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Windgeback Bears of liberty Wildlife

## 17 Takes a Village

by Claudia Kirscher

Rather than nesting in shady cottonwoods along the quiet shores of remote rivers or mountain lakes, tucked away from human activities and interference, two bald eagle families chose the Phoenix Valley.

**Story Page 6** 

### **Honoring a Friend**

Kathleen Lang Butterfly Garden and Memorial Fund

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We have been in our new home for about a year. While change is always challenging, it is usually for the best, and we seem to be adjusting nicely to our new surroundings both indoors and out.

I personally love our new location. Most people who come comment on how easy it is to get to once you get your bearings and a route. Visitors have come by the thousands, either bringing animals that they have found or enjoying our educational activities.

When you find yourself on our grounds, a rescued piece of land previously a gravel quarry, it feels like home in the southwest. From our copper façade that screams Arizona to our rehabilitation services designed to restore native wildlife to its habitat, or to our education programs broadcasting the values of not only flora and fauna, but also native cultures through our Non-Eagle Feather Repository, it is apparent that the southwest flows through it. This location and our activities here, promote the glory of the Southwest and its cultures.

Our cover story bespeaks not only the richness of wildlife in the southwest but also the strength of the village that oversees its growth and well-being. The longer I am in this business the more I realize that it does indeed take a village to do what we do.

A pelican blown off course landing in a pool in Ft. Huachuca triggered a flurry of activity from the community to Liberty Wildlife to SeaWorld San Diego. Many people had a hand in the rescue and ultimate release of it with two other lost pelican souls, who found themselves in the desert without the comforts of home. Our lead story of urban nesting bald eagles bugles the success of a dedicated group of people who oversaw the fledging of these urban nesters...far from the traditional trappings of habitat....a village rising to the task of preserving our southwestern culture.

*Birds without Borders* addresses the needs for freedom of movement through habitat for so many of our southwestern wildlife species. Their needs to survive shouldn't include traversing a manmade structure limiting access to the necessities of life in their southwestern environs. This is an unwanted trial for native species, which could mean the difference in their ultimate success or failure.

A significant element in our desert home is revealed with the onset of the miraculous monsoons so characteristic of the summer in the southwest. *Gifts of the Monsoon* describes the beauty and benefits of this characteristic weather pattern that pervades our lives. No monsoon season disrupts the life cycle of many species; abundant monsoons begets prosperity in the lives of the flora and fauna of the southwestern deserts.

Look for the changes, the growth, and the continuing expansion of the mission of Liberty Wildlife in the year to come. Join us in Sippin' the Spirit of the Southwest...coming soon.

MegarMosby

Megan Mosby Executive Director

#### **Liberty Wildlife Presents**

Sunday Speaker Series

We realize that many people choose to watch sports on Sunday afternoon, but, hey, that is what recorders are for. Tape those events and join us the fourth Sunday of the month for our Sunday Speaker Series.

We will bring you speakers who are noted in their fields having to do with wildlife, nature, and the southwest. Perhaps you would like to become a wildlife photographer, or you might want to learn about small mammals in the southwest and what is happening to and for them, or you might want to strengthen your beginning bird watching skills.

Check our website at www.libertywildlife. org for a calendar of speakers, dates and times. We hope to have you join us.



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WingBeats is an annual publication of Liberty Wildlife, Inc. issued to supporters of the organization.

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Cover Photo: Female bald eagle in flight by Peggy Coleman

Back Photo: Black-throated sparrow by Christie van Cleve

Photo this page: Jan and Joe Miller at the Hyatt Regency, Scottsdale, with Jester, a Peregeine falcon

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Jackrabbit photo by Matt VanWallene

## Kathleen Lang Butterfly Garden and Memorial Fund

In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks. With the passing of Liberty Wildlife's good friend, Kathleen Lang, friends and family started the Kathleen Lang Butterfly Garden and Memorial Fund. This gentle soul loved butterflies and her garden will be filling in with butterfly attracting plants during the fall months. In February, there will be a dedication of this peaceful spot, a waystation for butterflies, honoring Kathleen's hard work and contribution toward the mission of Liberty Wildlife. We will be continuing the growth of the Memorial Fund in her honor to finish many of the projects that she favored. If you are interested in learning more about this Fund and how you can participate, contact Megan Mosby at megan@libertywildlife.org. More information on the dedication of the garden will follow in early 2018.

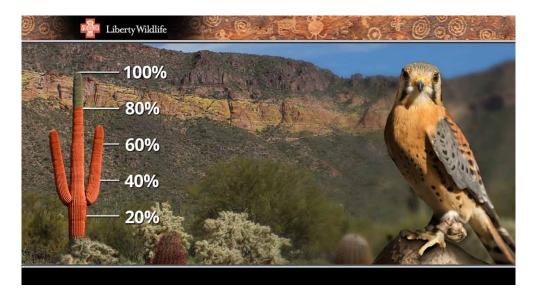


Kathleen Lang

#### John Muir



## Capital Campaign 2017



We started our campaign a while back to realize our dream of a new facility, of providing a platform to continue to fulfill our mission of nurturing the nature of Arizona.

We were very successful in raising all of the money we needed to buy 6.5 acres of land in the Rio Salado Restoration Area and to restore it. We have paid 7.7 million dollars of our 10 million dollar campaign debt and are anxious to retire our remaining 2.3 million dollars. If you have been to our site you will see that the money was well used. We are reaching out to those of you who haven't had an opportunity to have your name added to our beautiful donor wall. There are still some impressive naming opportunities awaiting your name. If you would like more information, contact Megan Mosby at megan@ libertywildlife.org. Help our cactus reach the goal of 100%...release our kestrel to the skies.

## Justainability

Platinum LEED Certification at Liberty Wildlife

When we started our trek to building a new facility there were many decisions to make. One of the things that we were sure of was that we wanted LEED certification, and we wanted the highest level, Platinum.

For those new to the Green Building Initiative this may not sound all that exciting, but it is. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. This is a very popular and respected world-wide "green" building certification awarded by the non-profit U.S. Green Building Council. It was developed as a system to rank design, construction, operation, and maintenance of green buildings.

For an environmentally conscious organization like Liberty Wildlife, this is huge. It reinforces us as environmentally responsible using resources efficiently, being aware of the impact of the building and the uses of it as it impacts the people within, the wildlife around, and the supporting habitat for all. It means we walk our talk. Some of the aspects that the group looks at (and awarded Liberty Wildlife) are the following:

- Sustainable Sites (25 out of 26 points awarded)
- Water Efficiency (6 out of 10 awarded)
- Energy and Atmosphere (33 out of 35 awarded)
- Materials and Resources (4 out of 14 awarded)
- Indoor Environmental Quality (11 out of 15 awarded)

LIBERTY WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER

- Innovation in Design (6 out of 6 awarded)
- Regional Priority Credits (4 out of 4 awarded)

Thanks to our environmentally conscious and very creative architects, Phil Weddle and Jeff DeHaven, we have a building that makes a statement about our mission allowing us to do the job touted by our mission "to nurture the nature of Arizona." This Platinum LEED building will teach about sustainability by its very existence. We intend to stretch that lesson at every opportunity along the way.



