

Winter 2016

February 2016

The Fledgling

The official Newsletter of the Missouri Bluebird Society



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

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(See even more details about this report on line at www.missouribbluebird.org)

Letter from the President

Is it nesting time again? Well the Bluebirds sure act like it on a sunny day! We have had Bluebirds start nesting in mid-February before—maybe this will be one of those unusual years when they start nesting very early. Who knows? Some Missouri bluebirders may even get to report four clutches from a single nesting pair on their nest box report this year. Well, as exciting as an early start to nesting season can be, it certainly does present its share of problems as well. Unpredictable and inconsistent temperatures, and undependable food supplies for instance. Seems there is always a good reason to keep a close eye on our Bluebirds and that's OK with me! If it could be time for the bluebirds to start nesting, then it is **also** time for me to remove winter droppings in the nest boxes and do final repair on my boxes. In case I do get some early nests, I need to be prepared to winterize any boxes that I have not already "readied" for cold, late winter/ early spring nights. Giving some consideration to these things now can go along way towards keeping the Bluebirds safe if they choose to begin nesting before the weather wants to cooperate with them!



Photo by Steve Garr

Please take a look at the information on the 2016 Missouri Bluebird Conference. **It is our Ten Year Anniversary!** Congratulations MOBS members! I do hope you can come and celebrate with us, right here in Jefferson City where it all started back in 2006. We are so **honored** that our special friend **Keith Kridler** (our keynote speaker at the very first Missouri Bluebird conference in 2006!) is returning to speak to us again. Keith's bluebird expertise is respected across the US and Canada and for good reason. And I want to thank our other two featured speakers, Dr **David Pitts** and **Jerry Bahls** for their time and effort in coming so far to speak to us as well! David Pitts has been a dear friend for decades and a wealth of bluebird knowledge (and now hummingbirds too!). I can't wait to see him again. I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know Jerry Bahls, our speaker on Red-headed Woodpeckers. Jerry is a founding member of the Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery program and bound to be an inspiration to us all. And let's not forget our terrific field trip and wiener roast hosts, Norm and Beth Stucky. For those of you who visited their beautiful farm in 2014, you know what a spectacular place it is.

Go ahead and send in your registration now—you know you want to attend! I'll be looking forward to seeing you there.

Do what you can to help the Bluebirds,

Steve Garr, MOBS president

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

PO BOX 105830

Jefferson City, MO 65110

www.missouribbluebird.org

Missouri Bluebird Society 2015 / 2016 Officers & Board of Directors

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

Vice- President... Larry Dobson lldobson@aol.com 816-331-2888

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

Treasurer...Susan Reinagel suzreinagel@yahoo.com **Board Member.....Jim Rathert** jim@jimrathert.com

Board Member....Steve Smith sws582003@yahoo.com 636-629-8267

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

You are Invited!

Saturday, March 19th 11:30 am—2:30 pm
MOBS Nest Box and Baffle-building Workshop!

512 Ellis Blvd, Jefferson City, Missouri 573-638-2473



As MOBS members we can all be very proud of the Society's two "Grant Programs" :

1. Our "Nest Box Grant Program" (providing Boxes, poles and baffles on a matching basis for new or existing trails on public properties)
2. Our "Save the Clutch" Grant Program (providing metal poles and baffles for public trails willing to take existing nest boxes OFF of trees and get them to the safety of metal poles with proper predator baffles.)

These are two programs making a real difference for native cavity –nesting birds in Missouri.

So, how do great programs like these happen? Well....wonderful volunteers get together and donate their time to build the nest boxes and baffles needed to provide for grants! Our nest box supply is getting low now and we are completely out of baffles, so MOBS could use your help. Help us stock up so we are ready for our next Grant Program applicants. **Please join us on Saturday, March 19th at 11:30 am for the next MOBS Workshop!**

Please RSVP to Steve or Regina at 573-638-2473 or steve@birds-i-view.biz if you plan to come and give us a hand at the workshop. (We need to plan for snacks, coffee, and water)



← Left and Right →
 MOBS members build Baffles to provide for the Nest Box Grant Program and the "Save the Clutch" Grant Program.



