

Spring 2017
Vol. 32, No. 1



Wisconsin Bluebird

Newsletter of the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

BRAW is an affiliate member of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS), founded by Lawrence Zeleny

Join Us for the 2017 Annual Convention!

see page 2



UW Arboretum Bluebird pair © Richard Armstrong

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A Word from the Prez

This has been one of the most difficult issues I have ever had to put together. Not that finding content was a problem but the fact I have a herniated disc in my lower back has made things much harder to do. I can't sit for very long before pain sets in so working at the computer is a challenge. I bought a stand that is adjustable so I can raise my work station up and stand while doing computer work. But standing for long periods can also be hard to do with a bad back. I'm praying this heals real soon!



The agenda has been set for the Annual Convention in Madison. I hope the variety of topics will be of interest to our members. The location is pretty easy to find on the southeast side. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

This winter Steve Sample and I participated in the National Audubon Soc. ClimateWatch pilot study. The study has chosen the Bluebird as a target species to watch in winter over the next several years in Wisconsin. We

each had a "block" to choose 12 sites that we had to stop and spend 5 minutes watching for any bluebirds and also record any other species of birds seen as well. The study hopes to determine if and when the Eastern Bluebird moves further north as our winters get warmer. I have included the protocol for this project on p. 10. This is an important Citizen Science project to get involved in. Please consider getting involved so we can provide important data for this study.

Once again BRAW has had a booth at the Garden Expo in Madison. Two programs on Attracting Eastern Bluebirds & Cavity Nesters were presented to over 125 participants. Several hundred more came by our booth and were greeted by BRAW volunteers with answers to all their questions about cavity nesters. This event gives us a wonderful opportunity to spread the word about helping bluebirds to a large audience over one weekend.

I hope to see many of you at the annual convention at La Follette High School in Madison on April 1.

Happy Trails!

Patrick Ready
BRAW President

BRAW Annual Convention

at La Follette High School, Madison, April 1, 2017

Program for 2017 BRAW Annual Convention

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:15 Welcome: President Pat Ready;
Treasurer's Report: Dan Schroeder

9:15-9:30 2016 Season: Steve Sample, BRAW V.P. and
Coordinator of Data Collection

9:30-9:45 County Coordinators - Carol McDaniel

9:45-10:30 *Chickadees & More Chickadees: And you
thought you knew them* – Steve Sample

10:30-10:45 Break with refreshments

10:45 ClimateWatch study - Brooke Bateman

11:00-11:45 *American Kestral Nest Box Program* –
Brand Smith & Mark Martin

12:00-1:00 Lunch (**Pre-paid only**)

1:00-1:15 Silent Auction winners: (Auction to be
over at 1 p.m.)

1:15-2:15: *Wisconsin Bald Eagles* by Barb Barzen

The BRAW Annual Convention will be held on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at La Follette High School in Madison, WI.

Conference fees:

\$5.00: Registration without lunch per person

\$10.00: Includes registration & lunch per person

Lunch: choice of ham & cheese or turkey & cheese on whole wheat or white bread (indicate preference); potato salad, dessert bar – cost \$10 prepaid. If registering for more than one person, please indicate food choice for each person. Vegetarian available upon request.

Registration form with lunch choices on page 3.

Registration is paid in advance. Please include name and address of each person registering.

Mail check payment to:

Pat Ready
815 Sky Ridge Dr..
Madison, WI 53719

Annual Convention Presenters

How and why are chickadees the leader of the pack? By Steve Sample

How many species are there in North America? Why do chickadees erase part of their brain each season? What makes the Black-capped Chickadee better than other chickadees? You'll find out!

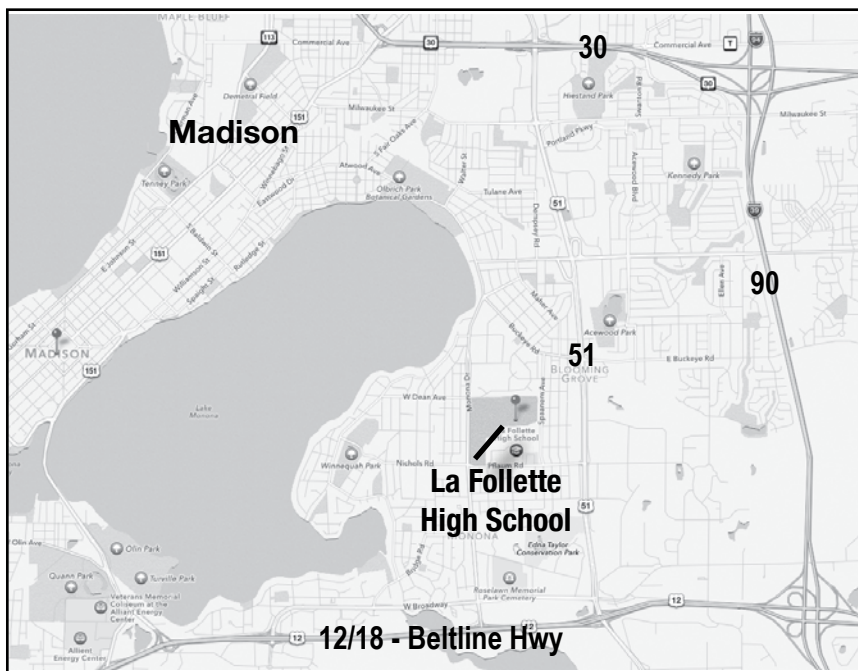


Madison Audubon Society's American Kestrel Nest Box Program By Brand Smith and Mark Martin

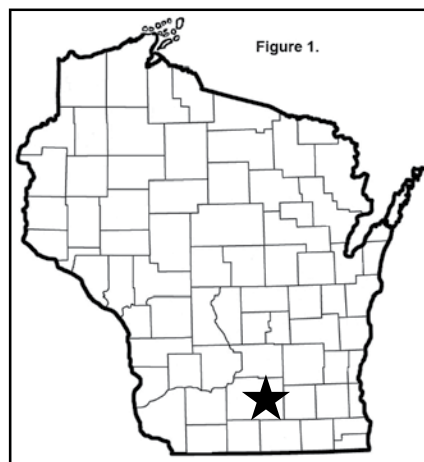
Brand Smith coordinates Madison Audubon's 140 American kestrel nest boxes. In 2016, 166 young kestrel fledged from 40 boxes. Last summer Janet Eschenbauch from central Wisconsin banded 96 kestrels. Annual results are submitted to the Peregrine Fund who is coordinating the North American American Kestrel Partnership. The talk will focus on best management practices including box type, placement, and monitoring.

Bald Eagles in Wisconsin By Barb Barzen

Wisconsin hosts the Midwest's two largest wintering populations of bald eagles, a growing number of wintering golden eagles, and a breeding population of bald eagles that has gone from 108 to 1,500 nests in a span of 43 years. This program touches on the amazing long-term recovery of bald eagles, their winter ecology, the more recent surge of wintering golden eagles, and migratory patterns for both species – what we know and how we know it.



La Follette High School is located on Madison's south-east side and just off State Highway 51. Go west at the intersection of Pflaum Rd about 1 mile and the school is on the right side of the road.



SILENT AUCTION

Are you creative with sewing, baking or other crafts? Use your imagination for the silent auction. It doesn't need to be bluebird related.

Help support BRAW with your donation or plan to buy an item and support BRAW bluebird trail development.