# It Takes a Village

by Claudia Kirscher Liberty Wildlife Volunteer Volunteer Bald Eagle Nest Watcher

Rather than nesting in shady cottonwoods along the quiet shores of remote rivers or mountain lakes, tucked away from human activities and interference, two bald eagle families chose the Phoenix Valley. One set of parents nested in a tree on an east valley residential golf course while the other set of adults chose a tree on the subdivision edge of a west valley cement plant gravel pit (after first trying out a stairway platform on a storage silo - *see photo next page*). From the eagles' perspective, the urban areas offered an abundance and variety of suitably tall nesting trees. Prey was plentiful, from fish-stocked urban lakes also teeming with waterfowl year around, to abundant rodents attracted to the lush greenery offered in city lawns, parks, and golf courses. This, combined with the relative lack of competition over the large metropolitan Valley, made an attractive bald eagle habitat. It is now apparent there are different challenges for managing their care and helping them survive the new hazards of urban nesting.

These challenges require a village to ensure the continued success of these urban eagles. In the 2016 and 2017 nesting seasons help and monitoring came in the form of golf course staff, home owners, cement plant workers, police (with a camera on a nest to keep the public away), and volunteer nest watchers. That village also includes the staff and volunteers from Liberty Wildlife, the veterinarians that volunteered their time, the tireless work and watchful eyes of AZGFD eagle biologists, and SRP with funding to help track the fledging young eagles as well as retrofit dangerous power poles.

Their following stories tell the future of urban nesting bald eagles.

Ten years ago, all of our work with bald eagles in Arizona was relatively distant from population centers. As new breeding areas were established, management largely involved an evaluation of the site for access points, human activity levels, and the pair's tolerance levels to those activities. In popular recreation areas, closures were often created to keep human activities within tolerance distances. In addition, future development was guided away from the bald eagle sensitive areas. As pairs moved into the middle of an already developed city, our typical management of protecting the immediate nesting area became more complicated with houses, golf courses, busy streets, and businesses directly adjacent to active bald eagle nests. Site evaluations revealed that these urban nesters have typically developed much greater tolerances for ground-based human activities. It appears that daily and routine activities that occur during the nest-building period are accepted by the breeding pair. New, infrequent or increasing intensity of activity may still pose a threat to breeding attempts. For example, tree trimming activities at or adjacent to the nest tree would not be tolerated by the pair during the breeding season. Initial efforts to manage these urban nesting eagles has focused on building partnerships with the business and property owners in the immediate area, identifying threats to the nesting attempts, and retrofitting power poles in the immediate area. In 2017, AGFD, in partnership with SRP, expanded efforts to track the nestlings post-fledging to identify the urban habitats that the non-breeding

bald eagles are using throughout the city. Through this effort, we hope to identify potential threats and address them proactively.

Kenneth "Tuk" Jacobson Raptor Management Coordinator AZ Game & Fish Department

The urban bald eagle expansion in Arizona is a recent phenomenon. I'm not sure any of us would have predicted growth of the breeding population to occur in these new habitats (close to or within development), rather than more traditional areas along rivers or at lakes along the Mogollon Rim with plenty of good territory waiting to be taken. Now that it is happening, I see the urban bald eagle trend continuing. Still, I was definitely skeptical about the chances for success when we had a breeding pair build a nest at a golf course last year. But then I went out and spent the day watching this pair to see how they might be affected by the hustle and bustle of activities by the nest, from pedestrians and traffic on a busy road nearby to golfers teeing off right under the nest and mowers cutting grass. The eagles were oblivious to all human activity and they went about their business of tending eggs as if the people were not

even there. Amazing! This did not fit the paradigm of bald eagle behavior in Arizona that I have observed for the past 10 years. Although we already had a couple other eagle pairs nesting in urban situations prior to the golf course, this was something new, another level. Since that day, a shift occurred in my mind and I no longer see any limit to what bald eagles might do here. It leads to many questions. Why are they moving into urban areas? What is the long-term prospect for these urban nesting pairs? Are their young more or less likely to survive than eagles in wilder habitats? We now have a new set of management challenges and potential hazards for urban eagles that we have not even thought of yet, but it gives us an opportunity to forge new partnerships. We (AZGFD and members on the bald eagle management committee) are going to need help protecting these "city" birds. Time and time again, Liberty Wildlife, volunteers, and private landowners have stepped up and have been crucial allies for Arizona's eagles.

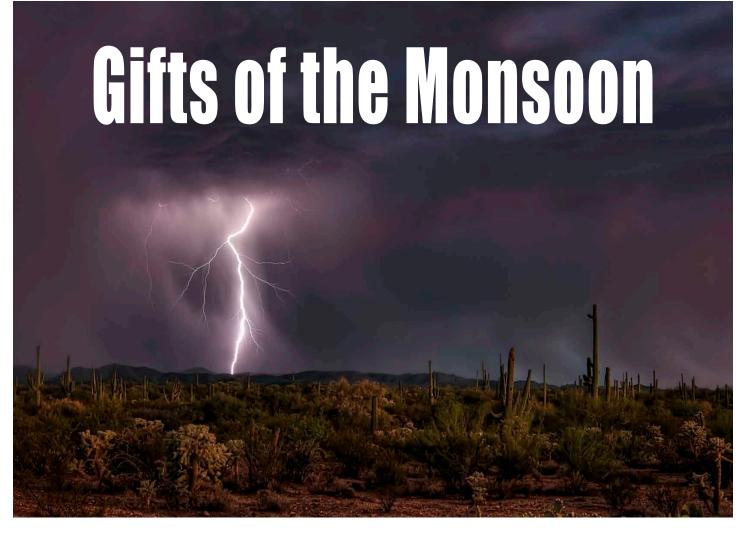
#### Kyle McCarty

Eagle Field Projects Coordinator AZ Game & Fish Department

Village...continued page 11



A bald eagle pair looking for a place to nest at a gravel pit (photo taken through scope). Photo by Claudia Kirscher



#### by Gail Cochrane, Liberty Wildlife Volunteer

n a monsoon afternoon clouds heap on the horizon and turn from cotton ball white to uneasy grey. A brownish haze descends in a wall of wind-blown dust that blots out nearby landmarks. Once the haboob has passed the air becomes charged with moisture. Feel and taste it, smell the musky scent of creosotes. A heralding wind shakes the dust from palms, palo verde and ficus trees. Distant thunder voices a low growl. The air is suddenly cool. Trees thrash their branches and fronds with abandon now – the wind is pushy and loud. A great flash lights the sky – a multi-pronged lightning bolt sears the eyeballs. Immediately thunder cracks, deafening! Rain begins softly at first. The trees are finally still, sipping and gulping as moisture seeps to their roots. Now the sound of water fills the world; pounding rain pours off roofs, smatters the dirt, and splashes into puddles, hammers on rock.

The morning after the storm I walk in the wash near my home. Plant biochemicals – oily essences, permeate the damp air with rich scents. Water vapor settles on my skin and cools me as I walk. The sandy bottom of the wash is hard packed and sculpted by the water that rushed here so briefly. Only the imprint of a river remains, complete with eddies around boulders and pools where the sand is still more liquid than solid. Harvester ants march singly, uncovering seeds dislodged by the deluge. Pocket mice and other rodents feast on many of these seeds and cache others for later. Already tiny palo verde trees have germinated, pushing through the sand and unfurling chunky cotyledon, closely followed by feathery true leaves.



Palo verde

Desert woody shrubs, burned to dry sticks by June's searing heat have been graced with new life. Tiny new leaves parade along the twigs of every palo verde tree. The green bark has been bare since the trees dropped their leaves to make room for spring flowers. Their lime colors now snake across the desert floor, tracing the path of ephemeral water.

Draw near the desert lavender, so recently desiccated, and inhale the spicy scent of the newly adorned, water plumped leaves. Admire the lilac colored blooms, already at work enticing pollinators that have also awoken with the rain. Desert lavender, dynamic dweller of the wash, attracts hummingbirds and bees and tends to edge downstream with the water's rush.



