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The Mockingbird Chronicles



Newsletter of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

Number 2 / 2003



Babies, Babies, Babies!

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Letter from the Director

Many People Contribute to the Wildlife Center's Success

Over time, all things change. Changes are always taking place at the Wildlife Center – with the seasons, and with new volunteers, and with fresh and innovative ideas. Each person brings his or her own expertise to one particular arena – Board President Mark Wallace keeps us on track with all those things that sit on the “back burner.” Presently, the Board is reviewing By-Laws for possible revisions and clarifications. Vice-President Mark Luchsinger can't come to every monthly meeting, but goes out of his way to pick up or deliver animals when they need to be rescued or transferred. Pat Harris, our CPA with Mason, Warner & Company, has been with the Board since its inception, and in addition to a monthly Treasurer's Report, Pat reviews everything on *Quicken* to be sure we account for every penny that comes in and goes out. Board secretary Janet Wallace wears another hat as our newsletter helper; she's the one who folds, labels, sorts and staples all 500+ and then sorts and delivers the newsletters to the post office for bulk mailing. Dr. Mike Hooper, toxicologist at Reese Center, spearheaded an extensive Lead Poisoning study with one of our volunteers, Melissa Baird, who is also one of Mike's students. Other members and advisors, (whose names are listed in the column on the right) work to help us with fundraising special events development and publicity, budgeting, improvements, planning and construction. Behind the scenes volunteers are constantly improving the quality of life for our charges – Kathy Phillips and Angie Wilkins periodically review diets, formulas and nutritional protocol for our many diverse species. Kathy doubles as a full time Pharmacist at Covenant Hospital, and shares her expertise to review new medications, calculations and dosages for tiny animals. Brent Wilkins brings his expertise as an apprentice falconer to see that every raptor receives the best possible care on a daily basis. Other volunteers work on enrichment challenges for our permanent as well as our animals in rehabilitation,

like toys for the ravens, and ropes and swings for young squirrels learning to balance.

Manager Debbie Tennyson has many responsibilities as she oversees all the day to day Center activities and volunteers. Jay Reichard manages our web site at spwrc.org - one that is donated by Gene Ortiz. Recently, Gail Barnes successfully rehabilitated a Mexican Free-tailed bat after conferring with expert Amanda Loller of Bat World Sanctuary in Mineral Wells, Texas after the bat aborted her pup. Amanda also sent us the book she co-authored on Bat Rehabilitation for insectivorous bats. Rob Lee was invited to join the Board of Directors of the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council at their annual symposium in California last November; and recently returned from their semi-annual Board Meeting in Plano, Texas. Six other members attended from across the U.S. plus one member from Canada. Together, they help further the goals of our professional organization. Thank you one and all for bringing your time and many talents to come together to work for wildlife. I'll be wearing one more hat too - as this newsletter's editor. Shirley Ryle has shown me the ropes of the Adobe PageMaker program, and I am mastering the time consuming but fun challenge of layout. Thank you, Shirley!

Carol

Upcoming Events

Caprock Winery - Second Annual
Winter Wine Tasting Saturday
December 6th – stay tuned for details!

Third Annual Valentine's Ball on
Valentine's Day, February 14, 2004 at
City Bank's elegant Griffith Room at the
main bank location. Mike Pritchard and
his Blue Thunder and Lightning Horns
will be our musicians once again. The
evening will include a cash bar, gourmet
meal by Chef Angela Vasquez, and
dancing. Donation is \$75.00 per person

Details will follow

The Mockingbird Chronicles is a quarterly publication of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Inc. (SPWRC). We are an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that cares for orphaned, injured, ill and displaced wild animals with the ultimate goal of returning wildlife to its natural habitat. SPWRC holds state and federal permits but does not receive funding from either regulating agency. SPWRC operations are maintained entirely through the support of private donations and volunteer service, as no SPWRC staff member is paid. Donations are tax deductible to the extent the law allows.

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POPULARITY
WITH THE HUMAN RACE.**

Volunteer Spotlight: Stephanie Zurinski

Stephanie Zurinski was born in Orange, Texas. As a Navy brat, she lived in California and Pennsylvania before settling in Lubbock when she



Stephanie with Percy the Pelican

was eight. She grew up here and went to Texas Tech. Her hobbies and interests include ribbon embroidery, reading mysteries and old science fiction, Tolkien, and nature writing. She's also interested in rock-hounding, wildflower and wildlife photography, hiking, and visiting the mountains.

Stephanie is on her second career, and looking for #3. She has a Masters degree in Geology from Texas Tech, and worked in the oil business for a period of time. That's when she started moving north, and ultimately landed in Alaska.

When Mt. Augustine erupted in 1986 in Alaska, she was able to fly down towards the end of the eruption and photograph it. She experienced two weeks of helicopter-assisted geological field work on the Alaska Peninsula, that she said was "just fantastic." While working for the US Geological Survey, Stephanie became interested in libraries, and attended the University of Washington for her Masters degree in Library Science. Stephanie has also worked in an oil industry library in Alaska, and public libraries there and here.

