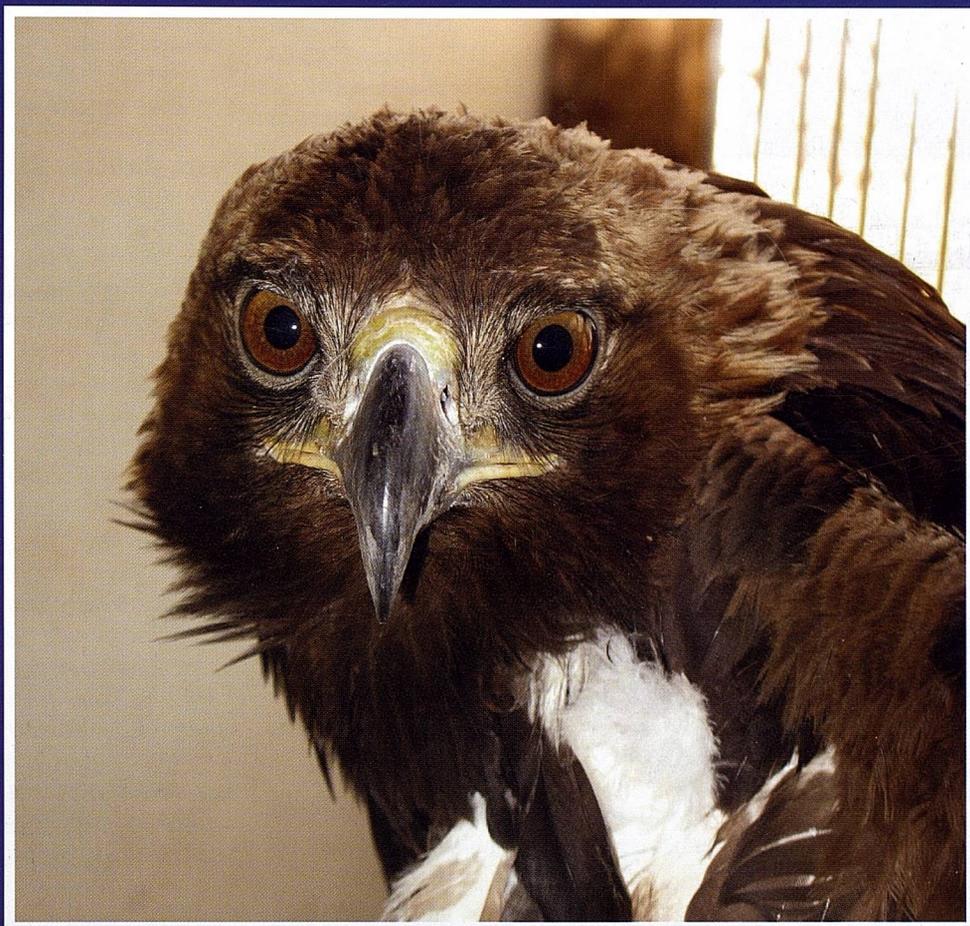


The Mockingbird Chronicles



Newsletter of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

Number 3/ 2011



Inside:

Read about "Atlas" the Golden Eagle
Meet our newest Board Member
Thank you Fraternal Order of Eagles
Sponsor one of our "Wildlife Ambassadors"

Letter from the Executive Administrator



Busy, Busy, Busy! That would be the best way to describe the last few months at the Wildlife Center. This time of year is usually hectic

and demanding anyway because it's baby season, but this spring and summer we've had a higher number of wildlife patients including higher numbers than usual of deer fawns, Mississippi Kites and some other species.

This has been an extremely hard summer on wildlife due to the prolonged drought and hot weather in our area.

Many of the animals we admit are chicks or mammal babies that are abandoned by their parents due to lack of ample food and/or water. They arrive dehydrated, hungry, weakened and often emaciated. A rise in our animal census means an increased workload, higher food and utility costs and all the other associated expenses to contend with to keep things running smoothly and our doors open.

SPWRC volunteers worked over 600 hours the past few months to accomplish the endless journey of taking care of wildlife that so desperately needs our help to survive.

We appreciate everything our volunteers do, and it's great to see the wonderful smiles on their faces at the end of a hard day when they're tired. They continue to return and create an amazing environment for the wildlife here.