Wolfberry sprouts new leaves

Everywhere in the desert today death has been defied. Green shoots sprout on the bare wood branches of wolfberry. Lichens scrawl vivid colors across boulders as they race to photosynthesize before the moisture wanes. Brittle bushes sprout hopeful new leaves in the heart of their sere shrubbery.



Desert lavender

Monsoon rains create a second spring for the Sonoran Desert. Ninety percent of desert annuals will bloom with summer rain, and amphibians, insects, birds and mammals will mate and produce offspring when the monsoon is generous. In many cases this can be an act of faith as continued rains will be required for the tiny plants to secure their place on the desert floor. Since the fleeting annual plants are the platform from which the other life elevates, these seedlings are the epicenter of opportunity for successful monsoon related breeding, nesting and the raising of young.

Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you.

Frank Lloyd Wright



## Giving New Life to Feathers that Can No Longer Fly

## **The NEFR Process**

#### by Robert Mesta, NEFR Coordinator and Mare VanDyke, Liberty Wildlife volunteer

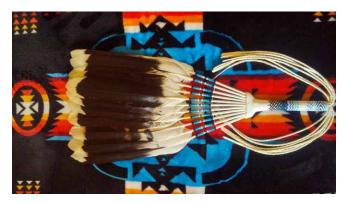
Liberty Wildlife's Non-Eagle Feather Repository (NEFR) provides Native Americans with a legal source of non-eagle feathers from federally regulated migratory birds.

One of the most frequently asked questions we get is how do Native Americans get feathers from us? To answer this question, here is a recent example of how our program works.

On April 11th of this year, we received an application from Darriyan Shepard, a member of the Navajo Nation, requesting twelve Harris' hawk tail feathers. After a quick review of the application to determine that it was complete, all pertinent information was entered into our NEFR database. From there the application was put into a queue to await processing. Applications are filled on a first-come first-serve basis.

Once Darriyan's application was ready to fill, the best available feathers were selected from our feather inventory to fill her order; in this case twelve beautiful adult Harris' hawk tail feathers.

Every feather order that goes out is accompanied by a Certificate of Ownership to document that the feathers were received legally from the NEFR. On April 14th, Darriyan's feather order was sent to her. Approximately four months later we received two photos from Darriyan; the first was a picture of the feathers as they arrived, the second a beautiful ceremonial fan that was made from the feathers (*shown here*).



Darriyan will use her fan in many ceremonies and dances unique to her Navajo culture. The fan will become a cherished family possession and eventually will be passed on so younger generations can continue the Navajo way of life and worship.



**10** Processing of the application from a member of the Navajo Nation and the Harris' hawk feathers selected, along with the certificate of ownership.

## Village....continued from page 7

The past few years have seemed to open a new chapter in the distribution of Arizona bald eagles. AZGFD has known of a pair or two of urban nesting bald eagles in the Phoenix area since around 2009, but these urban-tolerant pairs were few and far between. In recent years, that number has jumped to five bald eagle pairs nesting in the Phoenix area alone, and many more urban nesters showing up in other Arizona cities. With this expansion into metropolitan areas, new challenges and hazards have arisen. A realization of the depth of the hazards urban bald eagles face hit me when I found brother and sister fledglings trapped inside heavy machinery of a gravel processing plant. Because of combined efforts of volunteers like Claudia Kirscher & Melanie Herring. landowners, SRP, and AZGFD these young eagles survived. With an evergrowing bald eagle population, it is partnerships like these that will continue to help keep eagles safe in the years to come.

#### Kurt Licence

Birds and Mammal Biologist AZ Game & Fish Department Nongame Birds and Mammals Program

Power lines are one of the biggest concerns for eagles venturing into the city. When eagles perch on power poles, their 6-foot wingspan may make contact with two lines at the same time. This is usually fatal for the bird. This threat is not often encountered in remote parts of Arizona. SRP can retrofit power lines in areas that urban nesting eagles call home, but identifying those locations can be difficult. This past 2017 nesting season, SRP and AZ Game and Fish Department started tracking the urban eagles. They outfitted youngsters with a tiny 3.5 oz solar powered GPS pack using cellular networks to transmit valuable data, including the bird's location every 6 seconds in flight and every 15 minutes when perched. That information will be overlaid on SRP's overhead electric system to determine if the birds are using our infrastructure. SRP personnel can then proactively evaluate and

determine if that equipment is eaglefriendly. If hazards exist, SRP can retrofit the equipment before an eagle gets in trouble. The scientists can also keep tabs on the birds and know if they stop moving – a sign of trouble. That is exactly what happened earlier this spring when two juvenile bald eagles were trapped in heavy equipment at a cement plant in the west Valley. AZGFD rescuers were able to follow the GPS signal and save the birds.

Lesly Swanson Senior Environmental Scientist, Salt River Project Biological and Culture Resource Services

One usually thinks of the majestic bald eagle nesting in the wide expanses of rivers and lakes, not in an urban setting surrounded by houses, backyards with dogs and swimming pools, streets, and heavy machinery. I often wonder where the adults were raised. Were they chased away from settings that are more traditional? However, when looking at the urban sites they chose, it became apparent these provide all the necessities needed to raise a family but with so many new dangers. As I watched the offspring of 2017 grow, fledge, and explore, I came to understand that these young urban eagles would now reference these inner city nesting sites as "normal." Thus, if they survive to breeding age, they might seek out similar breeding grounds. As I think about all the people we encountered during this nesting season, I realize just how lucky these urban eagles are. So many people contributed to their welfare. The list is long and includes AZGFD specialized biologists, wildlife rehab personel, electric company employees, law enforcement officers, engineers, technicians, plant employees, neighbors, friends, and even people who donate to organizations to make rehab and management possible. I will always feel honored and privileged to watch a bald eagle fly, and I am confident, with so many people out there who care, I know



Top two photos courtesy of SRP: AZGFD lifting an eagle into a nest

Bottom photo by Cayetano Garcia: SRP employee rescuing eagle from hopper

Photo on page 6 by Peggy Coleman: Young adult bald eagles nesting near golf course

these bald eagles have a good chance of being successful in their nontraditional nesting sites.

Melanie Herring, Volunteer Bald Eagle Nest Watcher

## **Birds without Borders**

by Greg Martin, Liberty Wildlife Volunteer

#### It is very easy to assume that all life follows human conventions. Of course, it's not true...

The coyote no more obeys the laws of the land than the cheetah observes local speed limits. Border distinctions between cities and counties, states and nations, are as equally silly in their eyes. Throughout our own history, human beings have seldom agreed on who belongs where, or who may pass and when, so how can we begrudge those that see the world solely in terms of terrain? Birds in particular observe no notion of boundary. Indeed, their very conception of distance is so far removed from our own that even the "local" customers at your backyard feeder may have travelled far afield as to have eaten in backyards across the nation.

The Swainson's hawk has an annual migration that stretches from Canada to Argentina. Consider that distance. A single bird heading from breeding grounds to winter quarters and back passes through a slew of nations, to say nothing of a host of American states. Each municipal tier, as we would see it, brings with it its own guidelines, regulations, and approach – yet to the bird, it's all the same. Just terrain, just a flight, from point A to point B. A single bird can depart from Alaska, enter Canada, and return to the states, passing through four or five of them, before even reaching Mexico. From there it's a journey through the nations of Central and South America.



Swainson's hawk after release

The number of different jurisdictions is staggering to contemplate, yet for the hawks themselves, it is one continuous path, through one continuous world.



