An Amazing Swan Tale With A Storybook Ending

Mid-summer 2015 brought us a call from a concerned North Huntingdon citizen about some sort of waterfowl that was trapped in a small muddy pond in what used to be Oak Hollow Park. Fortunately, we were able to contact WWI friends, Dennis and Mary Law to check out the situation. The Laws have been instrumental in a number of waterfowl rescues over the years, from places like Twin Lakes, Mammoth Park, Indian Lake and other areas in Westmoreland County.

In this instance, they found a young swan (cygnet) nearly engulfed in a slimy sinkhole, tangled in discarded fishing line so severely that one of its legs was literally bent up over its back with the line wrapped around its neck. The weather was severe that day, with thunder, lightning and heavy rain, but Dennis and Mary were not deterred. With no concern for themselves, they waded into the muck, retrieved the cygnet and cut off as much of the fishing line as they could. Shortly thereafter, they brought the young swan to WWI, where we discovered that the bird had sustained a significant amount of soft tissue damage to the neck, leg and especially the foot. Large portions of the webbing between its toes were shredded and the filthy conditions were sure to cause infection complications.

After initial wound treatment and antibiotics, we consulted with Dr. Craig Hill from KVet Animal Care, who performed surgery on the foot to remove the damaged webbing. Unfortunately, the surgery left the swan with three toes without the important webbed skin (see photo below) that makes moving in the water so effortless for most swimming fowl.

Mute Swans are not native to the US, so once the cygnet was healed and healthy, we were very lucky to find placement for him through a dedicated group of swan lovers and rescuers of domestic waterfowl of all kinds, Linda Sweger and Chloe's Creek. They named the young swan Pip and began a search for a forever home for him that could deal with his disability.

Just last month, we received news that Pip, now re-named Prince Charming, had been helping to foster two very young cygnets at Chloe's Creek over the summer but was going to be paired up with a young female called Snow White. We couldn’t have been happier to know that even with our distressed wildling friends, there is sometimes a "happily ever after."

**WATERFOWL PEN UPDATE** – With Spring just around the corner, we are excited to let you know that we will soon be breaking ground for our new, state-of-the-art waterfowl enclosure! The bid for the construction has been given to K.G.D. Contracting, and we are looking forward to working closely with them to make this dream come true. Many thanks again to Avangrid Renewables and the Margaret Raphael Family Trust for the generous grants that are making this project possible.
In October of last year, Bryan Gibbs, a Wildlife Conservation Officer with the PA Game Commission rescued a downed eagle from a farmer’s field in Lawrence County. The eagle had been on the ground for days and was only captured after he became too weak to escape.

The adult male had a fractured right wing and was very emaciated. Soon after admission, the bird was taken to the Pittsburgh Veterinary Specialist and Emergency Clinic. Dr. John Payne advised wrapping the wing rather than surgery because of the eagle’s extremely weakened condition.

After five months of rehab, the good news is that the bone healed extremely well and in good alignment even though orthopedic pinning surgery couldn’t be done. More good news is that the eagle is flying laps in the barn flyway.

The not-so-good news is that he has not been able to hold the wing in a normal position while at rest. Despite our attempts at giving the bird ample access to flight and stretching his wings in an effort to regain strength, the wing still droops dramatically forward from the elbow (see photos), leading to fears that he will not have the maneuverability to successfully hunt if released.

Our next step is to consult with several vets and rehabbers with more extensive experience rehabbing eagles to get their feedback on whether this bird has any chance at being returned to the wild.

If the ultimate conclusion is that this magnificent Bald Eagle can never again soar the skies, we will be looking for a quality facility that can offer him a large enclosure where he can at least fly to the degree he is able to ensure the best quality of life that he can have in captivity. Watch our Facebook page for updates.

This is the second eagle admitted to WWI since completion of our raptor barn. The Golden Eagle admitted March 4, 2014, shortly after completion of the barn, was rehabbed and released into the wild.

(Photos this page by WWI volunteer Kristy Mathews.)
Southern Flying Squirrel - Since the start of the winter weather, we have been inundated with flying squirrels. The first one we received had its home tree cut down, the second came in with a leg injury from a dog attack, and the nine others were living in sheds, attics and garages where the owners wanted them removed.

Winter is not a good time to trap and relocate flying squirrels for a variety of reasons. Flying squirrels are cache hoarders—that means they have food stores in several places that they depend on to avoid starvation, especially in winter months. They also have a habit that is peculiar to flying squirrels—during cold weather, they live in small groups that sleep in the same nest box or tree cavity, huddling together for warmth. By removing a flyer from its home turf in the winter, you are not only taking it away from its food supply but also to an area that may not provide shelter and other squirrels to nest with. Spring can be an equally bad time to trap and relocate flying squirrels, or any native mammal for that matter, since young offspring can be left behind to die a slow death from starvation, or exposure.

Because they are nocturnal, flying squirrels are the least seen of our native squirrels. Northern flying squirrels (Glaucomys sabrinus) and southern flying squirrels (Glaucomys volans) are the only two native flying squirrel species found in North America. The southern species is smaller, about 8 to 10 inches in length including the tail, and they’re the more common flyer in our immediate area.

Despite the name, flying squirrels do not actually fly. They have a fold of flexible skin called a patagium (can be seen in the top and bottom right photos) that extends from the wrist of the front leg to the ankle of the hind leg, allowing them to glide from tree to tree, maneuvering with a broad, flat rudder-like tail. Flyers typically achieve distances of 20-30 feet, though glides up to 240 feet have been recorded.

