

# BLUEBIRD TRAILS & TALES

Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania

An Affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society

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Spring 2013

Editor: Joan Watroba • [sunshinebb@msn.com](mailto:sunshinebb@msn.com)

[www.thebsp.org](http://www.thebsp.org)

## A Message from the President -

**Welcome** to all of our new BSP Members who joined in 2012 and welcome to all of our new friends who joined BSP in 2013 during the recent Farm Show event. Thank you for supporting the BSP and the cavity-nesting birds across Pennsylvania and elsewhere.

I invite you to our Board Meetings, Annual State Conference and to our Member's picnic in the fall. You can find much information concerning our organization and events in the seasonal newsletters and on our website: [www.thebsp.org](http://www.thebsp.org)

We would like to hear from you, so please contact me anytime with your ideas and suggestions. I know firsthand that it is our Members who make this such a wonderful organization and we need your enthusiasm and drive to make this organization the best it can be. Welcome aboard!

The Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania is celebrating our 15th anniversary this year and we are planning a joint conference with the Purple Martin Conservation Association of Erie, Pa. to celebrate with us. The conference date is **April 5 and 6, 2013** and is being held at Best Western Premier - The Central Hotel & Conference Center, 800 East Park

Drive, Harrisburg, Pa. which is easy to access from the PA Turnpike and Route 83. Lodging reservations can be made at (717) 561-2800. Mention the Bluebird/Purple Martin Conference to receive the group discount rate. Come celebrate with us and bring your friends. The conference activities start Friday evening at 6 p.m. with Hors D'oeuvres and a cash bar, and educational programs are scheduled throughout the evening. Conference continues on Saturday at 6 a.m. with our Welcoming Committee providing



Photo by Susan Renkel

conference folders and directions to the exhibits and vendors. Then at 7 a.m. enjoy a wonderful breakfast buffet and also a noon luncheon buffet. You can obtain the entire conference itinerary schedule, and registration forms from our website. Registration deadline is March 25, 2013, so hurry and don't miss out on the fun. It's a great way to learn more about cavity-nesting birds and meet other members and friends who have the same interest.

See you there!  
Harry Schmeider  
BSP President



Photo by Susan Renkel

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Photo by Susan Renkel

## From the Editor -



As I write this message, it is late December and the weather in South Central PA has been very mild. The bluebirds are now appearing in flocks and they make their daily visits to the yard to check out the nest boxes and also to see what the daily offering is. I have found that bluebirds will feed on homemade crumbly suet, commercial suet squares, *shelled* sunflower seeds and peanut hearts, and the deluxe bird seed mixes which includes fruit and nuts.

Many people who feed birds or have neighbors who feed birds complain that they have many House Sparrows in their yards. House sparrows are attracted to food sources, they are very aggressive, they will drive away bluebirds and other native songbirds, and they will even kill both the adults and young of native songbirds inside of nest boxes. In the past, it was thought that the House Sparrows will eat only the cheaper birdseed like millet and cracked corn. However, experienced bluebirders, including Keith Kreidler of TX and Joyce Stuff of PA have observed House sparrows eating a wide range of food items, including the more expensive seed mixes. For this reason, it is important to be careful about offering supplemental food, especially during the nesting season if the weather is mild and if there is an adequate supply of natural food such as insects, fruits, and berries.

During extreme winter weather conditions such as prolonged days of cold, snow, and ice, it is important to offer supplemental food. Also, bluebirds which start their nesting activity early in the nesting season are at risk of losing their young due to hypothermia and the lack of food. Prolonged periods of cold and rainy weather greatly reduce their ability to find an adequate food supply. I have delivered live mealworms on the roofs of the nest boxes with active nestlings and observe the parents eagerly feeding themselves and their young. Providing supplemental food in these extreme situations may mean the difference between survival and death of both the parents and their young.

