

Wildlife Tracks

Connecting People and Wildlife Through Rehabilitation and Education



2013 Issue II

Wildlife In Need Center

W349 SI480 S.Waterville Rd.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

VISIT US AT:

www.helpingwildlife.org

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WINC's Mission: EDUCATION

Ambassadors From Near and Far

by **leslie KIEHL**



Sova is a Barred Owl. Barreds are nocturnal owls found throughout Wisconsin. Their main call sounds like "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?"

We have added two new members, of the feathered variety, to our Educational Staff. Sova, the Barred Owl, came to us last October from Coulee Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Chaseburg, WI. She was hit by a vehicle and had severe head trauma which caused eye damage. We accepted Sova (which means owl in Czech) to see if her eye damage was treatable. Unfortunately, her left retina was detached and she developed a cataract. Our vet felt that she would also develop glaucoma in that eye. Cataracts can be painful so it was decided to have the vet remove Sova's eye. She also has had trouble hitting perches when landing so her vision problems prevent her from being released to the wild. We have received permission from the DNR and US Fish and Wildlife to transfer her to our educational permits. She now has a home and job at WINC for life. Sova was the guest of honor at WINC's annual banquet in April. She has since hit the road with feathers preened visiting schools, scout groups and civic organizations. With the demand not waning for our educational programs, it has become necessary to increase our numbers of educational ambassadors. We need to be conscientious about the amount of time our ambassadors work and have a succession plan for them. Sova, although not replacing Dakota, gives him a much needed and well deserved break when our presentations require talking about nocturnal raptors and owls.

Ambassadors From Near and Far *(continued)*



Chloe, an Eastern Screech Owl is a small tufted owl with color phases of gray or cinnamon.

Chloe (for Cutest Little Owl Ever) is an Eastern Screech Owl also from Coulee and came to us in late October. WINC had been looking for an educational screech owl for months. She weighs around 200 grams or 7 ounces. Everyone talks about how little and cute she is but screeches are feisty birds who do not know they are small! Chloe is also a victim of a vehicle collision who came to us with head trauma and a wing amputation at the wrist. Upon examination by our vet, it was found that she is also almost completely blind. Because owls are so auditory, she acts like she can see by turning her head to sounds. Chloe will also be a permanent member of the educational team and is currently on display in our public Gathering room. She has made appearances for on-site education programs and will soon be tested on her comfort level when accompanying her colleagues off-site.

After greeting over 350 guests at our annual Pancake Breakfast on March 24th, our animal ambassadors and staff hurried back to the Center to welcome 15 students and



Saijo Japan high school students, their chaperones, WINC staff and coordinators of the exchange visit to the Wildlife In Need Center.

their adult chaperones from Saijo, Japan. This group is part of an exchange program that is coordinated through the school district of Menomonee Falls. The exchange program was started about 15 years ago and is managed by Menomonee Falls High School World Language teacher, Mieko Ikeno. The group spent almost three hours at WINC learning about

Wisconsin wildlife and touring the WINC facility. Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation board member, Robyn Turtenwald coordinated with Tom Roberts, WINC board member, to bring the group to WINC to learn about Wisconsin wildlife.

During their eight-day stay, the high school students from Saijo learned about Wisconsin by living with host families in Menomonee Falls, attending classes at MFHS and touring other Wisconsin cultural sites.

“What we do not know we fear.
What we fear we destroy. So learn
that you might know and save”

Wildlife In Need Center Educational Ambassadors

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Leslie Kiehl	Wildlife Education Coordinator
Madeline Camin	Development Assistant
Jolene Henke	Bookkeeper

WHAT'S THE BUZZ development

Gifts Remembering Special People

In honor of Dr. Tom and Mary Roberts

from Laura and Mike Adams
Mary and Tom Roberts Jr.
Kathryn Budde-Jones
John and Lisa Draves
Jeffery and Judith Wilkes
KMZ Enterprises, LLC

