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# The Mockingbird Chronicles



no.1: 2005

Newsletter of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

Number 1 / 2005

5/19/05 AB



Meet  
"Ollie,"  
our Newest  
Wildlife  
Ambassador

See page 7

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Letter from the Director

**Welcome!  
Another  
New Year!**

This year is our seventeenth year of service to wildlife. It's a perfect time to glance back to our achievements of last year, and look ahead to a promising new year. "Baby Season" kicked off on February 4<sup>th</sup> with our first newborn Gray Squirrels. Other baby mammals will be coming soon, too; doves in a month or so, and larger songbirds like robins in early May. We'll all shift gears as day length increases, and we'll admit hundreds of young birds and mammals – as well as scores of displaced and injured animals. Ironically, it's the time of year we most look forward to, and dread at the same time. Hours are long, patients arrive all day everyday, volunteers get weary, but we all continue to go the extra mile for our charges, and take immense pleasure in our work. Our shared commitment and passion for wildlife is the key to a second chance for hundreds of orphans and casualties who will be able to be released back into the wild.

Recently we purchased several large and spacious stainless steel cages for our songbirds, and we'll be stocking up on food and supplies for our large and small patients.

I am everlastingly grateful to each and every one of our past and present readers and supporters who helped us grow from a tiny, one-person grass roots facility to a thriving non-profit organization. 2004 was a good year, and I'm thankful for the support of our efforts from far and wide. We all look forward to see what the new year brings.

December is always a very busy month for administrative responsibilities at the Wildlife Center and December 2004 was no exception. The *Mockingbird Chronicles* went to the printer a few days after Thanksgiving so it would be distributed early in December, allowing me a little time to get into the Holiday spirit. Therefore, many of the Holiday gifts, animal adoptions, and Memorials are included in this issue.

*Carol*

**No time to shop?  
Join us at Llano Winery  
Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

Mother's Day, Graduation, weddings and other events take place during early spring and summer. If you're looking for gifts for special occasions, or just for fun, join us Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> at Llano Estacado Winery between 6-9 PM. It will be for an evening of fun, wonderful food, wine and music. Our silent auction will feature many themed baskets — Movie Lovers Basket, Mother's Day, New Baby, Wildflower and Garden themes, Coffee or Tea Lovers, New Graduate— are just a few of the baskets up for auction that are full of gifts and goodies. In addition to fine Llano wines, Ransom Canyon Catering will serve hearty hors d'oeuvres. Lubbock guitarist Susan Grisanti will provide music while guests dine, bid, and enjoy fine food and wine. Tickets are available at all Select-A-Seat outlets (806) 770-2000. (There is a surcharge of \$2.00 for tickets purchased through Select-A-Seat and an additional \$1.00 if tickets are mailed.) In addition to their primary outlet at Memphis Place Mall (50th & Memphis Ave.) there are 24 other locations throughout Lubbock and the South Plains (including area United Supermarkets). Tickets can also be obtained by calling Carol Lee (806) 745-8120. Tickets will be sold until noon, Friday May 6<sup>th</sup>. Select-A-Seat locations can be found on the internet and tickets can also be purchased online. Outlets will also have details of our event.

Special thanks to David Leake and Steve Smothers at the Thomas Agency for their creative designs, input, artwork, planning and publicity for our event!

We need more donations for our themed baskets for the May fundraiser. If you can donate a basket, an item or gift certificate, please call me at 745-8120. Donations to date (as of February 28<sup>th</sup>) are listed on page 12. All other donations will be acknowledged in our June quarterly newsletter.

**COVER:  
"Ollie," our Mexican  
Free-tailed Bat  
Photo by Ray Nitzschke**

*The Mockingbird Chronicles* is a quarterly publication of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Inc. (SPWRC), which is 100% volunteer. The organization is an IRS determined 501(c)(3) non-profit 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 receives no funding whatsoever from either regulating agency. SPWRC operations are maintained entirely through the support of private donations and volunteer service, and no SPWRC staff member is paid. Donations are tax deductible to the extent the law allows.

**Wildlife is accepted without regard to species, size, color, temperament, or popularity with the human race.**

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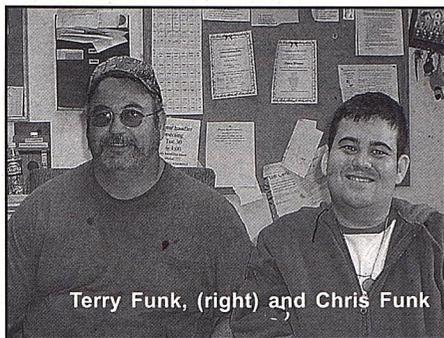
South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Inc. is located at 3308 95th Street, Lubbock, TX 79423

(806) 799-2142  
spwrc@cox.net  
spwrc.org

## Volunteer Spotlight

by Debbie Tennyson

### Terry and Chris Funk



Terry Funk, (right) and Chris Funk

This father and son team started helping at the Wildlife Center in 2002. Chris, 26, was born with Spina Bifida and has had 52 surgeries in his lifetime. He's an inspiration to all of us with his delightful outlook on life. He studied Human Resources at South Plains College, but now enjoys time at home playing video games and is a big music buff. He helps his mom, Rita, do housework and looks forward to his weekly adventure to visit his favorite animal at the Center, "Percy" the pelican. Chris says, "Knowing I'm helping wildlife go back to the wild is very gratifying." His dad Terry is a Well Analyst with Occidental Oil Company and enjoys fishing, hunting and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. He loves the birds of prey at the Center and "Mardigan," the Red-tailed Hawk is his favorite bird. Although Terry doesn't work directly with the raptors he says, "The tasks he performs frees up others who help the animals and their enrichment." Terry and Chris have lived in Shallowater since 1977 and are a tremendous contribution to the Center. Thank you for helping us help wildlife!

