



The Director's Den

By Michael Guzniczak

Well, it's been six years since my first Director's Den and so much has happened with this organization in that time. Looking back at the road that is Wildlife in Need, one is reminded of all the people who have helped us achieve our current status. At each step the organization has matured and positioned itself for the future.

At the organization's inception, under the insightful guidance of Nancy Frank and the then board of directors, they created an organizational structure that would serve the organization well throughout its lifetime. The idea of the organization being larger than any one individual has served us well and continues into the future.

The last few years have seen arguably the most significant changes to the organization since the start of WINC. While some might still pine for the "quaintness" of the old farm house, I don't think there is much argument that the new center is superior in almost all aspects, for both the volunteers as well as for the patients. And as I have said in the past, our collaboration with the UW system promises to continue the organization's maturing.

Not that a new building and a new partnership aren't enough change, and while I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Executive Director of the Wildlife in Need Center, it is time for my role to change as well. Last fall I approached the board and indicated that I would be stepping down as director at the end of the year. An examination of



the organizations' needs going forward was conducted, and following that a search was initiated to find our new executive. Joan Rudnitzki was hired as WINC's new Executive Director and I couldn't be happier, since she is exactly what we need as we look forward to the future of the organization and the challenges ahead.

While I will not be day to day at the center, I will still be active as a board member. And while looking back I can honestly say I am proud of our accomplishments, when I look to the future of the center I see even greater things to come. With Joan at the helm, WINC will continue to grow and expand our resources allowing the organization to grow and thrive. The promises of new and exciting directions offered by our collaboration with UW are huge. I look forward to working with Joan and the rest of the WINC board as we enter this new era
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WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER



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... of service to the communities of southeastern Wisconsin, not to mention the rehabilitation community as a whole.

In conclusion, I just want to thank all of you who have helped elevate the Wildlife in Need Center to the place we are today. While there are too many to list by name, the volunteers, donors, and sponsors who have been so giving of their time and money. Thank you. Finally, to the staff, it has been an absolute joy to work and grow with all of you. I couldn't be prouder to have worked with you all, and thank you for the support you have shown me over the years. I know that as we move forward to some really exciting times, (if you think the last couple of years have been fun, just wait) you will continue to support WINC, it's board, and our new Executive Director.

An Introduction

By Joan Rudnitzki



As the new Executive Director for the Wildlife In Need Center, I know that I have big shoes to fill. I have only been at the Center for just under two weeks but it is abundantly clear that Mike has been an exceptional leader over the past six years. I am honored to have been chosen as his successor and am very excited to be part of the team that will further the mission of WINC in the future.

My personal commitment to wildlife preservation and environmental causes drew me to work for organizations like the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation (now the Ice Age Trail Alliance) and the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center. I bring over 24 years of nonprofit experience to WINC and look forward to using the skills that I have developed to maintain and build upon the excellent foundation that has been established since WINC's founding in 1994. As a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and with accreditation as a Certified Fund

Raising Executive, I describe my work style as mission-driven and donor-centric. This means that my guiding principles will be a laser focus on WINC's mission as we create and implement programs and effective and efficient use of the donations that fuel WINC's work.

The many accomplishments of WINC's rehabilitation and education programs are the result of a dedicated staff, an involved board of directors, a committed cadre of volunteers and the financial support of members and donors. I look forward to working with everyone to ensure continued success here at the Center.

Best regards,

Joan Rudnitzki

Dakota's Road to Recovery

By Sheryl Cummings

We knew full well that 2011 would have its ups and downs, even though we did have to move over 100 animals during our busiest month of the year into our new facility! We would have never been able to predict how 2011 came to an end however. We can't say 'thank you' enough for all of the support we received throughout our efforts to get Dakota, our Great Horned Owl ambassador, back home. From our volunteers who spent hours helping us search for him in the field in addition to fielding phone calls, emails, and other offers to help; to the supporters whose generous monetary donations helped us to install the first part of our new security system. We couldn't have done it without you.

