January is a great time to look forward to what's on the horizon for Liberty. This month's Pellets looks at some of the events scheduled in February, March and April. It announces a new blog authored by a name you will recognize, there's the annual campaign for help as baby bird season approaches and finally, "Tales from the Hotline" ...another winner!

If you're wondering about the Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Owl team profiles... stay tuned! They will be future editions of Pellets.

By the way, for those of you at the facility, please remember there is a *suggestion box* in the bird room that's been pretty empty lately. All thoughts are welcome! If you don't get to Liberty often, I'll be happy to put a note in the box on your behalf.

- Carol

# Can you believe it?

## Baby Bird Time Is Almost Here!

Everyone loves baby birds! I'm hoping you love them enough to want to volunteer to do a shift in Orphan Care this year. We need your help. In fact we need the help of 60 volunteers. Tell your friends, family and neighbors! The more the merrier. The shifts are 7 – 11 AM, 11-3 PM, 3-7 PM. All days and shifts are now open. First come, first served! Call or e-mail me.

#### Tales from the Hotline

A Hotline volunteer retrieved this message:

I retrieved a LONG breathless message from an anxious woman who explained that she found a baby bird three days ago, well actually her brother found the bird, and she is taking care of it, her brother lives in an apartment building, and she has cared



for birds before, but this one isn't growing.

I called her back (this call lasted almost 15 minutes) and tried to ascertain what kind of bird it was, but all she would say was "black with long legs". However, she did keep referring to it as a she. I gave her directions to Liberty and told her she should take the bird right in. She told me the whole story all over again, with lots of detail. Then, she told me that the bird got really "happy" when she came around.

"I'm afraid that she's imprinted on me and no one else will be able to feed her." She said. By this time, I had to get off the phone and call back into the hotline. I also wanted to help this poor bird. I told her that the bird did not imprint on an individual, but on people in general, (I don't know if this is true, but though it might help her give up the bird), and that the bird would take food from whoever would feed it. I told her it was best that she take it in so the bird would get proper care.

"What kind of life will she have there?," she asked. I explained that she had done a great thing for her, but now it was time to finish this great deed by taking her to qualified people who would take it the rest of the way and make sure she had the best life possible. Or, she would probably die.

"You're right "she said. "But I'm going to wait until tomorrow. I think we should spend 24 more hours together."
Then she asked if we needed any more volunteers.

## New Wildlife Blog

www.onelookout.com

Here's a web site that's not only beautiful and informative but is authored by one of our own! Long time Liberty supporter and former Volunteer Coordinator, Gail Cochrane is now blogging! She hopes to inspire readers to open their senses to the nature that is all around us by writing about wildlife watching opportunities, great hikes, native plants and gardening. Get connected with nature by subscribing to the blog.... and don't be surprised to find plenty of writing about goings on at Liberty Wildlife. Find it at www.onelookout.com

## Upcoming Events at Liberty

Mark your calendars!

# The 4th Annual Liberty Wildlife Motorcycle Run: Born 2B Wild March 27th.

Hard to believe this is the fourth year that we've staged this event. This year it's part of the beginning of Arizona Bike Week 2011, a huge event with lots of people coming to Phoenix to participate. We always need volunteers to help the day of the event and this year we're looking to sign up about 20. Missi Hughes is sending an e-mail asking for volunteers or you can contact me anytime.

#### Wishes for Wildlife Annual Benefit Event

April 30, 2011 at the Fairmont Scottsdale Resort. This will be the 18th year we've held this event which helps raise needed funds to operate our organization. Liberty Guardians are charged with getting donations for our silent and live auctions as well as planning the event. If you are interested



in helping out the day of the event, in getting donations or joining the Guardian group, please contact Peggy Cole at zookpr54@aol.com. You can also help out if you have something to donate or if you can reach out to someone who has a business, for instance, that may donate an item. The types of things that have been very popular at W4W are patio and garden items, jewelry, spa or restaurant gift certificates, destination trips (the donation of a time share for instance) and anything sports related. If you have an idea, get in touch with Peggy or you can contact me anytime.

## Birding with Claudia

There was a trip on January 22nd to the Santa Cruz Flats to view wintering raptors. The next and last trip is February 12th at the Glendale Recharge Ponds to view wintering ducks and shorebirds. If you would like to attend please get in touch with Claudia at antclaudia@hotmail.com. It's great fun and you'll learn a lot in a very short time!