THOSE WHO BUY OFTEN!

TBS Raised \$3,000 From Silent Auction FUNdraiser

Thanks to our many donors for providing a wide variety of auction items. As always, the Silent Auction funds are used to purchase the wood and other materials needed for our volunteers to assemble Texas Nestboxes. **Bold** indicates frequent contributors to our Silent Auction.

Individuals:

Lauri Blake

Carol Clark

Linda Clark

Susan Crowson**Linda Crum****Walter & Beverly Davis****Greg Grant****Judy Hetherington****Mark Klym****Jimmie & Benni Konvicka****Keith Kridler****Don & Kenlyn Lawrence****Lysle Mockler****Helen Munro****Pat Nail****Ken & Judy Ray****Cynthia K. Reid****Mike Scarbrough****Selena & Keith Schindler****Dorothy Szepesi****Douglas Tallamy****Ron & Pauline Tom**

Johnny Tucker

Allen and Linda Wolf

Business:

Aspects, Inc.**Ann Hoffpauir Fine Art****Arthur Murray Dance Studio, The Woodlands****CynART (Cynthia Reid)****Droll Yankees****John English Photography****Grubco Incorporated****Jabebo****Just for the Birds, Spring TX**

Matthew Podolsky, Wild Lens, Inc

McCoy's Building Supply**Nature's Way Mealworms****NestWatch, Cornell Lab of Ornithology**

Rootin Ridge Toy Company

SnK Wildlife Reserve**Troyer's Birds' Paradise****Van Ert Enterprises**

Wild Bird Center—Fort Worth

Wild Birds Unlimited—Arlington



Volunteers will preform the various after sale tasks needed to coordinate the Silent Auction closing. Winning bidders receive items, TBS receives money!

Special Thanks To:

Beverly Davis**Benni Konvicka****Rex Reves****Kelly Russell**

Coordinator

Champions!

Musings From The Master...

Keith Considers Cold Consequences



Last December 5th a Texas bluebirder sent a query to the group.

"I'm looking for some advice. Because of some family illness issues, we have not been out to our bluebird boxes since late May. We may be able to drive out in January. What should I do with any nesting materials still in the boxes at the height of winter? Should I leave it due to the really cold forecasts? Or, go ahead and clean them out immediately?"

(12/6/13) Normally bluebirds that winter south of Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky and Pennsylvania will not need any extra bedding in their roost cavities. They probably use roost cavities more as a windbreak and to keep out of bone cold winter rains during the night. The Dallas Fort Worth area received between 1 and 3" of rain, freezing rain and ice pellets last night. Very few species of birds actually will roost in cavities for these cold nights. Most species will do fine roosting out in winter weather in evergreen trees, shrubs and or tall weed covered fields. About 30% of the Eastern Bluebirds will winter over in areas where "normal low winter temperatures" routinely drop down to the -5° F range. Most/many of these survive "normal/average winters."

I would go ahead and clean out the old nesting materials even if it is dry, and if you want, you can replace it with a thin layer of pine needles. An issue with roosting bluebirds is that they poop in the boxes while they are roosting at night, since they are now feeding on fruits and berries during really cold storms then the nestbox floors can get really nasty. Dry fluffy pine needles will allow this gooey layer of fecal matter to at least work down through the pine needles a bit and this layer of pine needles will also somewhat dry within a week or so depending on heat and humidity during the warmer days.

Wood sawdust and wood shavings absorb water and will remain wet for longer periods of time, as will old grass bluebird nests.

Birds have an "oil gland" right above the upper base of their tail, they pick up oil from this gland and preen their feathers with this oil and that creates a water resistant outer coating for their feathers. As long as these birds have a normal shaped beak they can spread this oil and remain waterproof or water resistant throughout the winter. IF they cannot preen correctly and spread this oil, then many of these birds will get water soaked feathers during heavy rains during the fall/winter/spring and die of hypothermia. You can see this oil gland on "fresh chickens, quail, ducks, turkeys" in super markets.

Food is the biggest issue for birds when we have severe ice and/or snowstorms. IF they have good quality food sources all during these storms, then the birds will survive fine. If they go a couple of days with all of their food covered in ice and snow then in just two or three days they will burn off what little fat they have stored, their body temperatures will slowly drop and they will end up dying, more from a lack of food than from actual cold temperatures.