Fortunately for nine of the flyers in our care, the home owners contacted us before trapping them, and we agreed to house the displaced squirrels in one of our large outside enclosures to keep them safe and well-fed until Spring. When the trees are fully leafed out, the squirrels will be released here at the refuge to join our existing resident flyer population.
Dear Professor Possum,

I spend a lot of time in the great outdoors, walking, birding, fishing, etc. There seems to be so many more deer in the forest I’ve known since childhood. What should I do if I find a fawn that is all alone in the woods while I’m hiking?

Inquiry from Irwin

Dear Inqury,

Your question is similar to the other from this issue, in that I am compelled to point out that wild white-tailed deer, it is common for the doe to leave its fawn in a safe area and forage nearby, out of sight of humans and potential predators, only returning to the young several times throughout the day to nurse it. These fawns are well-camouflaged by their spots and know to stay put and still where their mother leaves them. Many fawns found by themselves are just fine but are “rescued” by well-meaning individuals who don’t know any better. I recommend you be guided by the advice of rehabilitation professionals before you decide to rescue a fawn.

In PA, there are a very limited number of rehab facilities that are set up to accept fawns for care. In fact, the total number of rehabilitation centers in the entire state has been decreasing over the last decade, going from 60+ to less than forty. PA rehabbers receive NO financial support from the PA Game Commission or any other state government agency. Many are one- or two-person operations. Financial restraints and low participation pose significant limiting factors that are affecting PA rehabbers. Coupled with the ever-increasing numbers of wildlings in trouble due to habitat destruction and fragmentation, the future is indeed precarious for our wild neighbors and those who are trying to help them.

Dear Prof,

Last year, I found two baby raccoons on the side of the road near a dead adult that I assumed was their mother. I called everywhere and was unable to find a rehab facility in the area that could take them. Some centers were not licensed to accept raccoons and the few that were had as many baby coons as they could handle. I finally had to call the game Commission and the babies were put to sleep.

This was a very distressed situation for me and I’m wondering what I’ll do this coming season if something similar happens to me or someone I know. Why is it so hard to find help for these wildlings?

Sad in New Stanton

Dear Sad,

I feel for you and unfortunately, I don’t have a good or easy solution for this problem. Rabies vector Species (RVS) in PA include raccoons, skunks, bats, foxes, coyotes and groundhogs. PA Game Commission regulations put very specific requirements on rehab facilities that want to rehab RVS with respect to training, handling procedures, special caging, and human health concerns. These regulations are important because rabies is a disease that, left untreated in humans, is almost always fatal. For these reasons, the number of facilities in PA that handle RVS is limited, and because of the large numbers of RVS orphans, especially raccoons, there are simply not enough resources to help them all.

One way we can all ensure that fewer RVS wildlings end up having to be euthanized because there is not enough help for them is to reduce the numbers of these animals that are removed from situations where they should have been left alone. First, keep in mind that wild mothers almost never abandon their young. Sometimes, well-intentioned folks take these babies without understanding the natural history and habits of the species. Unless the mother is known to be dead, a good plan of action is to check with wildlife rehabbers BEFORE “rescuing” RVS babies. These professionals can often help to facilitate a reunion between mothers and offspring and remove the necessity of these wildlings ending up in rehab settings. Another very important piece of advice is to delay trapping “nuisance” wild animals during baby season. Again, I urge you to turn to rehab professionals for advice before making trap and relocate decisions that separate mothers from their offspring who are left to slowly starve or be found needing rehab care.

While these measures will not resolve all of the issues of the public being unable to find help for wildlife in need, it will help to reduce the numbers of wildlings that come into a rehab setting unnecessarily.
It has always been a challenge to train and maintain a sufficient number of animal care volunteers to handle the number of wildlings brought to WWI each year. This challenge is now going to be even greater with the overall statewide decrease in rehab facilities.

In addition to treating injured and orphaned wildlife, WWI’s other primary goals are to educate the public on how to live in harmony with wildlife and also if, when, and how to intervene when they encounter injured or seemingly injured wildlife. Minimizing the number of wildlings brought to us, who were needlessly removed from their environment, will lessen the demand on WWI - our volunteers and our resources - helping us to meet the above challenge. To this end, please read the information below to help you identify if and when you need to step in to “rescue” wildlings. Please also share this info with others who love and value our wild neighbors.

**Keep Cats Indoors** - Every year, WWI receives numerous calls from cat owners about animals injured by their pets. Many are admitted and most do not survive. Sadly, it is pet cats’ instinct to hunt – not real hunger – that usually drives them to kill wildlife. It’s a fallacy that cats need to roam outside to be happy, and the common strategy of putting bells on their collars has been found to be ineffective for alerting wildlife to their danger.

Allowing pet cats to roam outside is not just bad for backyard birds and wildlife, it’s bad for the cats too. Outdoor cats are exposed to disease as well as the dangers of traffic, traps, poisons, abuse, and attacks from other animals. In fact, outside cats frequently don’t live past the age of five, while indoor cats often live to be 17 or more.

**Baby Birds** - It’s a fact, a large percentage of young animals rescued by well-intentioned people don’t need help. Nearly 100 baby birds were admitted to WWI in 2015. Many would’ve had a greater chance of survival if they were left alone or moved to a safe place.

Knowing the difference between a nestling and a fledgling is a key factor in determining whether or not to intervene. A fledgling is no longer a baby. It is a young bird in the process of learning to fly. These birds try, but don’t quite get into the air. Instead, they end up on the ground, hopping and fluttering about. Nestlings, on the other hand, do not yet have flight feathers. They may be un-feathered or partially feathered with some skin visible.

