

# TEXAS Blues



Texas Bluebird Society Newsletter • October 2022 • Volume 21.Issue 4

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North American Bluebird  
Society Membership Offer

Federal law protects all  
native nesting birds!



The Texas Bluebird Society  
newsletter is published:  
March - May - July - October

Debbie Bradshaw Park,  
Editor

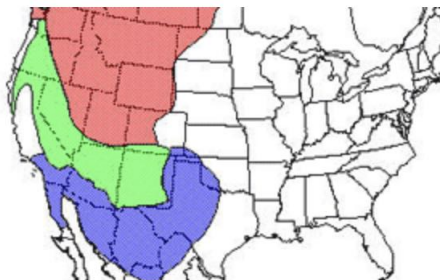
Send stories/photos to  
editor@txblues.org



## Winter Texans Migrating Our Way

### Mountain Bluebird

Scientific Name: *Sialia currucoides*



Red = Year round  
Green = Summer  
Blue = Winter



Randall Patterson

Description: Lacking the chestnut red coloration of the Eastern and Western Bluebird, the Mountain Bluebird is sky blue above with paler blue breast and flanks—white belly and undertail coverts. Female is usually brownish gray overall with white belly, undertail coverts and edges on the wing coverts creating a scalloped effect when closed. In fresh fall plumage the females' breast and throat may appear red orange.

With only one confirmed nesting record of Mountain Bluebird in Texas, this species obviously does not regularly breed in our state.

Find The Bird: In winter, search for areas with berry-laden junipers and watch for flocks of birds feeding on those berries. Mountain Bluebirds often mix with Western Bluebirds, American Robins, and Cedar Waxwings when taking advantage of such fruity abundance.

Top speed of a Mountain Bluebird is 20 miles per hour.



### Bluebird Questions?

*Bluebirds In Texas* has the answers.

TBS partnered with Texas Parks and wildlife to publish *Bluebirds in Texas*, a guide to bluebird information pertaining to specific issues and environments found in Texas.

Visit [Bluebirds In Texas](https://tpwd.texas.gov/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_w7000_0512.pdf).

[https://tpwd.texas.gov/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd\\_bk\\_w7000\\_0512.pdf](https://tpwd.texas.gov/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_w7000_0512.pdf)

# Patricia Ann Nail

*“Pat was fun to work with, bubbly, talkative, always willing to help out wherever needed and always had a smile for me. She made me feel like I was one of the gang from my first time helping out. She is loved and will be so very missed.”*

*TBS Volunteer, Beverly Davis*

Pat learned of Texas Bluebird Society through a phone call to North American Bluebird Society on March 12, 2012. She and her husband Roland, had moved to their ranch in Panola County in 2011. She became an avid bird watcher, and, come spring, she wanted to install bluebird nestboxes using best practices. That very day she joined Texas Bluebird Society online with an order of four nestboxes, and, she placed a phone call and sent an email with questions and observations (the first of dozens) to then president Pauline Tom. In just over a month from that initial contact, Pat emailed photos of her first bluebird eggs.



Inquisitive and ever-learning, Pat provided and monitored/NestWatch'd nestboxes throughout their ranch with Roland's assistance. She also proclaimed her good news of bluebirds and Texas Bluebird Society to family and friends. Within a short time The Nails installed nextboxes at Roland's cousin's place on Lake Murvaul. Those were the first of many.



The entire last decade of her life, Pat wove bluebirds and Texas Bluebird Society into the fabric of her life. Her friends from other aspects of her life (church choir, Bible Study Fellowship, businesses) knew of her bluebird passion and her devotion to TBS. Her family asked that a bluebird appear on the program for her memorial service. It meant much to the family that a little stake with a bluebird was in with the plant sent from Texas Bluebird Society for the service, which was attended by Lonnie Castleman, TBS President; Ron Tom, Board Member; and Pauline Tom, Immediate Past President.

Back in 2013, the Nails attended the Summer Symposium in Mount Pleasant. She expressed their support of TBS as the high bidder on numerous FUNdraising Silent Auction items. They attended the Sunday morning tour of Keith and Sandy Kridler's property, with Pat soaking up Keith's expertise.

In late 2013, Pat was appointed to the Board of TBS and she was elected by the membership to her first term that started January 2014. She immersed herself in the preparations for the 2014 Kickoff, and she soon stepped up to serve as secretary when Judy Hetherington departed for Australia.



