

The Mockingbird Chronicles



Newsletter of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

Number 2/ 2011

Baby Season is in full swing!



Highlights

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Letter from the Founder

This last quarter has been an exciting one. On Wednesday, May 11th, our Board of Di-

rectors voted to hire Christa Threet as our new Executive Administrator.

Christa is a recent graduate of Lubbock Christian University, and brings enthusiasm and also ten years of business experience to her new position. She will gradually assume more and more responsibility, and become the new face of SPWRC. Christa jumped in with both feet, and is the epitome of a "quick study." Christa and I both look forward to her new role and our mutual transition. We're very fortunate to have her! Read more about Christa on page 4.

It's a big job for a new person to wrap their arms around, and my volunteer position as Founder and Executive Director has been a work in progress since 1987. That was the year I first made my dream a reality to start a rehabilitation center for wildlife and filled out a Texas Parks & Wildlife Department application.

Once again, I'll take a step backwards from the Executive Director position and hopefully this third time will be "the charm." I neglected a lot of things in my life as SPWRC grew, but it was a labor of love.

While I'm more than ready to step down, I'll continue (as will my husband Rob) to be involved in what I established in 1988. I'll also put together our quarterly newsletter as I have in the past, field phone calls, give rehabilitation advice to callers, serve on our Board, make decisions, and help oversee our operations.

Plans for retirement? Go though every closet, drawer and box of papers, and thoroughly clean house. For the twenty years when I raised virtually all the songbirds here at home half the year and did all the administrative work, I neglected so many things...the days were never long enough, and the constant feeding of scores of hungry mouths precluded everything except a brief errand, a quick meal, hurried phone call, and at a long day's end, some speedy attention to undone laundry and dishes.

However, this, too was a labor of love, as baby birds were, and remain, my passion. I

loved what I learned from the birds, and it was so richly rewarding to watch them grow so quickly and be ready for release. Release was my ultimate gift to them, and many birds stayed around for days, weeks or even months. Several adult Blue Jays still return daily to our front porch for handouts - three years later.

I hope to see my children and five grandchildren in the Austin area more than just once or twice a year, and likewise for my two cousins in Pennsylvania.

Additionally, I want to devote more time to continuing my research on my ancestors; not just filling in names or dates, but becoming familiar with how they lived, and what was happening historically. I'm amazed that many were here before we were a country, fought in the Revolutionary or Civil War, helped build churches so they could worship freely, bought land and raised families. Some moved on to distant places. I like the detective work and putting pieces of a very big puzzle together.

Last but by no means least, I think Rob will be glad to have me "back" with more free time on my hands, and perhaps I will be able to relax and unwind once and for all.

Please note:

During this quarter, I purchased a new computer and it was one unexpected complication after another to get my data transferred from an off-site server onto the new device. I've also worked with two new people who were learning the ropes, so there's a chance donor names, gifts or other details may have inadvertently fallen through the cracks. Please notify me at spwrc@suddenlink.net so your information can be included next time.

We ask for your e-mail address when you bring an animal to us. This address is never shared, and is used to thank many of our donors. An e-thank you saves us time, stationery and postage, and donations of \$20.00 or more will be acknowledged in the upcoming quarterly newsletter. Likewise, our mailing list is not shared with any other organization or person.

Carol

The Mockingbird Chronicles is a quarterly publication of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Inc. (SPWRC). The organization is an IRS determined 501(c)(3) non-profit facility that cares for orphaned, injured, ill and displaced wild animals with the ultimate goal of returning wildlife back to its natural habitat.

SPWRC holds state and federal permits but receives no funding whatsoever from either regulating agency. SPWRC operations are maintained through donations, gifts, education programs, quarterly newsletter subscriptions, memorial contributions, "wildlife ambassador" sponsorships and fundraising events. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent the law allows.

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Executive Administrator	Christa Threet
Operations Manager	Kristen Shimek

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South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Inc. is located at 3308 95th Street, Lubbock, TX 79423. (95th and Indiana, East side of street).

We can be reached by phone at 806-799-2142, by email at spwrc2@yahoo.com; learn more at our website at www.spwrc.org and follow us on Facebook. The new office in the house at SPWRC can be reached at 806 791-7722 and Christa's cell phone is 806 577-2071.

