



"Bringing back Bluebirds for Future Generations"

Bluebird News



Volume 27 Issue 2

Spring 2017

"2017 Expo + Earth Day" by Mary C. Bailey

A beautiful, sunny spring day ushered in Earth Day and the 37th annual Bluebird Expo, held this year at Northfield Middle School. A full lineup of speakers and activities filled the day.

The first speaker was Keith Radel, who has previously served as BBRP's Chair and who has decades of successful bluebirding, and he spoke on "Bluebird Trail Management." His best advice for all of us was to follow the "Ten Tips for Successful Bluebirding," especially proper box placement and weekly checks. He encouraged the involvement of children and the enjoyment of other cavity nesters like chickadees and tree swallows. He warned about controlling predatory species such as raccoons, house sparrows and wrens; and he gave examples of poor box design. He showed how following the best practices outlined by BBRP leads to the success of all songbirds and ultimately the betterment of our lives and environment.

New to the speakers' slot were Bill and Mary Bailey whose topic, "A Farm, a Forest, a Little Blue Bird, and the Future or What Happens When a Farmer Marries a Bluebird," brought decades of farm and timber management experience to the screen to show how it all impacts the environment and the future. Bill used the four criteria for his recent Minnesota Tree Farmer of the Year Award – sustainable management of forest land, care for our water resources, healthy management of wildlife, and promoting healthy recreation -- and showed how he fulfills them in his farming and timber operation. This ultimately

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mately improves the land he owns but also contributes to the betterment of our environment. He showed the delicate interaction of these four factors and the care he gives to all of them. Mary tied it all together telling why they follow these guidelines: future generations. The land we own and love is in our hands for a short time with a profound responsibility to be good stewards so that those who follow us will "walk into a better and brighter future." They showed that conservation is not a philosophy; it's a way of life.

Al Batt followed with his special brand of humor and kept the audience laughing at his examples from his youth and family. He talked about his enjoyment of birds, even the everyday ones we tend to take for granted, and reminded us to look back to our "spark bird," the one which started our interest in birds. He warmly engaged the audience and thanked them for what they do for nature.

Dave Angell gave us a detailed look at his "Polar Bear Adventure" in Churchill, Manitoba. He outlined his trip and his days in this remote, unique place and showed slides of remarkable views of the bears and their surroundings. He detailed the unusual vehicles and dwellings there. During bear migration, Churchill has features such as huge live traps for relocation (north -- in the direction of migration)

and "bear jail," for temporary detention. These were shown on his slides as were young male bears fighting for dominance and a stunningly beautiful northern lights display.

Expo Photos by Ardy Murphy

Expo continued on page 2



“2017 Expo + Earth Day” by Mary C. Bailey, Continued

Joel Dunnette captivated the audience with “E-Birding,” the use of the internet and electronics to report sightings and locate areas for sightings. He stressed the importance of this type of “citizen science” and showed how valuable a contribution it can be to the overall picture of our world. It allows the public to participate in scientific research on a vast scale previously unheard of. E-Birding started in the US but it is international and is even possible on the high seas. It can be as simple or as detailed as we want, but more detail gives a more complete picture of species migration and settlement. He showed a variety of ways to participate and look at the data and illustrated how our interests can help birds and benefit conservation.

John Gordon and Alan Hale brought their specific environmental concern to us with “Dangers of Neonicotinoids in Home Landscaping.” John talked about repellants and baits and illustrated how the “shotgun approach” is convenient but problematic. He stressed reading product labels and gave us specific words to watch for when shopping. He simply advised us to make our own from Castile soap and distilled water (see Page 7), adding that for light infestations sometimes just spraying water from a hose is effective.