**Fledgling** - If you see a baby bird on the ground that seems to have all of its feathers, but still looks a little downy, it is a fledgling. Unless you know of an immediate threat such as a dog, a cat, children, or a busy road, you should not approach the bird, but watch it from a distance. Watch and wait. Make sure the parents are checking on it every few hours. If the fledgling is otherwise healthy but there is an immediate threat move the fledgling to the safety of a nearby dense shrub or tree. If the fledgling is wet or listless or if it is still where you placed it after several hours, call WWI for further advice.

**Nestling** - If you find a nestling, examine it carefully. If the bird is not injured, is alert, dry and warm, carefully pick it up and return it to the nest. Touching a baby bird will not keep the parents away, but do not handle the baby a lot. Remember, their bones are fragile. If you cannot re-nest the bird, or if you are sure the parent is dead or if the bird is cold, wet, and/or listless, place the bird in a small container lined with tissue, keeping the legs and wings snug to its body. Cover a heating pad (set on low) with a folded towel, then place the substitute nest on the towel and pad. Again, do not attempt to feed or water the bird as this could be fatal. Call WWI as soon as possible.

**Baby Bunnies** - Wild cottontail rabbits “nest” in shallow holes dug in the ground by the mother rabbit. Nests are often found in lawns, gardens or under shrubs. The mother, called a doe, lines the shallow hole with fur pulled from her body and covers it and her babies with a mixture of dry grass and twigs to hide it from predators. The doe feeds her babies 2-3 times a day, once before early morning (dawn) and a couple of times right after it gets dark (dusk). She squats over the nest so the babies can reach up and nurse her milk. The mother does NOT continually sit on the nest or stay with the baby bunnies. Doing so would signal carnivorous (meat-eating) birds and animals (like owls and foxes) as to where her babies are living. By staying away from the nest, the doe protects her young.

If you know where a nest is, move around - not over - the site. If you’ve made your discovery after the fact, replace the nest with the disturbed debris from the nest top or other suitable material such as dry grass and leaves. Baby bunnies that have been removed from the nest can be returned if they are healthy, uninjured, warm, dry, and no flies are present. Replacement should be done without the presence of children or pets. Cover the nest. Use twigs or short pieces of yarn and criss-cross the pieces over the cover. Use these as markers to identify the nest site for future mowings.

Remember, the doe visits the nest at dusk, dawn, and some times in the middle of the night, so watching for her during the day is futile. If the markers you left have been disturbed the next day, it is an indication that she has returned to feed, and all is well.

**Fawns** - Fawns in PA are generally born in late May and early June. During their first days of life, these delicate creatures are often left alone for long hours while their mother forages for food. Returning only to nurse their young, the mother knows that the hidden fawn is safe from predators because he has little or no scent and remains motionless in his bed. Though primarily crepuscular, nursing does may be active throughout the day, so it is possible to stumble upon a seemingly “abandoned” fawn at any time. In most cases the mother is nearby, nervously waiting for the intruder to leave.

Since fawns are not completely weaned until they are approx, four months old and they have shed their spotted coats, they must remain in their mother’s care. Even after they are weaned, fawns usually stay with and are cared for by their mother until they are about a year old. If you find a fawn:
- Do not touch or move the fawn unless it is in imminent danger or is obviously injured.
- Watch with binoculars from a distance for several hours to see if the mother returns.
- If you have concerns about the fawn’s safety or well-being, call a wildlife rehabilitator immediately.

Please remember that White-tailed Deer are very easily stressed by captivity and contact with humans. So, please, if you find a fawn, be courteous and respectful and do not try to touch or move it.
Last year we admitted more wildlings than we had in the past 15 years. The need for wildlife rehabilitation and the increased awareness of the public is putting a greater demand on WWI and our volunteer staff.

With 12 hour days and a minimum of two volunteers per 4-hour shift, WWI needs 40-50 animal care volunteers to care for the 300-400 wildlings we admit each year. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and will be trained.

Being an animal care volunteer is hard work but very rewarding. Volunteers have up-close experiences, learn to identify many native and migratory wildlings, and learn about their behavior. All in all, it is an experience that is hard to come by in this area. A number of past volunteers now have successful careers working with animals.

Below are some duties:

**Animal Care Volunteer Duties**

- Priority is feeding, medicating, and treating all wildlings.
- Read log and charts prior to any care.
- Make diets and prepare food, documenting any food shortage in log. Morning shifts defrost food for raptors.
- Feed, medicate and treat all inside and outside wildlings per directions, refreshing and cleaning cages. Log your activities, being sure to document any behavior change.
- Do dishes and laundry, documenting any shortage of supplies.
- At the end of the shift, if time allows, replenish food dishes for next shift.
- During “baby season” (April through Sept) nearly 70% of the work is indoor work.
- Almost 50% of your time will be spent cleaning and changing cages.
- There is written protocol for every facility usage - Intensive Care Unit, sinks, laundry, aviaries, cages, etc.
- Novice volunteers will not be handling mammals or high risk wildlings. With demonstrated desire and aptitude, volunteers can increase hands-on skills over time.

We are happy to feature our Winter/Spring interns, Alex Marsh and Nikki Tumminello. Alex is a senior at Ligonier Valley High School and Nikki is a student at University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg campus.

These two young adults have been working at WWI for 15 and 8 hours per week, respectively, for the last three months. Not only has their help been invaluable, but it has truly been our pleasure to give these outstanding young people opportunities to gain real-life experiences that they will be able to use as they pursue future career goals. Alex plans to become a zoologist and herpetologist and Nikki is majoring in biological sciences.

For years, WWI’s internship program has been helping students with an interest in veterinary medicine, biology, wildlife management, environmental education, zoology, and animal husbandry, among others. We are exceptionally pleased to note that six of our previous interns have gone on to earn degrees as veterinarians. Others have been able to obtain employment in their fields, as well.