Dakota has been an ambassador for what we do for many years, and now this is even more the case. After being rescued last December, he had lost over 25% of his bodyweight and was in very critical condition



because of it. We get raptor patients like this all the time and many of them don't survive despite our best efforts to bring them back. His case is special not just because of who he is, but also his success. We will never fully know the impact this experience has had on him however, his handlers and friends here have seen huge improvements.

Because of this, he's decided it's time to return to his work of educating the public about the wild neighbors. We were delighted to invite our members to his very first public event and we look forward to many more to come! Find out more about Dakota's road to recovery at our website at www.helpingwildlife.org.

MISSION STATEMENT - To provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with the intent to release back to their native habitat, conduct research designed to further the positive impact of rehabilitation, and provide quality community education programs and services.

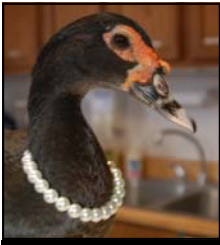
VISION STATEMENT - It is the vision of the Wildlife In Need Center as an established and valued asset to the community to rehabilitate the ever increasing numbers of injured, ill and orphaned wildlife native to Southeastern Wisconsin. We will continue to provide prevention and educational programs to promote the idea of "Connecting people and wildlife through education and rehabilitation". The Wildlife In Need Center will enhance its status as a respected member of the community at large and the other related organizations it serves.

Board of Directors

John Rodell	President
Wayne Grandy	Vice President
Thomas Roberts, MD	Secretary/Treasurer
Holly Schlenvogt	Director
Lynn Wilde	Director
Jean McFadden	Director
Sabrina Bryant	Director
David Sigmond, DVM	Director
Michael Guzniczak	Director

Staff

Joan Rudnitzki	Executive Director
Lisa Rowe	Director of Operations
Caroline Jefferson	Bookkeeper
Cheryl Diehl	Animal Care Director
Mandy Feavel	Wildlife Rehabilitator
Chelsea Matson	Wildlife Rehabilitator
Leslie Kiehl	Wildlife Education Coordinator
Sheryl Cummings	Development and Marketing Coordinator



We will see Spring this year, really, Waldo told me.

-Daphne, the rare Blue Muscovy Duck

March

					1	2	3
					6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			20	21			
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Tuesday, April 17th; New Volunteer Orientation Class 6:30-8PM
Call 262-965-3090 for reservations

Pancake Breakfast and Baby Shower!
Sunday, March 25th, 8AM to 1PM
Dousman/Ottawa Lions Club
235 Main Street in Dousman

Don't forget to call or drop off your Racine Danish Kringle Orders
by 5PM Friday, March 16th!

April

			3				
8	9	10					
Easter Sunday							
15	16	17		18	19		21
			24	25	26	27	28
29	30						

Tuesday, April 3rd
Pick up your Racine Danish Kringle Orders today!

"Deeds - not words... pass it on"
Join us for our 18th annual Banquet & Charity Auction
Friday, April 27th
Western Lakes Country Club
W287 N1963 Oakton Road, Pewaukee
Advance Tickets are Required
Check-in, social hour and silent auction begin at 5:30PM

Tuesday, April 17th; New Volunteer Orientation Class 6:30-8PM
Call 262-965-3090 for reservations

Help Us Feed Baby Birds!

Call to sign up for one of our scheduled orientations:
Wednesday, May 16, 6:30-8:30PM
Sunday, May 20, 1-3PM
Saturday, May 26, 1-3PM
Hands-on training will be scheduled after orientation. Students 12-13 years with an adult and 14 and older can help hand-feed all the infant songbirds WINC admits during the summer months.