One of the biggest issues with bluebirds roosting in plain old nestboxes, will be the amount of

floor space on your style of nest-box and the depth of these nest-boxes. Remember that each bluebird adult will cover up about 4 square inches of floor space per layer of adult bluebirds. IF you have a family of 8 bluebirds that has survived, then all 8 of these bluebirds will pile in the one nesting box. Depends on your boxes whether or not a raccoon can now climb up and reach in and eat these bluebirds while they roost. Also depends on whether or not these bluebirds will get flushed out of a cozy nesting/roost box and then go flying helter skelter out into a moonless night as we have this week.

This current cold front/winter storm would be a good time for those folks who feed the birds and wildlife to set out some live traps and trap out the rodents and or smaller pest predators that come out at night.

Freezing temperatures stayed just a few miles west and north of Mt. Pleasant last night. We got over 1 inch of precipitation last night, it went from a freezing rain that coated everything for a couple of hours, then ice pellets then heavy rain at 35°F or so all night. Now we have thunder, lightning and heavy to moderate rains. (Went out to check all of the bird feeders and add fresh dried grains, the rain just switched back to freezing rain and ice pellets, everything is covered in a solid glaze of ice again).

Keith Kridler, everyone's resident expert, our favorite speaker, and cofounder of TBS, participates in several List-Serve groups focusing on bluebirds and their behavior. Keith has given us permission to publish his contributions.

Native Plants: Turk's Cap Is For The BIRDS!

Article and photos by **Linda Crum**,
Master Gardener/Master Naturalist



Resembling a Turkish fez, the five-petaled vermilion red bloom remains wrapped into a spiral at the base with the elongated stamen extending beyond the partially-opened petals.

When gardening for birds or butterflies, one might think that there are no options for the shady garden to entice those winged beauties to visit and dine in the landscape. Look no further than our native Turk's Cap, *Malvaviscus arboreus* var. *drummondii*.

This drought-tolerant native has everything going for it—beautiful leaves, unusual flower, nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies, and fruit for songbirds. It can be maintained in a small space or allowed to ramble and cover the ground.

Ranging from the southern part of the Edwards Plateau in central Texas east to Florida and south to Mexico, the natural setting of Turk's Cap is shady woodlands, often alongside streams. Turk's Cap is very adaptable in cultivation, growing in a wide variety of soils and light conditions from deep shade to full sun. If grown in full sun, the plant can get



The apple-like fruit is relished by songbirds

somewhat stressed, and the leaves turn a lighter color and become unsightly. Also the plant will require more water in sunny locations. In full to part shade, the large heart-shaped leaves born on long petioles are a dark green and have texture like that of velvet or the soft ear of a kitten. The plant displays flowers all summer, but blooms most

prolifically in late summer through fall when the hummingbirds are migrating south. A small apple-like fruit, prized by songbirds, follows the flowers in fall.

Frost will take our native Turk's Cap down in winter, but it will return reliably each spring to delight the gardener as well as the wildlife. Cut the stems back to the ground in spring to keep the plant full and bushy. Turk's Cap roots easily from cuttings and reseeds readily. I consider Turk's Cap one of our bullet-proof native plants.



Turk's Cap is a spreading, drought-tolerant perennial colonizing by self-layering wherever nodes touch the ground. Its usual height is 2-3 feet, but can grow upright to reach heights of 9 feet.

Plant The Right Plants And They Will Come

Attracting wildlife to your backyard can be as simple as adding berry-producing plants to your landscaping. You will be providing one of the three key ingredients needed to sustain a healthy habitat - food. Trying to decide what to plant? Visit txblues.org/Resources.php. Click on the tab Bluebird Facts. There are two plant lists available. One is **Texas Native Plants that provide food for Eastern Bluebirds**, the other list is **Texas Native Plants that attract food for Eastern Bluebirds**. Plan, plant, and enjoy!

Photo Gallery

Backyard Babies



What a great year for babies in the backyard! Photographer John Park enjoyed the many photo ops he had at his home in Sour Lake this past summer.



Beginning at upper left:
Eastern Meadowlark begging for more.
Brown Thrasher feeding junior.
Green Heron's first time outside the nest.
Eastern Bluebird's first hour.
Red Bellied Woodpecker fledgling is on its own.

Share your photos on Facebook or our website. We'd love to see them!