Our internship program is just another legacy that WWI can be proud of and we encourage other high school and college students with an interest in wildlife in any capacity to contact us for more information.
The 2016 busy season was one of the most difficult for me in the recent past. The number of calls we received for help was at an all-time high. Conversely, the number of volunteers seemed to be at an all-time low. Keeping enough people on board daily through three shifts was often a nightmare. The level of exhaustion and burnout both in the staff and myself became crushing. More than in any other year, we had to close our doors to new admissions until we were able to catch up, catch our breath and transition enough animals through care to make room for more. Towards the end of summer 2016, we made a board decision not to accept any more baby birds because we simply could not handle the workload.

Unfortunately, this coming baby season may be as bad if not worse. Several rehabbers in SW PA have recently shut down. The culture of volunteerism is not what it was even five or six years ago, and we are expecting to be struggling to keep the center fully staffed again this summer. Perhaps most importantly, my personal health is impacting my stamina and I am simply not able to work seven days a week or fill in every time there is an opening in the schedule. It is the reality of the current situation that WWI will have no choice but to limit the number of animals we can take care of at any given time and have to close our doors when we have reached our limit. This is something I have resisted in years past, but now, there really is no other choice. We simply cannot in good conscience take in more than we can adequately provide for, as much as it pains me knowing that other help for the ones we turn away may not be out there.

What can you do to help? Obviously, making a commitment to join our volunteer force is a first step. A substantial and sustainable increase in financial support that would allow us to hire one or two more animal care techs would be another step. Our space, though, is finite, despite all of our expansion over the last few years, so there will still be limitations. Whatever the future brings, WWI will continue its commitment to provide quality care for as many wildlings as possible for as long as possible.
**2016 Program Statistics**

**Rehabilitation**

**Mammals**
- Virginia Opossum 23
- Eastern Cottontail 81
- Eastern Chipmunk 4
- Flying Squirrel 2
- Grey Squirrel 33
- Red Squirrel 18
- Deer Mouse 4

**Total Mammals 163**

*WWI can triage native RVS mammals such as woodchucks before transfer to rabies-vector licensed rehab facilities.

**Native Birds**
- Canada Goose 3
- Wood Duck 1
- Mallard Duck 34
- Bufflehead 1
- Ruddy Duck 1
- Ring-necked Pheasant 1
- Wild Turkey 8
- Common Loon 2
- Great Blue Heron 1
- Turkey Vulture 2
- Bald Eagle 1
- Cooper’s Hawk 7
- Red-shouldered Hawk 1
- Red-tailed Hawk 14
- Broad-winged Hawk 3
- American Kestrel 3
- Killdeer 1
- American Woodcock 1
- Ring-billed Gull 1
- Rock Dove 9

- Mourning Dove 16
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo 1
- Barn Owl 1
- Great Horned Owl 7
- Barred Owl 5
- Eastern Screech-Owl 11
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird 2
- Red-bellied Woodpecker 5
- Hairy Woodpecker 2
- Downy Woodpecker 1
- Northern Flicker 2
- Pileated Woodpecker 3
- Eastern Phoebe 1
- Blue Jay 8
- American Crow 5
- Common Raven 1
- Barn Swallow 2
- Tufted Titmouse 2
- House Wren 4
- Carolina Wren 2
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1
- American Robin 1
- Brown Thrasher 1
- Cedar Waxwing 6
- Song Sparrow 2
- Dark-eyed Junco 3
- Scarlet Tanager 1
- Northern Cardinal 14
- Eastern Meadowlark 1
- Red-winged Blackbird 2
- Common Grackle 7
- Purple Finch 1
- House Finch 2
- Chipping Sparrow 1
- American Goldfinch 2

**Unknown Hatchling 2**

**Total Native Birds 269**

**Introduced Birds**
- European Starling 22
- House Sparrow 46

**Total Introduced Birds 68**

**Domestic Birds**
- Pekin Duck 2
- Racing Pigeon 1
- Brown Chinese Goose 1
- Khaki Campbell Duck 1
- White Dove 1

**Total Domestic Birds 6**

**Total Native, Introduced and Domestic Birds 343**

**Reptiles**
- Eastern Box Turtle 6
- Eastern Spiny Softshell 1
- Ring-necked Pheasant 1

**Total Reptiles 11**

**Total Wildlings 517**

"Adopted" Wildlings (To Adopt see Page 11) 4 Songbirds
- Cheryl & Ted Richardson
- Rosemary Jones
- Nancy Glanz
- Tony Pels

1 Cooper’s Hawk
- Carol & David Dominicis

2 Hummingbirds
- Rosemary Jones
- Audrey Shrosh

1 Flying Squirrel
- Tracy & Roger Tinkey

**Wildlings Admitted - 517**

Animals Released - 256

Nontreatable - 150

Release Rate for 2016 - 70%

Avg Cost Per Wildling - $46.44

*Does not include “nontreatable” wildlings that died within 24 hours.

