On Friday, November 22, Pat, a woman with a Red-tailed Hawk riding shotgun in her truck, pulled into our parking lot. She had spied the hawk at the side of the road and immediately recognized it needed help.

Pat was able to easily scoop the raptor up because, as we later determined, it had a fractured humerus (a wing bone between the shoulder and elbow). Fortunately, being a closed fracture no bone was exposed and, therefore, there was less risk of infection.

Later that day, we took the hawk to our vet, Dr. Mueller, for x-rays and treatment suggestions. Dr. Mueller advised us that expensive surgery would be necessary to reach the goal of successfully releasing the raptor back into the wild. Even with our generous discount, the surgery would have been expensive.

That evening, when Pat called to check in on the hawk, she also offered to pay the entire cost of the surgery. Of course, we were overjoyed by her generosity and kindness.
The surgery was considerably more complicated than anticipated, lasting almost 4 hours. Eventually, the bone ends were pulled together with pins and the fracture was stabilized. The hawk was confined to strict cage rest for five weeks while the fracture calcified.

After weekly vet trips and x-rays, the pins were ready for removal on December 30th, and our patient was given a larger enclosure. Three days later he had progressed enough to place him in a larger enclosure with an outdoor view and room to truly spread his wings.

After two weeks in our indoor/outdoor enclosure, and a final round of positive x-rays, our patient was ready for our largest flight enclosure, where he will be on a daily exercise schedule. He has made amazing progress thus far and we remain hopeful for his release. *Follow this and other WINC stories on Facebook to read more about this hawk and stories of our other patients.*

Enjoying stretching his wings in our largest flight enclosure!
Dear Friends of WiNC,

For those of you who have been associated with the Center since the beginning, it is probably hard to believe that this year is the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Wildlife In Need Center. As a career nonprofit professional, I am continually impressed with the success that this organization has achieved in its relatively short history. The Wildlife In Need Center is truly an example of a grassroots effort that has brilliantly responded to a critical community need. For those of you who are like me and are relatively new to the Center, here is just a bit of WiNC history.

The Center’s founder, Nancy Frank (of Outdoor Wisconsin fame) worked for awhile at the Wildlife ARC which later became the Wisconsin Humane Society’s wildlife rehab department. Since that organization exists to serve wildlife in Milwaukee County, Nancy recognized that there was a strong community need outside of Milwaukee, to treat injured, sick or orphaned Wisconsin wildlife. This need was especially evident in the fast-growing area of Waukesha County.

Nancy, along with a small group of volunteers including one of our current board members, Wayne Grady, began the process of establishing the Wildlife In Need Center. WiNC has made great strides since its humble beginnings in a one bedroom house to our current state of the art location in the town of Ottawa. The Center’s value is clearly seen in its accomplishments:

• Admitting over 40,000 patients under the guidance of paid staff and with the support of a huge cadre of dedicated volunteers.
• Presenting an average of 120 educational programs annually
• Operating completely on private donations with no local, regional, state or federal tax dollars.
• Completing a capital campaign to build its new facility and carrying no debt.

The successful fulfillment of WiNC’s mission is due to the unwavering dedication of staff and volunteers, an exceptional level of philanthropic support and strong leadership from twenty years of service from various boards of directors.

Join us at Western Lakes Golf Club on May 2 for our annual spring banquet to celebrate the successes of the last twenty years. The theme for the event is Celebrating 20 Years of Caring for Wisconsin Wildlife. Given all that we have to celebrate and the improvements that we have incorporated over the past few years, we anticipate this to be the best banquet ever! Invitations will be in the mail in March.

Thanks for all your continued support,

Joan Rudnitzki

WHAT’S THE BUZZ

FROM THE DIRECTOR
by joan RUDNITZKI

Remembering Special People

During this year, donors have made gifts to WiNC in memory of special people in their lives. This issue of WILDLIFE TRACKS recognizes these very special gifts.

In honor of Dr. Tom & Mary Roberts from Michael Adams, Lisa Draves Mary & Tom Roberts Jr. Roberta Thode
In honor of Willow and Luna from Barbara Bjur
In honor of Fergie from Barbara Bjur
In honor of KT Budde-Jones from Mary Budde-Roberts
In honor of Dakota & All His Friends from Andrea Chase
In honor of Sara Eagleboy from Peggy Connell
In honor of Madeline Camin from Margaret Drew
In honor of Tom Salemy from Beatrice Gallagher
In honor of Leslie Smith from William Hansen, Tim, Cyndi, Bella & Lily Makos
In honor of Catherine Sullivan & Gerry Gunderson from Tarah Harlin
In honor of the Hutchinson/Bell Family from Elaine Hutchinson
In honor of Ali Rudnitzki from Stuart and Penny Katz
In honor of Patrick McBride & Daphne from Carol Ann Kay
In honor of Liesl and Emmett from Pamela Kroening
In honor of Robb Syverson from Janis Leech
In honor of Holly Schlenvogt from Timothy & Tammy Leonard
In honor of Lori & Gary Edelstein from Jack Edelstein & Sharon Lewin
In honor of Marvin Edelstein from Jack Edelstein & Sharon Lewin
In honor of Greg Schlenvogt from Irene & Richard Madlung
In honor of Lynn Roever from Donna Nerad
In honor of Angela & Jim Nirk from Carolyn & William Nirk
In honor of Christina Schwarz from Katherine Paulsen
In honor of Sarah Witmer from William Prest
In honor of Susie Riordan from Brigid Riordan
In honor of Kristi Petrie from Adam Roth
In honor of Paul Matson from Donna Scaffidi
In honor of Gene Braun from David Skryja
In honor of John Kramer from Bonnie Soto
In honor of Brian Riordan from Sandra Strehow

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with the intent to release back to the native habitat, conduct research designed to further the positive impact of rehabilitation, and provide quality community education programs and services.
February 2nd turned out to be a delightfully sunny day with well over 100 guests anxiously awaiting 11:05 a.m., the time when our own weather predictor “Waldo the Groundhog” would emerge from his burrow. Our celebration began with a few calisthenics to warm up from the brisk air and a reading of the “The Groundhog Pledge”. Our young guests then awakened the sleeping Groundhog with a loud call of “Wake up Waldo”. A drowsy Waldo emerged to see his shadow. Although his prediction of six more weeks of winter was a disappointment, the crowd’s lively spirit could not be dampened because of the fun atmosphere. Afterwards, all guests were invited into the Center to meet with ALL of WiNC’s educational ambassadors. This is one of the rare occasions where every WiNC ambassador appears at the same event.

Knowledgeable staff and volunteers were on hand to answer questions regarding the animals.

Along with the animals, the authors of “Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife”, Rebecca Seymour and Rebecca Mattano, were on hand to sign copies of the book.

This was the first time that the Groundhog Day event was held at the Center. Thank you to all volunteers who helped direct traffic, park cars, hand out fliers and handle ambassadors. Without our volunteers these types of events would not be possible!
At the Wildlife In Need Center, we strive to give our patients the best and most up-to-date care while they are with us. In order to do this, we must always continue to research new techniques for wildlife rehabilitation. As things change and new protocols become better, we need to change our own protocols to keep our care top notch. WINC has a Research and Rehabilitation Committee that consists of several people who meet during the fall, winter and spring months to help insure we have proper protocols in place. They discuss ideas for research that WINC can participate in to further the field of wildlife rehabilitation.

The committee consists of two WINC staff members, two WINC board members and two vets; Dr. Tom Gilligan from North Lake Veterinary Clinic and Dr. Kemberlie Anderson from Family Pet Clinic. The past two winters have been spent working on developing and enhancing medical care, animal husbandry and general operational protocols to fit our new building. Now that those are complete we can move our attention to research. The committee has been brainstorming possible opportunities for the center to have more involvement in research to help in the field of wildlife rehabilitation. Michael Pauers, a Biological Services Lecturer at UW-Waukesha has joined the RRC and will assist with future research projects. Using our partnership with UWW, we hope to begin a small scale research project very soon. This collaboration will help UW-Waukesha students with hands on experience and further the field of wildlife rehabilitation.

**VISION STATEMENT**

It is the vision of the Wildlife In Need Center to become a nationally recognized Wildlife Rehabilitation Center that serves as a hub for other satellite facilities and is financially stable. WINC will work in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Waukesha and the University of Wisconsin Colleges and Extensions to be identified as the number one resource in the community that promotes an ethic of care and respect for the natural world.
A Year In Review

2013 was the Wildlife In Need Center’s third busiest year ever, based on patient admissions! Staff and volunteers cared for 2,776 animals of 123 species from 104 cities: 1,181 birds of 79 species, 251 reptiles & amphibians of 20 species, and 1,344 mammals of 24 species. Each day a patient is here, it counts as 1 patient day. In 2013, WINC had 42,366 patient days. Our busiest day was June 18 when we admitted 96 animals! Below are some top 10 lists from 2013.

### Top 10 Mammals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cottontail</td>
<td>643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raccoon</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Gray Squirrel</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-footed Mouse</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Opossum</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-lined Ground Squirrel</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Chipmunk</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodchuck</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Squirrel</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Flying Squirrel</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top 10 Birds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Robin</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mallard</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Sparrow</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mourning Dove</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House finch</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Duck</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Starling</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top 10 Reptiles and Amphibians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Snapping Turtle</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Painted Turtle</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midland Painted Turtle</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern American Toad</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanding’s Turtle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Red-bellied Snake</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-spotted Salamander</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Snake</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Garter Snake</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Milk Snake</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top 10 Cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waukesha</td>
<td>483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oconomowoc</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookfield</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pewaukee</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dousman</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartland</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Atkinson</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mukwonago</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delafield</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watertown</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to all the rehab, I was busy with Leslie and the educational ambassadors presenting 141 programs to 27,539 people in 2013. This year marks 20 years of wildlife rehabilitation for WINC. You can follow what’s going on at WINC on our Facebook page. You don’t have to be on Facebook to see the Facebook stories on our website www.helpingwildlife.org. Just go to the bottom right of the home page of our website and click on Wildlife In Need Center. We post pictures and stories of our patients and events so you can keep up with all the happenings at WINC.
WINC Volunteers are WONDERFUL!

by lisa ROWE

WINC could not care for our wildlife patients without our wonderful volunteers. Our volunteers donated 15,904 hours in 2013. We held our annual Volunteer Appreciation Party on January 28 and announced our 2013 Volunteer of the Year - Angela Nirk. The person staff picks as Volunteer of the Year goes above their weekly shift by doing extra activities at WINC. Angela volunteers 2 shifts a week and comes in extra to help out when we are short handed. In addition to her animal care duties, she also volunteers in the education department and does many rescues. Angela’s quick smile and cheerful attitude make her a joy to be around.

The Rising Star award goes to a volunteer that is relatively new to WINC but that immediately catches staff attention by going above and beyond. Jen Brei started out as an animal care volunteer and was so interested in rehabilitation she began exploring other rehab opportunities. Summer 2013, she became a full time intern at WINC. WINC offers internships year-round for college students, but in summer we have 6 - 7 full time interns during the busy baby season. Jen got a real dose of what it means to be a wildlife rehabilitator and she thrived. Thank you to all our fabulous volunteers!

Volunteer Opportunities for Young Adults

Do you know someone 12 years or older who wants to volunteer? WINC’s summer-only, Baby Bird Feeding Program pairs students with hungry baby songbirds at WINC. Students 12 - 13 years old need an adult to volunteer with them and 14 and older can come unaccompanied for a 4.5 hour shift per week, all summer. This is also a great opportunity for adults who are bird lovers to help raise these infant songbirds. Find more info at www.helpingwildlife.org or call (262) 965-3090 to register. Attend one of the following orientations at WINC:

- **Saturday, May 10**
  - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday, May 13**
  - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, May 18**
  - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Special Easter Basket Gifts!

Help the Easter Bunny fill baskets by purchasing WINC’s book, Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife, or by sponsoring your favorite WINC educational animal ambassador. Sponsorship packages are available at $25, $50 or $75 and include ornaments starring your favorite ambassador, Dakota note cards and tote bags with pictures of Dakota, Sova, Raenah, or Chloe. For more information or to order a sponsorship, call WINC at (262) 965-3090 or email contact@helpingwildlife.org.
MARCH

29 SATURDAY
Adult Volunteer Orientation
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Call (262) 965-3090 to register
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

30 SUNDAY
WINC Annual Pancake Breakfast and Baby Shower
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Join us for our Annual Pancake Breakfast featuring the amazing pancake machine, sausage, hash, eggs, and more. Expected Educational Ambassadors subject to their situations that day include:
Grace the American Kestrel
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sova the Barred Owl
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Dakota the Great Horned Owl
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Raenah the Red-tailed Hawk
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Waldo the Woodchuck and Daphne the Muscovy Duck
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

APRIL

1 TUESDAY
Racine Danish Kringle orders due to WINC

16 WEDNESDAY
Pick up Racine Danish Kringles at WINC
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

22 TUESDAY
Adult Volunteer Orientation
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Call (262) 965-3090 to register
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

MAY

2 FRIDAY
WINC Annual Banquet and Auction
Celebrating 20 Years of Caring for Wisconsin Wildlife
6:00 - 10:00 p.m.
WESTERN LAKES GOLF CLUB
W287 N1963 Oakton Rd,
Pewaukee, WI 53072
Look for your invitation in the mail in March.

10 SATURDAY
Baby Bird Feeding Orientation
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Call (262) 965-3090 to register
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

13 TUESDAY
Baby Bird Feeding Orientation
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

18 SUNDAY
Baby Bird Feeding Orientation
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

Save the Date
2nd Annual
Fine Wine and Dine
October 3, 2014
Based on last year’s success we are returning to Elm Grove Woman’s Club with Lee John’s Catering, Jeff’s Spirits on Main, WineCru, and Action Graphics.

Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife
will be sold and authors will be signing books.
Perfect for Easter or Mother’s Day gifts!
10:00 - 12:00 Noon
DOUSMAN-OTTAWA LIONS CLUB
235 N. Main Street, Dousman, WI 53118