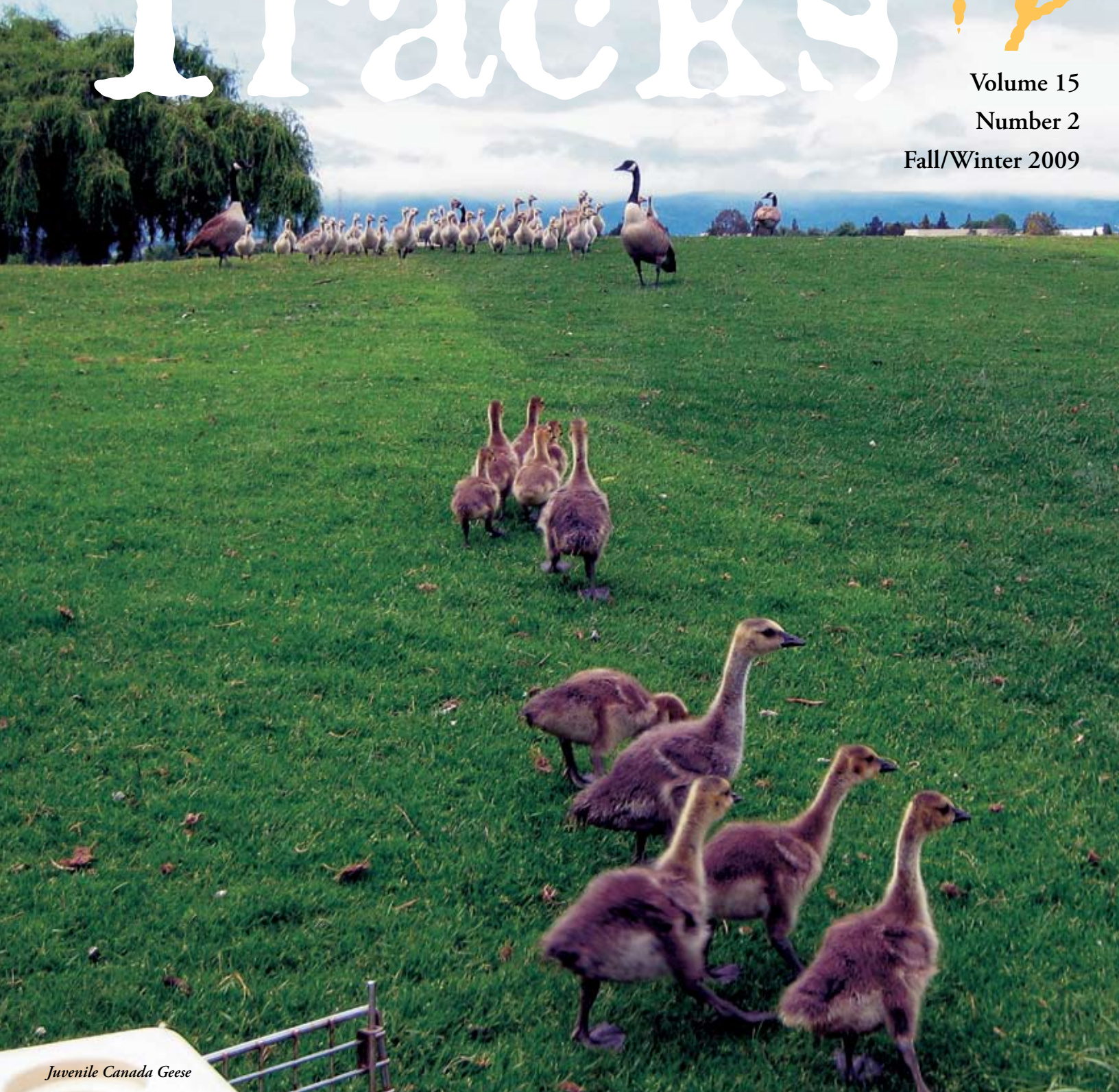


Tracks



Volume 15
Number 2
Fall/Winter 2009



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Message from the President

This year has been one of both great successes and challenges for the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley. The Center, its staff, volunteers, donors, and patrons have truly been experiencing a season of change. While much of this change has occurred due to the stresses of the world around us including the economic downturn, increasing urbanization, and competitive pressures, a substantial amount of this transformation has been the result of a changing spirit, culture, and best practices within the Center.