Front and Back Cover: Red-tailed Hawks as young chicks and growing juveniles

Photos by Carol Lee

Meet our new Executive Administrator



Christa Threet

Christa Threet was hired during the May Board meeting to be our new "Executive Administrator."

She's replacing Founder Carol Lee and will be the new face of SPWRC. We're counting on her to take the organization to the next level!

Christa had her own business for ten years, and then attended Lubbock Christian University. She graduated last month with a B.S. degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, specializing in Biological Sciences. She did her student teaching at Irons Middle School in Lubbock. Christa also has research experience in wildlife and agriculture.

Christa's duties will emphasize the overall operation and sustainability of SPWRC. This responsibility will follow and conform to the Center's Mission: to provide humane care and rehabilitation to wildlife and to provide environmental education with an emphasis on wildlife as a natural resource.

Christa says, "I'm extremely blessed to have this amazing opportunity, working with the community and the 'family' at South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center."

Born in Lubbock, she's married to Shane Threet for 17 years. They have two children, Aislynn, 13, and Clay, 10. Her husband is with the Lubbock Sheriff's Department.

Christa has four exotic birds that are family pets. She enjoys music, and the study of religious philosophy and Eastern cultures.

We are very fortunate to have this high energy recent college graduate as our new EA!...Ed.

Intern Spotlight

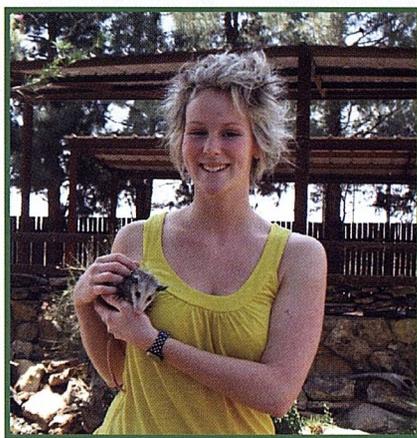
November 14th 2010, I received an e-mail from Catherine Loubier, a veterinary student in Montreal, Canada who found SPWRC on the Internet and visited our web site. She wrote, "I am currently a second year student in the five year veterinary program at the University of Montréal. My interests lie in the wildlife field and the medical issues pertaining to it. As such, I am always looking for opportunities to gain experience and knowledge in this domain. Throughout my studies, I have been working at the Birds of Prey Clinic which is part of the UQROP (Union Québécoise de

the three weeks, since each of us had a guest bedroom.

On May 1st, Catherine arrived on American Airlines. During her 3-week stay, Catherine helped feed baby birds and mammals at the Center; went along to the TV station with Gail to do our "Wildlife Friday" segment on KLBK; went sightseeing with my husband to the Windmill Museum, Texas Tech Campus, Ranching Heritage Center and Ransom Canyon. He also arranged for her to spend an afternoon with Texas Tech veterinarian Tiffanie Brooks.

Catherine also had a chance to go on the First Friday Art Trail, where she found unique gifts. She wanted to eat Mexican food and have a steak, and we happily accommodated her wishes. During her ten days with Gail, she went along to education programs, and had experience at Dr. Lubenau's "Above and Beyond" veterinary clinic supervising, learning, and doing hands-on procedures and surgeries.

Catherine's home is in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec. She's been married about a year to Marc Olivier Thibault, and they have two cats, "Fabelle" and "Cyamelle." In her free time, she plays piano, violin, and likes to run. On Mother's Day I had the pleasure of meeting her parents while she talked with them via "Skype." We hated to see Catherine leave!



Catherine Loubier

Réhabilitation des Oiseaux de Proie) in order to learn more about the veterinary procedures involved in wildlife rehabilitation. This experience also taught me to handle birds of prey in a veterinary context as well as in falconry. After reading about your wildlife rehabilitation center, I wondered if it is possible for me to acquire some experience at your center? Whether by observation or a position involving more implication, I would be very grateful to get involved with your organization for a couple of weeks next summer."

She writes further, "As a second year student, I'm certain a placement with your center will greatly benefit the wildlife portion of my veterinary formation." Even though May 2011 was a long way off, I was thrilled and answered right away. I shared the news with Gail Barnes, and we agreed to "share" Catherine during

Volunteer Service Day

On May 17th, our new EA Christa Threet attended the Volunteer Center's Agency Fair to celebrate youth volunteers.