When asked what brought her to the Wildlife Center, she said, "I developed a strong love of wildlife while in Alaska. You can't see bears in the wild and not be just blown away. I wanted to give something back to wildlife for all the years of pleasure I got watching moose

in my backyard, and the bears in Denali National Park.

Stephanie started volunteering at the Wildlife Center in June 2000. She loves the Mule Deer fawns, baby squirrels and opossums, fledgling songbirds and, of course, Percy the Pelican and Cash, our little stubby, short tailed atypical Gray Squirrel. Primarily she feeds the baby mammals and songbirds. "I haven't been able to afford the pre-exposure rabies shots so I can't care for the foxes, raccoons, skunks and bobcats." She goes on to say that she is fascinated by the raptors, but not really sure enough of herself to work with them just yet. "I just like to watch orphaned and injured wildlife grow up or get well, thrive, and be released back to the wild where they belong.

Her most memorable experience? "When I left Alaska in 1999, I loaded up three cats into a 15-year old RV and, with a friend, drove down the Alaska Highway 4000 miles to Texas. That trip will always be one of the highlights of my life." We love you, Stephanie, and don't want you ever to move away from Lubbock! ☺

"A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers but borrowed from his children."

John James Audubon, artist and naturalist (1785-1851).

We always need tissues, sunflower and mixed bird seed, nuts, batteries, liquid hand soap, stamps, "Dawn," laundry soap, paper towels, Home Improvement and Office Supply Gift Certificates.

Congratulations to Eagle Scout Ken Alley who earned his Eagle Scout rank May 24th. Ken did his project at the Wildlife Center, and made small mammal cages which are in constant use!

Cover: Faces Only A Mother Could Love - Three of our fifteen Barn Owls that were admitted during April and May.

Did you know?

Feathers are what make a bird a bird. They are the only creature that grows feathers and every bird has them. Most birds have between 1500 - 3000 feathers. A swan has over 25,000 feathers!

Long Distance Learning

by Lindi Van Heuklon

In mid-February, I received an email from one of my old college friends who is now teaching fifth grade in Naperville, Illinois, a Chicago suburb. Two students in his class were interested in animals, and he told them about the volunteer work that I do at SPWRC. They were full of questions, so Brian wanted to know if I would mind if they e-mailed me directly. I am always excited to help encourage young people to learn more about wildlife and the important issues related to it, so I was more than happy to involve myself. Little did I know that this correspondence would lead to three months of wildlife lessons via e-mail. Each Tuesday, the two students Allison Wood and Jacquie Boyle sent me questions or stories that they wanted to share. Often they'd enjoy writing about an encounter they had with wildlife; they would also have questions about whatever animal I had written to them about the week before. Each week I answered their mail with answers to their questions as well as a profile about a particular species. Many of these profiles were written on the Wildlife Center's wildlife ambassadors or other animals we worked with. My e-mail also included a description of the care and hands-on work at the Center. Jacquie and Allison used the information they learned over these three months to



Allison and Jacquie

create a PowerPoint presentation for me. It was very rewarding to see how the girls enjoyed learning about SPWRC and what it has to offer. As a culmination of the 3 months of learning, Lindi adopted an animal of each girl's choice in her name, so each would have a certificate and photo their favorite wildlife ambassador to remember this experience.

News and Notes:

Fritz our Grey Fox is still on his chemotherapeutic drug, at a cost of about \$1.00 a day. This is to help manage his chronic Polycythemia vera (his body produces too many red blood cells). If you can help sponsor his medication for a month or more, please let us know. Fritz will be very grateful.

Special thanks to Kathy and Paul Beach for allowing us to use their ranch east of Post for many of our wildlife releases. Stay tuned for a feature article on this special couple, and what they are doing for wildlife and habitat on their 6000 acres of land, and it's not raising cattle. Paul's Prairie Dog colony is thriving, along with the resident Burrowing Owls, and their ranch – over 100 years old – is the epitome of mesquite grassland in the rolling plains.

Over the past year the Center has also released many mammals and birds on the acreage of Jim and Terra Bozeman in Idalou. They



Bobcat released in Beach's old barn May 25

worked with waterfowl researcher Dr. Dave Haukos to plant native grasses around their playa lake to attract migratory birds. We released Canada Geese, Mallards, a Green Teal, Lesser Scaup and a White-faced Ibis there, along with two Roadrunners that now have an offspring. Many cottontails have also been released on their land. Thank you!

Visit our web site at spwrc.org to see photos of a most interesting rescue of a mother Mallard and her 11 ducklings. The Wildlife Center is looking to the City of

Lubbock to find a solution to waterfowl getting trapped in the storm drain structures.

Thank you to Bob Matthews and Rob Lee for making the perches for our educational raptors for their respective new quarters in Ambassador Row. Each bird's perch and mew are modified for its individual needs.



Mexican Free-tailed Bat gets a second chance at life thanks to Gail Barnes

Our Junior Volunteer Program got into full swing the end of May, and we have some wonderful young people three times each week. Our JV's come Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays from 10-12 AM or 2-4 PM, and have been a wonderful help with cleaning, laundry, food preparation and many other tasks.