## Welcome!

....To Mr. Richard Whittenburg, Vice President, Marketing, City Bank, our newest Board Member. Richard's term starts in March 2005. Richard's daughter Kristin was one of my first Texas Tech interns in 1992.

## Thank you, Southwest Regional Balloon Club!

On Wednesday December 8<sup>th</sup> we had the privilege of meeting with Southwest Regional Balloon Club members at Plains National Bank. Members presented us with a check of \$2,500 and we are most appreciative of their generous gift. Manager Debbie Tennyson took



Mary Ann Slagle-Poteet hands a \$1500.00 check to Carol Lee, left, and Debbie Tennyson, center



Southwest Regional Balloon Club Members

one of our wildlife ambassadors, "Shadow," our Barred Owl. Special thanks to Tony Poteet, Mary Ann Slagle-Poteet, Charlie Brown and all of the members of the group for their generosity. The gift was on the local news at 10 PM that same evening. We plan to give the group a tour in April. The Club will host the South Plains Balloon Round Up the weekend of September 10-11, 2005.

## Thank you City Bank!

*A big thank you to City Bank, a sponsor of our Llano Estacado Winery event in May!*

## Thank you, too, New Belgium Brewery!

We are very grateful to New Belgium Brewery, Fort Collins, Colorado for a grant of \$2,933 in early January. This is the second grant we've received from New Belgium. The funds will be earmarked for replacement of our old wooden stable with a new metal building that will house pre release Mississippi Kites, Kestrels, and other species. The new building will be two stories, and double our rehabilitation space in that location. This will be an interim project that we hope to start this summer.

## Thank you again to the South Plains Veterinary Medical Association!

For a number of years, the South Plains Veterinary Medical Association helped support our work with an annual gift of \$1,500. We are very appreciative of their faith in our efforts, and their support of our work for wildlife. Dr. Robert Richards of Animal Hospital of Lubbock is President of the organization; Dr. Tim Polk of Animal Medical Center is Vice President, and Dr. Don Hegi of Animal Care Clinic is Treasurer. Dr. Polk is one of the Wildlife Center's primary veterinarians. We are sincerely appreciative of your gift for wildlife!

## Nature of Art

Put the following dates on your calendar to attend or participate in the Nature of Art benefit and sale:

On October 8th and 9th, 2005, we will once again have our fundraiser at Caprock Winery and we hope it will be bigger and better than ever. We've already spoken to several participants from last year who are planning on having a booth again. Smokey River Barbeque will provide food and we'll be mailing out more information later. We'd also like to have some birdhouses to auction off. They can be decorative, or made for use outdoors. Contact Beth Bartley at 806 797-8285 for more information.

*We still need birdhouse builders for this event*

## Fourth Youth Corps Cadets Help Out

On January 29, sixteen Fourth Youth Corps Cadets spent the morning trimming, pruning, raking, sweeping, and helping out with odd jobs at the Wildlife Center. The young people showed up on the pleasant and sunny Saturday, just one day before winter's icy blasts returned. "The program emphasizes a good work ethic, self-discipline, self-confidence, responsibility, teamwork, leadership, and effective employment skills while providing work



experiences for the cadets. The curriculum developed through a joint effort involving Reese Air Force personnel, Texas Tech, the Army National Guard and Reserves, Army and Air Force ROTC programs, and Lubbock ISD." With the successful completion of a two-week camp, cadets may participate in the Extended Program. From September through May, cadets meet one Saturday a month for community service projects and a short, work-related, motivational workshop. The 4th Corps Program pays each cadet \$50.00 for each of the 8 sessions they attend, plus a \$100.00 bonus for perfect attendance. The program depends on donations and grants for their funding. We thank Sgt. Farrah Moutos for overseeing the group. Executive Director of the organization is Janet Jackson.

Cadets who spent their morning at the Wildlife Center:

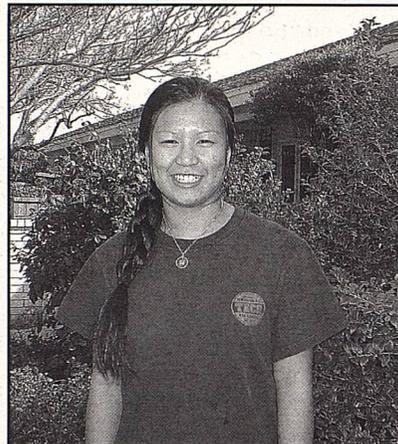
Milus Johnson, Dakisha Brown, Charles Walton, Tajai Burgess, Robert Carroll, Joseph Verity, Zachary Adlzins, Jarrod Felker, Nina Zamora, Trevor Johnson, Vincent Martinez, Chance Johnson, Jordon Elder, Omar Sherif, Luis Rios.

## Public Relations Student: Meet Molly Vongsaly

Molly Vongsaly is the Wildlife Center's new Public Relations intern. She's also our *first* PR intern. Her duties are administrative in nature, helping with our May fundraiser, June Open House, entering data and helping with other managerial tasks. Her advisor is Aleesa Ross.

