



Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania
19th Annual Bluebird Conference Program
April 7th & 8th, 2017

Toftrees Resort, One Country Club Lane, State College, PA

Friday, April 7

5 to 9 pm Vendors Set-up

5 to 6:30 pm Registration.

7 to 8:00 pm Richard Price, long-time Appalachian Audubon Society member, speaks on birding in PA and surrounding states.

Rick Price was born and grew up in Philadelphia, where he learned to fish and watch birds along the Wissahickon Creek in Fairmount Park. He holds degrees in Psychology from Penn State (BA) and Bucknell (MA) Universities and a Doctorate in Education from the University of Pennsylvania. His hobbies include fly-fishing, birding, traveling, and amateur wildlife photography. Rick is retired from the PA Department of Education. Rick and his wife Peggy currently reside in West Hanover Township in Dauphin County. They have three grown children and five grandchildren. They are both active board members of the Appalachian Audubon Society and are volunteers at Wildwood Park in Dauphin County. Their interest in birds was piqued in 1971, when Rick was stationed at Ft. Huachuca, AZ while serving in the U.S. Army. Southeast Arizona offers some of the finest birding in the U.S. and both Rick and Peggy will tell you that it was the Vermillion Flycatcher that hooked them both for life.

8:15 to 8:45 BSP County Coordinators - Meet and Greet.

9:00 pm Social Time & Visiting Vendors.

Saturday, April 8

7 to 8:50 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:50 to 9 am Welcoming Remarks

9 to 9:30 am Annual Membership Meeting - President's Report, Annual Budget, BSP Award Presentations by Shirley Halk.

9:30 to 10:30 am Jeff Stratford, PhD, speaks on mist-netting and bird-banding experiences with children.

Dr. Jeffrey Stratford grew up in rural northwest New Jersey where he developed an interest in birds and other wildlife. He received a bachelor's degree in biology from Rutgers University. Soon afterwards, Dr. Stratford interned with the Smithsonian Institute in the Amazon. There, he became interested in the tropics and studied the effects of rainforest fragmentation on birds for his master's degree at Southeastern Louisiana University. Keeping

with the theme of landscape change, Dr. Stratford's Ph.D. dissertation at Auburn University focused on the effects of urbanization on southeastern birds. Dr. Stratford currently teaches biology at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre. Dr. Stratford continues his research on urbanization and birds and expands into other landscape transformations including mine reclamation and river restoration. His other interests include learning guitar and learning Welsh. Jeff serves as BSP County Coordinator for Luzerne County.

10:30 to 11:00 am Social Break /visiting vendors and visiting live and silent auction items.

11:00 to 12:15 pm Dick Hess, BSP member and official photographer, speaks on the life cycle and natural history of Bluebirds through the seasons using his wonderful photographs.

Dick Hess is a graduate of Temple University. He is retired from PPL Montour Preserve after 25 years of doing Land Management, public programs and law enforcement with the Pennsylvania Fish Commission. He is currently the owner and operator of Pine Patch Nursery, where he grows trees, shrubs, perennials and water plants. Dick is Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in Anthony Township. He is also involved in a prison ministry at the Women's Muncy State Correctional Institute for the last 30 years. His interest in photography began when he was ten. He started taking pictures while in the U.S. Navy. Several years ago he purchased professional grade equipment and became serious about taking wildlife pictures. Most of his pictures are taken at his farm near Exchange, Pa. The pictures are for sale by calling 570-437-2755, e-mail aa3hv1@verizon.net, or via his website, dickspictures.smugmug.com/nature.

12:15 to 1:15 pm Luncheon

1:15 pm Silent Auction Bidding Closes.

1:15 to 2:50 pm Live Auction, David Birmingham, Auctioneer-Camp Hill, PA

2:50 to 3:00 pm Winners of the Silent Auction Items Announced-Joan Watroba

3:00 to 3:15 pm Break /Visiting Vendors

3:15 to 4:15 pm Shavers Creek Environmental Center presents Animal Adaptors (what animals have to do to adapt and survive)

4:15 to 4:25 pm Nancy Putt announces winner of the Bluebird Basket door prize (winner must be present to win the door prize)

4:30 pm Closing remarks - Conference Ends