

Wildlife Tracks



Connecting People and Wildlife through Rehabilitation, Education, and Research since 1994

2016 Issue 1

Wildlife In Need Center
W349 SI480 S. Waterville Road
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-965-3090

www.helpingwildlife.org



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LAZY SUMMER DAYS?

Not at the Wildlife in Need Center!

Many people think of summer as a time for relaxing, but at Wildlife In Need Center the phones ring constantly. We ask questions to determine if an animal needs help, or is a healthy baby that should be left with its parents. We reunite babies with parents and prevent many "kidnappings." Our owl doorbell hoots repeatedly as people come in with patients. Baby mammals may need to be formula fed 4-6 times a day and baby birds need to be hand fed every 30-60 minutes during daylight hours. This creates a tremendous increase in work load. Summer is anything but relaxing at WINC.

Our baby mammal nursery has a window so people can watch the babies being fed. Babies in the mammal nursery have to be handled to be fed and cleaned several times a day. People watching through a



"Joey" Opossum
Photo credit Lauryn Banach

window don't disturb babies. Eastern Cottontail, Eastern Gray Squirrel, Red Squirrel, Southern Flying Squirrel, 13-lined Ground Squirrel, Eastern Chipmunk, and White-footed Deer Mice are species you are likely to see.

We release wild babies once they are able to care for themselves. If you would like to be a release site, applications are in the office and on our website www.helpingwildlife.org.

In May 2015, WINC admitted **927 babies**. In May 2016, we admitted **1,164 babies, a 26% increase**. On May 11th, we admitted **53 animals** in one day! Life is very hectic at Wildlife In Need in summer so we appreciate your patience and support while we help these hungry needy babies.

Story By Lisa Rowe



Mission Statement

To provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with their 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 service.

Wildlife in Need Center Board of Directors

Kim Banach	President
Wayne Grandy	Vice President
Dean Pipito	Treasurer
Thomas Roberts, MD	Secretary
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Rick Nicolai	Director
Harry Muir, PhD	Director
Thomas DeMers	Director
Stephen Schmid, PhD	Honorary Director, UW-Waukesha

WINC's MISSION: ANIMAL CARE

American Bald Eagle Soars to Oregon Zoo

An adult, female, American Bald Eagle was rescued by WINC staff and volunteers on February 27, 2016 in the Vernon Marsh (Waukesha County) after being found on the ground, very weak and unable to fly with damage to her left eye. Thankfully, the concerned citizens that spotted the downed eagle remained at the scene to direct WINC personnel to where she was located.

After an initial exam at WINC and a trip to Brook Falls Exotic Veterinary Care, the two greatest health concerns included a deep puncture to her left eye and severely elevated lead levels in her bloodstream. Our staff believes the eye was punctured due to a territory battle with another American Bald Eagle, leaving her blind in the left eye. The elevated lead levels causing the lead poisoning was most likely from a lead infested meal the eagle had ingested around the time of her rescue. Dangerously high lead levels are often seen in birds of prey, such as eagles, in early spring when the snow melts and uncovers the deer carcasses left behind from the previous hunting season. Lead shot is commonly used in deer hunting if left behind, can be ingested by anything feeding on that season's kill. Despite the severely elevated blood lead levels, the female bald eagle was not yet showing the clinical symptoms of life threatening lead toxicity. WINC staff is thankful that she was rescued and began treatments before



the worst of the poisoning impacted her body's central nervous system.

Her treatments were extensive, time consuming and required multiple staff members. She received five rounds of chelation treatment which involved the introduction of calcium into her body to help remove the lead from her system. Each round successfully reduced the lead levels and by the fifth round, the lead levels had reached a clinically safe level to end the chelation treatments. In addition to the lead toxicity treatments, she also required daily subcutaneous fluids, an oral antibiotic, an oral preventative anti-fungal, a topical eye antibiotic and pain medication. Once her blood levels were stabilized, her punctured left eye was removed at Brook Falls Exotic Veterinary Care and has since healed successfully. She remains in WINC's outdoor flight enclosure and will soon be placed as a permanent resident at the Oregon Zoo in the "Eagle Canyon Exhibit" which will be her forever home with an adult, male, American Bald Eagle.