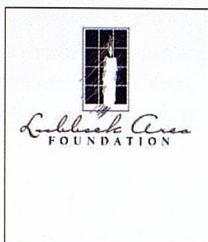
Held at the Civic Center, the event, "Celebration of Service," took place before and after a luncheon, and about 450 attended.

Thirty six schools partner with the Volunteer Center from across the South Plains, and all thirty-six were in attendance, along with educators, superintendents and area officials.

This was a great opportunity for area schools to connect with non-profit organizations to promote volunteerism.

... we judge bird song not by its musical quality nor even by its creativeness, but by its effect on the human spirit. Len Eisner
b. 1948 (American writer and professor)

Thank you Lubbock Area Foundation!



In March, SPWRC received \$4,000.00 from the Lubbock Area Foundation. Funds for this grant were provided from the Ruth Wright Endowment. These funds will be used for

food, supplies and veterinary expenses as stipulated in the request.

Dr. Ruth Cowart Wright was a lifelong Lubbock resident whose parents were among the earliest settlers in this area. Ruth had a great love for her pets, and that love evolved to include animals in general. In her will, she directed that her estate be used by the Lubbock Area Foundation for the support of organizations that provide care for animals that are lost, abandoned, or injured. The Foundation preserves her estate as a permanent endowment for that purpose, seeking out and providing annual grants from the endowment to organizations and programs in this area that provide care and rehabilitation of animals. Ruth passed away September 26, 2002.

With a focus on charitable giving, the Lubbock Area Foundation paves the way for South Plains residents to become philanthropists. A philanthropist is defined as "Someone who devotes his or her time, money, or effort towards helping others" or "a person who loves humanity, is committed deeply to making society a better place, who believes that each individual, each dollar and each action makes a difference."

The Wildlife Center is very grateful for this gift made possible by Dr. Ruth Wright.

As our census and the need for wildlife services grows annually, so do the costs to keep our doors open, and we are very grateful.

(LAF Logo used with permission from Tami Swoboda, Director of Programs and Communications).



Intern Tommy Duncan



Tommy Duncan

Tommy Duncan currently an intern at SPWRC, is a Texas Tech student in his senior year.

Born in nearby Post, Texas, Tommy's major is biology. He said, "I chose the Wildlife Center because I have concentrated on the molecular level of biology and very little on the species level. I knew this internship would give me a greater perspective on the field of biology and hands-on experience on fields such as ecology, conservation and rehabilitation that no book or classroom setting could provide." His advisor is Pam Hellman. Tommy said he wants to go to graduate school, become a molecular pathologist and work in a lab, aiding in diagnosis and treatment of disease and genetic counseling.

He said, "The hands on experience (of working at SPWRC) is second to none... from feeding squirrels to giving medication to eagles, the amount of first-hand knowledge gained is priceless."

Despite his fear of flying, Tommy said he loves to travel, and also enjoys reading. Tommy's wife's name is Brooke, and they have two children, Keegan and Kennedy. Another daughter is due in July.

I asked Tommy if there was anything else he'd like readers to know about him, and he replied, "Since my comfort zone has primarily been behind a microscope and in a lab, I was extremely nervous about doing this internship, but knew it would provide for a better educational experience. I've learned so much about wildlife rehabilitation and about the

various species we see at the Center, that it's difficult to put into words. I am very grateful for this opportunity to learn about the animals around us and the environment we all live in."

Visit SPWRC during Summer Open House, Saturday, June 18th

You're invited to SPWRC between 11 AM and 2 PM, Saturday, June 18th, and have a glimpse behind the scenes at a regional wildlife rehabilitation center.

This is an opportunity to meet our new Executive Administrator, Christa Threet, photograph our "wildlife ambassadors," meet staff and volunteers, ask questions and enjoy refreshments. There will be activities for kids of all ages including making dad a gift for Father's Day, a face painting area, display of various bird nests and eggs and other nature-related activities. Admission is a \$1.00 donation for guests over 4 years of age (or bring an item from our Wish List). SPWRC is located on the east side of Indiana Avenue at 95th street, and there's plenty of parking next door to the south at Indiana Baptist Church.