ANNUAL CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Please indicate the number of lunches for your party at \$10 each: _____. **Include check for full amount.**

___Ham ___Turkey ___white bread ___wheat bread

___ registration only (5\$) no lunch

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Return form with payment by March 24 to:

Pat Ready
815 Sky Ridge Dr.
Madison, WI 53719

2016 Year in Review

By Steve Sample

2016 Data Totals (as of October 27, 2016)

Reporting Monitors 354
 Total Trail Boxes 9163
 Total Bluebird Fledged 26352
 Total Bluebird Boxes Used 5348
 Total Bluebird Eggs Laid 32291
 Total Bluebirds Hatched 26296
 Tree Swallows Reported Fledged 12246
 Chickadee Reported Fledged 1487
 House Wren Fledged 4045
 House Sparrow Reported Issues 744
 Total All Species Fledged 44130
 Percentage of Eggs Hatched 81.4%
 Percentage of Fledged from Eggs Laid 81.6%

2015 Data Totals (as of October 27, 2016)

Reporting Monitors 412
 Total Trail Boxes 9604
 Total Bluebird Fledged 31170
 Total Bluebird Boxes Used 6017
 Total Bluebird Eggs Laid 38624
 Total Bluebirds Hatched 32729
 Tree Swallows Reported Fledged 13601
 Chickadee Reported Fledged 1319
 House Wren Fledged 4784
 House Sparrow Reported Issues 1162
 Total All Species Fledged 50874
 Percentage of Eggs Hatched 84.7%
 Percentage of Fledged from Eggs Laid 80.7%

What can I tell you? With 2015 being a banner year for bluebird nesting successes as reporting by our monitors, I suppose it is too much to expect two great years in a row. It really wasn't that bad. As I reported in the last newsletter, we did have about 50 additional monitors.

I do appreciate the number of you who took the time to write a note about your experiences in 2016. The most obvious report was the weather's effect on nesting. The last issue I mentioned that I, personally, lost with my two trails over 55 eggs due to weather. Temperature shifts from one week to the next being as much as 45 degree differences can certainly bring nest box disaster. I should note that weather was mentioned as to bring disappointments as reported by our monitors all over the state.

I should also mention that in the last issue that the climate forecast for this spring did not look very encouraging. Well, as we have come to expect from the weather reporting critters, the latest (and probably not the last) forecast is much more encouraging for April especially. I'm optimistic.

Here are a few (of the many) comments I received for this year. I apologize in advance that I was unable to publish all the comments I received. I did read them all and responded to many on a personal level.

Bluebirds arrived late and Tree Swallows nested before bluebirds.

Door County H. F.

Had my first successful third nesting!

Dane County S.K.

It was a bad year for Bluebirds.

Oconto County P&S. C.

The weather was a factor in our low bird count this year. On my last day of monitoring, two bats flew out of a nest box to surprised me.

Eau Claire County P.L.

My egg loss was especially high this year.

Wood County K.H.

Trapped many sparrows – "lost count"

Brown County W.S.

Much more productivity this year, compared to last. Sparrows are still a problem, trapped 15.

Brown County J.B.

The weather was a factor in our low bird count this year. Cold spring, extreme heat and lots and lots of rain.

Eau Claire County P.L.

Brush has grown up around some of the boxes – hence, the large number of wrens. Maybe we can move some of these boxes.

Iowa County G.V.

continued on page 17 . . .

Fledged BB Bird Totals											
Monitor	Boxes	Figed									
Adank John	8	30	Beix Jim & Dorothy	35	173	Christensen Daryl	20	51	Dumas Maddie	36	0
Ainsworth Lori	9	31	Beix Jim & Dorothy	64	152	Christian Carol	2	3	Duszynski Pam	21	46
Albrecht Bob	1	4	Bekx WEndy	20	40	Clairmont Phil & Sue	34	33	Eagle Sue	14	13
Alger Linda	2	4	Benchina Louis	24	62	Cooper Randy	12	22	Eberhardt Marilyn	24	124
Allen Barbie	78	84	Benzschawel Al	25	21	Courtier Rodney	10	36	Eberhardt Darel	155	936
Allen Barbie	20	15	Berg Bonnie	1	8	Courtier Rodney	67	144	Fare Rick	26	66
Allen Barbie	5	9	Birr Gene	103	265	Craig Fred & Mary	17	98	Fare Rick	25	38
Allen Barbie	66	26	Birr Gene	7	15	Craig Fred & Mary	52	409	Feiner Phyllis E.	2	3
Alteggott JoAnne	15	55	Blattner Andria	16	14	Crave Joni	4	4	Filzen Dan & Gail	9	34
Amenson Thomas	3	4	Blumer Karl	2	1	Curran Mike & Jean	2	0	Fleming Mary Jo	25	46
Anderson Nick	15	46	Bostedt Victoria	1	0	Daugherty/Rayfield			Fonger Dave	65	312
Anderson Kate	25	82	Brady Jan	6	38	Austin/Wayne	34	35	Foote-Martin Mark & Sue	37	33
Anderson Steve	23	117	Brake Ron	15	17	Dawson Verdel	14	71	Ford Hilary	10	0
Anderson Iler	107	331	Brase Jim	6	5	Deiningger Beverly	15	44	Ford Hilary	5	14
Anderson Debbie	40	205	Bratz Mary	31	111	Delaney Lane	30	129	Forsythe Carol	12	34
Anderson	6	4	Brewer Bruce & Jerri	30	141	DeLong Bruce	24	63	Fort Mike	31	85
Andrae Marjorie	8	15	Brock Kathie	14	36	Demuth Robert	3	4	Foss Brad	5	8
Ascher Gary	2	0	Brook Parks Apartments	8	0	Denor Don	3	3	Fox Bob*	30	0
Balmer Bill	9	51	Bruder Melissa	29	92	Denor Don	6	14	Fox Bob	170	368
Balsiger Ronald	12	10	Butzer Bob	17	21	DeVetter Joanne	4	23	Fredrickson Kathy	5	2
Barth James	64	246	Byers Myron	75	289	Dickman			Freeman Dee	20	20
Bartholmai Jack	94	123	Byers Myron	76	248	Norman & Elizabeth	25	12	Frey Tammy	14	35
Bartholmai Holly	22	90	Caltes Kim	15	46	Dixon John	2	10	Freyman Sarah	3	10
Bartholomew Tina	7	43	Camacho Fred & Joyce	36	95	Doverspike Brian	24	57	Fruin William	15	71
Bartlett Barb	23	74	Cames James & Cathy	4	9	Downs Elizabeth (Betty)	5	18	Garske Donna	2	0
Basten Susan	7	11	Cashman Sue	30	91	Downs Elizabeth (Betty)	10	32	Gavahan Karen & Tom	15	15
Becker David & Patti	29	124	Casper Larry	66	303	Dreikosen Kathleen	28	77	Gerandt Jerry	5	19
Becker Patricia	16	10	Caulum Harry & Ellen	25	62	Dreshek Venna	5	11	Gerandt Donna	17	29
Beckman Joni	13	54	Chaney Alice	33	135	Dresser Mary	9	18	Gerandt Jerry	43	48
			Chickowski Andy	69	202	Duckworth Syewart	200	228	Gerandt Jerry	22	65
			Christensen Daryl	20	45	Duebler Jeff & Abby	40	234	Gies Kristin	25	45