In honor of Lynn Bennett

from Gary and Lynn Bennett

In honor of Bill Lane

from Irene Habernickel

In honor of Arlene Ann Merkel

from Michele Miller

In honor of Catherine Hirlin

from Tara Hirlin

In honor of Girard and Pam Manke

from Ellen and Leon Manke

In honor of Erica Fenske

from Lucinda Fenske

In honor of Mark and Cheryl Jones

from Elizabeth Jones

In honor of Diane Mouradian

from Danette and Paul Braun

**In honor of Dr. Frances Rauscher
and Dr. Sean Hinton**

from Mary Ann Zupan

**In honor of Chamberlain and
Miller families**

from James and Laura Dodge

In honor of John Kramer

from Bonnie Soto

In honor of Dakota

from Shannon Kelly
Dorothy Moen

In honor of Leslie Smith

from William Hansen

In honor of Fran Rauscher

from Lori Carless

In honor of Holly Schlenvogt

from Tammy Leonard

In honor of Mike and Eli Guzniczak

from Albert and Joan Rudnitzki
Mark and Ryia Peterson

In honor of Michelle Bonness

from Charlette Nyren

In honor of Joan Rudnitzki

from Kelly Voss

In honor of Tracie Hulbert

from Tinesse Clark

In honor of Marion Schweitzer

from Paula Rauth

FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Joan RUDNITZKI



We are happy to deliver this second issue of the newly reformatted *Wildlife Tracks!* This format is designed to focus on how we fulfill our mission of wildlife rehabilitation, education and research. Our goal is to report our activities to our donors so that you know we are being good stewards of your membership dues and the other contributions that we receive that enable us to do our work.

As many of you know, WINC doesn't receive support from any government entities. Our operating revenue comes solely from private contributions such as:

- memberships,
- additional gifts from our annual appeal,
- corporate and foundation grants,
- proceeds from product sales and special events (more information on a new event later in this newsletter)
- sponsorships and
- program fees

WINC, like most nonprofits, creates its annual operating budget by setting certain goals in the above categories and then engages in various activities to reach those goals. (membership renewals, grant proposals, annual appeal letters, the banquet, the Kringle sale, etc.)

Sometimes we receive unexpected gifts that are given to honor someone who is close to WINC to celebrate their birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion. Occasionally we receive unexpected gifts in memory of someone who passed away but who also had a fondness for WINC. The family of Rosemary McCarthy Pasch and the family and friends of Roy Piala chose to remember them in this way. To recognize these very generous gifts, outdoor rehab cages have been dedicated to the memory of Rosemary and Roy. We are so very grateful that WINC was chosen as a way to preserve the memory of Rosemary and Roy.

I hope to see you at our upcoming events. Please check the calendar on the back cover for details on the Meet and Greet in July, the WAUK with WINC in September and the Fine Wine and Dine event in October.

Thanks for all your continued support,



This waterfowl cage is
a gift in loving memory of
ROY PIALA
from his family and friends

**This waterfowl cage is one of two that
have been dedicated to Roy Piala.**

New Collaboration to Help our Swallows by mandy FEAVEL

For the past three summers a mysterious disease has caused us to lose the majority of our orphaned Barn Swallows. We decided to do some research with the swallows that come in this summer to attempt to find a cause.

While preparing for our research project with infant swallow species, I was studying the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association's itinerary for the March 2013 symposium. One of the lectures was presenting about a disease they found in their swallow species. I immediately contacted the lecturer, Trish Jackman, since I was going to the symposium, so we could meet up to compare the similarities in our symptoms. It was great to hear that Trish seemed just as excited as I was to hear from someone that was going through the same situation with their swallow species.

After going to the symposium in Portland and speaking with Trish, we realized our vets and pathologists had found different final results. However, many other symptoms were exactly the same. This got us thinking about whether or not we were seeing the same problem. Therefore, more research will be needed to really solve this mystery.

This summer, Wildlife In Need will be teaming up with Project Wildlife in California to try different protocols in treating our similar problem/disease. Two minds are always better than one, so we hope that trying two different treatments will result in success from one of them. We have also asked our vets and pathologists to join us in our search for the answer. They have all been kind enough to offer any help they can.

