

March 4, 1999

Hi, Boys

I have been dreaming about a great research project which involves two outstanding people. They are Steve Gilbertson and Loren LeBlanc.

The LeBlancs took over the Steve Gilbertson B.B. Trail in the Coon Rapids <sup>area</sup> as well you know. The trail is made up with the Gilbertson P.V.C. box, the Peterson box as well as a number of other designed boxes. As you can see in the Report: (annual report), that the Gilbertson boxes produced over 75% of the total amount of fledgelings on the trail for 1998.

My big dream is this: Now that you, Steve, have designed another nest box, a great opportunity has presented itself. You, Steve, and Loren can do research that could develop into the greatest Bluebird recovery project ever in the country...

My idea is this. ~~~~~ I would like that you take down all the Peterson nest boxes as well as all the other none Gilbertson boxes. Being, you Steve have a newly designed nest box as well as the P.V.C. box. Here goes, As you well know, I am a strong Nest Box <sup>pairing</sup> advocate. I would like to see you boys pair all the boxes. One box of each design. Repeat this placement every couple hundred feet where ever possible. The annual progress report could make you boys the most notable researchers on the subject in the country. It will also let you know which is the better of the two designs. ~~Your~~ Goal is to surpass everything out there... Good luck, and please accept the enclosed tip. I have told no one about this letter. It is between us 3

Steve when you are down this way please stop in.

I have some thing important for you!

Have a good day... Dick & Di Peterson