Gilbert/Ermis			Kronenberg James	9	0	Onsrud Ken & Signe	98	253	Sherman Brad	42	86
Daniel/Nathan	1	2	Kronsnabel Ilene and Paul	35	40	Orti Craig, Ben & Lauren	36	110	Shutt Nicole	116	99
Gilbertson Sheryl	12	5	Krouse Kathy	14	18	Orban	4	0	Sieracki Michael	6	0
Gilbertson Sam	1	0	Krueger Dean	3	2	Orban Melody	8	5	Skaris	5	0
Glanzman Terry	437	1906	Kugler Jr. Walter	3	14	Palchik Bryan & Annette	22	31	Slezak Marilyn & Ken	20	68
Glanzman Jeff	36	146	Kumlien Janice	2	7	Palenik Ray	21	48	Smith Ellie	17	58
Glew Melody	32	96	Lafouge Ellen	26	111	Palmer Corinne	9	4	Smith Keith	6	0
Goodno Jim	24	24	Lancaster Al	1	5	Parker Ron	13	30	Smith Keith	2	0
Grajkowski Stacy & Elijah	9	19	Lane Chris & Bob	29	65	Parkinson Delbert	24	14	Sobol Mary	17	12
Grimes Tom & Lynn	35	134	LaPine Phyllis	30	38	Pasteris Matt	2	7	Somdahl Frances	46	72
Grossnickle Ned	22	65	Lauffer Leon	3	2	Pennelkamp Karen	12	29	Sommer Joan	25	75
Grossnickle Scott	16	28	Lautermilch Charlie	47	308	Perlberg Kris	5	20	Sorenson Wendy	7	10
Gundry Rita	10	16	Leary John	9	39	Peters Glenna	2	5	Sprout Terri	29	64
Gundry Rita	30	86	Lenz Treyton	5	10	Peterson Harry	7	14	Stark Sharon	7	35
Guthmiller Melissa	20	147	Liang Mickie	3	11	Peterson Lowell	32	127	Stehling Donna & Bill	58	137
Hall Kent	147	471	Liecht John	26	64	Petznick Steve	4	16	Stencel Paul	3	0
Hall Sue	40	175	Liegel Laurence	31	145	Place Len	32	84	Sterzinger James	8	0
Hamer Bonnie	26	16	Liegel Laurence	14	73	Place Len	5	12	Stoffel Tim	29	23
Hamilton Jean	2	5	Loeffler Dennis & Heather	12	18	Pope Nolan	9	14	Sutley Shelly	10	18
Hanson John	17	49	Loehlein John	18	27	Pope Deb	36	135	Swagel Jane	4	4
Hanson Richard & Ruth	31	40	Loehlein John	17	6	Powers Al	15	13	Tabor Pete	1	4
Hansotia Marilyn	14	51	Loehlein John	7	7	Present Marsha	1	4	Tamm Robert	6	29
Haralson Karen	29	139	Loehlein Ken	26	10	Pritzl Dan	64	176	Tamm Robert	34	65
Hardtke Zoomie	5	11	Lubinsky Stephanie	15	63	Pugh Helen & Gabriel	18	51	Tamm Robert	34	65
Heilman Pam	5	27	Lukey David	36	65	Raboin Joe	15	7	Tamm Robert	6	29
Heinritz Fred	3	5	Lukes Charlottes	17	89	Randall Sherrill	1	9	Teich Ben	65	86
Helgren Michael and Ellen	40	204	Lukes Wendy	29	50	Ready Pat	25	50	Thomas Ruby	17	27
Hellgren Bengt	24	36	Lumberg Bonnie	7	4	Reedy Phyllis	10	14	Tolokken Leif	48	236
Hermudson Mavis	23	16	Lyons Eugene	24	62	Reitz Tom & Amy	44	164	Toutant Mary Ann	21	0
Herrick Dan & Debra	35	91	Lyons Dan	7	18	Richmond Kent	25	0	Urbn Ted	39	72
Higgins Jim	33	90	madden mike	7	14	Ridgeview RDF			Van Haren Gail	15	43
High Wyleen & Clark	12	49	Malzacher Cathy	46	221	Waste Management	25	48	Van Haren Gail	20	83
Hoefgen Bernie	15	57	Management Waste	28	4	Riemer Sally	14	14	Van Tassel Penny	33	128
Hoffman Jill	11	32	Mand/Beck Tom/Kathy	6	8	Riesch Ruth	7	8	VanDenHeuvel Cordula	15	31
Hoffman Skip	24	52	Mann Valerie	8	11	Riley Margaret	5	19	VanDenHeuvel Amber	9	8
Holtz Bob	1	0	Marek Sylvia	15	21	Roberts Dave	9	15	VanDenHeuvel Cordula	2	0
Houch Kris	4	12	Marion Bruce & Ruth	27	113	Robertson Nathan	12	9	VanDenHeuvel Cordula	2	12
Hoy Joanne	1	5	Marking Leif	95	442	Rohde Deb	8	4	Vaughn Kristine	22	57
Huset David	12	7	Marwitz David & Kelly	16	100	Romanak Claire	30	98	Voss Patty	4	3
Ihlenfeldt Amy	13	0	Marwitz David & Kelly	32	90	Ronchetto Jan	12	34	Walters Debby	39	28
Illtis Frank	10	5	Marwitz David & Kelly	181	703	Rosenstiel John	15	16	Warner Melissa	1	5
Jacobs Kip	8	3	Mathes Ervin	4	3	Rosenthal Allen & Carolyn	9	4	Warner Patty	1	3
Jakusz Jim & Darlene	39	123	Mawbey Jeanne	9	23	Rothman Rick & Sharon	38	180	Watt Joe	2	0
Janisch Isaiah	13	24	Mayer Steve	59	134	Ruhser Jean	9	7	Weaver Leslie	6	4
Jensen Marianne	3	16	Mayer Steve	20	38	Saltes Jack	22	42	Weber Gordon	80	490
Jensen Marianne	27	46	McGinley Mark	13	4	Sample Susanah	15	26	Weber Frank	3	9
Jensen Dale & Karen	36	129	McGinnis Jan, Ted, Phil	90	527	Sample Steve	32	54	Weber Gordon	32	131
Jensen Dennis & Heather	21	12	McGinnley Mark & Jenny	14	4	Sampson Avery	11	23	Welda Joni	8	30
Jensen Richard & Ruth	1	7	McLoed Chantel	2	5	Savin David	7	4	Wenzel Jennifer	20	18
Johnson Karen	12	5	McNeil Melissa	39	104	Schalldach Fred	13	30	Wenzel Paul	15	84
Johnson Sandy	7	20	Melius Arthur	2	0	Schapfel Bill	20	98	Wheeler Bob	7	7
Jostad Morgan	5	0	Meloy Steve	3	4	Scheffer Katherine	18	54	Wick Ann E S	138	467
Juracka Bob & Louise	3	9	Mennen Carol	4	0	Schinker Family The	35	45	Wildes Linda	17	95
Karth Ken & Megan	36	79	Metzger Don	1	8	Schlag Jerry	11	16	Willing Nancy	16	26
Kastner Shari	11	9	Meyer Rodger	81	189	Schleitwiler Steve	1	4	Wolfe Matt	11	23
Kastner Shari	13	9	Meyer John	58	33	Schleitwiler Steve	5	6	Wood Jolie	11	19
Kauffmann & Anderson			Michelsen Tom/Kathy	15	25	Schlueter Cy	4	13	Zar Erika	18	16
Maureen & Joyce	6	4	Miezio Madelynn	16	27	Schoenwetter Ruth	12	34	Zeisner Nicholas	1	0
Keuser Anke	7	0	Milligan-Barr Julie	1	3	Schultz Dan	11	12	Zeisner Bethany	1	0
Keyel Sally	24	42	Moody Dale and Doris	69	279	Schultz Joe	21	67	Zeisner Katie	1	0
Kirschbaum Dennis	20	77	Moody Dale and Doris	10	44	Schultz Warren	24	16	Ziehr Bill & Jill	29	121
Klawiter Paul	29	124	Moore Michael	41	194	Schultz Sandy	10	8	Zimmermann Stephen	15	40
Klein Jean	16	33	Moran Mike	32	78	Schultz Joe	21	48	Zinda Brad	47	202
Kleppe Bud	16	87	Moretti Anne	13	12	Schumacher Nicki	4	4			
Klongland Jo Ann	3	14	Nature Center Mosquito Hill	16	45	Schumacher Nicki	3	8			
Klusmeier Ellen	57	40	Neisner Darlene	18	123	Schwab Sharon	11	46			
Knudson Tim	10	30	Nelson Don	9	25	Schwab Sharon	26	91			
Konrath Ralph	30	69	Nelson Eric and Sandy	3	10	Schwisow Cindy & Jim	2	10			
Koppa Kathy	5	11	Noeldner Paul	11	0	Scott Wendy	32	158			
Kozak Katie	31	107	Noeldner Paul	2	4	Seybold Bill	27	88			
Kraemer Evonne	24	82	Nuttelman Peter	1	5	Sharkozy Frank	14	15			
Krerowicz	30	27	Oehmcke Chuck & Lynne	4	0	Sharkozy	14	14			

