

TEXAS Blues



Texas Bluebird Society Newsletter - Volume 11. Issue 3

JULY 2012

TBS' Efforts Entice Brown-headed Nuthatch to Nest in W.G. Jones State Forest

By Linda Crum, Master Naturalist and TBS Board Member



Photo by Carolyn Townley. Adult Brown-headed Nuthatch brings a tasty spider to the young.

OH, SO CUTE! No other words describe the diminutive Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*) better. This fast, little bird, measuring only 3.9 to 4.3 inches, is not often seen by the casual observer. They inhabit the tops of pine trees, foraging in the needles at the tips of branches. Their sharp nasal call that sounds like a rubber ducky toy will help locate them. The male and female adults look similar in appearance.

Found in the Southeastern United States, they prefer mature, open pine forests where they use sharp claws to move both up and down tree trunks, looking in bark crevices for insects. The Brown-headed Nuthatch will even use a small piece of bark as a tool to expose hidden insects. In winter, nuthatches will cram seeds and nuts into bark crevices to retrieve for later consumption.

Nuthatches are considered cooperative breeders. The practice of non-breeding Brown-headed Nuthatches, usually first year males, assisting in nest building, feeding of young and defending the territory was first described in 1958. While nuthatches are considered monogamous, 20 percent of Brown-headed Nuthatches are cooperative

breeders usually having only one additional helper. Up to 30 percent of Pygmy Nuthatches practice cooperative breeding with up to three additional helpers.

All nuthatches are cavity nesters with both male and female excavating the cavity. The eggs of Brown-headed Nuthatches are white with reddish-brown blotches or speckles and the clutch can contain from three to nine eggs. The female incubates the eggs for about 14 days. The young will fledge at about 18 or 19 days. Nuthatches subscribe to the "family bed" concept with the adult female roosting with her young during the nesting period. Sometimes the male will join them. After fledging, the nuthatches stay together as a family group for the summer. Usually only one clutch is produced each year.

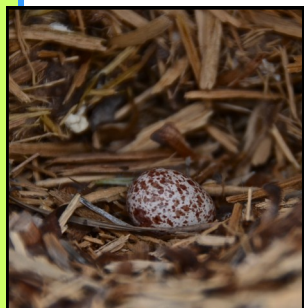


Photo by Elwyn Fink. One egg was left after the Brown-headed Nuthatches fledged.

Being habitat specialists will cause a decrease in the number of Brown-headed Nuthatches whenever their habitat is at risk. Fire and extensive logging have decreased mature pine forests. Another cause for the decline is competition with other species such as Eastern Bluebirds for nesting sites (see article by Mark Stanback on page 5.)

Dr. Mark Stanback contacted Texas Bluebird Society in October, 2009 regarding his study and requesting that TBS encourage its members who monitor nestboxes in east Texas to consider retrofitting a portion of the boxes with smaller holes to accommodate Brown-headed Nuthatches. The reduced hole size would also accommodate Carolina Chickadees, but exclude House Sparrows and Eastern Bluebirds.



Photo by Carolyn Townley. Three babies are ready to fledge in a few days.

Continued on page 4

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Mickie McGregor (left) and Connie Brannan (right) two of our newer early morning workers at the Gainesville Spring Fling booth on May 5, 2012. Both joined in October at the Depot Days in Gainesville last year. Both are very enthusiastic and both look forward to our August 11th annual event, TBS Summer Symposium.

Don Lawrence (center) created and wore a "sandwich board" and walked through the festival to garner attention for TBS and Texas bluebirds. Photo by Kenlyn Lawrence.

Volunteers Are Appreciated!

Connie Brannan
Caryn Brewer
Katy Couvillion
Linda Crum
Jennifer Fleming
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Maxey Kirksey
Don Lawrence
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Ron Tom demos the TBS nestbox, along with other volunteers, at the 23rd Blueberry Festival in downtown Nacogdoches. Photos by Pauline Tom.



