



## Publication

### **Dedicated to Bluebird Enthusiasts**

The Florida Bluebird Society's mission is the conservation and protection of bluebirds and other federally protected cavity nesting bird species in North America. The FBS encourages a collaborative effort from its members and readers to provide information, ideas and articles to help collect and disseminate pertinent and relevant information pertaining to bluebirds in Florida.

The FBS is an affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society.

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Photography courtesy of FBS member Phil Berry

## The Bluebird Clutch Gallery



We would love to fly into your backyard and see pictures of your bluebirds or nesting cavity birds with informative and interesting stories you may have about them.

Please keep pictures to a maximum of 5 for each submission and a short story if you have one. We may have to edit your submission to accommodate space or to complement other newsletter content for that issue.

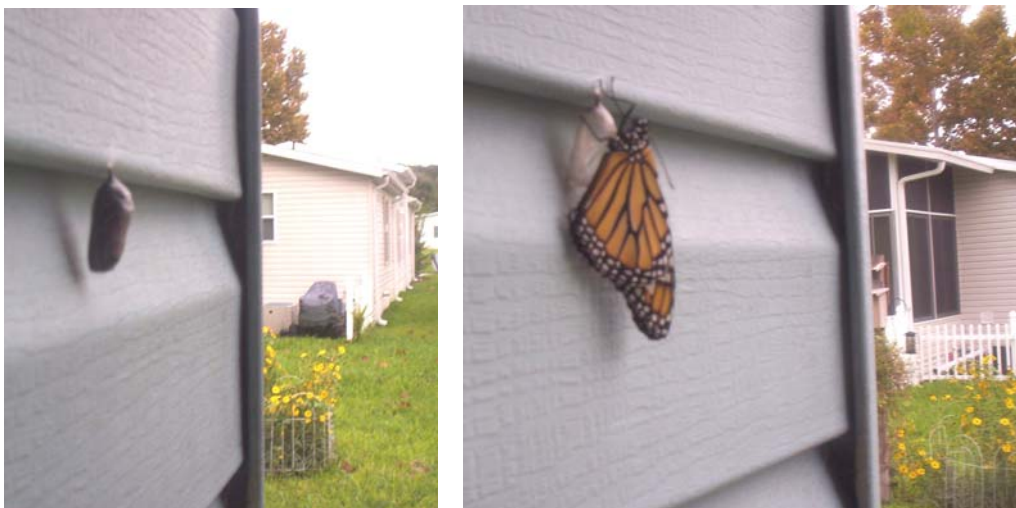
We can use several submissions per monthly issue so we will save multiples received for future issues. Please email your nature pictures and stories to Barbie Arms, FBS Corresponding Secretary at [floridabluebirds@aol.com](mailto:floridabluebirds@aol.com)

### **Monarch Butterfly Waystation in Ocala, Florida**

Monarch Waystation Habitats provide resources necessary for monarchs to produce successive generations and sustain their fall migration. My waystation has many flowering plants that provide nectar for food and milkweed plants on which the monarchs lay their eggs. When the larvae emerge and become a clearly visible caterpillar munching on the milkweed leaves I transfer them to a butterfly net castle to protect from predators. I have a large supply of fresh tender milkweed plants I grow from seeds to keep the castles replenished so the caterpillars will have an ample supply of food. They will eat a large amount of leaves and stalks until they turn into the pupae stage or chrysalis that renders a beautiful monarch in 9-13 days.



Below is a monarch caterpillar that went rogue. While I was gathering the caterpillars from my plants in the yard, one slipped out of the castle and crawled up the side of my shed, where it subsequently built the chrysalis around itself. Initially I was not happy with this unprotected location but as you can see the Monarch butterfly emerged a gorgeous specimen.



The caterpillars will attach to various surfaces where they can hang predominantly on the top of the castle the milkweed plants or pots the plants are growing in. These monarchs below emerged in my castle that is made mostly of a tight netting material except for one plastic side panel for improved viewing. The front of the castle zips closed to protect the caterpillars from other insects and pests. Like clockwork, they emerge mid-morning! I release them after their wings dry (about 2-3 hours) what a sight to see!



This has been an amazing hobby for me but most of all I am helping Monarchs by providing them enough food and shelter from wind, rain and predators. It is so important to help them thrive in a time when pesticides and loss of habitat have become a large problem to maintain their numbers. If you are interested in learning more about this process please email me at [floridabluebirds@aol.com](mailto:floridabluebirds@aol.com)

Barbie Arms, FBS Corresponding Secretary

**Deadline for submissions for the November issue is November 12, 2011**





FLORIDA BLUEBIRD  
SOCIETY'S STATEWIDE

## BLUEBIRD BLITZ

November 18-19, 2011  
[floridabluebirdsociety.com](http://floridabluebirdsociety.com)

### What is a Bluebird Blitz?

A Blitz is a concentrated effort on specific dates to locate as many Eastern Bluebirds in your locale as possible.