Another Eagle Scout Project completed at SPWRC

On Sunday, April 3rd, Eagle Scout candidate Jason Crites received his Eagle Scout award. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony was held at St. John's United Methodist Church, and speaker, Mr. Michael Riojas, gave an inspirational message to the audience.

A reception followed, where Jason and fellow Scout Jackson Kennedy – who also received his Eagle Scout award – displayed photos of their work during the projects, Scout trips, and other pictures relating to their Scouting career.

Jason's project was to make new raptor perches for our birds of prey which was completed during the last quarter. Jason's parents are Jim and Mary Crites.

Since 1992, forty-one Eagle Scout projects have been completed at SPWRC, plus one "Girl Scout Gold Award," completed by Monterey High School student Joelle Lowe.

Another Eagle Scout Project completed at SPWRC

(continued)

The Gold Award is the highest award for a Girl Scout.



Jason Crites

Doris Mager, 85 years young, returns to Lubbock with her birds of prey

On April 5th, Doris Mager came through Lubbock once again from her home in North Carolina – and for the 23rd time. I met Doris the second time she was in Lubbock when she spoke at a Llano Estacado Audubon meeting – and brought a wide assortment of raptors with her, including a Great Horned Owl, Crested Caracara, Bald Eagle, Burrowing Owl and an American Kestrel. I was enchanted. At the close of the program, I waited patiently to talk with her, and to tell her I was starting a wildlife organization of my own.

Doris was truly an inspiration. I came home and was on Cloud Nine, replaying every word of her advice to me a few hours earlier. Little did I know, this would begin a long friendship between us. I've rarely missed seeing Doris when she passes through Lubbock, and Rob and I were able to have lunch with her during her recent visit. Perhaps the most amazing thing about Doris is that she was 85 years young last October.

She travels with her birds to various schools, wildlife centers, reservations, nature parks, state parks and other venues, telling people about raptors, wildlife and conservation.



Doris Mager and "Cara," her Crested Caracara

Doris doesn't "just" travel...she travels in a van especially designed to house several of her birds on every trip, including "ET" ("Extra Terrific"), her Great Horned Owl who is 28 and "Cara" the Crested Caracara who is 35.

Doris started visiting schools in 1974. In 1979, Mager, with the help of veterinarians and others, founded Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland, Florida.

In 1983, she left Florida Audubon and formed her own organization, SOAR, "Save Our American Raptors" and her Mission was the same — to educate the public on the need to protect raptors.

Doris was dubbed "The Eagle Lady" when she lived in Florida and gained international recognition for living in an abandoned eagle's nest for a week to bring attention to the plight of eagles from pesticides and other hazards.

She's devoted her life to rescuing, rehabilitating, training, researching and educating others about our beautiful North American raptors. You can even find Doris on You Tube!

Gail Barnes receives DAR Conservation Award

Doris Mager is still soaring, and still inspiring people of all ages, decades after rescuing that first Red-tailed Hawk.



Gail Barnes

On May 18th, Volunteer Gail Barnes was awarded (The) National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Conservation Award during a luncheon at Lubbock Women's Club, attended by over fifty DAR members, guests and friends.

The Nancy Anderson Chapter of DAR in Lubbock nominated Gail for this prestigious honor for her years of wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, education and conservation efforts.

We are all very proud of Gail – few people have shown more dedication and commitment to SPWRC over the years than Gail, and we are sincerely appreciative.

I was honored to be part of Gail's special day.....Ed.

If your donation arrived after May 27th, it will be acknowledged in our fall quarterly newsletter. This issue went to the printer early so we could tell readers about OpenHouse. If your gift was inadvertently omitted, please notify Carol Lee at spwrc@suddenlink.net

“Wildlife Ambassadors” deliver their message

Operations Manager Kristen Shimek, Education Coordinator Gail Barnes and other volunteers were on the move during April and May, presenting education outreach programs for the Wildlife Center.

In April, they presented two Playa Lake Festival programs in Nazareth and Amarillo, Texas, including filming for a PBS special. Gail also took our wildlife ambassadors to other



Kristen Shimek, Gail Barnes, Alexis Coleman and Sean Durrett at “Ranch Day” on campus

Lubbock programs at Ventura Place, Roscoe Wilson Elementary, and the Ranching Heritage Day celebration April 30th on campus at Texas Tech University.