Duplicate names would indicate additional separate trails. Some of the large totals are county coordinators or multi-trail reports. Some of the missing first names are the product of the method the report was received.

See the Trends in Bluebird Production chart on page 16.

The County Coordinator News

By Carol McDaniel

January 2017 County Coordinator Report

Spring is long awaited in Wisconsin after a long winter. We start watching the skies for signs of birds migrating back home and especially are on the watch for bluebirds. When I put this column together in mid-January most coordinators haven't made plans for bluebird programs yet; so if you don't see your coordinator listed in the upcoming activities, contact them and see if they have something planned. The list of CCs can be found in this issue of WB. A few CCs sent news that you can read below and some sent photos, too. Rita Gundry for Eau Claire County and Richard Becker for Ashland County sent in short stories that are featured elsewhere in this issue. BRAW's Spring Meeting is set for April 1st this year. I will be introducing the CCs, so plan to come and meet your county coordinators. Here are the reports:

Dane Co., Patrick Ready: In February I did my Attracting Bluebirds presentation at the Garden Expo in Madison. I will be giving the same program in March at the Wild Birds Unlimited Store on Madison's west side. I have been planning the BRAW Annual Convention that will be held on April 1 at LaFollette High School in Madison. On May 2 I am giving a program on Bluebirds at the Riveredge Nature Center in Saukville. Swamplovers Nature Preserve near Cross Plains in Dane Co. has asked me to redo their Bluebird trail and find someone to monitor it. Spring is a busy time for Bluebirders!!

Dodge Co., Jack Barthomai: I will be presenting "Sharing the Bluebird Trail" a program highlighting encounters on typical nest box trails. This slide show will be presented at the Nest Box Seminar on Saturday March 4th at the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitors Center.

Pierce Co., Jim Beix : Keep your ears and eyes open for announcement of

a bluebird trail presentation with Jim and Lowell Peterson in Pierce Co.

Ashland Co., Richard and Carol Becker: We will be presenting a bluebird trail program at the Chequamegon Bay Birding and Nature Festival that is held May 18th-20th. It is in Ashland, Wisconsin.

LaCrosse Co., Leif Marking: Eagle Crest Independent Living is about five miles from our farm on Marking Ridge where I have 25 bluebird houses, the beginning of my 95 box trail. I plan to continue monitoring all of them in 2017. Four of these boxes are located on Eagle Crest grounds and viewable from the inside of our new home. Three of them had bluebirds and one had Tree Swallows last nesting season. I'm anxious for Spring and the return of bluebirds.

Washington Co., Mary Holleback: I have a program scheduled at Riveredge Nature Center, 4458 County Hwy Y, Saukville, WI 53080 on March 11 from 1:00-2:30 pm, titled: "Attracting Bluebirds & Other Cavity Nesters". Bird migration is considered by many to be one of nature's most awe-inspiring mysteries. Many spring migrants will soon be returning to our area looking for housing. Join us to learn how to attract a wide variety of cavity-nesting birds to your yard. We will discuss the pros and cons of different nest box styles and cover the basics of where to place them and how to maintain them. This workshop is meant for amateur and experienced bird lovers. We'll build a box for you to take home at the end. Fee: \$5.00 for non-members & Trail Pass members. (Mary is the adult program manager at the nature center).

Oconto Co., Gene Birr: Last spring I gave a presentation to a class of seven children at the private, SDA school in rural Lena, WI, where I later set up a 5 nest box Bluebird Trail on their school grounds. Last fall I returned and helped each of the students fill out an EZ summary form for each box that a student pair had monitored, and answered any questions they had about their birds and boxes. I will

return this April to guide them again to tour and monitor their nestboxes, and answer any questions that may arise from a new student. In late March, Steve Mayer and I will be giving a bluebird trail talk to a Gillett area garden club. Many of their members had attended a garden walk in my mother's yard last August where they noticed the two nestboxes I have placed there, and following that we were invited to speak at one of their monthly meetings. In Brown County, we will speak to interested bluebirders at the new Wild Birds Unlimited store in Green Bay in March, as we did last spring after being invited by the owner, Nancy Paul, a new BRAW member in 2016.

Lafayette Co., Carol McDaniel: The Eastern Bluebird migrates within the continent along with many other bird species. I, along with the Lafayette County Bluebird Society, am stressing the importance of migration to the citizens of Southwest Wisconsin this spring. On March 15 at 2:00, I am presenting a slide program titled "Bluebirding in Wisconsin along the Bluebird Trail" at the Bluebird Nest Nature Center at 308 Main St., Darlington. On March 20, at 7:00 pm, Matthew Nechvatal, Breeding Bird Atlas Coordinator for Lafayette County, will talk on "How to Report Your Bird Observations to the Breeding Bird Atlas Project" at the Bluebird Nest Nature Center in Darlington. On Sunday, April 9, 1-4 pm, we will be recognizing International Migratory Bird Day at the Spring Meeting of the Lafayette County Bluebird Society. Dr. Stanley Temple, Professor Emeritus in Conservation, University of Wisconsin will be speaking on "Making the Migratory Bird Treaty Work, Then and Now: A Centennial Assessment". The programs are free and open to the public.

County Coordinator List

By Carol McDaniel

Thanks to all these Bluebirders that volunteer to be their County Coordinator and help spread the word about Bluebird conservation. Here is the current list for 2017.

ADAMS
No appointee

ASHLAND
Becker, Rich & Carol
P.O. Box 365
Mellen 54546
715-274-3200
richfstop@gmail.com

BARRON
No appointee

Bayfield
No appointee

BROWN
Mayer, Steve
2803 Bristol Mtn. Trail
Green Bay 54313
920-434-9885
mayersj511@aol.com

BUFFALO
No appointee

BURNETT
Anderson, Iler
27302 Hill Rd.
Spooner 54801
715-635-4534
ilerandlileen@gmail.com

CALUMET
No appointee

CHIPPEWA
Anderson, Debbie
19454 County Hwy O
Cadott 54727
715-382-4639
jradma@centurytel.net

CLARK
No appointee

COLUMBIA
Mark & Sue Foote-
Martin,
W7503 Kampen Rd
Arlington 53911
608-333-9645
goosep@chorus.net

CRAWFORD
No Appointee

DANE
Ready, Pat
815 Sky Ridge Dr.
Madison, WI 53719
608-239-0791
birdsready@gmail.com

DODGE
Bartholmai, Jack
N7229 Hickory Sp. Rd.
Beaver Dam 53916
920-887-1505
920-210-2325
jack@bartholmai.com