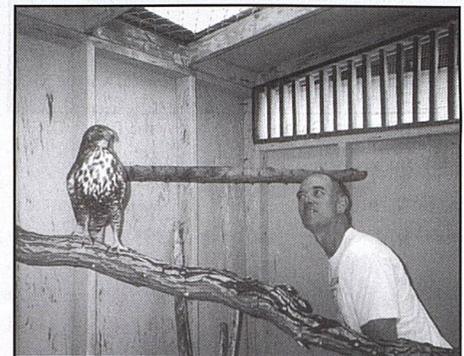


Percy our White Pelican "helps" new Junior Volunteers scrub out animal carriers. L to R: Sarah Olguin, Jacob Brody Smith and Makenzy Buckner.

Other JVs include Katie Haukos, Sarah Wallace, Justin Villegas and Will Hellman. These and our other new JVs will be featured in our next issue.

Going the Extra MILES for Wildlife

Over the years, our volunteers have done extraordinary things for wildlife. In addition to the hours they spend helping at the Center, many volunteers took or picked up animals from far and wide to place them in suitable locations, either for rehab or release. Sometimes a non-releasable animal is transferred to a facility where it will be on permanent display, and/or used in wildlife education. Years ago, Renee Meunier took Boris the Badger to a rehab center in Boise, Idaho, where it would be released on many acres of wild land. Mark Luchsinger and Angie Wilkins took a non-releasable Bald Eagle to a native American reservation in New Mexico several years ago where it would be a permanent resident.



Mark Luchsinger and Red Tail in Idaho

Last month, Mark rose to the challenge again, when he offered to fly a non-releasable Red-tailed Hawk to Salt Lake City on American Airlines. There, he'd rent a car and drive the bird to Eagle, Idaho, to a wildlife rehabilitation and education facility, *Flight To Freedom*. This good deed was all done at Mark's own expense. We sincerely thank you! Debbie Tennyson drove to Texas A & M University to pick up Fritz, our Gray fox with a chronic disease, when he was released earlier this year. Gail and Larry Barnes picked up the Western Grebe in Albuquerque that was highlighted in our last issue. Stranded in the frozen north, a Rapid City, North Dakota man saw the bird's plight on TV and agreed to take it along to Albuquerque when he and his wife were planning to attend a Gem & Mineral show.

An Award For A Very Deserving Volunteer

Wildlife Center volunteer Gail Barnes won the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Community Service Award for 2003 for her volunteerism in the community. We were proud and happy to join her surprise presentation at the Lubbock Women's Club May 14. Sally Murray announced the award – a big surprise to Gail – and First Lady of Texas Tech and



Gail Barnes Given Service Award From DAR

Board Member Willie Haragan attended the luncheon in Gail's honor. Gail has been with the Wildlife Center for the past several years, and is known and loved for her compassion and commitment. Unless she and husband Larry go out of town, Gail is there about 8 or more hours a day, five or six days a week. I first met Gail about 19 years ago through her volunteer work with the Lubbock Humane Society. She was president of that organization for some years. She is also a member of the South Plains Genealogical Society. We're all very pleased that our unselfish, generous and kind volunteer Gail Barnes won this award, and she is most deserving of recognition for her volunteer efforts in our community.

From January 2002 through March 1, 2003, Gail donated 822 hours of time to our work at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

We are in need of new incubators for our tiny patients. Some of ours are 14 years old. Over the years they have doubled in price. We are impressed with the Petiatric models. Money raised at the June Open House will also be dedicated for new incubators.

..... and more news

Welcome back to volunteers Deb Ortiz and Emily Swim. Deb and her husband Gene host and donate our web site, and Emily has just completed her first year at Texas A & M where she is studying veterinary medicine.

Thanks to the Big Spring Link – permittee Bebe McCasland and her husband Art, and Melanie Gambrell for doing their best to rehab what is brought to them. Thanks also to volunteer Julie Boatright and husband Jeff for shuttling the animals from Big Spring – two hours away – to the Wildlife Center in Lubbock.

Risky Business

Debbie Tennyson

We've had many surrogate bird mothers at the Wildlife Center over the years, but finding mammal mothers that will accept another's offspring is a different story. One problem raising very young mammal babies is that they can easily imprint on humans. Returning a mammal to its natural mother is almost always impossible –sometimes the mother has been killed, a single animal has been found in an unusual place and no parents are around, or animals may be brought to us from 100 or more miles away.

A two-week-old baby raccoon was found at the doorstep of a package store in Lubbock recently. Cold and dehydrated, it was brought to the Wildlife Center.

We already had a mother raccoon and her three babies, but we considered an experiment. The new raccoon was the same size as the female's own offspring, and it would be ideal for the newcomer to be able to nurse and have a family of its own.

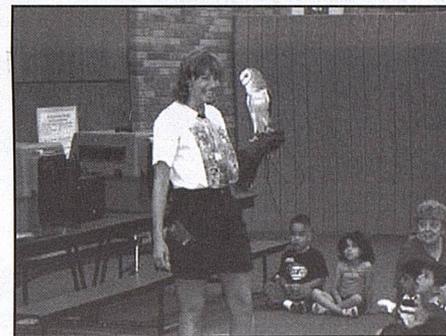
Another North Carolina wildlife rehabilitator had a suggestion, and we were willing to try it, unpleasant as it sounded. Volunteers then donned rubber gloves and applied the mother's urine and feces to the baby, to make it smell like her and the others. They put him into the cage and crossed their fingers.

ing of her crate inside the large cage. We moved the youngster closer to the opening, so mom could have a closer look without leaving her own charges.