On the lighter side, we had a lot of publicity these last few months, which brought NBC News to the Wildlife Center. What an experience for SPWRC to be on NBC's National 'Nightly News.' The reporter interviewed Founder Carol Lee and lead volunteer Gail Barnes and documented on film the many deer fawns, reported about the ongoing drought and how it affects wildlife here on the Texas

South Plains.

We received a grant of \$1000 from the Fraternal Order of Eagles Grand Aerie. We appreciate this generous donation, and it's being put to great use for food and care for the Golden Eagle who has been in our care the past few months.

On the local front, we had some wonderful children who decided to give instead of receive for their birthday; a Vet-tech intern, Dana Ross, who came back after seventeen years to do an externship with us, wildlife orphans and casualties released back to their natural wild habitats, our annual summer Open House, and "Fill the Nest" event.

On a personal note, I'd like to say, "I could not have asked for a better place to be!" I appreciate all the extra time and effort everyone has put in towards making me feel welcome. I look forward to working with all of you and helping to make Carol's dreams for the Center become a reality."

Christa Threet

Save the Dates!

Please join us for our annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 17th, 2011, between 11 AM and 2 PM.

Take a day off from shopping and see some of our native wildlife species.

We'll have Christmas cards for sale as well as our "Give a Hoot" tee shirts.

There will be festive refreshments and photography is welcome.

Your Information

We ask for your e-mail address when you bring an animal or contribute supplies and fill out a slip in our animal drop off building. Your information is never shared, and is used to enter into our state and federal records or to thank donors.

An e-thank you saves time, stationery and postage, and donations of \$20.00 or more will be acknowledged in the upcoming quarterly newsletter. Our mailing list is not shared with any other organization or person.

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.

Founder	Carol Lee
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. Christa's cell phone is 806 577-2071.

Front Cover:
"Atlas" the Golden Eagle,
our newest "Ambassador"

Letter from the Founder



Carol Lee

Summer is my least favorite season, and the summer of 2011 was

no exception. Negligible rain and high temperatures brought us more admissions than usual and everyone is glad to see fall and cooler weather approach.

Over the past three months I raised a few Blue Jays and did things I'd been neglecting. While I presently have more free time than I've had for over two decades, I'm still actively involved with the Wildlife Center on an almost daily basis. This will be true until my 'batteries give out,' hopefully at some distant time in the future. Even though I'm officially "retired" from day-to-day clerical work and many other activities, I'll continue to put together our quarterly newsletter. This is our conduit to the public - our donors and readers - since 1995. I'll also continue to serve on our Board of Directors. I wasn't a Board Member for a number of years when I served as Executive Director, and didn't have voting privileges, believing it to be a conflict of interest. Now, however, I'm a voting member, and will help direct the future direction of SPWRC as we approach our twenty-fifth year of operation, coming up in 2013.

Meanwhile, my replacement, Executive Administrator Christa Threet, continues to learn the ropes and both of us want to know if there is anything that is incorrect in this or any future newsletter, including if a name or donation is inadvertently omitted or misspelled or if something is misstated. Now it's a little trickier for me since I'm no longer the person entering names and data.

During this quarter we had many new, first-time donors, and we're so appreciative that the local and national publicity we received brought food for our many deer fawns, and a lot of monetary help to buy food and supplies for the many wildlife orphans and

casualties that needed our help over the past few months.

I believe we must continue to deliver 'news' and goings on at SPWRC, so donors have a clear idea of where their funds are going and what donations are being used for.

During the last few months our utility bills were much higher than usual, as were our costs for animal food and supplies. Our volunteers and staff worked tirelessly, and I appreciate everyone who gave so freely of their time and talents.

Our December (Holiday) newsletter will go to the printer as close to December 1 as possible so it will be distributed prior to Christmas.

It's a great time to order a paving brick (see Commemorative Brick Walkway p. 11). Get your orders in now and as soon as we have a total of 12, the bricks will be engraved and laid, hopefully by our Christmas Open House December 17th. You can honor or remember a family member, friend or pet, or sponsor/adopt an animal as a gift for someone who loves wildlife.

SPWRC is an IRS recognized 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and your donations are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Carol

Until next time.....

Nature is not benevolent; Nature is just, gives pound for pound, measure for measure, makes no exceptions, never tempers her decrees with mercy or winks at any infringement of her laws.