DOOR
Charlotte Lukes
3962 Hillside Rd.
Egg Harbor, WI 54209
920-823-2478
Rnclukes@mwwb.net

DOUGLAS
Bergsten, Charles
10724 E. US HWY 2
Poplar 54864
715-364-2679
charles477@centurytel.net

DUNN
No appointee

EAU CLAIRE
Gundry, Rita
E15810 County Rd N
Fall Creek 54742
715-579-5523
gundryrk@uwec.edu

FLORENCE
Kowalski, Ed
N2075 Shore Dr
Marinette 54143
715-732-8803
n/a

FOND DU LAC
Khan, Memua, Ph.D.
Associate Professor,
Dept of Biology, Ripon
College,
Ripon 54971
920-312-8142
khanm@ripon.edu

FOREST
No appointee

GRANT
McDaniel, Carol
9320 Wicks Road
Gratiot, WI 53541
608-776-3379
lafayettecountybluebird-
society@yahoo.com

GREEN
Dreikosen, Kathleen
N3474 Hwy 69
Monroe 53566
608-325-5562
608-214-0810

kddd@tds.net

GREEN LAKE
Marwitz, David
W3677 State Rd 44
Markesan 53946
920-291-6001
dfmarwitz@centurytel.net

IOWA
Moody, Dale & Doris
6564 Kimberly Way
DeForest 53532
608-846-5024
drydog93@yahoo.com

IRON
No appointee

JACKSON
Eberhardt, Darrell
W13550 E Green Acres
Rd
Hixton 54635
715-963-4775
n/a

JEFFERSON
No appointee

JUNEAU
No appointee

KENOSHA
Rosenstiel, Stan
7843 32nd Ave
Kenosha 53142
mrstanmr@yahoo.com

KEWAUNEE
Pritzl, Don
N5766 Birchwood Ln
Luxemburg 54217
920-845-2436
n/a

LACROSSE
Marking, Leif
W7917 Cty Rd ZB
Onalaska 54650
608-781-0323
lcmarking@gmail.com

LAFAYETTE
McDaniel, Carol
9320 Wicks Road
Gratiot, WI 53541
608-776-3379
lafayettecountybluebird-
society@yahoo.com

LANGLADE
No appointee

LINCOLN
No appointee

MANITOWOC
No appointee

MARATHON
Romanak, Claire
7175 Nehrbass Rd
Athens 54411
715-257-1905
ribriver2@wildblue.net

MARINETTE
Kowalski, Ed
N2075 Shore Dr
Marinette 54143
715-732-8803
n/a

MARQUETTE
No appointee

MENOMINEE
No appointee

MILWAUKEE
Tamm, Bob
S71 W19784 Williams Dr
Muskego 53150
262-679-2068
bjtamm@yahoo.com

MONROE
Hall, Kent
200 Pine Bluff Rd
Stevens Point 54481
715-344-8081
kentsue@charter.net

OCONTO
Birr, Gene
722 E. Frontage Rd
Little Suamico 54141
920-826-7552
gbbird22@gmail.com

ONEIDA
No appointee

OUTAGAMIE
Mayer, Steve
2803 Bristol Mtn. Trail
Green Bay 54313
920-434-9885
mayersj511@aol.com

OZAUKEE
Lafouge, Ellen
9354 N Fielding Rd
Bayside 53217
414-352-6697
elafouge@gmail.com

PRICE
No appointee

PEPIN
No appointee

PIERCE
Beix, Jim
W11268 840th St
River Falls 54022
715-425-6981
jbeix@dishup.us

POLK
No appointee

PORTAGE
Hall, Kent
200 Pine Bluff Rd
Stevens Point 54481
715-344-8081
kentsue@charter.net

RACINE
Rosenstiel, Stan
7843 32nd Ave
Kenosha 53142
mrstanmr@yahoo.com

RICHLAND
No Appointee

ROCK
Courtier, Rod
240 Kinsey Court
Evansville 53536
608-882-5859
racourtier@charter.net

RUSK
No appointee

SAUK
Liegel, Larry
3322 Jill Ave
Eau Claire 54701
715-835-1403
ljieligel@charter.net

SAWYER
Chambers, Diane
11734 N Harper Rd
Hayward 54843
715-634-2451
715-699-0356
zippydi@centurytel.net

SHAWANO
Meiers, Ruthann
W5388 Navarino Rd
Shiocton 54170
715-758-2463
alstaxidermy@granite-
wave.com

SHEBOYGAN
Curtis, Lee
W7706 Cty Rd W
Cascade 53011
920-838-2193

continued next page . . .

ST. CROIX
Peterson, Lowell
1860 45th St
Somerset 54025
715-247-3243

TAYLOR
No appointee

Trempealeau
Craig, Fred
807 Judith Ct
Holmen 54636
608-526-2221
266marycraig@gmail.com

VERNON
No appointee

VILAS
Butzer, Bob
11393 Glyn Rd
Arbor Vitae 54568-9230
715-356-2215
n/a

WALWORTH
No appointee

WASHBURN
No appointee

WASHINGTON
Holleback, Mary
720 Madison Ave
West Bend 53095
262-335-9843
mholleback@nconnect.com

WAUKESHA
Tamm, Bob
571 W19784 Williams Dr
Muskego 53150
262-679-2068
bjtamm@yahoo.com

WAUPACA
Hall, Kent
200 Pine Bluff Rd
Stevens Point 54481
715-344-8081
kentsue@charter.net

WAUSHARA
No appointee

WINNEGAGO
No appointee

WOOD
Hall, Kent
200 Pine Bluff Rd
Stevens Point 54481
715-344-8081
kentsue@charter.net

Ride Along on a Trail Check

By Richard Becker, Ashland Co.

I thought I would take all of you on a ride with Carol and me as we check our bluebird trail at the Mellen Country Club. I just got the key for a golf cart from the club house and we are on our way. You can sit shotgun so as to get a good look at what is going on. Here we are coming up on box number one which is right next to the club house. If you look close you will see two Tree Swallows by the box, one on top and the other peeking out from inside. They both appear to be males as their color is a dark blue. Now let's look inside the box. There are a few grasses so at this time we cannot be sure who will use this box. Okay, let's get back into the cart and head toward box two which is located by the first green near the pond. Here again we see a Tree Swallow sitting on the box and when we check inside there is the start of a nest. At this point it is hard to tell who will nest as the bluebird and the swallow make similar nests. As time progresses the Tree Swallow will add feathers to its nest. From here we can walk across the road to box number three which is located by the second hole. Most of the boxes on the course are called slot boxes but this one is a Peterson box which is slightly different. Here we again see Tree Swallows both on the box and in it but no nest is present. Listen, can you hear the bluebird singing in the distance? If you keep listening you will hear a phoebe telling you its name in song.

