

Spring 2023
JUNE 2023

The Fledgling

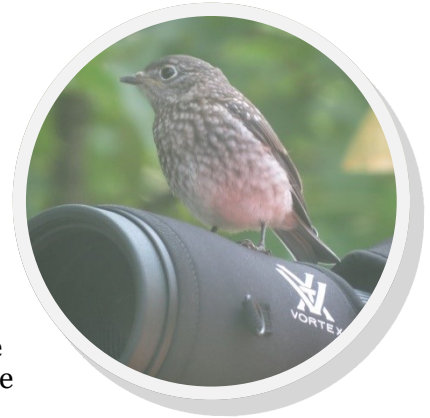
The official Newsletter of the Missouri Bluebird Society



The Missouri Bluebird Society is an Affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society

Letter from the President:

It is late Spring in Missouri and summer is just around the corner. So is the 2023 Missouri Bluebird Conference! Much of this issue is dedicated to conference information, and there is still too much conference news to squeeze it all in here. So be sure to watch our Facebook page and website and watch for the occasional email as we share more updates.



Do take time to note a few time-sensitive matters in the newsletter on **Page 2: Complete and mail your Conference Registration by June 23rd to be eligible to WIN over \$100.00 in Premium Bird Food!** Also we'd love to see YOUR cavity nester pics on the "Big Screen" at the Friday night Banquet, so please email those to me (see instructions on page 2) for the "Bluebirds and Friends" slide show.

I want to Thank MOBS' Nesting Data chair, Greg Samuel for an exceptional **2022 Nesting Data Report** included with this issue. Greg always does a great job and this season is no exception. Please take time to look over the data Greg has compiled and PLEASE mail or enter online your nesting data at the end of the 2023 season.

THANK YOU to our Speakers at the upcoming Conference! We have a great line up with very interesting topics. Education is a major part of MOBS mission and this year's Presenters certainly help fulfill that.

There is a special note from me and Regina on Page 7: please read that and consider it carefully.

I am looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones at the Conference!

*Do what you can
to help the Bluebirds,
Steve Garr, MOBS president*



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Would you prefer to receive your copy of *The Fledgling* "Email Only" ?
Send an email to the Editor at: regina@birds-i-view.biz
Specify your name and "Email Only Fledgling"
In the subject line.



MOBS
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Missouri Bluebird Society 2023 Officers & Board of Directors

President....Steve Garr steve@birds-i-view.biz 573-638-2473

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Secretary & Fledgling Editor...Regina Garr regina@birds-i-view.biz 573-638-2473

Treasurer...currently vacant (MOBS needs you!)

Board Member....Jim Rathert jim@jimrathert.com

Board Member....Bob Siemer AEE623@prodigy.net Board Member ...Ann Earley AEE623@prodigy.net

MOBS Grant Box Program Ambassador.... Jack Corrigan wgs84@jackquest.com

MOBS Webmaster ..Ann Smith thesmiths91@yahoo.com 636-629-8267

Reminder about the “Bluebirds and Friends” slide show!

Don't forget to choose your favorite pics of YOUR birds and email them to Steve (JPG format only please to : steve@birds-i-view.biz) for inclusion in the Bluebirds and Friends slide show at the Bluebird Conference. This is always such a fun part of the conference– to see everyone's birds and pictures “on the Big Screen” as we enjoy each other's company! Please email a **Maximum of FIVE images** to Steve at steve@birds-i-view.biz. Please only include **Cavity-nesting species (Native cavity-nesters please)**. And pics of you and your nest boxes and trails would be great too! (*Compressed images are always appreciated to ease downloading them– thanks*). **Deadline to email: 7/5/23** Sorry, after that we just won't have time to incorporate them into the slide show.

Look for these pics at the 2023 “Bluebirds and Friends” slide show at the conference...**have you emailed Steve YOUR pics yet??** See info and details above.



Photo by Steve Garr. Fledgling Bluebird on Scope!



Above: photo by Norm and Beth Stucky (Prothonotary Warbler Eggs at Mockingbird Hill in Jefferson City)



Photo by Cheryl Taylor. MOBS member Ron Darling helps to start a new Bluebird Trail on yet another golf course!

Conference Dessert/Snack Reminder: We are really looking forward to all of the good information on Bluebirds and other birds at this year's conference.....however, we ALWAYS look forward to the snacks our members bring, too! We do SO appreciate your help with this -plus it is fun! **Please bring your desserts to the Friday Banquet or Saturday Morning before the conference** “welcome” and programs.