Alan followed with the sobering warning that sometimes the entire plant is poison, with a disturbing range of environmental consequences, and that some poisons last six to eight years. He stressed asking questions when you buy plants and advised natural alternatives such as the soap-based treatment or just the blast of water. He encouraged us that Minnesota is on the leading edge of neonicotinoid awareness. **His prime advice was to spray after supper since pollinators work in the daytime.** Honeybee collapse is due to a combination of factors; they can fight one, but multiple assaults are



Presenters & Speakers

Dave Angell, Mike Sandberg, Keith Radel,
Mary Bailey, Joel Dunnette, Alan Hale, John Gordon,
Al Batt, Wally Swanson & Bill Bailey

ing them a variety of classic field guides to take home.

Interspersed with the speakers was the Bluebirder of the Year award which went to Margaret Murm of Stearns County for fledging 89 bluebirds from 12 sites for an average of 7.41 birds fledged per site, the best for 2016.

The audience was introduced to the Expo committee, which had worked tirelessly to make it the smooth working celebration that it was: JENean Mortenson, Chair, Glen Shirley, Bruce Smisek, Wally Swanson, and Fern Vesledahl. Jeanie then announced the 2018 Expo to be held in Cannon Falls.

BBRP Chairman Larry Alderks showed the audience graphs, charts and a map of our bluebirding efforts and speculated on the use of the data as a starting point for future efforts.

Marlys Shirley gave touching tributes to Linda Buhr and Dick Eide, bluebirders who have passed away in the last year; and she drew numbers for nest box sets given in their memory.

Throughout the day we enjoyed a tasty lunch and a variety of vendors and items on the silent auction along with the company of fellow bluebirders. One hundred eighty-six people and one certified service dog (possibly a first for BBRP) attended the Expo to celebrate their love of a little blue bird. The combination of the speakers' topics all seemed to dovetail with Earth Day that we celebrated along with this Expo, all a fitting and exciting way to launch our bluebirding season.



Photos
by
Doris Glander



too much. We can do our part by avoiding the ones we can control and helping them by beneficial plantings and by building and mounting mason bee nesting blocks which Alan demonstrated (Audubon, January-February, 2006).

Mike Sandberg inaugurated a new facet

to our Expo by holding a “Youth Outreach” program providing youngsters with alternative activities to a bluebird trail and offer-

"Bluebird Expo " by Jeanie Mortenson, Expo Chair

Happy Spring! I was so thankful we had a beautiful day for our Expo, and even got to have a chance to visit Gary and Barb Drentlaw's Bluebird Trail. We haven't had a trail visit at the Expo for a few years and this was one of the first times that it wasn't rainy and cold. We've had some horrible weather some years during the Expo. This year it was wonderful.

I want to thank everyone who came to our 37th Annual Bluebird Expo. I started counting up how many I've been involved in. I had a co-chair for 11 Expos.

This year was the 12th year and I chaired it alone. I had a great committee helping and I don't know what I would have done without them. Thanks so much to Fern Vesledahl, Glen Shirley, Wally Swanson, and Bruce Smisek.

It was scary lining up the speakers. I hoped I had chosen a variety that everyone would enjoy and tie into Earth Day. It is so much work but oh so rewarding. I want to thank all our speakers: Mary and Bill Bailey, Keith Radel, Al Batt, Dave Angell, Joel Dunnette, and Alan Hale and John Gordon.

Mike Sandberg came to me about inviting children to the Expo and trying to get them interested in what we are doing as we need youth involved and learning the right way to help the birds. He took this on by himself and did such a great job. He contacted Girl Scouts, 4-H leaders, and Boy Scouts. He ended up having 26 children and 6 leaders come in for his "Youth Outreach Program." He went to Half Price Books and got donations & gift cards, so he had a huge variety of books on birds, animals, and nature to hand out to the children to help them learn more. They also went in and watched Dave Angell's talk. What a great idea, Mike! It sure looked good to see all these children stream in and I hope this continues every year.

