

# Wildlife Tracks

Connecting People and Wildlife Through Rehabilitation and Education



2013 Issue III

## Wildlife In Need Center

W349 S1480 S.Waterville Rd.  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

VISIT US AT:

[www.helpingwildlife.org](http://www.helpingwildlife.org)

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WINC's Mission: RESEARCH

## Swallow Research: Summer Swallow Results

by mandy FEAVEL



*Three orphaned Barn Swallows getting ready to move from inside our avian nursery to an outdoor enclosure, symptom free.*

As you read in our last wildlife tracks issue, we were preparing ourselves to jumpstart research with our Swallows this summer. We were extremely surprised when after 3 summers of the same issues, this summer we were not seeing any issues!

That was until our last two Swallows.

We received a nest of Tree Swallows that were attacked by a House Sparrow. One of the nestlings suffered an injury to its shoulder. A separate adult Barn Swallow was brought in nearly a month after the nest of Tree Swallows. The Barn Swallow was caught in a glue trap that caused feather damage. Because of their individual injuries, these two Swallows were kept here after the other healthy juveniles were released. About three weeks after we released our other healthy, well-flying Swallows the two that were left began to show symptoms of the mysterious disease. Sadly, until we know what we're fighting, the treatment plan can be an uphill battle.

## Summer Swallow Results *(continued)*



***Barn, Tree and Cliff Swallows enjoying their first day in a larger outdoor enclosure.***

Therefore, at the first sign of symptoms, we humanely euthanized the two Swallows (since we have not been able to treat this disease to recovery) and sent them in for a necropsy and tissue testing in hopes of finding an answer to our mystery.

We did not find the same disease that Project Wildlife in California found in their Swallows. Our results showed more of a parasitic issue and nutritional deficiency. We were surprised by this since this year we used separate bins of mealworms used specifically for swallows only, getting only food rich in vitamin A. These birds are insectivores, while in captivity we have to make sure we are feeding the insects and worms healthy food so they are “gut-loaded” for the Swallows benefit. However, the deficiency was still present. We have already started to change our protocols for next summer to begin preparation for our Swallows next year. It’s a relief to have found a starting point and we hope the tissue testing helps us save more Swallows in the future.



***The last adult Barn Swallow that came in with feather damage, showing symptoms. The first sign we have been seeing is shown here; the eye swells and they have a hard time keeping their eyes open.***

“Nature is not a place to visit.  
It is home.”

Gary Schneider

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## WHAT'S THE BUZZ development

### 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 memory of Mom**

from Amy Cox

**In memory of Casey**

from Maureen Egan

**In memory of Kathi Gudmundson**

from Janet Breaker

**In memory of Mom & Dad**

from Mary Lafond

**In memory of Susan Baker**

from Sally Waraczynski

**In memory of Brandon**

from Laurie Stencel

**In memory of Doris Kohls**

from Don Kohls, James & Pamela Weise

**In memory of Murphy the dog**

from Brigid Riordan

**In memory of Ron Cada**

from Angela Selkie-Koglin, Brian & Doris Rindfleisch, Kieth, Sharon & Dan Scherbarth, Stephen & Judith Balint

**In memory of Joan Skaar**

from Jean Yeomans, Mary & Richard Lutz, Darlene Thompson, Sally Butler, Nancy Simos, Oconomowoc, Nagawicka Shores Condo

**In memory of Jan Deming Herrell**

from Robert & Winifred Dalla Santa, Judith Herrell, Donald & Blanche Schoenhaar, Assurant Health

**In memory of Mary the cat**

from Deb Holsen

**In memory of Dale Moll**

from Liturgical Publications, Jill Swinford, Tom & Allison Keenan

**In memory of John Brannan**

from David & Maria Feld, Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation, Todd Kroscher Family, Ellen Bender, Jim Kroscher, Donald & Jill Kowalske, Rosalyn Parker, Paul Matson