We're delighted Molly selected the Wildlife Center for her internship. She's a senior public relations and psychology major from Euless, Texas. She decided to attend Texas Tech because she liked the Texas Tech campus and the "small town feel" of Lubbock during her orientation. Molly was born in Laos, but raised in the United States. Some day she'd love to go back and visit her family members in Laos.

Molly's hobbies include reading, writing and the outdoors. She also has a big interest in cultural studies, and Asian culture in particular. She said, "I am really excited about



contributing my time and work to the Wildlife Center because I know it will be a valuable PR experience. I'm planning to work in public relations and considering all the options, but non-profit organizations interest me; I really want to find an organization that I'm passionate about." Molly also has a part time job at the Vietnam Center at the University.

Please visit [igive.com](http://igive.com) for some of your online shopping. The Wildlife Center benefits from your purchases if you designate us!

## Thank you for Supplies!

A special thank you to Johnny Franklin for making several hawk boxes for us. The following people brought supplies from our Wish List to our December Open House: Terry & Angie Alspaugh, Jude & Elle Bardsley, Ed Birge, Julia Blackstock, Robbin and David Borg, Steve, Mitzi and James Brackett, Everett Herman, Lynda Watson, Dale & Becky Broadstreet, Jamie Brown, Joseph Crooks, Laurie Foster, Mike & Tandy Hager, Marcie Hartman, Audra Hudnall, Colett Litchard, the Lord family, Katherine Mark, Jewel Mogan, Robin and Don Parks, Bill and Judy Pesetski, Troy Revert, Floyd & Clarice Robertson, Brian Swacina, Norma Trimmier, Marcy Taylor, Melissa Unfred, Mark & Gwen Wood Thanks also to: Richard Jones, bird seed; Susan Radle, grain; Ramona Conrad, baby food, cereal, trash bags; David Gonzales donated fish; Dr. Marijane Wernsman, holiday pillows, fabric and wreath; Beth Musgrave, Canyon TX, for supplies and animal food; Louise Reynolds for 3 heating pads; Beth Bodden-Hickman. Sandy Owens for welding and disposable gloves; Texas Tech Pharmaceutical Care & Infusion Center for IV solutions we use in fluid replacement; Kay Atcheson donated a vacuum, carriers, and bedding. Robert Vitela donated bird food; Drs. Maria Rivas and James Goss donated 3 bird feeders. Former volunteer Michael Nickell of Odessa donated two Wal-Mart Gift cards and other supplies. Michael drew our Mockingbird logo that appears on each newsletter back in 1995. If we missed you, let us know! We are very, very grateful!....Ed.

Thanks again to everyone who brought gifts of supplies to our December Open House!

Thanks to John and Donetta Lines of South Plains Chem Dry for their Holiday contribution of service on behalf of our annual volunteer Christmas Party!

**Save your Stuff** for Sierra Thrift, located at 211 Broadway, on the SW corner of Broadway and Avenue A. It is set back on the lot. They're open Tuesday-Saturday 9-5:30. Call 765-7887 for more information.

## Holiday and Other Gifts To Honor

Kenneth Bodden of Burbank, California, gave a gift in Honor of his dad, and his sister's cat, "Toonces." His sister, Elizabeth Bodden-Hickman, is a former SPWRC volunteer.

Terry and Sue Morrow gave a Christmas gift in Honor of Sarah Daghistany of Lubbock.

Pam Taylor of Ralls gave a generous gift in Honor of three families for Christmas: The Clay McDuff family of Spring Hill, Florida, The Mary McDuff Family of Colora, Maryland, and Chris and Kelley Johnson of Louisville, Kentucky.

Jane Ann Stinnett gave a generous donation in Honor of Judy Rainger of Falls River, Virginia, the Mike McDaniel Family of Clovis, New Mexico and The Gary Tydings of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Lee and Wanda Lockridge gave a donation in Honor of our volunteer, Chris Funk.

Mike, Danette and Madeleine Gallagher of Roxton, Texas gave a Christmas gift in Honor of our volunteers Gail and Larry Barnes.

## Junior Volunteers

Summer will be here before we know it, and we'll start our third year with Junior Volunteers. If you know a young person 12-17 years old who may be interested in helping, call Gail Barnes at the Center at 799-2142. We can accommodate fifteen students, and Gail will interview prospective JV's.

## Second Annual Prairie Festival

Join the Llano Estacado Audubon Society Saturday August 27 from 10 AM-5 PM to celebrate the prairie and its associated species, with focus on Black-tailed Prairie Dogs and Burrowing Owls, and learn why a prairie so important to our region. The event is free, and held at the Lubbock Municipal Garden and Arts Center. There'll be live music by Kenny Maines, food and drinks, both indoor and outdoor booths, hands-on kids' entertainment and live animals. For more information visit:

[leas.bizland.com/prairiefest2.htm](http://leas.bizland.com/prairiefest2.htm)

## Adoptions:

### Sierra

- Suzy and John Henson

### Percy

- Sheila Phillips adopted "Percy" for Kent Phillips
- Rosslyn Smith adopted "Percy" in Memory of Charlotte Stokes. Acknowledgement was sent to Pat Byrd of Decatur, Georgia

### Bubo

- Tom and Cheryl Shubert adopted "Bubo" for Alicia

### Bobby

- Lyn and William Michaels
- Suzy and John Henson
- Dr. Maria Rivas adopted "Bobby" for Sophie Rivas (missed in last issue)
- Tom Shubert adopted "Bobby" for Cheryl

### Hootie

- Julie and Malcolm McLaughlin of Dallas adopted "Hootie"

### Ricky

- Caisey Gailey adopted "Ricky" for "Nene" and "Eo Eo"

### Harris

- Mary Asbell and Allan Mackenzie

### Mardigan

- Robin and Don Parks adopted "Mardigan" for Mike and Cheryl Cummins, of Gig Harbor, Washington.