John Burroughs (1837-1921)
American Naturalist and Writer

If you have (any size) playpen(s) that you no longer use, we'll happily take them off your hands. They're used for ducklings, raptor chicks, and many other species.

Our animal drop-off building is open 24 hours a day and supplies can be left there as well. Please leave your name so we can thank you for your contributions.

Meet our newest Board Member, Sheila Johnson

Sheila Johnson started volunteering at the Wildlife Center in April, 2007.

Her love of rescuing and placing domestic animals and her interest in learning about wildlife brought her to SPWRC.

Sheila has been involved in animal rescue for the past 25 years.



Sheila Johnson

She started helping us get ready for one of our Open House events, held every June and again a week or so before Christmas. Soon, she was the hostess for the refreshment area. She had a knack for decorating and also getting a lot of food and beverages donated for the occasion. She says, "My slot (as hostess) is still uncontested."

Sheila worked in the business office of a small surgery center for many years.

She enjoys helping with the flood of baby mammals during spring and summer, especially the fawns. Her husband, Barry Johnson, also a volunteer, plays a major role in their raising, rehabilitation and ultimate release.

At home Sheila enjoys the company of her four Shih Tzu dogs, "Chance," "Abbie," "Junior" and "Mason."

Sheila was appointed to the Board of Directors at our July meeting, and we welcome her talents and enthusiasm!

Did you know?

Our newsletter goes to donors in Texas plus thirteen other states and Washington, D.C.

Extern Spotlight

by Christa Threet

Dana Ross was born in Muleshoe, Texas and attended Texas Tech, graduating with a B.S. in Food Science. She later relocated to Idaho to attend the College of Southern Idaho and enrolled in their Veterinary Technology program.



Dana Ross

Dana emailed us months ago to inquire whether she could do her required number of hours as an "extern" at SPWRC. No stranger to the Center, she volunteered with us 17 years ago. The externship was her last hurdle to accomplish before graduation. She was happy to be back, and when asked why she chose Lubbock, Dana replied, "I wanted more diversity in my knowledge, and thought SPWRC was the place for me to accomplish that goal." Dana liked the daily challenges she faced and said, "Wildlife comes into the Center in need of medical treatment for various reasons from illness to injury." She won't miss the hot temperatures of West Texas, but has enjoyed learning new things and meeting everyone who helps with our patients.

Dana's hobbies are skiing, mountain biking, hiking, and anything that takes her outdoors. She and her husband Terry, "Moose" her dog and "Kitty" her cat moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, where she is pursuing an internship position with Vancouver Marine Aquatics. Dana wants to work with aquatic/marine life, and says: "Hopefully, I will get to work with seals, which has been a dream of mine for as long as I can remember!" We were sad to see Dana leave, but we know she'll be a great asset to Vancouver and their marine life.

43rd Eagle Scout project completed over the summer



John Michael Frullo (pictured above on left) is an Eagle Scout with Scout Troop 157. He and a few fellow scouts replaced our water faucets with frost-proof water hydrants.

This was a most welcome project, because as soon as temperatures dip below freezing, water always had to be carried from indoors to all of our out-buildings.

Supplies were donated by Don Walker at Becknell Wholesale Company, and we thank Don and the company for their generosity.

John Michael is a senior at Lubbock High School. He plans to attend Rice University and aspires to be a doctor or engineer.

John's Scoutmaster is Brad Payne.

More generosity from our Junior Volunteers and their moms

Our wonderful Junior Volunteers donated (including the help of four moms), an astounding 778 volunteer hours! This program was started in 2003 after Carol Lee visited Lindsay Museum in Walnut Creek, California, where their JV program was thriving. Carol believed Gail Barnes was the perfect person to spearhead getting our own JV program started and it's been going strong ever since. The Juniors help with cleaning, laundry, dishes and other tasks. We appreciate the mothers who help supervise the young people each year, and special thanks to Gail.

Holiday Appeal

Holiday Appeals will again be mailed out during December.

We hope if you find one in your mailbox, you'll consider a tax-deductible donation to SPWRC. Founded in 1988, we've grown exponentially over the years.

Without our donors, we never would have lasted beyond five years. As soon as "baby season" ends in early fall, our donations drop off sharply. Every contribution, large and small, is sincerely appreciated.