Carol Marshall releasing a Swainson's hawk back to its natural habitat

For us it becomes a nightmare, if not an outright impossibility, to conceive of anything regarding a universal approach to a species' wellbeing when its home territory is so stupefyingly vast. However, the Swainson's hawk is, fortunately, a comparatively unthreatened species. The real challenge comes when a cross-border species is already on the brink. The California condor is one of the most famous examples of a critically endangered animal in the whole United States. Despite successes which include reestablishing the condor in its ancestral Grand Canyon territory, their greatest threat remains a paramount concern. While recreational hunting provides state wildlife agencies with the key funding they need to enact conservationist policies, lead bullet fragments left behind in carcasses and gut piles pose an extreme danger to both full- and part-time scavengers, from condors to bald eagles.

There has long been a recognized need to balance the two, but efforts to do so are complicated by the fact that these prehistoric-looking birds are inconveniently mobile. California issued an outright ban on lead ammunition throughout the state in 2013, after having already restricted its use in condor territories as early as 2007.<sup>1</sup> Such efforts, sweeping though they are, can only have so much of an impact when California



California condor

condors think nothing of jaunting across state lines. With a range including parts of California, Arizona, and Utah, and the wings to get them anywhere they'd like to go, they're quite capable of moving into and out of the danger zone without ever realizing the potential harm. Arizona Game and Fish Department has its own program to save the condor, providing free or discounted copper bullets to hunters operating in their ranges, hoping to encourage the sport while eliminating its toxic byproduct.<sup>2</sup> Utah boasts similar measures, which include incentivizing hunters to voluntarily use copper bullets, in an attempt to bring everyone onto the same team.<sup>3</sup>

Despite efforts, lead remains a critical danger to the still fragile condor population. Yet even in the case of this "common cause" between sister states, the difficulties of coordinating a unified response are obvious. For all that, though, the condors do possess one advantage. Flight, while it sometimes complicates things, renders most birds immune to human obstructions. They can come and go as needed in response to food supplies and their biological imperatives. Mammals, on the other hand, often find themselves cut off from vital territory because of man-made obstacles. One of the most exciting animal events in Arizona's recent history has been the re-emergence of jaguars back into the lower reaches of the state. Their near-miraculous return is made possible by an exceptional level of cooperation between American and Mexican agencies across multiple jurisdictions, from wildlife to border patrol. While proposed border walls threaten to end the jaguar's Arizona expansion forever, supervised passage through secure border areas has meanwhile allowed this ecological coup to continue, to say nothing of facilitating the necessary migrations of countless other species.<sup>4</sup> After all, we might view the world as carved up into myriad territories, each distinct, coveted, and owned, but for all the other animals of the Earth: It's just home

<sup>1</sup>http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/10/131014-lead-ammunition-ban-condorcalifornia-science/

<sup>2</sup>http://www.azgfd.gov/w\_c/california\_condor\_lead.shtml

<sup>3</sup>https://wildlife.utah.gov/get-permit/check-your-progress/161-hunting.html

<sup>4</sup>http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/return-great-american-jaguar-180960443/



Jaguar found in Arizona

In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.

Iroquois





#### This Page

Top left: Mexican spotted owl Christie van Cleve Top right: Gila woodpecker Christie van Cleve Bottom: Greater yellowlegs Allen Spencer

Opposite page Clockwise from top left: Bald eagle – *Terry Stevens* Roadrunner – *Allen Spencer* White-tailed deer – *Christie van Cleve* Softshell turtle – *Lesley Guenther* Great horned owl – *Matt VanWallene* House finch family – Allen Spencer















## Babies! Babies! Oh, Baby!



#### by Megan Mosby, Executive Director

It was an exciting and busy year for volunteers in our new Orphan Care room. The new room is much bigger than our old 'digs' complete with counter space, sink, new stainless steel shelving units, cabinets for storage, and a mini fridge and microwave for food storage and prep. While we were initially uncertain if the public would be able to find us in our new facility, we should not have worried! People who love



animals and find a baby bird in need of tender loving care will go the extra mile to research how to get help. The number of orphaned babies we received this year greatly exceeded last year's numbers.

The Orphan Care Coordinator and volunteers were amazing in their dedication to their little charges. Thousands of baby birds were fed the appropriate diet to ensure success. Thousands of changes of bedding in the incubators and bins used up hundreds of rolls of paper towels and toilet paper. To feed the variety and multitude of babies, hundreds of pounds of fresh seed, softened cat food, gallons of handfeeding formula along with thousands of worms, many pounds of fresh fruit and tens of gallons of hummingbird nectar was needed. Thankfully, the wonderful people who brought the baby birds to us were also generous in donating money to help care for them!

We are grateful to the Orphan Care team for the time and love they generously gave to the baby birds in their care during the season. Without their dedication, we would not have been able to complete our mission, *to Nurture the Nature of Arizona*, by helping the littlest (and cutest) babies at Liberty Wildlife!

Photos – top to bottom:

Striped skunk, Anna's hummingbird, bobcat, American kestrel, Gambel's quail, nighthawk photos by Terry Stevens







# Year of Awards for **Liberty Wildlife**

Although we don't do what we do for the recognition, we do appreciate the fact that it is noticed...and particularly that others are not only aware of what we do but how well we do it.

The Arizona Chapter of The Wildlife Society honored Liberty Wildlife with the 2016 Conservation Award. The group is composed of leaders in the field of wildlife conservation, and being noticed by them means a great deal to us. Peer recognition goes a long way in encouraging us to grow and be better. We thank them for the recognition.

SRP has recognized us as one of this year's Champions of Energy Efficiency Award winners. Not only do we have

a roof full of solar panels, an electric car charging station, and other energy saving devices, but we are also growing a personal energy saving conscious. As an organization who has a sustainability message as part of its mission, this is a homerun.

At this year's Arizona Forward's Environmental Excellence Awards Liberty Wildlife walked away with not only a merit award for the SRP Award for Environmental Stewardship, but also two Crescordia Awards for Buildings and Structures/Commercial and Institutional and the Special Achievement in Environmental Excellence, The President's Award. From Arizona Forward's brochure, these awards "serve as a benchmark for promoting sustainability, conserving natural resources and preserving our unique desert environment



Crescordia President's Award

for future generations. The coveted Crescordia, which means to grow in harmony, is given as the highest honor in each category."

We are very proud to have our work recognized by such notable organizations. Thank you to all.

## Liberty Wildlife Legacy Award 2017



Each year Liberty Wildlife honors an individual, an agency, or a corporation who has contributed greatly to the betterment of the natural world. This year's Award was presented at *Wishes for Wildlife* to Salt River Project. Accepting the award for SRP was Kelly Barr, Chief Sustainability and Compliance Executive and Senior Director, Environmental Management at Salt River Project.

*Photo: Kelly Barr (left) receiving the Legacy Award for SRP from Megan Mosby, Executive Director, Liberty Wildlife.* 

## Pelican in the Desert

a long way from home

#### by Megan Mosby

n early July, we received a call from the Fort Huachuca Police Department in southern Arizona. It appears that the dispatcher definitely had a sense of humor. Here's what transpired.

The police were called to a public swimming pool to calm the waters because a brown pelican decided that the public pool was as close to ocean as he had seen in a while and had landed amidst swimming children. The swimming children shrieked because of the uninvited guest and fled the pool. According to the police rescuers and the animal control employee, the kids were safely behind the fence watching the pelican floating, diving, and preening...no saltwater needed evidently.