The female starting hissing, growling and slapping at the new infant. Panic-stricken volunteer Angie Wilkins ran for a net as I watched in horror, "Was mom going to kill it?"

Just as Debbie was about to retrieve him, the female grabbed the little one with both hands and pulled the baby to her inside the carrier. The defining moment was at hand.

We had no alternative but watch, wait, and hope for the best. Wary, we watched as the mother sniffed and checked out her new addition. The best thing that could have happened, *happened!* She snuggled and cleaned her new little foster baby! For volunteers, this was one of those perfect- ending days. The family of five raccoons will be returned to the wild later this summer.



Debbie's program at Ballenger School with "Jasper" our educational Barn Owl

Recently manager Debbie Tennyson was the guest speaker for the Tahoka Rotary Club and the Lubbock Apartment Association. Nine other programs have been presented since March 2003 for the Lubbock Adult Day Care Center, Lubbock Children's Home, Sugar and Spice Preschool, Crestview Elementary, All Saints School, Lubbock Arts Festival, Northridge Elementary, Ballenger Preschool and Roscoe Wilson Elementary.

Carol, Rob, Jeremy Hull, Jerrie Rodgers and Gail Barnes also did a program during Family Weekend at the Lubbock Lake Landmark on Sunday, May 4th.

Please stop by and visit our web site: spwrc.org

Where the Wild Things Are



Common Barn Owl chicks - we had 19 by early June!



Five baby Chihuahuan Ravens from Big Spring
They didn't stay little for long!

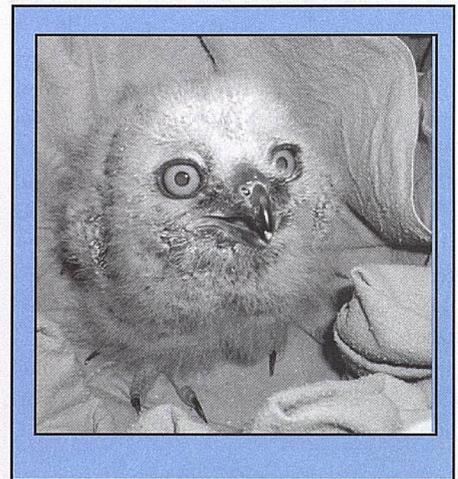
Please remember not to pick up healthy baby songbird fledglings. They normally spend several days on the ground perfecting their skills, learning where to find their natural foods, developing strategies to avoid predators, and practicing flying skills - all under the watchful eyes of their role-model parents. Baby mammals learn survival skills from their parents too, so don't disturb this critical process unless an animal is lame, bleeding, or in the same place for an extended period of time. Signs of illness in animals are not so dissimilar from those in humans: lethargy, no longer bright-eyed, not wanting to eat or be fed. Let your common sense prevail. If you know an animal has been injured or was in a cat's mouth, it needs to come to the Wildlife Center as soon as possible for treatment with antibiotics. PLEASE bring it without delay in an appropriate sized box like a shoebox lined with tissues. Young songbirds must be fed every 30-40 minutes during daylight hours to keep them developing normally.

This is the time of year that we expect a deluge of babies of every size, shape, color and temperament. Some have wings and feathers, some have fur, and some even have shells. Baby mammals including squirrels and cottontails start arriving in late winter, and are soon followed by opossums, raccoons, ground squirrels, skunks and others. Baby doves start appearing in April, followed by the larger songbirds - jays, robins and mockingbirds in May. These species all nest a second time, and babies will come by the dozens around the third week in July. Raptor chicks - Great Horned Owls, Common Barn Owls, American kestrels and Burrowing Owls arrive in May as well.

In July, the Western Kingbird nestlings and fledglings arrive, about the same time Mississippi Kite chicks start appearing. Some are injured, others displaced, and a few may be ill or orphaned. Kites are generally good parents like most other birds, and it is unusual for a bird to truly be orphaned, indicating that both parents have been killed or incapable of caring for their offspring. Of course in young mammals, if the nursing mother is killed, the youngsters are doomed unless they have been weaned and are fending for themselves.



Four "Bubos" (Great Horned Owl) chicks ready to roll!



Another Great Horned Owl Chick-let

Baby Season Is In Full Swing!

Some of our most valuable feedback is information gleaned from the experiences of others. Many times we know the “book” answers to wildlife problems, but has anyone ever tried it to see if it works? Sometimes yes, sometimes, no.

Recently, Lubbock residents Chuck Bubany and Jenny Kallus phoned to say they had a dilemma. They had work scheduled in their back yard for early May, that involved removing and replacing a fence, and removing a pyracantha shrub. Everything was going according to plan, at least until Jenny discovered they had an active nest with two baby mockingbirds in the Pyracantha.

