



The Bird Box

October 2006

Calendar

Today: Send your completed 2006 Data Forms to your County Coordinator or Charlie Chambers (see page 2).

November 4: 11:00 a.m. VBS General Meeting in Winchester during the Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society Birding Festival (see page 2).

February 1: Deadline for your articles and photos for the March *Bird Box*.

February 24: VBS Board Meeting 10:30 a.m. - noon. At the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries Headquarters, 4010 West Broad St., Richmond. Directions will be posted on VBS Web site. All are invited.

February 28: Walk your trail. Contemplate box repairs and relocations.

March 1: Equip your buckets, get notebook in order, and make sure monitoring team is in place.

Visit Our Web Site

The VBS Web site offers nest box plans, trail monitoring protocol, trail data forms, news, and links to other useful sites:

www.viriniabluebirds.org

One Thing Led to Another

Probably like many people, I got into bluebirding in a roundabout way. After retiring from IBM in 1993, I moved back to Houston where I still had many friends with whom I had worked at NASA. For a hobby I took up woodcarving. My interest was primarily in carving roses; once in a while I'd carve a songbird. I knew bluebirds were in the area, but I never went looking for them, though I was told you could see them flying around out at the Johnson Space Center. Somebody asked if I could carve a bluebird, so I did – and that was the closest I had ever been to one. (Photo, page 3.)

In 2001, I moved here to Roanoke. The following year, after a friend of mine here died, I decided to get into volunteering. I got back into singing with a local church choir, volunteering at a new museum, and getting involved with the Roanoke Symphony. I also saw a feature article in the *Roanoke Times* about Tom Clifton who (along with his cousin) had just installed an 80-house bluebird trail at an industrial park in Botetourt County. I contacted Tom to buy one of his bird houses for a friend in Connecticut. He asked if I would be interested in monitoring bluebirds.

Though I was reluctant, after a week or so Tom had me walking that industrial park up-county, and he showed me how he checked the nest boxes. That got me hooked. What I didn't know then was that Tom had a plan. He had just received permission to install a 30-house trail at Hunting Hills Country Club (right near me). But he couldn't do it without a trail monitor. So guess what? That was three years ago, and the rest is history. The following year, Tom called to say he had just lost the two trail monitors at Hidden Valley County Club. He asked me to consider doing that 30-house trail, too, until he could find someone else. That was two years ago, and I'm still doing it.

I wouldn't give up either trail now. Both golf courses are closed on Monday mornings for grounds maintenance, and that's when I do my monitoring – starting at 7 o'clock along with the deer, wild turkeys, and any other wildlife that wants to join me as the sun comes up. Of the 12 trails I have overseen in Roanoke County (this year it will be 16), the Hunting Hills Country Club trail has been the most productive (199 bluebirds last year).

Last summer, after the Roanoke County Coordinator moved away, Barbara Chambers (along with Tom) coaxed me into taking over the County monitoring responsibilities. The trails here cover all aspects of the valley – four golf courses, parks, greenways, a church yard, farm land, and the Blue Ridge Parkway. So far, I have no regrets. Yes, there's paperwork to be done and mailings to trail monitors, etc. But it's been a very satisfying and rewarding experience – even if it means speaking to local garden clubs and church and civic groups to brag about bluebirds. I wouldn't trade it for the world!

– Earl Morris



Earl Morris checks a nest box.
Photo: Kyle Green, *Roanoke Times*

Promoting bluebirds and other cavity nesters

The Bird Box

Issue 8.2

Newsletter of the
Virginia Bluebird Society
www.virginiabluebirds.org

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vbs@virginiabluebirds.org
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We welcome your written items and artwork (photos and drawings) for *The Bird Box*! Send your materials by e-mail or on diskette to Sarah or Bob.

VBS News

Annual Meeting, November 4

The annual meeting of the Virginia Bluebird Society will be held on **Saturday, November 4**, in Winchester in conjunction with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society's Birding Festival. The festival, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and our meeting, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., will both be held inside the War Memorial Building in Jim Barnett Park, 1001 East Cork Street, Winchester.

The festival's doors will open at 9:30 for bird class registrations. There will be programs on identifying birds and helping scouts earn merit badges. The Raptor Conservancy of Virginia will bring the seven owls native to our state. There will be experts available to answer all your birding questions. Bird walks will be offered. Bird books and crafts will be for sale. Top quality birdseed also will be available for purchase. Bird carving will be demonstrated, and other conservation groups will be there with exhibits. Admission is **free**. There will be lots of great activities for the children. And, as it will be held inside the Winchester's War Memorial building in Jim Barnett Park, the educational and family fun will be available no matter what the weather!