Story By Alex Schlecht

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Kim Banach, Board President

Dakota Society Member Spotlight

The Wildlife In Need Center remains fortunate to have enthusiasts such as Dr. Thomas and Mary Roberts. Members since 1994, both support WINC and Wisconsin wildlife. Both are truly humble people with a heart for the greater good to benefit Wisconsin's wildlife. Dr. Roberts has been a Board member since WINC's inception in 1994, and both were members of WINC's early fundraising team. Tom and Mary took part in animal care classes, and Mary became a wildlife rehabilitator in 1995—and continues to rehabilitate wildlife. Mary now has her advanced rehabilitator's license.



Their effort and generosity extend to their hometown, Menomonee Falls, educating the police, aids, and citizens on how to best help wildlife, rescue wildlife—and to provide phone

consultation for all wildlife emergencies—many of which were transferred to WINC. As Dakota Society members, their planned giving has made their desires unmistakable and ensures that WINC will continue serving Wisconsin wildlife. They cannot imagine not being a part of wildlife rehabilitation. WINC and Wisconsin wildlife are blessed to have such a devoted couple, a team who donates their time and talent. They continue to caringly support WINC through contributions today and through their estate planning in the future. "Mary and I did rehab and foster care out of our home for fifteen years. We realized that the long term answer for helping the animals is a Center like WINC with dedicated staff and volunteers to do this task 24/7."

...Tom and Mary Roberts

Fundraising Events

SAVE THE DATE FOR FINE WINE AND DINE—OCTOBER 28, 2016

Please save the date for Wildlife In Need Center's (WINC) Fine Wine and Dine event at The Legend at Brandybrook on October 28, 2016. This year's theme is the food and wine of **SOUTH AFRICA**, featuring an elegant five-course dinner prepared by the chef at The Legends. Dinner will be deliciously complimented with wines selected by **Pieter Stofberg** and **SABest** wine company. Our 2015 Fine Wine and Dine experience **raised over \$30,000**. Please watch for invitations or visit helpingwildlife.org to order tickets.

Thank you for all who attended WINC's 22nd Banquet, "Giving that Second Chance." This event proudly **raised over \$45,000** to support WINC's mission. We remain thankful to the 14th year banquet sponsors, **Jerry and Betty Lestina**, table sponsors—**Dr. Tom and Mary Roberts**, and the **We Energy Foundation**. We applaud **Nancy Meier** in her 10th year as banquet chair. These two events **fund over 27%** of WINC's budget. Thank you to our auction donors and generous guests, and to each of you who contributed to the events' success.



Dakota SOCIETY

Become a Member of the Dakota Society

Think of us while you are estate planning! Leaving a gift to WINC will sustain WINC's mission "Connecting People and Wildlife through Rehabilitation, Education and Research" for generations to come. When you notify WINC that you have included the center in your will or trust, you will automatically become a member of the Dakota Society. As a member, you will enjoy special recognition if desired and invitations to future events. The Dakota Society was formed to recognize our members during their lifetime.

This is one way to live forever:

Most people leave the bulk of their property through wills and living trusts. Both are simple to create with the help of your own legal advisor. Ask them to list WINC as your charity among the beneficiaries. You will need to give them our legal name "Wildlife In Need Center, Ltd.", our Tax Exempt number #39-1773974 and the nature of the gift.

Please contact Jeff Phillips, Marketing and Development Director at JPhilliphelpingwildlife.org or 262-965-3090 for more information.

Story by Jeff Phillips

Wildlife in Need Center Staff

Lisa Rowe	Director of Operations
Jeff Phillips	Marketing & Development Director
Mandy Feavel	Animal Care Manager
Chelsea Shapiro	Assistant Animal Care Manager
Jen Brei	Wildlife Rehabilitator
Alex Schlecht	Education Coordinator
Jenny Watton	Bookkeeper
Molly Mertens	Seasonal Animal Care Staff
Christi Stevensen	Seasonal Animal Care Staff

WINC Advisory Board

Mike Guzniczak
Lou Banach

What's the BUZZ?