*Joan Watroba*

## BSP OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Photo by Ruth Goebel

A little bird, he told me so  
He said come on, get on the go  
Open your eyes the sky is full of butterflies  
The blossoms on the trees stir up the honey bees  
Spring makes my fever right

Spring fever, spring is here at last  
Spring fever, my heart's beating fast  
Get up, get out spring is everywhere

Well if you feel the wanderlust  
Just grab a car or hop a bus  
In every town there's excitement to be found  
So much is happening  
Don't miss the joy of spring  
The world's in love just look around

Spring fever comes to everyone  
Spring fever, it's time for fun  
Get up, get out spring is everywhere

Spring fever, it's spring fever time  
Spring fever, watch that fever climb  
Get up, get out spring is everywhere

Spring is everywhere

**Giant-Baum-Kaye.** The songwriting team of Bill **Giant**, Bernie **Baum** and Florence **Kaye** ("GBK") wrote 44 songs for Elvis Presley

## BSP EVENT REPORTS

The 97th Annual PA State Farm Show came to a close on Saturday evening (Jan. 12) with another very busy day at our BSP booth, talking to visitors from near and far about bluebirds, answering questions and sharing stories. The eight day event is a great experience for all involved in helping out ... plus the food is also the very best from around the state. The box-building event on Friday was popular with the children and they constructed a total of 50 nest boxes with the help of our box-building team. We welcome the **113 new members** who joined BSP and wish them success in the coming nesting season ... we also welcome back those who renewed their memberships for the coming year.

Many thanks to the following volunteers who helped at our booth!!!

Doris Hoffman, Bill Strauss, Dale Cook, Joanne Slavinski, Cynthia Self, Debra Carmen, Bill Franz, Phil and Susan Durgin, Dave and Barb Cox, Joan Watroba, Lindsay Delp Gibson, Carol McCann, Chuck Musser, Dean Rust, John Woodward, John and Cathy Blair, Bill and Mary Ann Bowers, Shelvy Morehead, Deb Hershey, Sandy Bittenbender, Ken Leister, Randy and Nancy Shriver, Bill Cuppett, Dave Koser, Andy and Cindy Ohrman, Dan and Addie Farber, John and Cathy Everhart, Mike Farling, and Jack Grauel.

Nancy Putt, Event Chairperson



*Don't Forget -BSP has a Facebook Page!*

*Google:  
Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania / Facebook*

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# Ready For That: Farm Show Week in Harrisburg

by Mary Ellen Tarman

Masonic Villages on Monday, January 7, 2013 at 6:50am •

The Farm Show is held in Harrisburg this week. This is a wonderful event I loved as a child when growing up in the suburbs of that city. Our elementary school class listened to the morning farm report on the radio every day. It was logical we got the day off to go to the largest indoor agricultural exposition in the United States to see firsthand what we learned at school. A stout constitution is needed to manage all the walking necessary to benefit from the best of the Farm Show. These days, our memories provide the joy rather than visiting the site.

## A Mini-Farm Show at Masonic Village

Jim and I had what I call “a mini Farm Show experience” this weekend.

One thing about life at Masonic Village is you can expect opportunities to make life interesting. We spent a lovely afternoon with Jackson Drive residents, Carol and Charlie Chew. Carol and I met after she read an article about our Chinese Shar Pei (dogs).

In the process of talking to Carol about dogs, I learned she and Charlie were dedicated bluebirders and that Charlie raises mealworms in their lower level. My ears perked up over this information as Jim and I, too, are part of the bluebird community at Masonic Village. Since bluebirds stay here through the winter, due to efforts of people like Charlie and the local bluebird expert Chuck Musser, active feeding programs help bluebirds survive.

## Mealworm Production

We met Carol and Charlie for lunch and then headed for their home. Charlie showed us the process he goes through for raising mealworms. His interest in raising his own resulted after months of buying expensive worms through the mail. He showed us three bins with mealworms in various stages of development. He explained his system of raising them from eggs, to larva, to pupa, to beetle.

One amusing part of the set up caught my eye. An ardent golfer, Charlie also restores and makes golf clubs. To keep the plastic bins of mealworm production separated in the three-tier stack, he uses old golf clubs as separating rods.

We looked at the Chews’ other bird-related set ups, including suet feeders, a bluebird feeding house (designed for only bluebirds), a bluebird nesting box and a thermostatically heated bird bath.

We were happy to spend an afternoon learning about something that would never have occurred to me in our lives before Masonic Village. For the chance to expand on knowledge and pleasant social experiences, we are happy we moved to Masonic Village and were “Ready for That!”