Even though we're no longer raising babies, fall and winter brings injured hawks and owls...often first year birds who haven't perfected their hunting skills, or they run into trouble with vehicles, power lines, or inclement weather.

SPWRC is not funded by either of the regulatory agencies: Texas Parks & Wildlife or the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. We depend entirely on gifts, grants, fundraising or other special events, appeals, newsletter subscriptions, wildlife ambassador adoptions, education programs and Tributes. Our expenses are approximately \$6,000 per month. We also always need Keystone Donors (see page 10).



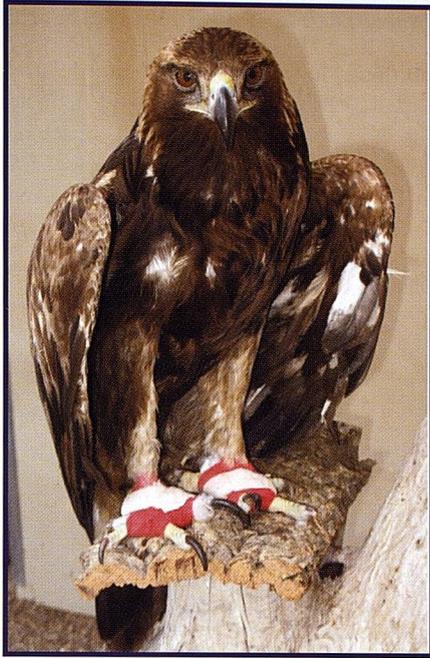
Education

Programs for June, July and August totaled twenty-three.

Volunteer Gail Barnes and her helpers presented programs at the Godeke, Groves and Patterson Libraries, Ranching Heritage Center, Summer Camp, Lubbock Lake Landmark Summer Camp, the Science Spectrum, Guadalupe Parkway Day Care, Covenant Day Care and Broad Horizons Learning Center.

Many more programs are already on the calendar for fall. Call Gail at 806 799-2142 to schedule a field trip to the Wildlife Center or other off-site program.

Thank you Fraternal Order of Eagles Grand Aerie



Golden Eagle "Atlas"

We're sincerely appreciative of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Grand Aerie in Clovis, New Mexico, for their generous gift of \$1,000 this summer. This was earmarked to help defray our food and veterinary costs for a young Golden Eagle who has been in our care since March. His injuries, following what was probably a vehicular collision, were extensive. As a result, he suffered a retinal detachment rendering him permanently blind in his left eye.

He's had a rough recovery, but finally seems to be permanently on the road to recovery. He developed a condition called bumblefoot, a disease affecting the bottom of the feet of birds of prey. It's caused by different types of bacteria and may result if the bird has sustained even a minor injury to the bottom of the foot and bacteria proliferates.

Sadly, this bird won't be releasable, but we believe we can provide a very good home for him in a spacious mew with volunteers who have his best interest at heart, along with caring veterinarians who also willingly make house calls when needed.

When we send in our state and federal records for 2011, we'll make a formal request to retain the eagle for education. SPWRC is allowed to care for both Golden and Bald Eagles, and we've had both species in the past.

We've named him "Atlas," a Greek word meaning "one who endures and suffers." Hopefully, all his suffering is now a thing of the past, and we hope he'll have a long, comfortable life with us. If he continues to thrive, he'll be available for sponsorship/adoption in our December issue.

Recovery of Bird Bands Provides Information on Birds' Travels

Over the years we've gleaned information on individual birds as a result of recovered bird bands that were placed on the legs of birds in locations other than Lubbock, or from birds banded at the Wildlife Center and retrieved elsewhere at a later time. Some researchers use the additional markers called auxiliary markers, to help them identify an individual bird at a distance. They're attached at the time of banding, and include neck bands or neck collars on geese and swans, nasal markers on ducks, dyes, colored plastic leg bands or wing markers on other bird species. Even though some birds' individual lives are short, we can nevertheless marvel at the distances many cover in only a short time. The first year of a bird's life is particularly difficult and mortality rates are very high.

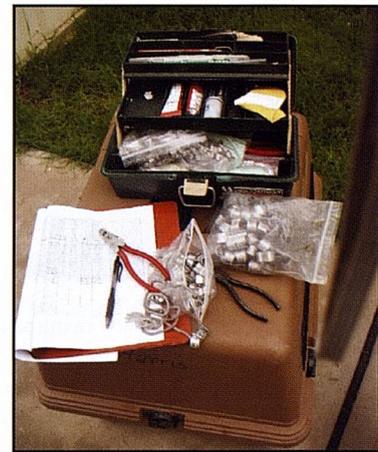
Bird-banding was first practiced in Europe, and was called "ringing."