### Maddie

- Caisey Gailey adopted "Maddie" for "Nene" and "Eo Eo"
- Tyla S. Holsomback
- Dr. Maria Rivas adopted "Maddie," for Sophie Rivas

### C.C.

- Sharon and Cary Kingston
- Tom and Cheryl Shubert adopted "C.C." for Quentin

### Empress

- Bill Grisham
- Tom and Cheryl Shubert adopted "Empress" for Brownie

### Athena

- Sharon and Cary Kingston
- Dr. Maria Rivas adopted "Athena" for Sophie Rivas
- Jane Stuart adopted "Athena" for Lee Stuart, McKinney, Texas, and for Jim Stuart, Fort Worth, Texas

### Gracie

- Janis & Larry Gailey
- Marilyn and Michael Cochrane
- Sharon and Cary Kingston
- Lyn and William Michaels
- Sheila Phillips adopted "Gracie" for Teresa Strattan of Lubbock.
- Dr. Maria Rivas adopted "Gracie" for Sophie Rivas
- Tom and Cheryl Shubert adopted "Gracie" for Tom

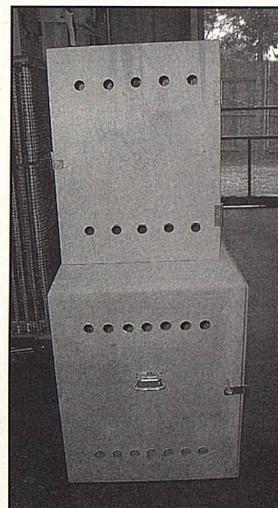
### Jasper

- Randy and Nancy Hendrickson of Tyler, Texas, adopted "Jasper" for Sandy and Jim Owens of Lubbock.
- Ludim Pedroza, former Wildlife Center volunteer, Cedar Park, Texas

### Ollie

- Dr. Addison Gradel
- Patrick and Laura Gordon, El Paso, TX
- Sierra Thrift
- Westwind Elementary 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Classes
- Everett Herman
- Patsy Summers
- Walter's World of Pets

You can read about "Ollie" on page 6.



Front view (top photo) of our new raptor transport boxes made by Jonny Franklin. Bottom photo is side view. These are lightweight and great for carrying our hawks and owls to programs

## Seventeen Years

### End of A Busy Year

2004 was another busy year. Year-end state and federal records are compiled and mailed by January 31st for the previous calendar year.

In 2004, we admitted a total of 1952 wildlife casualties, including

- 209 birds of prey (133 hawks and 76 owls)
- 1087 songbirds representing 78 species
- 583 mammals representing 21 species (Cottontails again were the most numerous with 108 admissions)
- 73 reptiles representing 12 species

We also cared for 489 non-protected species, making our total number of animals 2441

Volunteer hours totaled 13,707. This does not reflect the hours donated by the Director, Manager, Board of Directors and Advisors, or that of our five veterinarians.



### Raptor Breakdown:

#### Falcons, Hawks, Eagles: (133)

Mississippi Kite (51), American Kestrel (38), Swainson's Hawk (11), Red-Tailed Hawk (11), Cooper's Hawk (5), Northern Harrier (4), Ferruginous Hawk (3), Merlin (3), Sharp-shinned Hawk (2) Harris's Hawk (1) Turkey Vulture (1) Golden Eagle (3)

#### Owls: (76)

Barn Owl (38), Barred Owl (1) Burrowing Owl (14) Great Horned Owl (21), Long Eared Owl (2)

### "H99" Is Alive and Well in Wisconsin!

Readers may remember Trumpeter Swan "H99" from our Number 2/2004 *Mockingbird Chronicles*. December 13, 2003, four poachers peppered a family of five Trumpeter Swans with shot, killing two and wounding three others. A hunter recognized the large birds as Trumpeters and phoned authorities. There is never a season on this species. Texas Parks & Wildlife game warden Marc Collins drove to Lockney and used his lariat to corral the surviving birds. He brought them to the Wildlife Center that evening. All the swans were banded with neck and/or leg bands. We learned that H99 was hatched in 1999 as part of the Trumpeter Swan Restoration Project in Iowa, and was the father of the two surviving and two dead swans. H99 was banded with the red neck collar in March 2000 and released. He eventually paired up with a wild female, and they nested for three consecutive springs at Sleepy Eye, Minnesota and raised their four cygnets. H99 and the mate then moved on, migrating south with their family in 2003.