On May 11th, the shrub was cut down, but not before they reconstructed a “new” pyracantha from the clippings. This was placed close to where the other shrub had stood, and was the same height as the one that was removed. Chuck secured a ledge to their shed, and braced it with a pole driven into the ground. Next, all of the shrub’s clippings were placed around the stabilizing pole. Moving Day was scheduled early May 12th. The couple quickly removed the nest and placed it in the new alternate location, carefully wedging it between the branches on the small wooden ledge. We all patiently waited. Would the parents return, and if they did,

would they continue to feed their hungry offspring?

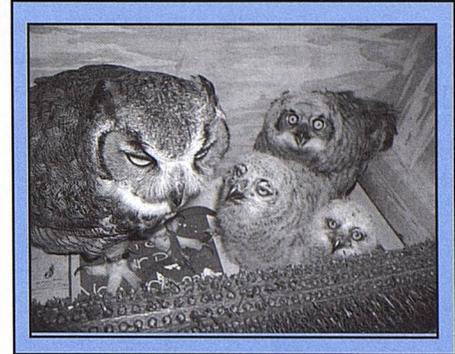
Tension mounted when Chuck phoned mid morning to say the parents were looking for the old shrub, but hadn’t “discovered” the new one, only a few feet away. The babies were hungry and peeping, but the parents had not yet come to the new nest. We’d wait a little longer before bringing the babies to the Wildlife Center - we wanted to exhaust every possibility before removing the little Mockies from their natural parents.

We suggested removing some of the branches toward the top, so perhaps mom could see inside more easily. If that didn’t work, perhaps he’d need to move the whole shrub even closer to where the old one had stood. By noon, we got the call saying the strategy worked!

Chuck and Jenny reported that both parents discovered their chicks’ new location, were flying around, buzzing anyone who got too close, feeding and once again caring for their charges. The reunion was complete!

Several years ago, a woman brought a fledgling Blue Jay to the Center. There was nothing wrong with it – she just spied it on the ground, and it couldn’t fly. She didn’t know fledgling

birds normally spend 3-5 days on the ground as they perfect their survival skills. The parents act as role models, and teach by example: how to find natural foods, where to seek cover, how to avoid predators, and so on. After a thorough explanation, she admitted that the parents were very upset when she took their youngster. She agreed to follow our advice, and returned the little jay to its family. No sooner home, she called to say the parents had immediately returned, happy once again to be reunited as soon as they heard the hungry youngsters’ cry for food.

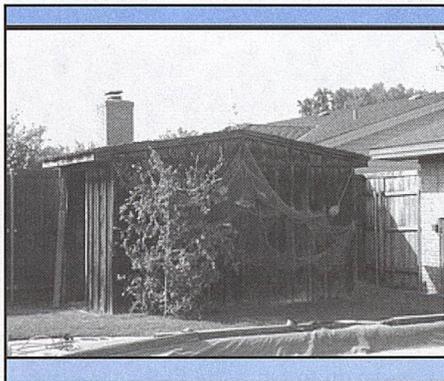
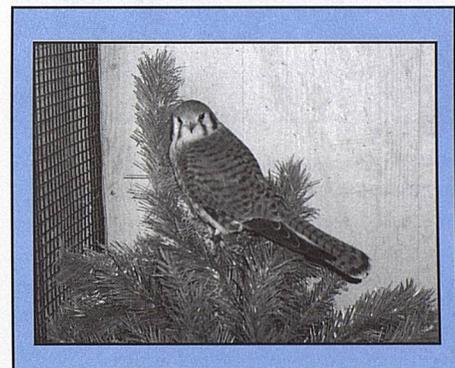


“Bubo” tends her three newest chicks



Two juvenile opossums - The Wildlife Center admits many opossums, Gray Squirrels, Striped Skunks, 13-Lined Ground Squirrels, cottontails, and jackrabbits.

American Kestrel youngster ready for release



The man made pyracantha beside the shed provides a new home for the Mockingbirds

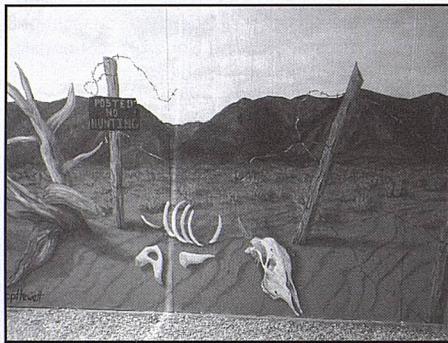
C. Pam Hewett: Talented Artist Puts Finishing Touches on Our Newest Raptor Building

C. Pam Hewett has operated the Cynkat Company in Lubbock since 1997. She paints murals and custom hand-painted furniture. Her forte is realism, and she paints in many styles. Her murals bring homes and offices to life, as they have done in our mews in Ambassador



Artist C. Pam Hewett blends right in with her desert scene for the vulture mew

Row. She can create a simple or intricate *Trompe l'oeil** or a mural theme that spans an entire wall space or room.



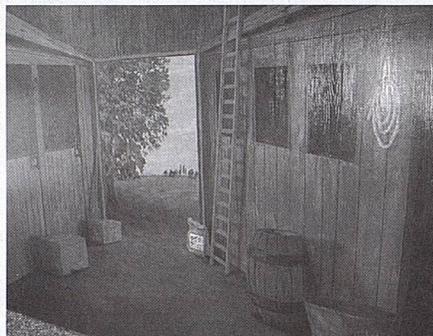
Pam's realistic scene of the southwestern deserts will make our Turkey vultures feel at home!