By the time we got the call, the police dispatcher had crafted her story to appeal to us at Liberty Wildlife...the freedom brokers. According to the dispatcher, the pelican was busted for swimming without the required wristband and was not wearing the appropriate swimming garb...tsk tsk!

Mr. Pelican was wrestled out of the pool with the animal control rescuer holding his beak and the police officer swaddling the pelican next to his body, wings trapped to stop any flailing. After a short ride to the police station, he was booked and placed in a holding cell. Busted!



Napping at Liberty Wildlife.

Then, Liberty Wildlife to the rescue. The pelican was relayed in a wire dog carrier compliments of the local animal control via a library van to Tucson where Liberty Wildlife employee, Robert, housed it until our rescue and transport



At Liberty Wildlife, before transport to SeaWorld San Diego for release. Photo by Carol Suits

team member, Terry, could drive down to get him. Apparently, it does take a village.

Liberated from its holding cell at the Fort Huachuca Police Department to Liberty Wildlife, he freely cruised around a large flight enclosure with a pool of his own. He was fattened up and stabilized in readiness for a trek across the desert via Jan and Joe Miller's van to finish rehabbing at SeaWorld San Diego where was he released to a more familiar habitat, the ocean. Home sweet home.

These youngsters periodically are blown off course in monsoon winds into hostile desert territory, and the highway looks a lot like ocean from up high. That is when the trouble begins.

This little guy was lucky enough to find real water even if it did include some strange looking "birds" and a bunch of nice folks that took the time to book him for his own good and safety.

We celebrate our part in the village that facilitated his freedom.



Bald eagle mother and chicks, near golf course – photo by Peggy Coleman

Liberty Wildlife Hotline for all animal emergencies: 480-998-5550

Bald eagle emergencies to AZGFD: 623-236-7575

SRP has a hotline you can call for any eagle (or other bird related) issues dealing with electrical equipment or preservation: 602-236-BIRD (2473)

More bald eagle information from Southwest Bald Eagle Management Committee: http:// www.swbemc.org/committee.html

Report any harassment of a bald eagle to the USFWS Law Enforcement: 480-967-7900 or Arizona Game and Fish Department's Operation Game Thief: 1-800-352-0700

### Village....continued from page 11

Education of the public is key to the success of urban nesting bald eagles. Eagles are protected by federal law. Disturbing birds or their nest is a crime and people should always stay back as far as possible, at least 600 feet or more. Once people understand that they can watch the eagles from a distance, not disturbing the eagles by going up to or under the nest, they can still enjoy the beauty of these awe-inspiring birds while being fortunate to witness the beginning of the life cycle of our American national symbol.

#### Joe Miller,

Volunteer Bald Eagle Nest Watcher Eagle Trainer, Liberty Wildlife Wildlife Director Hyatt Scottsdale nesting due to too much human interaction and disturbance. The upside is that there are more eyes on the birds when things do go wrong, enabling us to give them quick medical care and back to their nest as soon as possible, thus hopefully increasing their odds of survival during those first rough months.

In the 2016 season, two female eaglets from an east side nest found their way to Liberty Wildlife. One had a soft tissue injury to the leg having failed as an early fledging; the second was found on the golf course hot and dehydrated. Because of quick notifications by the public, both received timely supportive care at Liberty Wildlife, thus enabling AZGFD to return them to their nest and parents within a few days.

This year, a chick from the same east side nest area took his first flight directly into the window of a business building sustaining a fractured pelvis. While at Liberty Wildlife he healed quickly, was banded, fitted with an SRP GPS solar backpack, and successfully returned to the nest to join his sibling and parents. Another male nestling, from a west side nest, fell from the nest into an area of the nest tree where the parents could not feed him, and he was inaccessible to human rescuers. After two incredible weeks, he finally jumped to the ground, was rescued and brought to Liberty Wildlife thin and dehydrated. After recovery, he was fitted with a cellular pack, and was returned to his waiting family in the nest tree where he successfully fledged a few weeks later along with his sister.

Jan Miller, CVT Animal Care Coordinator Liberty Wildlife

> In memory of male Blue Band #34K, often called "Tu," who soared to his destiny high and free as an eagle.

Liberty Wildlife has found that injuries to birds from urban nests are more varied and frequent. We have seen electrocutions, fatal/nonfatal collisions with cars, flying into tall business window reflections, and failure of incubation or

## Liberty Wildlife Kids

### **Explore the Southwest**

by Carol Suits Volunteer Coordinator

### Explore the backyard one square at a time



**One Small Square: Backyard** is alive with creepers and crawlers, climbers, builders, and recyclers. Backyard invites children ages 7 and up to become nature lovers by looking, listening, touching, and smelling the world from the ground up! Children can explore ecosystems in detail, one small square at a time. The book is beautifully illustrated, scientifically accurate with child-friendly explanations.

Authors: Donald M. Silver and Patricia Wynne

## Explore the Southwest one square at a time

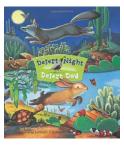


#### **One Small Square: Cactus Desert**

It is a sun-scorched world where clouds rarely come and nothing seems to move. That is, until children ages 6 - 9+ look a little closer to find tortoises, toads, and lizards, not to mention the scary rattlesnake and scorpion. Here, plants send their roots deep into the earth to find water, beetles stand on their head and shoot a stinky spray to fight off enemies, and roadrunners whiz by sleepy turtles and nervous desert mice on their way to ... where? Kids need only light clothes and a few simple pieces of equipment to explore the enchantments of cactus country. Authors: Donald M. Silver and Patricia Wynne

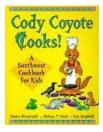
Make your own one small square! Creature Survey: Count the Creatures Living in a One-Yard Grid http://www.nwf.org/kids/family-fun/ outdoor-activities/creature-survey. aspx

#### Explore animals of the Southwest



Desert Night Desert Day is an illustrated nature book about nocturnal and diurnal creatures of the Sonoran Desert. It educates and entertains both children and adults with subtle hidden shadows of both the creature just seen on the previous pages and the creature to come on the following pages. At the end of the book Field Notes and a list of the featured six nocturnal animals and six diurnal animals give more information about each desert creature. Author: Anthony D. Fredericks Illustrator: Kenneth J.Spengler

## Explore Southwest food with Cody Coyote



**Cody Coyote Cooks!** cookbook for children contains over 45 recipes which range from simple treats (branding-iron biscuits) to more challenging meals (chaco tacos, holy moly guacamole), plus authentic crafts, Southwest trivia and stories featuring Cody Coyote. Parents will find clear instructions, sample menus and cooking safety tips. Ages 8 – 13+ Authors: Denice Skrepcinski, Melissa Stock and Lois Bergthold

#### Make your own desert!



Here's a cereal box made into a desert biome using "desert dough." Find pictures of desert animals to place in the desert you build. Don't forget to add some desert plants.

Desert Dough has just two ingredients:

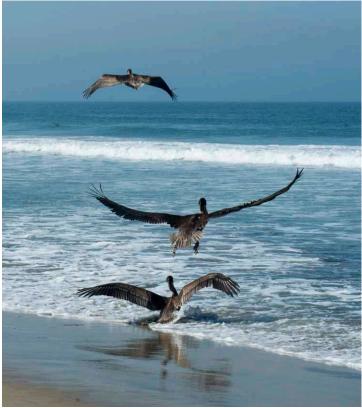
- 8 cups flour
- 1 cup baby oil

### Pelican - continued from page 18

A few times each year, juvenile brown pelicans are brought to Liberty Wildlife. These inexperienced birds take a free ride on monsoon winds blowing inland from the Pacific and the Sea of Cortez, not realizing that when the winds stop, they might be hundreds of miles from the ocean. At that point, a highway of wet asphalt looks invitingly like water and they dive onto it, sometimes sustaining serious injuries. As soon as they are brought in and given medical care at Liberty Wildlife, we try to arrange transportation for them to SeaWorld San Diego where they can be safely returned to their maritime habitat. Pictured here, SeaWorld employees releasing the rehabilitated pelicans, and their flight home.