*Mary Ellen and Jim Tarman moved to the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown with their Chinese Shar Pei, Charlotte, in January 2012. Mary Ellen has volunteered to share her experiences each week as she explores Masonic Village and everything it has to offer.*



Charlie Chew

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# BLUEBIRD BANQUET

Suet Recipe

By Linda Janilla Peterson

## MIX:

1 cup peanut butter  
4 cups yellow cornmeal  
1 cup unbleached or whole-wheat flour

## ADD:

1 cup fine sunflower seed chips  
1 cup peanut hearts (or finely ground nuts)  
1/2 - 1 cup Zante currants (or raisins cut in halves)

## DRIZZLE and STIR IN:

1 cup rendered, melted suet



Photo by David F. King

## COOL

Resulting mix will be crumbly and should have bean/pea sized lumps from the drizzling of the melted suet. If too sticky after cooling, mix in a bit more flour. If too dry, drizzle in more melted suet. Refrigerate any mix you are not using to prevent suet from turning rancid. I use a commercial pure bird suet cake. You can render your own suet. Grind or cube butcher store suet. Melt over low heat. Watch carefully as suet is a fat and can start on fire with too high heat. A microwave can be used. Strain out the stringy bits (cracklings). Cool. Re-melt a second time for the recipe.

There are many places to obtain mealworms: Happy Mealworms, located in Dauphin, PA-near Harrisburg, grows and sells mealworms. Their web site includes general information about mealworms and also information about ordering them: <http://www.happymealworms.com/>

Other companies that sell mealworms: Grubco: <http://www.grubco.com>

Rainbow Mealworms: <http://www.rainbowmealworms.net/>

Other sources of obtaining mealworms are local bait shops.

You can also raise your own mealworms.

*Note: Mealworms are a good source of protein and fat, but they are low in phosphorous. Too many mealworms can cause harm to bluebirds. Large amounts of mealworms can lead to calcium depletion causing poor health which can lead to gout. Under normal conditions for bluebirds, the recommendation is to offer between 10 and 15 mealworms a day per bluebird.*

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## Did You Know??

The bluebird is the official bird of the states of Missouri and New York in the U.S.



■ **To the Editor:** October 18, 2012

The Bluebird Society:

Our family would like to donate this check in honor of our father, Donald F. Young. This money was raised from the sale of the last 40 bluebird boxes that remained when our parents' home was sold. He is no longer able to construct the boxes and has moved to an assisted living facility.

During the last 20 years since his retirement, my father built over 2,000 bluebird houses, according to records he kept. He personally erected and placed hundreds in the Upper Bucks and Montgomery County area, as well as making presentations at local schools and churches. For many years, he raised mealworms to feed the bluebirds along his "bluebird trail" in the Quakertown areas, having some birds eat the worms from his hands.

My father was an avid outdoorsman who loved and cared about wildlife. He did this all through donations or at his own expense. Donald Young was recognized by the State Game Commission and the Bluebird Society for his work encouraging the bluebirds' presence in this area of the state.

So, in my father's name, his family would like to donate this \$200 to the Bluebird Society to promote education, protect habitat, and build homes for the bluebirds in the Upper Bucks County area of Pennsylvania.

We thank you (BSP) for your good work on behalf of our wildlife in Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,  
Eric Young, Quakertown, PA

*Editor's Note: BSP Salutes Donald F. Young for his twenty years of love and service to the bluebirds. Thank you, Eric Young, on behalf of your father, Donald Young, for your donation to BSP to promote bluebird nesting in Upper Bucks County.*

■ **To the Editor:** Does the bluebird sing? It has recently been brought to my attention that I have never considered whether or not the bluebird sings. Even though I monitor five bluebird nest boxes on my property, it has never crossed my mind until when asked by my hygienist if the bluebird is a songbird, and I was at loss for an answer. She, who also has bluebird nest boxes on her property, and I now wonder, does the bluebird have a song?