While challenges related to the current economy have resulted in lower revenues for the Center in 2009—including a significantly reduced level of city funding—the Center remains in excellent financial health. Primarily through the thoughtfulness and exceptional generosity of three benefactors who included the WCSV in their estates, the Center has been able to establish and maintain a “rainy day fund” to ensure it will survive difficult economic environments. As this day has come, the Center is now operating at an expense level that exceeds its revenues from our donors, city funding, and other sources; however, our shortfall is minor relative to our current financial reserves. With that said, we are deeply grateful for the contributions of our donors in light of all of the many struggling nonprofit organizations. Additionally, we appreciate our donors’ continued realization of the importance of wildlife rehabilitation and release in an increasingly urbanized Silicon Valley. That was certainly evident at our annual “Jewels in Flight” fundraiser, held in May, and we look forward to your continued support.

The Center has also undergone significant changes in its staffing, procedures, and organization. The hiring of Stephanie Ellis, our Director of Animal Care, has had an incredibly positive impact on the quality of care that our patients receive. Additionally, exceptional commitment of Ashley Kinney, Jen Constantin, and our many dedicated volunteers have given the Center the constitution to weather a busy season filled with many changes, challenges, and successes. Finally, Larry Stite’s dedication as our Acting Executive Director has been a cornerstone of the Center’s progress over the last couple of years.

Alas, our most difficult challenge this year may well have been a significant shortage of long-term volunteers. Due to the diligent work of Jen and several very dedicated volunteers, this shortage was successfully managed through the busy season. We desperately need to grow, maintain, and nurture both our long-term and newer volunteers to give the Center and the wildlife it receives the stability of services that are needed.

Despite the season of changes, the unwavering dedication, passion, and commitment of the Center’s staff, volunteers, and donors continue to impress and touch me and the rest of the Board of Directors. It is truly these amazing people who are the backbone of the Center’s progress and the root of its future. Thank you all for your many contributions and efforts throughout this season!

John Olson
President, Board of Directors

Tracks...

Tracks is a publication of the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley.

Our Mission

To provide high quality care and rehabilitation of injured, sick and orphaned wildlife within the Silicon Valley community. Through educational programs, we foster a positive coexistence between the general public and wildlife and encourage an interest in and concern for wildlife conservation issues.

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Cover Photo by WCSV Volunteer

A group of Canada goslings that were hatched at the Center run toward an existing crèche in Mountain View, where they were welcomed with open wings. See Rehab Corner, page 6, for more details about this rehabilitation success story.



WCSV is now on Facebook.



Become a fan today!

www.wcsv.org/facebook



Season Seventeen—Achievements to Celebrate

by Kathleen Cabill

It's hard to believe, but WCSV is just finishing its 17th busy summer season! At the time of this writing, there are only a handful of nestling birds in the incubators. Soon, our rehabilitative efforts will be focusing on caring for the injured adult animals that are the main focus during the fall and winter months. There will also be a chance for the volunteers to attend classes at our Center on topics such as species-specific medical care, zoonotic diseases, and so on. In addition, this is the time of year when the animal care staff has time to reflect upon the past year and to strategize on ways to make things even better for our 18th season.

We do our best to provide high level care for the animals, but simultaneously we are always striving to improve the quality of the animal rehab experience. The improvements can include building a new enclosure or improving an existing one, adding classes for our animal care volunteers, or making changes to our treatment protocols. I would like to highlight some of the many positive changes that have taken place at WCSV in this latest busy season.

We have improved our ability to diagnose injuries in animals. We now have limited access to a radiograph at no charge to the Center, so the exact location and severity of fractures can be determined.

Fecal analysis is performed on all predatory mammals, waterbirds, and raptors to test for the presence of parasites. While parasites are common in many wild animals, their presence can hinder progress if the animal's health is compromised.

Blood samples are drawn on the adults of large avian species, and total protein and packed cell volume is assessed. These tests provide an accurate evaluation of the red blood cell status and are helpful in the diagnosis of anemia and dehydration.

We are also giving greater focus to preventive care. Foxes, coyotes, raccoons and skunks are given distemper vaccinations, and opossums are given anti-parasitic medication. Although these diseases are very common in nature, and building up immunity is important, animals in our care are under extra stress and are in greater proximity to one another than would normally be the case, so they are treated while here.