May

			1				
6	7						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28						

Tuesday, May 15th; New Volunteer Orientation Class 6:30-8PM
Call 262-965-3090 for reservations

Contact the Wildlife In Need Center if you have any questions about our upcoming trainings, fundraisers or events at (262) 965-3090

2011 Fun With Numbers

Top 10 species	Number
Virginia Opossum	42
House Finch	42
European Starling	42
Mourning Dove	52
House Sparrow	56
American Robin	108
Mallard	130
Eastern Gray Squirrel	158
Raccoon	223
Eastern Cottontail	252

Clockwise from top right: Juvenile American Robin, Adult Barred Owl, Young American Mink, Mallard Duckling, Eastern Painted Turtle, Infant Virginia Opossum (cinnamon color)

Top 10 Cities	Number
Jefferson	64
New Berlin	66
Pewaukee	70
Hartland	73
Brookfield	93
Mukwonago	94
Dousman	96
Watertown	101
Oconomowoc	260
Waukesha	304



Top 10 Counties	Number
Fond du Lac	1
Kenosha	2
Dane	6
Racine	21
Washington	24
Dodge	31
Walworth	35
Milwaukee	39
Jefferson	295
Waukesha	1387



Top 10 Mammals	Number
Southern Flying Squirrel	13
Big Brown Bat	17
Woodchuck	27
Eastern Chipmunk	28
White-footed Mouse	29
Red Squirrel	29
Virginia Opossum	42
Eastern Gray Squirrel	158
Raccoon	223
Eastern Cottontail	252



Top 10 Herps	Number
Common Musk Turtle	1
Blandings Turtle	1
Midland Painted Turtle	4
Red-bellied Snake	5
American Toad	5
Eastern Gray Treefrog	7
Snapping Turtle	10
Common Garter Snake	14
W. Painted Turtle	16
E. Plains Garter Snake	33



Top 10 Birds	Number
Black-capped Chickadee	26
Red-tailed Hawk	27
Wood Duck	28
American Goldfinch	32
House Finch	42
European Starling	42
Mourning Dove	52
House Sparrow	56
American Robin	108
Mallard	130

Busiest Month: June - 445 Admissions

Busiest Day: June 3rd - 34 Admissions

American Woodcock	1
Big Brown Bat	1
European Starling	1
Common Grackle	2
Eastern Gray Squirrel	2
Raccoon	5
Wood Duck	5
Eastern Cottontail	17



76 Bird species	882 patients
17 Herp species	105 patients
20 Mammal species	862 patients
Volunteer Hours	10,330.7
Total Patient Days	39,587
Education programs presented	96
People reached at education programs	5,884

Meet Timmy, Tommy, and Tammy!

By Wildlife Rehabilitator, Chelsea Matson



We've made it into our new facility and now WINC has the pleasure of welcoming three new educational ambassadors this past year as well - and they are all amphibians! Tammy, an American Toad and Timmy and Tommy, two Tiger Salamanders.

The trio was brought to a rehabilitation center last May after being surrendered at a local pet store. Tammy, Timmy and Tommy were taken out of their natural habitat at some point and had been kept illegally as pets. Because they had lived an unknown amount of time in captivity and we had no real background information on them, or where they came from, they were not suitable for release. They were already somewhat used to being around people however, so

thankfully they've had an easy adjustment joining our educational team! With our education program growing by the year, staff and volunteers alike were excited to add some amphibians to the mix!

The next step was designing the perfect enclosures for our new toad and salamanders. We make sure our educational ambassadors have the best of the best for their homes at WINC (they deserve it!) and Tammy, Timmy and Tommy were no exception. With that being said, Ryan Hill from Captive Bred Specialties was recommended to us by a volunteer who has worked with him for her own pets. He donated his time and money to come meet with staff and help us create the most amazing habitats for the "three T's." Now, Tammy has a tank filled with dirt that she can dig down deep in and soak up moisture under natural leaf cover. She also has a bath which she prefers to use in the evenings to relax after a long, hard day of camouflaging herself on top of her favorite log. Timmy and Tommy live below Tammy in a salamander's dream terrarium also with natural leaf cover and plenty of rock caves for hiding! The best part of their habitats is by far the automatic misting system that keeps their environments suitably damp. The system has a timer so we can set it to mist the tanks for an adequate amount of seconds at hourly intervals. This is much more effective and natural than using a regular spray bottle to spritz their cages for a minute or two in the morning. Every few hours it's like it's raining in their tanks! It is very important for amphibians to have a moist environment because they absorb water through their skin to keep them hydrated. Tammy, Timmy and Tommy are now on display in our gathering area with some of our other educational herpetiles or herps (reptiles and amphibians). Feel free to come say hi and welcome them to their new homes!



