

Winter 2018 Edition



Photo by Don Hazel

Tennessee Bluebird Society
Honor Roll
(Life Time Members)

- Margaret Beasley
- Sue Bradley
- Stan & Linda Colburn
- Chuck & Cecelia Cruickshank
- Mary Cushman
- Kathy Dooley
- Raymond Dunavant
- Chuck & Terry James
- Rosalind & George Kurita
- John Langley
- Mort Massey
- Farrell & Jane Roe
- Jerry & Dianna Rysticken
- Donald Turner
- Joanne Watson
- Dr. Heather Wilkins

Interested in becoming a Tennessee Bluebird Society Life Time Member? For more details see the application on the last page of this newsletter.

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BLUEBIRD QUOTES

The Bluebird is a Cut Above all others. He seeks nothing in return for his superior being. For his unique color and personality he ask not for special favors. He appreciates your admiration and thanks you for your help. The fact, that in his world, you cared for him is the only fact that mattered.

- Wendell Long, 2005



PRESIDENT'S LETTER CHUCK CRUICKSHANK



Hello members of the Tennessee Bluebird Society. We had another busy and productive year in 2018!

First, let me thank all the Tennessee Bluebird Society Board of Directors members for their service and dedication. Without your volunteer activities to move our agenda forward, we would not have the results we'll communicate later in this letter. I would especially like to thank outgoing Board members Stan Colburn and Jerry Rysticken for their unselfish service. They were charter members of your board, and served in various capacities for five years. I'd also like to thank Lou Miller for being our website coordinator and Cecelia Cruickshank for managing our Facebook page. We have nearly 700 Facebook followers from Tennessee and other states who have interest in our activities here in the Volunteer state. I'd also like to thank our corporate sponsors, Wild Birds Unlimited of Knoxville, and the Wood Thrush Shop from Nashville. Please continue to support these retail facilities!

I would like to welcome three new Board of Directors members to our organization.

- Michelle Campanis, Arboretum Education Program Coordinator at the University of Tennessee Arboretum in Oak Ridge

- Peggy Flierl-Vice President of the Cumberland County Bluebird Club and the coordinator of twenty nest-box monitoring teams in the Crossville area.

- John Martin, trainers and team leaders for nest-box trails on golf courses in Cumberland county

On to 2018 results! In addition to our established nest-box trails, new activities can be reported. Last spring, a partnership between the University of Tennessee Arboretum in Oak Ridge, the Oak Ridge Girl Scout Troop, and the Tennessee Bluebird Society led to a new trail at the Arboretum with nearly 20 new nest-boxes. Additional trails and nest boxes were added in Cumberland County. In Loudon County, new nest-boxes were installed on the trail at the Tellico Village Wellness Center. Elton Pierson and the monitors for that trail look forward to good results in 2019.

So what does all that mean?

Well, as you can see from the chart below, the Tennessee Bluebird Society can report an increase in the state over the last three years from 350 to 746 nest-boxes, from 945 to over 2,400 Bluebirds fledged, and from 1,360 to over 3,200 birds from all species fledged. Thanks to all the volunteers this success!



PRESIDENT’S LETTER (cont.)

So where do we go from here? I believe it is important to build on our current success, and continue to add new members, new trails and new trail monitors to help our feathered friends here in Tennessee. This is also a good time for current County Coordinators to promote winter presentations to garden clubs, bird clubs, youth leaders and science teachers. We have many counties who do not currently have coordinators, so that is another opportunity for volunteers to contribute without a huge time demand on your schedule. It’s also a good time as we pause for the winter months to refresh ourselves on the mission of the Tennessee Bluebird Society.

As a reminder here are our goals:

- Interest a new generation in conservation and protecting the Bluebird and other native cavity-nesting birds In Tennessee.
- Have mentors in each county In Tennessee willing to educate groups regarding conservation and the importance of creating a habitat for native cavity-nesting birds.
- Create and maintain nest-box trails throughout the state
- Provide social opportunities to those interested in conservation and protecting our cavity-nesting birds.
- Collect nesting data for research

So let’s celebrate the recent success of the Tennessee Bluebird Society, and diligently work to continue that success for the future.

Happy birding!

Chuck Cruickshank

Bluebird Activity Is Booming in Cumberland County

Four years ago, in 2014 the Cumberland County Bluebird Club monitored 25 nest boxes on one golf course. Eight people took turns monitoring each week and we were real proud of the 90 bluebirds and 59 tree swallows that fledged that year.

