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2014
no. 1

The Mockingbird Chronicles



Newsletter of the South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

Number 1/ 2014

*A great year ahead for South Plains
Wildlife Rehabilitation Center!*



If you find a baby bird or mammal this spring, see this
newsletter's back cover for helpful information to determine if you
should intervene - or not



Bayer CropScience is a proud sponsor of
"The Mockingbird Chronicles"

Letter from the Founder: The Nature of Our Work



Carol Lee

It's been quiet at the Wildlife Center the past quarter, but it won't stay that way long.

By the time this newsletter reaches mailboxes, we'll likely have a few baby mammals and perhaps even some early birds. The nature of our work is "feast or famine," and is the epitome of cyclical, because our workload fluctuates widely according to the seasons. It's almost boring after the last youngsters leave in late fall until the first of the spring babies arrive sometime in March. Only one baby duckling arrived toward the end of February. The pace will pick up quickly, though, and by June and July the hours will be long, and the duties never-ending.

Our part-time employee submitted her resignation effective March 13, 2014, as she prepares for graduate school at Texas Tech. Former Operations Manager Kristen Shimek has returned to Lubbock temporarily, and will fill in for several weeks. This affords us time to find a new part-time animal care person who will be a good fit for our organization.

My husband Rob went on a three-week road trip hiking, camping and sightseeing on his way to and from central California to visit his brother and three sisters, returning March 3rd. His travels took him through New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada.

Once he returns, his work is cut out for him: he'll decide on which architect will best represent us and our future expectations as we move forward with final plans so construction can begin on our new barn and new waterbird/waterfowl facility over the next months.

Read more on the following page about our short-term projects. Sadly, Eldon Bennett, our architect over the past few years, passed away suddenly December 7, 2013.

This year marks our 26th year of service, and we're very proud of our many achievements since 1988. We look forward to a bright future, growth, positive changes, and more decades of helping wildlife and serving the community.

We have *many* to thank for our success: our veterinarians, many volunteers, interns and two staff members, board members and advisors, local merchants and businesses, the media, and most of all, past and present grantors, and our invaluable donors far and near who believe in our two-fold Mission of wildlife rehabilitation and environmental education.

Carol



Bayer CropScience

**Bayer CropScience:
Proud Supporter of SPWRC**



A big thank you to John Frullo, Melissa Boone and the staff at Midtown Printing for doing a great job with our 2013 Holiday Appeal and quarterly newsletters!

Front Cover:

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
photo by Danny Hancock

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, grants, education programs, quarterly newsletter subscriptions, tributes, "wildlife ambassador" sponsorships and fundraising events. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent the law allows.

Founder	Carol Lee
Education Coordinator	Gail Barnes
Operations Manager	Daniel Andrews
Asst. Operations Mgr.	Vacant

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Rob Lee - Vice President
Carol Lee, Secretary
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Sheila Johnson

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Jeanette Lubenau, D.V.M.
Mr. Bill Van Pelt, Austin, TX.

Development Consultant Stacy Keith

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

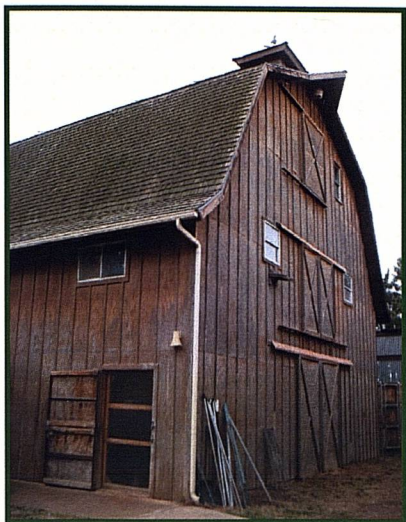
You can reach volunteer Gail Barnes or Operations Manager Daniel Andrews to schedule a program or community service work at (806) 799-2142.

SPWRC can be reached by e-mail: spwrc 2@yahoo.com

Founder Carol Lee can be reached at spwrc@suddenlink.net

Learn more at our website: www.spwrc.org and follow us on Facebook.

Two New Construction Projects to begin soon at SPWRC



Our 27 year-old wooden barn will soon get a complete facelift

Soon, work will begin on major modifications of our three story wooden barn. It will get a complete facelift and become a new, safe, multi-function animal care facility. A grant from the J.T. and Margaret Talkington Foundation makes this much-needed project possible, and we hope to get started shortly. The architect Rob Lee worked with for several years, Eldon Bennett, passed away suddenly in December, so Rob is hoping to make a final decision on another architect very soon, and we can pick up where Eldon left off.