Our VBS autumn board meeting, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., will be held in a meeting room during the Festival. Snacks will be available. After the board meeting, we will break for lunch. We will reconvene at 1:30 p.m. for a special showing of a new bluebird slide-show program. VBS will have a table at the festival to disseminate information about bluebirds and to sell miscellaneous items, including boxes, kits, and guards.

Put this date – **November 4** – on your calendars now! Every member is encouraged and welcome to attend both the board meeting and the bluebird slide show. And there will be **door prizes!** It's a wonderful opportunity to meet your fellow bluebirders, share tips, and make special friendships. The Birding Festival will be an extra bonus around our meetings.

Directions to the Festival. From the Washington, DC area, take I-66 west to I-81 north. Then take the exit for US 50/US 522/US 17 (**Exit 313**) toward **Winchester**. Merge onto US 17 north. Turn **right** onto **S. Pleasant Valley Rd.** Turn **right** onto **E. Cork St.** For more details, contact Anne Little, 540 373-4594, thegate@cox.net.

Do You Know This Couple?

Pop Quiz: Many of us in VBS know each other through e-mail, the telephone, or other contacts, but we may never have never met in person. Read these clues and see if you can identify these active members of VBS.

He: Box builder and rehabber, former Treasurer of VBS, installed many trails, state-wide data collector, former membership chairman, founding member of VBS, genealogy buff, devoted father and grandfather.

She: Founding member of VBS, former VBS Education VP, state-wide speaker for VBS programs, VBS Board member, state chairman of County Coordinators, former *Bird Box* editor, established many trails, leader of five trails, Program VP for the Northern Virginia Bird Club, MAPS bander.

Together: Married 50 years. (*Answer, page 7.*)



Old Friends, Good Friends

I was looking through our membership roles recently and noticed that we have 84 current members who have been with us since 1999. Today we have almost 400 members, but those 84 special members have been with us since the beginning. Thank you for supporting VBS all these years.

Although VBS incorporated as an organization in 1999, it really all began in 1995 when **Julie Kutruff** put an ad in a local paper for volunteers to help with a bluebird trail at Pohick Park. My husband, **Carl, Barbara and Charlie Chambers, Klytia Salcedo**, and I all showed up to lend a hand. Pretty soon we were doing bluebird workshops and installing bluebird trails at nearby parks.

How VBS was created is an interesting little story. In October 1997 we had a stroke of luck. We convinced the local *Washington Post* reporter to do a story on our bluebird trail at Gunston Hall in Fairfax County. The photographer took a ton of pictures, and the story was written. The next day was an extremely slow news day, and so we garnered a three-page color spread in the regional section of both the Prince William and Fairfax editions of the *Washington Post*. The response to the article was incredible! We had over 200 phone calls inquiring about the article and from there VBS was born. One sour note – my office staff never forgave me for putting the office number at the end of the article – 200 phone calls shut down our business for almost a week.

We recently lost two of our original members – both good friends and great bluebirders – **Campbell Chambliss** of Brunswick County and **Gene Downs** of Botetourt County. (See page 5.) We are really saddened by their passing but are grateful to have known and worked with both of these fine men. They will be greatly missed by us and the bluebirds.

– *Anne Little*

Animal Tales from the Trails

One reason I enjoy fieldwork is that, as much as I adore birds, I am a naturalist at heart, and I love any chance to be outdoors and see all forms of wildlife. I have had no shortage of animal encounters during my Team Bluebird project at William and Mary. We have found a variety of unexpected animals in our nest boxes, including carpenter bees gnawing away at the walls, wasps and mud daubers creating nests, snakes curled up where baby birds used to be, and flying squirrels nursing young.

Sometimes monitoring a box can give you pause. Once as I was checking a box, I heard a rattling sound I knew all too well from working around rattlesnakes in Shenandoah National Park. I wasn't sure if they lived around Williamsburg, but I froze anyway and started scanning the leaf litter where I stood. I could not tell where the snake was; I could have been standing right on top of it! Finally, a snake's tail protruded from the leaves – a regular tail, without a rattle. It was just a regular old snake pretending to be its more dangerous relative. I don't know if its act works on other animals, but it certainly had me fooled.