I'm hopeful that this research and collaboration will get us closer to an answer about what has been infecting our infant swallows for the last three summers.

Barn swallow showing symptoms including the nictitating membrane staying closed.



MISSION STATEMENT

To provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with the intent to release back to the native habitat, conduct research designed to further the positive impact of rehabilitation, and provide quality community education programs and services.

A Very Happy Ending: Renesting Great Horned Owlets

by chelsea MATSON

Top - Bottom: Chelsea Matson's examination of the owlet determined it was healthy and ready to be reunited with its parents.

Knowing how to renest is a valuable employment skill for wildlife rehabbers. Chelsea is shown making a new home for the Great Horned Owlets.

Reunited with their parents, these are very happy Great Horned owlets.

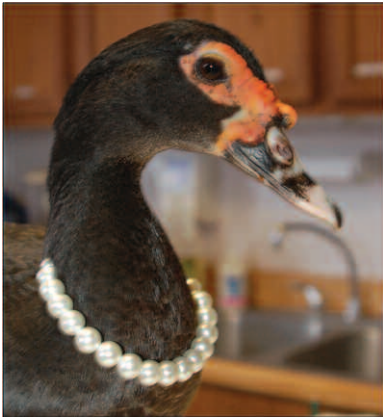


Two Great Horned owlets huddle while they wait to be reunited with their parents – the best place for babies of any species is to be with their parents. WINC staff do everything possible to make that happen.



On the morning of April 10th, WINC received a call that someone had found an owl down in their yard. The Menomonee Falls Police Department also received the call and was kind enough to respond and contain the owl. I stopped at the police department on my way into the center where I was surprised to learn it wasn't an injured owl, but it was a healthy Great Horned Owlet, our first of the season! I was happy that it was not an injured adult but knew we had a long day ahead of us trying to reunite this little one with his family!

Since I was already in the area, I wanted to track down where, exactly, the owlet came from. I arrived at the home of the finder and was thrilled to see two parents sitting in a weeping willow hooting back and forth, understandably upset about their missing baby! An important side note to this story is that Great Horned Owls do not build their own nests; they take over a nest previously used by hawks, crows or squirrels. Because of this, it is very common for Great Horned Owlets to fall from their nest during spring wind storms. So my next step was to see if I could find remains of a nest. After searching several neighboring yards, I did not find any solid indication of a nest. However, I did stumble upon something else of interest - another owlet on top of a brush pile! I quickly scooped the owlet up and put the two together to comfort each other after this stressful ordeal and made my way into the center. After an exam, both owlets appeared healthy and free of any injuries from their fall. Mandy (our Animal Care Manager) and I gave them a quick meal, closed up the center and headed back out to Menomonee Falls to reunite these babies with their parents! When we are unable to find the original or safe nest for the owlets, we make our own! We use a wicker laundry basket attached to a suitable tree with bungees and disguise it with some branches. So we did just that and once it was set, we climbed up again with both babies, placed them in their new nest and snuck away to watch from a distance. Their diligent parents observed this process from afar so we were confident they knew right where they could find both of their babies! I am happy to report that after a few weeks of nightly checks, both owlets have left the nest and have been venturing from tree to tree with mom or dad never too far behind! Great Horned Owlets can be a challenge, but a happy ending like this makes it all worth it!



Summer Meet and Greet and Everything Owl Sale At WINC

July 13th Noon – 2:00 p.m.

This event is one of the few opportunities to meet all WINC's animal ambassadors, learn about their natural history and take photos. Stations will be set up in WINC's Gathering room where ambassadors will be teamed with a staff member or volunteer who will share information about each particular animal on the education team. If you have an interest in owls, you won't want to miss the "Everything Owl" sale. This unique collection of over 300 items, was donated by Joe Deloria in memory of his wife, Doreen who loved owls and created this lovely collection. Items are reasonably priced and all proceeds will go to support the work of the Center.