Terry Stevens Operations Director Liberty Wildlife







## What We Offer



Visiting the Verde Canyon Railroad is a monthly activity for Liberty Wildlife. This photo shows Joe Miller introducing Sonora to railroad guests.



Volunteer Doris Pedersen introduces Education Ambassador Ivan, a screech owl, to a young guest during Liberty Wildlife's visiting hours.



A classic car club gathers at Liberty Wildlife. Members of the club raised funds for Liberty Wildlife and also toured the facility.



Kindergarten classes on an educational field trip visit Liberty Wildlife.

## Field Trips to Liberty Wildlife

**School is in session!!!** Arizona students have been back in the classroom since the beginning of August and now it is about that time...they are getting restless in their seats. Luckily, thanks to the Rob and Melani Walton Campus of Liberty Wildlife, those students can use their pent up energy to get a hands-on experience and learn about the natural world around them. For decades, children have joined their parents as they dropped off the sick, in-

to. School field trips to Liberty Wildlife support the Arizona

State Standards for science education. Teachers can plan

the trip easily into their curriculum and have the support of the school and parents because what the students learn

School field trips to Liberty Wildlife support the Arizona State Standards for science education. on-site will feed back into the classroom. Students will spend 3 hours at Liberty Wildlife where they will be introduced to topics such as life cycles, predator and prey relationships, adaptation, diversity, conservation and sustainability. Naturally, they will meet some of our education ambassadors up close in the amphitheater. We hope this first-hand experience will inspire the children to return to their classrooms and homes with a deeper

jured and orphaned wildlife at our intake window. Now, these same children will have the opportunity to go past that window and see what their caring and passion has led

> To schedule a field trip go to www.libertywildlife.org/education. We look forward to seeing you.

22

## **Education Offerings**

Liberty Wildlife on the Verde Canyon Railroad

For the life of our organization the desire to delight, inspire, and wake up the awareness of the importance of wildlife in our world has underscored all of our educational endeavors. In our new facility, we have been able to extend our ways of doing just that.

While we are still providing our enriching outreach programs to schools and other community events, our new campus offers a plethora of different opportunities with more to come. A visitor can chat with our volunteers who do daily hand-feeding as part of the training of our educational cadre. During our "Open Hours" we have a variety of programs addressing subjects from diurnal/nocturnal differences in wildlife to our newest creation, *Road Kill Café*.

*Road Kill Café* is a production by John Glitsos and Balinda Strosneider that creatively and humorously slips in important information about a number of native wildlife and their rich natural history. While the human stars represent the chef and the waitress of the Café (*photo far right*) and the escort of the animal stars speaks rather ventrilocally (if that is a word), for the animals stars, the audience's interest is piqued, questions are answered extending the messages of the script beyond the scope of the skit. It is well performed, well scripted, snappily designed and a lot of fun. It has had great appeal and will have a regular gig at our campus...and beyond.

We look forward to the next performance, which is now in the pre-production process and will be ready for prime time soon.



Claudia Kirscher portraying a waitress in Road Kill Cafe

#### Stay tuned!



### Experience the Indigenous Southwest at Liberty Wildlife

Explore the best of the Southwest at Liberty Wildlife, the Valley's top organization for wildlife rehabilitation, environmental education and conservation services. The nonprofit's new facility in South Phoenix boasts an outdoor amphitheater, equipped with a state-of-the-art sound system, as well as an inspirational butterfly garden and plenty of walkable trails for the nature-enthused. Out-of-towners eager to experience indigenous landscapes, animals, birds and reptiles will swoon over this idyllic space, perfect for evening cocktail parties and intimate afternoon gatherings alike. Book an educational program and find yourself face-to-face with bald eagles or enjoy a scenic tour (guided or not), both of which include use of the facilities.

For more information and event coordination please contact: Out of the Blue Events, Susie Alofs at 480-510-9566 or susie@outoftheblueeventsaz.com.



Merlin - photo by Christie van Cleve

## Wish List for:

New facility:	Two acres next door (currently available) Sail cloth for trail, reptile enclosures, building/modular walkway cover Landscape lighting Fencing in front of building Cushions for amphitheater Window tinting
Rehabilitation:	Anesthesia machine \$5,000 Hematocrit centrifuge \$450 Stainless steel animal caging (mammals) \$5,000 PVC coated flooring for stainless caging \$1,800 Pulse oximeter for birds \$500
Education:	Large outdoor screen and projector for amphitheater Professional mister system Vision enclosures for reptiles in interactive room

### **Leave Your Legacy**

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Liberty Wildlife relies on community support from individuals, foundations and corporations. One way that you can provide support for Liberty Wildlife is through naming Liberty in your estate plans. Another way is through a planned gift or life-income gift. These can be in the form of charitable gift annuities, charitable annuity or remainder trusts, or other similar vehicles. A planned gift (or life-income gift) allows the opportunity for giving when otherwise not possible. It also allows for the donor's integration of their personal goals, financial goals, estate planning goals and charitable goals.

One planned gift is the charitable gift annuity. Based on the National Council of Gift Annuities, the rates of return are established as a fixed amount of guaranteed life income based on your age through a contractual agreement. The charitable gift annuity is a great way to receive a significant tax deduction, a guaranteed income for one or two lives, and ultimately the balance will be received by the charity of your choice (such as Liberty Wildlife) at the end of your life. It works very well with cash or property that is providing little or no income.

This is how it works:

- \$10,000 CGA
- Age: 79
- Annuity Rate: 6.6%
- Income Tax Rate: 35%
- Charitable Deduction: \$4,912
- Annual Annuity Payment: \$660
- Remainder goes to church/ charity of choice

For more information about this or other types of planned gifts, please contact Megan Mosby at:

Megan@libertywildlife.org

Please let us know if you have left Liberty Wildlife in your estate plans so you can join our

### Wings of an Eagle Legacy Circle

## **Upcoming Fundraisers:**

## Upcoming Fundraisers...giving each of you an opportunity to help support our mission

Over the years we have developed a finely run fundraiser, *Wishes for Wild-life*, but because we had no place at our old site to host the event, over the years we were in several different resorts...all lovely, but not ours.

This year we have taken the best parts of that event and created two different events. The first of these will be held November 11th at the Rob and Melani Walton Campus of Liberty Wildlife. What was our excellent silent auction has morphed into the **Unique Boutique**. There will be no bidding, just an outright sale of some really great and unusual items. There will definitely be one-of-a-kinds, some shabby chic and vintage, terrific craft and garden treasures. It will represent the very best of our silent auction and for those of you who had a chance to visit our *Wishes for Wildlife* auction you will know what we mean. This will be a "must" attend...and it will be a great time to buy gifts for future holidays.

The second event will be our **VIP Wishes for Wildlife**. It will be held along the education trail, around the wetlands, and throughout the butterfly garden and pollinator garden. Featuring southwestern teepees, native wildlife, music, and dinner with the opportunity to take home a "free" raffle prize that is a true win. You can dine with the eagles if you choose to, or perhaps the owls will be your hosts. The falcons, ravens, or hawks might be your choice of dinner company. This is designed to be fun, interactive, and an opportunity to commune with friends on a lovely evening.