I also had a rather unpleasant encounter with chiggers during my first field season. I am still not sure where I was exposed to them, but I do know that I had hundreds of bites. They were enough to cause my lymph nodes to swell up so badly that the pain woke me up in the middle of the night, and I had to go to the hospital because I couldn't sit or stand comfortably.

One of my more bizarre animal sightings happened at a farm along the James River. I looked up into a tree and saw a female groundhog sitting about ten feet up in the branches, munching on leaves. She was either pregnant or nursing, because I could see her teats obviously protruding. Maybe other mammals get the same sort of pregnancy cravings as humans, and she just had to climb up there for a fresh salad. I haven't found anyone who could give me a more scientific explanation, but I would love to hear one.

– *Caitlin Kight*

[*Caitlin Kight is a graduate student at William and Mary. The first part of this article appeared in the July Bird Box.*]

Stuff a Stocking With VBS

Looking for a gift that won't clutter?
Need to send a special thank you?
Looking for something different to give someone who has everything?

Give a gift membership to VBS!

Update on VBS Banding Projects

David Mitchell of Loudoun County banded songbirds this year at Ban-shee Reeks as part of the MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) project. David was licensed to do this with a VBS permit.

The 2006 results show that 177 new birds of 34 species were banded. Twelve cavity nesters were recorded, representing these species: White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, and Tufted Titmouse.

David is also overseeing his color-banded bluebird project. Please remember to telephone him at 540-822-4553 if you see a color-banded bluebird.



Wooden carving of a bluebird by Earl Morris
Photo: Earl Morris

Bear at the Box



Nest box after bear attack.
Photo: Cheryl L. Heatwole

Mixed Success on Early Northern Clutches

Klytia Salcedo of Fairfax County in northern Virginia had two clutches start in March on her neighborhood trail. The clutch started on March 13 fledged three chicks from five eggs. The March 20 clutch hatched three chicks from four eggs, but none survived. Klytia noted there was a warm spell during the March 13 nestlings' first week.

March clutches are infrequent in Northern Virginia, and this was an especially cool early spring. *The Bird Box* wants to know about other early clutches and their success rates from around the state.

June 10, 2006
Attn: Sarah McDade, Editor
The Bird Box
8502 Crestview Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031

Dear Sarah:

Tom Clifton called today and asked that I send *The Bird Box* an account of what happened on my Bluebird Trail Walk on April 30.

I am a novice bluebird trail walker. I had met bluebirders Tom Clifton and Aubrey Newman in the parking lot of the Botetourt County Industrial Park the last week of March when I was out walking and volunteered on the spot to help.

April 30 marked my fifth week of monitoring a bluebird trail. Box 142 was the 9th box on the trail and as I approached the box I checked my notes from the week before noting it had a bluebird nest with 4 blue eggs in it. I was eager to see if any more eggs were in the box. However, as I started down the hill I was flabbergasted to see the box dangling upside down. My first thought was why would someone walk through the fields that far to vandalize a bluebird box. After looking closely at the bluebird box I decided not to touch it but would call Tom and have him check it out when he came from Salem to walk his trail. I continued on to check the rest of the 37 boxes on my trail. It was a rather disturbing walk that Sunday. In addition to the vandalized box I found three other boxes had been disturbed. The chickadees moss nests were tossed on the ground with the eggs missing!

I called Tom to report that Box 142 would need to be replaced and ask about the boxes where the nests had been tossed. He informed me that indeed other birds would toss out a nest. I wondered aloud if a person had done the dirty deed on Box 142 or if it was possible that a bear would have destroyed the box. My husband laughed at my idea saying why would a bear go after 4 little eggs but something big and strong had done a number on the box! After Tom replaced Box 142 he called to confirm that a bear had indeed vandalized the box.

Has finding this box destroyed by a bear frightened me from my weekly rounds? No, I'm probably more afraid of the wasps and mud daubers who try to build nests on the bottom of the boxes or the Tree Swallows who gang up on me, usually 10 to 12 of them, diving and buzzing me when I'm trying to check the boxes that their young are in. I'm seriously considering carrying an umbrella to shield myself from the Tree Swallows! Aubrey did call and remind me to be sure to carry the walking stick that he had made for me. The deer usually hear me coming through the fields and I only see their white tails disappearing through the brush and trees. As soon as I can figure out where to buy a whistle, I'm going to add that to the items I carry with me on my weekly walk. That's what the parks in the West suggest hikers carry with them on their hikes to alert the bears that people are in the area.