WAUK with WINC

WAUK with WINC is a joint 5K run/walk for the benefit of the Wildlife In Need Center and the University of Wisconsin Waukesha Field Station. The event is scheduled for September 28, 2013 beginning at 9:30 a.m. for the runners and 9:45 for the walkers. Dogs are welcome. All proceeds are shared by the Center and the Field Station to further their respective missions. To register on line or for more information visit <http://waukesha.uwc.edu/Alumni-Friends/Foundation/Wauk-WINC-5k.aspx>

DAPHNE'S DISPATCH

Welcome New Staff and Interns

As Wildlife In Need Center's ambassador and official correspondent, I'd like to introduce you to new staff and interns. Our newest Wildlife Rehabilitator is Jaclyn Schmitz. Jaci is a graduate of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology Research and Management with minors in Captive Wildlife and Biology. While in college, Jaci participated in studies with weasel identifying parasites, trapping and collaring deer to study abundance and sex, and capturing and banding saw-whet owls to study habitat preference. With baby season underway, Jaci is jumping right into the action.

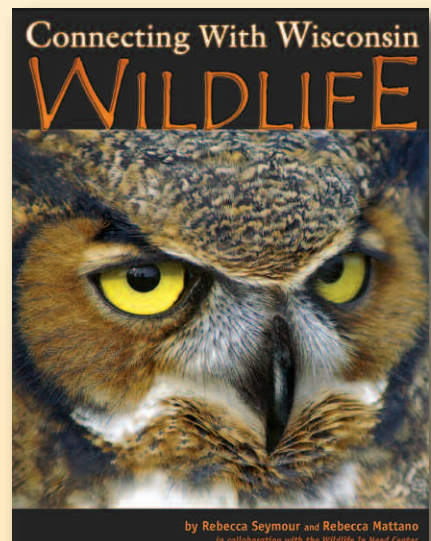
Also joining the WINC team is Jolene Henke who is filling the position of bookkeeper that was vacated this winter by Caroline Jefferson. Many thanks to Caroline for the time she spent with us. Jolene is returning to the workforce after being a stay at home mom for 10 years. She is a CPA and previously worked for CG Schmidt and Arthur Anderson.

To add to my supervisory duties, 8 new summer interns have just started. We narrowed our choice down to 5 full-time interns and 3 part-time interns:

- Jen Brei is a WINC volunteer who majored in Human Biology at UW-Platteville and UW-Green Bay
- Sarah Countryman is a Biology major from UW-Stevens Point
- Tony Cucinello is a Wildlife Ecology major from UW-Stevens Point
- Sabrina Rodgers is a Biology major from Carroll University
- Kalene Sobeck is a Wildlife Ecology major from UW-Stevens Point
- Christie Stevenson is a WINC volunteer who majored in Environmental Science at UW-Whitewater
- Jessica Vaclav is a Biology major from Carroll University
- Delaney Vander Heiden is an Animal Science-Pre Vet major from University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Internships at WINC are a great way for students to get hands-on experience working with native Wisconsin wildlife. They will have a busy summer bottle feeding baby raccoons, holding raptors for staff to medicate, cleaning and feeding ducklings, helping the baby bird feeding volunteers raise hundreds of infant songbirds, and assisting staff with adult patients. For more information about internships, visit our website at www.helpingwildlife.org

WINC's new book "Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife" will debut at UWW's Festival of Books on September 21.



VOLUNTEERS

Baby Bird Feeding Season is Underway

Spring marks the beginning of WINC's busy season. Besides admitting many orphaned Raccoons, Squirrels, Cottontails and other wildlife, the Center becomes a temporary nest for more than 200 injured, orphaned and displaced baby birds. Each year WINC relies on the support of local volunteers to help!

Every spring, WINC recruits volunteers 12 years and up for its Baby Bird University. Participants learn to take care of hungry baby birds until they are released back into the wild. Teens, ages 12-13, need to be accompanied by an adult. All baby bird feeders are asked to commit to working one 4 ½ hour shift each week during the summer. Volunteers learn about food preparation, feeding techniques, cage cleaning and charting. Most of all, it gives volunteers a chance to have hands on experience with small delicate songbirds. We hope to possibly inspire junior volunteers to someday be a wildlife rehabilitator.