Photo Gallery

Photo Gallery

Photo Gallery

Members Share Summer Scenes

(Left) In this photo, with the first egg just starting to hatch, two eggs appear larger. Keith Kridler explained to me, "when eggs are a different shape, size, or color they are from different females."

"I took this photo two days ago (on Sat, July 5). It was so strange that the Mama bluebird did not even fly out of the nest. She just stayed put while her young ones were hatching...or perhaps had just hatched a day or so before."

Photos and captions by **Pat Nail**



Photos by **Greg Lavaty**



Election Time! 2015 Board Of Directors

Nominations:

Ken Ray



Beverly Davis



Norm Shoemaker



Election Instructions:

Watch email for link to ballot and annual questionnaire on or about November 1st.

- There is no “competition.” Each nominee on the ballot, if elected, will serve.
- We will email a ballot to each address in our records. Simply click on the link provided to access the ballot.
- If you want to provide/change (or confirm we have your correct address), provide your email address to records@txblues.org on or before October 20th.
- If you do not receive your election email by November 4th, please notify tbs@txblues.org
- If you do not have email, mail your ballot choice (Yes or No) to TBS, PO Box 40868 Austin, TX 78704.
- The ballot allows for write-in candidates. Secure permission from the nominee before submitting his/her name.

Two-year Term Board Member Nominees (currently serving on board as mid-year appointees) are:

- Norm Shoemaker (Nestbox Transportation)**
- Ken Ray (Treasurer)**
- Bev Davis (Auction Donation Coordinator)**

Current board members willing continue with a one-year term are:

- Benni Konvicka* (Auction Facilitator)**
- Harold Latham (Event Speaker Support)**
- Don Lawrence* (New Members/Nestbox Certification Program)**
- Pat Nail (Secretary)**
- Rex Reves* (Technical Designer)**
- Pauline Tom* (President)**

Exiting the board:

THANKS to 2014 board member and 2013 Blue Feather award winner **Judy Hetherington**. Her numerous contributions and her devotion to TBS are missed! Although Brian did not serve on the board, his role as master nestbox builder and coordinator has been a difficult position to fill. Judy and Brian moved to Australia in April. Best wishes from your TBS family!

Volunteers are APPRECIATED!

Linda Almes	Jimmie Konvicka	Judy Ray
Phyl Baloga	Harold Latham	Ken Ray
Nancy Bratcher	Kathy Latham	Dan Rayfield
Katy Couvillion	Don Lawrence	Deborah Rayfield
Chris Crowson	Kenlyn Lawrence	Rex Reves
Susan Crowson	Judy Melby	Elaine Ruby
Fred Crum	Cathy Mitchell	Kelly Russell
Linda Crum	Don Mitchell	Barbara Salter
Kay Dansby	Ellie Mosley	Keith Schindler
Bev Davis	Kenny Munoz	Selena Schindler
Walter Davis	Lisa Munoz	Pauline Tom
Jennifer Fleming	Pat Nail	Ron Tom
Penny Friedman	Roland Nail	
Charlie Grindstaff	Kevin Nelson	<i>Special thanks to</i>
Paul Grindstaff	Paul Nelson	<i>Indian Trails</i>
Pete Grosso	Debbie Park	<i>Master Naturalists</i>
Jean Kastanek	John Park	<i>for their support!</i>
Benni Konvicka	Jim Patak	



Volunteers enjoy the Friday evening social after a long day of preparations for the Summer Symposium. After the Symposium, it is time to pack everything away until next time; August 8, 2015 in Bryan, Texas.

Thanks For Your Financial \$upport!

David Anderson	Raul Garza Jr.	Amy Lambert	Kelly Russell
Sandra Anderson	Dennis George	Paula Lee Long	Sue Smith
Sharon Barr	Sally Gross	Betsy Loveless	Judy Smitherman
Tom and Cindy Brisko	Cindy Griffin	Jacob McKinney	Cliff Sorge
Jan Child	Polly A. Harville	John D. Milam	Viki Sotzen
Maryann Coleridge	Gilbert Hernandez III	Paul Nelson	Sandy Strack
Walter Davis	Maryann Hunn	Jerry Parker	Jane and Mark Tillman
Tanya Dawson	Van T. Hunn	Danny Potter	Julie Tips
Teena Edwards	Suz Ann Jolly	Judy and Ken Ray	Pauline and Ron Tom
Kelly Freeman	Jerry Krampota	Linda Roberts	Melinda Walker
			Melissa Winfield

Welcome New Members!