**Animal Care Volunteers**

- Brooke Baldonieri
- Carissa Berg
- Suzanne Borza
- Allison Cheekeye
- Carol DaRold
- Brenda David
- Wendy Davis
- Amy DeVault
- Lexi Dillon
- Alexis Duncan
- Carol Durco
- Jessica Evanchak
- Pat Fennema
- Nicole Hineman
- Michelle Hyatt
- Joyce Jedd
- Amber Kerr
- Stephanie King
- Nick Kozinko
- Jill Leasure
- Hannah
- Leszczynski
- Monica Leuthold
- Courtney Lotz
- Brian Martz
- Kristy Mathews
- Joelle Miele
- Crystal Miller
- Kirsten Miller
- Courtney Milliron
- Tina Moore
- Melissa Morris
- Mia Mullaney
- Stephanie Nau
- Meghan Ohler
- Marci Osborne
- Manissa Petrarca
- Angie Pompa
- Liz Ringstad
- Laura Rosner
- Sophia Roy
- Deb Shelapinsky
- Julie Simon
- Katie Slivko
- Sarah Smallwood
- Glenda Smith
- Tyler Smith
- Sandy Stan
- Jennifer Urban
- Pam Valla
- Amber van Strien
- Brenna Walz
- Alyssa Wander
- Stephanie Wehner
- Kathy Welsh
- Judi Wilson
- Ron Yannacci

**2016 Education Programs**

WWI’s “Wild Neighbors” education program is available to any group. The program may include a Power Point show, rescue “do’s and don’ts” and the natural history of our wild neighbors. Educational animals are sometimes included. In 2016, twenty-one programs, addressing 1,593 individuals, mostly children, were presented:

- Barnes Place Senior Living (22)
- Golden Heights Personal Care Home (27)
- Greensburg Girl Scouts Camp (106)
- Keystone State Park Family Outdoors Show (115)
- New Story School (24)
- Parentwise/WAVA Ice Cream Blast (200)
- South Greengate Commons (17)
- Southmoreland Elementary Grade 3 (160)
- Stanwood Elementary Grade 2 (155)
- Winnie Palmer Nature Center Earth Day Event (145)
- Women’s Saturday Afternoon Club of Scottdale (30)

In addition to educating the public via publications and press releases, WWI responds to hundreds of individuals who call our facility each year with wildlife-related questions. Please contact WWI if you are interested in becoming one of our outreach educators.
Special Thanks to our 2016 Financial Supporters