Mmm! Is it the love for bluebirds or blueberries, that attracts our volunteers to Nacogdoches every year? I think it is both! Festivals are fun for everyone, and a great place to volunteer.

TBS Thanks Donors For Their Financial Support

Kathleen H. Adkins
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We print names of all new members who give us permission on the Membership application.

- CB, Ft. Worth
- DB, Athens
- CB, Nacogdoches
- FB, Rowlett
- KD, Ravenna
- OD, Crowley
- LD, Athens
- AE, Ravenna
- KF, Joshua
- KF, Athens

- SF, Athens
- JF, Nacogdoches
- EG, Terrell
- KG, Gainesville
- PH, Gainesville
- CH, Wills Point
- PH, Monroe
- SI, Carlisle
- CK, Weatherford
- MK, Ft. Worth
- MM, Castroville
- JM, Houston
- MM, Longview
- AP, Terrell
- CP, Terrell
- AP, Nacogdoches
- BP, Terrell
- BR, Valley View
- RR, Athens
- LR, Nacogdoches
- VR, Spring
- JS, Ft. Worth
- SS, Gun Barrel City
- MS, Scurry
- RS, Sanger
- WS, Ft. Worth
- MW, Many

Musings From The Master...

Resourceful Raccoons Raid Everything!

A daffodil friend sent me this photo last spring.



Not a very good photo as she shot it through the window. Notice the high \$ predator guard with the raccoon standing on it while eating the sunflower seeds in the hanging bird feeder. MOST commercial "predator" guards or snake repellants will NOT work in yours, or anyone's backyard. Notice the two squirrels, she often sees 8 at a time. The two "red eyes" in the center is another raccoon. She often sees 4 to 6 at a time. There is a skunk (with another one in her front yard at the time of the photo. These "predators" were feeding after sunrise. She has seen ALL of these except the skunks get up and over the predator guard. They also walk the 15' wire that hangs halfway to her house and between the trees.

Folks who attract "birds" to their yards with feeders will also be attracting all sorts of "predators" to their yards. We *train* these "predators" both four legged and bushy tailed, and those with wings, to reach into "holes" or "slots" to find "food!"

Not sure why we are so surprised when we put up nestboxes out in our yards/ fields, then have these same hungry "predators" climbing up to inspect these "bird feeders" that you and I call nestboxes.

I am just trying to make eve-

ryone aware that there are all sorts of self-described devices and mounting poles sold as "predator guards" or "predator proof" that do not do the job.

Just because a person uses one of these, and they do not lose any eggs or young birds even for MULTIPLE years, probably means a predator has not even attempted to climb up the pole and around the guard. ☺

Many folks truly believe rubbing a ½" electrical conduit with steel wool is "predator proof." BUT, set up a feeding station on top of the conduit and install a game camera, and you will see that even very young raccoons can EASILY scamper up the pole. In just over 12 hours, I was able to photograph 57 raccoons. I even captured 12 in one photo. (Dick Tuttle from Ohio watched three raccoons, one standing on top of the other, climb up and over a Kingston baffle to get all of the food in the bird feeder.)

You can test the same thing by putting House Sparrow eggs in open nests, focus a game camera on the "fake" nest, and see just what types of local predators you have! With the camera's date/time stamp, you can even identify which are their favorite visiting hours.

OK, if you REALLY need 100% protection from rac-

coons or roaming cats, then you will need to put the Kingston guard WELL up above the height that any cat can jump. (Plans for Kingston Baffle on TBS website.)



Big raccoons are REALLY tall; these are mere babies just weaned.

Raccoons like these young ones work in groups. I have seen a raccoon stand on the ground, and the second raccoon climbs up on top of the first one, reaching up almost five feet off of the ground.