**In memory of Ploppy the dove**

from Dr. Tom & Mary Roberts

**In memory of Ceil Bobrowitz**

from Janet Kruse

**In memory of Eileen Foley**

from Dr. Tom Roberts

**In memory of Deloros Deloria**

from Joe Deloria

**In memory of Laura Adams**

from Thom & Maggie Richards, Scott Lueneburg, Richard & Tonya Lueneburg, KT & Syd Budde-Jones, Cinnie Malawitz, Roberta Thode, Julius & Joyce Hopfensperger, Al & Joan Rudnitzki, Carolyn Bellehumeur, Rose Marie Clancy, Marcia McBride, Llewellyn Tietz, Patricia Bennett, Patricia Brown, Thomas Mund, Patty Giuffre, Mary & Richard Rice, Karen Nicholson, Dea, Monica, Pat & Floyd McCrory, Kathleen Janik, Sandra Warner, Dwyn von Bereghy, John & Lauren Mrozowski

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Joan RUDNITZKI



Dear Friends of WINC,

The Thanksgiving season seems like an ideal time to reflect and recognize those who have had a significant impact on our success. Since I started at WINC in February 2012, there have been a few people who have literally treated WINC as a member of their family by remembering the Center in their wills. These donors were so committed to WINC's mission that they wanted to be sure that the work that WINC does would continue on after they were

gone. Unfortunately, we were never able to thank them for their legacy gifts because we didn't know, until after they passed, that they remembered the Wildlife In Need Center in this exceptional way.

So, in the spirit of giving thanks, we are creating a special membership group, **The Dakota Society**, to show our gratitude to those who may have already remembered WINC in this special way. The purpose of this group will be to recognize and thank those donors, *during their life-times*, who remember WINC in their will or with some other type of legacy gift. Two of the recent gifts that came to WINC were from donors who named WINC as a partial beneficiary of a life insurance policy and a retirement plan.

Gifts of this kind are referred to as legacy gifts because they are intended to leave a legacy from the donor. We designated this special group of donors as The Dakota Society, after Dakota, our well known animal ambassador. Dakota has touched the lives of so many people during his 12 years at the Center that he has truly become synonymous with WINC. His life's story is, in itself, a WINC legacy. At least once a year, members of the Dakota Society will be invited to a special breakfast or lunch with Dakota and get the most recent news about the Center.

If you have already remembered WINC in this special way and would like to become a charter member of The Dakota Society, please contact me. If you have any questions about this type of gifting, please email me at [jrudnitzki@helpingwildlife.org](mailto:jrudnitzki@helpingwildlife.org) or just call 262-965-3090 x104.

Thanks for all your continued support,

## 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.



## Chimney Swifts and Partnerships by chelsea MATSON

**T**his past summer we raised and released 11 Chimney Swifts! They differ from other songbirds in that they only eat insects while flying making it a challenge to get them to accept hand feeding. Something that encourages swifts to eat in captivity is the sound of other swifts chattering; meaning they will be more likely to thrive when there is more than one swift present. When we have a single of any species, we network with other rehabilitators in Wisconsin to transfer animals or have them transferred to us so that an individual does not have to be raised alone. When Four Lakes Wildlife Center and Wisconsin Humane Society's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center contacted us that they had admitted swifts, we were happy to have them transferred to us. Because we have put a great deal of time and effort into perfecting our methods for raising these birds, we have become a Chimney Swift resource in our area. It did not take long before our flock grew to 11 swifts!

When the youngest swift was 5 weeks of age, it was time for them to go. Our friends at WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center put federal bands on our swifts before release. True to their name, swifts roost in old chimneys and being colonial birds, we wanted to find a large flock for them to migrate with. Flocks were sighted in Lake Mills and Madison so we contacted the rehabbers at Four Lakes. They introduced us to Karen, who works with the local Audubon Society. Karen told us she observed a large flock in Lake Mills roosting in an old chimney.

So we packed up our swifts and headed to Lake Mills. Shortly after we arrived, we sighted about 10 swifts flying overhead. We brought ours out of the car and slowly opened their enclosure. We watched happily as they flew out, one by one. They were strong flyers and before we knew it, all 11 had joined up with their new flock! Now all swifts were chattering, with more flying in by the dozens. As it grew darker, they began to fly into the chimney to roost for the night. Once the sun had set, we had counted over 170 swifts! Our swifts had made more than 159 new friends!

We were thrilled to witness this perfect release and thankful that our Chimney Swifts had found a flock to travel with for their long migration south.