Off to the left there are two Yellow Bellied Sapsuckers chasing each other around a tree, a pair of robins and a grackle. At our feet are pussy toes which are one of the early spring flowers, which get their name based on their shape which looks like a cat's toes. Box number four is back down the road so we need to get back into the cart. If you look off to your left you will see the box which is on the seventh fairway. As we approach the box you will notice some pine needles sticking out of the box. Let's open the box very slowly and check it out. If you look very quickly you will see a beautiful female bluebird sitting on the nest. We'll close the box so as not to scare the mother as it is a bit cool out today. Back in the cart and we will head to the sixth fairway and box number five. We see another Tree Swallow on this box and find the start of a grass nest in the box. Box number six is on the fifth fairway and has the start of a grass nest. Next we head to the fourth fairway to check on box seven. If you look in this box you will see a nice pine needle nest with four bluebird eggs in it. The eggs feel cool so the female is probably not done laying all her eggs. The first nesting usually seems to have five eggs and the female will not sit on them until all of them are in place. The bird does this so that all of the eggs will hatch at about the same time. As we go over this hill on the third fairway you will see box number eight. Here I am going to let you open this box, remember do it very slowly and peek down from the top. So what did you find? Another pine needle nest with



no eggs. Good job. The next box is a bit of a drive from here as it is located at the bottom of the hill on the eighth fairway. You have to check out this nest. Remember that I told you that the Tree Swallow puts feathers in its nest? This nest has feathers but also four bluebird eggs. Just when we think we have it all figured out, nature throws a curve at us. Up the back hill and we will be checking on box number ten. On both sides of this path you will see Dutchman's Breeches and also trilliums, which are some more of the spring flowers. Oh! that came as a surprise, there are babies in that box. If I had thought there were babies (it is a bit cool) I would

not have opened the box. Hopefully the mother will be right back to sit with the babies. It is very early for there to be babies, let's hope that the weather holds and they will survive. If you look out in the field in front of us you will see box eleven. This box is empty which has been the case for the last few years. It is used, but not until later in the season. I hope you enjoyed coming with us as much as we enjoyed having you. If you happen to have some open space near your house you could also start a "Bluebird Trail". As always any sightings or questions to: Rich Becker Po Box 365 Mellen. Richfstop@gmail.com.

BRAW and Public Relations

By Steve Sample

Hi Fellow Bluebirders!

Claire Romanak has faithfully served as BRAW's Publicity Chairperson for many years while also serving on the Board of Directors. She has gracefully accepted the job as Board Secretary replacing the retired Pat Heiden.

Claire instituted many programs serving as PR person including the recognition certificate that acknowledges organizations that have assisted in our nest box successes.

As BRAW VP, I have been sort of a nomad in what I do for the organization. (Of course, I have faithfully served as a consistent pin cushion to our President!) The last few years, as you know, the BRAW Board developed a simpler trail data submission form that has been lauded as a significant improvement. Our monitor's reporting have increased and I served to collect and organize this data. I will be turning this job over to Steve Fallon starting with this year's reports. Oh-oh, I'm freed up to cause more trouble.

I have decided to take on the PR aspect of BRAW and change its focus a little. This is what I propose to do and I will need feedback from all interested parties. We need to get the word out there on BRAW!!
Plan:

- BRAW will purchase a listing of all Wisconsin statewide publications and their contact information that may be interested in receiving news about our organization. Approximate cost around \$190.00 <http://www.easymedialist.com/list/order.html> Periodic articles will be submitted to these publications as a whole for their review and consideration for publication.
- I will request from county coordinators or individual BRAW monitors information of potential interest to build an article for a local publication only to celebrate some of our monitors. Picture(s) should be included. A local publication of preference would help too.
- Print a simple, short ½ page introduction to BRAW and make available to anyone doing a BRAW presentation or activity to leave with the attending audience. This introduction will be in addition to our costly brochures, but may remind attendees to join or support our efforts after the event. The cost of this sheet would be nominal.

Biker Helps Bluebirds!

By Rita Gundry, Eau Claire Co.

This month, I am reporting on a bluebird venture from an Eau Claire County resident, Bernie Hoefgen, who is an acquaintance of my brother, Larry Liegel. Larry, a BRAW member and coordinator for Sauk County, has been very instrumental in supporting and advising Bernie as he continues this endeavor.

Perhaps, like most of us, the beauty of bluebirds was Bernie's initial draw to this project. For the past 20 years, he has been biking on the Chippewa River Bike Trail and noticed long ago several abandoned bluebird houses along the trail. He dreamed of replacing these but didn't know how to get started until Wise Nature Center near Fall Creek offered a course on building bluebird houses. He attended this workshop and built a bluebird house.

At a social gathering, he met Larry, and they realized they had a mutual interest in bluebirds. Larry shared both his knowledge and enthusiasm for bluebirds with Bernie. Larry taught him about predator guards, nesting patterns, house siting, permithrin and much more. This was the final inspiration Bernie needed to move ahead on his dream to replace houses along the bike trail. Don Wisner, a friend of Bernie's who loves birds and woodworking, made six bluebird houses and donated them to Bernie's trail. Larry added one, as well, so Bernie had a total of eight houses to install from mile markers 8 to 11 along the trail, which Larry advised had plenty of excellent locations near open fields.

The DNR gave approval to install the boxes on Xcel Energy property along the trail. Permission was granted by the Town of Brunswick to put bluebird houses in their cemetery, just off the trail. The DNR also allowed Larry and Bernie to drive on the trail during this installation process, the fall of 2014. Bernie committed to check on the houses weekly through the 2015 birding season.

Monitoring this trail was an incentive to bike 22 miles each week, April through August. In 2016, five more bluebird houses were added, constructed by the boy scouts who donated them to the DNR. These 13 houses resulted in the fledging of 54 bluebirds, 34 tree swallows, 17 house wrens and 3 chickadees. A few of the houses were relocated and now all are ready for the third birding season of 2017.

Climate Watch Pilot

Audubon's Birds and Climate Report (<http://climate.audubon.org/>) predicts that more than half of North American bird species will lose more than 50% of their current climatic range by 2080. To test these predictions Audubon is piloting the citizen science project Climate Watch. Climate Watch aims to document species' responses to climate change by having volunteers in the field look for birds where Audubon's climate models project they should be in the 2020s. This is a pilot program so we look forward to hearing your feedback on all elements of the program and appreciate your participation.

Target Species

Climate Watch will focus on groups of target species for which our climate models have strong predictions and which have a high detectability in the field. For this phase of the pilot we will focus on two groups of species: bluebirds and nuthatches. Specifically, Climate Watch Participants in Wisconsin are asked to survey for Eastern Bluebirds. Participants should work with their Climate Watch Coordinator.

Time Period

Climate Watch will occur over two distinct fifteen-day periods each year, in the winter and in the breeding season. The next phase of the pilot will cover the summer season and will run Sunday, June 1 to June 15, 2017. Participants may choose to conduct their point counts on one or more days of the count period. Try to conduct point counts in the morning (before noon) and to complete all 12 surveys for a given square on a single morning whenever possible.

Climate Watch Roles

Much like with the Christmas Bird Count there are two potential roles for individuals interested in volunteering with the Climate Watch project: Coordinator: Volunteers who manage their chapter's participation in Climate Watch by recruiting Participants, coordinating their efforts, and ensuring that the data they collect are submitted to the national Climate Watch team. Participant: Anyone conducting Climate Watch point counts in coordination with their chapter or center's Climate Watch Coordinator.

General Protocol Overview

- Using the maps provided by the national Climate Watch team, Coordinators and Participants should select squares to survey for bluebirds from within their chapter territory. Each square is 10 km x 10 km, or about 6 miles x 6 miles.

- Participants should conduct a total of twelve five-minute surveys (point counts) within each of the selected square(s), counting all of the individuals of bluebirds that they are able to detect within 100m of each point as well as all other bird species that they are able to identify. Surveys in the same square should be conducted on the same day whenever possible and must be separated from each other by a minimum of 200m to avoid double-counting.

- Participants should submit each of these surveys as separate eBird checklists and email them to the national Climate Watch team at climatewatch@audubon.org.

Selecting Squares

Coordinators should work with Participants to select ten squares within or around your chapter boundary or center in which to conduct surveys for bluebirds. Squares will be selected based on the predictions of the climate models, accessibility, and appropriate habitat for the selected target species.