This year we had a tribute to two wonderful people who were very active in BBRP that we lost. Linda Buhr passed away in October, 2016. She was our Treasurer and such a great person. I miss her so much. We rode together to Board Meetings and became good friends. Linda was so enjoyable to be around and had such humor and a joy to know. Dick Eide was on the Board when I came on in 2005 and was a dear person. He lived into his 90's and passed away in February. It is so hard to lose these great people who you get to know. Lance Krog was the first person that was on the Board that we lost 6 years ago. They are so missed by us all.

We are so lucky to have so many people donate goods

**Board Members**

Jeanie Mortenson, Glen Shirley, Wally Swanson, Alec Irwin, Carrol Johnson, Fern Vesledahl, Virginia Windschitl, Marlys Shirley, Bruce Smisek, Larry Alderks, Brianna Frisch, Marilyn Suter, Mary Bailey, (new web intern Leland Swift) & Alec Irwin. Not pictured Fred Berndt

and money to BBRP. Thank you for your generous donations that help with our education programs; these include Larry and Marty Foster, Larry Buhr, Judy Wedul, Arlene Kjar, Mike O'Brien, Sheila and Bruce Smisek, Marilyn Suter, Kim and Stacy Kisro, Glen and Marlys Shirley, Joni Welda, Pam Sundsmo, Mary Kalinoski, Janet Oistad, Ken and Fern Vesledahl, Burt and Violet Ackerman, Laura and Vince Mangan, Dave and Chris Angell, Joe and JoAnn Adelmann, Mark Zentner, Royce Tyre, Joy Knopp, Wally Swanson, Gary and Barb Drentlaw, Jane and Dean Potter, Sally Brinkman, Joan Koester, Leonard Ouradnik, Jim and Karen Taylor, David Schmidt, Paul Schutte, Steve O'Neill, Mary and Bill Bailey, Ray and Marlene Simon, Mary Roen, Mike Sandberg and Diana and Dave Hering. I hope I didn't leave anyone out as we appreciate your help so much. If I did, please let me know and we'll get it in the next newsletter.

I want to thank all of the workers. Marilyn Suter helped me at Registration. Brianna Frisch helped with membership. Mike Sandberg, Diane Dembosky, and my husband Carl Mortenson ran the Silent Auction. The noisy guy that rings the cow bell alerting everyone it's time to go in to the Auditorium is Glen Shirley and he does a great job (even though he is noisy). Ken Vesledahl, Wally Swanson, and Carrol Johnson ran the information table and were very busy answering questions. Fern Vesledahl, Bruce Smisek and Virginia Windschitl worked at the merchandise table. Marlys Shirley and Winnie Johnson were in charge of dishing up all the delicious cookies for our coffee breaks (thanks to all of you for the wonderful variety of cookies you bring). Dan Foley, Gary and Barb Drentlaw, and Don and Sue Katra helped with setting up and tearing down. Also thanks to Sherri Malecha and her staff for serving a delicious lunch and the custodians for their help. Thank you to each and every one of you.

It is always so nice to see all of you come to the Expo. It is a once a year reunion where we meet old friends and make new ones, and learn how to help our "Little Gems in Blue", our environment, wildlife, and ourselves. Thank you all for coming, it is so nice to get together. See you next year in Cannon Falls on April 14th. It is a wonderful school and fits our needs. Have a wonderful year and successful nesting. Happy Birding.



*Photos
by
Joan Schulz*



"WILD PARSNIP -- A HAZARD WHILE CHECKING YOUR BLUEBIRD HOUSES " by Virginia Windschitl

Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) has become a weed of special concern along our roadsides. It is very similar to the cultivated parsnip and some stands may merely be the cultivated parsnip which escaped or persisted from earlier plantings. Wild parsnip came into Minnesota from the southeast corner of the state and has been progressing north, now reaching around Hinckley. Like many other introduced plants, it is aggressive and spreads rapidly. It is a member of the carrot/parsley family. Wild parsnip is often confused with similar-looking giant hogweed, cow parsnip, Queen Anne's lace and angelica. Wild parsnip is the only one with a yellow flower.