***This is one of our chimney swifts displaying his new federal band on his left foot.***



***Mandy and Chelsea look on as Crystal, from the Wisconsin Humane Society's wildlife rehabilitation center, is putting federal bands on one of the chimney swifts.***

WINC's Mission: EDUCATION

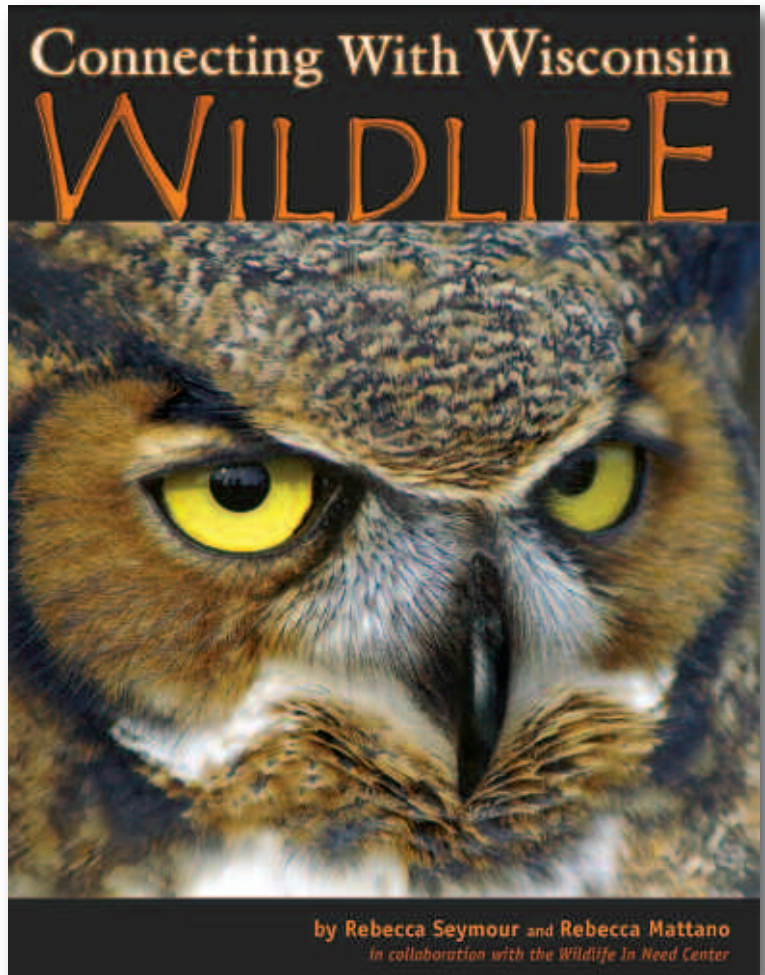
## Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife by Leslie KIEHL

It is HERE! WINC's new book "Connecting With Wisconsin Wildlife" debuted at the UW-Waukesha's Festival of Books on September 21st to a great response. The authors Rebecca Seymour and Rebecca Mattano gave two superb presentations on the book they wrote for the Wildlife In Need Center. What started out almost four years ago as just an idea by Rebecca Seymour has turned into reality. To get to this point, there were endless meetings, hours of editing and stressful deadlines. Before the book was even sent to press for its hard cover printing, it was tested in schools with almost 100 education professionals providing input on its usability and value. The survey had an overwhelmingly favorable response, especially to the targeted audience of 4-6th grade students.

With their love for Dakota and passion for our environment, Seymour and Mattano have fashioned a book that teaches about the value of Wisconsin wildlife. This book is a part of the process of getting tools in the hands of the public to learn how to live in harmony with our wildlife neighbors.

We appreciate UW-Waukesha's invitation to debut the book at their Festival. We are also most grateful to the JCP Charitable Foundation for their major support of this terrific project.

With the holidays quickly approaching, what a better gift than "Connecting With Wisconsin Wildlife" for your friends and family - young and old. Dakota will be honored to sign all copies. Do not miss out on having an author sign your book at the December 7th Holiday Meet and Greet from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please check the newsletter calendar for author signing times. Books can also be purchased on line at [www.helpingwildlife.org](http://www.helpingwildlife.org). All proceeds will be used to support WINC's mission.