### Why a Bluebird Blitz?

The fall Blitz, Nov. 18-19, will help us determine where Bluebirds find food and habitat during non-breeding season. We will also conduct a **Spring Blitz April 13-14, 2012.**

### How do I participate?

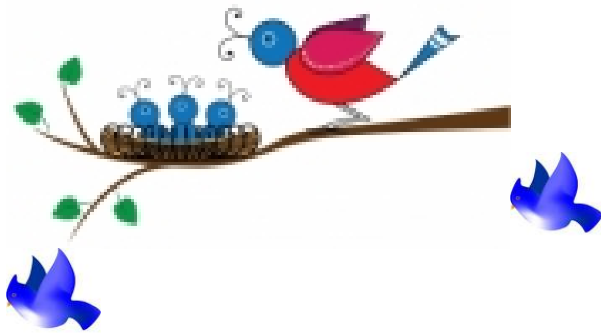
- Go outside on Fri. 11/18 and/or Sat. 11/19 and look for bluebirds
- Record as much as you are able about the bluebirds you see. Location, behavior, sex, age, etc. We also want to know where you looked but did not find bluebirds.
- Download, complete, and submit the Blitz Report form from the FBS web site, [floridabluebirdsociety.com](http://floridabluebirdsociety.com).

**THAT'S IT!** Together we citizen scientists can make a difference in the conservation and protection of Florida's bluebirds!

### Still have questions?

For more information contact Faith at [floridabluebirdsociety@gmail.com](mailto:floridabluebirdsociety@gmail.com).





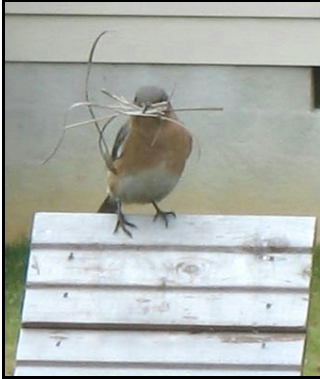
We would like to introduce our new member Karl Miller who serves on our board of directors as “Technical Advisor”.

Dr. Karl Miller is the Lead for Upland Nongame Birds at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Miller has extensive experience working with passerines, woodpeckers, and other cavity-nesting birds. Recent research and monitoring projects have focused primarily on Florida Scrub-Jays and Southeastern American Kestrels. Miller serves on the boards of various professional societies and conservation organizations and also on the Florida Scrub-Jay Recovery Team. Miller received his doctorate from the University of Florida in 2000 after working on nesting success and nest-site selection of a cavity-nesting bird community.



**\*\*Reminder\*\***

If **you** are planning to change **your** email address please inform us and send updates to Barbie at email address [floridabluebirds@aol.com](mailto:floridabluebirds@aol.com)



## Annual Membership

It is now time to renew your annual membership. All memberships expired the month of August, 2011. To streamline our procedures, August is the month for all membership renewals. We offer a number of membership categories, and trust you will find one that fits your budget.

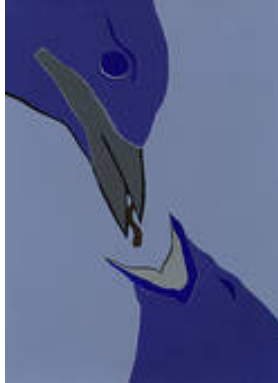
A big THANK YOU to all of you who have already renewed your memberships. We truly appreciate your continued backing. We are especially grateful to those of you who decided to renew at an increased level of support.

If you have not already done so, we ask that you **please renew your membership today!**

<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 Single	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 Student
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00 Life Member
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Mail your check to : Faith Jones, Treasurer  
Florida Bluebird Society  
763 Mallard Drive  
Sanford FL 32771

A membership form is also available on the website  
<http://floridabluebirdsociety.com/> If you have any questions regarding your membership please contact Faith Jones at puffin\_fj@yahoo.com



**Want to communicate with the Florida Bluebird Society, or simply have a bluebird question? Please visit our website**

**Website <http://floridabluebirdsociety.com/>**

**Or**

**Email: [floridabluebirdsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:floridabluebirdsociety@yahoo.com)**

**Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Florida-Bluebird-Society/146994685328275>**

The Florida Bluebird Society is a registered IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICE BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN FLORIDA 800-435-7325.

REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

REGISTRATION NUMBER IS CH292P

**See you Next Month!**



Photo courtesy of FBS member Phil Berry