Reason for concern: Like many other members of the carrot family, wild parsnip produces sap containing chemicals that can cause human skin to react to sunlight. This is called "phyto-photodermatitis", which happens when the sap of the plant, from broken stems and leaves, touches the skin and is exposed to ultraviolet light (whether cloudy or sunny). Within 24 to 48 hours, the affected area will redden and in most cases be followed by blisters that can be painful for a couple of days. Unlike poison ivy, the reaction caused by contact with wild parsnip sap is not an allergic reaction but is a chemical reaction, and the blisters are larger than those caused by poison ivy and are painful rather than just itching. Toxin in the sap is absorbed by the skin and energized by ultraviolet light. Perspiration speeds absorption. Burning is inevitable if skin comes in contact with juice from cut or broken stalks, leaves or flowers. The juices are most potent while the plant is in flower. Parsnip burns often appear as streaks and long spots where a leaf or stem dragged across the skin, and the sap is then exposed to the sun. After the blisters heal the skin may be discolored and those areas will burn if not covered up by clothing or very strong sunblock. How long the sensitivity lasts varies but can be from 1 to 5 years.

Treatment: Once the toxin is absorbed into the skin and is exposed to sunlight, some reaction is inevitable. Immediately cover exposed skin until it can be washed with soap and water. It may be necessary to cover up for a couple of days.

To relieve symptoms:

- Cover affected area with a cool, wet cloth.
- If blisters appear, try not to rupture blisters as long as possible.
- To avoid infection, keep area clean and apply antiseptic cream.

Prevention: Educating children of the hazards of contact with wild parsnip and helping them understand how to avoid it is important. Keep pets on a leash and don't let them roam as they can get sap on their fur which can be picked up when you pet the dog -- not to mention that pets with light skin and short hair can suffer the same effects as with people. More people are coming into contact with wild parsnip due to its rapid spread into open habitats and roadsides. Individuals who will be working, hiking, or involved in other activities around it can reduce the risk of exposure by wearing long-sleeved shirts, gloves, and long pants. During much of July, wild parsnip is one of the dominant yellow-flowered weeds in many roadsides and other right-of-ways, fence rows, prairie restorations, CRP sites and poorly managed pastures. It can tolerate dry, mesic, or wet soils, but does not grow in shaded areas. Sap will be present in all stages of development, but increasing potency from spring to summer and decreasing potency after seed set to end of plant life. The best defense is to be able to identify the plant and be aware of what you need to do when working around or near it.

Identification: Wild parsnip typically lives for two years. The first year, as a spindly rosette of leaves, it keeps fairly low to the ground while the plant's carrot-like taproot develops. The second year, a hollow, deeply grooved flower stalk rises 2-5 feet high, first holding clusters of yellow flowers and later dozens of flat, oval seeds. The leaves are alternate and pinnately compound with a main stem and 5 to 15 leaflets with sawtooth edges and deep lobes. The flowers are yellow, in flat-topped umbrella-like clusters at the top of the plant. Wild parsnip rosettes are among the first plants to become green in spring, and its flowers turn a prominent yellow in midsummer. After flowering and going to seed, plants die and turn brown in fall, but first year rosettes remain green until frost.

Control: In areas too large to hand-cut or pull, a power mower should be used before the seeds set. Plants may re-sprout when cut above the ground, and should be cut again or sprayed, a few weeks later to prevent flowering. Cutting done after seed set will greatly reduce the likelihood that the plants will be able to re-sprout and flower, but will increase the risk of spreading the seeds and creating new problems. Plants cut at this time must all be gathered and destroyed to prevent mature seed from developing and falling to the ground. If control of flowering plants is carried out over several years, the population will decrease as the seed bank is depleted. If mowing wild parsnip, be careful cleaning the equipment as the sap will still be present. It's suggested to clean the mower deck, if mowing while seeds are present and before traveling to the next area or the equipment storage area.