The special liquid meals given to young doves and pigeons have been re-formulated based on a nutrient analysis of crop milk. These meals are created in our kitchen at the Center. Unlike most birds, doves and pigeons do not feed their nestlings seeds or insects. Instead, they are fed a milk-like substance created in the parents' crop which is then regurgitated.

We have improved the format of our rehabilitation dietary book, which contains recipes for formulas (needed for juvenile animals) as well as plate contents for animals receiving solid foods. What is a cookbook without pictures! Now each page lists appropriate foods for each species, accompanied by a photograph of how the plate is set up.

Seventeen seasons of experience in caring for the wild animals of Silicon Valley has provided the Center with a very solid foundation, which will serve us well as we continue to grow and improve. We are looking forward to our 18th season!

An Opossum Tale

by Jackie Turner

Lucy came into the Wildlife Center as an orphan and was unreleasable due to her unusual coloring. She's leucistic, which is albino-like but with normal eye color. I took her home for a few weeks to socialize her and prepare her for her current job as an educational ambassador for the San Francisco Zoo. Now happily settled in her new home, Lucy goes on tour to schools, Girl Scout meetings, and other public events.



Jackie Turner

WCSV's Raptor Rescue Team

Source: Jeanne Fouts

Rescuing a baby squirrel, little opossum or other small animal is not a problem for many citizens of the Silicon Valley. These little ones can be gently handled with care, put into a small box fitted with a clean tee-shirt, and easily transported to the Wildlife Center. Larger species require specialized handling, and those are often brought to the Center by San Jose Animal Care and Services and Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority.

Birds of prey—raptors—fall into this category. Some of them, however, are found outside the zone covered by that agency. This is where the WCSV's Raptor Rescue team enters the picture. Volunteers with a special interest in these creatures are trained in proper handling techniques thereby ensuring the birds' safety as well as their own.

Jeanne Fouts is a member of this team, which has been dispatched a number of times to retrieve raptors. She notes that the Center traditionally has been able to care for the predatory birds it

receives, but it was not until this spring that the Center had the resources to reinstate a program to retrieve and transport them. Ashley Kinney, WCSV's Animal Care Assistant, was instrumental in restarting this program. With her years of service to the Center and her broad background in animal care, she was a logical choice to take on this assignment. "Restarting and leading the Raptor Rescue Team was a huge goal of mine," says Ashley. "We cannot always rely on the public and animal control agencies for our rescues, especially when dealing with predatory birds that can cause severe injuries."

Supplementing the work of the animal control agencies, the raptor team responds to calls equipped with protective gloves, appropriate transportation carriers, and a knowledge of how best to handle the large birds which can be fearsome when they feel threatened. "Since raptors have such sharp talons and beaks and aren't afraid of using them when stressed," Jeanne says, "it would put the public in danger to ask them to bring the animal to the Center."

Once the animals are received at WCSV, they are examined. Birds who are judged to be too seriously ill or injured may go to homecare where they can receive more intensive treatment.

Jeanne is one of the few volunteers who can provide homecare for these birds. She completed a course on handling raptors at UC Davis in 1998, and was a member of the raptor team at Wildlife Rescue in Palo Alto before that organization was acquired by Peninsula Humane Society. She's been working with and caring for these extraordinary birds ever since.

Jeanne's specialty is critical care cases, and she has had good luck in rehabilitating birds with emaciation and head trauma. When the birds are self-feeding and able to fly, they are moved to larger cages where they can complete their recovery prior to release.

Joining Jeanne and Ashley in this important work are the other team members: Dr. Chad Alves, Valerie Baldwin, Kenny Elvin, Lisa Konie, Bill Paker, Jackie Turner and Billie Zwolinski. Ashley credits the entire team, saying "All of them have done such a great job in dealing with the public, going out on calls, taking raptors to the vet for radiographs, reuniting over-rescued birds with their parents, and treating more severe cases in a homecare setting. The Wildlife Center is extremely fortunate to have a team filled with volunteers that are highly educated in all aspects of raptor rehabilitation."

Meet some of the raptors treated by WCSV in 2009!

Text and Photos by Ashley Kinney

Screech-Owl Nestling

This owl came in extremely weak, lethargic and riddled with internal parasites. He was placed in home care to be carefully monitored. When stable, he was transferred to Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center in Morgan Hill, which had another Screech-Owl that was about the same age.



Red-tailed Hawk

This magnificent bird arrived emaciated, cold, and weak. A portion of her beak was broken off. Because she was banded we submitted her information to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which informed us the bird is 21 years old! Raptor team member Lisa Konie placed her in her outdoor aviary during recovery. She was then released.