The following individuals have either renewed their membership or joined as new members since the last issue of ***The Fledgling***. We WELCOME our new members and THANK our renewing members for their continued support!

John Bursewicz, Pete and Ginny Culver, Jan and Joe Forneris, Rene Gadino, Carol Ware, Maida Worland, Larry and Sharon Bedford, Sheldon Lackey, Bill Mees, Dudley Pautz, Jeanne Russell, Norm and Beth Stucky, Chuck and Connie Clark, Tom and Peg Comfort, Donald Dick, Gloria Flottmann, Celeste Koon, Paul and Donna Richardson, Steve and Ann Smith, David Warren, Charles and Sheryl Wright, Lynn McClamroch, James and Carole Peterson

New Life Member: Susan Dyer, Lee's Summit, MO

Recent Donor Membership: Ken and Ann Littlefield, Jefferson City, MO



Memorial Donations:

Leslie Smith made two recent generous donations to the Missouri Bluebird Society in memory of **David Smith**.

MOBS appreciates your thoughtfulness!

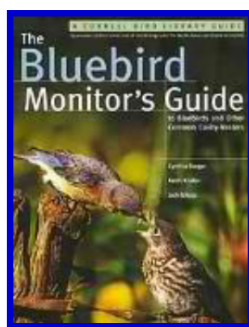


June 10-12th, 2016

The 2016 Missouri Bluebird Conference

at the spacious meeting facilities of the
George Washington Carver Farm, Lincoln University
3804 Bald Hill Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Come help us celebrate the
10 Year Anniversary of the Missouri Bluebird Society!
The 2016 Missouri Bluebird Conference will feature:

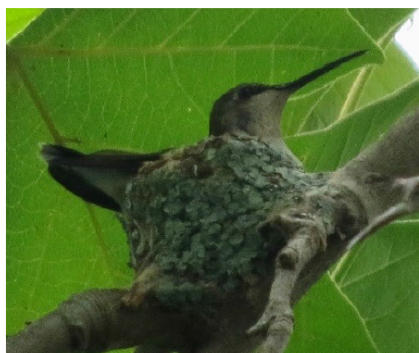


Keith Kridler

Co-author of the
Bluebird Monitor's Guide
and Nationally recognized Bluebird
expert. Keith was our Keynote speaker
at the very first Missouri Bluebird
Conference in 2006, and we are



honored and thrilled he will join us on the Ten Year Anniversary of the Society in 2016.



David Pitts (Author of **Studying Eastern Bluebirds: a Biologists Report and Reflections**,) is also a Hummingbird Expert! Dr. Pitts has personally located 100 **hummingbird nests** and in addition to presenting a top notch program on Hummers for us, he has generously offered to lead us on a **"Hunt for Hummingbird Nests" Field Trip!** (We have a special place all lined up). You won't want to miss this very special Program & Field Trip !

Jerry Bahls, an officer and founding member of the **"Red-headed Woodpecker Recovery"** organization will be here to share the most current and well-researched information about Red-headed Woodpeckers and their habitat. Red-headed Woodpecker populations have been in decline since the 1960s. They are a beautiful and important "primary cavity-nester" and as such they are of special interest to the Missouri Bluebird Society. Come learn more about how to help this wonderful species! www.redheadrecovery.org



The Missouri Bluebird Society invites you attend the
2016 Missouri Bluebird Conference June 10th—12th
Celebrating the Ten Year Anniversary of the Missouri Bluebird Society!

Lincoln University's George Washington Carver Farm, 3804 Bald Hill Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101
See our website for Map & Directions or go to: <http://www.lincolnu.edu/web/cooperative-research/carver-farm-directions>

Call Steve & Regina Garr at 573-638-2473 for conference information

Registration for the 2016 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: May 31, 2016**

Name(s) _____

Street Address : _____

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

Phone Number _____ **Email :** _____

Included in your Conference Registration Fee: Lunch on Saturday, June 11th, a "Bluebird Information Packet", all Saturday Presentations, as well as the Saturday evening wiener roast and the Sunday morning Field trip to the Stucky Farm to "Hunt for Hummingbird nests!"