Other sources of information on Wild Parsnip

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has photos of various stages of development:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/adopt/documents/wild-parsnips.pdf>

Another good site: <https://sewisc.org/invasives/invasive-plants/72-wild-parsnip>

Video on identification from the University of Wisconsin Extension:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozqdU6_T1uU

Interesting article from Wisconsin: "Burned by wild parsnip: Sun-induced burns from a common weed stump medical professionals and outdoor enthusiasts alike", by David J. Eagan

<http://dnr.wi.gov/wnrmap/html/stories/1999/jun99/parsnip.htm>

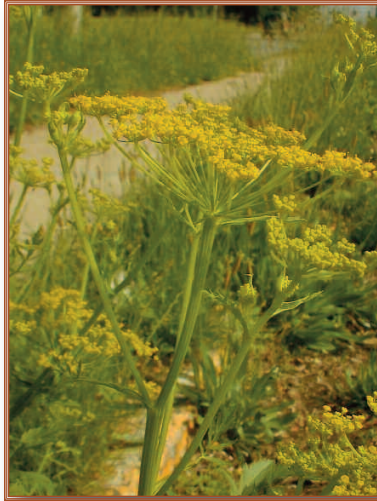
"Whitewater State Park – 5th Annual Wild Parsnip Pull" by Steve Poole

At Whitewater State Park wild parsnip is found in many parts of the park. Most importantly, parsnip can be found around the edges of the campsites. Young children, bare legged and sometimes barefooted, run around their site unknowingly rubbing up against the plants and getting blisters on their legs, feet, and arms.

The purpose of the Whitewater Annual Wild Parsnip Pull is to remove the wild parsnip from around the camp sites and eventually from the entire park. Back in 2005 while camping at Whitewater, I saw a 3 and 5 year old boy and girl running happily through the parsnip around their campsite. At that time I said to myself that something should be done about that.

I retired in 2008 and started doing volunteer prairie restoration work for the DNR. Through the course of researching how to control invasive plants, I came across methods for controlling wild parsnip. There are basically three ways. The first involves herbicide. This is very effective but also ends up killing a lot of desirable plants as well. The second method is continuous mowing of the plants. It takes at least 3 mowings a year (because the plants resprout when cut) over several years. It is very labor intensive, can spread seed badly if not cut early enough, and affects all the other native plants as well. The third method is pulling the plants out of the ground. It is highly effective and has a 100 percent kill rate. It is labor intensive, however.

I started camping at Whitewater in June in 2009. I would go around the campsites and pull plants.



The park staff would then collect the plants and dispose of them. I did this in 2009, 10, 11, and 12. I kept count of the number of plants pulled in the years 2010, 11, and 12. In 2010 I pulled 4700 plants, 2011 was 5200 plants and 2012 was 1500. The much reduced number in 2012 was due solely on there being fewer plants in the areas I was pulling from. My method was definitely working. One campsite which in 2010 had 227 plants the first year had only 15 in 2012.

The problem was that I was only pulling plants from the first 32 campsites as well as sites 50 thru 74. There were many more sites, but I did not have the time nor the energy to pull any more. So in 2012 I approached the Park Manager and head naturalist and showed them my results. I then asked them if they could sponsor

an annual parsnip pull. We could then start advertising and getting more people to come and pull parsnips. This year is the 5th Annual Parsnip Pull. We have had as few as 10 people on up to 25 people attend. We are looking to get 50 to 100 people to come. There is a lot of work to be done.

This year the Whitewater State Park parsnip pull will be on Saturday, June 24. Registration starts at 8 AM. The event runs 4 hours. Lunch from Subway Sandwiches will be provided courtesy of the Friends of Whitewater State Park group. Participants need to wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts. Heavy rubber gloves will be provided. To sign up email: sara.holger@state.mn.us or call 507-932-3007, ext. 226.

