

# PELLETS

Liberty Wildlife Volunteer News | November 2010

*I've been using my calculator while writing this month's newsletter. As I wrote about each person on the Thursday Team, I realized that each issue featuring volunteers and their families is "loaded" with references to pets at home. This month I decided to add them up and you will see that we are indeed animal lovers! No great newflash but honestly, some of you really have lots of critters at home!*

**News Item:** Claudia Kirscher holds Liberty Wildlife **birding field trips** for volunteers each year. If you haven't yet been on a birding trip, you couldn't ask for a better beginning than going with Liberty people! Next month I'll be featuring the November 21st trip and the one coming up December 5th. Claudia reports, "Our next field trips are December 5 (Santa Cruz Flats, Casa Grande, for migrating raptors); January 22 (again to Casa Grande); February 12 (Glendale Recharge Ponds). Field trips are limited to 12 participants and only Liberty volunteers (if room available, friends and family can attend)." Please contact Claudia Kirscher at [antclaudia@hotmail.com](mailto:antclaudia@hotmail.com) for reservations and information.

## The Thursday Team

### The Hotline Thursday Team:

*Pam Corey, Andrea Wilcox, Kathy Klein and Marlene Manzer*

*Pam* always wanted to help rescue wildlife and decided the Hotline was for her. She leads a busy life with 3 dogs, 2 grown daughters and a 23 month old grandson who lives with her. She grew up in Southern California, got a BS from Grand Canyon University and retired from teaching to care for her grandson. *Andrea* comes to us from Michigan via California, New Jersey, Florida and Alaska! She likes working the Hotline because she can help animals without getting too attached as she used to when she volunteered at animal shelters. In her words, "I have three cats, one dog, all rescues, a sixteen year old son and a husband. They are ranked in order of good behavior." (You need to know I got her permission to



quote her!) She loves that Liberty is all about action and is a real resource for people who want to help animals. "The better we treat the people calling in, the better they will treat animals." (I like her thinking!)



**Note:** I've noticed that Liberty people tend to have more than one pet, if they have a pet. These 2 hotline people have a total of 7 pets between them. Let's see if this trend continues!

### The Daily Care Thursday Team:

*Joan Spencer (Team Leader), Allen Spencer, Maureen Smith, Sharon Sneva, Susan Dempster, Marta Buenell, Frank Sprague, Kelly Johnson, Jennifer and Rick Norton, Samantha Joyner.*

*Joan* joined Liberty in July of 2007. She had just changed careers from accounting to start her own practice in acupuncture and Oriental medicine and found she had time to volunteer in Daily Care. She and her husband, Allen, collect herbs and love to go camping. *Allen* moved from Detroit, Michigan to Phoenix in 1975, and joined Liberty one month after Joan. His comment "My wife made me do it!" Now Allen is one of the busiest volunteers doing Daily Care and rescues with Joan and smiles a lot! In his spare time he is a professional photographer and when he isn't taking pictures he's perfecting his skills at being an herbalist. *Maureen* comes from across the pond...the big pond...an English girl, she is! She joined Liberty over 3 years ago and in her spare time does accounts for her own business while taking care of a husband, 2 kids, 2 grandsons (twins), 4 dogs and 2 cats. Her last vacation took her to Singapore and Australia. (Nice!) I often say *Sharon* lives at Liberty because in the 21 months she's been with us she's managed to work in Daily Care, Med Services, Rescue & Transport and she's a Guardian! She grew up in Spokane, Washington and attended EWU where she says

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she went to “catch a husband”. She and husband, Tom, have lived in Arizona for 30 years and spend time with daughters Amana and Joey and their grandkids. In May, 2008, *Susan* saw one of our newspaper ads recruiting for Orphan Care, attended orientation, saw Max with one of the eagles and knew she wanted to be around the big birds. That started her volunteering in Daily Care and she recently became a Guardian. She grew up in Northern New Jersey, lived all over New England and lives in Fountain Hills with her happy dog, Rudy, her cat, Hobbs and husband, Kirk. *Frank's* fascination with birds led him to join Liberty 2 years ago. He's from Batavia, NY and attended Ithaca College School of Broadcasting. He's appeared in many local commercials and you may have recognized his voice on the radio. His last vacation was to visit Civil War battlefields. *Kelly's* a native, born and raised in Mesa, AZ. Like many volunteers, Kelly doesn't have just one pet, she has two; a dog named Sassy and one named Athena. She's deciding on a career while doing customer service work and is leaning toward animal science. Most people don't know that she LOVES bats! *Jennifer* reports that she and Rick are the Mouse House and aviary bird tenders. They both graduated from ASU and travelled to Yellowstone last summer. New grandparents last April, they expect their second grandchild any day. (Three volunteers with 10 pets.)

## The Medical Services Thursday Team:

*Arlene Power, Sharon Sneva, Tanya Adams, Louise Martin, Ria Moll, Heidi Schafer and Marika Witenko.*

*Arlene* read about Liberty back in 2002, in an APS employee newsletter recruiting for Orphan Care. She is one of our 'artists in residence' and has many shows throughout the valley. When she isn't at Liberty or creating beautiful pictures, she's busy at home with hubby George, three kids, 5 parrots and 2 cats. (It's that Liberty multiple pet thing, again!

I'm adding them up as we go. So far we have 6 people with 24 pets.) *Sharon's* back in the spotlight because she spends a good deal of Thursday at Liberty. She tells me she works in Daily Care from 7-10 A.M then changes hats and is the Medical Services tech from 10 -1 P.M. (I think she then runs out to rescue whatever the hotline needs rescued for the rest of the day!) *Ria* is a long time volunteer but new to Med Services. She started in Orphan Care in 1995 and has stayed there for 15 years! (Thank you!) She writes that she kept bringing birds in and had an incident where a bird landed in her



hand at work. She decided it was a sign to be a Liberty and we're very glad about that. *Ria* is an ASU graduate in Psychology with a Masters in Counseling. Born and raised in Long Island, N.Y., she belongs to a local Firebird Car Club (has a '67 blue

convertible), says she loves attending car shows and plays golf badly (I so get that!) Not to be outdone by those volunteers whom we've read about already, she has a 23 year old Conure, 10 ringneck doves, 5 dogs and “a lot” of cats. (Total pets to follow.)

## The Hand Feed Thursday Team:

*Peggy Cole, Joyce Heath and Leslie Guenther*

*Peggy* joined Liberty in the fall of 1999, when asked to establish the fund-raising arm of Liberty, the Guardians. She continues to masterfully steer the Guardian group each year and in her spare time, she is very active in Education, Hand Feeds and Rescue. She was born and raised in Oregon and moved to Phoenix in 1974 where she has lived with husband, George, three children 1 dog and 3 “geriatric” cats. Most people at Liberty don't know that she had the honor of attending Sandra Day O'Connor's swearing in as the first female Supreme Court Justice. *Joyce* is also a long time volunteer having started somewhere around 1995 after going to the Tempe Festival of the Arts and seeing fascinating people holding awesome birds.



A native of Michigan, she moved to Arizona 37 years ago and worked for Mt. Bell 21 years until retirement. She's worked in Daily Care, Orphan Care, Rescue, Hotline, Med Services, Education and Hand Feed. Busy lady! Her pet count includes 2 cats, Keebler and Stormy. *Leslie*

has a passion for her art work including fiber sculpture and photo collages. She also loves to race her Porsche and do road trips with her camera. Her pets include her dog and a cockatoo.

**Note:** For those of you who may be keeping score, we've had 10 people report having 53 animals at home. (I gave Ria 5 cats for her “a lot” so I may be off a little!) I guess we're animal lovers, for sure!