But early in 2015 a week long ice storm devastated the bluebird population on the Cumberland Plateau and only 20 bluebirds fledged that year. Since then, we have gradually increased both the number of nest boxes installed and monitored and the resulting bluebird numbers. In 2018, 153 nest boxes produced 427 bluebirds and 125 tree swallows.

We have even bigger plans for 2019. The city of Crossville asked the local Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) to build 50 new nest boxes to be placed in and around the city in honor of naming the bluebird the "Official bird of the City of Crossville". Plus, we have added a new golf course with 12 additional next boxes as well as additions to courses that we already monitor. The total number of boxes monitored in 2019 will be more than 220.

We were proud of our 25 boxes monitored in 2014, and we are just as excited about the six golf courses, a sewage treatment plant, and the cities of Crossville and Pleasant Hill that are on our schedule this year.



Don Hazel is a Tennessee Bluebird Society Board Member and lives in Crossville, TN

Highlights from TN Bluebird Society Annual Meeting - Saturday, November 3, 2018



Event Center UT Arboretum - Location for the TBS Annual Meeting



Members enjoy breakfast and networking prior to start of Annual Meeting



Beautiful setting for the 2018 Annual Meeting



President Chuck Cruickshank welcomes TBS members and presides over 5th Annual Membership Meeting



Artist Nick Farrell and Photographer Becky Boyd brought exceptional offerings for TBS members to enjoy and purchase

Highlights from TN Bluebird Society Annual Meeting - Saturday, November 3, 2018



Fred Robertson offers handmade bluebird nestboxes



President Chuck Cruickshank recognizes outgoing Board members Stan Colburn and Jerry Rysticken



Michelle Campanis, Education Program Director at UT Arboretum, discusses community education



NABS VP Community Relations Jim Burke provides background and update from the national organization



Kevin Hoyt, Director of the Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center, UT Arboretum, welcomes TBS members to the wonderful facility

Highlights from TN Bluebird Society Annual Meeting - Saturday, November 3, 2018



Kirsten Lawing, Seasonal Interpretive Recreationist from Cumberland Mountain State Park, discusses their raptor program and introduces their newest member, a barn owl



TBS program speakers are thanked for their participation



TBS members get up-close and personal with Cumberland Mountain State Park's beautiful barred owl



TBS Board Members (left to right) Fred Robertson, Chuck Cruickshank (President), Kathy Dooley (Treasurer), Chuck James, Michelle Campanis, Don Hazel (Vice President), Joanne Watson, Rosemary Chamberlain (Secretary), John Martin, Jerry Rysticken (outgoing)

Around Tennessee



TBS welcomes Adrianna Nelson, the new Coordinator for Sullivan County, TN. Adrianna is currently a Senior at John S. Battle High School in Bristol, VA and lives in Bristol, TN. She has been interested in birding since the age of 9 and was looking for ways to get involved with bluebirding in particular when she came across the TBS website and saw an opening for a Sullivan County Coordinator. In 2019, she will be making presentations about bluebirds to the local community, one already scheduled in early 2019 for the Bristol Bird Club. She is hoping to set up formal BB trails and establish a monitoring program. Over the holiday season, she has participated in several Audobon bird counts. Upon graduation, she hopes to attend college majoring in Biology.

Don Hazel, presenting a bluebird photo to Crossville City Manager Greg Wood in honor of Crossville naming the bluebird the official bird of the City of Crossville. In addition to just naming the bluebird the official bird, the city has initially installed a total of 20 bluebird nest boxes in three city parks and more will be added next spring.



The TBS Newsletter has a new Editor, Janet McDonald. Janet and her husband, Mark, moved to Fairfield Glade, TN in October 2017. They fell in love with the area about 20 years ago when they came to golf and vacation, purchased their lot in 2008 and built a home 3 years ago. With Don Hazel's help, they put up their first bluebird nestbox at their home in Spring 2018 and had a total of 9 BB babies from 2 nests fledge this season. Mark and Janet began monitoring bluebird boxes on the Dorchester Golf Course in July 2018 and truly enjoy it. Mark and Janet moved to the Crossville area from Frankfort, IN where they had lived for the last 27 years. Janet is originally from Lubbock, TX and she and Mark met in Houston, TX in the early 80's. They just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. Please forward any news items and articles to Janet to be included in future newsletter editions. She can be reached at mjmcdonald@sbcglobal.net or cell 765.650.8084.