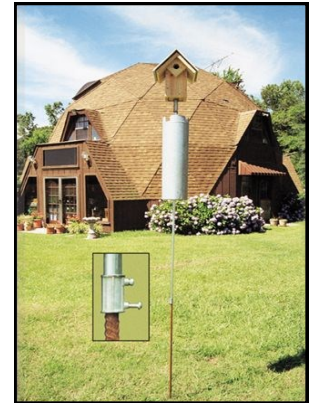
Also, you have to put the pole, guard, and nestbox way out in the open, too far for any four legged predator to jump from a tree, or a fence, or whatever, to get to the box itself or the top of the guard.



IF you do not put the Ron Kingston guard WELL up off of the ground, a big boar raccoon can stand on his hind legs and reach up to the top edge of the guard and pull himself up and over .

You can do this with the use of telescoping poles that you can use to raise and lower

the nestboxes and attached guards. (shown in photos below)



Best combination: Kingston Stovepipe baffle and telescoping poles.

By getting Ron's stovepipe guard up high, there will NOT be enough food value inside the nestboxes for raccoons to bother spending the time and/or combined effort in getting up and over these guards.



Keith Kridler, everyone's resident expert, our favorite speaker, and co-founder of TBS, participates in several List-

Serve groups focusing on bluebirds and their behavior. Keith has given us permission to publish his contributions to these groups. This is an edited excerpt from the Bluebird Monitors Yahoo Group.

Continued from page 1 ... **Brown-headed Nuthatch Nests in W.G. Jones State Forest**

W.G. Jones State Forest, located in Conroe, Texas, is perfect habitat for Brown-headed Nuthatches. The forest contains mature pine trees, and the undergrowth is kept at a minimum to provide a habitat for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. I have monitored a bluebird trail of six nestboxes in this forest since early 2009. In 2010, Texas Bluebird Society funded three nestboxes and 1¼-inch hole-reducers were added to encourage the nesting of Brown-headed Nuthatches. These boxes were labeled JSF NH 1, JSF NH 2, and JSF NH 3. The retrofitted nestboxes were interspersed among the nestboxes of the bluebird trail.



Photo by Anita Wren.
Brown-headed Nuthatch nest on bottom with unknown nest built on top.

Nestboxes, retrofitted for the nuthatches, remained empty in 2010 and 2011 except for occasional red wasps, which I evicted on a weekly basis. On March 12, 2012, a completed nest was found in JSF NH 3. In fact, two nests were present in the nestbox. The shallow nest on the bottom was made by a Brown-headed Nuthatch. The larger, top nest was made by an unknown species, perhaps a Tufted Titmouse. No eggs were ever laid in that nest, so the species will remain unknown.

On March 12 and 18, 2012, a male Eastern Bluebird was sitting on top of JSF NH 1. All other bluebird nestboxes were occupied by Eastern Bluebirds. I took pity and removed the hole-reducer and labeled it JSF BB 7. A complete pine needle nest constructed by an Eastern Bluebird was in that box by March 25. To maintain the number of nestboxes for Brown-headed Nuthatches, I installed another retrofitted nestbox and labeled it JSF NH 1.

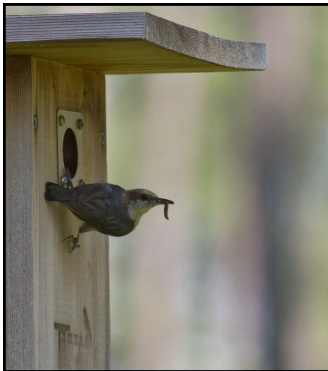


Photo by Carolyn Townley. Insect larvae were delivered on a regular basis to the nestlings.

Nesting material was present in JSF NH 2 on April 22. The nest was only one inch high and consisted of tiny shreds of wood chips about one-half to one inch in length, forming a donut-shaped nest. These wood chips had been stripped from the inside front of the nestbox! Three tiny eggs with reddish-brown speckles were resting on the bottom of the nestbox. I was surprised to see no nesting material beneath the eggs.