The Wildlife Center was invited to join the National Ranching Heritage Center’s 41st annual Ranch Day, and this year’s theme was “Building the West.” Guests got a glimpse into what goes into building and maintaining historic structures, like the ones at the Ranching Heritage Center on campus. A family affair, there were food samples, demonstrations and other activities, all reflective of ranching from the 1780’s to present day.



“Empress”
Our Peregrine Falcon

May 7th was “Dino Day” at the Texas Tech Museum. The event featured dinosaur-themed activities and hands on activities. Seven of SPWRC’s raptors were on hand, and paleontologist Bill Muller spoke about birds and their dinosaur descendants.

The May 8th Lubbock Avalanche Journal article said, “Dino Day was a chance for the museum to showcase its vast collection of prehistoric fossils from around the region.”

Gail also presented nine programs during a three day period at Lubbock Lake Landmark, and two days spotlighting our winged residents. Gail announced she also joined the South Plains Educational Resource Collaborative, an educator networking group.

Last but by no means least, Gail also traveled to Hale Center, Texas, for a program there.



“Jasper,” our Common Barn owl



Gail Barnes and
“Jasper,” our Barn owl



“Shadow”
Our Barred Owl

All photos on this page were taken by Jennifer Gill, “West Texas Times Photography” and were used with permission

Lots of activity during the summer months

Immature Golden Eagle admitted in March



Immature Golden Eagle

The Golden Eagle was admitted March 24th, 2011, from Dalhart, Texas, about 186 miles northwest of Lubbock. Permittee Linda Durante picked up the eagle from the Texas Parks and Wildlife game warden and brought him to SPWRC.

The bird is immature, weighing in at seven pounds and still has some white plumage. Dr. Lubenau X-rayed the bird and discovered a soft tissue injury of the left wing.

He was started on two medications, but an abscess developed and it had to be cleaned and sutured.

Most of the primary feathers on the bird's left side are damaged and he must go through a molt to see if he'll be able to fly.

When he was moved to the outdoor flight cage, volunteers noted the bird had limited or no vision in the left eye, because he couldn't detect movement from that side. This may be due to head trauma, and will continue to be evaluated.

If the eagle is not releasable, we will consider requesting state and federal permission to retain him for educational purposes. A lot of criteria are considered before this type of decision is made.

It's been several years since we had a Golden Eagle on our Possession Permit, the last having died as a result of infection.



Sharp-shinned Hawk

This Sharp-shinned hawk photo was taken by my daughter, Kim Davies, in Cedar Park, Texas as it enjoyed a meal in their back yard. Copper's Hawks and "Sharpies" may be found patrolling bird feeders in our area.

While no one likes to witness one of "their" feeder birds being singled out, hawks and owls and other raptors are a vital part of our ecosystem.

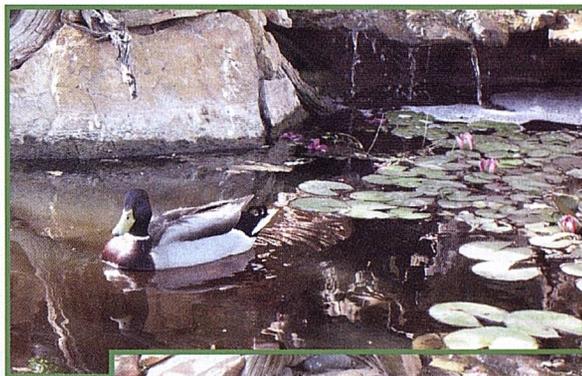
For the past six years, a pair of Mallard Ducks magically appear in May, and make themselves at home on our outdoor pond. Mom finds a spot behind the shrubs to build a nest and lay and incubate her eggs. Dad disappears but always returns when his little ones make their appearance. They seldom stay more than a day, but the family waddles off.. We all keep our fingers crossed that good luck will shine on them!



Adult Male Painted Bunting

This beautiful male Painted Bunting was admitted from Crosby County for a few days of care.

The person who brought him was kind enough to return and take him back to where he was found when he was fully recovered.



Baby Birds 101

Find a baby Bird? What you need to know!