Red-shouldered Hawks

The bird on the left was picked up by San Jose Animal Care and Services. Dr. Chad Alves rescued the other one in Saratoga.

The latter was extremely thin and dehydrated upon intake with a heavy load of internal parasites.

Both were sent to home care for extra attention. After flight time in an aviary, both were released.



Guest Perspective: Carley Schachter, SFBBO

Every summer and fall since 1982, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO) has monitored local sloughs for signs of botulism outbreaks as part of our Avian Disease Prevention Program. Avian botulism is a neurological disease caused by ingestion of a toxin produced by the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*. Waterfowl and shorebirds are usually the most heavily affected and susceptible to avian botulism infection. Symptoms include an inability to fly, followed by paralysis of the legs. As the disease progresses, so does the paralysis, and affected birds often drown or starve as they become unable to feed themselves.

Early detection of the disease and removal of any carcasses found in the area is key to minimizing the extent of potential outbreaks, so we do weekly patrols by truck and by boat. Any sick or injured birds we find are brought to the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley for treatment and, hopefully, eventual release back into the wild. In 2008, we brought in a total of 25 sick and injured birds for rehabilitation, mostly juvenile California Gulls from the nearby colony in Alviso.

These recently fledged birds are often emaciated and suffering from various parasites and infections. This is probably due in part to poor nutrition once the young gulls start feeding themselves for the first time, combined with a high density of birds at the colony facilitating the transmission of disease. Five of the birds brought to the WCSV were diagnosed with botulism, and an impressive 14 were eventually released in good health.

SFBBO has been monitoring the California Gull colony in Alviso since it was established in 1980. This was the first time these birds have bred this close to the coast, and they have been very successful here, increasing from around a dozen nesting pairs in 1980 to around 12,000 in 2009.

Juvenile gulls at the WCSV



Jennifer Borders



Jennifer Borders

The banded gull (right) is 23 years old.

As part of our monitoring efforts, SFBBO has also done a lot of chick banding at the colony as a way of tracking the population and its movements. One of the exciting things about catching adult gulls in the area (even sick ones) is that occasionally we re-capture one of those banded individuals. We're able to find out how they're doing and get valuable information about where and how they're spending their time. For example, finding one of our banded gulls in the South Bay during the breeding season is a good indicator that they've returned to breed at the colony where they were born, or to one of the smaller satellite colonies nearby.

In July of this year, we were very happy to find gull # 875-06746 in Artesian (Mallard) Slough in San Jose. This bird was banded by SFBBO as a chick in May 1986, making it an impressive 23 years old. (California Gulls have been known to live into their late 20's.) SFBBO's own record is a 25-year-old gull (banded in 1983) which was spotted in Redwood City last year by a volunteer. During our botulism surveys in 2007 and 2008, we found a gull banded in May 1985, and another banded in June 1984. All of these gulls were successfully treated and released by the WCSV.

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory is proud to be able to play a role in safeguarding the bird populations of the South Bay, and we couldn't do it without the help of everyone at the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley. We also get a lot of our banded gull re-sighting information from birders and volunteers, so keep an eye out and your data could become a part of this great long-term project. More information about the

Avian Disease Prevention Program, gull banding and other SFBBO activities can be found on our website (www.sfbbo.org).



Ashley Kinney

Guest writer Carley Schachter is a biologist with the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. She has broad interests in the fields of Ecology and Animal Behavior, and is working on the Bird Observatory's California Gull banding project. Carley received her Master's degree in Marine Science from the Boston University Marine Program in Woods Hole, MA and her BS in Ecology, Behavior and Evolution from the University of California, San Diego.



We always hope, at the Center, that our efforts will be rewarded with the eventual release of the animals brought to us for care. We work as though that will be so, and we don't give up until all hope is truly lost.

This past spring and summer, we were fortunate to see that many of our rehabilitation efforts were successful, and that they led to the release of the animals back into the wild. These are some of the stories.

High, gusty winds in the month of April were thought to have possibly caused some local **Brandt's Cormorants** to stray off course. Cormorants are normally found near large bodies of water, but these were found in parking lots and along the roadside. The Center received an unusually high number of the tall, black birds. Examination indicated that the birds were dehydrated and anemic; there was also evidence of parasites.

