

Volume Seven July 2011



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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Photo Courtesy of FBS Vice President Phil Berry

The Bluebird Clutch Gallery



We would love to fly into your backyard and see pictures of your bluebirds with any informative and interesting stories you may have about them. Please keep pictures to a maximum of 4 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 pictures and stories to Barbie Arms, FBS Corresponding Secretary at floridabluebirds@aol.com

Deadline for submissions for the August issue is August 12, 2011



Successful boxes erected by the Florida Bluebird Society



Our field trip erecting two bluebird boxes during our semi annual meeting on March 5th proved to be very successful. The box placed on the property adjacent to a huge pasture shown above had bluebird activity in only a few days. The nest was started and completed by March 15 with 5 eggs by month's end. Four of those eggs hatched and fledged with no predation. The second nest was present very quickly with another 5 eggs. All hatched and all fledged with no predation. Nest number three currently has 5 eggs again. I am monitoring the nest and all is well.

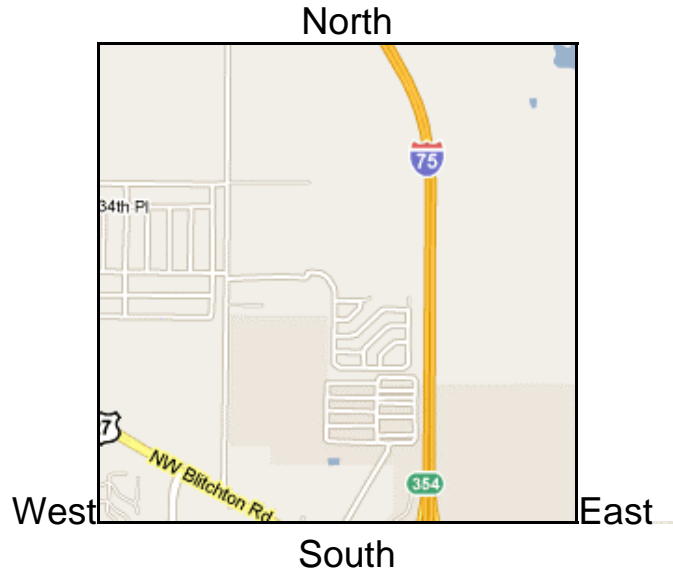
The homeowners are monitoring the box we erected near the clubhouse. They had a late start but the box is doing very well. The first nest produced 4 eggs and 4 fledglings with a second nest of 4 hatchlings getting ready to fledge.

Barbie Arms 

Our FBS Annual Meeting Announcement

The upcoming annual meeting of the Florida Bluebird Society will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2011 starting at 11:00 A.M. We originally had it set for August 13 but we had to change the date. We apologize if this causes anyone a problem attending. The location of the meeting will be held at the Sweetwater Oaks Park Clubhouse at 3151 N.W. 44th Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34482. The map shows the 200 home community located on the West side of I-75 and North of Hwy 27 (NW Blitchton Road) in Ocala. Coming from the North you would take the exit 354 and go right onto N.W. Blitchton Road, go ½ mile and turn right onto N.W. 44th Avenue. Go 1 mile and turn right into the Sweetwater Oaks gated community. Coming from the South you would take exit 354 and turn left onto

N.W. Blitchton Road and follow above directions. More detailed directions can be given upon request. Signs will be put up at the Sweetwater Oaks gated entrance to lead you back to the Clubhouse.



We will have a mix and mingle until 11:30 then start the meeting. We will be providing refreshments, sandwich rings and snacks from the Publix deli for lunch. The clubhouse has a full kitchen so you are welcome to bring your own lunch or refreshments if you have special dietary needs.

Exciting News!

We are now registered with the USA National Phenology Network (NPN) website <http://www.usanpn.org/home> that includes Nature's Notebook a new project available for Groups and Organizations. This Notebook will allow our members to report their nesting data on bluebirds in Florida.



<http://www.usanpn.org/home>

During the meeting we will have an exciting presentation showing our members how to post their bluebird nesting activity on the USA National Phenology Network website. Phenology refers to recurring plant and animal life cycle stages, or phenophases, such as leafing and flowering, maturation of agricultural plants, emergence of insects, and migration of birds. The USA National Phenology Network brings together citizen scientists, government agencies, non-profit groups, educators and students of all ages to monitor the impacts of

climate change on plants and animals in the United States. The network harnesses the power of people and the Internet to collect and share information, providing researchers with far more data than they could collect alone.