Happy bluebirding to all!
Cheryl L. Heatwole

American Holly: Retreat and Food Source for Birds

[Editor's note: This is another in a series of articles focusing on enhancing the habitat of your backyard to attract bluebirds and other wildlife.]

During the cold winter months, small songbirds spend up to 90 percent of daylight hours feeding and foraging. This almost constant eating helps birds fuel their metabolism in order to keep from freezing during the night. Planting trees and shrubs around your yard that produce food for fall and winter is very beneficial for birds and other wildlife.

American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) is a picturesque, native, pyramidal evergreen with leathery leaves that have spiny teeth on the edges. It grows in full sun or partial shade and reaches a height of about 50 feet. Hollies produce red berries that persist on the tree all winter and are eaten by more than 48 bird species. With branches that generally touch the ground, hollies are also an excellent place for songbirds to seek cover from predators and shelter from the weather.

Hollies are best transplanted in the spring. A male and female plant are usually required in order to produce fruit, but a popular cultivar, "Nellie Stevens" (available at local nurseries), has been bred to produce fruit without a male plant. Other native hollies such as winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) and possumhaw (*Ilex decidua*) can add variety or different textures to your yard.

Holly trees provide branches for holiday decorations, among other benefits. According to Laura C. Martin's *Folklore of Trees and Shrubs*, "It was believed that holly flowers could turn water to ice and that holly bushes planted near buildings would serve as protection against lightening or witchcraft." Though holly berries are a delicacy to birds, they are toxic to humans and induce vomiting. A tea of dried or roasted leaves was used by Native Americans to induce sweating in order to break a fever.

– Julie Kutruff



VBS Has Lost Two Active Members

Gene Downs, a VBS county coordinator, died of cancer this past summer, and left Botetourt County and its bluebird trails without their dedicated long-time leader. An active promoter of the historic features in his Fincastle community, Gene had also served as a VBS board member, and his counsel there will be sorely missed. Soon after Gene was given his diagnosis, he e-mailed me that he had already arranged for Susan Stumreiter to fill his position of County Coordinator of Botetourt County. That was so like Gene, to plan ahead, and think about a position he felt responsible for.

Campbell Chambliss, our VBS county coordinator from Brunswick County, on the North Carolina border, also died of cancer, at home, on September 3, 2006. Campbell had celebrated his 90th birthday shortly before his death. He was the youngest 90-year-old you would want to meet. A dynamo! Last year he put up three new bluebird trails in his area, getting many friends involved and getting funds from a VBS grant. His family, his friends, and all of us who worked with him here at VBS will sorely miss him.

– Barbara Chambers

Air Chamber for Bluebirds

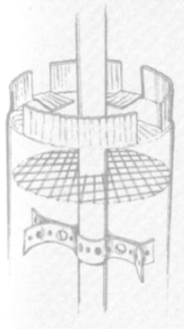
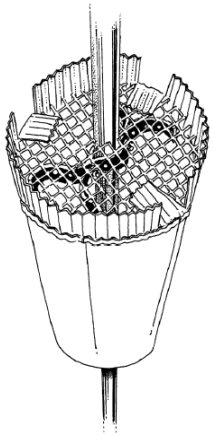
Here in Orange County our farm fields are open to the winter winds, and the bluebirds sleep in our nesting boxes placed along pasture fences. A few winters ago, we lost several bluebirds in nest boxes. We spoke with other VBS members who had the same problem of many bluebirds sleeping in the same box and the ones on the bottom perhaps smothering. This may be because the weakest birds seek shelter first and end up on the bottom. We figured we would try to provide the bottom-most birds some breathing space.



Nest box with front dropped open to show raised flooring.
Photo: Dale and Linda Kerns

We experimented with installing hardware cloth in the bottoms of the boxes to provide an air chamber in the base (see photo). The box needs to be clean and all drainage holes open and free of debris. With the wire in place, we added just a few pine needles and fine dry grasses. Each fall, we take note which of our boxes are chosen by groups of bluebirds, and they are almost invariably the ones that face southeast to meet the warm morning sun. These are the boxes in which we placed the raised wire floor. We have not lost a single bird overwintering in boxes with air chambers. In the spring we remove the wire and clean out the human-made nest.

