

# PELLETS

Liberty Wildlife Volunteer News | October 2010

## You are invited!

**What:** Volunteer Pot Luck Picnic

**When:** Sunday, November 14th, 1-4 p.m.

**Where:** Pera Club, 1 E. Continental Dr. Tempe, AZ 85281

**What to do:** Let us know how many of you are coming to the picnic and what dish you are bringing to share with everyone. You can do that either by signing up on the sheet you'll find on the door at Liberty, or by answering the email you received last week inviting you to the Picnic.

**Why Attend:** It's always fun to relax and spend time with your team. You'll also get to meet other volunteers and hear what's going on with them. We will even have prizes for every volunteer!

*This issue of Pellets features the Wednesday Team and a new series called "Tales from the Hotline".*

## Tales from the Hotline: Ongoing tidbits



There are 27 volunteers taking hot line calls every day from 8 A.M till 9 P.M. It is very satisfying to hear how grateful the public is to get help for an animal emergency or to get an answer to a question. While some calls are repetitive (especially during baby bird season) there are calls

that make a hot line volunteer say "This wasn't in my training!" For instance this example: "Excuse me? Did you say you have a scorpion with babies on its back and want to know what to do about it?" (A recent call!) We plan to share some of the unusual, the heart felt and the downright funny calls with you on a regular basis. Stay tuned!

## From Dorothy Schildkret: Hotline - Saturdays 3:00-6:00 P.M.

I had started volunteering for Hotline only two months earlier and was still feeling my way along in lots of situations when late on a Saturday afternoon I took a call from a man whose very panicky voice made me nervous before I even knew what his problem was.

"A car just stopped outside my gate and the people threw wild animals over my fence! I don't know what to do. I need help. They're in my back yard. I need you to come get them. Quick!" he yelled into the phone.

Uh oh, was I going to be able to handle this? What kind of wild animals do we have in Arizona (I'd only lived here three years.)? Better check the Hotline Manual before I call this man back.

So, I checked the "mammals" page. Hmm...could be raccoons, javalina, coyotes, skunks, mountain lions. I didn't think bats would hang around after they had been tossed into a back yard.

I gathered up my courage to call back. By this time, I was as nervous as he sounded. "Somehow", I thought to myself, "I'll get the expert help he needs."

I was surprised and relieved when the "wild animals" turned out to be three white ducks.

So, I was able to handle the call after all. I was very glad I didn't have to send anyone out to collect mountain lions.

I was also very glad that I had maintained my composure and didn't laugh into the phone.

## The Wednesday Team

### The Hotline Wednesday Team:

*Sandra Woien, Megan, Pam Corey, Ayrn Klein and Mary Goodman.*

*Sandra* is celebrating her one year anniversary with Liberty this month. She's from Portland, Oregon where she attended school at Portland State University as well as ASU. She has a PhD in Philosophy and a graduate certificate in Bioethics, Policy and Law which allows her to work as an online professor for three different institutions. In addition to her job and hotline shift, Sandra is busy with a household that consists of her husband, daughter, one dog, two cats and soon, a hamster. There's a trip



to Amsterdam, Netherlands and Belgium in her future early in 2011. Nice! *Megan* is our New Jersey connection via the hotline. She's been with us since July and was featured in one of our weekly blogs. Her last vacation was to Costa Rica where she encountered – face to face – 2 sloths in one week! The challenge coming up for her (and me!)

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will be remembering the upcoming change to Daylight Savings Time for the east coast and logging into the hotline on time!

## The Daily Care Wednesday Team:

*Donna Jabara (Team Leader), Carol Marshall, Gavin Kurgan, Jean Upton, Helen Lopez, Michael Ferrari, Rand Hallman, Stevie Reno, Amy Day.*



*Donna* says she was IMPRINTED several years before she started at Liberty in 2007. It seems she attended a booth presentation featuring LWL education ambassadors and handlers. She now volunteers in Daily Care, Med Services, Rescue & Transport and Hand Feed. (That's what I call imprinting!) She's a retired RN and used to have a small business designing and making dance costumes for children when her 2 daughters

were young. *Jean* started in February, 2009 and can usually be found doing Daily Care work in the ICU. She grew up in Connecticut and lived for 20 years in New Hampshire before moving to Phoenix in 2004. This is another busy family consisting of a daughter, Sarah, 3 month old grandson, Lucas, her fiancé, Mike, 3 dogs, (all adopted) and a cat. Whew! *Helen* was born and raised in France and moved to Arizona when she was 12. She started volunteering over 2 years ago in order to determine if she wanted to major in wildlife conservation in college. She got hooked (like we all did) so in addition to Daily Care, Helen was one of the Orphan Care gang this past season and has also done a stint in the mouse house. She is currently a student at SCC. *Amy* reports that she has always worked in ICU and loves it. She's a stay-at-home mom with a teenaged son and daughter, a patient husband (her words!) 1 dog and 3 cats. She grew up in Wooster, Ohio and graduated from Kansas State University with an accounting degree. At one time she was co-owner of an indoor rock climbing gym.



## The Medical Services Wednesday Team:

*Art Smith and Rebecca Moffat*

*Art* started at Liberty in August of 1996 and was in attendance at Liberty's first med services class. He reports that other vet tech schools

were not nearly as good or as comprehensive as the class that Liberty designed and teaches. Our med services class has been replicated by people Art has met in seven other countries! An Arizona native,



Art grew up in Tombstone and his first job was putting hand set type away at the Tombstone Epitaph Newspaper. (How's that for a touch of the old west!) Now retired, Art and his wife, Corinne spend time with their son, Brian, daughter Kirsten and grandson, Gus. Otherwise, he travels the globe to remote places like

Mongolia, Nepal, Bhutan, Namibia, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the high Arctic and Antarctica. His last trip took in some of Africa's beauty in the Kalahari Desert, the Okavango Delta and Victoria Falls in Zambia.

## The Hand Feed Wednesday Team:



*Anne Peyton, Claudia Kirscher, Deb Downs and John Glitsos*

John is the only member of this team that hasn't been featured in previous "Pellets" issues. It seems our Hand Feed Team goes above and beyond the norm when it comes to volunteering! John started at

Liberty in 2007 to get involved with nature and to get AWAY from the computer where he can be found most times running his software business. (He also helps us with computer-related everything! Thanks, John!) In addition to being part of the Hand Feed Team, he also volunteers in Education and Rescue & Transport. John comes to us by way of Athens, Greece where he was born and lived until the age of 5, then moved to Phoenix. He and his wife, Elaine, have been busy raising three kids, now grown. At home are a tabby cat named Chloe and an African Gray Parrot named Tiki. John made the Guinness Book of World Records for 5 consecutive years by painting the world's largest mural on the roof of the Phoenix Coliseum. It was the Bicentennial Logo using software and a super-computer to plot the points. Nice accomplishment, John. (We have incredible talents and skills among our volunteers!)