The birds were treated for the parasites and stabilized. Once they were well enough to travel, they were transferred to the International Bird Rescue Research Center in Fairfield, a wildlife rehabilitation group that specializes in aquatic birds. (Learn more about IBRRC online at www.ibrrc.org.)

Fishing line caught in the right wing of a **Western Grebe** brought the bird to the Center in late May. She was thin and weak; the injury had restricted use of her wing, and removal of the line revealed swelling and abrasions. Initially the bird would not eat so she was tube-fed a special "slurry" that provided the nutrition she needed. Additional supportive care included misting with water and swim time in a small pool, to encourage her to preen and thereby maintain her waterproofing.

In early June, the grebe had gained sufficient weight and was waterproof. Stephanie Ellis, Director of Animal Care, released her from a dock at the Palo Alto bay lands. Stephanie reported that "The release was amazing! She kept diving and diving... and headed out to the Bay. She looked really happy!"

Canada Geese are a common sight at the WCSV during the spring and summer months. This year the Center had the rare

pleasure of standing by as seven **goslings** hatched on Easter. The goslings were initially kept indoors in sturdy wooden boxes where they were monitored and kept warm as they grew. One week prior to release, they were housed in an outdoor enclosure that contained a heat lamp for additional warmth. They were also paired with an adult Canada Goose, for companionship.

At that point, the Center learned of a large crèche of Canada goslings that had been spotted in Mountain View. A crèche is a group of birds with many chicks or youngsters, and is thought to provide "safety in numbers." One of the Center's dedicated volunteers released the young geese at that location. As you can see in the cover photo, the goslings went running toward the crèche, which accepted them immediately.

The fourth happy ending in this series involves a juvenile **coyote**, brought to us in early August by San Jose Animal Care and Services. He had been hit by a car; examination showed that he was missing part of his tail and a portion of his ear. In addition, his abdomen was distended, he was lethargic, and he was unable to stand, having only minimal use of his hind legs.

Staff and volunteers at the Center provided supportive care for his injuries, including antibiotics and pain medication. After 1½ weeks, the coyote began to show signs of recovery, beginning to stand and eating full meals of eggs, mice and fruit. By the end of the second week, he was able to stand on all four legs. Animal Care Assistant Ashley Kinney noted that the

next step was to move the animal to an isolated room in which the staff could observe him, without him being aware of their presence. "Once he showed signs of making a full recovery we decided to move him into an outdoor enclosure. We observed him running, walking, jumping and digging." It was necessary for the coyote to display these skills to demonstrate an ability to fend for himself when released back into the wild.

The coyote made a full recovery and was released back to his home on August 25. The Center extends a special thanks to San Jose Animal Care and Services for rescuing the animal and bringing him to our facility. We also wish to thank the Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation Department for their assistance in returning the coyote to his established territory.



Paula Massa

Brandt's Cormorant

Western Grebe

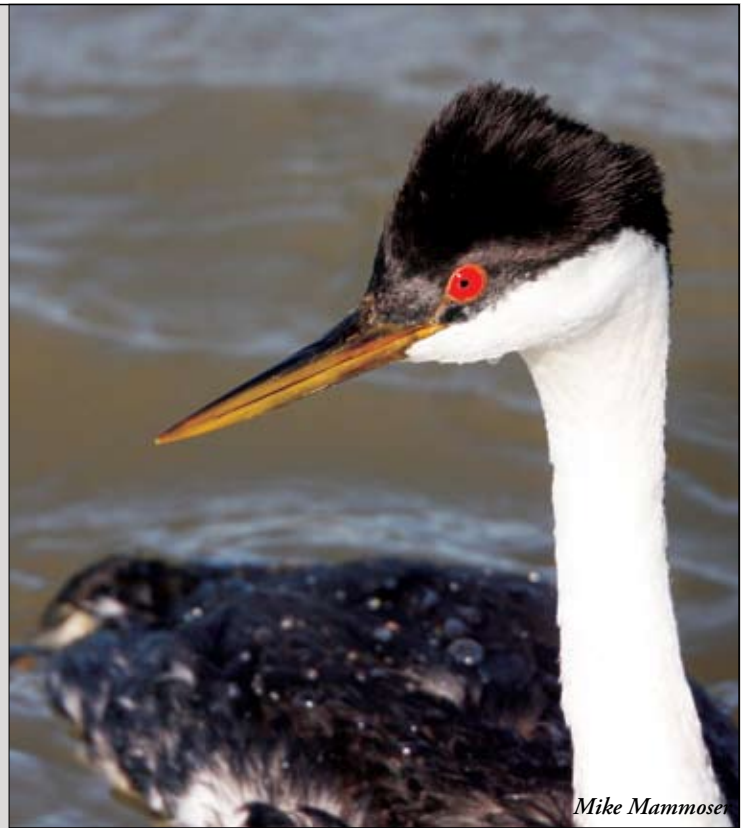
Success Stories

2009

Canada Goslings



Paula Massa



Mike Mammosen

Juvenile Coyote



Jennifer Borders

Dave Constantin



Duck, Duck, Duck

The Center frequently receives domestic ducks that cannot be released into the wild. If you or anyone you know might be interested in adopting one or more, please call the Center at 408-929-9453 or email info@wcsv.org for more information.

WCSV's Sophie Duckett Wins VRL Recognition

By Janet Alexander Thompson

In April, several of us attended the San Jose Junior League's Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, an event that promotes and recognizes contributions of volunteers throughout the South Bay who use their time, skills and talents to help improve the lives of others. This year, the League honored Sophie Duckett with VRL's special 40th Anniversary Award for her 20-plus years of service to wildlife as a volunteer.

Sophie is a remarkable woman and a longtime champion of animals. She started at the Center in 1987 (when it was still part of the Humane Society) after discovering its existence when 12 ducklings became trapped in her pool. Beginning as a shift volunteer, Sophie cared for baby birds and mammals at the Center and eventually became a home care volunteer, raising juvenile birds for release to the wild.

In 2002, the Center desperately needed a satellite home care facility to raise fawns. Sophie stepped up to fill that need and became a dedicated member of the Deer Team. She built an outdoor enclosure at her home, and

each year since has rehabilitated numerous fawns for several months until they are released in the early fall. Sophie also provides outreach to members of the public as well as to local and state enforcement agencies. She goes on rescues and assists various agencies with her expertise to help orphaned and injured deer.

In 2007, Sophie joined the Board of Directors where she wears several hats— from planning events to helping with outreach. Whenever tasks are delegated, Sophie is willing to become involved.

As if all of this wasn't more than enough for any one volunteer to undertake, Sophie co-chairs the Event Committee and single-handedly cooks and prepares gourmet food for more than 100 guests for fundraising events held each year by the Center. She has played a key role in making these events successful.

Sophie is a hardworking, hands-on volunteer, whether at home preparing formula to feed the fawns or feeding a crowd of people. She is constantly doing something and is even willing to tackle the dirtiest, most difficult jobs. She has endless

energy and compassion and works diligently and quietly, accomplishing what needs to be done, nurturing whomever needs nurturing. Congratulations Sophie—you deserve this recognition!



Steve Duckett

Random Facts: Swifts

The WCSV received and cared for some White-throated Swifts this summer. Volunteer and self-described “swift enthusiast” Kirsty MacKay provided these facts about swifts, from information found at www.chimneyswifts.org and the website of the Houston Audubon Society, www.houstonaudubon.org.

- Swifts have enlarged salivary glands during breeding season which they use for binding nesting materials, attaching the nest to a vertical surface (such as a cliff), and constructing food balls (boluses) made up of over 200 small insects glued together for feeding nestlings.
- Both male and female swifts build nests, incubate the eggs, and feed their young using this amazing technique.



Ashley Kinney

One Way to Leave a Little Behind



Dan Alexander

None of us knows what the future holds. It's hard to think about. We do know that our precious wildlife needs to be protected or future generations won't have it to appreciate. Won't you please consider us in your will or trust? Your contribution can be a way to continue giving if you include WCSV in your will or estate plan. You can rest easy knowing that you've made a difference for the local animals!

Great Gift Idea: Hummingbird Bag

Looking for something different to give your wildlife-loving friends this holiday season? Our beautiful canvas tote bag is adorned with a stunning shot of three hummingbirds perched on a twig against a backdrop of colorful flowers.

Photo by renowned hummingbird photographer Don Jedlovec. These unique bags are now available at the WCSV for \$15.