How You could WIN over \$100.00 in Premium Bird Food:



- 1. Go to Page 4 of this newsletter**
- 2. Complete the Registration Form to attend the 2023 Missouri Bluebird Conference**
- 3. Mail in the form with payment by June 23rd**
- 4. You'll be entered to Win over \$100 in Bird Food!**

Product will be delivered to the conference July 14th or 15th ONLY. You will be notified prior to the conference if you are the Winner!
(Premium Seed + Suet + Cylinder Seed Cake)

2023 Missouri Bluebird Conference

July 14th – 16th 2023 Jefferson City, MO
Lincoln University Carver Farm



Featuring:



Nadia Navarrete-Tindall presents

“Native Edibles for People and Bluebirds”.

Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall is a Lincoln University associate professor, leader of the Cooperative Extension Specialty Crops/Native Plants Program, and a *Grow Native!* advisor. She also created Lincoln’s “FINCA Project” (Families Integrating Nature, Conservation, and Agriculture).



Bob and Judy Peak have managed over 200 nest boxes for the past 34 years and have kept exceptional records on their trails. To date, these trails have produced **over 40,000 Eastern Bluebirds** and over three thousand fledglings of **seven other native species**. Bob’s program “**Curiosities Discovered along the Bluebird Trail**” is sure to be educational AND fun!

Ivan Ray Miller shares his knowledge and decades of experience. Ivan hosted **142 pair** of nesting Purple Martins at his home during the 2022 nesting season, as well as many other native cavity-nesting birds. He’ll present : “**Magical Martins—More than just Purple!**”



“**Bluebird Basics**” is always one of our most requested programs. Designed for everyday bluebirders whether you monitor one box or have a nest box trail. Solid information and recommendations for every Bluebird enthusiast. **Presented by Jack Corrigan**, MDC Resource Management Technician, Burr Oak Woods Nature Center Volunteer, and a certified Missouri Master Naturalist.

Jack Corrigan



Malissa Briggler is our speaker for the **Friday Evening Banquet**. She is the State Botanist with the Missouri Department of Conservation and she is also the President of the Mid-MO chapter of the Missouri Mycological Society. She will be sharing information about the magical world of **Mushrooms** and teaching us to identify some varieties!



And of course: Our Annual **Saturday evening Picnic** and **Sunday morning field trip** will be time spent together at the one and only “**Mockingbird Hill**” for food, friendship, and bird walks!

Lincoln University’s George Washington Carver Farm, 3804 Bald Hill Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Directions: go to: <http://www.lincolnu.edu/web/cooperative-research/carver-farm-directions>

Contact Steve & Regina Garr at 573-638-2473 or steve@birds-i-view.biz for conference information

Conference Hotel Options:

Best Western Plus Capital Inn 573-635-4175 1937 Christy Drive Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Holiday Inn and Suites 573-658-9077 1590 Jefferson Street Jefferson City, MO 65109

Travelodge by Wyndham 573-415-0241 1710 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65109

All three Hotels are centrally located to all conference events and are within .70 mile of each other despite different zip codes!

The Missouri Bluebird Society invites you attend the
2023 Missouri Bluebird Conference
July 14th– 16th

Lincoln University's Carver Farm, 3804 Bald Hill Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65101
 and Mockingbird Hill, 3215 Zion Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65109

See Conference Brochure for directions For Conference info: Contact Steve and Regina: 573-638-2473

Registration for the 2023 Missouri Bluebird Society Conference

Please make Checks payable to: The Missouri Bluebird Society

*And mail to: Missouri Bluebird Society/ P.O. BOX 105830 /Jefferson City, MO 65110 **Deadline to register 7/5/23***

Name(s) _____

Street Address : _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone Number _____ Email : _____

July 15th, Saturday Morning Conference and Lunch (LU Carver Farm) Registration Fees:

Included in your Saturday Morning Conference Registration Fee: Boxed Lunch on Saturday, July 15th, a "Bluebird Information Packet" all Saturday Presentations, (Saturday's Lunch will include drink, dessert, a variety of sandwiches including vegetarian options. **If you would prefer a vegetarian meal for lunch, Please list number requested here: _____**. No other advance reservations are required for Lunch on Saturday)

