



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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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

The Foxfire Golf and C.C. of Naples, FL. In Collier County

Foxfire is a private, gated and bundled, 385 acre, 27 hole geriatric golfing community with 931 units in Naples, Florida operational since 1984. We have been involved with Bluebird nesting for about 15 years and presently have about 54 nest boxes. Our maximum number of fledglings was 121 two years ago and we average about 85-110. As a result, bluebirds now are living in adjacent communities. This in itself is very satisfying!

This year, after viewing the bluebird nest-cam of the Penny Retirement Community on our computer, we decided to try to establish a similar set-up at Foxfire. We then initiated inquiries with folks already successful with such a venture. They suggested contacting via e-mail a company named Spy On A Bird Spyonabird@spyonabird.com - their postal address is - Spy On A Bird LLC,

12201-N. NC Hwy. 150, Suite 22, PMB 244, Winston Salem, NC 27127. We dealt with a lady named Denise Gibo who guided us computer illiterates patiently through the process. We purchased a POE camera, mounted and focused in a plastic weathered wood blue bird nest box (approved by the National Bluebird Society of America), with an injector and 325 foot Burial CAT 5E Cable, a wireless G router-link 54 Mbps, a pole mounting system (includes 60 inch pole one inch in diameter with twist in ground socket that sinks 20 inches into the ground) with a top mount for the bird house - all shipped one week after payment.

We decided to use a site for the nest box cam that had at least one successful clutch over each of the past three years, without predation and within sight of golfers and several residences.

We secured the services of an employee (a computer guru) of our community security company to access the nest cam to our computers via the internet. We came up with a password and user name and Bingo!! It works!! Within two weeks, a male bluebird was spotted entering the box for very short periods. This occurred initially on December 10th. In this part of Florida, we generally see bluebird nesting and territorial activities start in mid-February.

We had/have some concerns regarding this project. They include cost, safety of camera and box from theft would the birds choose to use our new box after all of our time and work, should we divulge the location of this box, should we open it to non-community surveillance, and maintenance problems that may occur.

Hope some of you folks might benefit from our experience and even be stimulated to try your hand at this endeavor. It really was fun and a learning experience.

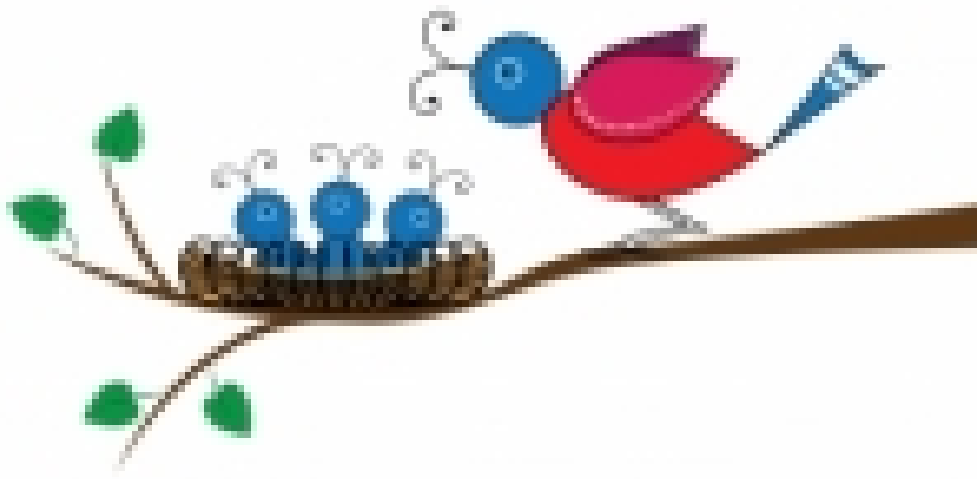
THE FOXFIRE NATURE GROUP - HAVING FUN - NATURE'S WAY!

Submitted by FBS member Hal Dowell

Deadline for submissions for the February issue is February 12, 2012



Welcome New Member



 **John Bobb Jacksonville, FL.** 

We are glad you joined our nest!

