

Notice to Members: NABS Director's Election 2016

Per our by-laws NABS holds a yearly election of our Board members **The election runs from June 15th to August 15th and ballots can be submitted during that time.**

Who can vote? Members in good standing as of May 15th shall be eligible to vote in the Annual Election. (NABS by-laws Article XVII.4).

How to vote? Please use the self-addressed (not franked) post cards inserted in your summer issue of **Bluebird**. If you have an individual membership you are entitled to one vote (mail in one ballot). If you have a "family" membership you are allowed to mail in both ballots. To be counted your ballot must be signed and dated.

In May 2016 the postage for an in country post card in the USA was \$0.34 USD. The cost of a Canadian international stamp to the USA is \$1.20 CAD

The Director nominations closed on May 15th and the following slate was submitted by the Nominations chair and approved by the Board of Directors. To comply with NABS by-laws, the slate was posted on the NABS website (by June 15th) and printed in the summer issue of **Bluebird**.

Short biographies of the 14 candidates (alphabetical order) are included below:

Bob Benson lives in South Easton, Massachusetts where he monitors several bluebird trails in the surrounding vicinity. He also works with local residences, both children and adults, through the public schools and the local Moose Lodge to educate them on cavity nesting birds. Bob is a NABS Director and the current chairman the Nominations and Nest Box committees. Bob is also the official "voice of NABS" and answers phone calls for help and information from the public and dispatches them to someone for assistance.

Jane Brockway and her husband, Alan live in Mineral County, Montana which borders the Northern Idaho panhandle. She started bluebirding in 1998 after the family bought part the ranch owned by Alan's grandparents and were told that "we have always had bluebirds around." Most of the county is Western Bluebird habitat, but Jane sees both species on her trail. She has been on the Mountain Bluebird Trails (a NABS affiliate) board of directors for more than 10 years, and holds a Masterbanding permit and is the banding administrator for MBT. She is also the editor for Mountain Bluebird Tales newsletter and loves running the annual 'bluebird first sighting' contest in the spring when she talks to people from all over Montana and Idaho. She monitors an 80+ nestbox trail that is spread over 20 miles and enjoys photographing the countryside, bluebirds, and grandkids!

Vicky Butler is a retired Water Treatment Plant manager who lives in Sacramento, California and has been an active nest box monitor since 2004 she started fledging Wood Ducks. Today Vicki monitors over 100 boxes for a variety of cavity nesters including Wood Ducks, Barn Owls, American Kestrels, Tree Swallows and Western Bluebirds. She builds and installs her boxes and has sub-permittee license to band all of the species of birds in her nesting boxes. She serves as County Coordinator for California Bluebird Recover Program a NABS affiliate and also serves as a NABS Director.

David Cook resides in San Jose, CA where he has been active in bird conservation for over twenty years. He was one the founding members of the Cavity Nesters Program for Santa Clara County, and served as a Director for Santa Clara Valley Audubon for ten years, chairing the Environmental Action and the Burrowing Owl Preservation Committees. He has served as a NABS Director for six years, chairing the Journal Advisory, and Awards Committees.

Kevin Corwin is a retired computer scientist who lives in Centennial, a suburb of Denver, Colorado. He became involved with bluebirds in 2003 when he helped establish the Colorado Bluebird Project under the auspices of the Audubon Society of Greater Denver and made it a NABS affiliate. He also participates in monitoring a trail of 44 nestboxes about 30 miles south of Denver. He is a volunteer Naturalist at Roxborough State Park near Denver, a Senior Docent with the Raptor Education Foundation, a participant in the North American Breeding Bird Survey for the USGS, and he has several other volunteer activities to keep him busy. Kevin is a NABS Director.

Bernie Daniel is a retired environmental research scientist who lives with his wife Marie in Symmes Township in southwestern Ohio. Bernie has been a member of NABS since about 2001, and has served NABS as a member of the Board, Editor, and President and is a life member, and past president of the Ohio Bluebird Society. He has been bluebirding (off and on!) since 1953 and currently maintains his own trail of 40 nest boxes in Ohio. He has published some 140 research peer-reviewed papers in environmental science and has participated in the North American Breeding Bird Survey since 1999. He enjoys the study of bird song and “birding by ear”.