This is our cornerstone project that will begin a new phase of development for SPWRC. We'll have updates in our June issue when things will be underway, making our dream a reality!

For our first 19 years we made major improvements to the property, including replacing an old tin livestock barn with a modern work building where virtually all patient care took place; replacing a dilapidated outdoor aviary with a new one, adding "ambassador row" to house our raptors used in education; modifying a stucco out-building and transforming it into a facility where we raise hundreds of baby birds. There they can be housed

separately from baby mammals and later moved to our outdoor aviary prior to eventual release. Funds for this project were from the Dora Roberts Foundation in Big Spring, Texas.

In 2003, we added a 24 x 55 x 16 foot high outdoor flight cage. The following year we constructed a large pond and built an outdoor amphitheater adjacent to it, where outdoor programs can be presented year round as weather permits.

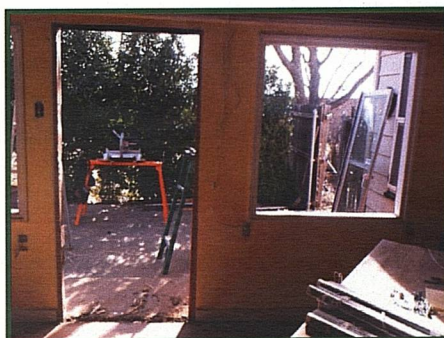
At the end of 2013, funds from South Plains Foundation allowed us to fully complete the amphitheater, adding electrical outlets, overhead lights and fans, as well as lights for adjacent walkways.

Their funds also allowed us to do some needed renovations to secure the back of the house on the property. The outside wall, door and windows were replaced, and a window air conditioning unit was installed.

We also received a very generous gift of \$40,000 from an anonymous donor, and this is earmarked to construct a climate-controlled water bird/waterfowl facility.

This will include a water feature, pens that can be used for overwintering, plus a recovery, conditioning, and flight area. It will also provide a secure year-round area for "Percy," our resident pelican.

This facility will also be underway as plans unfold and construction commences.



The rear of the house also got a facelift, with a new outer wall. A window AC unit was also added



New door and windows installed on the exterior of the house - this work is now all complete

Finally, our Keystone project will get underway, hopefully within the next 5 years, or much sooner if funds allow.

A new facility will replace the house (now over 65 years old) and will be used for administration, education, patient admissions and a critical care area.

Our incubators will be here, and eventually visitors can walk down a hall and see baby animals being fed and cared for behind the glass—like a hospital's newborn nursery.

This will allow us to shift our paradigm from limiting public visiting to encouraging and embracing it.

All these components comprise a much anticipated dream, and although we never expected to see it all come together and reach completion, we've always dreamed big.

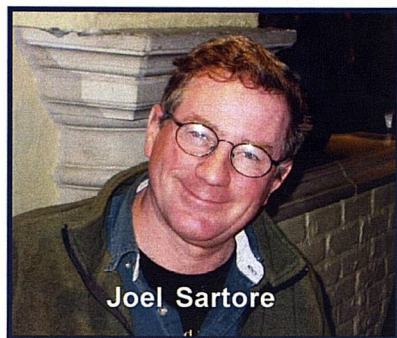
Perhaps now our visions for the future will soon become a reality - with the help of generous donors and Foundations.



Barn Raising

We're not having our customary spring "Night on the Wild Side" fundraiser at a local winery this year, but we do hope to plan an event to commemorate a "Barn Raising" on site after work gets underway shortly. If this is something you'd like to help plan or execute, we'd love to have a chairperson!

National Geographic Photojournalist visits in January



Joel Sartore

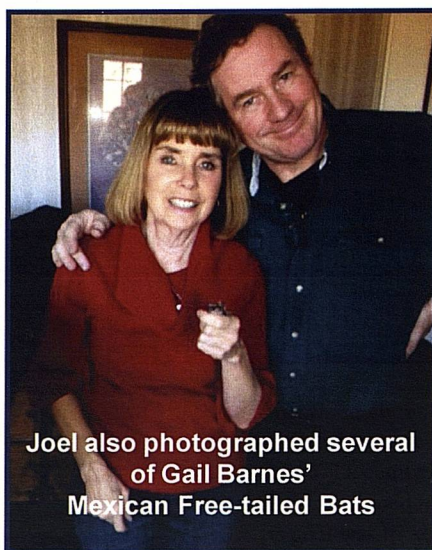
National Geographic magazine freelance photographer Joel Sartore visited Lubbock for a brief - but most enjoyable - visit in early January. A contributor to *National Geographic* for the past twenty years, Joel has been on assignments around the world and on every continent. He has also been a contributor to *Audubon*, *Time*, *Life* and other publications.