House finch nestlings, plus two others who like to play “musical nests”

ground hopping about, learning the ropes of day-to-day survival from one or both parents. A normal, healthy songbird should be active and bright-eyed and if you approach, it should run or flutter away. If mom is nearby, she may buzz you to tell you to stay away. Youngsters look like the parents but without the long tail feathers – those feathers continue to grow after fledging (leaving the nest). Once fledglings leave the nest they don't return. It's completely normal for a youngster to spend an average of several days on the ground perfecting its flying skills. Parents continue to feed their offspring and teach them to avoid predators, find their natural foods, seek shelter in bad weather and locate places to roost at night. **This is the most critical time in a youngster's development as they learn vital survival skills. Bringing a healthy bird to a wildlife rehabilitator during this period actually sets it back, and sometimes stress associated with capture and transport may even result in death.**

Day by day, young birds are able to fly better and higher, but unfortunately, this is when they also run into the most trouble. Predators – dogs, roaming cats and larger birds – find young fledges easy targets during this vulnerable period, but well-meaning people also take a toll on fledglings.

Many normal, healthy juveniles are brought into the Center every day - birds that shouldn't have been picked up in the first place. Some birds build nests on the ground like ducks, killdeer, and others and they're virtually independent some hours after birth. Leave them alone unless injured.

Occasionally youngsters tumble from the nest during storms and they birds should always be warmed in tissues and brought to the Center as quickly as possible. It's almost impossible to return a bird to the nest because it's often too high. I don't advocate using an artificial nest placed near the real nest because without a parent to keep a baby warm, it won't survive for long.

It's not true that if you touch a baby bird the adults will abandon it, but you can gently pick up a youngster that's in harm's way; if it's in the street or in a backyard patrolled by a dog, move it to a safer yard nearby - under a shady shrub, or somewhere that offers protection from predators or the elements.

Bird parents recognize their offspring the same way humans do, by sight and sound. A relocated youngster will call for food, and mom or dad will respond accordingly. You might not always see the parents, but they may have several fledglings going in all directions. Chances are excellent they're nearby.

Healthy youngsters rarely have parasites but if a debilitated bird is on the ground for a period of time, it may attract tiny bird lice or ants. These casualties need help immediately. Don disposable gloves, place the patient in a tissue lined box and transport it promptly to the Center. When a rescue is necessary, never feed or give water to a bird casualty unless you've talked with a volunteer about any extenuating circumstances. Songbirds have species-specific diets and require proper nutrition. Stress and malnutrition are the biggest killers of baby birds. Youngsters must be fed about every half-hour during daylight hours, so always bring them to us promptly. We're in attendance during daylight hours.

Baby songbird season is in full swing. A few guidelines will help you decide what to do if you find an orphaned, injured or displaced wild songbird. Rarely is a bird a true orphan. So many calls to SPWRC start with: "I have a baby bird in my yard, and it can't fly." We ask, "Is the bird unable to fly because it's too young — or is it injured?" Big difference!

- Bring a bird to us if it's cold, wet, bleeding, has a lame leg or injured wing. A bird that's been in a cat's mouth should be brought in immediately for treatment with antibiotics.
- Keep any casualty warm, dark and quiet, and never allow children to handle fragile, frightened youngsters.
- Time is of the essence – transport ASAP in a shoebox/small box lined with tissues.
- Do not feed. Call a volunteer if you live a distance away for advice. **NEVER** give bread or milk to any wild bird (or mammal)!

Dozens of healthy birds are now on the



Blue Jay Fledge

Memorials

Pam Taylor and Jim McDuff of Ralls, Texas, made a Memorial donation in the name of Bonner Bennett. His wife, Sandra Bennett of Lubbock, was notified of their kindness.

Susie and Doug Moore of Lubbock sent a Memorial gift for "Tuffie," beloved dog of Susie Williamson.

Susan Combest and Mark Decker also gave a Memorial donation for Susie's pet "Tuffie."

Susie Williamson sent a Memorial for "Mavrick," pet of Tanner, Sandra and Tony Hester.

Susie Williamson also made a Memorial donation in the name of Holly Schuster. Linda Greenstreet and family of Lubbock were notified.