Rob Lee, Debbie Tennyson and I spent Sunday morning with Dr. Tim Polk at Animal Medical Center with the birds as they were evaluated, X-rayed, medicated, and splinted. At the clinic, it was heart wrenching to hear H99 trumpet loudly when his two offspring were removed from the carriers for treatments. Each bird weighed 25-27 pounds, and it was a big job caring for them. Sadly, one of the juveniles ultimately had to be euthanized because of badly shattered leg bones; this was decided after consulting with the Project in Iowa and our veterinarians. Wildlife Center volunteers Lindi Van Heukelon and fiancé Joel Butler transported H99 and the remaining cygnet to Des Moines on New Year's Eve, and met there by Dave Hoffman with Iowa's Trumpeter Swan Restoration Program. The following day, Hoffman drove the two swans up to Linda Hinshaw's Orphaned and Injured Wildlife facility in Spirit Lake for further rehabilitation. The surviving cygnet still had shattered bone

fragments in one leg joint that were surgically removed. Hinshaw's vet said he'd be as good as new. I was happy that so many of us went the extra mile to save his life. Both birds were ultimately released back to the wild. We learned in February 2005 that H99 took up residence on a 5+ acre pond at the Wildwood Zoo, near Marshfield, Wisconsin in December 2004. Zookeepers keep H99 and the other geese and swans well fed. H99's story appeared in the



Marshfield News-Herald February 15<sup>th</sup>. Ron Andrews, Iowa's Trumpeter Swan coordinator said, "H99 likely will leave Wildwood Zoo in spring to find a new mate, but there's no way to know for sure what swans will do. H99 has attracted a following on the Internet, as officials in at least 4 states followed his migration and recovery....Every swan has a story and obviously this one has a very interesting story associated with its travels and life."

Trumpeter Swans were pushed to the brink of extinction about a century ago, and during the 1930s, only 69 Trumpeter Swans remained in the lower 48 states, living in remote areas in the north. Trumpeters were first given nationwide protection in 1918 when the U.S., Canada, and Mexico signed the International Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Trumpeter Swans are rarely sighted in Texas. Three men and a woman were apprehended December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, and ordered to pay fees and fines totaling \$1,700. You can see photos of H99 on our website at spwrc.org

Thus far, we've received \$167.00

## ...of Helping Wildlife !

### Education Programs

Eight educational programs were presented during December, January and February. Volunteers did a program at Nat Williams Elementary and for the DAR at Lubbock Women's Club. The three January programs were for Texas Tech's Range & Wildlife Club, Llano Estacado Audubon's meeting, and at



Wildlife Center volunteers present  
Llano Estacado Audubon Program  
(photo by Ray Nitzschke)

Shadow Hills Residential meeting house. During February, presentations were done for the Lubbock Insurance Association, a bat program for Westwind Elementary second grades, and Wheatley students made a field trip to the Wildlife Center.

### It's Been A Great Winter in Lubbock for Goldfinches!

Goldfinches are around in great numbers in parts of Lubbock during February and early March. Our two thistle feeders are covered with the sprightly little birds every day. Sometimes called the "wild canary," this familiar little bird sings even in flight. Although some flocks migrate into Mexico, many remain year-round in temperate regions frequenting feeding stations. Thistle, or niger seed is more expensive than other seeds, but it's well worth it to see the colorful little birds outside your window!

### Animal Adoption Program Thriving

You'll notice the format of our "Adoption" changed in December. We added three new animals that can be sponsored: "Athena," an Eastern Screech Owl missing an eye; "C.C.," our beautiful Bald Eagle, and "Gracie," a young Gray Fox who replaces "Fritz" who died last year. Adopting one of the Wildlife Center's non-releasable animals is a wonderful way to give a gift to a friend or loved one and help wildlife at the same time. Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. The Wildlife Center is 100% volunteer, and your gift goes directly toward the housing and support of the animals in our care. Our two eagles eat over \$1,000 worth of food every year. The Wildlife Center relies on support and charitable contributions from people who want to help us maintain the level of care and comfort for these non-releasable animals. Your sponsorship helps with food, housing and veterinary care of the animals throughout the year. Thank you for helping us help them.

### Adoption packets include:

- A Certificate of Appreciation with the animal's picture
- A biography of the animal including why it came to the Wildlife Center
- A profile of that animal's species
- A year's subscription to our 12-page quarterly newsletter, *The Mockingbird Chronicles*
- A letter of appreciation

"Ollie" can now also be adopted, and you can read more about her in the next column.

Our other wildlife ambassadors are listed on page 11.

### "Ollie" is now available for Adoption

Ollie came to the Wildlife Center March 2004 from Snyder, Texas. Her right wing membrane was torn when she was removed from a shingle. Ollie was taken to author and bat rehabilitator Amanda Lollar in Mineral Wells, Texas. Amanda founded Bat World, a living-



"Ollie" the Mexican Free-tailed Bat as she poses on a blanket for her photo

museum and bat rehabilitation center for orphaned and injured bats. Ollie's right wing was partially amputated. Ollie rejoined us in Lubbock a few months later and resides with a non-releasable colony of Mexican Free-tailed bats. Ollie's diet is a mealworm blend fed through a syringe twice a day. Eventually she may self feed. Her teeth are brushed weekly to prevent gum disease in a bat in a captive setting, and her fur is brushed daily. Ollie is a shy little bat, and serves as a wildlife ambassador, educating the public about bats and their useful role in our environment. The cost to adopt Ollie for a year is \$30.00. These funds help pay for her food and upkeep.

If you'd like a group or school program about bats, call Gail Barnes at (806) 799-2142.

Ollie's picture is also gracing our cover page this quarter.

## NEWS and NOTES

The December newsletter went to the printer November 19 to avoid the Holiday rush period for everyone who helps with its production. For that reason, all year-end gifts are acknowledged together in this newsletter.

This issue is full, and because there is no more room this quarter, it will go to the printer March 2nd as opposed to early in April. The next issue will be out in July, when baby season is in full swing. As always, if I inadvertently omitted your name, please notify me so it can be included in July! (spwrc@cox.net)

- A big thank you to Dr. & Mrs. Mark Wallace for opening their home to about 25 volunteers on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> for our annual volunteer recognition and Holiday get-together.