For more information about the program, call the center at 262-965-3090 and ask for Lisa.



Summer intern, Kalene Sobeck, is feeding infant songbirds in one of the avian nurseries incubators.

VISION STATEMENT

It is the vision of the Wildlife In Need Center to become a nationally recognized Wildlife Rehabilitation Center that serves as a hub for other satellite facilities and is financially stable. WINC will work in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Waukesha and the University of Wisconsin Colleges and Extensions to be identified as the number one resource in the community that promotes an ethic of care and respect for the natural world.

Fine Wine and Dine

A Journey Up the Coast

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE

OCTOBER 4, 2013

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Event co-chairs Mike and Eli Guzniczak and Jean and Sheamus McFadden hope you will join them for this first time fund raising event for WINC. Focusing on the wine regions of the West Coast of the United States, this wine dinner is appropriately themed "A Journey Up the Coast". An elegant five course dinner prepared by Lee Johns Catering will be deliciously complemented with wines selected by WineCru of Wisconsin and Spirits on Main in West Bend. Vintners from California, Oregon and Washington will be featured. The historic Elm Grove Woman's Club provides a classic setting for this elegant event. A blind and voice auction of wine and wine related items will round out the festivities. If you are not a wine lover but want to enjoy the fabulous dinner, a cash bar will be available. The ticket cost is \$175 per person with \$87.50 of each ticket going directly to support the care of the animals at WINC. This event is a fabulous way to enjoy a wonderful dinner, great wines and support WINC all at the same time!

Interested in volunteering at our Center?

We are always looking for volunteers in both our animal care and office departments. You must be 18 years or older to volunteer. To learn more about volunteering at the Wildlife In Need Center, call 262-965-3090 to reserve your spot at an orientation. All orientations are held at WINC.

UPCOMING DATES ARE:

Wednesday, July 10 – 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 22 – 11:00 a.m. -
12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 25 – 6:30 -
8:00 p.m.



Wildlife In Need Center
W349 S1480 S.Waterville Road, Suite B
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

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CALENDAR

JULY

10 WEDNESDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

13 SATURDAY

Meet and Greet
12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m.

Come and meet WINC's educational ambassadors on display at the Center and shop at the Everything Owl Sale. If you love owls WINC is your one stop shop for one-of-a-kind owl merchandise ranging from pillows to shoes and all the owl knick-knacks you can imagine.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

21 SUNDAY

Animal Ambassador Program
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Waukesha County Fair Expo Building
WAUKESHA COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS

27 SATURDAY

Public Education program with animals
6:30 p.m.
OTTAWA LAKE CAMPGROUND
AMPHITHEATER

AUGUST

17 SATURDAY

Public Education program with animals
3:00 p.m.
OCONOMOWOC FESTIVAL OF THE ART,
FOWLER PARK, YOUTH STAGE

17 SATURDAY

Public Education program with animals
6:30 p.m.
OTTAWA LAKE CAMPGROUND
AMPHITHEATER

22 THURSDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

SEPTEMBER

20 - 22 FRIDAY - SUNDAY

UW Waukesha Foundation Festival of Books - WINC's book *Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife* will debut

21 SATURDAY

Public Education program with animals
6:30 p.m.
OTTAWA LAKE CAMPGROUND
AMPHITHEATER

25 WEDNESDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

28 SATURDAY

WAUK with WINC
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Please join us for our annual 5K walk/run on the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. All proceeds go to support Wildlife In Need Center and the UW-Waukesha Field Station Endowment Fund. Stick around for a Meet & Greet with our educational animal ambassadors (including Dakota the Great Horned Owl).

OCTOBER

4 FRIDAY

Fine Wine and Dine
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE
Elm Grove Woman's Club
13885 Watertown Plank Rd.
Elm Grove, WI 53122.
Look for your invitation in the mail in July.

5 SATURDAY

Public event Blessing of the Animals
1:00 p.m.
ST.THERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Eagle, WI

22 TUESDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER