



pacific
WILDLIFE
care

SPRING 2020

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PWC CALENDAR

Board Meetings: 2nd Tuesday 4:30 pm

January – Volunteer Opportunities Orientations, Rescue Transport & Hotline trainings held

February – Volunteer Opportunities Orientations, Rescue Transport & Hotline trainings held. Classes for current volunteers held (ex. Baby Mammals, hotline help, reuniting mammal babies)

Owl be Yours Valentine's Day Campaign

March

17-22 SLO International Film Fest

18-SLOIFF: Wednesday at 10 am.

"Carrizo Plain: A Sense of Place, & Birds of Los Banos." PWC sponsoring the Filmmaker's of Tomorrow Award - Best Wildlife Film

21-Morro Bay Wild (Sold Out)

Tours of PWC Clinic

April

Watch for a community fund-raising opportunity

9-Baby Bird Program Orientation

June

3-"Mason Gives Back" Fundraiser benefiting PWC at Mason Bar & Kitchen, AG



Big Shout Out
To Baby Bird
Volunteers



giving wildlife a

Second Chance

VOLUNTEERS SHARE THEIR UNIQUE STORIES *(continued on pg 3)*

My Volunteer Experience *by Lynne Breakstone*

I have been a volunteer at PWC for five years now (mostly in the Baby Bird Room). If asked to describe my experience, I would need a variety of adjectives. For starters **"humbling."** Although I am a birder and pay lots of attention to birds, I still have *so* much to learn. When friends ask me basic questions about the animals we treat, sometimes I just have to say I don't really know!

Another adjective is **"exciting"** - getting to open a raptor's beak and push a pill down its throat is certainly not an everyday activity for most people!

A third adjective would be **"sad"** - when I see a bird come in, bloodied with a broken wing or leg after a cat attack, I mourn the annual killing of millions of birds (and mammals) by cats allowed to roam outdoors.

Above all, however, the most important adjective would be **"fortunate"** - what a tremendous *privilege* it is to be able to handle and observe so closely these wild creatures that normally we might only glimpse briefly; I feel lucky to be able to feed and give medications to birds who probably would have died without our intervention and care.

I am grateful for the opportunity to volunteer with this life-saving organization.

My Favorite Hotline Experience *by Jamie Lewis*

I have been a hotline volunteer for just under a year now. I can't believe how much I have learned about our wildlife and how many wonderful people I have met through this experience. I am so glad that I am able to help in some way.

My favorite hotline story is one from the very beginning of my volunteering days. I think it was my first day covering the hotline alone (without a hotline mentor).

Within the span of an hour we received three calls concerning a duck in the middle of downtown San Luis Obispo. She was first spotted by a jogger, who left a very good location description. Then, shortly after a caller from a nearby business reported the duck outside her place of business. Then, there was another call that placed the duck in another nearby location, under a parked car. It was eventually rescued by Jack, our most generous, wonderful, Rescue Transport Volunteer.

Apparently, the duck had also been spotted by construction workers nearby earlier that morning. They reported seeing it actually lay an egg! Jack was not only able to rescue her, but also found the egg with some additional searching.

It took a village, but she was saved and brought to our PWC Rehabilitation Clinic.

PRESIDENTS PERCH *by Kimberly Perez*

Happy New Year! 2020 roared to life at the end of January with the purchase of a 10-acre parcel of land on the northwest corner of Buckley Road and Esperanza Lane in San Luis Obispo. This acquisition is the fulfillment of a vision, and result of a five-year pursuit to acquire a permanent location with adequate space for our growing wildlife rehabilitation organization. Ever grateful to the owners of our current location, several factors prompted the Board to take this action at this time: first, we do not own the land at our present site; secondly, we have outgrown the space available at our present location; and lastly, the shutting down of the power plant and the continual change in ownership of the property has created an uncertain future.

With this vision of a site of our own now realized, 2020 marks the beginning of a new era, a fresh palette, so to speak, where we can strategically plan to achieve our goals for long-term security and state-of-the-art facility expansion and improved efficiencies while enhancing and continuing to serve the needs of the SLO County community in our mission. In the coming months, more details will be forthcoming with the understanding this transition will take several years. We hope you will join in our excitement as we embark on this journey! Our successes, yesterday, today and in the future, are defined and driven by the passion of and dedication of friends, like you, so let's toast to this new year for the work we do and our goals for the future! Thank you all for your part in getting us here!!

RELEASES

Sept-Dec 2019

American Coot	2
American Crow	1
American Kestrel	1
Anna's Hummingbird	8
Band-tailed Pigeon	3
Barn owl	1
Black-tailed Deer	2
Brandt's Cormorant	6
Brewer's Blackbird	5
Brown Pelican	3
Brown Rat	3
Burrowing Owl	1
California Gull	6
California Myotis	1
California Quail	5
California Scrub-Jay	4
California Towhee	8
Call Duck	1
Clark's Grebe	1
Cliff Swallow	4
Common Murre	5
Cooper's Hawk	1
Deer Mouse	1
Desert Cottontail	4
Double-crested Cormorant	1
Eared Grebe	3
Eurasian Collared-dove	27
Gadwall	1
Golden Eagle	1
Great Horned Owl	9
Grey Fox	1
Heermann's Gull	1
Hermit Thrush	3
Hooded Oriole	1
House Finch	7
House Sparrow	16
Mallard	4
Mew Gull	1
Mexican Free-tailed Bat	1
Mourning Dove	2
Northern Flicker	1
Northern Mockingbird	4
Northern Raccoon	20
Northern Shoveler	1
Pallid Bat	5
Parasitic Jaeger	1
Pigeon Guillemot	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1
Red-tailed Hawk	4
Rock Pigeon	29
Ruddy Duck	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Snowy Plover	1
Spotted Towhee	2
Striped Skunk	2
Virginia Opossum	39
Western Bluebird	1
Western Grebe	5
Western Gull	14
Western Rattlesnake	1
Western Screech-owl	4
White-crowned Sparrow	1
Wild Turkey	2
Yellow Warbler	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
Total:	300

Soupabration 2019



Matt Beckett serving one of his soups under the tent



Mia Beck, Junior Chef winner reads her story "Peace Soup"



Group of Chef Winners: Shaun Behrens (Luna Red) *Best Vegetarian/Vegan*, Matt Beckett (Linn's of Cambria) *Best Chowder/Bisque*, Nicola Allegretta (Mistura) *People's Choice*, Libry Darusman (Thomas Hill Organics) *Best in Show*, Brett Collins (Sidewalk Cafe) *Best Broth*



Jeri Roberts, PWC Ed Team, shows a guest one of the PWC Educational Ambassadors "Morro" (Peregrine Falcon)

Learning From Other Wildlife Centers

Over the course of four day-trips, a team including Kimberly Perez, Kathleen Dillon, and David Pope took the initiative to visit other wildlife centers to see how they do things – what kinds of problems they face and how they deal with them – as well as what we might learn from *them*.

They looked at everything from community support and education, to funding sources, to facilities (including enclosures, staffing, patient load and water systems).

Among the sites visited were the Ojai Raptor Center, Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network, WildCare (San Rafael), Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley, International Bird Rescue (Fairfield), Lindsay Wildlife Experience (formerly – Museum), Wildlife Education & Rehabilitation Center (Morgan Hill), Native Songbird Care (Sebastopol) and Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue.

All of them carry our same mission, but some target specific species, depend heavily upon on-site staff and/or volunteers, or off-site (satellite home rehabbers). Some use local vets or have full-time or part-time visiting vets on staff.

Most did not offer transport services and their phone hotline were staffed on-site. They also were located in more populated or affluent areas of our state.

Nevertheless, they are all volunteer-based centers managed by staff.

It was interesting to learn how other centers recruit volunteers and how they deal with facility issues. Some are supported by local cities and counties; others have strong education/community outreach.

Kimberly's take-away: "It was inspiring to see first-hand how other organizations are interpreting and manifesting their mission while experiencing some of the same issues we face as an organization."

Kathleen's comment: "Almost without exception, regardless of their budget or where they're located, other wildlife centers are dealing with similar problems PWC faces: not enough volunteers, lack of housing, lack of funds. We learned a lot, and we also learned that we're doing a lot of things right. The one thing that stands out is how lucky we are to have a full-time, wildlife veterinarian on staff: Dr. Shannon Riggs!"

VOLUNTEERS SHARE THEIR UNIQUE STORIES *(continued)*

Cambria Coyote by Kerry Cox

Via social media I was following a series of sightings of a coyote in Cambria with an injured rear leg. One day we were told the coyote was down in an empty lot, lying motionless, so I met fellow Rescue Transport Volunteer, Sam Peck, at the scene. We found the coyote, and from a distance, even through binoculars, I couldn't tell for sure if it was alive.

We decided to act as if it were alive. Sam and I split up and took extremely wide approaches. As we got closer, I was becoming convinced we were about to come upon a deceased coyote, until its ears perked up! Then, it hobbled to its feet, still appeared weak and listless. I moved behind a house and towards a path it might take if it tried to escape from Sam, who was approaching from in the open field.

The coyote, who moments before literally looked like it was on its last legs, suddenly bolted, running on three legs as if the fourth was optional. Needless to say, it took a path nowhere near the one we anticipated, and was gone in a flash! I will never cease to be amazed at the toughness and resilience of these wild critters.



(Note: Our hotline and several Cambria volunteers received dozens of calls about this coyote from November, through December and into January with several attempts to find and locate the animal. After discussions with a CA Department of Fish & Wildlife Warden, it was decided since it can't be caught, had been seen eating ground squirrels and hanging with another coyote, to let it stay wild. The warden will talk to the neighbors who may be luring it into the nearby neighborhood by feeding it, educating them about keeping wildlife wild.)



Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on September 21

It was a gorgeous day at Del Mar Park. Besides the amazing food, wildlife ambassadors, and volunteer camaraderie, Kimberly created a 'wild' Table Scavenger Hunt that brought out the competitive spirit at each table! It was fun!! (The winners each received an etched PWC stemless glass with a PWC (Mama Ganache) chocolate bar.)

As we have done in the past, we acknowledged our newest volunteers' contributions of time with a free Volunteer t-shirt.

Thanks to all who attended and brought food to share. Thanks to the Board for the delicious desserts and drinks.

NEW RMD

New Age for RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) is now 72 years!

If you turned 70.5 by the end of 2019, you need to start taking RMDs for 2019. The first distribution needs to come out of your IRA by **April 1, 2020**. However, if you turn 70.5 after January 1, 2020, you won't be required to take an RMD for 2020. In fact, no one will be required to take a 2020 RMD based on turning 70.5!

Anyone turning 70.5 in 2020 won't hit age 72 until 2021 or 2022. This means their first RMDs will have to be taken out of their account by either April 1, 2022 (if you reach age 72 in 2021) or by April 1, 2023 (if you reach age 72 in 2022).

Talk to your tax advisor or CPA about the new rules. If you do not wish to pay taxes on your distribution, you can donate it to a charity. Please consider PWC for your charitable contribution.

In Memoriam - Patricia "P.J." Kielberg-McClenahan



Patricia Juanita "P.J." Kielberg-McClenahan, 78, of Atascadero, passed away December 26, 2019. She was one of PWC's founding members. In her obituary, her family generously suggested that in lieu of flowers, donations in her memory be given to Pacific Wildlife Care.

Patricia's History with PWC

A caring and compassionate group of five people met at a kitchen table at the home of Patricia in San Luis Obispo in 1985. This was the humble beginnings of Pacific Wildlife Care and she was the first President. As a part of Patricia's celebration of life on 1/25/2020, her family visited the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Morro Bay with President, Kimberly Perez, and volunteer educator, Kelly Vandenheuvel, to see how much the organization Patricia founded had grown and evolved. Kelly was one of those five people at that table back in 1985. It was inspiring to listen as Kelly spoke with Patricia's husband, Chuck, and daughter, Vicky, about their memories including that very first meeting. We are so very sorry for their loss, but grateful for the vision that formed Pacific Wildlife Care.

Welcome New Members & Donors *(Sept – Dec 2019)*

William Alvarez	Suzanne Cusick	Cass Hawes	Anne Karen Magallanes	Annette Sheely
Christopher Anderson	Carol Daley	Eric Hilding	Janet & Tim Maher	Anita Shearer
Kathryn Bantz	Shaylene Davis	Jody Hilker	Michael Manning	Susan & James Spitzley
Scott Bauhofer	Connie Davis	Sarah Honsvall	Mandy Martin	Bill Standley
Matt Behrens	Katherine Diaz	Francesca Hunter	Linda Martin	Cynthia Stengel
John Bell	Christy DiColla	Tori Prado	Dennis Martin	Sienna Streamfellow
Joshua Bergeon	Teresa Ditmars	Julia Jenkins	A Masicampo	Cressant Swarts
Susan Biesek	Jacqueline Eagan	Miranda Jones	Shannon McClure	Kevin Teague
William Blakely	Denise & Ajh El-Effendi	C Kilstrom	Clare McFarlin	Stefan Thom
Jennifer Blackburn	Kim Enadahl	Jason Kirschenstein	Mary Morgan	Staci Thompson
Victoria Boatwright	James Enns	Veronika Kocen	Judy & Fred Morgan	Karina Tiwana
Agnes Bodin	Summer Enns	Kenneth Kossoff	Lynne Nagahara	Paula Vigneault
Kendra Bonilla	Alan Evenson	Lauren Krup	Rachel Nowak	Annali Fuchs-Wackowski
Dorothy Buhrman/Wanda Baker	Julie Fallon	Adriane Kurkciyan	Stella Palomo	Alex Wheeler
John Capela	Larry Fealy	Steven Larson	Margaret Pedone	Lillian Williams
Evelyn Castillo	Glenn Fuss	James Ledner	Garrett Philbin	Claire Woo
Mariya Chisholm	Ann Garrett	Erin Lester	Louise Porton	Kelly & Benjamin Work
Kathryn Christopher	Melissa Germaine	Karlene Lind	Paul Reitz	Christine & Charles Young
Petra & Jack Clayton	Kristine Gould	Elizabeth Long	Kenneth Riding	Suzanne & Jonathan Ziegler
Ann Colby	Erik Gruber	Jennifer Long	Laurie Ridgeway	Annie Zwarg
Paula & Jerry Crawford	Martha Haack	Denise Longarini	Alexandria Riggle	
Sandra Criddle	Bethany Hanney	Gear Lucenote	Monica Rossetti	
Janice Cullers-Scott	Patricia Haverty	Jacqueline Meisinger	Peter Saxby	



PWC's mission is to support San Luis Obispo County wildlife through rehabilitation and educational outreach. We envision Pacific Wildlife Care as an advocate for wildlife. By sharing our experiences, we inspire community participation to reduce harm to our wild neighbors.

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

- Woods Family Foundation** - \$10,000 Grant
- Chevron Grant** - \$5,000 Seabird Rehabilitation Grant
- County Supervisors of SLO** - Grant for Soupabration.
- Avila Beach Golf Resort** – for special non-profit venue rate
- Harvest on the Coast** - for their tent use donation
- Mission Linen** – Soupabration donation
- Central Coast Aquarium** - for use of their venue for our Annual Meeting



SPRINGTIME IS BABY WILDLIFE TIME!

- Check trees & bushes for nests before trimming.
- Walk your property to look for ground nests before mowing, weed-whacking or leaf blowing.
- Trapping wildlife in the spring often results in their young being orphaned.
- You don't need to feed orphaned or injured wildlife. They may be in shock and need veterinary assistance.
- Baby deer need to be left where their mother has safely stashed them. Only if they wander around crying do they need rescuing.

Membership/Donations Save Lives

Yes, I would like to give wildlife a second chance!

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$3,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$1,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate | \$60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | \$600 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior/Volunteer | \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor | \$300 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

I would like information on adding Pacific Wildlife Care to my will or trust.

Visit us online at www.pacificwildlifecare.org to set up a monthly subscription or pay by credit card

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Date: _____

Please check: New Membership Renewal Donation I would like to volunteer
 Please mail completed form with check to Pacific Wildlife Care, PO Box 1134, Morro Bay, CA 93443

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Thank you to all who donate to

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