We were delighted to be hosts to Joel and his son Cole, show them around the Wildlife Center, and watch as Joel set up his equipment to photograph several of our songbirds. He also visited volunteer Gail Barnes to photograph her Mexican Free-tailed Bats.

Joel created the "Photo Ark," the photographic goal of which is to "document

date, with more to come." Whether you love big cats, reptiles, raptors, fish or insects, see dozens of his beautiful photos at <http://www.joelsartore.com/galleries/the-photo-ark/>. Read why Joel started the Photo Ark, and why he concentrates on a "studio portrait" technique for his photography.

On December 29, 2013, Joel appeared on



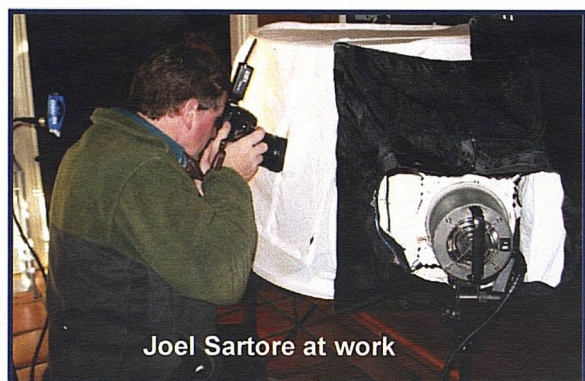
Joel also photographed several
of Gail Barnes'
Mexican Free-tailed Bats

the CBS Sunday Morning show and talked about the success of the Endangered Species Act, which turned 40 December 28, 1973, when it was signed into law.

Its goal was to keep species from becoming extinct. The California Condor, Whooping Crane and others were already in jeopardy, and since that time the Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon have flown off that list. Joel's CBS video clip is also online at <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-endangered-species-act-turns-40/>

We were delighted to have Joel share some time with us in Lubbock. Special thanks to Dr.

Jill Hoffman from the Texas Tech Museum for her assistance during the morning photo shoot. (See an additional article on page 7).



Joel Sartore at work

biodiversity, show what's at stake and get people to care while there's still time. More than 3200 species have been photographed to

Civil Restitution Award Given to SPWRC

In August, 2012, SPWRC received a call from an Environmental Scientist at Phillips 66 refinery in Borger, Texas. They needed our help with migratory waterfowl that were landing on their 22-acre brine tank. Once the birds were brought in to the Wildlife Center we realized the magnitude of the problem. The brine tank was the only body of water in the Borger area due to the drought. Phillips 66 self-reported the problem and immediately began implementing hazing efforts to attempt to keep the birds off the pond. Most of the birds were dying due to extended exposure to brine and the time before treatment could be implemented.

Volunteer Gail Barnes talked with the Federal Game Warden about setting up an emergency treatment center in Borger to triage and treat affected birds. Gail's first trip to Borger, Texas, in December 2012 was to implement an emergency treatment center.

Phillips 66 was very receptive to the idea and converted a building to a treatment facility for birds. There, birds could be washed and dried, and then released to another location. Training was done with personnel and contractors on identifying and handling the migratory birds. With the treatment center in place, most of the rehabilitation is now done in Borger, saving many migratory birds. Gail returned to Borger to inspect the emergency treatment center and do additional training for new staff and contractors.

As a result of our actions and Borger's self-imposed sanctions, SPWRC was awarded a \$200,000 charitable donation. Borger will deploy the "Merlin Detect and Deter Bird-Control Radar System" and continue to maintain an on-site bird treatment center to triage injured birds. For more information and to see a copy of the press release visit

http://www.justice.gov/usao/txn/PressRelease/2013/NOV2013/nov27Borger_agreement.html

(Article by Gail Barnes).

Wildlife Center loses four wildlife ambassadors and other long-time residents

Several volunteers met February 21st to commemorate the lives of several of our wildlife ambassadors and/or longtime residents who passed away at the Wildlife Center.