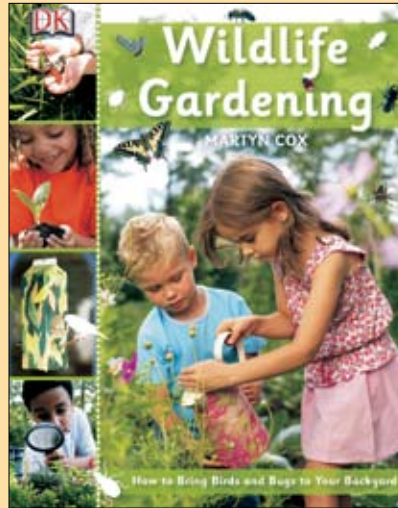
30-Second Book Review

by Ken Massa

Wildlife Gardening

by Martyn Cox, DK Publishing

This children's book (for ages 5 and up) is filled with ways to make any corner in your backyard an inviting haven for all kinds of wildlife. It includes planting ideas with growing conditions for possible amphibious use, or just for water bugs; butterfly houses to promote visual awareness and appreciation; and much more.



The 80 pages contain how-to-do-it-and-why information. Directions are easy to follow and inexpensive to apply. Lessons abound for family involvement, teamwork and appreciation for the smaller side of wildlife.

Join eScrip and Help the Animals While You Shop



At **eScrip Online Mall**, shop at hundreds of name-brand merchants and earn up to 10% or more.

Rewards Network earns WCSV 5% of your purchases at thousands of participating restaurants throughout the United States and Canada.

Safeway Shoppers

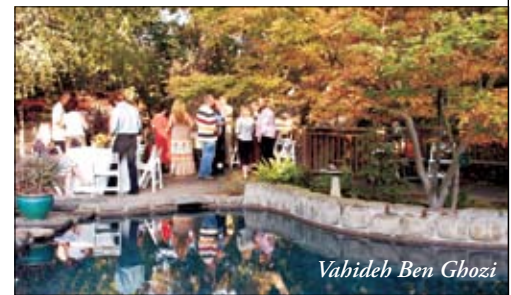
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Macy's

When you use your Macy's card or shop at macys.com, earn 2-6% on qualified purchases.

Visit www.escrip.com and indicate you want to support the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley.

Thank you to all the guests, donors, and volunteers who shared in our September fundraiser, Free to Soar... Again! Your support is greatly appreciated.



Vahideh Ben Ghazi

Wish List

Your help in acquiring these items would be greatly appreciated. Remember your generous donations are tax deductible.

Equipment

- Intel® Pentium® 4 or newer computers or laptops
- Flat screen monitors
- Portable generator
- Heating pads (no automatic shut-off)
- Heat lamps
- Digital weighing scales
- Baby bird incubators
- Pedal garbage cans
- River Rock
- Pea gravel
- Gift cards (even partially used!) - Safeway, Home Depot, Office Max, Staples, Orchard Supply, Costco, and American Express

Basics

- Facial tissues, unscented
- Toilet paper, unscented
- Paper towels
- 33-gallon garbage bags
- Bleach, unscented
- Laundry detergent (HE only), unscented
- Distilled water
- Science Diet Feline Maintenance dry cat food
- Wild bird or finch seed
- Plain millet
- Raw peanuts (in shell), unsalted
- Walnuts (in shell or chopped)
- Fresh/frozen whole smelt



Dr. William J. Krause



Education: The Key to Understanding

by Jen Constantin

In July 2008, when the role of Director of the Education and Outreach Program became available, I jumped at the opportunity to take on this important responsibility. I had joined the Wildlife Center as Operations Coordinator the previous March, managing the front end and getting volunteers started. The one thing I learned very quickly is that education is a critical part of the rehabilitation process.

We receive thousands of calls each year concerning everything from animals that appear to be sick, injured or orphaned to “nuisance” issues, wildlife sightings and even frightened callers. This is only one part of the process. Educating people even before they’re inspired to call a rehabilitation center is key.

There is a growing trend, especially with today’s youth, toward electronic forms of entertainment and away from simply playing outdoors. Fear springs up in the absence of experience and knowledge, so as a team of dedicated and passionate individuals we’re going into classrooms, community groups, and businesses with the hope of opening hearts and minds. Getting people excited about wildlife is our ultimate goal, and lucky for us we’ve been aided in this effort by three wonderful education animals! Fala (our albino American crow), Jet (our Red-shouldered Hawk), and Yankee (our California Gopher snake, who sadly was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer) have been amazing animal ambassadors. They truly are the embodiment of our mission and inspire us all to work harder and learn more!