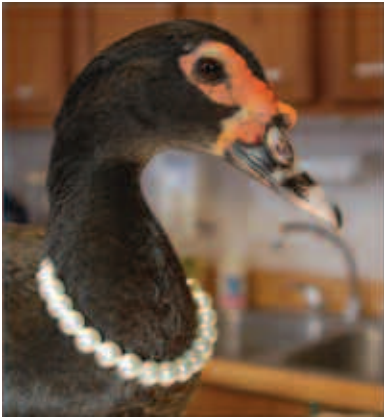


**"Connecting with Wisconsin Wildlife" is now available for purchase at the Center, online and at local retail outlets.**

## 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.





## Fine Wine and Dine - A Huge Success!

A huge thank you is extended to everyone who participated in this year's first annual Fine Wine and Dine for WINC event at the historic Elm Grove Woman's Club on October 4th. The Center exceeded its goal and raised almost \$10,000 to support WINC's mission. Participants forwarded high praise to the event's co-chairs, Mike and Eli Guzniczak along with Jean and Sheamus McFadden. New board member Kim Banach arranged for entertainment and created a new slide show of WINC's work that was displayed during dinner. Cadets from St. John's Military Academy welcomed guests. Special thanks are extended to event sponsors Winter Kloman Moter and Repp and Action Graphics.



**Guests celebrating Fine Wine and Dine for WINC at the beautiful and historic Elm Grove Woman's Club**

## DAPHNE'S DISPATCH

# Shopping for WINC

### Cash for Critters

**Did you know that you can help WINC's wildlife patients when you purchase your groceries and gasoline?**

**In the spirit of the approaching holiday season, please consider these simple and easy ways to help our feathered, furred and scaled friends.**

If you apply for a **Kwik Trip Rewards Card** you can give back to your community by joining their fundraising program. Rather than receiving a rebate on purchases you've made on your Kwik Trip account, you have the option to donate your Kwik Rewards to the Wildlife In Need Center. In addition to your generosity, Kwik Trip will donate an additional 1% of the sales made on your card to WINC!

When you are grocery shopping at **Albrecht's Sentry** in Delafield, **BKT Sentry**, at either of the Waukesha locations, or **Piggly Wiggly** in Oconomowoc and Hartland be sure to save your shopping receipts for WINC. Sentry has a Funds for Friends program and Piggly Wiggly has a Community Piggy Bank program. These programs offer grocery receipts to be redeemed as dollars for charity when brought in or sent to the Wildlife In Need Center. WINC will get 1% of qualifying receipts which, throughout the year, adds up to over \$500. Sentry will accept them from six months back to current date, whereas Piggly Wiggly will take them from prior year and current year.

**Good Harvest Market** is another store that gives back to the community. For each reusable bag a customer brings in they receive an EcoToken (worth 10 cents). Customers may then use these tokens to make a donation to their selected non-profit organization, like the Wildlife In Need Center. WINC receives over \$500 a year from this generous promotion, and all you have to do is bring your own shopping bag.



**Event co-chairs: Sheamus and Jean McFadden along with Mike and Eli Guzniczak**



**Lou and Kim Banach from Associated Bank**

## VOLUNTEERS

# Become a WINC Volunteer

Wildlife In Need could not care for the 2,000-3,000 animals we admit each year without the helping hands of our wonderful volunteers. In 2012, our volunteers donated 20,860 hours! September 10th the WINC Board of Directors hosted their annual volunteer appreciation picnic for our active volunteers. This year's picnic was generously sponsored by **American Transmission Company** and about 70 volunteers relaxed with food and drink. WINC also holds a party in January for our volunteers and that night, we announce our Volunteer of the Year.

Are you considering volunteering with WINC? If you are under 18, watch our website for information on the May baby bird feeding orientations and summer volunteer opportunities for students. Here's what to do if you are 18 or older.

**1. Application:** Please go to our website :

<http://www.helpingwildlife.org/images/volunteer%20application%20and%20release.pdf>  
or stop in the office for a paper application.

**2. Orientation:** Before you begin volunteering, we ask that you attend one of the following New Volunteer Orientations for volunteers 18 years and older. Because of the amount of training we invest in our volunteers, WINC does ask for a commitment of a 4.5 hour shift per week. Come to an orientation for information and see if you and WINC are a good match! All Classes are held in the Gathering at WINC. Please call 262-965-3090 or email [lowe@helpingwildlife.org](mailto:lowe@helpingwildlife.org) to RSVP for class.