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**Tennessee Bluebird Society
Board of Directors**

Eastern Region:

Michelle Campanis - Oak Ridge

Chuck Cruickshank - Loudon

Kathy Dooley - Loudon

Peggy Flierl - Crossville

Don Hazel - Crossville

Chuck James - Loudon

John Martin - Crossville

Central Region:

Rosemary Chamberlain - Dickson

Andy Ecton - Lebanon

Beth Ecton - Lebanon

Rosalind Kurita - Clarksville

Duane Rice - Chapmansboro

Western Region:

Fred Robertson - Collierville

Farrell Roe - Jackson

Stacey Roe - Jackson

Joanne Watson - Collierville

Scientific Advisor: Dawn Wilkins,
PhD, UT Martin

Email: tnsialia@gmail.com

Website: www.tnbluebirdsociety.org

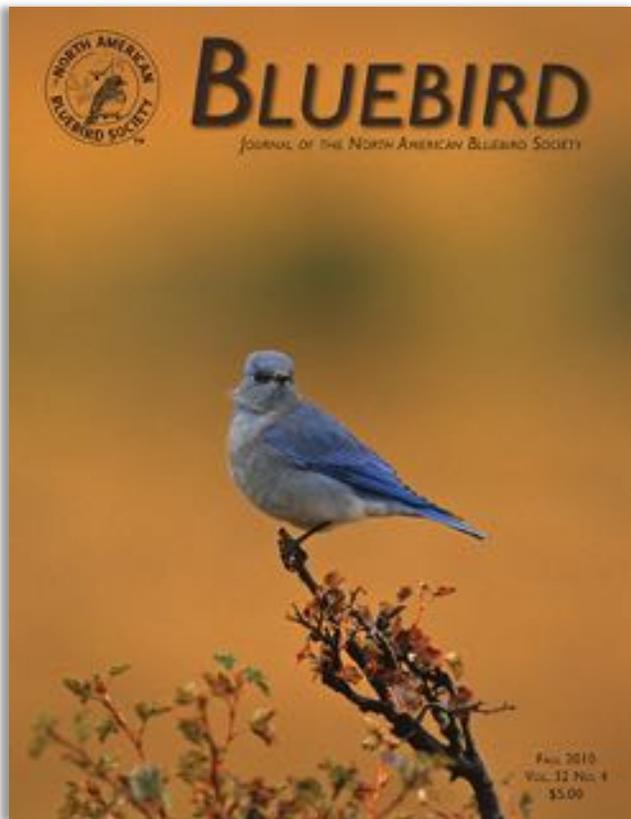
Facebook: Tennessee Bluebird Society

TENNESSEE BLUEBIRD SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Did you know that when you become a member of the Tennessee Bluebird Society there is an additional benefit? Once you become a TBS member, for an additional \$15 you qualify for your first membership into the North American Bluebird Society at a 50% savings. Only \$15 instead of \$30. Fill out the Tennessee Bluebird Society application on the last page of this newsletter. Indicate that you want a TBS Household Membership for \$15.

Then by the NABS circle (Y) and add \$15 for a total of \$30 and send in your application. We will submit your membership to NABS.

In addition to receiving our four TBS newsletters you will receive four issues of Bluebird from the North American Bluebird Society.



Websites
Tennessee Bluebird Society
www.tnbluebirdsociety.org
North American Bluebird Society
www.nabluebirdsociety.org

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TENNESSEE BLUEBIRD SOCIETY APPLICATION

<u>Category</u>	1 Year	3 year	Lifetime
Household	\$15	\$35	\$150
NABS	\$15 (First Time Member with a TBS Membership) \$30 Value		
Corporate	\$150		

Add only \$15 to a household membership and become a member of the North American Bluebird Society a \$30 value. For first time NABS Members. You will receive four issues of The Bluebird Journal of the North American Bluebird Society.

Please send your application and payment to the address at the bottom of this form

Name/ First: _____
 Last: _____
 Organization: _____
 Address/ Street _____ Apt: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 County _____
 Telephone/ Home: _____ Cell: _____

 Email: _____

Membership Type: _____ Amount: _____
 NABS \$15(Y/N) _____
 Total: _____

I have interest in helping the following areas: Newsletter _____,
 Membership _____, Education _____,
 Website Management _____, Data Collection _____,
 Becoming a Board Member of Tennessee Bluebird Society _____

Send your application and check to:
Tennessee Bluebird Society
206 Chota Landing View
Loudon, TN 37774

Website: www.TNBluebirdsociety.org / Email: TNSialia@Gmail.com
 Contact Telephone: (865) 437 -9732