(Lunch will be a pot luck by MOBS members and will include a variety of dishes, including vegetarian options.

No advance reservations are required for Lunch aside from your paid Conference Registration)

• **Conference Registration Fees:**

Number of Missouri Bluebird Society **Members** attending _____ X \$18.00/person = \$ _____

Number of Non-members attending: 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 Dinner & Social is scheduled for June 10, 2016**

Number of Members attending the Friday Dinner and Social: _____ X \$20.00 if also attending Saturday = \$ _____

OR: _____ X \$28.00 if ONLY attending Friday Dinner = \$ _____

Number of Non-members attending the Friday Dinner and Social: _____ X \$30.00 = \$ _____

(There will be a special Program during dinner, PLUS the annual "Bluebirds & Friends" slide show presentation.)

• **Saturday Evening Wiener Roast** : No Additional Charge (with your paid conference registration) however it is **very important** to register to attend. Number attending: _____

TOTAL amount enclosed for Conference Fees/optional Friday Dinner:.. \$ _____

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 _____

Email: _____

Total \$ amount enclosed for Membership Dues: \$ _____

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

_____ **NEW Life Membership (family) \$175.00**

County _____

2016 Missouri Bluebird Conference

June 10th—12th Tentative Schedule



Friday, June 10, 2016 Bluebird Banquet! Lincoln University, Carver Farm bldg

6:00 pm...arrive for Social Time (may also pick up conference packets/Name Tags)

6:30 pm..."Bluebird Banquet" Dinner with "Bluebirds and Friends" slide show

Saturday, June 11, 2016 LU Carver Farm, Bald Hill Road, Jefferson City, MO

8:15-9:00 am....Pick up conference Packets & Name Tags! (drop off any dishes, desserts or snacks you may have made for the conference)

9:00 am.....Welcome by MOBS President, Steve Garr
and Missouri Bluebird Society Annual Meeting and Elections

9:30– Noon.....Program Speakers (and Auction/Raffle
and Bluebirder Fellowship!)

12:00– 1:15 pm...LUNCH! (and Auction/Raffle/ Fellowship)

1:30-3:30Program Speakers

3:30–4:00 pm....Break (place final bids on Auction)

4:30-5:15 pm.....Pick up and Pay for Auction/Raffle items

5:30pm.....break down and exit conference site

7:00 pm....Saturday evening Social: Wiener Roast at the beautiful farm of Norm and Beth Stucky!! (included in conf. registration fee)



*Please Note: Hotel Options and
Discount Rates are forthcoming.
We'll keep you posted!*

Sunday, June 12th 2016 Mockingbird Hill, Jefferson City, MO

8:30– 11:00 am ... "Hunt for Hummingbird Nests" Field Trip (led by Dr. David Pitts) PLUS Wildlife viewing GALORE! The spectacular Wildlife habitat on the properties of Norm and Beth Stucky is a special example of what can be accomplished by conservation-minded property-owners.

MOBS Members: How can you help make a Successful & Fun conference?

Contact our Raffle/Silent Auction Chair Larry Dobson, about bringing items for the Raffle/ Auction. This is our organization's largest source of income for the year, so contributions are appreciated! This helps to fund the next Bluebird Conference. **Contact Larry at : 816-331-2888 or lldobson@aol.com.** If you need to send Raffle/Auction items ahead of time for the conference please make arrangements with Larry. Please take time to fill out this form and send it Larry, or email him the information about your Contributions to the Silent Auction. **Larry Dobson/P.O. Box 347/ Raymore, MO 64083**

NAME _____ **Phone:** _____

Complete address : _____

Raffle/Auction item descriptions AND approx. value of each item: _____



The 2015 Nesting report was compiled and prepared by our Nest Box /Trail Data Chair Greg Samuel. He did a wonderful job! See Greg's complete report and analysis on the MOBS website: www.missouribbluebird.org

Missouri Bluebird Society 2015 Nesting Report

Species	Total Number of Nesting Attempts	Total Number of Successful Nests	Successful Nesting Percentage	Number of Eggs	Number of Chicks	Hatch Percentage	Total Number Of Fledged	Fledged Percentage
Eastern Bluebird (EABL)	552	438	79%	2,261	1,893	84%	1,773	94%
Black-capped Chickadee (BCCH)	13	10	77%	75	59	79%	54	92%
Carolina Chickadee (CACH)	15	12	80%	76	66	87%	66	100%
Tree Swallow (TRES)	149	116	78%	713	624	88%	543	87%
Tufted Titmouse (TUTI)	5	4	80%	20	20	100%	20	100%
Prothonotary Warbler (PROW)	15	12	80%	67	57	85%	54	95%
House Wren (HOWR)	83	37	45%	211	196	93%	193	98%
Bewick's Wren (BEWR)	5	5	100%	21	18	86%	11	61%
Carolina Wren (CARW)	1	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0%
Purple Martin (PUMA)	135	127	94%	639	542	85%	478	88%
North Flicker (NOFL)	3	3	100%	15	15	100%	15	100%
White-breasted Nuthatch (WBNU)	1	0	0%	8	0	0%	0	0%
Wood Duck (WODU)	3	3	100%	22	20	91%	20	100%
Eastern Phoebe (EAPH)	4	4	100%	16	15	94%	15	100%
American Robin (AMRO)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great-crested Flycatcher (GCFL)	1	1	100%	4	4	100%	4	100%
Barn Swallow (BARS)	21	20	95%	109	101	93%	92	92%
Brown-headed Cowbird (BHCO)	1	0	0%	3	0	0%	0	0%
House Sparrow (HOSP)	153	2	.013%	162	18	.11%	8	45%
European Starling (EUST)	5	0	0%	7	0	0%	0	0%
Number of Boxes Reporting	Year: 2015							
Total Number of Boxes	692	68% Used	235 Increased	From 2014				
Total Number of Boxes Used	218	32% Unused						
Total Number of Nesting Reports	Year: 2015	28	8 more than 2014					
Eastern Bluebird Data Only	Year: 2015		Other Songbird					
Nesting Attempts	552		454					
Successful Nests	438		354					
Eggs Laid	2,261		1,996					
Chicks Hatched	1,893		1,737					
Chicks Fledged	1,773		1,565					
Average number of eggs per nest	4.1		4.4					
Number of white eggs noted	8+		N/A					
Number of white eggs hatched	N/A		N/A					
Number of white eggs fledged	N/A		N/A					



Missouri Bluebird Society 2015 Nesting Report

[illegible]

Is it time to Renew your MOBS Membership? Memberships expire on December 31st of the year of expiration. **Check your mailing label to see if you need to renew.** Please mail your renewal form, along with your check or money order (payable to **MOBS**) to: **Missouri Bluebird Society/ P.O. Box 105830/ Jefferson City, MO 65110**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ city/state _____ Zip _____

County: _____ Email: _____

il: _____
Membership Levels:

Membership Levels:

Individual one year membership	\$9.00	___	DONOR (Annual)	\$50.00
Individual two year membership	\$16.00	___	SUPPORTER (Annual)	\$100.00
*Family one year membership	\$15.00			
*Family two year membership	\$28.00			

*For individuals residing at the same address

***Family LIFE Membership**

How many nest boxes do you monitor? _____
How long have you been a Bluebird? _____

www.missouribluebird.org



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P.O. BOX 105830
Jefferson City, MO 65110

Bluebird Conference
Registration Form Enclosed!
It's our Ten Year Anniversary!!

The Fledgling 2016 Winter Issue

- June 2016 Bluebird Conference info
AND Registration Form!
- **The 2015 Nesting Report!**
How did the season go?
- **Nest Box and Baffle –building Workshop**
- Do you present programs about birds? MOBS has terrific brochures we can send you to use for your programs.
....just ask us!

Pictured Right: January 11, 2016, a male Pileated Woodpecker investigates a Red-bellied Woodpecker nest box in our suburban yard...note the SNOW on the roof of the nest box! Photo by Steve Garr