*Pat demos features.*

Two days after she laid her mother to rest in Ft Worth, Pat chose to travel to Bastrop to bring auction items, help in the day of set up, and anchor the Product Pickup station at 2014 Kickoff. She and Roland went to the Sunday morning field trip hosted by Paul and Georgean Kyle at Chatuera Canyon to learn more about Chimney Swifts.

Pat actively played a part in the spread of “Bluebirds Across Texas ... one nestbox at a time” as she participated in the extensive planning and preparation for each TBS event and anchored a station at those events; anchored and staffed TBS festival booths; loaded and transported nestboxes with Roland across 1,000's of Texas miles; proficiently edited TBS written documents and publications; and, actively participated as a Board Member.

Pat endeared herself to those within the organization who worked with her. TBS President, Lonnie Castleman, simply says, “Her smile was as big as her heart !”

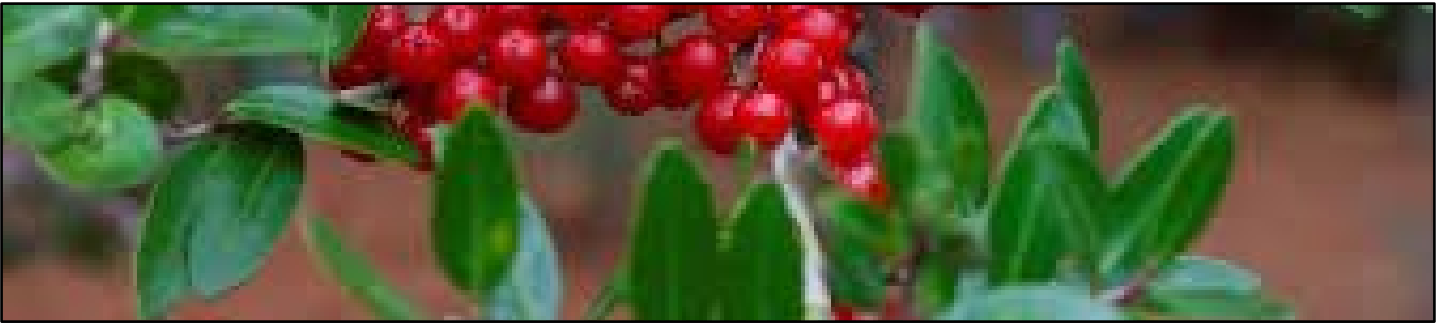


***President, Pauline Tom, presents Pat and Roland Nail with the 2019 Blue Feather award, recognizing their exemplary service to TBS.***

*Special thanks to our Immediate Past President, Pauline Tom, for sharing Pat's TBS story and photos in celebration of her dear friend's accomplishments.*

# *Ilex Vomitoria* – Yaupon Holly

By Linda Crum, Master Gardener/Master Naturalist



Love it or hate it, yaupon holly is an important source of food for birds. The sexes are separate. Only the female plants will produce berries. There needs to be a male yaupon in the territory for the female to produce berries.



*Yaupon Holly thrives in southeastern states.*

The yaupon holly evergreen shrub will tolerate almost any growing conditions – alkaline or acid soil, wet or dry. It transplants without shock and will sucker causing new plants to spring up – a feature that drives control freaks crazy.



*Produces greenish-white flowers in the spring.*

The shrubs will produce small greenish-white flowers in spring. The female flowers will produce red berries. The berries are toxic to humans and animals, but not birds.

The toasted leaves of the yaupon holly can be used to make tea. Yaupon holly is the only caffeinated plant in North America. A typical cup of yaupon holly tea has about 60mg of caffeine (vs 47mg for a cup of black tea and 96mg for a cup of coffee). Toast the leaves on a cookie sheet in a 175-degree oven for about an hour before making the tea. Or it can be roasted at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Use fresh or dried yaupon leaves for a tea that tastes more like green tea, or use parched or roasted leaves for a smokier tea that tastes more like yerba maté. Cherokee Native Americans used the plant extensively. It was used to prevent urinary infections in 1615, treat small pox in 1695, cure for diabetes and gout in 1837, cure for alcoholism in 1872 and unspecified medical purposes in 1913. The drink was a coffee substitute during the American Civil War. The Cherokee traded it for other goods and transplanted it outside the native range. It fell out of favor as a tea because it was consumed primarily by rural people. In addition to its medicinal uses, yaupon holly was also smoked.