Remembering Special People

Since October, 2014 there has been a substantial outpouring of gifts from donors to WINC in honor or memory of special people in their lives. This issue recognizes these very special gifts.

In Memory of Judith Achtor

Mary Maer Kerl
Daniel & Barbara Busalacchi
Margaret M. Treder
Betty & Lorenz Bohn
David & Terese Block
Robert & Sheryl Treder
Dennis Busalacchi
Barbara & Dale Pforr

In Memory of Monica Dannenfeler

Joanne & Andrew Wirth
Mark & Cindy Brzycki
Mary & Thomas Henschel
Karen Sinclair
Daniel & Gayle Gaugert
Vanessa & James Fixel

In Memory of Ronald Ritsema

Marsha & Peter Cahill
Lisa Nuhring
Fritzi Heckel

In Memory of Earl Honeyager

Sandy Solberg
Sandy & David Street
Kathleen & William Abrahamson
Jane & Paul Merz - Foxy Look's Hair Salon
Linda Portz
Lana Kuenzi

In Memory of Diane Sment

Pamela & Dave Geis
Jeff & Cherly Sment
Gregg & Carleen Sment
Michael & Lisa Sment

In Memory of George E. Polly

Timothy Weyel - The Uniform Outlet

In Memory of Neo Thomas-Bart

Thomas' Dog
Kim & Lou Banach

In Memory of Greg Bennett

Richard Engel
Margaret Koltermann
Patricia Hays
Mary & Richard Rice
Peter Schmidt
Mary & Patrick Weyer
Sonja Kipper
Barbara Webb
Lisa Marie Maloney
Dwayne Lange
John Rashel
Rita Mezydlo
Keith & Carol Mee
Patricia Brown & Tom Mund
Susan Rose
Michael Miller
Benjamin Slater
Kathleen Janik
Dan & Kathy Cline
Joseph Haas

WINC's MISSION: ANIMAL CARE

Badger Adventures!



Wisconsin is the Badger state, but we rarely admit them. May 31, 2016, a caller in Oconomowoc claimed to have live trapped a juvenile. He was trying to catch and relocate woodchucks. I suggested release to get it back to mom but he did not want it digging. I suggested he bring it to WINC so we could identify it. It was a juvenile Badger. I talked to the man about Badger natural history and the excellent rodent control that Badgers provide.



DNR biologist Carissa Freeh told me since Badger are a protected species it is illegal to take, attempt to take, or transport them without permission. When I called the man, he said he had been thinking about what I said and wanted Badger back. I drove the Badger back and he growled and huffed the whole way. It made the hairs on the back of my neck stand on end. I opened the kennel cab door and out Badger rushed, did some posturing, then backed into the hole so anything chasing him would meet the dangerous end. You can see the video on our Facebook page.

In 2006, I received a call about a mother and infant Badger killed in the road in Jefferson County. I spent several days looking for and finding the sett (Badger den). When I heard one grunting and growling as it emerged, I hoped I had found the right hole with the baby and not the father Badgers lair! I caught it. It appeared to be the only one. I spread soft thick sand around the entrance. Over the coming days there was no activity so two babies were probably the litter. WINC transferred the baby to another rehabber who had a single baby Badger and it was later released.

Go Badgers!

Story By Lisa Rowe

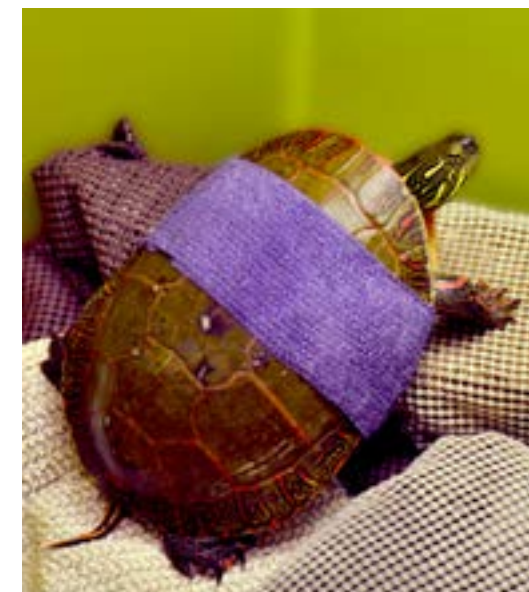
WINC's MISSION: EDUCATION

Watch Out for Turtles!