"A Strange Case of Wrens and Bluebirds by Sara Alms, Red Wing MN

This event happened the summer of 2015: I monitor 12 nest boxes throughout the season in sets of 3. A pair of bluebirds was sitting on eggs in nest box 2 with 1 and 3 empty on either side. My next visit would find the box empty with the 4 eggs on the ground with the telltale "pinholes" from a house wren invasion. I dumped the nest out in hopes the bluebirds would build again, which they did straight away at the same time the house wrens were building their own nest in the adjacent house. Several days passed and the bluebirds still had not begun laying again. Checking the wren nest, I was more than surprised to find the bluebirds had culled out the "tunnel" sticks and proceeded to lay 3 eggs on top of 3 house wren eggs leaving them intact. My first thought was to remove the house-wren eggs, but I did not want to mess with nature and my curiosity stopped me. All six eggs hatched at the same time, but still I was sure the wren babies would perish for food competition. On the contrary, all 6 babies thrived and I was delighted to see them taking turns peeking out the nest box window 16 days later, first a wren, then a bluebird and so on. At 18 1/2 days they all fledged. It left me with so many questions. Would the bluebird parents hear and recognize the wren babies locating cries and continue feeding them? Will they migrate together? I have not been able to find a similar story on the internet at all, so I thought I would share with you.

***Sparrow Swap* by Suzanne Hartley (Project Manager)**

The Sparrow Swap Team at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences has a citizen science opportunity that uses house sparrow eggs for research purposes and may be of interest to members.

We are inviting those who monitor nestboxes to participate in the Sparrow Swap Project. With house sparrow eggs collected by volunteers, we aim to investigate the variation in color and speckling of house sparrow eggs across the U.S. and determine the best management strategies for minimizing damage caused by house sparrows. Participants can choose to get involved in four different ways, from an easy one time egg collection and shipment to the Museum to more extensive monitoring of neighboring nestboxes over a three-week period.

Last year we had 80 participants across 24 states. With your help, we are hoping to include even more nestbox monitors across the country this nesting season. If you are interested or would like to know more check their website at: scistarter.com/sparrowswap.

New Members

Larry Foster - - - - - Lake City MN	Gilbert Johnson - - - - -Faribault, MN
Harvey & Mary Krage - - - - - Minnesota City, MN	Ted Frey - - - - - Northfield, MN
Michelle Grabowski - - - - - St. Paul, MN	Stuart Powers - - - - - Richfield, MN
Scott Lehmann - - - - - Winnebago, MN	John Backowski - - - - -St. Michael, MN
Tom Crawmer Sr - - - - - Elysian, MN	Jay & Jodie Little - - - - - Dundas, MN
Dr. Darren Roemhildt - - - - -Owatonna, MN	Karen Sundal Bartz - - - - -Austin, MN
Tom Vosberg - - - - - Northfield, MN	Jim Stiles - - - - - Austin, MN
Nancy Pumper - - - - -Northfield, MN	Heath Anderson - - - - - Austin, MN
Margo Squire - - - - - River Falls, WI	Marion Heinz - - - - - Henderson, MN
Kim Luke - - - - -Northfield, MN	Jerry & Sheila KahlertInver - - - Grove Heights, MN
Eric Haines - - - - - Northfield, MN	Dennis & Peg Kerber - - - - - Corcoran, MN
Bruce & Ann Dybvik - - - - - Northfield, MN	Marilyn Matson - - - - - Spring Valley, MN
Maria Bohl - - - - -Northfield, MN	Claire Olson - - - - -St. Paul, MN
Mike & Wanda Playter - - - - - Northfield, MN	Gilbert Ross - - - - - Faribault, MN
Greg & Deeann Lufkin - - - - - Northfield, MN	Janet Springer - - - - - Owatonna, MN

Southeast Minnesota mourns the loss of two bluebirders and BBRP members.

Richard Merrill (Fillmore County) passed away February 11 in Chatfield. Richard was a diligent bluebird as well as a successful large-scale gardener.