Susie Williamson and Ruben Castillo made a Memorial donation in the name of Bobby Nell Moore. Their gift was acknowledged to Dr. and Mrs. Van Moore and family.

Dr. and Mrs. Van Moore made a memorial contribution in the name of Mr. Bill Glenn, father of Susie Williamson, and also her pet, "Tuffie." Susie was notified of their kindness.

Sympathy to Barbara and T.D. Birge of Shallowater, TX on the loss of their beautiful cat, "Sugar," who passed away suddenly in March.

We were also saddened to learn of the sudden death of Bob Lindsay, on April 25th. Bob was the Executive Director of Wild Bird Rescue in Wichita Falls, TX since 2005.

Intern Samantha Featherstone

Samantha Featherstone was an Intern at SPWRC from fall 2010-through spring 2011. Now she's a volunteer with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from Texas Tech University. Presently she's getting her Masters in Agriculture Studies.

"Sam" is from a family of five being the youngest of three daughters born in San Antonio, Texas. She shares her home with a Boxer named "Jax" who has been by her side since high school, and two rescue kitties "Apple" and "Ziggy" from Lubbock's Humane Society. She also loves spending time with her niece and nephew when she goes home to visit.

Samantha had a love for animals growing up and always wanted to help them when they were in need. In High School she was a part



Samantha Featherstone

of FFA all four years raising goats. In summer 2010, she was a volunteer at San Antonio Zoo, "an experience she will never forget." She's not sure what job opportunity awaits her after she finishes school, but her goal is a job that focuses on public education or conservation.

When she's not studying or doing homework, she likes to bicycle. She enjoys the company of her three domesticated roommates. On weekends she likes to spend time with friends venturing off to neighboring places to go hiking or just exploring. She visits home as often as she can to relax on holidays and catch up with family and friends.

Sam says the best part of SPWRC is the hands-on animal care and helping visitors - especially the next generation - understand wildlife. She likes the knowledge that surrounds her every day learning about new animals and talking with her co-volunteers and visitors - an experience that's sure to help her in the future.

Yard Sale: Mark Your Calendar!

June 25th, 2011 - 11M - 2 PM We're having yard Sale in the front lot of SPWRC at 95th and Indiana. Parking adjacent at Indiana Baptist Church. Call Christa at 791-7722 to arrange a time to deliver your items. We'll accept clothing books, toys, household items, baby items and so on. All proceeds will benefit the wildlife in our care.

Commemorative Brick Walkway Update

Twelve new commemorative bricks will be engraved and laid in time for our June 18th Open House, including two that were inadvertently omitted last time for Mary and John Gillas and Marla Carver. The brick pathway is in front of the outdoor amphitheater on the Center's grounds, and is composed of individual bricks inscribed with names, personal messages, or memorable quotes. This is a wonderful way to support SPWRC while honoring a family member, friend or favorite pet. Each commemorative or memorial brick along the walk is available for purchase and will be inscribed according to your wishes. The 4"x 8" size accommodates up to 3 lines with a maximum of 15 characters per line.

The walkway was started in 2008, and is ongoing until all bricks are sold. Visit our web site at spwrc.org and click on "Order a paving brick" on the left side. You can print and mail the instructions for your brick or bricks.

NEWS and NOTES

Thanks to the help of Peggy Dennis and staff at Dennis Brothers Printers, we created a new look for our letterhead, envelopes and postcards that will be used when our previous supply is exhausted.

"Bubo" our educational Great Horned Owl gives our printed materials a new look.

Fill the Nest!

June 11th, 2011 - "Fill the Nest" with needed supplies for summer. Outside at United's Market Street from 11 AM - 2 PM at 50th and Indiana. (This quarterly issue may not yet be back from the printer by this date). However, anyone can visit our WISH LIST on the web site at spwrc.org and donate any of those always-needed items! Open House guests may also bring an item in lieu of the \$1.00 donation for admission on June 18th.