New members who give us print permission on Membership Form

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Sandra Anderson | • Don & Linda Houk | • Jerry Parker |
| • Sandra Ashbrook | • Mary Ann Hunn | • Ann Reese |
| • Greg Barger | • Van T. Hunn | • Joe Roach |
| • Gary Bass | • Richard Ishmael | • Barbara Salter |
| • C.W. Bess | • Mary Jacobsen | • Jim & Ann Schubert |
| • Stan Blackwell | • Gwenddyn Jeffers | • Richard Shade |
| • Ginger Blalock | • Jerry Krampota | • Brett Shumaker |
| • Rivkah Cohen | • Carolyn & Peter Lombard | • Barbara Sieberhausen |
| • Kay Dansby | • Paula Lee Long | • Steve Smith |
| • Teena Edwards | • Trigg Lupher | • Cliff Sorge |
| • Stephen Garner | • Missy McAllister-Kerr | • Danny Spoerl |
| • James Goodwyne | • Bruce & Nancy McClure | • Sandy Strack |
| • Catherine & Bob Guthrie | • Carmon McEachern | • Joe & Sharon Vannucci |
| • Bob & Cecilia Harrison | • Jacob McKiinne | • Sotzen Vicki |
| • Polly A. Harville | • Beverly Moore | • Carrie Walkoviak |
| • Ruth Heino | • Carol C. Moore | • Melissa Winfield |
| • Brian & Karen Hill | • Saundra Ogle | • Bruce D. Woodall |
| • Martha Holt | • M Parchman | • Teril Woodward |

• CG, Hallettsville • JG, Gainesville • CS, Lewisville • DB, Athens • CL, Athens • LB, Kilgore • EP, Lufkin • RF, Lufkin • GC, Nacogdoches • BC, Kerens • CH, Seguin • GH, Boerne • JC, Austin • TM, Athens • LH, Grapevine • TJ, Fort Worth • DM, New Caney • SA, Fort Worth • JB, Joshua • MR, Richardson • CB, LaVernia • BL, Fort Worth • SB, Burleson • DR, Allen • HP, Fort Worth • JS, Burleson • NH, Allen

Board of Directors

President
Executive Committee
Pauline Tom (Mountain City)

Vice President
Exec Committee serves as VP

Treasurer/AP
Executive Committee
Ken Ray (Ovilla)

Secretary
Executive Committee
Pat Nail (Clayton)

Fundraising Auctions
Executive Committee
Benni Konvicka (Stephenville)

Technical Designer
Executive Committee
Rex Reeves (Waxahachie)

Auction Donation Coordinator
Beverly Davis Conroe

Event Speaker Support
Harold Latham (Stephenville)

New Members
Nestbox Construction Coord.
Don Lawrence (Whitesboro)

Nestbox Transportation
Norm Shoemaker (Garrison)

Contact Us:

tbs@txblues.org
PO Box 40868
Austin, TX 78704
512.268.5678 (Pauline)

www.txblues.org



Next TBS Event

AUG 8, 2015
at
Brazos County Expo
Bryan, TX

Details in upcoming newsletters.

New Changes In Event Planning Schedule

Summer Symposium 2014 was the last semi-annual TBS event. In order to conserve human resources, the Board recently decided to make the transition to one event per year. In other words, our dedicated volunteers are working way too hard. The amount of time and effort it takes to organize and execute events as large, and successful as ours have been, is HUGE!

The next event, the Summer Symposium, will be held on August 8, 2015 at Brazos County Expo in Bryan, Texas. Of course, upcoming newsletters will contain location and lodging details and registration information. The TBS website will have information as the date approaches.

TBS has determined holding an annual Kick-off meeting in the spring will best meet the needs of our members, therefore the annual event will be held in the early spring. This decision eliminates the Summer Symposium in 2016.

Please make plans to join us at our annual events!

**All cavity-nesting birds are protected by federal law.
Do not disturb birds or nest. Monitor and report to NestWatch.**



Need Nestboxes?

Go to www.txblues.org
click *Nestbox Distributor*
tab for nearest location



The Texas Bluebird Society
newsletter, *TX Blues*,
is published four times a year:
March ■ May ■ July ■ October
Debbie Bradshaw Park, Editor

Send street or email address
changes to John Park at:
records@txblues.org
or send to our P.O. Box.