– Dale and Linda Kerns



The Last Word of A Bluebird As Told To a Child

As I went out a Crow
In a low voice said, "Oh,
I was looking for you.
How do you do?
I just came to tell you
To tell Lesley (will you?)
That her little Bluebird
Wanted me to bring word
That the north wind last night
That made the stars bright
And made ice on the trough

Almost made him cough
His tail feathers off.
He just had to fly!
But he sent her Good-by,
And said to be good,
And wear her red hood,
And look for skunk tracks
In the snow with an ax-
And do everything!
And perhaps in the spring
He would some back and sing."

– Robert Frost (1874-1963)

[Lesley, born in 1899, was the eldest daughter of Robert and Elinor Frost.]

VBS-Recommended Snake Guard

Since its inception, VBS has strongly recommended that two predator guards be added to nestbox assemblies. One is the wire mesh Noel guard to surround the nest hole and the other is the snake guard stove-pipe baffle to be placed on the box pole. Our own **Ron Kingston**, Albemarle County Coordinator, created a stove-pipe baffle design that is used nationwide. Here are his plans and instructions (see drawing, left).

Make the baffle by cutting ½-inch hardware cloth into a 9-inch circle. Make a small hole in the center so that the circle will slip over the mounting pole (be sure to keep hardware cloth very close to pole and not leave any gaps (a one inch snake can get through a half inch hole).

Bend the edges of the circle down so that the hardware cloth fits snugly into a 24-inch long section of stovepipe. (6-inch metal air conditioning duct can be substituted for stove pipe. It comes in flat pieces, 24 inches long. The long edges are grooved to snap together and locks tight.)

Cut four tabs on the top of the stovepipe and bend them over the hardware cloth.

To hang the baffle, bolt metal straps (plumber's tape) around the mounting pole for support. (Several wraps of duct tape around the pole below the metal straps will help keep them in place.)

Slide the baffle down over the top of the mounting pole until it rests on the metal straps.

Changes at NABS

In late April, I was one of several VBS members who attended the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Articles and photographs covering the 2006 NABS Convention's events and awards were published in the Summer 2006 edition of *Bluebird*. Since that time, there have been many personnel changes at NABS, beginning with the May resignation of Gary Springer, the Executive Director. His position has not yet been filled.

In June, Steve Garr, President and acting Treasurer; Keith Kridler, Vice President; and Helen Munro, Secretary, all of whom had been carrying a huge part of the NABS workload, left the Board. Their dedicated service is deeply appreciated by NABS members.

Currently, Bernie Daniel is serving as Interim President, Phil Berry as Vice President, and Dan Sparks as Treasurer. The Membership Committee has been revitalized and is very active in reminding members to renew. There is an ongoing effort to fill all of the Board of Directors positions. In addition, the Board decided that a Strategic Thinking Task Force should be formed to collect suggestions and recommendations regarding the restructuring and revitalization of NABS. The mandate is for this group to report back to the Board in four months.

Also, NABS has moved again. The new address is:

NABS
P.O. Box 43
Miami, OH 45147

The Web site is: www.nabluebirdsociety.org

Your comments and suggestions are welcome and can be sent to me at bcswanson@comcast.net. – **Brian Swanson, VBS and NABS Board Member**

Owl in the Office

O*wl in the Office* begins with a baby Tawny owl and the children who find it. Their desire to protect this tiny life leads to an animal sanctuary. There the shelter keeper tells of financial problems that will likely force the refuge to close. This is a story of children believing, striving, thinking, and achieving.



Call it naïve, good-spirits, concern, common sense: the children see a problem, think about how to overcome, ask for guidance, and take action. In so doing, they involve the whole community, even grump pots! One of the quietly portrayed lessons is whether to interfere with a wee bird on the ground. As pointed out by a kindly veterinarian, sometimes animal parents can rescue their wayward children. Something to ponder.

This is a story of compassion and is aimed at children 8-12 years old and costs about four dollars. Written by Ben M. Baglio and illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas, this paperback is published by Scholastic, Inc., New York City. *Owl* is part of the "Animal Ark" series that recounts exploits of animals and children. The title is catchy and a lure, and this is a good read. — Kay Fry

Bird Bingo

This colorful and educational board game from Lucy Hammett Games, for ages 3 to adult, mimics the traditional bingo game. But instead of using numbers and writing utensils, the players look at drawings of birds and mark them with plastic discs.