Number of Missouri Bluebird Society **Members** attending July 15th Programs/Lunch at Carver Farm
 _____ people X \$20.00/person = \$ _____

Number of Non-members attending July 15th Programs /Lunch at Carver Fam:
 _____ people X \$25.00/person = \$ _____

Number of Children **under 12** years of age attending **with a paid adult** X\$13.00/per child = \$ _____

An OPTIONAL Friday Evening "Bluebird Banquet" & Social is scheduled for July 14, 2023

If you would prefer a Vegetarian Meal for Friday Dinner, Please list number requested **HERE** _____

Number of Members attending the Friday Dinner and Social: _____ X \$30.00 /person = \$ _____

Number of Non-members attending the Friday Dinner and Social: _____ X \$35.00/person = \$ _____

Friday's Banquet will include a delicious catered buffet, an informative Program and the "Bluebirds and Friends" slide show!

Saturday Evening Picnic and Social at the lovely Mockingbird Hill!

Number attending the Saturday Evening Picnic (members or non-members) _____ X \$5.00/person = \$ _____
 (Sunday, July 16th Morning Bird Walk/gathering at Mockingbird Hill - No Additional charge)

TOTAL amount enclosed for all Conference Fees \$ _____

Please Note that the conference registration fee does NOT include membership dues

Not yet a Missouri Bluebird Society Member???

Join now and save on your Bluebird Conference Registration Fee! (Please enclose check for dues with this membership application)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Membership Levels:

(Mail check to: PO Box 105830/Jefferson City, MO 65110)

- _____ Individual one year membership \$9.00
- _____ Individual two year membership \$16.00
- _____ Family one year membership \$15.00
- _____ Family two year membership \$28.00
- _____ DONOR (Annual) \$50.00
- _____ SUPPORTER (Annual) \$100.00
- _____ **Life Membership (family) \$175.00**
- _____ **Senior (65+) Life Membership (family) \$100.00**

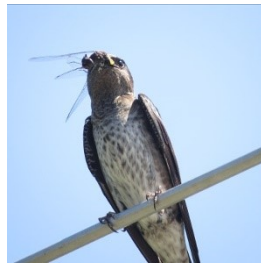
County _____

Thank you

Ivan Ray Miller Family for a wonderful 2023 Open House!

Each June MOBS member Ivan Ray Miller and his family graciously open their beautiful farm in Jamesport to visitors for one special day to share the excitement and joy of their 142 pair Purple Martin Colony (Along with their MANY other species of wildlife...including Bluebirds, of course!). Folks come from all over to attend this event and for good reason: the Millers are such gracious hosts and have made a special effort to make this an educational event. Ivan makes it a point to lower houses and gourds from his Martin colony throughout the day so visitors may see nests, eggs and nestlings.

Join us at the 2023 Missouri Bluebird Conference to hear Ivan's presentation:
“Magical Martins: More than just Purple!”



Above: Martin Eggs and Nestlings



And... Purple Martins are not the only birds to make their home at the Miller home:



During their 2023 Open House the Miller's tallied TWELVE different species of birds nesting in their yard!



Don't miss: ***“Curiosities Discovered along the Bluebird Trail”*** by Bob and Judy Peak at the 2023 Bluebird Conference. The Peaks will share some of the unusual things they have observed and experienced over the course of **three decades** of bluebirding in western Kentucky. Their 200+ box trail, and the Peak's very thorough annual reports, have been a great source of information for bluebirders everywhere! Bob and Judy have been supportive MOBS members since 2011 and we appreciate them.



Hudsonian Godwit

Photo by Peter Monacell

Mockingbird Hill is having a WONDERFUL bird year...come see! Join us for the picnic on Saturday (7/15) and Field trip on Sunday morning (7/16). From Orioles to nesting Prothonotary warblers to their busy Purple Martin colony and of course Bluebirds....Norm and Beth Stucky's special place is alive with beautiful birds. A recent SPECIAL treat at the Stucky wetland area: A **Hudsonian Godwit** (pictured left) stopped by and the leg band (legible from the pic taken by Pete Monacell) revealed that this bird had been banded in CHILE in November of 2022! You never know what might pop up at Mockingbird Hill.



Prothonotary Warblers

Congratulations to Bluebirds Across Nebraska for 30 years of Conservation!



Above: President Sandy Seibert addresses the group at BAN's 30th Annual conference!