This year the Wildlife Center’s Education Team has already given 36 presentations, from elementary schools to retired community groups, and participated in 12 festivals/events. I wanted to give the volunteers a chance to have their voices heard, so here are a few thoughts from them on their most memorable moments, or simply favorite parts, of wildlife education.

Trudi Burney – “During presentations to ‘at-risk’ students, they arrive acting tough and closed off until I bring Fala out. As we start our discussion on local wildlife, I see both brilliance and innocence in these kids return as we talk about neighborhood ecosystems. They seem to let their guard down and really listen when she’s on my arm. I have great hopes that connecting with

a wild animal on this basic level will affect how they interface with wildlife in the future.”

Valerie Baldwin – “When a friend of mine found out I did education with a hawk, she invited me to give what turned out to be four presentations to junior high school girls interested in science- and math-related careers. Wow! I was thrilled. At one of the lectures I had to compete with Rubik’s cubes [the kids] were all given in their prior class. Groups of girls had their heads together working on their cubes, and it was hard to get their attention. They began watching as I gave a slide presentation on raptors and the work done at WCSV. Then I brought out Jet and they got all excited. Away went the cubes, out came the cell phones, and they took pictures for ten minutes before I could get them settled down. They were all so enthusiastic. What a treat! I hope the 70-plus kids and their counselors had as good a time as I did.”

Kim Merriman – “A few of my favorite things:

1) Working with an awesome educational animal (Fala).

2) Hearing all of the great stories the kids tell about their experiences with wildlife in the Bay Area.

3) Watching the faces of the kids and adults as they learn new things about the wildlife around us.

4) Continuing to grow and learn through the research I do when needing to present a specific topic to an audience.

5) Being a contributing member of the great collaborative team that builds the presentations for the outreach programs.

6) Touching little pieces of the community across the Valley to turn otherwise uninterested people into caring, knowledgeable wildlife ambassadors.

7) Last but not least... Getting the thank-you cards, pictures, and donations from the kids and adults who have enjoyed seeing Fala and participating in the presentations. I have every thank-you card and picture posted in my office at work.”

One thing that also excites me most about wildlife education is reaching that openness and curiosity in others regardless of their age. Then, the rest is easy!



Jen Constantin

Tracks



Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley

A Rehabilitation, Release & Educational Facility

3027 Penitencia Creek Road • San Jose, CA 95132



Save the Date: Annual Meeting

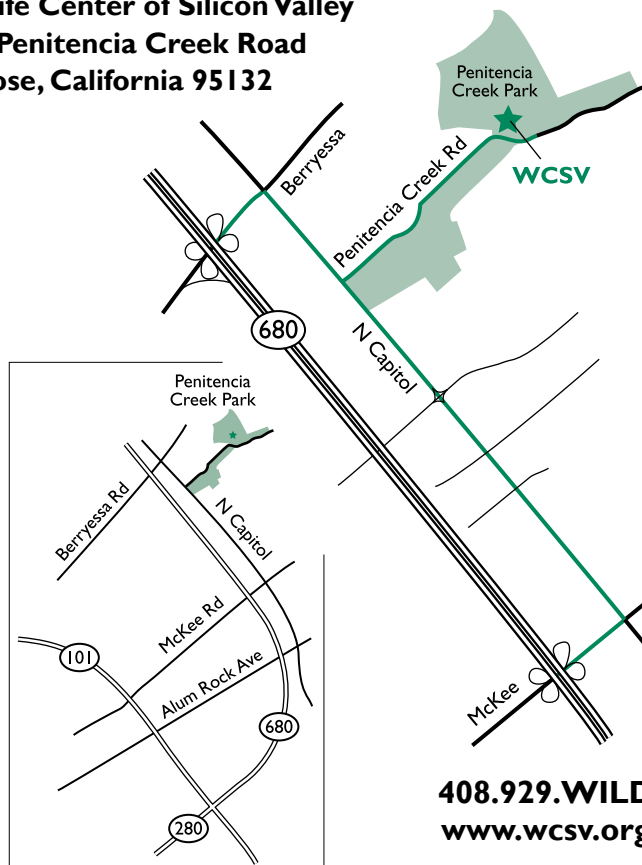
January 21, 2010
6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Sobrato Community
Conference Center
Building 5
600 Valley Way
Milpitas, CA 95035

Ashley Kinney

How to Contact Us

Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley
3027 Penitencia Creek Road
San Jose, California 95132



408.929.WILD
www.wcsv.org

WCSV is a leased facility of the Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation Department