By April 25, the Brown-headed Nuthatch was incubating four eggs. She flushed from the box when it was opened. When I monitored on April 30, a male and female Eastern Bluebird were on top of JSF NH 2 peering down at the entry looking at the Brown-headed Nuthatch peering back at them.

On May 10, three naked young and one adult were present when I monitored the box. One egg was observed as the adult flushed from the nest. By the way, she gave me a defiant look and refused to budge when I monitored on May 13. Needless to say, I quietly closed the nestbox and tiptoed away.



Photo by Carolyn Townley. Fecal sac is removed from the nestbox.

On May 22, TBS member Carolyn Townley and I made a trip to Jones State Forest to photograph the Brown-headed Nuthatch. We set up a blind about twenty feet from the nestbox, set the camera on a tripod, and waited. It is unknown how many adults were feeding the young, but we only had to wait three to five minutes between visits to the nestbox. The adult birds were busy all morning removing fecal sacs and feeding the young various insects and spiders. By May 30, the young had fledged. One egg was left behind in the nest. *(All photos used in this article were taken by Texas Bluebird Society members at W.G. Jones State Forest.)*

Although 1¼" hole size was successful, both Dr. Stanback and Keith Kridler now recommend using a hole size of one inch.

Brown-headed Nuthatch Enhancement Study



Dr. Mark Stanback

Professor of Biology, Davidson College, Davidson, NC

Project duration: Two years

Objectives:

1. Assess the importance of pine density and competition with eastern bluebirds on the spatial distribution of brown-headed nuthatch nests.
2. Assess the numerical response of brown-headed nuthatches to the experimental exclusion of eastern bluebirds.
3. Assess the ability of eastern bluebirds to usurp nest sites from brown-headed nuthatches.
4. Provide golf course managers in the Southeast with recommendations to increase the numbers of brown-headed nuthatches on their golf courses.

The brown-headed nuthatch (*Sittapusilla*) is a cooperatively breeding bird endemic to the southeastern United States. But for nearly half a century its numbers have been in decline. Habitat degradation is usually blamed. Brown-headed nuthatches are said to be habitat specialists - dependent on old growth pine forests. As development overtakes more of the Southeast, there are fewer old pine stands usable by these birds.

Another cavity-nesting species has increased dramatically in number in the same region - the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*). Bluebirds tend to fare well in a variety of human-altered habitats. Moreover, bluebirds have been the beneficiaries of nest box programs throughout their range. We hypothesized that the burgeoning bluebird population in the Southeast is negatively impacting brown-headed nuthatches.

My students and I have been monitoring nest boxes on six golf courses near Davidson, North Carolina since 2001. For each nest box, we measured the distance to the nearest three pine trees (*Pinusechinata*). The distance to the third was our measure of pine density. Boxes for which the third closest pine was less than 50 meters away were considered to be in "pine-rich" habitat; boxes for which the third closest pine was > 50 meters away were considered to be in "pine-poor" habitat.

Standard 1½" entrance holes accommodate both bluebirds and nuthatches; 1¼" holes accommodate nuthatches, but are too small for bluebirds. We randomly assigned boxes on three golf courses to the 1¼" treatment. Pine density had no significant effect on nesting by nuthatches, contrary to the predictions of the conventional wisdom. Hole size, however, had a highly significant effect on nuthatch settlement: nuthatches settle where competition with bluebirds is minimized, regardless of local pine density.

We recorded the number of nuthatch nests on three courses with a subset of 1¼" entrance holes vs. the number on three other courses on which all boxes had standard "bluebird-friendly" 1½" entrance holes. We monitored boxes in 2004 (prior to the addition of "nuthatchfriendly" holes on our experimental courses) to ensure that all six courses were similar in their lack of nuthatches. For the 2005, 2006, and 2007 breeding season, we monitored the numbers of nuthatch nests on both experimental and control courses. Numbers of nuthatches increased in each year of the study, suggesting that bluebirds competitively exclude nuthatches from available habitat.