Wisconsin has **11 species** of native turtles. In May and June female turtles may walk a mile or more from water, dig a hole, lay eggs, bury the eggs and then return to water never to see their eggs again. Some species such as the Endangered Ornate Box may lay 2-4 eggs while Common Snapping Turtles can lay over 80 eggs. These eggs hatch in 60-90 days. Once the eggs hatch, the turtles dig out and begin to crawl towards the nearest body of water.

Turtles are on the decline. Habitat loss, harvesting for the pet or food trade, and predation of nests by domestic and wild predators are the main causes. **In 2015, Wildlife In Need Center admitted 165 turtles of 7 species**, most hit by vehicles. Turtle shells are living bone so many fractures can be healed. Even if we euthanize a female turtle, we can harvest and incubate her eggs. We hatch lots of turtles every year and release them.

If you see turtles crossing the road and can safely stop, give them a lift across the road in the direction they are heading. For Common Snapping Turtles, you can use a shovel or your car floor mat to "scoop" them across the road. Or offer a large branch for the snapper to bite and then tow them across the road. If you see injured turtles, bring them to a rehabber. We heal who we can and ease the passing of others. If you see many turtles in the same area of road, you can report it to The



Wisconsin Turtle Conservation Program at <http://wiatri.net/inventory/witurtles>. If you see baby turtles, don't take them home as pets. Every year we get kidnapped turtles with permanent shell deformities and diseases caused by improper care in captivity. Instead of stealing them, give the little turtles a lift to the nearest body of water. Weedy areas of water are best as they provide hiding spaces and food for these little turtles. Turtles have survived 20 million years; let's help them continue to be a part of our natural world.

Story By Lisa Rowe



Fractured Carapace

After being hit by a car, Brookfalls Veterinarians stabilized the fracture by pinning the shells together to aid in the healing process.

Adult Blandings Turtle
Photo credit Lauryn Banach

What's the BUZZ?

Remembering Special People

In Memory of Veronica Bobrowitz
Janet Kruse

In Memory of Richard L. Garbe
Jackie Garbe

In Memory of Harold Salentine
Judy Salentine

In Memory of Ray Czerwincki
John Foltz
Reich Family

In Memory of Robert Schlytter
Brigid and Mark Riordan-Heumann
Robert & Cheryl Lurvey

In Memory of Richard Henry Klawitter
Faculty Association of Grand Rapids
Community College
Susan Van Susteren

In Memory of Donald Brock
Margaret McCutcheon

In Memory of Courtney Lehmann
Lehmann Family

In Memory of Dr. Richard Gray
Tom & Mary Roberts

In Memory of Roberts Draves,
our son-in-law's father
Tom & Mary Roberts

In Memory of Leslie Kiehl
Diane Kortsch

In Memory of our dear friend Dick
Machniewicz
Irene & Barry Blaskowski

In Memory of Wayne Adcock
Rebecca, Erica, Austin & Lauren

In Honor of Carlynn Higbie & Rev.
Debra Frakel
Tom & Mary Roberts

In Honor of Lawrie Thomas (Birthday)
Kim & Lou Banach

In Honor of Kathy Kockwalt
Karla Thamke

In Honor of Ugugu for keeping me
grounded, oddly enough
Valerie Bridges

In Honor of Rick Nicolai
Mark Johnson

In Honor of Kenneth Wiedmeyer
Jack Saftro Ford

In Honor of Jean & Henry Kranendonk's
Anniversary
Tom & Mary Roberts

In Honor of Jean Paseck's 75th Birthday
Margaret & Robert Schumann

In Honor of Ricky & Rocky
Judy Salentine

What's the BUZZ?

