

# 2025 Missouri Bluebird Conference

Jefferson City, Missouri Lincoln University's Carver Farm

July 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>



Hudsonian Godwit at Mockingbird Hill

Photo by Pete Monacell



## Featuring:

### ▪ Missouri Bird Records Committee Chair: Pete Monacell

to update us on Missouri's Rare and Uncommon bird sightings!

**PLUS...** Pete is also going to lead us on a Bird Walk at Mockingbird Hill – home to more than one “rare and uncommon” bird sighting.

- **Bluebird Basics** by Jack Corrigan, MOBS Nest Box Grant Program Ambassador
- **“Advanced Bluebirding” with an in depth probe into Predator Control and feeding Bluebirds** by Steve Garr, MOBS President
- A look at **Missouri's Natural Areas** by MDC Natural Areas Coordinator, Michael Leahy.
- A Panel discussion on **“Reclaiming abandoned Nest Box Trails”** by a group of Bluebirders who have done just that! Hear from representatives of successfully reclaimed Bluebird Trails from East, West, and Mid-Missouri. They are ready to answer your questions!

**And of course....** Our Annual Bluebird Banquet, Silent Auction and Raffle, Saturday Picnic, and time spent together at the one and only **“Mockingbird Hill”** for food, friendship, and bird walks. This year featuring the terrific music of **Alan Ames**!

Missouri Bluebird Society

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

The Missouri Bluebird Society invites you attend the  
**2025 Missouri Bluebird Conference**  
**July 11th– 13th**

Lincoln University's Carver Farm, 3804 Bald Hill Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
and Mockingbird Hill, 3215 Zion Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65109

**For Directions** go to: <http://www.lincolnu.edu/web/cooperative-research/carver-farm-directions>

For Conference info: Contact Steve and Regina: 573-638-2473 or [steve@birds-i-view.biz](mailto:steve@birds-i-view.biz)



**Registration for the 2025 Missouri Bluebird Society Conference**

*Please make Checks payable to: The Missouri Bluebird Society*

*And mail to: Missouri Bluebird Society/ P.O. BOX 105830 /Jefferson City, MO 65110*

**Deadline to register 7/7/25**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address :** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email :** \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for Saturday Presentations includes lunch and a "Bluebird Information Packet". There is an optional Friday evening "Bluebird Banquet" including dinner, an informative program, and the "Bluebirds and Friends" slide show. There is also an optional Saturday evening Picnic and Social featuring musical entertainment, great food, and camaraderie at the lovely Mockingbird Hill in Jefferson City. Please also join us Sunday Morning (7/13/25) for Bird Walks at Mockingbird Hill at no additional charge.

**Friday evening Bluebird Banquet** (Program with dinner included) **7/11/25**

(member) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(non-member) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$35.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, 7/12/25 Conf. Presentations** -Lunch included. (member) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(non-member) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday evening Picnic and Social 7/12/25 at Mockingbird Hill**

(members/ non-members) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

7/12/25 Children under 12 years of age with a paid adult (total children) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$14.00/ child = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL amount enclosed for all Conference fees \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you would like Vegetarian meals (y/n) How Many? \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline to register 7/7/25**

**Please Note that the conference registration fee does NOT include membership dues**

**Not yet a Missouri Bluebird Society Member???**

**Join now and save on your Bluebird Conference Registration Fee!** (Please enclose check for dues with this membership application)

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total \$ amount enclosed for Membership Dues: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Levels:**

(Mail check to: PO Box 105830/Jefferson City, MO 65110)

Individual one year membership \$9.00

Individual two year membership \$16.00

Family one year membership \$15.00

Family two year membership \$28.00

DONOR (Annual) \$50.00

SUPPORTER (Annual) \$100.00

**Life Membership (family) \$175.00**

**Senior (65+) Life Membership (family) \$100.00**

**County** \_\_\_\_\_



# 2025 Missouri Bluebird Conference

## Our Presenters!

### *Our Friday Evening Banquet Speaker*

#### **“From Porches to Pastures: Benefits of Native Plants in any Space”**

**Carol Davit** is the executive director of the 59-year-old Missouri Prairie Foundation and Grow Native!, its 25-year-old native plant marketing and education program. She has worked for 27 years in conservation and environmental communications, development, administration, and leadership for private and nonprofit conservation groups, and also municipal and state governments. She is also the chair of the Missouri Invasive Plant Council.

**Note from MOBS:** Missouri Prairie Foundation is a fabulous organization!  
Please visit them at: [www.moprairie.org](http://www.moprairie.org)



### *Our Saturday Workshop Presenters:*

#### **Pete Monacell presents “The World Comes to You: A Birding Life”**

In this talk, Pete Monacell—chair of the Missouri Bird Records Committee and Mid-Missouri eBird reviewer—will share his journey into birding, a commitment that took hold with unexpected intensity beginning in 2017, when he could hardly tell a grackle from a crow. Through personal stories, rare bird encounters, and reflections on mentorship and community science, he explores how birding has reshaped both his daily life and his professional work as an English professor and writer.