A Special Request from Animal Care Director,

Cheryl Diehl

As I drifted to sleep last night... I was awakened by a sound coming from our woods. A sound that I did not want to hear quite yet: the sound of raccoon "romance." That means that in just two short months there will be baby raccoons in my neighborhood. We hope that they will all stay with their mom and we will never see them come in. Unfortunately, in 2011 alone, we admitted 223 raccoons who were orphaned or kidnapped and needed our help. To be ready for all of these babies, we need to recruit interns to help us care for them.

Summer Interns are *essential* to WINC! Within a few hours of walking through our door, an intern becomes a valued member of our staff, working hands-on with the animals. Under the supervision of staff, interns learn to

feed, clean, and care for our wildlife patients in addition to washing piles of dishes and laundry! They do however, also get the experience of giving medications, doing treatments, examining patients, and facilities maintenance too.

As essential as interns are, we can't afford to pay them much, if at all! Here's where you come in. We need to hire 8 or more full-time interns this spring. Even on a very meager stipend that adds up to a total of almost \$5,000! If you are able, won't you please consider sponsoring a WINC intern for the summer? Hundreds, even thousands, of wild animals will benefit this years' interns.

Our internships are a great learning experience for the students and recent grads that are looking for hands-on experience with wildlife. We provide essential experience for those wanting a career working in wildlife-related fields. Equally important, this experience will lay a foundation for a positive, life-long, even life-changing relationship with the wildlife around us.

For more information about how you can help sponsor an intern, please contact Lisa Rowe at 262-965-3090 ext 101.

Become a Member

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

- ◇ \$35 (Our minimum membership donation)
- ◇ \$50
- ◇ \$100
- ◇ \$250
- ◇ \$500
- ◇ \$1000
- ◇ Other _____ (any amount helps!)

◇ My gift is in honor / memory of (please circle one)

- ◇ Please send a notification to _____
- ◇ Please send me information on remembering the Wildlife In Need Center in my will

Method of payment

My Check is Enclosed, Payable to the Wildlife In Need Center

Please charge my Visa -or- Master card

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

Become a Volunteer

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

How would you like to help?

- _____ Baby Bird Care
- _____ Animal Care
- _____ Transport or Rescue
- _____ Office and Phone Assistance
- _____ Maintenance and Grounds*
- _____ Fundraising and Marketing*
- _____ Bakers and Special Events

*Requires little or no animal handling

When can you help?

- _____ Morning
- _____ Afternoons
- _____ Evenings
- _____ Weekends

Are you over 18? Yes No





It's that Kringle time of year again!

*Order By Friday, March 16th -
Kringles will be here Tuesday, April 3rd!*

Racine Danish Kringles including:

Almond, Raspberry Cream Cheese, Pecan, Turtle, Apple Cinnamon, Cherry, Chocolate Éclair, Raspberry, Cheesecake, and Cinnamon for just \$8.50 each

Fresh roasted Stone Creek Coffee, \$10 per 8oz bag

Aunt Marie's Gourmet Cookie Dough including:

Chocolate Chunk, Peanut Butter, Oatmeal Raisin, Heath, Peanut Butter with Chocolate Chunks, Monster, Snickerdoodle, and M&M as well as Cinnamon Buns and Caramel Fudge Brownies!



So many Kringles, so many ways to get them!

- ★ View and download an orderform online (<http://www.helpingwildlife.org>)
- ★ Call and place your order over the phone
- ★ Pick up an orderform from our office
- ★ Or contact us and we can mail a packet to you!

Over 30% of proceeds go directly to helping your wild neighbors!



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