Remembering Special People

In Honor of Volunteer Leslie Smith's Birthday
William Hansen
Cynthia & Timothy Makos

In Honor of Kathryn Popa
Warren & Mary Popa

In Honor of Alex & Mike's Wedding
Tom & Mary Roberts

In Honor of RC "Cubby" Laue
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Theresa "Packer" Heckel
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Darlene "Sophie" Fritz
Andrew Runte

In Honor of "Max" Rewald
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Donna "Sweetie" Herman
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Chuck "Boz" Maxwell
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Susan "Max" Rhodes
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Pat & Ray "Rusty" Dalman
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Jane "Smokey" Maas
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Lynn "Daisy Mae" Nociar
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Ellie "Tomi" Johnston
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Barb & Dan "Gunner"
Schmitt
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Donna "Gracie" Bennett
Andrew Runte

In Honor of For All The Girls
Sharon Ellingson

In Honor of Linda & Greg "Sassy" Stuart
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Volunteer Sally Harthun, my sister
Amy Sprouse

In Honor of Lynne & John "Tucker"
Dresen
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Chris "Fudge" Charnish
Andrew Runte

In Honor of Tom Roberts—Father's Day
Lisa & John Draves



DAPHNE'S DISPATCH

What's Black and White and Read All Over?

WINC's newest Educational Ambassador, a Striped Skunk. This little guy is just a baby but will have joined WINC by the time you read this article (that's why it's read—does anyone else remember those jokes from childhood?) Skunks have such a bad reputation and they are such amazing animals. Bringing this little boy to WINC is the culmination of a several year dream spearheaded by Leslie Kiehl, our former Education Coordinator. Thanks to **Jared, Lou, and Kim Banach** who did the fundraising and major construction of the enclosure for our skunk. Thanks to the **Craig and Hans Scieflebein family** who helped with finish work on the enclosure. Thank you to the anonymous donor who covered the adoption fees.

The WI DNR does not allow the use of wild skunk in education so our little boy comes from a captive skunk breeder in Iowa. The DNR also does not allow the rehabilitation of skunk in WI. WINC and our newest Education Team Member will be working hard to change people's perceptions about these fascinating creatures. And watch for the announcement of his name to come in the future!



VOLUNTEERS

Kids Help With Wildlife Baby Bird Feeders

What do you do when you have hundreds of baby songbirds who need to be hand fed every 30–60 minutes during the daylight hours? You ask for help! And thankfully our Baby Bird Feeding Volunteers respond. If students are 12–13 years old, they can volunteer with an adult helping them, if they are 14 years or older, they can volunteer on their own. We also have adults who love birds who volunteer to help. **Anne Goode** is a returning adult Baby Bird Feeder. Anne is an artist and painted some charming watercolors of some of the baby birds which she had made into note cards and donated to WINC. They are available for sale in the office.

Baby bird feeding is our only opportunity for students under the age of 18 to volunteer. School is out in summer and that is when all the birds have babies so it makes a great combination. The volunteers are following charts, preparing food, hand feeding the baby birds, cleaning the birds and their enclosures, and logging their work. Most students come for a 4.5 hour shift once a week but some come for more than one shift. Wildlife In Need could not raise the hundred of baby birds we get each year without the help of our Baby Bird Feeding Volunteers.