Irene
Hempfield Hunt Club
Hensley, Richard & Lori
Hillkey, Carol
Hopman, Michelle & Brian
Jackman, Robert & Carolyn
Jaccobini, Family, Patricia
Jans, Martha
Johnson, Sandra
Kelly, John & Linda
Kozlakiewicz, Shawn
Kuhns, Gretchen
Libbey, John
Augustine, Reba
Dolter, Joan
Malden, David
Mandella, Madonna
Markle, Paul
VHMD & Staff
Marc M.D., Dr. Martin
Martz, Lori & William
Matthews, Kristin & Scott
Meadows, Ed & Susan
Morrow, Shannon
Morris/Chalfant
Moser, Thomas & Billie Ann
Munn, Beth
Naley, John & Joyce
O’Brien, James
Palermo, Pat
Pattigiani, Dave & Gigi
Poole, David & Bernard
Quinn, Gerald & Anna Ream, Julie
Rholfrahn, Karen & Ron
Rusalka, Frank & Sandy
Sancton, Velasiti, Nadia
Schmaltz, Adam
Scammell, Amy & David
Schlegel, Judith, Cheryl
Schuck, Ann & James
Seibert, Susan
Shab, Beth Ann
Silvers, Clarence
Silvana, Judith & Anton
Sloboda, Chris
Smarcheak, Lorrie & Ryan
Thompson, Richard
Smith, Amy & Donald
Smith, Margaret
Southemoreland Elementary School
Stewart, Karen
Stewart, Sally
Stringer, Susan
Tate, Terry
Thelma, Janet
Tickney, Tracy & Roger
Tirch, Camille
Truscott, Tara
U.S. Army World of War
Westmoreland County
Willton, Tom & Kathy Joseph
Wehner, Stephanie
Welch, Rick & Doni
Westmoreland Bird & Nature
Whisler, Josh & Lisa
Winston, Gail & Lois
Women’s Saturday Afternoon All-Comers Work, Susan & Michelle
Yannetti, Karin & Ron, Le Ella
Yusko, Kathleen
You are here
Animal Rescue/Adoption Advocate
Arbaster, Cindy
Bateman, Cathy
Berg, Karen & Matt
Barbaki, Davida
Bartel, Leanne & Jason
Becke, Jeff
Bentel, Patti
Bell, Linda & Tom
Bergstrom, Melanie
Bish, Donald
Bott, Bill & Barb
Boyle, Eileen
Brinker, Diana
Brown, Joelle
Carr, Maria & Rob
Castle, Tina
Christopher, Deborah
Cipriani, Mark
Clayton & Mary Catherine
Cooper, Herbert & jewel
Crawley, Jodi & Bob
DeFranze, Mike
Degrazia, Beth
DeFranco, Elaine & Michael
Diller, John
Downey, Robert
Dowd, Michael
Edwards, Mike
Ennsman, Ann & Jim
Evans, James
Gaffney, Nancy & George
Gasparato, Clayton & Larry
Gladys, Robert & Kathy
Glanz, Nancy
Gold, Lorna
Gonzalez, Jim & MiMi
Griffith, Mark
Grubesich, Haber
Haines, David & Kliff
Hamlin, Carol
Haas, Linda & Donald
Headley, Donal & Doreen
Hillard, Leonard & Danielle
Hoffman, Harry & hindus
Holtz, Thomas
Huston, Janet
Jonges, Kristen
Jordie, Diane
Kline, Simpy & Shelley
Kiefer, Jessica
Kimmel, Brain
Kline, Cyn K
Kozubal, Heidi & Michelle
Kriger, Richard
Kunche, Lisa & Kevin
Lambert, Berengia
Lambert, Robert
Lanetrill, Sally
Larcher, Steve
LaMecque, Mary Beth
Marks, Rev. Bob
McClain, James & Suandrea
Mena, Patricia
Merchant, Susan
Miyaganka, Mary
Miller, Susan
Mock, Carol & John
More, Elaine & Fernando
Morgan, Pati
Mozina, Orgnark and Andy
Mozina, Phyllis & John
Myers, Delores & Raye
Newhouse, Shirley & John
Obley, Alan
Offerman, Laura
Oliver, Rebecca
Oppisicher, Valerie
Patti, Terri
Quast, Fred & Nancy
Rechtorik, Denise
Riegler, Sid
Regula, Tammy
Rosenberg, E. Susan
Rosman, Mary
Rowe, Elizabeth
Ruggeri, Sheila
Sando, Madison
Scalland, Dan & Cheryl
Shreiber, Shirley
Schect, Sandy
Skeete, Barton
Smarttink, Elaine & Dan
Snwait, Lou
Smith, Glenda
Smith, John H.
Smith, Sandy
Smyda, Denise
Sommer, Chris
St. Vincent College
Stark, Carmen
Stevenson, Debbie
Striplay, Lori
Swain, George & Lester
Thomas, Tina & Rob
Treichak, Caren & Cheryl
Tropp, Danielle
Tudor, Peggy
Valerio, Dr. Dan
Vaugn, Jim
Veiga, Tonya
Vitek, Dan & Jim
Voloch, Deborah
Wambrotmd, James & David
Walowski, Joe & Linda
Wensel, Janet & Jim
Empfield, Ryan
Riley, Katie
Kormke, Natalia
Kronke, Stephen
Ferlie, M. Sue
Andrew, Sherray
Shields, Justin
Shaw, Jamie
Simm, Peter
Singer, Linda
Sizemore, Gene
Skeete, Universally
Pompa, Angie & Danny
Pepe, Lisa
Carter, Melissa & Scott
Downey, Robert
Edwards, Mike
Ensman, Ann & Jim
Evans, James
Gaffney, Nancy & George
Gasparato, Clayton & Larry
Gladys, Robert & Kathy
Glanz, Nancy
Gold, Lorna
Gonzalez, Jim & MiMi
Griffith, Mark
Grubesich, Haber
Haines, David & Kliff
Hamlin, Carol
Haas, Linda & Donald
Headley, Donal & Doreen
Hillard, Leonard & Danielle
Hoffman, Harry & hindus
Holtz, Thomas
Huston, Janet
Jordie, Diane
Kline, Simpy & Shelley
Kiefer, Jessica
Kimmel, Brain
Kline, Cyn
Kozubal, Heidi & Michelle
Kriger, Richard
Kunche, Lisa & Kevin
Lambert, Berengia
Lambert, Robert
Lanetrill, Sally
Larcher, Steve
LaMecque, Mary Beth
Marks, Rev. Bob
McClain, James & Suandrea
Mena, Patricia
Merchant, Susan
Miyaganka, Mary
Miller, Susan
Mock, Carol & John
More, Elaine & Fernando
Morgan, Pati
Mozina, Orgnark and Andy
Mozina, Phyllis & John
Myers, Delores & Raye
Newhouse, Shirley & John
Obley, Alan
Offerman, Laura
Oliver, Rebecca
Oppisicher, Valerie
Patti, Terri
Quast, Fred & Nancy
Rechtorik, Denise
Riegler, Sid
Regula, Tammy
Rosenberg, E. Susan
Rosman, Mary
Rowe, Elizabeth
Ruggeri, Sheila
Sando, Madison
Scalland, Dan & Cheryl
Shreiber, Shirley
Schect, Barton
Smarttink, Elaine & Dan
Snwait, Lou
Smith, Glenda
Smith, John H.
Smith, Sandy
Smyda, Denise
Sommer, Chris
St. Vincent College
Stark, Carmen
Stevenson, Debbie
Striplay, Lori
Swain, George & Lester
Thomas, Tina & Rob
Treichak, Caren & Cheryl
Tropp, Danielle
Tudor, Peggy
Valerio, Dr. Dan
Vaugn, Jim
Veiga, Tonya
Vitek, Dan & Jim
Voloch, Deborah
Wambrotmd, James & David
Walowski, Joe & Linda
Wensel, Janet & Jim
Empfield, Ryan
Riley, Katie
Kormke, Natalia
Kronke, Stephen
Ferlie, M. Sue
Andrew, Sherray
Shields, Justin
Simm, Peter
Singer, Linda
Sizemore, Gene
Skeete, Universally
Pompa, Angie & Danny
Pepe, Lisa
Carter, Melissa & Scott
Downey, Robert
Edwards, Mike
Ensman, Ann & Jim
Evans, James
Gaffney, Nancy & George
Gasparato, Clayton & Larry
Gladys, Robert & Kathy
Glanz, Nancy
Gold, Lorna
Gonzalez, Jim & MiMi
Griffith, Mark
Grubesich, Haber
Haines, David & Kliff
Hamlin, Carol
Haas, Linda & Donald
Headley, Donal & Doreen
Hillard, Leonard & Danielle
Hoffman, Harry & hindus
Holtz, Thomas
Huston, Janet
Jordie, Diane
Kline, Simpy & Shelley
Kiefer, Jessica
Kimmel, Brain
Kline, Cyn
Kozubal, Heidi & Michelle
Kriger, Richard
Kunche, Lisa & Kevin
Lambert, Berengia
Lambert, Robert
Lanetrill, Sally
Larcher, Steve
LaMecque, Mary Beth
Marks, Rev. Bob
McClain, James & Suandrea
Mena, Patricia
Merchant, Susan
Miyaganka, Mary
Miller, Susan
Mock, Carol & John
More, Elaine & Fernando
Morgan, Pati
Mozina, Orgnark and Andy
Mozina, Phyllis & John
Myers, Delores & Raye
Newhouse, Shirley & John
Obley, Alan
Offerman, Laura
Oliver, Rebecca
Oppisicher, Valerie
Patti, Terri
Quast, Fred & Nancy
Rechtorik, Denise
Riegler, Sid
Regula, Tammy
Rosenberg, E. Susan
Rosman, Mary
Rowe, Elizabeth
Ruggeri, Sheila
Sando, Madison
Scalland, Dan & Cheryl
Shreiber, Shirley
Schect, Barton
Smarttink, Elaine & Dan
Snwait, Lou
Smith, Glenda
Smith, John H.
2016 Members
Paid between 10/1/15 - 9/30/16