Six boards measuring 8 inches by 11 inches feature 39 birds found in America, including the Eastern Bluebird, Pileated Woodpecker, House Wren, Eastern Screech-Owl, and Black-capped Chickadee. While this game can be played by persons of all ages, it would probably be most enjoyable when adults play it with children.

My husband and I bought the game for a six-year-old granddaughter and her ten-year old brother. They loved it! Their father maintains a bluebird box at their Rockville, Maryland home.

We purchased Bird Bingo at Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge in Sanibel, Florida. It is also available, along with other nature and geographic bingo games, from Lucy Hammett Games at www.lucybingogames.com or 1-888-420-7585.

— Sarah McDade



Having trouble "aging" your hatchlings while monitoring? Here's a cozy nest of four-day-old bluebirds at the home box of Norman Griest, Purcellville.

Online Puzzle

Puzzle fans might have fun with a free online bluebird puzzle. Search for "online bluebird puzzle" in your favorite search engine. You'll get a link to a Web page where parts of an Eastern Bluebird appear for you to assemble.

Just a Happy Backyard

Back in August I asked **Marci Swanson**, among other things a tireless VBS ambassador at bird festivals throughout Virginia, if she had any trail tales that she could share with The Bird Box readership. She responded that she didn't have any stories, just a happy backyard. When pressed for an explanation, she explained that the Swanson's one home box had three clutches this year of six, six, and four eggs. All 16 fledged, and many stayed near the yard. I call that success, and she calls it "a joy."

Marci and her husband, **Brian**, live in Gainesville, a fast-growing community in Prince William County. She is County Coordinator for Prince William County North, and Brian is coordinator for Warren County.

— Sarah McDade

VBS Mission

The Virginia Bluebird Society was formed in 1998 to promote bluebirds and other cavity nesting birds. In 1999, VBS became a non-profit Virginia corporation with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. VBS is a chapter of the Virginia Society of Ornithology (VSO) and an affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS).

Answer to "Do You Know This Couple?" —
Barbara and Charlie Chambers.

How to Join Us

Send your name, address, phone number, and/or email address along with a check for \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a family to:

Virginia Bluebird Society
726 William Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

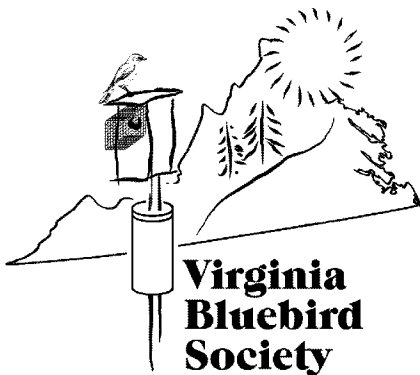
Membership forms can be downloaded from the VBS Web site:
www.virginiabluebirds.org.

Did You Know?

Donations to VBS are tax-deductible.

Electronic Edition Available

You can receive *The Bird Box* in its electronic edition (PDF format) by e-mail, instead of its hard-copy edition. Just send a request to vbs@virginiabluebirds.org.



Recommended Cavity Nesting Reading

Most readers of *The Bird Box* are pretty savvy when it comes to cavity-nesting birds and how to monitor boxes. However, some of us frequently find ourselves saying “You learn something new every day.” Following is a partial list of books that might augment anyone’s knowledge. They include books that help you identify nests, explain the dos and don’ts of Purple Martin house placement, and give tips on thwarting House Sparrows. When new, these publications range in price from \$4.99 to \$22.95. They can be found in major book stores, bird supply stores, and on the Internet. One of them even quotes several members of VBS. These make good gifts for newly interested friends, a stubborn, incorrect “know it all,” or yourself.

- T Bird Watcher’s Digest. *Enjoying Bluebirds More.*
- T Peterson Field Guides. *Eastern Birds’ Nests.*
- T Donald and Lillian Stokes and Justin Brown. *The Stokes Purple Martin Book: The Complete Guide to Attracting and Housing Purple Martins.*
- T Connie Toops. *Bluebirds Forever.*
- T Cornell Bird Library Guide. *The Bluebird Monitors’ Guide to Bluebirds and Other Small Cavity Nesters.*
- T Donald and Lillian Stokes. *The Bluebird Book: The Complete Guide to Attracting Bluebirds.*
- T Bird Watcher’s Digest. *Enjoying Purple Martins More: The Martin Landlord’s Handbook.*

Virginia Bluebird Society
726 William Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

**DATED
MATERIAL**