Pete Monacell is chair of the Missouri Bird Records Committee and a regional reviewer for eBird serving Mid-Missouri. He has led numerous field trips, as well as ID workshops on shorebirds and raptors. Pete is also a English professor at Columbia College, where he teaches literature and creative writing. Originally from Richmond, Virginia, he lives in Jefferson City with his wife, Michelle.

#### **Hotel Options for the Bluebird Conference:**

(there is no “host hotel” however all three hotels listed here are within five miles of the conference venue and very close to each other).

**Best Western Plus Capital Inn**  
1937 Christy Dr  
Jefferson City, MO 65101  
573-635-4175

**Holiday Inn and Suites**  
1590 Jefferson St  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
877-859-5095 (no local # listed)

**Travel Lodge**  
1710 Jefferson St  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
573-415-2624

#### **“Bluebird Basics” by Jack Corrigan**



This is always one of our most-requested programs. Designed for everyday bluebirders whether you monitor one box or have a nest box trail. Solid information and recommendations for every Bluebird enthusiast. **Jack Corrigan**, is an MDC Resource Management Technician, Burr Oak Woods Nature Center Volunteer, and a certified Missouri Master Naturalist. He is also the **Grant Box Program Ambassador** for the Missouri Bluebird Society! Jack will also be a member of the panel discussion on “Reclaiming abandoned Nest Box Trails” at this same conference to share his experience and insights from reclaiming an abandoned trail in the western part of our state.



# 2025 Missouri Bluebird Conference

## Our Presenters!

### “Missouri’s Natural Areas Program”

The goal of the Missouri natural areas program is to identify, designate, manage and restore the remaining examples of natural communities and geologic sites encompassing the full spectrum of our state’s natural heritage for present and future generations. We will learn what designated natural areas are and why they are an important part of Missouri’s conservation portfolio. Specific focus will be on Missouri’s natural communities and their native biological diversity.

**Mike Leahy** is a natural community ecologist for MDC. In this role he works with MDC resource managers and scientists as well as with partner agencies such as State Parks and the U.S. Forest Service on the identification, protection, restoration and management of natural communities including forests, woodlands, glades, wetlands and prairies across the state. He also serves as MDC’s coordinator for the inter-agency Missouri natural areas system that conserves some of the best remaining examples of Missouri’s natural landscapes. Mike has worked for MDC for 25 years and 7 years for other state conservation organizations. He has a BS in forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and a MS in forest ecology from Michigan State University.



Mike Leahy

### Advanced Bluebirding by Steve Garr (Saving the Clutch and Benefits of Feeding Bluebirds)

A deep dive into mitigating the many perils faced by our native cavity-nesting birds! From predation by snakes, raccoons, cats, non-native birds, and even ants to competition with native birds and wildlife to issues with parasites and even hot, cold, and damp weather– Steve will share methods and resources for giving your native cavity-nesters the best chance to survive and flourish. **PLUS...** this program will cover the joy of feeding bluebirds and other small cavity-nesting birds. Steve will present fun and safe ways to engage the bluebirds in your space, as well as address some feeding myths and misunderstandings.



**Steve Garr** is the president of the Missouri Bluebird Society, a past president, vice-president and board member for the North American Bluebird Society, and a current managing director for his local Audubon chapter, River Bluffs Audubon Society. For more than forty-five years, his birding adventures have included being trained to band hummingbirds as well as bluebirds and other passerines, leading “Owl Prowls” in the Great Smoky Mountains, and decades of sharing his enthusiasm for nature on television, radio, and at special events.

### Our Moderators for the Panel Discussion on “Reclaiming abandoned Nest Box Trails” :

**Ann Earley and Bob Siemer** have been active in local nature organizations, including St. Louis Wild Ones and Missouri Native Plant Society, for the last twenty years. They also volunteer in various capacities as Missouri Master Naturalists, with Missouri Prairie Foundation/Grow Native and the Missouri Bluebird Society, and at Shaw Nature Reserve, Missouri Botanical Garden and The Butterfly House. Their work over the years has earned them volunteer recognition and awards from Missouri Prairie Foundation, Missouri Bluebird Society, and Missouri Native Plant Society.



### Food & Snacks!

The Friday Evening Bluebird Banquet will be catered by the wonderful folks at **Madison’s Café** and our Lunch on Saturday (included in the cost of your conference fee) will be sandwiches catered by

#### **Steele’s Fine Custom Meats.**

Vegetarian options will be available for both meals. Please mark your registration form if you desire a vegetarian meal.

**A Favorite Tradition at each conference is to have member-donated Desserts and Snacks...bring your favorite and enjoy what others bring!**



Drop off for Desserts/Snacks can be either Friday evening or Saturday morning.