Before entering this artistic venture, Pam graduated in 1993 with an MBA from Texas Tech. Pam said she was thrilled at the

opportunity to paint murals at the Wildlife Center. She has taken great care to select settings appropriate for each bird that resides in each particular mew, as well as to make them appealing and entertaining for all who view the scenes. You can contact Pam at the Cynkat Company for a free consultation regarding furniture or mural designs at 787-4314. Pam greeted visitors at Open House in June.

**Trompe l'Oeil* (trohmp loy') is French for "trick the eye" and when viewed from the right angle, should deceive the viewer into thinking the scene is real).

Your scenes are beautiful, Pam, and we are so appreciative of your many hours of donated time and effort on our behalf!



Pam's scene inside a barn makes you feel like you are inside looking out!



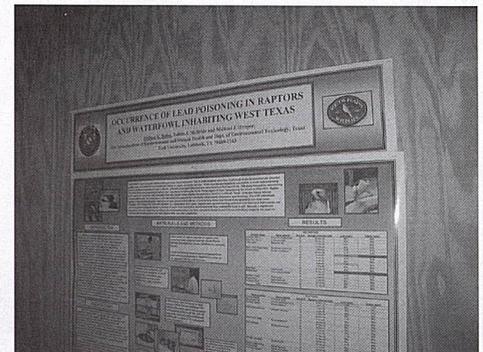
"Dixie" our first fawn arrived May, 2003
The second fawn came June 4th

Ambassador Row Gets Ready for Occupants!



Frames are put in place for grapevines to provide shade

Last November, we broke ground for "Ambassador Row," a large arc-shaped building in front of our barn that will house our non-releasable educational raptors -our "Wildlife Ambassadors." In addition to Pam's beautiful scenes, perches have been completed, and mews will be ready for occupancy by mid-June. Our next projects will include a flight cage, and two mammal enclosures that are needed for opossums and raccoons as they move toward independence.



Intern Melissa Baird's colorful and informative Lead Poisoning poster hangs in our new building

Thank you to Dr. Steve Presley of Texas Tech's Reese Center for helping us evaluate why so many songbirds are coming in healthy and dying the following day during May. Stay tuned - birds have been sent off for testing.

Tests for West Nile Virus are negative in preliminary findings.

Llano Estacado Winery Event Very Successful !

"Night On The Wild Side" held May 10th at the Llano Estacado Winery raised over \$7,000 for the Wildlife Center. Fine Llano wines, music, food, and a silent auction entertained 213



guests. Thanks to board members and volunteers for helping to make the evening a success with their donated baskets as well as their presence. The wonderful food was prepared by Chef Angela and her staff, and drew nothing but rave reviews. Music was provided by veteran musicians Mike Pritchard, Mike Boyd and Mark Wallney – this group made it's debut at our event, and was dubbed "Hat Trick" by Mike's wife, Tiffany Pritchard. They were great! Russell Gillentine, our wonderful host at the winery, and his staff were very gracious to our guests. We thank Marcy and Terry Taylor for the many items they donated to our always-popular silent-auction, and for helping make the evening a wonderful success!



Mike Hagar proposed to his girlfriend Tandy Featherston (above) out in the vineyard during the fundraiser, and she said "Yes!"

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the evening so successful, especially our sponsors: the Llano Estacado Winery, D & D Cable Service, T & M Cable Ltd., High Plains Laminating & Digital Graphics, College Flowers (Kelly Marble), Mason Warner & Company, The Ad Shoppe (Gyna Cole), and Jent's House of Music. Special thanks to "Hat Trick" for donating their time and talents to provide the wonderful music! Thank you also to Anderson Brothers Jewelers (Wendell Holder), Malouf's, Margaret Hamilton, Chef Angela Vasquez and Staff, Linda Steffey, Joyce Potts and Trecca at The Gallery Hair Designs, Jim Eppler, Willie Haragan, Leanna Smith, Jill Haukos, Suzette McCutcheon, Melody Wainscott, Dr. Mike Hooper, Lou and Erika Densmore, Beth Bartley, Kathy & Paul Beach, Jeff McKitto, Mark & Janet Wallace, Debbie and



"Chef Angela" Vasquez

Bonnie Bart at Mason Warner & Co. P.C., Mr. Tom McLaughlin, Resume and Career Service, (Diane Ganze), Dr. Jim Moyes, Charles Adams Gallery (Mr. Charles Adams), Angeline Shockley, Suzette McCutcheon, Carol and Rob Lee, Alzada Malone, Mark Luchsinger, Pools West (Susan Watson), Mr. Butch Medlock, J & B Coffee Company, United Market Street (50th and Indiana), Stephanie Zurinski, The Garden Patch (Roberta Davis) and the Musical Drama "Texas!" (Shelia Blackburn). Thanks again to Russell Gillentine and staff, our hosts at the Llano Estacado Winery who made the evening very special and fun for everyone. Join us next year there for another enjoyable event!

More Than Three Coins In This Fountain!

Thank you to Rick Cohen and his wonderful store at South Plains Mall "Nature's Gifts" for donating the coins that were in their fountain in the front window. The coins amounted to \$397.50 - Thank you Rick!

The following is adapted from:

The Star Thrower

(The Starfish Story)

by Loren Eiseley (1907 - 1977)

Once upon a time, there was a man who went to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work.

One day as he walked along the shore, he looked down the beach and saw a figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself at the thought of someone who would dance to the day, and walked faster to catch up. As he got closer, he noticed that the figure was that of a young man, and what he was doing was not dancing at all. The young man was reaching down to the shore, picking up small objects, and throwing them into the ocean. He came closer and called out "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?" The young man paused, looked up, and replied, "Throwing starfish into the ocean." "I must ask, then, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" asked the somewhat startled wise man. To this, the young man replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die." Upon hearing this, the wise man commented, "But, young man, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile? You can't possibly make a difference!" To this, the young man bent down, picked up yet another starfish, and threw it into the ocean. As it met the water, he said, "It made a difference for that one." So it is with Wildlife Rehabilitation. No matter how little the life, it makes a difference to the one who is getting a second chance.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to everyone who supports our efforts. We appreciate every penny, and be assured that it goes directly to the care and housing of the animals in our care.

Special Thanks to our *Monthly Benefactors*: Carre Avian, Travis and Lisa Bruster, Joyce Komkov, Joyce Lisenby, William & Deanna Schwartze, Carol & Bob Wylie, (Bluebonnet Feed), and The Door. A big thank you also to Sue Hill from Morton, TX who keeps us well supplied with fresh goat's milk for our fawns.

Thanks to Debbie Tennyson and volunteer Everett Herman for donating the plaques on "Ambassador Row." Thanks to the Godeke Library staff for donating another \$78.00 to us during this quarter. Thanks to the coffee group including Wright Stubbs, Don Matticks, Byron Newby, James Crump, Burl Deaver, Ray Page and Cecil Rodgers for donating \$40.00 to the Wildlife Center.

Thanks to the following for supplies and/or services: Mr. Billy Sisk of Western Fire Extinguisher Company in Idalou for donating his time for our annual inspection. Thank you also to Morgan O'Brien of Hospice of Lubbock for *many donations* of a lot of needed supplies! Additional thanks to Morrie and Pat Hartman, Ann Bush, and Mark and Janet Wallace.

Thanks also to Herlon Kirkland of Morton, Judy Bardsley, Lewrie Close, and to Bobbie Freed for a doghouse igloo; to Jim & Ann Batenhurst, Debbie Zak, Myrtle and Paul Veach for a bird cage and stand, Felix West Paints for paint for our pond, Donna Odom of The Pet Co. for a discount on new animal taxis, to Lou and Erika Densmore of Slaton for a microwave oven, and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Padgett for animal kennels.

A great many names and other information passes through many hands *daily* at the Center - If I have inadvertently omitted your name, I apologize. Email me at spwrc@cox.net if you were missed, and we'll include it in our next newsletter!

Sympathy is extended to fellow raptor rehabilitator Dody Wyman of Michigan. Dody's son Jeff passed away in May.

GIFTS

\$1000.00

Gail and Larry Barnes

\$400.00

Gary and Linda Stewart

\$150.00

Sherri Mason

\$100.00

Ron and Cathy Galey
S.D. and Dorothy Hanesworth
Dr. and Mrs. Jim Moyes
Jan Roberson

\$50.00

Pam and William Casto
Michael and Aimee French
John and Mary Gillas
Jenny Kallus and Chuck Bubany
Jessica Carley & Nancy Keyser
Neil and Carolyn Molesbee
Warren and Esther Pearce,
Maitland, FL
Sellie and Henry Shine

\$40.00

Clea McKinzey, The Colony, TX
Caprock Girl Scout Troop #121

\$25.00-\$30.00

Taylor White
Kaye Horchler, Midland, TX
Marion Livingston
Herb and Kathy Boatwright
Lee and Lulayne Ferris
Lanau Limmer
Dan and Jeanette Moian
Maureen Donohue
James and Tonda Wallace
Kathy Wynne, Crestwood, KS
Keith and Donna Newton
Sali Tabor
Nancy Senning
Margaret Ingle
Jay and Charlene McCollum,
Colorado City, TX
Wynette Choate, Levelland

\$15-20.00

Dr. Susan Tomlinson
L. Barker, Littlefield
Vickie Craig
Alzada Malone
Robert Doss
Susan Radle
Maurice Steen
Melissa Medlin
Kyle and Carol Wargo
Margaret Redcay
Irene Kandik
Carla Davis
Dottie Garcia
Jennifer Casey

Adoptions

Neil and Carolyn Molsbee adopted Sierra and Empress

Gail Barnes adopted Fritz for her friend Marilyn Crowe's birthday in Garland, TX

Lindi Van Heuklon adopted Percy for Allison Wood and Fritz for Jacquie Boyle

Memorials

For Donald W. Kriebel who died March 20, 2003. Don was the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service agent at the Lubbock office from 1952 until 1977 when he retired. Don helped train Rob Lee when Rob arrived in Lubbock to take the position of Federal Game Warden in 1987. Memorial gifts were given in Don's name by A.C. Sach Morman and Tommy Morman, Joyce and Dick Cheatham, Nancy and Bud Sparks of Clifton, TX, Dorothy O'Day, Livonia, MI, Marion and Merrily Delavan, Roswell, GA, Rob Lee of Lubbock, and Mrs. Jannis Johnstone, Tarzana, CA Sympathy to his widow Lois, and daughter Paula Strahan, both of Lubbock.