Sadly, we lost four wildlife ambassadors since December 2013. "Gracie" our beautiful Gray Fox, was found dead in her den Christmas Day. Gracie was with us since July 1, 2004. In late 2013, she developed health problems, and our veterinarian diagnosed her with diabetes, so both her diet and blood glucose had to be carefully monitored and insulin administered twice daily. Gracie was loved, and will be missed by all of us. Also, "Napoleon," a Peregrine Falcon who was admitted a few weeks earlier, died the same day.

Bobby, our 21 year old Bobcat, had to be euthanized by our veterinarian January 6th, after learning he had a large tumor and fluid in his chest. His health was failing for several months prior, and he recently stopped eating, - even his favorite foods - and we knew, given his age, he was not going to get well. Bobby was found within Lubbock city limits near Lake Six by Animal Control officers in 1993; his mother had been hit by a car.

Other longtime residents passed away: "Cookie," our elderly Kookaburra, and two ducks, "Eileen" and "Wobbles," who were great surrogates for young ducklings, and also companions for "Percy" our pelican.

"Digger," our Burrowing Owl, and "Pipen," our Mississippi Kite ambassador also passed away over the past few months.

"Stitch" our Virginia Opossum died March 3rd, and was also a wonderful wildlife ambassador.

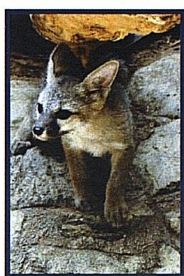


**"Bobby's"
Adoption Photo**



Intern Tyler Gonzales, Maggie Hancock, Carolyn Corley, Daniel Andrews, Gail Barnes and Larry Barnes

Their spirits will soar, as they traverse the "Rainbow Bridge" and live on in our hearts. (If you're unfamiliar with The Rainbow Bridge, it can be found at Rainbowbridge.com and rainbowbridge.com/Poem.htm).



We thank them one and all for their years of service as surrogates and wildlife ambassadors.

**"Gracie's Adoption
Photo**

Education Wrap-Up

Gail Barnes and other volunteers presented nine education programs since December: at Grace Home School (a bat program); a tour of SPWRC for a Texas Tech Publication Class; a program on turtles by Maggie Hancock at Northridge Elementary; a bat program at Lubbock Junior Academy and a raptor program for Holy Spirit Catholic Church Day Care.

There was also a tour for 86 students and adults February 21st from New Deal, TX, and a tour for the Texas Master Naturalist group.

A raptor program was also presented February 24th at the Merket Alumni Center on the Texas Tech campus for the Greater Southwest Rotary Club.

Adoptions

Dwight Overton adopted "Gracie," our beautiful Gray Fox, for Hutch and Adalyn Overton of Lubbock, TX

Dwight Overton also adopted "Farley," our Burrowing Owl, in the name of Calvin Overton, of Dallas, TX.

Amanda Godbee, Fort Worth, TX, adopted "Shadow," our beautiful Barred Owl.

Kathy Beach of Post, TX, adopted three of our wildlife ambassadors for her grandchildren: she adopted "Bobby" for Cullen Beach; she adopted "Gracie" for Leighton Beach and adopted "Miss Hoary" for Levi Beach. The children all live in Durango, CO.

Tom Hicks adopted "Jasper" for Jerry Thompson of Lubbock. This adoption for Jerry was in Memory of Lou Thompson.

Dorothy Hanesworth of Matador, TX, adopted our wonderful pelican "Percy" for her friend and bird lover Susanne Murphree of Houston, Texas, for her birthday.

Commemorative Bricks

Two Commemorative Bricks were purchased by Dwight Overton of Lubbock, and laid prior to our Holiday Open House in December. These were in Honor of Shawn and Jamie Overton and also Eric and Halie Overton.

This is a great way to support SPWRC while honoring or remembering a family member, friend or beloved pet. Visit our web site (www.spwrc.org). You can print and mail instructions for your brick or bricks. **Each brick can accommodate 3 lines and 15 characters per line, including spaces.**

New bricks will be inscribed and laid in our Commemorative Brick Walkway by our June Open House.

Want to Volunteer?

If you'd like to volunteer at the Wildlife Center, call Gail Barnes at (806)799-2142.

Click the "Volunteer" tab on our web site at spwrc.org and you'll find the volunteer Waiver and Application.

"It's not what you look at that matters. It's what you see."

Henry David Thoreau

Wildlife Showcase



**Sharp-shinned Hawk -
Master of Camouflage**

The Hawk who came to a dove dinner in my daughter's Back Yard in Cedar Park, Texas

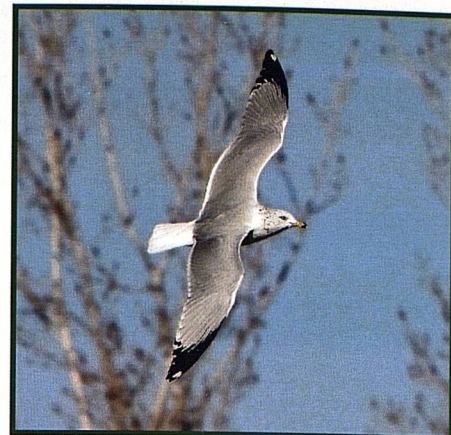


Master of Agility
Eastern Gray Squirrel enjoying
peanut butter on a hanging feeder
Photo by Kim Davies

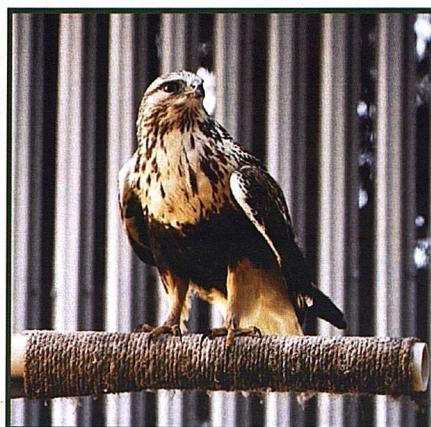
To donate using PayPal, visit our
web site: [www.http//spwrc.org](http://spwrc.org)

More than once, I've heard people say, "There are no interesting birds here." Nothing could be farther from the truth. Over 400 species of birds have been documented in Lubbock County – some are here year-round, others are migratory and arrive and leave at different times of the year, like Canada Geese, Western Kingbirds and Mississippi Kites. Texas boasts some 629 species.

There is an active area Listserv documenting sightings or field trips around town (and beyond), and a number of avid birders. The Llano Estacado Audubon Society also puts out a newsletter for its members.



Ring-billed Gull
photo by Danny Hancock



Rough-legged Hawk
Our patient for several months
photo by Danny Hancock



Townsend's Solitaire
photo by Danny Hancock



American Coot
photo by Danny Hancock



Lark Bunting

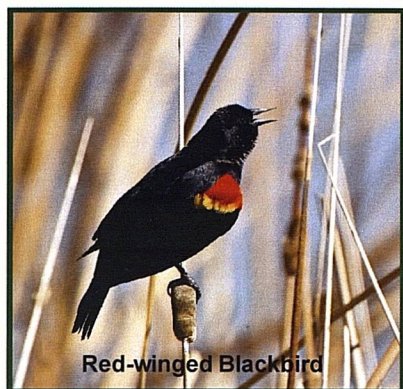
Audubon Listserv:
leasbirds@freelists.org

So you think there are no interesting birds here?



Juvenile Tundra Swan

These four bird photos were taken by avid birder, shutterbug, and volunteer Danny Hancock. They were taken in and around the Lubbock area over the past two years.



Red-winged Blackbird



White-crowned Sparrow



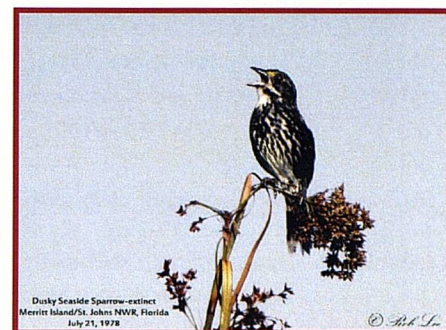
Dark Juvenile Snow Goose

If you'd like to receive The Mockingbird Chronicles in pdf format by e-mail instead of as a paper document, send your request to Carol at spwrc@suddenlink.net

Birds of the Texas High Plains and Rolling Plains - find a 'Bird CheckList' at this address:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_w7000_0760.pdf

Extinct is Forever



Dusky Seaside Sparrow

The morning Joel Sartore spent with us was enlightening all the way around.

My husband, Rob, told Joel about photos he had dating back from his days as Refuge Manager and wildlife biologist at Merritt Island in Florida.

He had a number of slides to show Joel, including one of an extinct bird: the Dusky Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus nigrescens*).

At one time, Joel wrote, "Slipping into extinction almost unnoticed, the Dusky Seaside Sparrow— found mainly on Florida's Merritt Island— declined from roughly 3,000 pairs to none, as its salt marsh habitat was sprayed with DDT and taken over for use by the space program. The last Dusky Sparrow died in 1987."

Joel had photographed a specimen at the Natural History Museum, Florida State University.

The last known individual Dusky Seaside Sparrow died June 17, 1987 and was officially declared extinct in December 1990.

Thanks to Danny Hancock for scanning Rob's slides. The caption on Rob's slide reads "Dusky Seaside Sparrow - Extinct - Merritt Island/ St. John's NWR, Florida, taken July 21st, 1978."



Bayer CropScience



Jerrie Rodgers holds "Sadie"

Longtime volunteer Jerrie Rodgers, above, gets a visit from Center volunteers Maggie Hancock and Gail Barnes in January. Jerrie is now at Windmill Village. Jerrie holds "Sadie," the American Kestrel Jerrie once was in charge of during all the years she came regularly to volunteer at SPWRC.

Holiday Open House

Our Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 21st, turned out to be a success, despite rain the entire day and night the previous 24 hours, and temps in the low 40's during our three hour event.

Staff and volunteers braved the chilly temperatures to greet 106 guests. This was only about a third of the number of folks we usually see at Christmas, but many brought their children and friends and came out to join us.

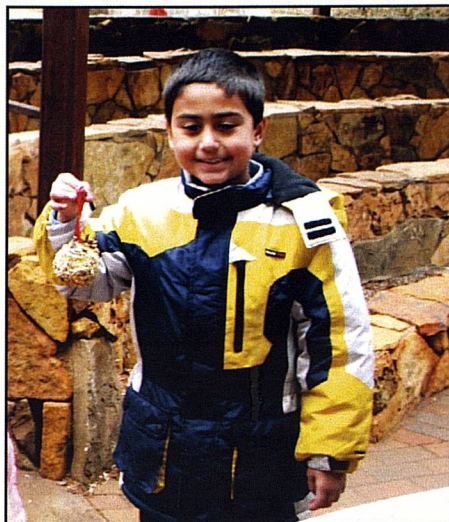
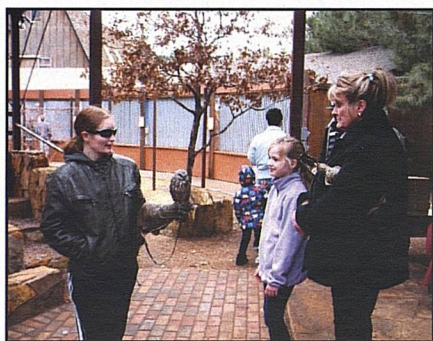
We saw old friends and new faces, and kids made pine cone seed balls for the birds and paper plate owls. Our wildlife ambassadors were on hand and there were plenty of delicious cakes, cookies and tea, thanks to donations by area merchants listed below. The event raised \$1419.00!

Thank you to our local business supporters for helping make our Holiday Open House a success: Nothing Bundt Cakes (pictured below) Bigham's Smokehouse, Chick-fil-A (69th

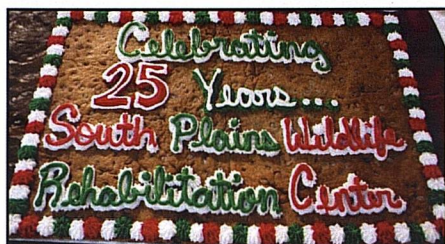


& Slide location), Great American Cookie Company at South Plains Mall, Bake My Day (Ann Hayes), and Pure Water Ice & Tea Company. We would also like to thank Jess Norman for her cookie donation and all our volunteers, as well as our guests that braved the cold to help or come to visit the Center! Thank You!

Heather Hightower talks to guests about "Hawkeye," our Mississippi Kite



John Plummer shows off his pine cone seed ball



Our giant cookie commemorating 25 years!



Board President Dr. Jim Moyes greets guests at our December Open House

Tributes:

Gifts to Remember:

Inadvertently omitted in our December quarterly newsletter were four Memorials from Carl and Kaye Robertson of Lubbock, for the following people:

Tim Skaggs, with acknowledgement to Suzy Skaggs of San Angelo, TX

Carol Lebeck, with acknowledgement sent to Karen and Lyle Avey of Lubbock

Skip Watson, with acknowledgement sent to Cindy Watson of Lubbock

Virginia Laycock, with acknowledgement to Randy and Lea Laycock, also of Lubbock.

Beverly Colbert made a generous Memorial contribution in Matthew Colbert's name.

Brenda and Ronald Wolfe of Lubbock made a Memorial donation in the name of Carol Donnell. Acknowledgement was sent to Leslie Anne Emery of Hale Center, TX.

Steven Kriegshauser of Lubbock made a Memorial donation in Memory of "Cotton Boy."

T.A. and Jean Morrison made a Holiday Memorial donation "In Memory of David."

Amy and Patrick Pritchett made a Holiday donation in Memory of Sylvia Lehman. Mike and Evelyn Lehman of Lubbock were notified of their kindness.

Also, Steve Teeters passed away suddenly January 15th. He was a longtime friend of the Wildlife Center and did several projects for us.

Gifts to Honor:

Gifts in Honor of friends and colleagues were made by Dr. and Mrs. Brent Nall of Lubbock. Acknowledgments were sent to the following: Dr. Richard Hope; Dr. Pat Arledge; Dr. and Mrs. Randy Hickie; Dana Raines; Dr. Joe and Suzi Killeen; Dr. Jane Goldthorn; Dr. K. Narendran; Dr. Patti May; Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Hannel; Dr. and Mrs. Obie Stalcup; Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Cord, and Dr. Duncan and Melanie Burkholder.

"Charley" and Jay McCollum of Colorado City, TX, made a donation to Honor Bebe and Art McCasland, wildlife rehabilitators in Big Spring, TX.

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

PERCY
\$50

AMERICAN
WHITE PELICAN



TOENAILS
\$45

SWAINSON'S HAWK



EMPRESS
\$40

PEREGRINE FALCON



BUBO 2

\$45
GREAT HORNED OWL



ATHENA

EASTERN
SCREECH OWL
\$25



JASPER
\$45

COMMON BARN OWL



FARLEY

\$35
BURROWING OWL



FESTUS, LEFT

\$30
TURKEY VULTURE

SHADOW

\$45
BARRED OWL



MADDIE

\$35
AMERICAN KESTREL



VINCENT
\$30

CHIHUAHUA
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 _____

☐ Membership amount \$ _____

☐ Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

☐ Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Please acknowledge to (Name) _____

☐ Gift ☐ Gift in memory of _____

☐ Membership amount \$ _____

☐ Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

☐ Adoption of _____ Amount \$ _____

Please acknowledge to (Name) _____

Acknowledgements

Below are our **Keystone Donors** who offer the Wildlife Center a sustained, monthly financial commitment to our cause: helping wildlife:

Carre' Avian
Joyce Badger
Judy Billman, Seattle, WA
Karen Bosscher
Jody and Cindy Burkes, Denver City, TX
Becky and Jason Cooper, Cambridge, MA
Terry Gail Hooper
Albert Johnson, Wichita Falls, TX
Joyce Komkov
Tom McLaughlin
Sherri Mason
Dave Melton
Fidel and Twila Ortiz, Hart, TX
Tracey and Jose Pineda, Shallowater, TX
Vicki Schellhase
William and Deanna Schwartz
Dr. John and Debbie Zak

See page 3 for our large gifts from a Civil Restitution Case and a \$40,000 gift from an anonymous donor, earmarked for our new water bird facility!

It is our everyday donations from Keystone Donors, for Adoptions, Tributes, contributions from animal admissions, fundraising events, *Mockingbird Chronicles* subscriptions and outreach education programs that allow us to keep our doors open, provide wildlife food and supplies and pay our bills.

Foundation and other large gifts allow us to make necessary, much-needed improvements at the Wildlife Center. Thank you, one and all! Thank you, one and all!

Many of the following gifts were given during the Holidays, but arrived after our December newsletter went to print.

\$210,000.00

Phillips 66 Company (Civil Restitution)

\$40,000.00

Anonymous – Funds are earmarked for new water bird facility construction (see page 3)

\$7,500.00

Summerlee Foundation,
Colorado Springs, CO

\$6,000.00

Gordon Huff

\$5,000.00

Audrey Beckman

\$2,000.00

Bayer CropScience
Dr. David and Lewrie Close

\$1,000.00

Anonymous, Lubbock, TX
B.A. Burchard, Denver City, TX
Beth O'Neil Atkins, Hale Center, TX
Juanice Myers
Cheryl and Tom Shubert
David and Patricia Thomas

\$500.00 - \$525.00

Marilyn and Jim Blassingame, Levelland, TX
Dr. Kenneth and Terry Kruczek
Dr. Brent and Susan Nall
Jan and Bob Matthews, "Thank you for all you do for God's creatures!"
Theodore Wiesner