These results clearly demonstrate that nuthatches flourish only where bluebirds are excluded. Prior to the 2008 breeding season, we reversed the treatments on our six golf courses: our three "bluebird-friendly" courses became "nuthatch-friendly" and vice-versa. Of the 32 boxes containing nuthatch nests in 2007, 31 contained bluebird nests in 2008, 31 contained bluebird nests. The competitive superiority of bluebirds is unquestionable.

Summary Points

► Brown-headed nuthatch numbers have declined throughout the Southeast. Their supposed dependence on old growth pine forests - and susceptibility to habitat alteration - is usually blamed for this decline. We offer an alternative hypothesis - that nest site competition with a burgeoning eastern bluebird population is responsible.

► We monitored nest box use by bluebirds and nuthatches on golf courses and found that pine density had little effect on nest box use by nuthatches. Instead, the exclusion of bluebirds (via smaller entrance holes) was the best predictor of nest box occupation by nuthatches.

► Brown-headed nuthatch numbers increased dramatically on three golf courses where bluebirds were excluded from one-third of nest boxes. Control courses had few, if any, breeding nuthatches over the same period.

► When bluebird-friendly holes were returned to experimental boxes, bluebirds quickly evicted resident nuthatches.

► To prevent monopolization of nestboxes by bluebirds, golf courses in the SE should provide smaller entrance holes.

Sneak Peek Of Symposium Activities August 11th

By Benni Konvicka

If you want a real treat this summer, join us in Gainesville in August for the TBS Summer Symposium. There is no presenter more engaging than the personable Keith Kridler. If you have not heard Keith before, you are in for a treat. Also, we are delighted to have Dr. Kenneth Steigman present to share his expertise and experience with us. Come hear his informative presentation. In addition to our two main Symposium speakers, there will be presentation covering House Sparrow Control, an additional presentation providing excellent information for Gardening for Bluebirds, and a presentation explaining the process of participating in Nest-Watch.

And if all of these opportunities to gain insight into providing a supportive environment for bluebirds is not yet enough, at this summer's Symposium we will also have a fun and informative brief "Show and Tell" sessions providing "tips and tricks" from our members such as a useful method for establishing feeding stations and a useful method of strip mowing and nextboxes.

This Summer Symposium's program will provide something for everyone, the novice and veteran bluebirders alike.

When you come to the Summer Symposium, consider coming Friday night to join some early arrivers at our Friday Evening Social Dinner at Nue Ranch House. Happy Hour begins at 6:30, and the buffet begins at 7:00. Or consider staying overnight Saturday and use the afternoon and evening to enjoy everything Gainesville has to offer. Your registration form provides information about lodging at the Holiday Inn Express with a Texas Bluebird Society room rate, and RV Hookups are available close to the Civic Center at Gainesville RV Park.

You will love driving through the beautiful Historical Downtown District, or visiting the Frank Buck Zoo, or perhaps check out the Morton Museum. In addition to these possibilities, entertain yourself at Gainesville Outlet Shops, or REALLY get adventurous and drive 8 minutes north on I-35 to WinStar, the world's SECOND LARGEST casino, where Rod Stewart will be performing Saturday night!

Come to the 2012 Summer Symposium for great information; support TBS through your participation in our FUNdraising Silent Auction, and stay to enjoy other activities in this north Texas locale.

See bios of our featured speakers below.

Keith Kridler

Naturalist & Bluebird Lover Extraordinaire
 Master Gardener
 Semi-commercial Heritage Daffodil Bulb Grower (Has won MANY awards in this field.)
 Hundreds of miles of Bluebird Trail Installation & Monitoring
 Co-Author of *The Bluebird Monitor's Guide*
 Regular feature column, *Musings From The Master*, in TBS newsletter, *Texas Blues*

TBS Achievements

- ▶ Co-founded TBS with Pauline Tom in 2001.
- ▶ Received Cornerstone Award in 2003 for his help, support, advice, and many contributions to TBS.
- ▶ Presented TBS Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009 in acknowledgement of the support to TBS and his commitment to bluebird conservation.