- Thanks to Dorothy Bodden for bringing libations to our Holiday Open House.

- Thank you to Anne Jeschke and her staff at Printo Printing in Lubbock for doing a fine job on our newsletter.

- A big thank you to Ray Nitzschke for all the data he entered into the computer when our state, federal year-end wildlife and education records were due. The job gets bigger each year as more animals are admitted for care. This year they were even postmarked on time.

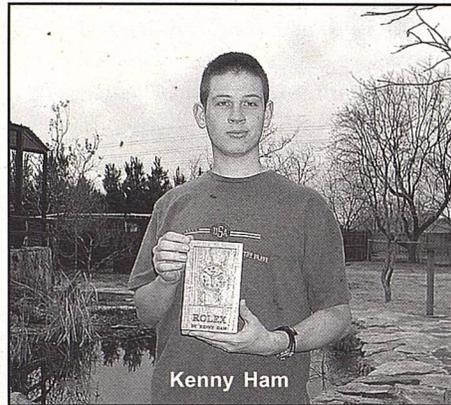
- Thanks to the Texas A & M Research Center and Pat Porter for a donation of clean 2004 field corn. ("Clean" is important – some corn can harbor aflatoxin that can cause illness and death if it's consumed by birds.)

- The Wildlife Center received its first check for restitution for the Trumpeter Swans that were shot and left to die last year. Two of three were successfully rehabilitated and released back to the wild. Thanks to game warden Marc Collins of Plainview for assisting with this.

The flock of Canada Geese I fed again this year since December 1, 2004, left in 2005 on the exact same day as last year: February 17th. We are looking forward to the day they arrive back in our neighborhood again.

## Charter Members: Remember buying "Square Footage" in 1999? Here's your update!

Many readers will remember "Owloreen" 1999 at the county Line Restaurant when we "sold" square feet of our ultimate building project – renovating the three story barn where all of our wildlife rehabilitation activities will take place. Meanwhile, we're still in the metal work building, raising and saving money for the day when our dream becomes a reality. We sold each square foot for fifty dollars, and kept records of all transactions, awaiting the day a Donor Board of Charter Members will hang in the new building. Well, we're on the way, and thanks to architect Eldon Bennett of EB Designs, plans for the interior of the barn or are now complete. The initial phase of this project will be approximately \$250,000. Meanwhile, Eagle Scout candidate Kenny Ham called about a project.



Kenny Ham

Kenny is in Troop #104. Scoutmasters are Bob Walcup (currently serving in Iraq) and Lee Cool. Kenny is a Junior at Monterey High School, and his career objective is to be involved in 'Computer and Numerical Control,' which involves precision computer software and shop tools, to make engravings that are accurate to 1/1000<sup>th</sup> of an inch. While Kenny told me about this process, I thought of the perfect project...the Donor Board. We'll update you in our June issue.

He's shown above with his "Rolex" project that won a state championship.

## 33rd Eagle Scout Project Takes Wing at the Center

Ethan Busby contacted the Wildlife Center last fall about the possibility of doing an Eagle Scout project for us. He'll be extending the stone walk around the back of the pond



Ethan Busby

leading to one side of our outdoor amphitheater, and adding more wildflowers around the back side of the pond. Ethan is in Troop #500, and the Scoutmaster is Mr. Mike Cannon. Ethan attends Lubbock High School and is in tenth grade. His career aspiration is to be a professor of Literature and a writer. His mother Colette is a supporter of Ethan's project. Ethan's project is the 33rd Eagle Scout project at the Wildlife Center. More on his project as it develops.

## Spring Semester Interns

Dr. Lou Densmore's Texas Tech University interns spring semester 2005: Lindi Butler, Annie Pinkerton, Jose Gutierrez, Carie Bailey, Deanna Garcia, Kelsey Shaw, Kristin Nugent.

Estacado High School Pre vet students (Starla Ewan, sponsor): Joselius Sanchez, Ricardo Silva, Sarah Mendoza, Jillian Hernandez, Miranada Garcia, Lakeisha Williams, Pedro Godinez, John Ramirez.

We also have our first independent study student, Francesca Vega.

## Sincere Thanks to Our Monthly Benefactors!

Carre Avian  
 Lisa and Travis Bruster  
 A.J. and Cindy Burkes, Denver City, TX  
 Barbara Davis, Rising Star, TX  
 Joyce Komkov  
 Joyce Lisenby  
 Tom McLaughlin  
 Dave Melton  
 William and Deanna Schwartze



**Peggy Mulcahy at Texas Tech's Involvement Fair**

Thanks to volunteer Peggy Mulcahy for hosting a table about the Wildlife Center at Texas Tech's Involvement Fair February 15<sup>th</sup>. Various groups had information about their organizations for prospective volunteers from the student body.

## Waiting for Barn Owl Babies...

Recently my husband Rob visited a home where nesting barn owls were reported. He found two separate nest sites in the attic, that was scheduled to be sealed up. He removed two owl eggs February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and seven more from another area February 7<sup>th</sup>. Presently, the eggs are being incubated at the Wildlife Center. The eggs are candled twice weekly, and seven of the nine eggs apparently have viable embryos.

We're looking into purchasing a "web cam" for our web site, so visitors can watch our babies hatch, or our surrogates taking care of their tiny charges. Any donations towards this are welcome!

## Special Thanks!

Special Thanks to **Outback Steakhouse** (Paul Willms) and **Skyview Restaurant** for donating Gift Certificates for our volunteers at Christmas. Special thanks also to Dr. and Mrs. Mark Wallace for making a \$100.00 donation toward gift certificates for our volunteers for Christmas.

## Urban Sprawl Pushes Wildlife to the Brink

January 19, 2005  
 by Roddy Scheer

According to a new report by several environmental groups, urban sprawl is putting one-third of America's endangered species at risk of extinction within the next two decades as a result of habitat loss.

The report, entitled "Endangered By Sprawl: How Runaway Development Threatens America's Wildlife," produced by National Wildlife Federation, Smart Growth America, and NatureServe, the report details how the rapid conversion of once-natural areas and farmland into subdivisions, shopping centers, roads and parking lots is jeopardizing the future of more than 500 wildlife species teetering on the brink of extinction. Beyond publicizing the threat, the report recommends altering local land-use patterns and improving state and federal natural resource and transportation policies as potential remedies. "As Congress prepares to debate the future of the Endangered Species Act, this study drives home the critical role that better planning must play in both protecting threatened wildlife and improving our cities and towns," according to Don Chen, Executive Director of Smart Growth America. "To check runaway land consumption, we must provide incentives for development in existing urban and suburban areas, build new development at higher densities, and set aside natural areas as off limits to new development."



## Memorials:

Carla Davis was a volunteer at the Wildlife Center for about five years. Sadly, Carla passed away last December while waiting for a lung transplant at Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore. She'd been staying in Linthicum Heights, Maryland with her mother for over a year. Carla shared my passion for baby songbirds, and often gave me breaks during baby bird season. She also had a special fondness for baby doves and pigeons. In her Memory, about 75 of our resident pigeons were trapped, relocated and released. They may return to our property, but volunteers wanted to do a symbolic gesture in Memory of Carla, our wonderful volunteer. She is survived by her mother Ruth Davis, and a brother, Jack Davis, of Bowie, Maryland.

Sympathy is expressed to Joyce Komkov, a monthly benefactor for many years, on the loss of her sister in January. Sympathy is also expressed to Board Member Terry Taylor; his brother Jerry passed away in January.

Dr. Don and Mrs. Gail Davies gave a gift "In Loving Memory of Michael G. Davies"

Ray and Karen Nitzschke gave a Memorial gift in Memory of Nelle Frost Gasper. Acknowledgement was sent to Edward J. Gasper of Lubbock.

Michael & Barbara Stephens gave a 'Love Gift' in "Memory of Dear Family Members who are no longer with Us" in the names of Gearl & Ruth Hensley, Burt Stephens and Pamela (Hensley) Dorsett.

Cindy Reinhardt of Ransom Canyon, Texas, gave a gift in Memory of "Jake, buddy of Melissa Grimes"

Tyla S. Holsomback gave a Memorial gift for Martin.

Jim, Sherri, Holly and Audre Mason gave a Memorial gift in the name of John Lipscomb

Rosslyn Smith gave a donation in Memory of Charlotte Stokes. Acknowledgment was sent to Pat Byrd of Decatur, Georgia.

Sympathy is also expressed to Dr. and Mrs. David Close, who lost their beloved Anatolian Shepherd, "Glory," in February.

Sympathy is extended to Animal Medical Center's staff for their loss of their co-worker Belinda Summers who was killed in a collision February 28th while driving to work. Fog may have contributed to the accident. Belinda will be sadly missed by us all.

# Acknowledgments

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

## \$5,000.00

Dr. & Mrs. Lewrie Close  
In honor of family, friends, and colleagues

## \$2,933.00

New Belgium Brewery

## \$2500.00

Southwest Regional Balloon Club

## \$1500.00

South Plains Veterinary  
Medical Association

## \$1,000.00

Gail & Larry Barnes  
Karen Poole,  
(Poole Chemical Co., Inc. Texline, TX)  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Wilkes,  
Ransom Canyon, TX

## \$500.00

Margaret and Bill Couch  
Estate of Carla R. Davis, Linthicum, MD  
Dr. and Mrs. Brent Nall

## \$300.00

Dr. Don and Gail Davies  
Michael & Barbara Stephens

## \$250.00

Gary & Linda Stewart

## \$200.00

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Mason

## \$150.00

John and Mary Gillas  
Dr. Jim, Sherri, Holly and Audre Mason  
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Shields  
Jane Ann Stinnett

## \$100.00

Mike Boley, Wildcat Bluff  
Nature Center, Amarillo, TX  
M.J. and James Eissingner  
Eric Everett  
Janis and Larry Gailey  
Cathy and Ron Galey  
Laura & Patrick Gordon, El Paso, TX  
Dr. Addison Gradel  
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Dr. Mike Hooper and Melody Wainscott  
Dr. Janice and Larry H. Killian, Post, TX  
Sharon and Cary Kingston  
Gerald & Judie Marquis, Nashville, TN  
Ludim Pedroza, Cedar Park, Texas  
Sheila and Kent Phillips  
Pamela Taylor, Ralls, Texas

## \$100.00 (continued)

Elizabeth Rylander  
Patsy Summers  
Sierra Thrift  
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Wallace

## \$70.00 - \$99.00

Navy Federal Credit Union  
(In M/O Carla Davis)  
Leanna Smith  
Jane Stuart

## \$50.00

Mary Asbell and Allan Mackenzie II  
Kenneth Bodden, Burbank, CA  
Calvin and Christine Carter, Abernathy, TX  
Mary Carter  
Barbara & Thomas Driscoll,  
Chapel Hill, NC  
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Mike, Danette and Madeleine Gallagher  
Half Circle E, Inc., Slaton, TX  
Dr. & Mrs. Donald Haragan  
Robin and Don Parks  
Cindy Reinhardt and Jack Randorff,  
Ransom Canyon, TX  
Mrs. Otero Scheele, Lockney, TX  
South Plains Chem Dry  
(John and Donetta Lines)  
Robert and Kathy Stanza, St. Louis, MO  
Russell and Faith Williams  
Pat. and Fred Zimmerman III, Dallas, TX