\$250.00

Dr. Hakam Kayasseh
John Kiouisis, Tech Café #2
Audrey Sanzotera, Ransom Canyon, TX
Dr. and Mrs. Billy Sealy
Michael and Barbara Stephens "A Love Gift"
Dr. and Mrs. Mike Strickland
William Van Pelt, Austin, TX
Jean Way
Gary Woodward, Littlefield, TX

\$150.00 - \$200.00

Kathy Beach, Post, TX
Kathy Boucher
Marilyn and Karl Clifford
Margaret Gates, Artesia, NM

\$150.00 - \$200.00, continued

Dr. Brad and Susan Goodwin, Kingwood, TX "Especially for Percy"
H. David and Cindy Jones
Mark Jones
Alzada Malone
Linda and Jimmie McDowell
Dr. Jim and Dee Moyes
Mr. and Mrs. Don Nickels
Carolyn Oden
Diane and Cecil Rucker
Fred and Dr. Cheryl Weber

\$100.00 - \$125.00

Don and Esther Asmus
Beth Bartley
Debbie Brunson
Jody and Cindy Burkes, Denver City, TX (also Keystone donors)
John and J. Clarke
Betty Edwards
Jim and Mary Eissinger
Dentler Erdman
Janie and Glenn Forister
Caisey and Jaxson Gailey
Janis and Larry Gailey (Gailey Fire Protection, Inc.)
Dana Gamble
John and Mary Gillas
Dr. Lynn and Mary Hatfield
Tom Hicks
Mark Jones
Dr. George and Pat Jury
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Rocky Wilson

*If your donation arrived after March 3, 2014, it will be acknowledged in our June newsletter.

*If your name or gift was inadvertently missed, please notify Carol Lee at spwrc@suddenlink.net for anything to be included in the next quarterly issue. Spring and summer are our busiest periods as animal admissions, donations and the number of telephone calls rise sharply.

*Donations of \$25.00 receive a subscription of 1 year (4 quarterly issues).

*Our mailing list is never shared.

Can you help us raise some non-native bird species this summer?

Non-natives are species brought here from Europe. These include the House (English) Sparrow, European Starling and pigeons. Our volunteers will teach you how to feed these birds, supply the food and give you the cages and equipment you need. We'll take care of releasing the birds you raise from our aviaries on site once they are self-feeding. Call Gail or Daniel for more information at 806 799-2142.



Our web site, [www.http://spwrc.org](http://spwrc.org) is updated often, so check on what we're doing month to month and follow us on Facebook.

The Mockingbird Chronicles

Newsletter of South Plains Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

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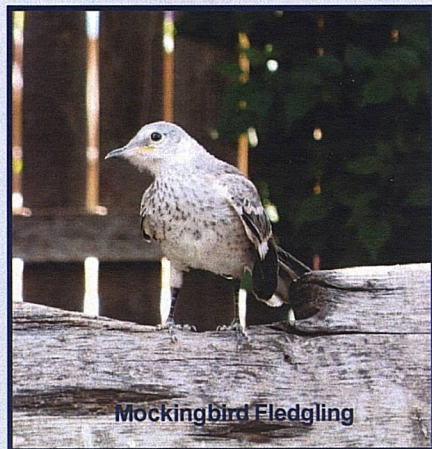


If You Find a Wildlife Baby -

I've raised baby birds for more than twenty-five years, and learned a lot along the way. With spring's onset, we get numerous calls daily from people who come across wildlife babies, and often they don't know what to do.

"Baby Birds 101" is always on our web site at spwrc.org and is a great place to cover lots of scenarios.

Best advice: rescue birds in trouble - don't kidnap healthy birds hopping around on the ground during this critical development period. They are perfecting flying and other essential survival skills. Fledges may spend several days on the ground, and this is when they are most vulnerable to predators, weather events, and even well-meaning people.



Mockingbird Fledgling

- ✓ 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.
- ✓ If a bird is listless and in the same place/position for 20 minutes or more, it may be sick or hurt. Healthy fledglings are active and on the go.
- ✓ Time is of the essence - transport ASAP in a shoebox/small box lined with tissues. Put a lid on the box with a rubber band around it - scared birds may try to hop out.
- ✓ Keep any casualty warm, dark and quiet, and never allow children to handle fragile, frightened youngsters.

- ✓ Don't feed a bird anything or try to give water. Call a volunteer if you live a distance away for advice. NEVER give bread or milk to any wild bird (or mammal).

It's not true "if you touch a baby bird the adults will abandon it" but you can gently pick up a youngster in harm's way: in the street or 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.