**3. Shadow Shifts:** Once you have attended Orientation, Animal Care volunteers train on 4 shadow shifts with experienced animal care volunteer trainers. Your trainer will walk you through a training checklist which explains our animal charts, food preparation, cage cleaning, laundry, dishes, safe animal handling procedures, and where things are in the clinic.

In fall, winter and spring WINC has 2 shifts a day, seven days a week. In summer, we have a morning, afternoon, and evening shifts available. We are in need of office volunteers who help with administrative tasks. Office volunteers are trained to answer wildlife related questions from the public.

If you have any further questions, please email [lowe@helpingwildlife.org](mailto:lowe@helpingwildlife.org) or call the office at 262-965-3090. We look forward to seeing you at WINC!



**WINC Winter 2013 Volunteer Party**

## Winter Meet and Greet and Holiday Sale At WINC

**DECEMBER 7**  
**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m**

This event is one of the few opportunities to meet WINC's animal ambassadors, learn about their natural history and take photos. Stations will be set up in WINC's Gathering room where each ambassador will be teamed with a staff member or volunteer who will share information about each particular animal on the education team. WINC will also have a Christmas holiday sale where guests can purchase books and animal ambassador sponsorships accompanied with special Christmas ornaments. Book authors will be available to sign books to make this an extra special Christmas gift. All proceeds will go to support the work of the Center.

## WINC Volunteer

### NEXT ORIENTATIONS

January 28, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
February 27, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
March 29, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.



Wildlife In Need Center  
 W349 S1480 S.Waterville Road, Suite B  
 Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Non Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
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## CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

#### 24 SUNDAY - 27 WEDNESDAY

Drop off Christmas cookies at Wildlife In Need Center for our booth at the World's Greatest Cookie Sale held on November 29th. We need volunteers to make their fanciest Christmas treats and drop them off at WINC 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday thru Wednesday.

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

#### 28 THURSDAY

for Thanksgiving

WINC will be CLOSED

#### 29 FRIDAY

World's Greatest Cookie Sale!

12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Shop at Wildlife In Need Center's booth at Country Springs Hotel, 2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee, WI 53072 from 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. The World's Greatest Cookie Sale features home-made holiday cookies and baked goods in every variety imaginable from over 25 participating non-profit organizations. All proceeds benefit the specific non-profit groups you purchase from. The event also features holiday music performances, a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, magic shows, and cupcake decorating. Enjoy a wonderful event for the whole family while you support your favorite causes!

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

### DECEMBER

#### 7 SATURDAY

Holiday Meet and Greet at Wildlife In Need Center.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Authors' book signing

11:00 a.m. - Noon

Come visit with our educational animals and staff and buy an ornament for our tree and consider a wild gift for your special someone at our little owl sale.

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

#### 24 TUESDAY & 25 WEDNESDAY FOR CHRISTMAS

#### 31 TUESDAY & 1 JANUARY FOR NEW YEAR

WINC will be CLOSED

### JANUARY

#### 28 TUESDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

### FEBRUARY

#### 2 SUNDAY

Groundhog Day Celebration!

Witness Waldo the Woodchuck predict spring and enjoy a Meet and Greet with WINC's Educational Ambassadors.

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

*A location change this year!*

#### 27 THURSDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER

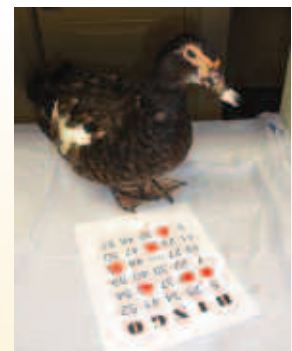
### MARCH

#### 29 SATURDAY

Adult Volunteer Orientation

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

WILDLIFE IN NEED CENTER



### Make miracles happen!

Play the Miracle on Canal Street Bingo Game at Potawatomi Bingo Casino to help raise funds for area children's charities. The Wildlife In Need Center is excited to be in the running to be a recipient! Visit [paysbig.com/miracle](http://paysbig.com/miracle) to learn more. Even Daphne got in on the action and was caught playing Bingo at WINC this week!