The Phenology Network now has a program called Nature's Notebook. This program enables the general public to plot their bluebird boxes and record nesting activity on a Google Earth map in the State of Florida. The Florida Bluebird Society is the first bluebird organization in Florida to currently have their bluebird nesting summaries on this National website. This groundbreaking program can thrust us forward to observe and understand as a Society the trends about the bluebird nesting success rates and failures here in Florida. This data can educate us further so that we can be as effective as possible about disseminating information among our members. Signing up and setting up your account is not difficult and our training session will easily walk you through the process so you can enter your data at home at your convenience. We will also show you how to retrieve bluebird nesting data that our members have entered onto the website regarding their bluebird trails. Come join us in finding out more about this exciting data entry program called Nature's Notebook.

Please RSVP to Barbie Arms if you plan to attend our meeting at email floridabluebirds@aol.com so we can be sure to have enough food, make the nametags and give you the gate code to enter the Community.

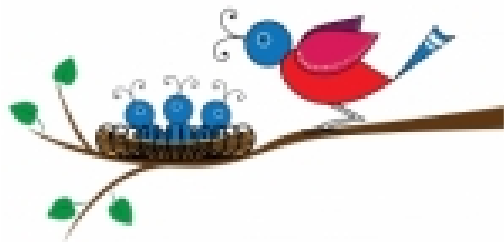
Hosted by Bluebirds Across America



The 2011 Convention Committee invites you to attend the 33rd Annual Convention of the North American Bluebird Society on September 15-18 2011 at the Doubletree Hotel, Hwy 45 Bypass, Jackson TN.

For more detailed information please visit the website by clicking on the Annual Convention tab at <http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/>
Email Contact is Farrell Roe
at ROERockingR@aol.com , Phone (731) 424-6161

WELCOME NEW MEMBER



Candace Bridgewater, Fleming Island, FL

We are excited you joined our nest!

Research Project

Bob Peak of Henderson, KY, a member of the North American Bluebird Society since 1990, is doing some research about the incidence of *white* bluebird eggs in various parts of North America.

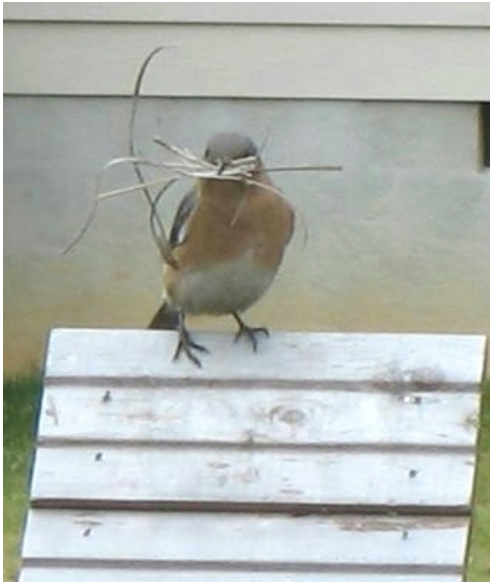


Bob would appreciate any data you would be willing to share concerning this issue. Email Bob at blubrds@bellsouth.net if you have any white eggs to report.



****Reminder****

If **you** are planning to change **your** email address please inform us and send updates to Barbie at email address floridabluebirds@aol.com



Annual Membership

It's almost time to renew your annual membership. All memberships expire in August. Why not come to the Annual Meeting and renew your membership at that time?

A membership form is available on the website. 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, other bluebird enthusiasts, or simply have a bluebird question? Please visit our website

Website <http://floridabluebirdsociety.com/>

Or

Email: floridabluebirdsociety@yahoo.com

Delphiforums: where you can ask questions about Eastern Bluebirds

Florida Bluebird Society at Delphiforums

<http://forums.delphiforums.com/FLBluebirdSoc/start>

You will need to register for a free screen name to post at Delphiforums

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



Photography Courtesy of FBS member Brad Gosen