The first known record of a metal band attached to a bird's leg was around 1595 when one of King Henry IV's banded Peregrine Falcons was lost pursuing a bustard (large game bird) in France. The falcon was found a day later in Malta, over 1300 miles away, averaging a speed of 56 mph.

This centuries-old practice of marking birds has become an invaluable tool to provide data about bird behavior, migration, movement and dispersal, longevity, populations, disease, wintering and nesting sites, as well as other components of bird life that often can't be acquired any other way.

Recovery of Bird Bands, continued

Ben Skipper has been banding our raptors for several years. Now in his last year at Texas Tech, he hopes to defend his dissertation in May, 2012. He works with Dr. Clint Boal, a federally permitted Master Bander, and professor at Texas Tech. Ben works with Mississippi Kites during the spring breeding season, and American Kestrels during the fall, winter and spring.



Bird Banding Equipment

Ben said, "We use kestrels to give undergraduates a chance to get some 'hands on experience,' but we're also documenting plumage differences in the individuals we capture."

Asked about plans after graduation, Ben said, "After graduation, I'm looking for a job with either a state or federal wildlife management agency somewhere in the Rockies. I'd like to work for a few years (15 or 20) and then try to retire to teach at a small, liberal arts college - with a preference for the Rockies again."

Here are the raptors Ben and his team (Becky Perkins and Brandi Welch) have banded thus far in 2011, a total of 52 raptors:

- 5 American kestrels
- 13 Barn owls
- 13 Great horned owls
- 7 Red-tailed hawks
- 1 Mississippi kite
- 1 Swainson's hawk
- 1 Red-shouldered hawk
- 1 Ferruginous hawk

Our Goal: Release



The first wild bird I ever raised and released was a northern Mockingbird in 1985. A delightful experience, I learned much from this early encounter. Luckily, I already had one book titled, "Wild Orphan Babies" by veterinarian William Weber. I followed his advice to the letter, and everything happened just as the author outlined. The first day, a young bird stays very close and comes back often for food – you call, and they respond. The next day, they may venture to a neighbor's tree, and extend time between handouts. The following day, there are even longer periods between visits, more exploring, foraging for natural foods and discovering the world around them. The mocky grew and thrived, and it was obvious when he was ready to go – he grew very restless. Once released, he returned to be brought back in at dusk for the first nine evenings, flying onto my head to spend the night indoors in the safety of his cage.

On the 10th night he "answered" from a neighbor's tree when we called to him, but didn't return to be brought indoors. He was free, once and for all. He stayed in the area for weeks, always responding to our familiar calls if he was close by.

Release of baby birds - and baby mammals - raised in captivity is always a gradual process, and back up feeding is provided as long as a youngster or youngsters return.

This ensures when they can't find enough food on their own, there's always a back-up plan - food. One of the hardest things for some released birds to learn is that you can't fly "up" to them – they have to figure out how to fly "down" to you...and every short flight from branch to branch is carefully thought out, because all this "flying" is so new.

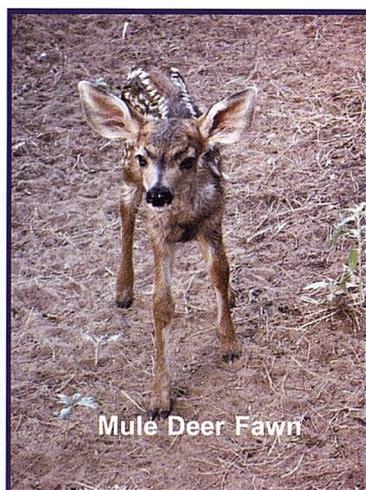
Birds mature much the same way humans do – they must reach a certain age of physical and physiological readiness before they start recognizing and picking up food from a dish, or, in the case of a young Blue Jay, taking a nut or seed and 'learning' to crack into and eat what's inside. The Jay in the three photos on this page is one of four I raised this summer, and the one pictured was released July 5th. He set a record: he was still coming back several times a day and allowing me to hand feed him bites food September 6th, the day the newsletter went to press, a full two months and one day later.