Meet the Board of Directors

This month we would like to introduce



Treasurer Faith Jones

Although not really a true “bluebirder”, Faith Jones has been involved with the Florida Bluebird Society (FBS) since its inception. Faith has a B.S. in Biology and Psychology from Florida Southern College in Lakeland. Faith is active in conservation and environmental issues in her community. She is President of Seminole Audubon Society, serves on the Board of Directors for Friends of the Wekiva River, and Crystal Lake Preserve, Inc. She also holds a number of Advisory Board positions. FBS has benefited from her knowledge and experience with other non-profit corporations.

She is a birder at heart, participating in numerous bird surveys and teaching a Birding Basics course several times each year. In addition to her volunteer work, Faith is employed as Operations Director of Florida Internal Medicine, and lives in Sanford.

We are fortunate to have Faith Jones as our Treasurer and current Statewide Bluebird Blitz Chair.



HELP WANTED

The Florida Bluebird Society is looking for a few good people to help expand its efforts to conserve and protect bluebirds and other federally protected cavity nesting bird species in the Sunshine State.

Specifically, the Florida Bluebird Society is looking for a volunteer who has experience publishing a monthly newsletter. Barbie Arms, the current editor, is doing an outstanding job, but would appreciate a volunteer who would help share the monthly opportunity to publicize the activities of the Florida Bluebird Society. This would include assisting in the writing, editing and layout. Specific responsibilities would be worked out between Barbie and the individual volunteering to serve as co-editor.

The Florida Bluebird Society also is looking for avid and knowledgeable bluebird enthusiasts who would be willing to share their experiences and expertise with other interested individuals. These volunteers would have the opportunity to help provide the best available information on creating and maintaining bluebird nest boxes in Florida. Individuals serving as a regional county coordinator also would have the added opportunity of meeting other people from their area who share their interest in bluebirds.

Of course, all volunteers would be expected to comply fully with the mission and policy guidelines of the Florida Bluebird Society.
Contact Barbie at email floridabluebirds@aol.com



2012 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, January 17, noon, Florida Bluebird Society Board of Directors' monthly teleconference

Friday, March 16, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Orange Park, FL, Garden Club, "March into Spring," Orange Park Lodge, 511 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park, FL 32073, presentation by FBS Founding President Bill Pennewill

Saturday, March 31, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Green Industries Institute, North Florida Community College, 2729 W. Washington St., Monticello, FL 32344, Workshop on "Attracting Birds for Pest Control in Your Garden." Dr. Katie Sieving, Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the University of Florida and a member of the Florida Bluebird Society's Board of Directors, will present her research on the role of birds in pest control, and Bill Pennewill, Florida Bluebird Society Founding President, will do a hands-on construction and placement of bluebird nest boxes.

Monday, April 9, 10:30 a.m., Towhee Circle of the Orange Park, FL, Garden Club, field trip to Penney Retirement Community, Penney Farms, to view bluebird nest boxes, to be led by FBS Founding President Bill Pennewill

Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14, Florida Bluebird Society's Statewide Spring Bluebird Blitz. A two-day concentrated effort to visibly locate any many Eastern Bluebirds as possible in Florida. Additional information and a reporting form are available on the FBS website, floridabluebirdsociety.com or by contacting Faith Jones, FBS Statewide Bluebird Blitz Chair, at floridabluebirdsociety@gmail.com or at 763 Mallard Drive Sanford, FL 32771

Saturday, April 28, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Florida Bluebird Society booth at Earthfest @ Arbor Day in the Great Outdoors, Tuscawilla Park, 899 NE Sanchez Ave., Ocala, FL, 34470, to be staffed by Elena Sachs, Barbie Arms, and Bill and Nell Pennewill



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



****Reminder****

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

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

Goodbye and see you next month!



Photo courtesy of FBS member Phil Berry

We cannot command Nature except by obeying her.

- Francis Bacon