Requested speaker for many groups on a variety of topics as well as teaching continuing education courses.

Always a speaker at the annual Bluebird Summer Symposium, always informative, always interesting, and always fun.

Dr. Kenneth L. Steigman

Research Scientist II
 Institute of Applied Science
 University of North Texas
 Director of Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area

Education: Ph.D. Biology, University of North Texas; Master's and Bachelor's degrees Biology, Sam Houston State University.

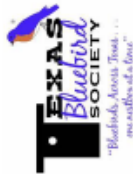
Areas of Interest: Ornithology, avian ecology, raptor biology, bird banding, restoration ecology and tallgrass prairie management.

His current focus is the restoration and management of the Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area, a 2000-acre parcel of federal land managed by a non-profit consortium of which the University of North Texas serves as the fiscal agent.

Education of bluebird natural history and hands-on opportunities for the public to learn about how to manage these and other species are important roles for nature centers and wildlife management areas to provide. LLELA's volunteer program is dedicated to teaching interested members of the community what is involved in managing a bluebird trail and encouraging volunteers to take ownership of the program.

Early Bird Registration Deadline is July 11, 2012

Clip and complete to reserve a seat. Or, register online at RSVPbook.com/2012Symposium



2012 Summer Symposium in Gainesville (with Silent Auction Fundraiser)

Presented by Texas Bluebird Society

Saturday, August 11, 2012
Gainesville Civic Center, 311 S. Weaver, Gainesville, TX 76240

9:00 AM -2:30 PM
Door open at 8:30 for Registration and Silent Auction

Featured Speakers

Keith Kridler, author and naturalist

Bluebirds & More

Dr. Ken Steigman, Director at Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area

Bluebird Banding at LLELA

Other Presentations:

Bluebird Basics, House Sparrow Control, Gardening for Bluebirds, and more

REGISTRATION COSTS and DEADLINES

Early Bird Advance Registration: \$12. BBQ Lunch and 10 Door prize tickets.

Deadline: July 11, 2012

Advance Registration: \$12. BBQ Lunch and 1 Door prize ticket. Deadline July 28, 2012

At-the-door Registration: \$6. No meal and no door prize ticket

Friday Evening Social Dinner at Neu Ranch House (no money collected in advance): \$7.50, under 55; \$6.75, 55 and over.

7 PM Buffet (6:30 PM Happy Hour Cash Beer, BYO Wine). Deadline, July 28, 2012

Lodging: The Holiday Inn Express. \$105.99. Ask for the Texas Bluebird Society rate. (840) 665-0505

RV Hookups available close to the Civic Center (Gainesville RV Park). (840) 665-4530.

On-line registration available at <http://RSVPbook.com/2012Symposium>

FREE Nestbox to members who pledge to "NestWatch" at least two nestboxes
(submit observations to Cornell Lab of Ornithology through www.NestWatch.org)

For More Information:

Don Lawrence
Donkelaw1@aol.com, (903) 564-1035

To Donate a Silent Auction Item:*

Jimmie & Benni Konvicka
1315 North Dale Ave
Stephenville, TX 76401-1604
Auction@texasbluebirdsociety.org
(254) 968-6683

Donations received after July 28 will miss the publication deadline.

*TBS is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 "charitable" organization. Donations are tax deductible, as allowed by law.