In April our good friends at BAN celebrated their 30 year anniversary as an organization. Our hearty Congrats to them! MOBS board members Ann Earley and Bob Siemer were part of the great line-up of speakers during the conference. It was a wonderful, educational and fun conference. Great job BAN!



Above: Ann Earley presenting on the importance of Native Plants. Below: Bluebirds nesting in Platte River State Park!



Author/Photographer Stan Tekiela presented "Captivating Bluebirds" and "Feathers: a beautiful look at a bird's most unique feature" at the conference. They were terrific programs of course!

Right: Bluebirds Across Nebraska honors the team of Steve and Cheryl Eno, co-founders of BAN, with an Award (sporting the words "The Wind beneath our Wings"!).



Protect nest boxes from excessive Heat *by Steve Garr*

It is a good idea (especially in Missouri!) to have some ready-to-assemble and install oversized roofs to quickly place on active boxes when temps suddenly turn extremely hot.

Things to consider when you are installing a double roof: Try to shade as much of the nest box as possible. An air gap between the two roofs of at least a quarter of an inch will make a huge difference on a 90+ degree day in full sun. The spacers can be made out of washers, machine nuts, strips of wood, and other items. Simply attach the oversized roof to the existing roof with screws inserted through the wood from the top, through spacers, and into the existing roof. (this might take more than two hands!)



Above:
An infrared thermometer can be a valuable tool to determine the temp inside a nest box.

Extended Roof Materials List

- Thin wood approx 18 x 24 inches
- 6 spacers 1/2 inch (spacers can be made from rigid tubing or pieces of wood)
- 6 screws 1 to 1 1/2 inches long (the length of the screws depends on the thickness of the roof).
- The extra roof needs to be installed where it blocks most of the afternoon sun and has air flow between the two roofs.

The same techniques for attaching can be applied to mounting **Aluminum Reflective panels to boxes:**

Aluminum side panels are attached with screws

and spacers.

Cut the aluminum sheets to match the sides, use four spacers per side to allow air flow between the side and the aluminum.

Aluminum siding cut to fit

**4 spacers, 1/2 inches long per side
and 4 screws, 1 to 1 1/2 inch long**

Better protection—and a little planning—often means more Bluebirds.

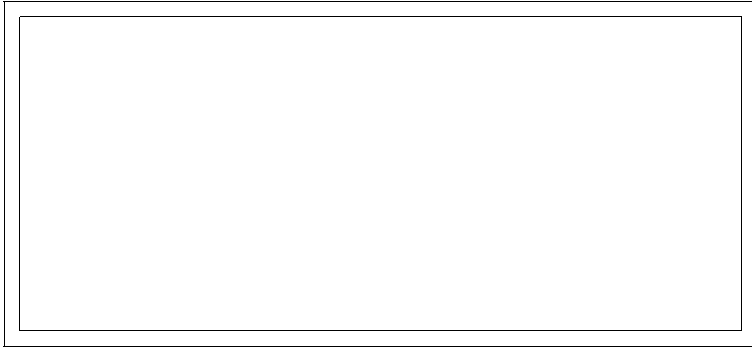


A Note from Steve and Regina Garr

Dear Friends,

*As most of you know, we were SO appreciative when member Carol Ware stepped up to take the place of our former treasurer when family duties called Mary List away after several years of service in the Treasurer position. However, very shortly after Carol accepted the position she suffered a stroke. While improving well she is of course not able to continue as treasurer and needs to concentrate on her health. **MOBS has now been without a Treasurer for a very long time...** Ladies and Gentlemen, we need someone to take this position. **Please consider serving.** The position is set up so that almost anyone in the state could serve. **This is not a complicated position but it is indeed a vital one for our Society.** Please contact Steve or Regina at 573-638-2473 or steve@birds-i-view.biz if you are willing to serve or would like more information.*

www.missouribluebird.org



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The Fledgling 2023 Spring Issue ***Bluebird Conference Registration!***

- July 2023 Bluebird conference info & MORE details enclosed
- **Preventing overheated Nest Boxes**
- MOBS Member Bird Pics
- **Bluebirds Across Nebraska Celebrates 30 Years of Conservation. Congratulations to our Friends!**
- **2022 Nesting Data Report:**
find out what happened!



Photo by Steve Garr

2023 Missouri Bluebird Conference
Brochure & Registration Form Enclosed!