Individual ($15)
- Amatucci, Diane
- Brunetta, Rebecca
- Chabanik, Margot
- Clark, Kathleen
- Faolá, Susan
- Frost Benzo, Susan
- Glanz, Nancy
- Griffin, Mark
- Hillwig, Carole
- Johnson, Doris
- Jones, Rosemary
- Kelly, Kathy
- Liza, Vinn
- Markle Jr. VMD, Howard
- Marshall, Cynthia
- Melchar, Margaret
- Moore, Katherine
- Newhouse, Shirley & John
- Patrick, Fred
- Plassio, Jeanne
- Prohaska, Deborah
- Rosky, Regina
- Sandor, Amanda
- Seech, Sandie
- Seng, Jodi
- Thornburg, Joanne
- Tinkley, Tracy & Roger
- Ward, Lauren
- Yeager, Corday

Family ($25)
- Battistella, Suzanne
- Bradish, Wendy & Gerald
- Cipriani, Rogene & Nancy
- Conway, Nanette & Lester
- Cooper, Herbert & Julia
- Cosgrove, Virginia & Michael
- Donnelly, Debbie
- Dove, Lindsey, Marquis & Nancy
- Evans, James
- Federer, Katie
- Haines, Howard & Geraldine
- Kaylor Family
- Kaylor, Melissa
- Kline, Caryl Jean
- Kregel, Deanna
- Lowery, Janet
- Morgan, Patti
- Newill, Joan
- Painter, R.C.
- Rudnik, Frank & Sue
- Schuck, Ann & James
- Stedman, Nancy
- Stehr, Norma & David

Sponsor ($50)
- Custom Computer Systems
- Gilligan, Judy
- Gladys, Robert & Kathy
- Haines, Howard & Geraldine
- Hand, Robert & Janice

Jackman, Robert & Carolyn
- Jacobsky, Jerry
- Kuncher, Lisa & Kevin
- Lawrence, Paula & George
- Libbos, Joel
- Martz, Lori & William
- Mock, Carol & John
- Myers, Jeanne & Ray
- Richardson, Cheryl & Theodore
- Rohal, Susan
- Schuck, Ann & James
- Smith, Jeanne & Del
- Terrick, Pat
- Telit, Janet
- Vitale, Danita & Jim
- Yannacci, Carrie, Ron & Le Ella

Associate ($100)
- Clayton, James & Mary
- Catherine Motch
- Faix, Donna & Michael
- Ginnevan, John

- Davis, Pat
- Harlan, Bob & Cindy
- Hayward, Sally & Don
- Osborne, Marcia
- Plummer, Dr & Mrs L.G.
- Rohrbacher, Gail & Harry
- Smith, John H.
- Stringer, Susan
- Studley, Joy & Nick
- Thomas, Rebecca & Jim
- Thomas, Tina & Rob
- Tuscano, Barry & Kitty

Lifetime ($1,000)
- Anderson, Louise
- Bale, Ethel Benzer
- Clawson, Milton
- Cramer, Linda & Bernie
- Harlan, Bob & Cindy
- Smeltzer, George & Sandy
- Stephenson, Charlotte
- Zaidan, Kathi

Other 2016 Friends
Board of Directors
- Beth Shoaf, Executive Director
- Marcia Osborne, President
- Jim Vaughan, Sec/Treas.
- Shannon Kozakiewicz
- Judi Wilson
Advisory Board
- Pat Davis
- Ted Janicki, CPA
- Tony Pieczinski
- Dr. Robert Wagner, VMD
Staff
- Beth Shoaf, Sr Rehabilitator
- Lisa Vezzani, Office Manager
- Monica Leuthold, Office Assistant
- Carol DaRold, Animal Care Tech
Volunteer Office Staff
- Marge Markavitch, Fundraising Coordinator
- Pat Fennema, Telephone Liaison
- Sue Wiseman, Newsletter Editor
Fundraising Volunteers
- Lori Bell
- Linda Coyette
- Rita DeBlock
- Mike DiFranco
- Cathie Donohoe
- Bernie Flanagan & Chris Robinson
- Michelle Gricks
- MJ Hargnett
- Rob Jones
- Marge Markavitch
- Stacy Ryan
- Dawn Strosko
- Lisa Ullery
- Michelle Gricks
- G.R.O.W. Afterschool Program
- JoAnn Hartzell
- Heather Johnson
- Hempfield Hunt Club via Zoe Mock
- Hutchinson Elementary
- Rich & Shannon Kozakiewicz
- Dennis & Mary Law
- Autumn Lee
- Nancy Lisbon
- Dr. Ashby Marshall DVM
- Mary Beth Karchella-Maccumbie
- Mike & Sherry Match
- Jim Menhorn
- Deborah Milito & Friends of Anthony
- Curtis Miller
- Vince Motton
- Muddy Paws of Mt. Pleasant Niceley Elementary
- Beth Novelli
- Lori Mozina-Ogurchak
- Marcia Osborne
- Jackie Pampillas
- Chrissy Polosky
- St. Vincent Biology Dept.
- Genelle Semko
- Lorrin & Tom Smearcheck
- Dani Smith
- South Greengate Commons
- Southmoreland Elementary
- Stanwood Elementary
- Mary Shidel
- Marcia Swartz
- Chrsytal Walsh
- Sue Weightman
- WCCC Children’s Center
- Judi Wilson
- Winnie Palmer Fur & Feathers camp
- Lisa Vezzani
- Victorious Life Church
- Home Schooling
- Dave & Kim von Schlichten

A Special Thank You
To John & Carol Durco and Rich & Shannon Kozakiewicz for their generous and ongoing support.