Jim Engelbrecht is a semi-retired management accountant (CPA) who lives with his wife Wendy in Rouses Point, NY in the extreme northeast corner of the state. He started bluebirding after retiring from Wyeth Laboratories; monitoring boxes at a local golf course. He is a County Coordinator and Board Member of the New York State Bluebird Society and he has served on the NABS Board since 2012 and as NABS Treasurer since 2014. Jim prepares the annual 990 report for NABS and mails the Bluebird Journal to our Canadian Members.

Stan Fisher lives in Boyds, Maryland and monitors his own nest box trails in addition to actively assisting others in his community get into bluebirding by serving as a local resource for speaking and trail monitoring. He is the President of the Maryland Bluebird Society. Stan is a Charter as well as a Life member of NABS, a recipient of the NABS Lifetime Achievement Award and serves as a NABS Director and as a member of the Grants and Nest Box committees.

Allen Jackson is a resident of the State of New Jersey and is retired from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is a co-founder and current President of the New Jersey Bluebird Society, a NABS affiliate. Allen has erected over 600 bluebird boxes on some 50 bluebird trails and he monitors his own 70 box trail. He has authored numerous articles on proper trail management for martins and bluebirds, with a special focus on House Sparrow control. He is a frequent speaker on nest box trail management and has received numerous awards including 2002 Purple Martin Landlord of the Year. Allen is a master bander for Purple Martins and Eastern Bluebirds and is a current NABS Director.

Chuck James and his wife, Terry are residents of Loudon in eastern Tennessee since he retired from a Vice Presidency with Transonic Systems a world leader in surgical blood flow monitoring products. Today, Chuck serves on a number of non-profit Boards. He became interested in bluebirds, about 12 years ago and while attending the 2013 NABS Conference he became impressed with the South Carolina Bluebird Society and decided to start a similar organization in Tennessee. Today he serves as President of the Tennessee Bluebird Society, a NABS affiliate, and he is also a NABS Director. Chuck believes a strong state effort in conservation and education is imperative and necessary when educating the next generation of bluebirders.

Linda Schamberger is an Elementary Education teacher who lives in Webster, New York with her husband Peter. She has been bluebirding since June 2011 when she contacted NABS in distress with a possible House Sparrow attack on her first bluebird nest. She continued to learn and study about bluebirds and now heads up and administers our NABS Facebook page. She is also a member of NYS Bluebird Society, a County Coordinator, and a NABS Director. Two of her passions are to educate about, and photograph bluebirds.

John Schuster lives with his wife Katarina at their vineyard property in Cotati, California. A former employee of the California Department of Forestry, Ecology Corps, he served as a fire fighter for both the California and US Forest Services. John also works with many and varied conservation projects throughout the state of California. In 2000, John established Wild Wing Company, after personally witnessing the success that beneficial cavity nesting birds had on reducing pests in his vineyard operations. He is a Director and lifetime member of NABS and serves on several committees.

Elizabeth (Bet) Zimmerman Smith lives with her husband Patrick in northeastern Connecticut, where she manages a 100 nestbox trail. Bet is the creator of www.Sialis.org, possibly the most comprehensive website on the Internet dedicated to cavity nesters and bluebirding. She is also a regular contributor of articles to *Bluebird*, a NABS Director, and serves on the NABS Grants, Education, and Nestbox committees. Bet is a Certified Environmental Professional who has been working and volunteering for non-profit environmental organizations for over four decades.

Del Straub is a resident of Gallatin Gateway, located in south central Montana and is a licensed bird bander and he is a member and Director of Mountain Bluebird Trails, a NABS affiliate. He is also NABS Director Del has managed a 90 nest box trail in Montana for nearly a decade. He specializes in organizational financial management of 510.c.3 tax exempt non-profits and is also involved in long-term citizen science projects in his area.

NABS by-laws are found at: www.nabluebirdsociety.org/Board/boardofdirectors.htm