There are important criteria that must be met for release – bird feathers must be waterproof, so we mist them to encourage preening. They must be able to fly, see and hear well. Bird and mammal youngsters must get used to common outdoor noises like lawnmowers and traffic - and they must be able to recognize their natural food and predators. At some point as they "wild" off, predators include humans. To "tame" these animals raised in captivity and around humans is doing them a great disservice, and a mistake some wildlife rehabilitators make.

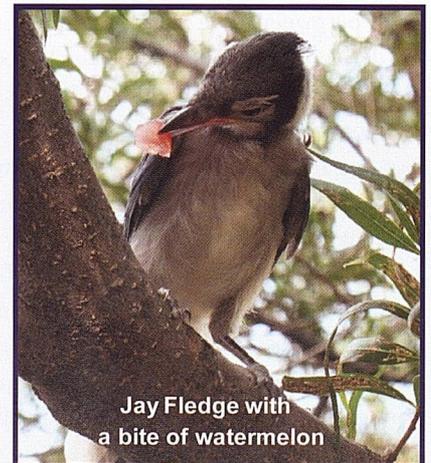
Jays are among the most interesting species to raise. Members of the "*Corvid*" family like crows and ravens, they're very smart, and it doesn't take long to learn to use their very versatile, specialized beaks to crack, poke, probe, hammer, pound, pry, scoop and stab to hide or open nuts or seeds, build nests or preen feathers.

We had a lot of fawns this season due to the drought. Mothers abandoned their young because they couldn't find ample food or produce enough milk to sustain offspring. Special thanks to volunteers Barry and Sheila Johnson for all

the TLC they provided and the extra mile they went to give care to fawns that arrived weak, injured, or emaciated. Fortunately, most of the fawns were given a second chance at life - and freedom, in large part to the efforts of the Johnsons....thank you!!



Mule Deer Fawn



Jay Fledge with
a bite of watermelon

Summer draws to a close

We'll miss "Cookie," our Kookaburra

"Cookie," our Australian Kookaburra, died in June, after spending nearly twenty years with us.

Found walking along Upland Avenue in Lubbock years ago, this bird was obviously someone's pet at one time.

A member of the kingfisher family, Kookaburras are known for their loud, laughing calls, and Cookie never disappointed us to let everyone know she was a member of our family at the Center.



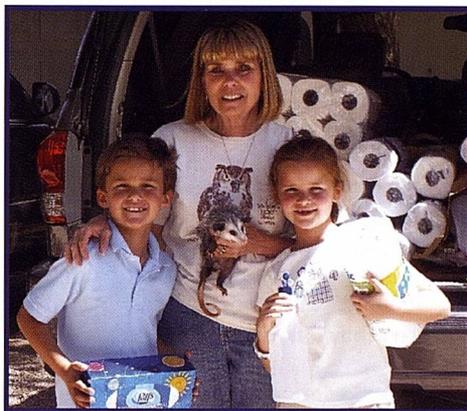
"Cookie"

Some very generous children!

In lieu of gifts, Cameron and Sarah Kate Rasty requested items from our Wish List for their 7th birthday party in May. They proudly brought their donated "presents" to the Center with their mom. Gail Barnes brought out our resident opossum, "Stitch," one of our new wildlife ambassadors, to meet the twins. Cameron and Sarah Kate attend Preston Smith Elementary.

Their parents, Jahan and Laura Rasty, are understandably very proud of their children! We are so appreciative of your generosity!

Some very generous Children, continued



Cameron and Sarah Kate Rasty (front and Gail Barnes rear) bringing a carload of needed supplies



Reagan Payne (pictured top row, 2nd from left) and friends celebrate her birthday

Reagan Payne recently celebrated her 12th birthday and for her "party" she requested donations from her friends to be given to the Wildlife Center.

She and her friends brought the items to the Center and had a tour of the facilities.

They brought paper towels, plastic wrap, Dawn dish detergent, Kleenex, bird seed, Purina Cat Chow, and \$7.00 cash.

Reagan attends Trinity Christian Schools and is the daughter of Traci and Donny Payne.

NEWS and NOTES

*On June 11th, we held a "Stuff the Nest" event at Market Street's United Grocery at 50th Street & Indiana Avenue.

The three hour event raised \$183.00 and collected many needed donations from our Wish List.