Marie, Zelienople, PA

*From the Editor: Hello Marie, to answer your questions-yes, bluebirds are songbirds, and yes, they do sing. A songbird is defined as a bird with a musical call- especially a passerine (perching bird) belonging to the group that includes larks, finches, and thrushes. (Bluebirds are in the thrush group, as are robins.)*

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*Unlike some of the more vocal songbirds such as cardinals, mockingbirds, and catbirds, bluebirds do have a more muted, but distinctive song and call. I find that the males are most likely to sing and call in the spring during the mating season to attract a mate, adults sing and call to one another during the nesting season to communicate with one another, and they also sing to coax their young to leave the nest box.*

*Their song is very melodic and very distinctive. I often hear them on golf courses, usually right before trying to make a putt. Their songs attract my attention from the task at hand. Another excuse for making bad golf shots-HA!*

*To hear the bluebird sing, go to the BSP web site: [www.thebsp.org](http://www.thebsp.org)*

*Select **More** on the top bar to the right, and then scroll down to **Slideshow of the Bluebird and its Call** to hear it sing. Additional bluebird songs can be found at: <http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/EasternBluebird/sounds>*

**To the Editor:** The Fall/Winter 2012 issue provided many interesting articles. Hope that Harry Schmeider's back has mended by now. Enclosed is an article from the Science News citing a Virginia study showing a 35% higher mortality rate of chicks in noisier nests than in ones located in remote locations. I thought that bluebirds liked human activity?

Valeria, Pittsburgh, PA

**From the Editor:** Hi Valeria Yes, Harry's back is much better (Harry is the BSP President)

*Happy that you enjoyed the articles in the Fall/Winter BSP newsletter. We are very happy that our members and readers submit articles and questions to us which makes our publication more educational and interesting. Thanks for this submission. The complete article regarding the study that you refer to can be found in the publication, the Science News: [www.sciencenews.org](http://www.sciencenews.org) and can be found in the archives, July 28, 2012 edition.*

*The article refers to "noisy, rumbling traffic and other human din." From my personal experience and observations, bluebirds seem to adapt well to nesting in nest boxes located close to residential areas and will also tolerate weekly nest box monitoring. Ironically, the nest boxes closer to our house are more likely to be utilized by bluebirds. One year they nested in a box adjacent to the driveway. At night we could see the adult female peeking out as we drove in.*

*It seems that the type of noise that the article is referring to is constant and persistent manmade noise, like loud traffic and construction sounds which may diminish the vocal communication between the parents and the young. For this reason, it is important to erect nest boxes in locations which will not be subject to excessive and constant noise, and not be located in a habitat that is expected to be developed or changed during the course of the nesting season. If your bluebird trails are located within public parks, request that the maintenance crew or park officials keep you informed well in advance of any planned building projects which may affect the nesting activity. If so, it may be prudent to relocate the affected nest boxes in more suitable areas well ahead of the nesting season.*



Artist - Susan Renkel

# Happy Bluebirding

by Darlene Crone-York, PA.

As I write this, it is the first week of July, the temperature is 95 degrees, and I'm sitting in my air-conditioned sunroom (lucky me) trying to read a novel. Please note that I said, trying to read a novel. My husband and I spend more time watching our bluebirds. We were lucky enough to have two of our three bluebird boxes on our property fledge all of the young in their first nesting. (They are currently on their second nesting.) We had five in one box, and the other box had three. In past years, the parents usually move the young to a neighbor's wooded lot (guessing for more protection). Our neighbor would always thank us for the joy that she got out of watching the baby blues.

This year the joy is all ours. Have you ever watched bluebirds bathe? Once they get in, the water flies everywhere. Now picture this-with eight baby blues and parents all sitting on the bird bath and the tree branch above it being used as their personal drying and grooming perch!!! Their favorite bathing time is usually between 5 p.m.-7 p.m., but in this heat, they have been at the bird bath all day.

If you don't have a bird bath, you need to get one. On an average day, we see goldfinch, cardinals, tufted titmice, chickadees, and blue jays. We even have a squirrel stop by for a drink. Just remember to keep it clean and filled with fresh water, especially when the blues are done, and you, too, can have trouble reading your novel!