Adopting a "Wildlife Ambassador" helps pay for its annual care

PERCY, RIGHT \$50
AMERICAN
WHITE PELICAN



TOENAILS, CENTER \$45
SWAINSON'S HAWK



EMPRESS, RIGHT \$40

PEREGRINE FALCON



BUBO 2, RIGHT \$45
GREAT HORNED OWL



GRACIE, RIGHT \$50
GRAY FOX



BOBBY, FAR RIGHT \$50
BOBCAT

JASPER, FAR RIGHT \$45
COMMON BARN OWL

FARLEY, RIGHT \$35
BURROWING OWL



MISS HOARY, RIGHT \$40
HOARY BAT



FESTUS, FAR RIGHT \$30
TURKEY VULTURE



SHADOW, RIGHT \$45
BARRED OWL



ATHENA, RIGHT \$25
EASTERN
SCREECH OWL



MADDIE, FAR RIGHT \$35
AMERICAN KESTREL

VINCENT, FAR RIGHT \$30
CHIHUAHUAN RAVEN

YOUR NAME _____

ORGANIZATION OR GROUP _____

ADDRESS _____

Total amount enclosed _____

Membership amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____

Amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____

Membership levels: ◆ Millennium Member \$5000 ◆ Life Member \$1000 ◆ Benefactor \$500 ◆ Patron \$100 ◆ Supporting Member \$50 ◆

Gift Gift in memory of _____

Gift Gift in memory of _____

Membership amount \$ _____

Membership amount \$ _____

Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Please acknowledge to (Name) _____

Please acknowledge to (Name) _____

Acknowledgements

Thanks to everyone who helps support our efforts. We appreciate every penny, and with donor contributions, we can continue to help injured, displaced, ill and orphaned wildlife.

Our Keystone Donors

In architecture, a keystone is the central stone at the summit of an arch, locking everything together. Pennsylvania, my home state, is nicknamed, "The Keystone State." In biology, keystone species are species like Prairie Dogs on which other species count on to make their living, and on which an ecosystem depends upon for its lifeblood.

Our Keystone Donors are those people that take time every month to send us a donation on which others depend. Below are our donors who presently offer the Wildlife Center a sustained financial commitment to our cause of helping wildlife:

Carre Avian
Karen Bosscher
AJ and Cindy Burkes
Becky and Jason Cooper
Ms. Terry Hooper
Albert Johnson, Wichita Falls, TX
Joyce Komkov
Katricea Lampley, Seminole, TX
Rob Lee
Joyce Lisenby
Dave Melton
Tom McLaughlin
William and Deanna Schwartze

\$4000.00

Lubbock Area Foundation (Ruth Wright Endowment)

\$500.00

Margaret Gates, Artesia, NM

\$200.00

Terry Hooper

\$75.00 - \$100.00

Jimmy Bragg
Janie and Sonny Flores
L. Michele Moore
Ann Murphy
Roy Rettig and Alice Portnoy
Lyle and J. Field Scovell

\$30.00- 50.00

Judith Abernathy
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Dr. Susan Bergeson and Jim Bertrand
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Mrs. Ona B. Reed, Gainesville, TX
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Judy and William Walton
Kassi Westerman
Fred and Dr. Cheryl Weber
Nell and Carlton Whitehead

\$25.00

Justin Benton, Anton, TX
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\$20.00, continued

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Rusty Swan
Toni Thiel, Idalou, TX
Judy Walton
Katrina Walker
Lori Wilhite
Greg Williams
Mikella Windom

Thank you for Supplies

A big thank you to Floyd and Clarice Robertson for the donation of a Kodak digital camera with 4 MB Memory card. Floyd and Clarice also brought other supplies.

Special thanks also to Doris Fletcher for donating an upright freezer, and LaCretia Payne for donating a microwave.

Thanks also to the following for needed supplies: Pat Christensen; James Cokendolpher; Willie Haragan; Lisa Harris and Casey St. Charnez (Santa Fe, NM); Bebe and Art McCasland (Big Spring, TX); Ruth Howell; Jae Kubica; Candice Matthews; Kathy Puckett; Susan Radle; Troy and Shirley Revert; William Van Pelt, (Washington, D.C.).

The Mockingbird Chronicles

Newsletter of South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

c/o SPWRC, Inc.
3308 95th Street
Lubbock, TX 79423

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See our water lillies in bloom during
Open House June 18th



Here are the
same two
Red-tailed
Hawks
pictured on
our front
cover.

They arrived
as chicks,
grew rapidly,
and are
pictured here
weeks later as
juvenile
hawks.