*On June 18th, our annual summer Open House was held between 11 AM and 2 PM. We raised \$1994.94 and had a great crowd of adults and children.

Thanks to Sheila Johnson for a great job securing donations for refreshments and providing guests with cold drinks and snacks. Thanks also to our staff, Board members and volunteers for helping make the event successful!

*A June 25th Yard Sale raised \$438.00. It was terribly hot, and this is probably something we won't be doing again.

*SPWRC received \$500.00 from Bebe McCasland for royalties on the sale of her book, "The Scoop from Bird Poop: 35 Years of Wild Bird Rescues." Some of the stories are about birds Bebe and her husband Art brought to SPWRC over the years. It's available at Amazon.com. We sincerely appreciate the generosity of the McCaslands to SPWRC. They reside in Big Spring, Texas.

"Molly Mo"

Read the touching story of "Molly Mo" a wild Mockingbird rescued by Helena Huskey of Amarillo.

The story appeared August 10th in the Amarillo Globe-News. You can watch a short video, read Helena's story about the mocky. The reporter says, "One tiny bird. One caring woman. One fateful moment." Visit <http://amarillo.com/news/2011-08-10/helping-molly-mo-take-flight#.TlrHg6ibI8Z> The link also has a short video clip from YouTube. Molly Mo was released from our Center, where she can return for back up feeding for as long as necessary.

Adoptions

Jennifer, Russell, and Sam Dabbs adopted "Bubo" our Great Horned Owl and "Jasper," our Common Barn Owl.

Marcie Hartman adopted, "Athena," our Eastern Screech Owl.

Tributes

An Anonymous Gift was made in the name of Dana Bear.

Gifts to Remember

Marilyn Caul and Thomas McClure gave a gift in Memory of their beloved 'fur family' "Punkin" and "Ruby."

Chris Adams of Lubbock also gave a donation in Memory of "Punkin" and "Ruby." Marilyn Caul and Thomas McClure were notified.

Gail and Larry Barnes of Lubbock also gave a Memorial in the name of "Punkin" and "Ruby." Marilyn Caul and Thomas McClure were also notified of their gift.

A-Way With Pets (Johnny and Sue Franklin) of Lubbock gave a gift in Memory of "Ruby," beloved cat of Marilyn Caul and Thomas McClure, who were notified of this kindness.

Mr. and Mrs. Benny Sides of Lubbock gave a Memorial donation in the name of Susan Fulton. Barbara Fulton of Houston, Texas, was notified of their donation.

Brenda and Ronald Wolfe of Lubbock gave a Memorial in the name of Asef Sorum. Roxanne Wolfe of Lubbock was notified of this contribution.

Mitzi Lehne, Lubbock, gave a Memorial in the name of Fern Schnatzsky, also of Lubbock, Texas.

Coye and Kurt McCleskey of Lubbock gave a Memorial in the name of De Rai Collins. Jack and Jamie Collins were notified of this gift.

Chris Adams of Lubbock made a contribution in Memory of "Annie." Roy and Mary Turner of Ransom Canyon, Texas, were notified of this gift.

Gifts to Remember, continued

Mrs. James Storey of Lubbock made a donation in Memory of Corey Campbell.

William Meadors of Lubbock also gave a contribution in Memory of Corey Campbell.

Roberta West of Post, TX, gave a donation in Memory of Twanya McCrary of Post, Texas.

Karen and Carmon McCain gave a donation in Memory of Nena and Larry Nix.

Brad Neu, Past President of LEAS, passes away recently

Lubbock High science teacher Bradley Neu died recently following a short battle with cancer.

Brad, 38, was a past president of our local Llano Estacado Audubon Society.

Earlier this year, Brad was named a recipient of the Beaumont Foundation's Newton Excellence in Education Award. He also won the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Award in 2002; Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching in 2003, Texas; Outstanding Science Educator Award in 2007 and the Texas Society of Professional Engineers Visioneer Award in 2008.

Brad taught physics, robotics and astronomy.

He attended Texas Tech and received a bachelor's degree in 1996, an MBA in 2001, master of science in 2002 and a master of education in 2008 from Lubbock Christian University.

Brad will certainly be missed by his many friends, colleagues and students.