Artist - Susan Renkel

## Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania Financial Report 2012

Submitted by Joyce Stuff, BSP Treasurer

### 2012 Revenue

Store	\$ 3,042.39
Membership Fees	10,011.00
Donations	1,215.40
Speaker Income	2,670.00
Fundraising	5,200.00
Woodworking	1,196.88
Conference	2,330.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$25,665.67</b>

### 2012 Expenses

Administration	\$ 2,781.11
Store	2,857.48
Membership	1,589.20
Fundraising	1,145.16
Woodworking	4,476.35
Conference	5,156.69
Education	1,012.43
Newsletter	2,532.73
County Coordinator	52.50
Research	60.58
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$21,664.23</b>

### **BSP Financial Statement for 2012**

Checking Acct. Bal. 12/31/11	\$22,713.15
2012 Revenue	+25,665.67
2012 Expenses	-21,664.23
<b>Checking Acct. Bal. 12/31/12</b>	<b>\$26,714.59</b>

Certificate of Deposit Balance 12/31/12	
	+ 9,403.25
Susquehanna Bank Harrisburg PA	
Cash On Hand (store cash box)	+ 200.00

**TOTAL CASH ASSETS as of 12/31/12**  
**\$36,317.84**



# Bluebirds at Springton Manor Elementary School

The fifth grade students of Springton Manor Elementary School have enjoyed a bluebird trail established on their school property located at 400 Fairview Road, Glenmoore, PA. The trail consists of ten bluebird boxes constructed and donated by Mr. Ken Leister of the Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania. Mr. Leister has presented an informative workshop including a powerpoint presentation to our students for the last two years focusing on the Eastern Bluebird and its nesting habits.

In order to increase the number of bluebirds in southeastern Chester County, Mr. Leister has offered four bluebird boxes for interested fifth graders to establish in their own backyards. Students write a persuasive paragraph convincing their science teachers, Mrs. Barbara Coyle and Mr. Michael Whiteley, as well as Mr. Leister that he/she is committed to preserving the Eastern Bluebird. The following e-mail was written by 5th grader, Joshua Marks. Joshua was a recipient of a bluebird box from Mr. Leister last June, 2012. Joshua's box has housed bluebird eggs as well as produced fledglings to aid in increasing the bluebird population.

*"It's been an honor to serve in the bluebird society and to meet Mr. Leister. I have learned so much by having a bluebird box. Just seeing the birds go through the process from making a nest, to laying the eggs and watching the babies get bigger and then go off on their own. It is amazing!!"*

Joshua Marks - 8/25/12

The fifth grade teachers as well as students sincerely appreciate Mr. Leister's effort in sharing his knowledge of bluebirds. We look forward to a continued friendship.

With gratitude,  
Mrs. Barbara Coyle



Joshua

## Annual Nest Box Report Winners

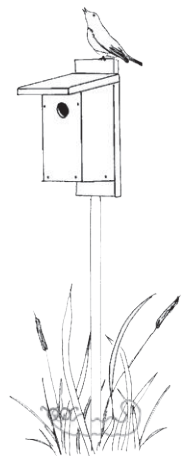
*1st place – Mary Ellen Piper, Franklin County ~ Binoculars or BSP Store item*

*2nd place – Simeon Yoder, Somerset County ~ BSP Store item*

*3rd place – Audell Adams, Lancaster County ~ BSP Store item*

Thanks to everyone for submitting your annual nest box reports. When the nesting results are compiled, they will be posted on the BSP web site: [www.thebsp.org](http://www.thebsp.org) under the **More** tab. If you would like to receive a **printed copy** of the nest box results by regular mail, please contact:

*Shirley Halk*  
*BSP Annual Nest Box Reporter*  
*42 Park Drive, Grantville, PA 17028*



Artist - Susan Renkel

# BSP UPCOMING EVENTS

## Upcoming BSP Board Meeting Dates:

**April 25, 2013, July 25, 2013, October 24, 2013**

**Location:** Giant Foods Community Room, Camp Hill Shopping Center, Camp Hill, PA

Please plan to attend the meetings to learn about upcoming BSP activities and events and to share your ideas about a variety of issues related to bluebird conservation. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, we can arrange for you to attend via conference call. Contact BSP President, Harry Schmeider: harryschmeider@gmail.com or call (724) 285-1209 to make arrangements to join the meeting. We welcome your input and involvement.