Gerhardt Poch (Olmsted County) passed away April 9 in Rochester. Gerhardt was enthusiastic about bluebirds and enjoyed attending Expos. He was also a member of the Rochester Music Men Barbershop Chorus, a songster just like his beloved bluebirds.

These gentlemen made a positive difference in the natural world, and their presence will be missed.

Mary C. Bailey
County Coordinator, Olmsted and Fillmore Counties

Thank You: Bill Harner for his generous donation to BBRP in memory of his late wife Phyllis.
Mike O'Brien donated \$25 in honor of his wife Millie who passed away this past November.

Earth-Friendly Insect Spray

1 gallon distilled water (do not substitute)
4 tablespoons Castile liquid or bar soap
Mix well, identify the problem, and spray
Caution: Spray after dinner. Pollinators work in the daytime.

Matching for Trails and Monitors

Are you aware of a trail which needs checking, or are you a bluebird who would like a trail to check? For trails which need checking, we will need to know the location, number of boxes, accessibility, and previous monitor if known.

Please contact: Mary Bailey at
(507) 867 9118 or marycbluebird@gmail.com
or Carrol Johnson at (507) 649 0126.

Buffalo Gnat Alert by Mary C. Bailey

We never know whether or not the SE region will be hit with buffalo gnats which cause complete nest failure just prior to fledging. They usually arrive in early June and plague the nests throughout the season. The easy solution is to spritz the babies and nest with vanilla once a day. It does not bother them and can save their lives. You can use the cheap vanilla and a simple sprayer from the dollar store. No need to steal the good vanilla from the kitchen! These pests may not arrive at all, but it is good to be forewarned.



Photo
by
Doris Glander

BLUEBIRD RECOVERY PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT & RENEWAL

Enrollment in the Bluebird Recovery Program includes: initial Information Packet containing a full color Trail Guide, Top Ten Tips including colored Nest Guide, Record Keeping booklet, Pole Assembly instruction sheet, yearly Report Form & quarterly Newsletter. There are also annual informational meetings and a yearly Bluebird Expo. Consultation and advice are available by phone, e-mail, correspondence or in the field.

Enrollment contributions are **tax deductible**.

_____ New Member Renewal _____

Membership periods are:

_____ 2 years \$23.00 _____ 5 years \$55.00 _____ Lifetime \$150.00

_____ * Gift Membership * - indicate amount & period of gift _____



*Brinaina back Bluebirds
for Future Generations!*

Member Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

* If giving a Gift Membership, please provide your name so that the recipient can be informed of your generosity. _____

Send to:

Bluebird Recovery Program, c/o Brianna Frisch
395 Williams Street • Lewiston, MN 55952

Bluebird Recovery Program
Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis



P.O. Box 984
Faribault, MN 55021

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edbbnews@outlook.com

Photo by Doris Glander

Upcoming Events

June 17

BBRP Educational Booth

Peterson Gammel Dag Fest

Sept. 1,2,3

BBRP Educational Booth

43rd Annual Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Show
Dundas Showgrounds, Hwy. 3 (3 miles south of Northfield)

Sept. 15

Trail Reports for the 2017 Nesting Season Due

September 16, 2017 – Saturday - noon

12th Annual Southeastern Minnesota Bluebirders' Picnic

Chatfield United Methodist Church
124 Winona St. SE., Chatfield, MN 55923

Sept. 17

BBRP Educational Booth

Valley Grove Country Social
10000 155th St. E., Nerstrand MN

September 23, 2017, - Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

15th Annual South Central Bluebirders' Picnic

Riverbend Nature Center, Faribault, MN 55021



Our Mission:
"To encourage, inspire, educate and assist individuals and organizations to become actively involved in the restoration and preservation efforts to sustain a healthy and expanding population of bluebirds and other native cavity nesters."



Photos by Doris Glander

Thank you to everyone who wrote articles, provided photographs or helped with the mailing of this publication of the Bluebird News.