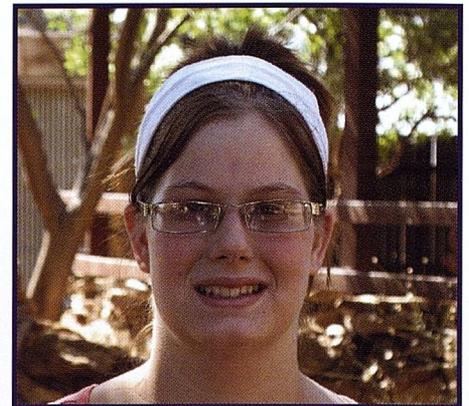
If your donation arrived after September 1st, it will be acknowledged in our December quarterly newsletter.

If your name or gift was inadvertently omitted, please notify Carol Lee at spwrc@suddenlink.net

Also, if the expiration date on your newsletter label is not current or correct, please let me know. There's lots of information to be dealt with during any transition, and the newsletter mailing labels are no exception.

Summer Intern Shelley Unrein

Shelley Unrein was born and raised in Lubbock Texas. She has a twin sister and an older sister who is 13 months older. Her parents are Beth and Randle Unrein and she was born in 1989. Shelley attends Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business since fall of 2007 and her major is Business Management.



Shelley Unrein

Her reason for choosing to do an Internship at SPWRC was because of her love of animals.

She says, "My goal now is to help spread the word about the Center and all the amazing things we do here for native wildlife." She'd like to help raise funds to help ensure that we'll be able to continue our relief efforts here. "This is so much more than an internship - it's part of me and a huge part of my life. This experience will help mold me into the person that I'll become. I've learned so much about business and how the real world of business works - this has helped me prepare for what the real world will offer me."

She says, "My hobbies include playing with my dogs and conure, spending time with family, reading, scrapbooking, and watching programs on the History and A&E TV channels."

Shelley helped raise funds by initiating a partnership with Chick-fil-A August 4th and the company donated a percentage of their proceeds during the days' sales to SPWRC.

Chick-fil-A donated \$24.00 to SPWRC thanks to Shelley's efforts.

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



BOBBY, FAR RIGHT \$50
BOBCAT

GRACIE, RIGHT \$50
GRAY FOX



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 ◆

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift in memory of _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift | <input type="checkbox"/> Gift in memory of _____ |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption of _____ | Amount \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 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

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:

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Thank you for supplies!

Special thanks to everyone who donated deer corn or funds to help in response to our pleas over the summer.

A PayPal donation was sent in for the fawns by Laura and Jeffrey Schultz from as far away as Westminster, Colorado.

A big thank you to Bebe and Art McCasland, Big Spring, TX, for beef heart for our raptors.

Another big thank you to Bill Van Pelt of Washington, D.C. for many office and other supplies.

More thanks to everyone else who helped us during this last quarter:

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Commemorative Brick Walkway

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. You can make checks payable to SPWRC, Inc.

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. Visit our web site at spwrc.org and click on the Paving Brick link.

The walkway was started in 2008, and is ongoing until all bricks are sold. You can print and mail the instructions for your brick or bricks. They'll be engraved and laid in lots of 12.

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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During the summer of 2010, eighteen White-tailed and Mule deer Fawns were admitted to the Wildlife Center. This is a much higher number than usual, primarily because of the drought, which took a toll on nearly every species of wildlife - especially those breeding during the hot, dry weather. Birds like Mississippi Kites, swifts, swallows, martins and others came up very short this year because there were so few insects around for food. Lots of publicity helped bring in food and funds. On July 20th, my daughter noticed a photo of our fawns that appeared in "Mail Online" - from the U.K.!

Thanks to the efforts of Barry and Sheila Johnson, of the eighteen fawns, all but three were successfully released.

Many area Mississippi Kite nests were abandoned, and a number of kite chicks we admitted would not have been ready to make the long migration to Central and South America. Permitted rehabilitator Linda Hufford of Cat Spring, Texas, 485 miles southeast of Lubbock, agreed to take our remaining kites.

At her location they had more rain and enough large insects so our kites may actually be able to make migration this season. We're indebted to Linda for the helping hand, and to Melissa Maleckar for driving them to a more southern site. Mississippi Kites are cold intolerant and difficult to "winter over."

We invest so much time, energy and money into giving our patients the best start possible, and always try to do whatever it takes to give them a second chance at life and freedom.