**PA Garden Show of York - March 1-3, 2013**  
**Toyota Expo Center - York Fairgrounds, 334**  
**Carlisle Ave. York, PA**  
[www.pagsy.com](http://www.pagsy.com)

Hours: Friday- 10 am to 9 pm, Saturday- 10 am to 8 pm, Sunday- 10 am to 5 pm

BSP will attend this Garden Show with an educational display and box building event for children. Enjoy the beautiful landscape/garden displays and browse the many booths for inspiration for the coming spring season.

**Please call Nancy Putt at 717-432-2647 to volunteer**



**April 5th and 6th, 2013**

**Friday evening and Saturday**

**15th Annual BSP Conference**

**Co-Hosted with the**

**Purple Martin Conservation Association**

**Best Western Premier**

**The Central Hotel and Conference Center**

**800 East Park Dr. (off of Union Deposit Road)**

**Harrisburg, PA**

Plan to join us to celebrate 15 years of service to bluebirds and other native cavity-nesting species. We welcome the Purple Martin Conservation Association as co-hosts of this very special event. Purple Martins and Eastern Bluebirds face many of the same nesting challenges. Learn new skills and tips from experienced trail monitors.

More information will become available through a special mailing to all active members, and event updates will be posted on the BSP web site:

**<http://www.thebsp.org/> or <http://purplemartin.org/>**

**36th Annual**

**North American Bluebird Society Conference**

**October 3-5, 2013**

**Location:** Aiken, South Carolina, a friendly, beautiful, and historic community

Hosted by: The South Carolina Bluebird Society

*Theme: "The Art of Bluebirding"*

Offering a wonderful variety of Speakers, Tours, and Field Trips. For more information and registration: [www.nabluebirdsociety.org](http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org)

[www.southcarolinabluebirds.org](http://www.southcarolinabluebirds.org)

Contact: Jim Burke, President, South Carolina Bluebird Society

[jburke@southcarolinabluebirds.org](mailto:jburke@southcarolinabluebirds.org)

(803)644-0235

# Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania County Coordinators -2013

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## CLEARFIELD Vacant

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## FAYETTE Vacant

## FOREST Vacant

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# WELCOME -New BSP MEMBERS!!!!!!

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Richard Leonard  
Debbie & John Messeder  
Tina Jacoby

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Don Neuham  
Mary O'Connor  
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John Banks

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Mary Yeich  
Robert Ryan  
Connie Lewis  
Beth Braucher

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Young Family  
Lori Harris

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Joseph Aloisio  
Tim Huff  
Joan Janoski  
Cynthia Luty  
Peggy Vessels  
S Williams

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Kalmbach

## CHESTER

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Elaine Brody  
McIntyre Family  
James Bergey

## CLARION

Amy Wolbert

## CLINTON

Dave Rodgers

## CRAWFORD

Edna Smith

## CUMBERLAND

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Steve Kraft  
Michelle Deleon  
Azzlyn Patrick  
Kathie Seydor  
Angelo & Elaine Torre  
Joe Bedard  
Mike Stets  
Rudelle Wert  
Allyn Lamb  
Jonathan Tocks  
Angela Martin  
Charles Martzalli, Jr  
Carol Frank

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Michelle Chadwick  
Christine Gorshe  
Elizabeth Maher  
Alabama Kline  
Christine Gorshe  
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Jody Rebarchak  
Peter Malone  
Mare Neville  
Cyndie Snyder  
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Mark Potts  
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Das

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Teena D'Annibale  
David King  
Finlay Smith

## FULTON

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## JEFFERSON

Barb Gregg

## JUNIATA

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## LANCASTER

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Kathryn Smith  
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Glen Hoover  
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Galen Sauder  
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Owen Fox  
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JoAnn Roschel  
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Kenneth Bruhaffer  
Linda Harnish  
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Bob Mannng  
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Karen Zercher  
Walt Copenhagen  
John Anthony  
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## LEBANON

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Ginny Hoffman

## LEHIGH

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Sylvia Hilmer  
RoseAnne Drzewecki  
Lynn Rankin

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Tim Perun

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Wilsa Russell  
Melba Hall

## NEW JERSEY STATE

Patti & Matt Devlin  
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## NEW YORK STATE

Marguerite Smith

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## BSP is NOW GREEN!