Story By Lisa Rowe



Photo credit Lauryn Banach

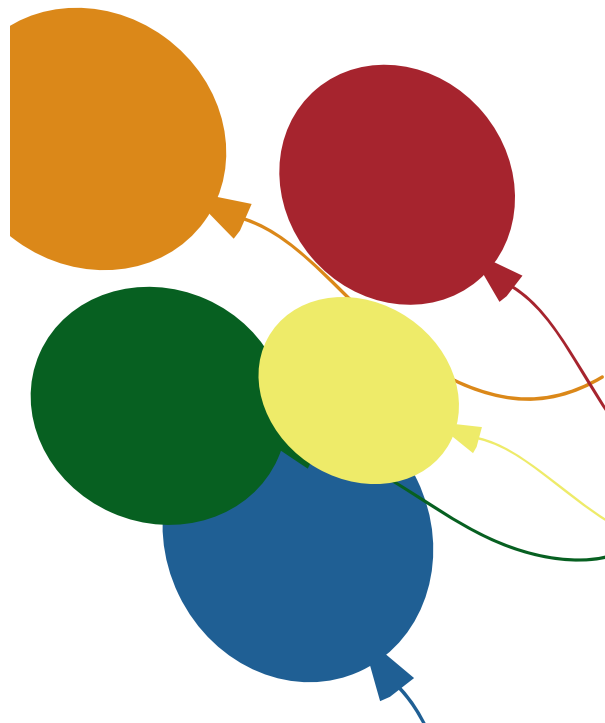


Does That Baby Bird Need Help?

Most Baby Birds leave the nest and spend a few days on the ground learning to fly and their parents still feed them.

If you find a baby bird with wing feathers and 1/2 inch or more of tail feathers, generally they are old enough to leave the nest. If they are younger, put them back in the original nest. Or you can make a replacement nest from a wicker basket, hanging plant basket, or plastic food container with holes punched for drainage. If you use plastic put some dried plant material in to give the baby something to grip. Then use string or wire to attach the nest near the original nest. It needs to be in hearing distance of where they were found. The parents will continue to take care of the babies in the substitute nest as well as siblings in the original nest. Its untrue wild parents will abandon babies with human scent.

Story By Lisa Rowe



Birthday Parties at WINC!

The education department at the Wildlife in Need Center would love to help you plan a wildlife themed birthday party **for any age!** Let us know what interests you and we will design your party for you! For children, the parties could include two of the following: an education program featuring our animal ambassadors, a nature scavenger hunt around a nearby hiking trail, a children's indoor wildlife craft activity or a hands on experience with



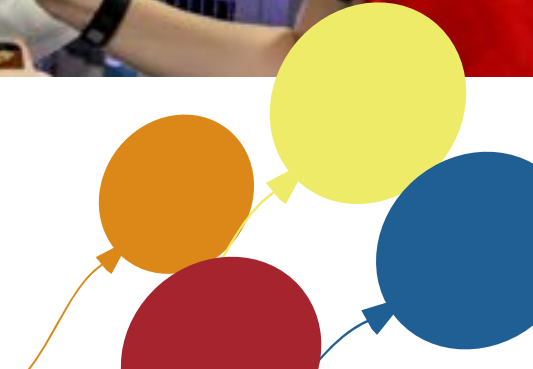
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our bio artifacts such as, skulls, pelts and feathers. For adults, an in depth education program featuring the animal ambassadors of your choice. Bring up to 15 people to WINC for two hours of interactive wildlife fun!

We will provide your entertainment along with table and chair setup. Our only request is that you bring decorations and refreshments. Please contact our Education Coordinator, Alex Schlect aschlecht@helpingwildlife.org, to setup your next birthday party!

Story By Alex Schlect





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Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-965-3090

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CALENDAR 2016–2017

August, 2016

Tuesday, August 30th 6:30–8:00pm
Adult New Volunteer training, Wildlife in Need Center

September, 2016

Saturday, September 24th 5:00–8:00pm
Spaghetti Dinner, Lions Club
235 N. Main Street
Dousman, WI 53188

October, 2016

Friday, October 28, 2016, 6:00–9:30pm
Fine Wine and Dine
An Evening in South Africa
The Legend at Brandybrook
1 Legend Way, Wales, WI 53183

November, 2016

Friday, November 25th 12:00–4:00pm
World's Greatest Cookie Sale
Country Springs Hotel, 2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee, WI

Tuesday, November 29th, All day–midnight
Giving Tuesday, Wildlife in Need Center

December, 2016

Saturday, December 3rd, 10:00am–12:00pm
Holiday Meet and Greet
Meet and Greet WINC Educational Ambassadors
Free and open to the public, Wildlife in Need Center

April, 2017

Friday, April 28th, 6:00pm–9:30pm
Annual Banquet
Western Lakes Golf Club, W287 N1963 Oakton Road,
Pewaukee, WI 53072