Yaupon holly can be trimmed into hedges. Cultivars are available in the dwarf form, weeping form and columnar form. Left to grow on its own, yaupon holly is a small tree 10-30 feet tall. It grows in full sun to partial shade. Berry production is greater in sun.

Despite its name, Yaupon holly is a tough native plant that deserves a place in your landscape.

# Screech Owls In Suburbia<sup>1</sup>

In early March, 2018 my wife Kathi and I became aware one night of a soft [trill](#) outside the house. At first we thought it was a frog, but after searching around in the dark, I discovered a small owl sitting in a Crepe Myrtle tree outside the front door, silhouetted against an overcast sky.

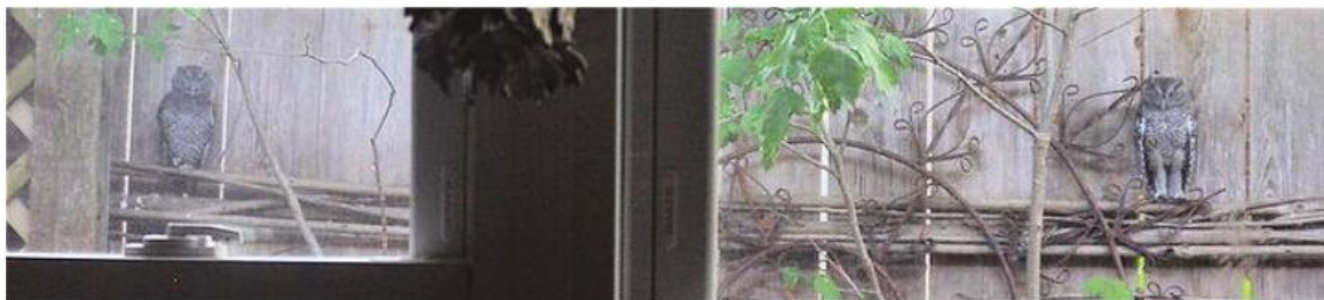


We watched it off and on throughout the year and gradually realized we were actually seeing two birds, probably a pair. Later in the year, first one then two began appearing to play in a fountain outside the kitchen window or to hide behind the fence lattice (left) to watch us through the same window.

The kitchen window looks out on a very private and secluded side yard about 70 feet long and 6 feet wide with an 8-foot fence on one side, the house (with kitchen window) on the other and roofed over by Crepe Myrtle and Wisteria. And it has a fountain. And a big row of shrubbery. Ideal for raising a kid.

In the mornings, it was not uncommon to also see a head peeking out of the front nest box. It was much shyer and would duck quickly back into the nest box as soon as we stepped out the front door.

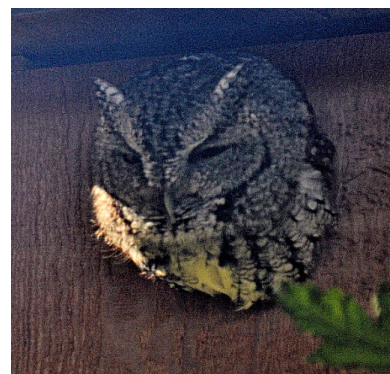
But the ones on the side weren't shy at all as long as the kitchen window stayed closed. Our favorite pose for a couple of days was like a couple of Hindu Goddesses, almost symmetrically posed in the window frame below. The one on the right is the adult and the one on the left a juvenile. They'd show up around noon and hang around until dusk.



This kept up from August through October with the juvenile gradually becoming almost indistinguishable from the adult. Then, in late October, we actually saw them both fly off one night and not return for several days. I took advantage of the absence to install a 2<sup>nd</sup> nesting box outside the kitchen window ... just in case somebody was looking.

And apparently they were. The box was occupied the same day and continued to be through mid-March, 2019. For all that time, an Owl would appear in the opening starting about 5pm and doze while watching us in the kitchen, his head following us back and forth as we walked around. He could have been watching us for days before we first noticed. And at deep dusk, it would fly off to hunt.

The front box continued to show little or no activity at all although when inspected in early February, 2019 there were loose feathers and a depression in the mulch. As the days started getting longer in the spring of 2019, the Kitchen Owl (as we were calling it now) began often sticking his head out earlier in the day, from 1-ish to 2-ish as well as around 5pm. And it would play peek-a-boo with us, hiding from sight behind the tree trunk. It disappeared in mid-March and then the real adventure began.

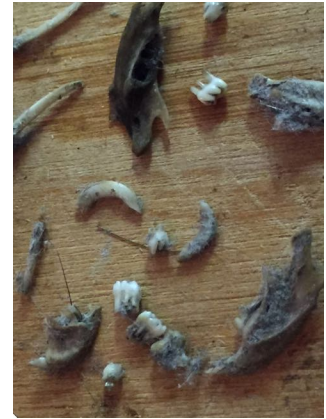


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<sup>1</sup> This article is a short version of our experiences with a pair of Screech Owls in 2018 and 2019. It was posted live as it happened on my Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/clyde.r.camp>. The full length version of this article, plus several others and lots of other information, with links to all the photos and movies can be found at <https://crcamp.com/owls>.

On March 21, we hadn't seen the Kitchen Owl for a couple of days and for no particular reason I decided to do another inspection of both nest boxes.

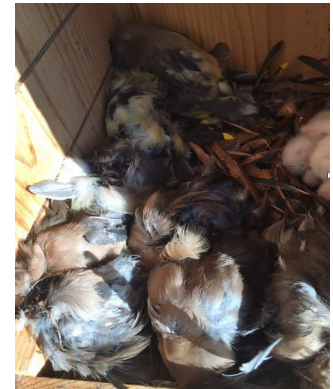
I had done this in February and cleaned out a bunch of owl pellets (owls don't have a crop to grind things up so bones, teeth and fur gets gagged back up into an owl pellet – about the size of your first thumb joint.) They can be dissected to see what the Owl has been eating. In this case they were filled with tiny mammalian bones and teeth (right).



I took a couple of pictures, closed it back up and moved the ladder around to the front. I was totally flabbergasted to discover five eggs on the wooden floor of the box (left).

I had no idea when the eggs were laid so had no idea whether they would hatch tomorrow or sometime around the end of April. I didn't have a camera inside the box then, but beginning the next day I opened the box every few days to check on the status and record it at <http://nestwatch.org>. On those days I'd scratch on the side of the box; Mom would fly out to watch from nearby; I'd open the side of the box and take a few photos or a short movie for a few seconds and then close the side; Mom would fly back in as soon as I was gone.

About a week after this, the male began bringing in headless cedar waxwing carcasses and stacking them all around the edge of the box, building a larder (right) for when she'd need food for 5 chicks. They probably liked the waxwings because they come in flocks – easier to hunt. By the time the eggs finally hatched, there were at least a dozen.



The first egg probably hatched April 1<sup>st</sup>. The photo on the left was taken April 3 and by that time we had 4 chicks, hatching in the same order that the eggs were laid. The three fuzzy chicks in this photo probably hatched a couple of days earlier. The naked red one is only a few hours old the next day he looked like the other three. The last egg was cracked and never hatched – she tossed it out a few days later.

Things happened fast from this point on. But they had to - the sequence is basically 30 days to hatch the eggs, 30 days to feed them until they fledge and then 3 months to teach them how to hunt.

By April 10, the pre-hatch larder was completely gone and the four chicks were bigger and more aware every day (right). Their snow white down was starting to get dark with emerging pin feathers that would grow into their eventual plumage. Check out the feet on the one in front. And those beaks. These are definitely raptors.



By this time, Mom was out during the day helping Dad hunt. We never saw either of them coming and going, but food would magically appear each day when I recorded



what was going on – a mouse or two, more waxwings, geckos, large insects. But it all disappeared over the next day or two without a visible trace except for the odd feather. It was a clean nest – all the by-products (fecal waste & owl pellets) were either removed or recycled by Mom. (We didn't know about this until 2022 when I had a camera in the box).

At 21 days, (left) the guys were really feathering out, very active and vocal with lots of flapping and beak popping to warn off intruders (me). They still huddled together each time the door was opened, but didn't seem to be overly concerned. By the time I closed it, they had calmed do

*continued from page 5*



April 25, as I opened the box four days later, all four chicks were spread out, not huddled up ... at all ... but lots of beak popping and movement away from the open door. I don't know who was more surprised. I couldn't back up far enough to get everybody on the screen. I took a quick video and closed the side when somebody started flapping. I switched to panoramic view and opened the side again. Everybody was wondering where the side of their house went. Then beak snapping started up again plus a lot of flapping. Then me trying to keep them in the nestbox by holding my hands up. Then me failing as two escaped and fluttered to the ground. Then lots of camera

waiving around and me yelling for Kathi as I frantically climbed down the ladder and shut the camera off.

What you don't see is that the two that escaped just sat on the ground looking around. Neither seemed overly alarmed or agitated. Both could be urged to step up on my hand (separately) and were lifted back into the nest box with the minimum opening possible. Just as I was putting the 1st one in, Mom swooshed over and watched from a branch about 10 feet away. I think dad was there as well. She flew off right after I put the 2nd one in.

At 27 days, I cracked the door \*just\* enough to slide the camera in and record the noise inside - it was way too dark to take any actual video, but they knew it was there. As I was climbing down, one of the chicks stuck his head out the front hole to watch what was going on. He, or one of the others, stayed watching for at least 30 minutes before it got too dark to take pictures.



Then, about an hour later, my son-in-law happened to be standing outside and saw one of the parents carrying a dead bird sort of crash into the hole, fight with it for a few moments, then carry it in inside. After a few seconds he flew back out again.

At 30 days (April 30<sup>th</sup>) everybody was gone from the nest box and I never saw any of them again.

I cleaned out the Kitchen Box with no problem but the front box that had the mom and 4 chicks for a month that were eating a *lot* was another whole matter. It was devoid of everything except the cypress mulch and 3 cedar waxwing feathers. No idea what happened to the bones, pellets, and a LOT of feathers although I expect the parents hauled everything away to reduce the possibility of predators.

But the feces .... ah, the feces .... One entire month of 4 chicks eating at least a dozen or more waxwings plus a couple of furry things plus who knows what else. And the remnants of all that come out as owl pellets (which mom or dad evidently hauled off somewhere) and feces. And bird feces are largely liquid (uric acid) which soaks nicely into the cypress. And decomposes turns to ammonia. Like a diaper pail. It was nasty - I had to scoop it all out, finding a few live beetle larvae of some kind and a few adults. Then I hosed it all out and put in new mulch, ready for next year.

And came inside and scrubbed my hands. Twice.

I installed cameras in both nest boxes in the summer of 2019 and we had a new pair of owls in the spring of 2020. Unfortunately, although they tried in two separate clutches for a total of 9 eggs, all of them were infertile.

In 2021, no eggs at all were laid and although two birds spent some time in there they were completely gone by late spring.

2022 had better luck with only three eggs, but all hatched and all chicks were successfully raised even though Dad disappeared in early May and Mom had to do some daylight hunting. They had all fledged by the middle of May, but in Mid-June there are videos of Mom and three chicks resting and playing in water in the side fountain.

I haven't seen them together since then although a lot of white splotches on the sidewalk indicate that at least one is still out there. And in August, a very pathetic owl in heavy molt appeared in the front box for a week or so. It was probably Mom hiding out somewhere she knew was safe. The links in <http://www.crcamp.com/owls> for the years 2021 and 2022 contain many videos of what happens inside the nest box that is invisible from the outside. The cycle should begin again in September or October when the Male shows up on the side. The female will join him in the spring with a noisy courtship and then hopefully eggs in early March. Hopefully 2023 will bring another successful brood.

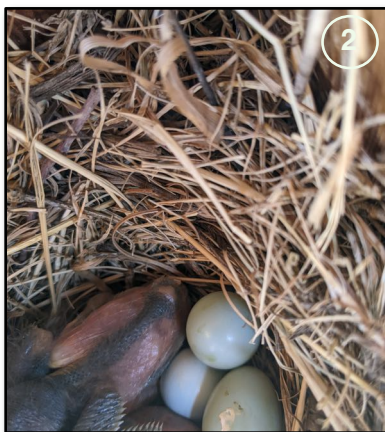
*Clyde and Kathy Camp joined TBS in xxxx. In addition to their various bluebird conservation activities. Clyde has served as our WebMaster since xxxx, and Kathy assists with the IT chores such as posting the newsletter online. We appreciate their dedication and swift responses to our IT emergencies.*

# Reporting Nesting Observations Is So Important



Arjun Jenigiri has been monitoring a nestbox for the Valley Ranch Green Club, located in Irving, Texas. When monitoring the second nest of the season, he made an unusual discovery.

- 1 June 12th - five bluebird eggs.
- 2 June 29th - two eggs have hatched.
- 3 July 2nd - three or more eggs have hatched. Today discovered a white egg in the nest with chicks!



- 4 July 10th - one fledgling left this morning. White egg still intact.

Yes, unfortunately. the white egg was not viable.



We asked **Robyn Bailey, Project Manager, NestWatch**, to share her expertise on this unusual situation.



*"Eastern Bluebirds have been known to dump an egg into another bluebird's nest, and when this happens it is usually because a female lost her own nest. I can only guess that this is what happened, but that the timing was very off for the "donation." This is a rare behavior that often goes undetected because of the color-matched eggs, but in this case, it is standing out. Genetic data indicate that only 1% of nestlings are from parasitically laid eggs.*

*Alternatively, the egg could have belonged to a Tree Swallow and has been misidentified. If true, it would still be a very poorly timed attempt to overtake a nest box. Robyn verified it was indeed a bluebird egg after she examined the July 10th photo, but reiterated, timing is weird."*

**NestWatch**  
Where Birds Come to Life

**There Is Still Time - Enter Your Data Today**

Nesting observations are absolutely essential for ornithologists/scientist trying to establish behavioral changes and the impact of environmental trends in the world of birds. Although nesting season for bluebirds has officially drawn to a close, it is not too late to enter your 2022 nesting season observations. Every little detail, such as Arjun's discovery of a white bluebird egg deposited in a nest that already had chicks, is vital to analyzing and determining bird behavior. Ornithologist/scientist depend on you to provide the crucial data that verifies existing theories or inspires new research. Data they could never be able to have if they were totally dependent on only the observations their own team could make. NestWatch needs you! Remember, reporting nesting failures is equally important as a total success. Enter your data today!

## From David Kinneer's Backyard



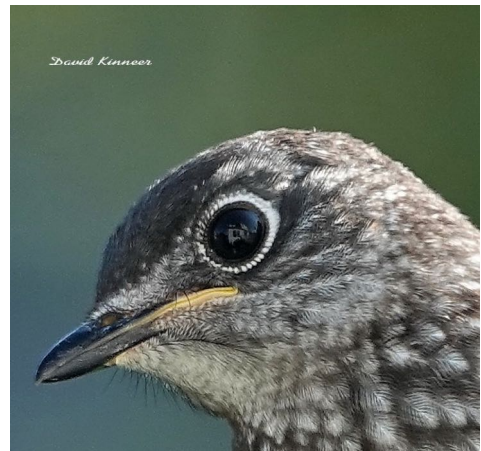
*Enjoy. Tomorrow you are feeding yourself.*



*This young female seems to have a deformity and the feathers on the left side of her abdomen have grown quite long. Otherwise she seems normal but she does travel alone and appears introverted. Any ideas as to what it is and how it will evolve? She apparently came from the neighborhood. I see her every few days.*



*This is typical of the confusion we see each morning when I first put meal worms in the feeder. The one with wings spread is a fledgling, not yet weaned, that is tracking the adult female on the right. The other two are molting juveniles.*



*One of the fledglings up close. Shot from inside the house. I love it when you can see the reflection of the house in her eye.*



*My second brood juveniles today, busily feeding the nestlings. One even removed a dirty diaper! First time I've ever seen that.*





# TBS Board Member Elections

- Watch email for link to election ballot in early November.
- Ballot is sent to email address on record. Click on the link to access the ballot.
- Changed your email? Send to records@txblues.org before October 29th.
- No email? Send Yes/No ballot to: TBS, PO Box 132101, Spring, TX 77393.

## Board Officers:



**Lonnie Castleman**  
President



**Peggy Tolboom**  
Vice-President



**Charlie Hubbard**  
Secretary



**Nelda Reid**  
Treasurer

## Board Members:



**Carrie Brown**  
Angelina



**Twyla Doty**  
Eastland



**Ann Fox**  
Tyler



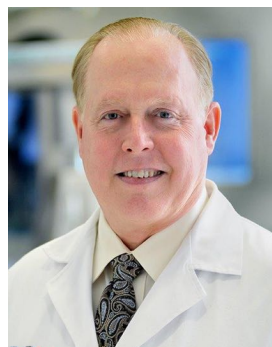
**Roberta Marshall**  
Fort Worth



**Ron Tom**  
Mountain City



**Steve Watkins**  
Aubrey



**Thomas Wheeler**  
Bellaire



**THANK YOU**

for your dedication and many  
many hours of volunteer service  
for TBS

# Lifetime Members

00001 Keith/Sandy Kridler  
00002 Ricky Walker  
00006 Mark Klym  
00007 Ron/Pauline Tom  
00009 Doug/Karen Rohde  
00024 Highland Shores Gdn Club  
00032 Lysle Mockler  
00045 Maxey Kirkley  
00054 William/Linda Stevens  
00065 Jimmie/Benni Konvicka  
00068 Charles/Jackie Post  
00092 Dr. Thomas M. Wheeler  
00102 Cliff/Julie Shackelford  
00104 LeAnn Garrison Sharp  
00121 Brian/Judy Hetherington  
00148 Byron Stone  
00151 Jack Vick  
00172 Bob Houck  
00175 Marsha Winfield  
00377 Andrew Frechtling and  
Candace Faber  
00418 Dr. John/Mrs. Judy Hutka  
00451 Ronny Rolf  
00587 Kathy/Billy Pinkerton  
00635 John/Debbie Park  
00770 Cathy Gero  
00846 Barbara Ohlman  
00869 Barbara Vinson  
00898 Charlene Johnston  
00907 Donna Parker  
00943 Sandra L Dworaczyk  
00952 Angela Austin  
00957 Nancy Podio  
00963 Diane and Eric Hale  
00976 Glenn/Gwenda Vinkler  
01192 Melinda Walker  
01198 Carla/Jim Muldrow  
01202 Beth/Tom Frantes  
01301 Luke Hoag  
01384 Deborah/Dan Rayfield  
01470 Kim Kilgore  
01666 Edra Bogucki  
01723 Nancy Etheridge  
01793 Susan Tracy  
01899 Jim Weatherly  
01999 Shirley Hrobar  
02065 Kathy Denison  
02135 Pam Moes  
02159 Greg Grant  
02175 Randy Reddemann  
02299 Don/Cathy Mitchell  
02384 Leonard/May  
02431 Shannon Ramsey  
02447 BeverlyWalter Davis  
02599 Charles/Sue Wiseman  
02710 Mark Byrd  
02713 Brant/Annette Edwards  
02857 Katherine Peake  
03136 Greg/Glenda Marsh  
03285 Jason A. Seale  
03393 Annette Harbaugh  
03492 Chuck Peterson  
03577 Alan Inrek  
03590 Jeanene Steinle Betros  
03599 Kathy P. Weinhold  
03604 Carey/Constance Hardesty  
03623 Clyde/Kathi Camp  
03690 Sue Abernathy  
03718 Ainsley Lewis  
03866 Bryan/Diane Jones  
03900 Doug and Beth Grijalva  
03922 Stan Cole  
04090 Cheryl Franklin  
04123 Lauri Blake  
04345 Cathy Brown  
04380 Julianne Sugarek  
04392 Mary Lou/Jerald Mowery  
04397 Jeff/Mary O. Parker  
04440 D.A. Horn  
04455 Jeff Raimer  
04473 Nelda Reid  
04530 Mike/Thelma Woodruff  
04649 Sarah Andry  
04664 Sarah Feagin  
04780 Teril Woodward  
04836 Mickey Dufilho  
04964 David W Work  
04983 Sherry Conner  
05245 The Studio in the Woods, G. Brown  
05284 Jeffie Cappadonna  
05342 Joe Beard  
05373 Cristina Abazajian  
05390 Jeff Pray  
05391 Lonnie/Letitia Castleman  
05409 David Kinneer  
05438 Linda Ross  
05560 James Cummings  
05634 Moira Schilke  
05682 Warren/Kay Parker  
05710 Deborah/Gary Tugwell  
05717 Randy Beehn  
05819 Yolanda Berry  
05829 Elizabeth Worsham  
05883 Dr. Michael Buley  
05884 Sandra Spurlock  
05900 Jean Marie Wesson  
05968 Kathy Bernobich  
05976 Mike LaDeau  
06025 Paul Shinsky  
06063 Boyd Heath  
06067 Doyal Nelms  
06185 Donna/Chris Honkomp  
06187 Sharon Clark  
06274 Grace Scalzo  
06367 Diana Rice  
06457 Terry DinermanR  
06513 Lacey Cloud  
06537 Marilyn Conger  
06597 Patricia Illeen Coyle  
06656 Ann Fox  
06684 Robert Hoefer  
06787 Christopher Murray  
06878 Daryl Garner  
07013 Twyla Doty  
07015 Lisa Hutchinson  
07053 Edison Pereira  
07107 Russell Cravey  
07136 Britt Causey  
07168 Mike/Jennifer Lewis  
07177 Kathleen Daly  
07178 Holly Wilcox  
07186 Ronny Carroll  
07188 Kristina Casanova  
07202 Julie Crum  
07203 Lynda Duffy  
07208 Dan/Myra Anderson  
07223 Cynthia Akeroyd  
07254 Brent Schwartz  
07255 Kevin Lee Gibbs  
07284 Hill Contry River Region  
07449 Michael Coker  
07456 Mosaic Birds by Couronne Co

Lifetime Membership \$250. Join Today!

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Aubrey

**Thomas Wheeler**  
Bellaire

Contact Us:  
[tbs@txblues.org](mailto:tbs@txblues.org)



- Rick & Maria Alba
- Annette Banks
- Tom/Kathy Bone
- Linda Cobb
- Claudia Cola
- Skip/Renee Croft
- Mike/Tamra Curry
- Deborah Fleming
- Terri Fontenot

## Welcome New Members

- Edward Frye
- Eddie/Patty Gerren
- Connie L. Grimm
- Ryk/Robbin Holden
- Bonnie Kenan
- Karen Kressin
- David/Karen Matuszewski
- Ann Minnick
- Andrew Papendieck
- Julie Patrick
- Thomas Pavlik
- Deta Rogillio
- Chris Schenek
- Alexandrw Sirovica Smith
- Linda Talley
- Shirley Tallis
- Samir/Lisa Tehseldar
- Elaine Vaughn

*We Appreciate Our Volunteers!*

### *Nestbox Distributors:*

**Randy Beehn**  
**Lonnie/Letitia Castleman**  
**Linda Crum**  
**Ann Fox**  
**Carol Hagemeyer**  
**Tonja Hamel**  
**Keith Kridler**  
**Harold Latham**  
**Lisa Mabry**  
**Archie Manning**  
**James/Sharon Miggans**  
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*Nestbox Builders:*  
**Jon Hranicky**  
**Archie Manning**  
**Jerald Mowery**  
**Dee Myers**  
**Shannon Ramsey**

### Administrative:

**Linda James** - Membership  
**Bill/Susie Johnson** - New Members  
**John Park** - Renewals  
**Vanessa Voisinet** - Facebook



## Great Holiday Gift For The Birds And Friends

Nestbox specifically designed for bluebirds and other cavity nesters by our certified nest box builders. This nestbox is designed to meet the demands of the Texas environment and will last for many years. Made out of eco-friendly lumber, and features a pivoting side panel for nestbox monitoring & cleaning. This nestbox has been approved by the North American Bluebird Society.



**Contact Local Nest Distributor**  
information and map to each distributor is online. TBS website, [Nestbox Distributor tab](#)

### Shopping On Amazon?

Don't forget to choose TBS as your charity on [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) first. A portion of your total purchases will be donated to help us help bluebirds!



## Barred Owl Photo Wins Gold



**Congratulations Arjun Jerigiri**, winner of the top award in the Youth Category - Ages 8 and under - in the Bird Photographer of the Year Contest!

The award ceremony for this world-wide competition was held in Bristol, England on September 8th. Unable to attend, Arjun was asked to send a video of his acceptance speech for the live-streaming ceremony.

View the the [winning photos](https://www.birdpoty.com/bpoty-2022-winners) at <https://www.birdpoty.com/bpoty-2022-winners>



*Fledglings never tire of mealworms and we never tire of watching them enjoy this treat!*

*Photo by Becky Boyd, Knoxville, TN*



**Become a Member!**

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

Visit Us Online For

- Fact Sheets
- Events
- Nestbox Plans
- Speakers
- Tips/Guidance
- And more!

**MISSION:**

To engage in such educational, scientific and charitable pursuits as may be beneficial to the prosperity and well being of the three species of bluebirds and other native cavity-nesting bird species.

## Special Offer For First Time Member

TBS is an affiliate of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS). TBS encourages dual memberships. NABS offers to TBS members an introductory rate of \$15.

To join NABS, send your name, address, and payment (mark it "A-Plus Membership") to:

North American Bluebird Society  
P.O. Box 7844  
Bloomington, IN 47407

*\*offer not available if you apply online.*



*Stephen Liffmann*