Benefits of receiving the BSP newsletter by e-mail:

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## Being of Service

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*Can you be of service? Of course you can.*

*Being of service is at the heart of what life is all about. Much of life's richest essence revolves around being of service to others, to yourself, and to the world around you.*

*The opportunity to be of service is an opportunity that brings out your most valuable and meaningful skills. It gives you the chance to get better and better at authentically being you.*

*Being of service feels profoundly right. That's because it is.*

*Your actions can make life more valuable, meaningful and joyful for everyone with whom you come in contact. And that most certainly includes you.*

*Use your moments, your resources, your skills and your passions to genuinely be of service. Be of service, and you'll be living life at its highest and most fulfilling level.*

— Ralph Marston

*It's all up to you, make it a great day!*

*Editor's Note: A BIG THANKS to all of you for your service related to promoting bluebird nesting success.*



## BSP Newsletter Submission/Wiggly Worm Contest

The Newsletter Committee is very excited that many BSP members are submitting material for the BSP newsletter, and we want to encourage more members to do so. By submitting your questions, nesting experiences, and field observations, we will be able to offer a wider variety of articles and materials that are of interest to our readers.

### Contest Rules:

1. Locate the illustration of the **Wiggly Worm** which will appear in the content of the newsletter and write that **page #** on the top of your item for the newsletter.
2. Your entry can be a general question or article about bluebirds or other nature topics, a write-up about something that you observed in your yard or on your trail, an original poem, a trail monitoring tip, or any non-copyrighted material.
3. Write **Attn: Wiggly Worm Contest** on the front of the envelope and send to: BSP, P.O. Box 756, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0756. We are also now accepting newsletter submissions by e-mail. Please enter **Wiggly Worm Contest** in the subject line and e-mail to the BSP Editor at: [sunshinebb@msn.com](mailto:sunshinebb@msn.com).
4. One submission will be *randomly drawn* at the cut-off date for each newsletter edition, and the person whose entry was randomly picked will have their choice of any book offered in the BSP store- website: [www.thebsp.org](http://www.thebsp.org)

### The latest date to submit items is the following:

Spring - January 7 • Summer- May 7 • Fall/Winter- September 7

The Newsletter Editor will then review the items and reserve the right to include your submission in an upcoming edition. Since we cannot return any items, please send *copies only* of materials and/or photos. Please include your contact information-name, address, phone number or e-mail address (optional) with your entry.

BSP NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION CONTEST WINNER:

**Darlene Crone - York, PA**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Darlene - Please contact the BSP Store Manager, Doris at (717) 766-3877 and provide her with your book prize choice.

Books can be viewed at the BSP web site: <http://www.thebsp.org/>

Select the link to: **BSP Online Store** to view the list of books available.



**BSP Membership Form**  
**Send to: P.O. Box 756, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0756**

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Additional supporting donations are gratefully accepted and appreciated. Please make your check or money order payable to the "Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania" and return this application to: Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 756, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0756.

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**Member Interest Survey:**

**I/We would like to learn about assisting BSP with:**

- \_\_\_ Create/monitor BSP trail \_\_\_ Telephoning \_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_ Woodworking \_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_ State Monitoring
- \_\_\_ Education \_\_\_ Speakers Bureau \_\_\_ Photography \_\_\_ State Conference \_\_\_ Research \_\_\_ Publication/artwork \_\_\_ Newsletter
- \_\_\_ County Coordinator \_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_ Web Site/Web Content \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Events Help:**

- \_\_\_ Garden Expo Booth @ Farm Show \_\_\_ Garden Expo Booth @ Hershey Gardens \_\_\_ Ned Smith Day@ Millersburg
- \_\_\_ Annual Farm Show @ Farm Show (January) \_\_\_ Tech Support @ State Convention \_\_\_ Other Special Events: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Thanks for being a member of BSP!*



Artist - Susan Renkel

*Please check the mailing label on your newsletter which displays your membership renewal date.*

*If you renew during that time frame, you will not miss any future newsletters.*



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