# 2025 Missouri Bluebird Conference

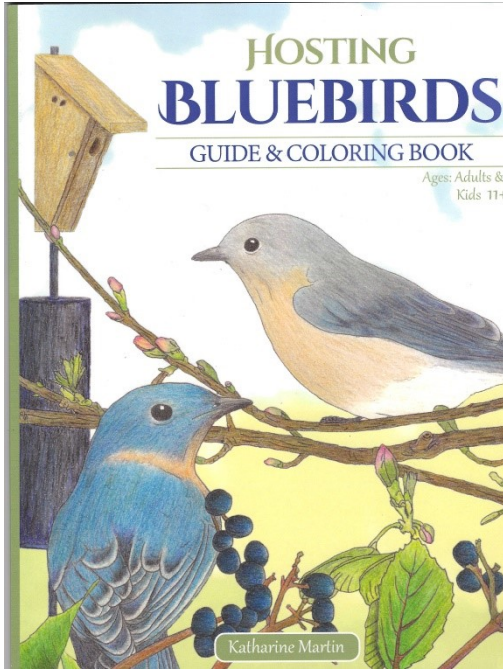
July 11th—13th Jefferson City, MO

Lincoln University Carver Farm 3804 Bald Hill Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65101

For Directions go to: <http://www.lincolnu.edu/web/cooperative-research/carver-farm-directions>

Friday banquet and Saturday Program speaker events are at Carver Farm

Saturday evening Picnic /Social and Sunday morning Bird Walk and Hummer banding demo are at Mockingbird Hill in Jefferson City (3215 Zion Rd)...directions will be included in Conference packets on Friday and Saturday morning.



Come meet the Author/  
Illustrator of this  
beautiful and  
very educational  
Coloring Book!

Katherine Martin will be  
one of the vendors at the  
2025 Bluebird Conference.

You will want to make  
certain to stop by her booth  
to check out this book and  
to chat with Katherine. A  
true Bluebird enthusiast,  
she is very knowledgeable  
on so many conservation  
topics. And she is a MOBS  
member!



## MOBS Members: How can you help make a Successful & Fun conference?

Contact our **Raffle/Silent Auction Chair Greg Samuel**, about bringing items for the Raffle/ Auction. This is our organization's largest source of income for the year, so contributions are appreciated! This helps to fund the next Bluebird Conference. Contact Greg at 417-839-5627 or [finleycreekfarm@gmail.com](mailto:finleycreekfarm@gmail.com). If you need to send Raffle/Auction items ahead of time for the conference please make arrangements with Greg. Please take time to fill out this form for any items you plan to BRING to the conference to contribute to the Silent Auction/Raffle and send it Greg or email him this information.

Greg Samuel / 4749 State HWY Z/ Fordland, MO 65652

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete address : \_\_\_\_\_

Raffle/Auction item descriptions AND approx. value of each item: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Missouri Bluebird Society PO Box 105830/ Jefferson City, MO 65110 [www.missouribluebird.org](http://www.missouribluebird.org)

Other conference info is available at: [www.birds-i-view.biz/events](http://www.birds-i-view.biz/events)

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## 2025 Conference schedule (Subject to change)

*See above for venue locations for various events*

### **Friday, July 11th    Bluebird Banquet!**

**5:30 pm ....**Arrive for social time. May also pick up Conference Packets and drop off Auction/Raffle items and desserts/snacks.

**6:00 pm...Bluebird Banquet Dinner** by Madison's Café

**7:00-7:45 pm...**Presentation by Carol Davit

**"Porches to Pastures: Benefits of Native Plants in any Space"**

### **Saturday, July 12th    Conference Presentations and Programs**

**8:00-8:30 am ....Registration** (Pick up conference packets, drop off auction items and desserts/Snacks)

**8:30 am-12:30 pm....Conference Welcome, Presentations, Vendor Booths, Auction/Raffle.**

**12:30 pm.....Lunch is Served!** (and time to buy Raffle Tickets and make Auction bids)

**1:45– 4:30 pm ....More Presentations, Vendor Booths, Auctions/Raffle**

**4:45-5:15 pm.... Pick up Auction/Raffle items**

**5:30 pm.....Begin arriving Mockingbird Hill for Social time and Picnic**

### **Sunday, July 13th.... More Fun and Birding at Mockingbird Hill**

**8:30-10-30 am ....Bird Walks, Hummingbird Banding, social time.**



MOBS member and good friend, Veronica Mecko, will be conducting a **Hummingbird Banding Demo** during our Morning social at Mockingbird Hill on Sunday, July 13th. Thank you Veronica! (Veronica is federally-licensed to band hummingbirds)

There will also be Bird Walks and time to visit.

There is no additional charge for the Sunday morning gathering. We look forward to seeing you there!

Check out our terrific MOBS' logo  
Denim shirts and Polo shirts while  
at the conference...they will be for  
sale there and we nearly sell out  
every year!