## \$40.00

Calvin and Christine Carter, Abernathy  
Everett Herman  
Tom McLaughlin  
Lyn and William Michaels

## \$30.00

Anonymous  
Belinda and John Ashe  
Marla Carver  
Bruce Chamblin  
Cathy Duran

## \$25.00

Walter and Margaret Ingle-Benning  
(missed in December)  
Diana and Dennis BrinkShannon  
and Jason Bullard  
Janie and Glenn Forister  
Morrie and Pat Hartman for a "Merry  
Christmas"

## \$25.00 (continued)

Rosie and Harold Hurd  
Fritz and Margie Jacobsmeier  
Rosie and Harold Hurd  
Fritz and Margie Jacobsmeier  
Mr. David Jeter  
Pat and Linda Luckie  
Dr. Ralph and Portia Menard  
Juanice Myers  
Lindsay Masso  
Bill and Judy Pesetski  
Susan Radle  
Pat and Emerson Tucker  
\$20.00  
Marilyn and Michael Cochrane  
Judy Cook  
(inadvertently missed last issue)  
Marilyn Crow  
Marcie Hartman  
Dr. & Mrs. Guy Hirsch  
Valerie Hill  
Valerie, Douglas and Shay Hlavaty  
Tyla S. Holsomback  
Ginger Hurley  
Beth Musgrave, Canyon, TX  
Cathy Phillips  
Troy Revert  
Jessica Roa, Santa Cruz, CA  
Amy Johnson Rubio  
(inadvertently missed in December)  
Jane Schwartz, Manteca, CA  
Jane Stuart  
Tom Walker  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Whittenburg  
Lois Woodruff

## \$15.00

Kay Atcheson  
Mary Schneider, Shallowater

Our monthly benefactors are  
listed on page 9

We sincerely appreciate every donation,  
large and small, and could not continue  
our work for wildlife without your help.

THANK YOU!

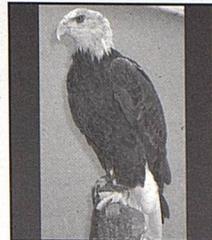
If your donation arrived after February  
28th, it will be acknowledged in our June  
quarterly newsletter

## Adopting a Wildlife Ambassador Helps Pay for its Annual Care

EACH \$50  
 SIERRA, RIGHT  
 GOLDEN EAGLE  
 PERCY, FAR RIGHT  
 AM. WHITE PELICAN



C.C., RIGHT \$50  
 GOLDEN EAGLE  
 EMPRESS, FAR RT. \$40  
 PEREGRINE FALCON



EACH \$40  
 BUBO 2, RIGHT  
 GREAT HORNED OWL  
 BOBBY, FAR RIGHT  
 BOBCAT



GRACIE, RIGHT \$40  
 GRAY FOX  
 JASPER, FAR RT. \$35  
 COMMON BARN OWL



HOOTIE, RIGHT \$35  
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 RICKY, NEXT RIGHT \$35  
 ALBINO RACCOON  
 HARRIS, CENTER \$30  
 HARRIS S HAWK  
 MARDIGAN, NEXT RT. \$30  
 RED-TAILED HAWK  
 FESTUS, FAR RT. \$30  
 TURKEY VULTURE



EACH \$30  
 FIFI, RIGHT  
 STRIPED SKUNK  
 MADDIE, FAR RIGHT  
 AMERICAN KESTREL



EACH \$25  
 LOUIE, RIGHT  
 EASTERN SCREECH OWL  
 ATHENA, FAR RIGHT  
 EASTERN SCREECH OWL



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 \_\_\_\_\_

Membership amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Adoption of \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Please acknowledge to (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Addr) \_\_\_\_\_

Gift  Gift in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Membership amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Adoption of \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Adoption of \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please acknowledge to (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Addr) \_\_\_\_\_

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



**New and old volunteers gather at the Center for a getting-to-know-you party January 22**

We always need volunteers to help feed and care for our spring and summer babies. We most need volunteers to help with some of the baby songbirds from 6-9 PM during the summer.

**Thank you for advance donations for our Spring Fundraiser**

Thank you for advance donations for our May fundraiser for the themed baskets for our Silent Auction: Thanks to Mr. Ted Williams of *Audubon Magazine*, Droll Yankees bird feeders, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Plants of the Southwest, Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, Pets Plus, Glazed Honey Ham Company, Tom Boudreau, Ed Chauncey, Margaret Freeman, Jim Eppler, H F & C Feed, Barbara Wilson, Carinos Restaurant, Above and Beyond Pet Hospital, Joann Haddock, Elim Ruiz, Lindi Butler, Angela Westbrook, Mr. Glenn Lyles, Walter's World, Movies 16, Johnny Franklin, Aquarlease, and a beautiful Limited Edition print of a pair of Painted Buntings from Bird Watcher's Digest.

Students at Ramirez Elementary are also making baskets for us. Other contributions will be listed in our June newsletter along with our fundraiser wrap-up.



Mr. David Marshall  
Southwest Collection-TTU  
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Lubbock, TX 79409

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