Planning Survey Locations

Participants should then identify their twelve survey locations within each square. Survey locations can be plotted on the paper or web maps provided by the national Climate Watch team or you can capture their GPS coordinates in the field. There are a number of factors to think about when planning your survey locations:

- Select survey points in the best possible habitat for the bluebirds within each square. Identify appropriate habitats and conduct surveys there regardless of the initial presence of bluebirds.
- Note: you may target different areas across the summer and winter seasons based on differences between winter and summer habitats of the target species but it is best to return to the same survey points each winter and another set of survey points each summer for a given target species group. Surveying these same points (or as close as possible) winter after Surveys should

be done as stationary counts, meaning you stand in one place and record birds seen or heard from that location, and should be conducted for exactly five minutes each. You should record each five-minute survey separately and enter them into eBird individually. During each survey be sure to record:

- Start time
- Number of observers
- Latitude and longitude
- Total number of each species (bluebirds and other bird species you are able to identify) that you see or hear within 100 meters of your location, line of sight permitting.
- Keep separate totals for each species seen on each survey.
- If you count for more than five minutes start a new list at that point so you can enter just your first five minutes of observations into eBird for Climate Watch.

Entering Data

Enter your data into eBird at www.eBird.org.

Data can also be entered from the field using the free eBird mobile app. It can be used to capture your location automatically where coverage is available: <http://ebird.org/content/ebird/news/mobileglobal/> (available for iOS and Android)

For specific instructions on entering Climate Watch surveys into eBird using the desktop site or mobile app consult the videos here: <https://www.audubon.org/conservation/climate-watch-pilot-program>

Submit your data regardless of whether or not you saw any target species at a given point. An important part of this effort is conducting surveys in areas where the target species are not yet likely to be. Data documenting the absence of target species is an important part of tracking when target species show up in new areas or abandon others, so be sure to record and submit your surveys even when you do not observe any individuals of the target species.

Editor's Note: Brooke Bateman of National Audubon's Climate Watch will be at the annual convention and give a brief presentation about this important study.

Meet the New Treasurer

Welcome to our new treasurer! Dan Schroeder is a born and bred Wisconsinite, and has been interested in bluebirds for over 10 years. Now retired, Dan spent most of his career at Thrivent Financial (formerly AAL) in Appleton as an educator. He has a MBA in finance from Concordia University, a MS in education from Northern Illinois University, and is a Chartered Financial Consultant. He and his wife, Mary, recently moved to the Waupaca area where he will garden, keep bees, and, of course, have a bluebird trail.



Tax Deductible Contributions??

The Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin is a 501 (C)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to BRAW are tax deductible. However, an annual or life membership is not tax deductible as goods and/or services are received for that money. The best example of *goods* is the Wisconsin Bluebird publication that each member receives. Some examples of services are state convention speakers, BRAW sponsored workshops, and the work of the membership chairperson. When making a membership payment, a considerable number of BRAW members write a check for more than the \$20.00 for subscription/membership. Any amount over the \$20.00 would be tax deductible.

If you have questions regarding whether a contribution is tax deductible, you should check with your accountant, tax preparer, or IRS.

Dan Schroeder
BRAW Treasurer

BRAW Inc. Treasurer's Report

By Dan Schroeder, BRAW Treasurer

Revenue	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Annual Budget
Memberships - Individual	1,985.00	666.67	8,000
Memberships - Life	-	50.00	600
Memberships - Corporate	-	8.33	100
Donations - Memorials	115.00	-	-
Donations - Nest Box Trails	40.00	50.00	600
Donations - Nondesignated	440.00	108.33	1,300
Materials Sales - Nest box items	-	150.00	1,800
Material Sales - Printed Matter	-	20.83	250
Material Sales - Cafepress	-	4.17	50
Material Sales - Miscellaneous	-	16.67	200
State Convention - Auction	-	50.00	600
State Convention - Meals	-	66.67	800
Dividends / Interest - CD	-	6.25	75
Dividends / Interest - iBonds	-	25.00	300
TOTAL REVENUE:	2,580.00\$	1,223	14,675
Miscellaneous Compensation	-	467	5,599
Office Supplies	-	17	200
BoD Meetings	-	5	60
Postage - general	-	29	350
Postage - Newsletter	-	75	900
State Convention	244.30	117	1,400
Workshops - County Coordinators	-	17	200
Data Collection	-	21	250
Website Mgt	130.00	83	1,000
Other Expenses	-	42	500
Printing - Newsletter	-	375	4,500
Printing - Info Packets	-	42	500
Printing - Brochures	-	25	300
Promotional Programs	-	42	500
Nest Box Items (Sparrow Traps)	760.50	75	900
Nest Box Bldg Requests	-	50	600
Non-Profit Tax Exempt Fee	-	1	10
Donations and Contributions	-	42	500
Paypal Fees	-	-	-
Total Operating Expenses:	1,134.80\$	1,522.42\$	18,269.00\$
Net Revenue after Expenses	1,445.20\$		
INCOME STATEMENT SUMMARY			
Cash Previous Year End:	23,037.23		
Plus: Net Income Year to Date:	1,445.20		
Cash Balance:	24,482.43		
Less: Liabilities:	-		
Cash Available:	24,482.43		

ASSETS	
Checking Account	24,482.43
INVESTMENTS	
CD @ BankMutual	10,413.00
INVENTORY	
TOTAL ASSETS =	38,775.43\$
LIABILITIES	
Credit Card	0
NET WORTH	
Common Equity	38,775.43
Total Liabilities and Equity:	38,775.43

**Individual Nestbox Weekly Field Record
Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, Inc.**

Trail name: _____ Monitor: _____	Box Number
-------------------------------------	-------------------

Date of visit	Is nest present	Bird Species	Number of eggs	Number of young	Number fledged	Notes:

Date of visit	Is nest present	Bird Species	Number of eggs	Number of young	Number fledged	Notes:

Instructions: Consolidate your data at the end of the nesting season from this BRAW, Inc. Form 22, Individual Nestbox Weekly Record and enter it on BRAW EZ Summary Form. Summary form available in *Wisconsin Bluebird* newsletter and at www.braw.org. Choose one of three ways to submit your summarized data by September 30.
Mail to Steve Fallon/Data Summary Director, 974 Halcyon Days Ct., Oregon, WI. 53575
Email data to: wisconsinbluebirds@gmail.com
or use the Easy Fill-in Form on our website: www.braw.org

Resources for Bluebirders

Where to buy boxes or traps

The following vendors offer nest boxes and traps for sale. **Listing here does not imply endorsement or knowledge by BRAW, Inc. of quality of workmanship of these boxes, etc.** Prices and shipping costs are subject to change without notice.

Peterson Nest box
Morgan Woodworking
 304 Saint Rose Road
 Cuba City, WI 53807
 Ph. 608/744-8798
 tcmorgan@mhtc.net

NABS style box & Simple box
Bluebird Nest Nature Center
 308 Main Street, Darlington, WI
 Open W-F 1-4 pm.

VanErt Sparrow traps
 Call: (641)-446-7416 or
 (515)-418-3787
 www.vanerttraps.com

New (and returning) Members Join BRAW

Membership includes a subscription to the *Wisconsin Bluebird*. Consider a gift sub to someone you think would enjoy bluebirds.