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Gainesville Civic Center
311 S. Weaver
Gainesville, TX 76240



ADVANCE Registration (includes BBQ Buffet)

On-line registration available at <http://RSVPbook.com/2012Symposium>

Registrant #1

Name	Name for Name Tag
Street Address	City
State	Zip
Contact Phone	E-mail
Registrant #2 (same street address)	
Name	Name for Name Tag
Contact Phone	E-mail

# Registrants (Please circle)	Description	Cost
1	2 Member	\$12.00
1	2 Non Member	\$12.00
1	2 Friday Night Dinner	\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Cash		Total Due:

New \$15 Membership at this event includes **FREE** nestbox!

Do you plan to join at the meeting? Y N

(This is not a firm commitment for membership. Please do not send membership dues now.)

For Planning Purposes Only

1. TBS Members and New Members: TBS will provide to you FREE a nestbox at this event if you pledge to "NestWatch" at least 2 nestboxes (submit observations to Cornell Lab of Ornithology through www.nestbox.org).

Do you plan to participate? Yes No N/A

2. \$15 Nestboxes available for purchase (based upon availability). How many do you plan to purchase? _____

Mail Registration Form with Payment made payable to "Texas Bluebird Society" to:
Don Lawrence
725 CR 132
Whitesboro, TX 76273-4701



Register now with your SmartPhone.

Newsletter

EARLY BIRD Registration — Deadline July 11, 2012

ADVANCE Registration — Deadline July 28, 2012

AT-THE-DOOR Registration available (no lunch or door prize chances)



The Texas Bluebird Society newsletter, *TX Blues*, is published four times a year: March ■ May ■ July ■ October
Debbie Bradshaw, Editor

Send street or email address changes to Caryn Brewer at: records@texasbluebirdsociety.org or send to our P.O. Box.

Need Nestboxes?

Check for a nestbox distributor near you.

Go to www.txblues.org and click

Nestbox Distributors

from the main menu.



Photo by Luke Hoag

ALL NATIVE CAVITY-NESTERS are protected by federal law. Do not disturb the birds or the nest.

Monitor the nest and report to NestWatch.

Bluebirds Across Texas ... one nestbox at a time

Join Us!

2012 Summer Symposium

August 11th in Gainesville

Featured Speakers:
Keith Kridler ■ Dr. Steigman

Registration form, details, and a sneak peek of activities at the event and around town on pg 6 & 7.

Lake Tawakoni State Park Celebrates Tenth Anniversary



Photo by Nancy Glover

Donna Garde, Park Ranger at Lake Tawakoni State Park, invited Texas Bluebird Society to set up a bluebird information booth at the 10th Anniversary Celebration. In photo, Tim Glover and friend Stephanie (photo on left) enjoy the shade under the TBS canopy during the Lake Tawakoni Tenth Anniversary Celebration. TBS has provided a monitored bluebird trail since the opening of the park in 2002. Read details (story below) of TBS' contribution and the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers involved.

Nancy Glover, the current monitor for the nestboxes at Lake Tawakoni State Park, met Carolyn Crowder, the original monitor of the nestboxes at the park's 10th Anniversary Celebration on May 5, 2012.

In Fall 2001, the park contacted the new Texas Bluebird Society requesting a nestbox trail. Through Board Member David Shiels, TBS involved his Scout troop for the installation of a nestbox trail at the park before the park opened in Spring 2002. Carolyn Crowder served as a Park Host at the time, and she faithfully monitored the nestboxes until she left the park.

In 2009, the nestboxes (after some years of neglect) were replaced by another Scout troop working with Texas Bluebird Society as a project for Eagle Scout Matthew Duerr.

In 2011, Nancy Glover, TBS Board Member, commenced monitoring the nestboxes and reporting to NestWatch. — The original, meticulous nesting records were lost. Now, records are stored securely (for free) through NestWatch.org.



Nestbox monitors Nancy Glover and Carolyn Crowder. Photo by Tim Glover.



2013 Season Kickoff February 9th in Kerrville at Inn of the Hills
Featured speaker **Mark Klym** ■ Friday night social dinner at **Mamacita's**