Another new launch for Liberty Wildlife is our monthly series, **Sippin' the Spirit of the Southwest**. This is an opportunity to attend a casual evening with beverages and hors d'oeuvres along with a speaker, entertainer, or subject of interest significant to our precious Southwestern culture.

Watch for information on these events on our website and Facebook.

## Save the Date Liberty Wildlife's Ist Annual Unique Boutique View of the staturday of the st

It's time to shop...there will be one-of-akinds, some shabby chic and vintage, and terrific craft and garden treasures. This is a great way to do some holiday shopping and support Liberty Wildlife.

Additional details: www.libertywildlife.org



Linda Scott and golden eagle Education Ambassador, Anasazi, greeting guests at the Grand Opening. *Photo by Terry Stevens* 

## **2017** Wishes for Wildlife







nother lovely evening framed the Montelucia and Liberty Wildlife's annual auction and dinner. The grounds were sprinkled with our informed educators and their wildlife ambassadors to greet and educate the guests. Those who have attended the event before are automatically drawn to their favorites while other guests made the rounds. It isn't often that you get such an intimate moment with a creature from the wild.

Photos – top to bottom:

The program included the recognition of Honorary Chairs, the Honorable John McCain and Mrs. (Cindy) McCain (on left), with Sharon and Dr. Oliver Harper, along with Liberty Wildlife volunteer, Max Bessler, and golden eagle Education Ambassador, Anasazi.

Joe Miller, with bald eagle Education Ambassador Aurora, and Alex Stofko, Daily Care Coordinator.

The cast of the skit from Phoenix Theatre after performing the informative introduction to Arizona's wildlife.

Ann Olney and great horned owl Education Ambassador, Darwin.

Lori Singleton joins Megan Mosby on stage to draw a ticket for the raffle.

Ed Fox receives his raffle prize from Megan Mosby.

#### **Birdies for Charity**

It is time again to help Liberty Wildlife get an educational booth at the Waste Management Phoenix Open. Your pledge to Liberty Wildlife will have 10% added to the total by the Thunderbirds. It is quick and easy – we thank you in advance for your contribution. (*Pledge form and additonal information next page*.)



#### HOW DO BIRDIES MEAN BUCKS?

You can make a local charity a big bucks winner by making a pledge in the Birdies For Charity competition at the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open! That's because participating charities will receive every single penny of collected pledges.

#### BIRDIES CAN ALSO MEAN BONUS BUCKS

Charities can receive a 10 percent BONUS on the total amount of pledges collected on their behalf during the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open Birdies For Charity Program. It's as simple as it sounds. *Example:* If Charity A collects \$20,000 in pledges, Charity A will receive 10% of that, or \$2,000, for their charity courtesy of Thunderbirds Charities.

#### HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN BIRDIES FOR CHARITY?

Simply pledge one cent or more for every birdie that will be made by the PGA TOUR players, Thursday through Sunday of the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open. It's estimated that between 1,300 and 1,800 birdies will be made. Inclement weather may affect the total.

#### HOW MUCH WILL I OWE & WHOM DO I PAY?

Say you pledge one cent per birdie and 1,500 birdies are made, after the tournament you'll receive an invoice for \$15.00 from Thunderbirds Charities. You can either make your check payable to "Thunderbirds Charities" or provide credit card information, (Please do not pay charity directly). For other possible pledge amounts check the chart below.

**IF 1500 BIRDIES ARE MADE** *my total pledge would be:* 1¢ = \$15 | 2¢ = \$30 | 3¢ = \$45 | 4¢ = \$60 | 5¢ = \$75 | 10¢ = \$150

PLEDGE FORM: I PLEDGE AND PROMISE TO DONATE TO THE BIRDIES FOR CHARITY PROGRAM FOR EVERY BIRDIE MADE DURING THE 2018 WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN.





#### GUIDELINES

14 YEARS STRONG

- It is the designated charity's responsibility to collect and enter pledge form pledges into the website at: www.birdiesforcharityaz.com
- Pledge deadline is February 4, 2018
- If one or more days of the Waste Management Phoenix Open are cancelled, the birdie count substituted for those days will be: Thurs: 500 | Fri: 500 | Sat: 300 | Sun: 300
- Complete set of rules can be requested at info@bfc.com

#### Going into our 14<sup>th</sup> year Birdies For Charity has made a difference for local charities:

2007 / 2008	\$1.5 million
2009 / 2010 / 2011	\$1.3 million
2012 / 2013	\$1.7 million
2014 / 2015	\$1.5 million
2015 / 2016	\$1.5 million
2016 / 2017	\$1.5 million

Thunderbirds Charities is recognized by the IRS as an Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Consult your tax advisor on the application of tax deductions.



Felephone (including area cod	e)	
City	State	Zip
Aailing Address		Suite or Apt.
Company Name (only if using	a company address)	
Vame		

For more information or to make a pledge online go to: BirdiesforCharityAZ.com 602

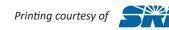
602.216.7328 Jan. 29 – Feb. 4, 2018 TPC Scottsdale



Liberty Wildlife, Inc. 2600 E. Elwood Street Phoenix, AZ 85040 Wildlife Hotline (480) 998-5550 Visit us online at www.libertywildlife.org



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### Join or renew!

It is with your help that Liberty Wildlife has furthered wildlife conservation through quality rehabilitation, education, and consultation services. Because of your support and your interest in aiding wildlife, we hope that we can count on you to help us continue these programs.

Maybe it's a good time to add a gift membership for a friend – or maybe raise your own membership level.

All members will receive the *Wing-Beats* newsletter electronically.

Cut along the dotted line and mail with check to: Liberty Wildlife, Inc. 2600 E. Elwood Street Phoenix AZ 85040

You can also join or renew online at www.libertywildlife.org

#### Annual Membership

- \$25 Fledgling Supports the Orphan Care program
- \$50 Explorer Provides funding for a school or youth Education program
- \$100 Guardian Provides funding to support the activities of the Wildlife Guardians
- \$250 Naturalist Provides funding for medical supplies for wildlife in our care
- \$500 Conservationist Provides funding for major equipment, such as brooders
- \$1,000 Steward Provides funding for technology to aid Medical Services and Education programming

My membership \_\_\_\_\_

Gift membership \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

#### My Membership

Name	
Company	
Address	
City	StateZIP
Phone	
Email	

Contact me about volunteering

#### Gift Membership

Name	
Company	
Address —	
City	State ZIP
Phone	
Fmail	
2	

## Liberty 🏶 Wildlife

### 2016 Annual Report



**At Liberty Wildlife**, we provide a service to the community, to wildlife, and to future generations because we believe wildlife is an important part of a diverse and intricate world. Your donations provide us with the opportunity to educate people of all ages about the connectedness of all living things and allows us to mitigate for the unfortunate human-caused activities detrimental to wildlife and ultimately, to us, and our future. In the end, your donations sustain our mission...to nuture the nature of Arizona.

From the bottom of our hearts we thank you.