Don & Jan Amphlett & Johnson
 Amy & Steve Bachman
 Catherine Baldwin
 David Bruggink
 Joni Crave
 Mary & Gary Gluth
 Debbie & Don Herrick
 Marci Hess
 Fred Heinritz
 Judith Jackson
 Maureen E. Kauffmann
 Barb Kellerman
 Jim & Anne Kraft
 John Layton
 Dominique Magermans
 Carlton Mahn
 David & Kelly Marwitz
 NABS
 Delbert Parkinson
 Mary Stodola
 Mary Surprenant
 Amy & Steve Wiberley

LIFE MEMBER:
 Ruby Thomas

GIFT OF \$100 OR MORE
 Donald C. Persons
 Memorial Fund for
 Harold Ramon Cram

Memorial to Carlton Mahn



Shari Kastner

BRAW Membership Information

Wisconsin Bluebird Subscription and BRAW, Inc. Membership

Yes! I would like to renew my membership with the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, Inc. and receive its newsletter *Wisconsin Bluebird*. Enclosed is my check/money order (do not send cash) made out to BRAW, Inc. for the following:

Subscription/Membership contribution:

- \$20 individual or Family Annual
- \$25 Contributing Annual
- \$100 Corporate Annual
- \$300 Life Membership

Print clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: () _____

County of residence: _____

- \$15 to nest box construction with post & predator guard
 - \$100 for nest box trail
 - \$_____ for educational research (Master's thesis)
 - In addition to my membership contribution, I wish to contribute: \$ _____
- (Contributions to BRAW are tax deductible)

Check appropriate boxes:

- This is a renewal.
- This is a new subscription
- This is a GIFT subscription.

Enclosed please find my check \$ _____

Mail this membership/subscription request to:
 BRAW.org

You can also use PayPal or a credit card to renew your membership or make a contribution on the the BRAW website at www.braw.org

If you join during the year you will be on a quarterly membership and will not receive back issues.

2016 Year in Review continued from page 4

Bluebird fledging was half compared to the last eight years. Spring weather was hot then cold and repeated that yet again. Last year I had 21 Tree Swallows fledge, this year 99!

Dane County S.S.

In recent years we have observed a dramatic reduction in the numbers of nest boxes occupied by bluebirds. This seems due to less nesting birds rather than changes in habitat, house placement or competition. Bear predation has become a major problem. 5 of 11 boxes destroyed by bears.

Anonymous

Bluebirds built nests in boxes being used by Tree Swallows. The Bluebirds cleaned out the nests and took up residence. A first for me!

Jefferson County J.G.

I had a double nest of tree swallows laying a total of 10 eggs in the same box. Hatched and fledged nine.

Oconto County J.G.

"Encountered no blackflies & no blowflies this year!!"

D.N. Jackson County

"10 of my boxes were destroyed by bears."

A.C. Jackson County

"No black flies this year..... I trapped 26 House Sparrow with Van Ert trap. Best year I've ever had."

D.E. Jackson County

"... they would not compete with Tree Swallows. But this year was different!! The bluebirds stayed and had two batches... We are now looking forward to next spring."

A & C Marquett County

"I had three different problems with (House) sparrows...and I had two boxes destroyed by a bear. ... I plan to get my trail up to 50 houses. (11 more).

T.U. Wood County

"Good fledging rates,% BB occupancy down, virtually no flies problems..." T.G Eau Clair, Dunn, Pepin, Buffalo counties

"Raccoon & weather losses .. and too much competition from wrens"

D.L. Dane County

See the Trends in Bluebird Production chart on page 16.



Photos: Pat Ready

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Editor, Designer, Photographer

Patrick Ready, 815 Sky Ridge Dr., Madison WI 53719

608-239-0791 • birdsready@gmail.com

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The mission and purpose of the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, Inc. is to monitor and increase the production of Eastern Bluebirds and other native cavity nesters through a coordinated statewide nest box construction and monitoring program.

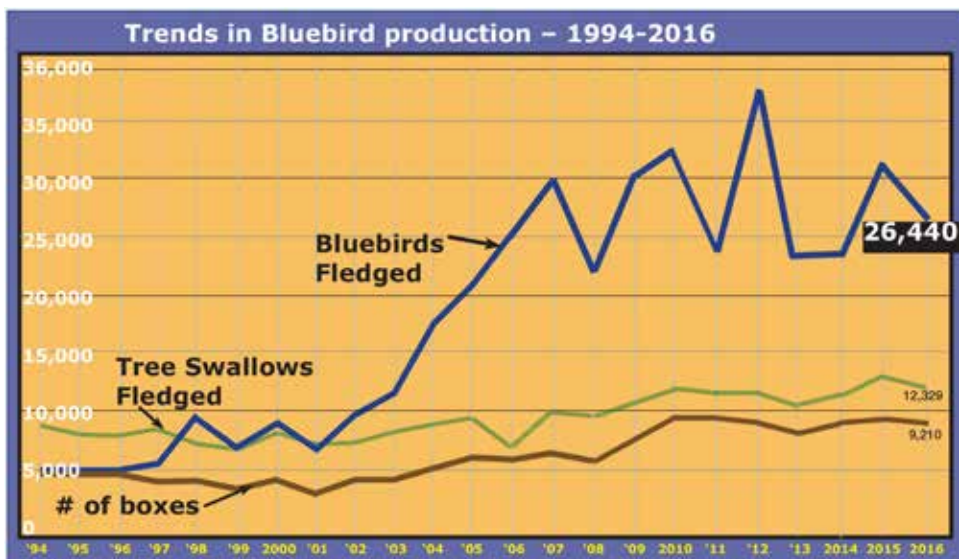
Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin

Patrick Ready
815 Sky Ridge Dr.
Madison, WI 53719
www.braw.org



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**2017 BRAW
Annual
Convention**
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*Number of fledging Eastern Bluebirds & Tree Swallows, and number of active nest-boxes, in the 1994 to 2016 time period.
Note that most BRAW monitors dropped paired boxes by 1997 and most dropped crowded single boxes by 2002.

Dr. Stanley Temple to speak at Lafayette County Bluebird Society's Spring Meeting



Darlington, a Bird City community, is celebrating International Migratory Bird Day on April 9th and the Lafayette County Bluebird Society has invited Dr. Stanley A. Temple to speak on how effective the 100 year old Migratory Bird Act is today in his presentation titled, "Making the Migratory Bird Treaty Work, Then and Now: A Centennial Assessment". Dr. Temple is a Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation, University of Wisconsin-Madison and Senior Fellow of the Aldo Leopold Foundation. In 2016 we marked the centenary of the "Convention between the United States and Great Britain (for Canada) for the Protection of Migratory Birds" (the Migratory Bird Treaty, for short). The 1916 treaty became the cornerstone of our national commitment to conserve birds. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 implements the landmark 1916 treaty, and together the treaty and act form one of the oldest and most enduring bird conservation measures in the world. But threats to migratory

birds today challenge the effectiveness of these milestones. Loss and degradation of habitat, collisions with human-made structures, predation by cats, pesticide poisoning, and oil spills cause the deaths of hundreds of millions of migratory birds each year. Are these century-old actions up to the task of protecting birds against 21st century threats? Stan Temple will recount the first century of migratory bird protection and speculate about the future. The program will be from 1:00-4:00 pm in the community room at the Town Bank, 15815 State Hwy 81, Darlington, WI. A silent auction and refreshments will be included in the day. More information can be found at www.lafayettecountybluebirdsociety.wordpress.com or by emailing lafayettecountybluebird-society@yahoo.com

Submitted by: Carol McDaniel

Garden Expo in Madison a Success!

By Patrick Ready, BRAW President
In February BRAW once again had a double booth at the Garden Expo. Mike Helgren spearheaded the effort for this event and the BRAW board supported this wholeheartedly. Turned out to be very successful. We sold 46 NABS Style nest boxes, 41 Info Packs, 35 oval hole guards and 61 Van Ert Sparrow Traps!!! Fred Craig made 25 of the nest boxes and Mike also made 25. This is one of the best ways we can get the proper bluebird information out there to the public.