Special Projects
- Amy Devault
- Greensburg Central Catholic 7th Grade Class
- KVet Animal Care
- Kiski Jr. & Sr. High School
- Dennis & Mary Law
- Zoe Mock
- Photos by Tabi’s
- Pitt Greensburg Into the Streets
- Tara Truscott

- Photos by Tabi’s
- Pitt Greensburg Into the Streets
- Tara Truscott
Ways to Support WWI

To make a donation, complete this form and send it with your check or money order, payable to Wildlife Works, Inc. to PO Box 113, Youngwood, PA 15697.

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City, State, Zip ____________________
Phone ____________________________
Email ____________________________

All contributions are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support!!!!

Mark Your Calendar
TUESDAY, MAY 23RD - DAY OF GIVING
The Annual Day of Giving event is sponsored by The Pittsburgh Foundation. WWI has participated since 2012 and has received nearly $21,000 through the annual event. All donations receive a partial match from funding secured by the Community Foundation of Westmoreland County. In 2016, WWI received $5,311. There was a $.18 match for every dollar donated. Visit pittsburgh-gives.org to donate to WWI. You can send us your email and we’ll send you a reminder.

MORE WAYS TO HELP
USE GOODSEARCH, GOODSHOP, AND AMAZON SMILE - Check them out on the web. Goodsearch donates a penny per search to registered charities. Raised to date, $654. If you like it, make it your default search engine. Goodshop and Amazon Smile will donate a portion of your online purchases to WWI.

SHARE WWI WITH A FRIEND - A main source of support is individual donations. Please share this newsletter with others.

FIND A HOME FOR A WWI DONATION CAN - WWI donation cans allow the public to conveniently donate their change. In 2016, $57 was collected. If you know a business or an event that would support WWI in this way, please call us.

BIRTHDAY AND CHRISTMAS GIFTS - If friends and family insist on buying gifts you really don’t need, suggest they donate to WWI in your name. We’ll gladly send them an acknowledgement.

MEMORIALS AND HONORIUMS - Remember and honor those you love through a gift to help wildlife. Families and individuals will be sent an acknowledgement card and individuals and donors will be recognized in our Spring newsletter.

RECYCLE INK CARTRIDGES - Drop off your empty ink cartridges today. Since 2005, WWI has earned $1,248 by recycling these items.

FUNDRAISING - We are always looking for volunteers to sell raffle tickets, calendars, and other fundraising items.

LEAVE A LEGACY - Consider remembering WWI in your will or starting an endowment that would provide long-term sustainable funding.

UNITED WAY - Participate in the United Way payroll deduction campaign at your workplace by writing in #223-199 Wildlife Works Inc.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS - WWI is happy to accommodate Eagle Scout candidates.

WISH LIST 2017
WWI needs ordinary household items. If you, your school or your organization would like to donate supplies or have a “Collection for Wildlife,” it would help tremendously. Here is a list of our current needs. You can also purchase items from our wish list on Amazon.com and have them shipped directly to us.

- Unsalted peanuts in the shell
- Bird seed
- Black oil sunflower/Scratch feed
- Cob Corn
- Canned corn
- Paper towels
- Unscented facial tissues
- Chlorine Bleach
- Laundry detergent
- Flannel baby blankets
- New heating pads (without auto shut-off)
- Gift Cards (grocery, office supply and pet stores)
- Postage stamps

Memberships paid after Oct 1 are good for the next year.
WWI’S MISSION is to rehabilitate injured, ill and orphaned wildlife and educate the public on how to better co-exist with wildlife. WWI primarily serves Westmoreland County but also accepts raptors from surrounding counties.

VOLUNTEERS - There are 60-75 WWI volunteers, the majority of whom are animal care volunteers. Animal care volunteers are active every day of the year. In peak baby season, volunteers contribute approximately 50 hours daily!!! Additionally, the volunteer base includes several veterinarians and other professionals greatly adding to the high level of professionalism of WWI. In addition to caring for animals and educating the public, volunteers also raise a significant portion of the budget through events, sales, solicitations and program income. Without the dedication of these individuals WWI would not exist.

STAFF - There are currently three part-time paid positions at WWI: an office manager, one animal care technician and one senior rehabilitator. These positions provide essential support for year-round uninterrupted operations. Beth Shoaf, the senior rehabilitator, is licensed by the PA Game Commission and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

FACILITY - WWI operates from the Youngwood home-based facility of Beth Shoaf and several satellites in Westmoreland County.

ADMISSION HOURS - Are by appointment only and are dependent upon the availability of staff. The office is open 10AM - 3PM Monday through Friday. Please leave a message during off hours. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Notice of Non-profit Status: WWI is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit. The official registration and financial information of WWI may be obtained from the PA Dept of State at 800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

WILDLIFE WORKS INC.

WILDLING STATISTICS 12/93 - 12/17
Admitted - 11,088* Released - 5,999
Avg Annual Admission (last 5 yrs) - 437
Avg Cost/Wildling (last 5 yrs) - $46.44
* Includes nontreatables

EDUCATION PROGRAMS 2004-2017 - 218
Estimated Individuals Reached - 14,000