### **Department Statistics for 2016**

#### Medical Services

#### Daily Care and Orphan Care:

<ul> <li>Total animals assisted</li> <li>Total orphans assisted</li> <li>Number of species</li> </ul>	6,573 4,383 157
<ul> <li>Highest intake month - June</li> <li>Total volunteers all shifts:</li> </ul>	1,373
Medical Services	52
Daily Care	113
Orphan Care	94
Hand Feed	22

#### **Additional Support:**

• Education	57
Interpretive Guide	9
<ul> <li>Hotline volunteers</li> </ul>	40
<ul> <li>Intake Window volunteers</li> </ul>	21
<ul> <li>Rescue &amp; Transportation volunteers</li> </ul>	112
<ul> <li>Research &amp; Conservation biologists</li> </ul>	8
<ul> <li>Cooperating veterinarians</li> </ul>	6
• CVT's	6
<ul> <li>Wildlife Guardian volunteers</li> </ul>	14
<ul> <li>Scientific Advisory Board</li> </ul>	4
<ul> <li>Non-Eagle Feather Repository Board</li> </ul>	4
<ul> <li>Publications volunteers</li> </ul>	8
<ul> <li>Board of Directors</li> </ul>	13
<ul> <li>Advisory Board of Directors</li> </ul>	24
Total volunteer jobs	622

Cover photo: Hepatic tanager - by Christie van Cleve

Right: An Arizona Agribusiness and Equine Center class visiting Liberty Widlife.

#### **Education:**

<ul> <li>Number of programs completed</li> <li>Number of tours/onsite programs</li> <li>Total audience number (for programs)</li> <li>Number of program hours</li> </ul>	698 102 273,831 2,098
<ul> <li>Education volunteers' program hours including travel to/from and set-up</li> </ul>	2,811.35
<ul> <li>Number of Education volunteers</li> <li>Number of Education volunteers who div</li> </ul>	61
a program in 2015-16	24
• Number of miles driven by volunteers	

to complete programs 27,605.9\*

\*(does not inlcude instances where more than one vehicle was needed)

Conservatively, the value of volunteer time donated: \$1,590,246.60\* (65,876 hours of volunteer time x \$24.14 per hour)

\*Based on documented volunteer hours and figures from Independant Sector research.





Megan Mosby, Executive Director, receives the prestigious President's Award at Arizona Forward's Environmental Excellence Awards presented by SRP. Liberty Wildlife's new campus "was recognized for transforming a sand and gravel pit along an industrialized section of the Rio Salado habitat into a LEED Platinum-certified community gathering space."

#### Liberty Wildlife Board of Directors

Richard Hayslip, Chair

Emil Burr Peggy Cole Cay Cowie Tom Henze John Melamed Megan Mosby Kathryn Orr, DVM Phil Schneider Lori Singleton Ken Vegors William Weese, MD Tracey Westerhausen

#### Liberty Wildlife Goes Grocery Shopping for Animal Food

Crumble /Scratch/Seeds	5,530 lbs.
Worms	152,320
Crickets	134,000
Mice	150,400
Rats	1,880
Quail	7,840
Chickens	866
Fish	1,468 lbs
Carnivore diet	5 lbs.
Fruits and vegetables	1,363 lbs.
Eggs	3,234
Exact tube formula	118 lbs.
Heads of lettuce	887
Cat and Dog Food	348 lbs

Genth is not a platform for human life. It is a living being. We are not on it, but part of it. Its health is our health."

Thomas Moore

#### Advisory Board of Directors

**Richard Adkerson** Missy and Lyle Anderson **Don Budinger Richard Burnham** Terry Goddard Victoria and Rod Granberry Sharon and Ollie Harper Karen and Bob Hobbs Nan and C.A. Howlett Craig Jackson The Honorable John and Cindy McCain **Rich Rector Richard Silverman** Vern Swaback Patti and Ken Vegors Chip Weil Deborah Wilson, MD



Doris Pedersen educates the public at a Liberty Wildlife booth

### **2016 List of Species Assisted**

Abert's squirrel Abert's towhee American coot American crow American kestrel American robin Anna's hummingbird Antelope ground squirrel Ash-throated flycatcher Bald eagle Barn owl Barn swallow Bewick's wren Black-chinned hummingbird Black-crowned night heron Black-headed grosbeak Black-tailed prairie dog Bobcat Bronzed cowbird Brown-headed cowbird Bullock's oriole Burrowing owl Cactus wren California condor Canada goose Chinese goose Chukar Clark's grebe Clark's spiny lizard Cliff swallow Cockatiel Collarded dove Common king snake Common loon Common merganser Common poorwill Common raven Cooper's hawk Corn snake Costa's hummingbird

Cottontail rabbit Coyote Curve-billed thrasher Desert spiney lizard Desert tortoise Domestic goose Domestic rabbit Double-crested cormorant Eared grebe Elf owl Emu English starling European starling Gambel's quail Gila woodpecker Gilded flicker Golden eagle Gopher Gopher snake Great blue heron Great egret Great horned owl Greater roadrunner Great-tailed grackle Green heron Green-tailed towhee Gunnison's prairie dog Harris's hawk Hoary bat House finch Inca dove Jackrabbit Javelina Kangaroo mouse Killdeer Lesser goldfinch Lesser long-nosed bat Lesser nighthawk Lincoln's sparrow Little brown bat

Long-eared owl Lovebird Lucy's warbler MacGillivray's warbler Mallard Merlin Mexican free-tailed bat Monk parrot Mountain bluebird Mourning dove Muscovy Neotropic cormorant Northern cardinal Northern harrier Northern mockingbird Northern red-shafted flicker Northern roughed-wing swallow Orange-crowned warbler Oriole Pacific loon Painted bunting Parakeet Peach-faced lovebird Peregrine falcon Pied-billed grebe Pigeon Pocket mouse Prairie falcon Raccoon Red-eared slider Red-naped sapsucker Red-shouldered hawk Red-tailed hawk Red-winged blackbird Reeve's pheasant Ring-necked duck Ringtail cat Rock squirrel Round-tailed ground squirrel Ruddy duck

Rufous hummingbird Russian tortoise Say's phoebe Sharp-shinned hawk Silver haired Bat Snowy egret Sonoran collared lizard Sonoran desert toad Spiny softshell turtle Spotted skunk Striped skunk Sulcata tortoise Swainson's hawk Turkey vulture Verdin Vireo Virginia opossum Western diamondback snake Western grebe Western kingbird Western pipestrelle Western screech owl Western scrub jay Western tanager Western yellow bat White-crowned sparrow White-faced ibis White-spotted gecko White-throated swift White-winged dove Widgeon Wilson's warbler Yellow warbler Yellow-billed cuckoo Yellow-rumped warbler Yellow-throated warbler Zone-tailed hawk

#### 157 species assisted at Liberty Wildlife during 2016

Right: Young bobcats – photo by Kathy Edwards





#### 698 programs were provided by Liberty Wildlife in 2016

#### Left, top to bottom:

Volunteer, Wendy Bozzi showing a young guest screech owl Education Ambassador, Ivan, during public visiting hours at Liberty Wildlife.

Courtney Griffin with Fox 10 visits Liberty Wildlife – she is with volunteer John Glitsos, along with golden eagle Education Ambassador, Anasazi.

A group of kindergarten students on a field trip to Liberty Wildlife, showing the owls they made after learning about owls in nature.

*Right, top to bottom:* 

Terry Stevens with bald eagle Education Ambassador Sonora, along with Laura Hackett at Highland Lakes Middle School.

*Volunteers Linda Scottt and Max Bessler training a new group of education volunteers at the new campus.* 









"Nobody made a greater místake than he who díd nothíng because he could only do a líttle."

Edmond Burke

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

#### To Our 2016 Donors

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American Kestrel – Photo by Christie van Cleve



Great horned owl – Photo by Allen Spencer

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Black-tailed prairie dog – Photo by Christie Van Cleve



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Clark's spiney lizard - Photo by Allen Spencer



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