Mary and Kevin Gordon sent a Memorial donation in the name of Katy Gallagher, daughter of volunteer Gail Barnes. Gail's daughter passed away last fall.

Visit us at spwrc.org



SIERRA
GOLDEN EAGLE
\$50

Each photo on this page is one of our non-releasable animals. Adopting (sponsoring) one of these birds or mammals is a wonderful way to surprise a friend or loved one for a birthday, anniversary, or any other special occasion, and your gift will help wildlife at the same time.

Your donation is also tax-deductible, and any contribution or adoption of \$20.00 or more includes a one-year subscription to our quarterly 12- page newsletter, *The Mockingbird Chronicles*. Sponsors receive a full color Adoption Certificate with a picture of the animal you are sponsoring which is suitable for framing, a full color photo of the adopted animal, profile of that species, and a biography of the animal on this page explaining why it came to the Wildlife Center. The Wildlife Center is an all-volunteer organization, and you'll know your gift is directly supporting the wildlife in our care.



PERCY
AMERICAN WHITE
PELICAN \$50



EMPRESS
PEREGRINE FALCON
\$40



FRITZ
GRAY FOX
\$40



BUBO 2
GREAT HORNED OWL
\$40



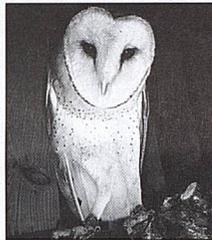
BOBBY
BOBCAT
\$40



HARRIS
HARRIS'S HAWK
\$30



MARDIGAN
RED-TAILED HAWK
\$30



JASPER
COMMON BARN OWL
\$30



FESTUS
TURKEY VULTURE
\$30



FIFI
STRIPED SKUNK
\$30



RICKY
ALBINO RACCOON
\$35



MADDIE
AMERICAN KESTREL
\$25



LOUIE
EASTERN SCREECH OWL
\$25

YOUR NAME _____

ORGANIZATION OR GROUP _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Membership amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Membership levels: ◆ Millennium Member \$5000 ◆ Life Member \$1000 ◆ Benefactor \$500 ◆ Patron \$100 ◆ Supporting Member \$50 ◆
◆ Organization or Group \$30 ◆ Family Membership \$25 ◆ Individual Membership \$20 ◆

Gift Gift in memory of _____ Gift Gift in memory of _____

Membership amount \$ _____ Membership amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____ Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____ Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Please acknowledge to (Name) _____ Please acknowledge to (Name) _____

(Addr) _____ (Addr) _____

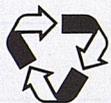
◆ Please make checks payable to SPWRC ◆ Send to: SPWRC ◆ c/o Carol Mitchell ◆ 3101 77th St. ◆ Lubbock, TX 79423 ◆ Thank you ◆

Keeping our Money At Work in Lubbock

Do you get tired of sending in a few dollars to a charity you love and support, only to have them send you a "free gift" and then write three weeks later asking you for more money? I get repeated pleas every week. Over the past years, I've limited the number of charities I contribute to, since I primarily support the charity I founded, plus the Nature Conservancy, and a few others. I've made this decision not only because the economy is sluggish, but also because much of the money I do send off may go toward salaries and administrative fees. The Wildlife Center does not pay anyone a salary, and we have been a 100% volunteer staff since 1988. We are very protective of our funds, and map out a budget each year. All of our expenses continue to rise: utilities, insurance, printing, postage, and especially the annual food and care costs for our ever-increasing number of wildlife admissions. We want to put our funds where they do the most good, but we also want donors to know what we are doing with the funds they contribute to us, and this is the method. If you don't want or don't read our newsletter **please let us know**. I can be reached at spwrc@cox.net.

Can YOU Help Wildlife by Volunteering?

There are hundreds of things that have to be done at the Wildlife Center every day, all summer long. As this newsletter goes to press, we are admitting an average of 12 animals a day. For the first five months of 2003, the Wildlife Center admitted 30 animals in January, 77 animals in February, 130 in March, 137 in April, and 360 in May. In addition to the hands-on feeding, treatment and care of animals, there are plenty of other things you can help with until you learn the ropes, including food preparation, errands, dusting, sweeping and mopping, disinfecting cages and carriers, helping replenish food and water dishes, cleaning the duck pools, answering the phone and fielding calls, and helping with the never ending sea of laundry and dishes. These are only a few things we need assistance with. *You do not have to have experience*, and we all started the same way: knowing nothing. We have men, women, high school, college students and Junior Volunteers of from the age of 12 and over. Retired? We'd love to have you, even if it is two hours a week! We are open during daylight hours 365 days a year, but of course that time frame is much longer during the summer. Visit our web site at **spwrc.org** for more information, and a volunteer packet.



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