THE YEAR IN REFLECTION
By Kimberly Perez, President

As I was paddling my SUP (standup paddleboard), checking up on wildlife in the San Simeon Cove, I noticed a very young deer on a hidden beach that is almost impossible to climb out of (steep and fragile)...I call it ‘paddler’s beach’ and have had many animals get stuck there or claim it during the winter (including elephant seal sub-adults).

I watched for a while to see if it looked healthy and then paddled over to the beach to see what the deer would do. After watching for a few minutes, it looked healthy yet scared, but it was stuck. It attempted to jump up on least steep part but never came close to making it up the wall.

I left the beach and stayed on my paddleboard far enough away to keep my eye on it and be able to call PWC, Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and anyplace else I thought that could help. After talking to many people, CDFW sent two officers out. They walked out towards San Simeon Point and went off trail to get to the area above the beach.

While they were assessing and planning, the young fawn got scared and ran full speed into the water and then went into one of the spots that can be a blowhole at high tide. The officer handed me a catchpole and I got off my board to try to catch it. Two times I hooked its back legs but it scooted out. Then it swam away from the rocks out toward the open sea and I followed and failed one more time - losing my paddle. I retrieved my paddle and as the fawn was slowing down, I placed the catchpole around it, grabbed the animal and placed it on my board.

I paddled back to the rocks and handed it over to the officers. The fawn was crying occasionally, and its mother was up on hillside calling back. The officers let the fawn go (as it looked healthy - just wet and cold) and it ran directly to mom!

Thanks to everyone who helped and thanks to PWC for helping me call the right people and giving advice.

THE YEAR IN REFLECTION
By Cubby Cashen

As I was paddling my SUP (standup paddleboard), checking up on wildlife in the San Simeon Cove, I noticed a very young deer on a hidden beach that is almost impossible to climb out of (steep and fragile)...I call it ‘paddler’s beach’ and have had many animals get stuck there or claim it during the winter (including elephant seal sub-adults).

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THE YEAR IN REFLECTION
By Kimberly Perez, President

With the start of Fall and our very busy Spring/Summer season reaching its end, so much comes to mind! This is a time marked with extreme gratitude of our members, staff and volunteers... for making PWC’s mission a priority in their lives... for Senator Bill Monning honoring us as the 2018 Nonprofit of the Year in his 17th District citing the “tremendous service we provide for SLO County...” for being the compassionate voice for creatures without one by successfully rehabilitating many species (including an unusual visitor, an oiled Ancient Murrelet, that we had never seen before, one of an unusually large number of oiled seabirds we received in the first 3 months of the year,) and... for an end to the earlier-than-usual baby wildlife season that began in early February.

The baby wildlife campaign just ended with over 100 of our members and new donors responding enthusiastically. That appeal introduced us to 16 new supporters and brought back 12 lapsed members. Being a nonprofit, this is the heart it takes for us to continue operations.

Like Fall bounty, this time of year is characterized by shorter days and longer nights, the warmth of family and friends, good cheer, and giving to your favorite charity! We depend on our members’ giving in many ways: sharing goodwill about our life-saving work with others, attending our fundraisers (Morro Bay WILD or Soupabration!) and donating on Giving Tuesday (or before the year-end).

In the words of Kathy Calvin (President/CEO of the UN Foundation), “Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference!” Please, make your difference today!
Welcome New Members & Donors (May – Aug 2018)

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A QUAIL TALE

By Sharon Blakely

What does it take for Pacific Wildlife Care (PWC) to nurture hatchling quail to their release point? Orphaned and sometimes only 2-3 days old and weighing 10 grams (Think “4 pinches of salt!”), they are the size of a small cotton ball. Many come from destroyed nests and are delivered to PWC in a “stuporous” attitude (DVM Shannon Rigg’s vocabulary) then evaluated at intake and usually whisked off to an incubator. Once warmed up, many quail hatchlings begin dashing around on blurred legs, scratching at the ground, consistent with this precocious species.

Precocial birds, like quail, hatch out with a warm covering of down feathers, so can keep reasonably warm without an incubating parent. Quail chicks are quite mobile on the ground and soon feed themselves. However, it takes a good bit of time before they can fly, so parents of precocial chicks spend a fair amount of time watching out for predators looking to make a flightless chick into a meal.

For a few days, the incubator will be home, and filled with yummy mealworms, finely chopped broccoli, quail starter (specially formulated quail pellets) and a small water dish with a pebble to prevent accidental slips while racing from corner to corner.

Next forwarding address might be Home Care: where, with a “Baby Bird Mom” (Quasi-Quail parent), the hatchlings put on feathers and weight and enjoy privacy from intervening, but well-intentioned caretakers. An alternate address may be a quail-qualified playpen, which may look messy by Better Homes & Gardens standards, but “feels like home” to a near-fledged quail.

Then comes June graduation! The quail have gotten a passing final vet check from Dr. Riggs and are ready for release. With “3 birds in a box,” I slowly drive through Montana de Oro State Park early one morning, windows down, listening for “quail chatter.” When separated from a covey (the group) or a mate, the California Quail’s call sounds like it’s saying Chi-ca-go, and sometimes repeats it up to 10 times. No, the bird isn’t asking for relocation to the Midwest from Sunny California (where it’s the State Bird), they also use a repeated pit-pit alarm to alert covey to nearby danger.

Ah-h-h, the sounds I’ve been straining for— a male-female adult pair in sight. What luck! It’s fortunate that several California Quail broods may mix after hatching and all parents become “hands on deck” caring for any young.

I recruit a stand-by to open the box, and unlike the huddle the 3 have maintained in the carrier, they burst out 3 different directions! Hopefully, this “Mom and Pop” quail will patiently rein in the trio with their antiphonal calls (intricate calls fit into a tightly orchestrated pattern) that the fledge will recognize.

From a destroyed nest into a healthy “teenager’s habitat” in approximately 26 days, thanks to Pacific Wildlife Care.

California Quail # 778, 828, 890 were under Pacific Wildlife Care’s care, then released at Montana de Oro State Park with the assistance of a teacher from Avila Beach, whose class had been visited by PWC’s Wildlife Ambassadors.
WELCOME NEW REHABILITATION TECHNICIANS (RT)

Jacqueline Sanchez
Jackie has been a RT since October 2017. After graduating from Cal State University, Long Beach in Molecular/Cell Biology and Physiology, she volunteered for the Jaguar Rescue Center in Costa Rica where she was first exposed to wildlife rehabilitation. From there she completed an internship through the Peninsula Humane Society in Burlingame as well as an internship from Pacific Wildlife Care.

Jackie grew up in Los Angeles county and now resides in Santa Maria with her roommate Ferris, the duck.

Kelley Boland
Kelley grew up in San Diego, where she was first exposed to wildlife rehabilitation as a volunteer for Project Wildlife in 2011. She moved to San Luis Obispo to attend Cal Poly and graduated in 2016 with a degree in Field & Wildlife Biology. She has been working with Cal Poly professors on several research projects and with the Morro Bay National Estuary Program as a field technician. Kelley also loves teaching and taught at Camp K.E.E.P. as an outdoor educator for 6th graders.

She began volunteering at PWC intermittently in 2014 and began her position as a RT this past July.

Giavanna Caputo
Gia grew up in Southern Orange County in Ladera Ranch. She started practicing Shotokan Karate at the age of 5 and continued until she was a High School Junior. Showing Clydesdales from the age of 9 was another one of her loves. She played the cello for 13 years and was on the dance team at San Juan Hills High School. She was the foaling manager at the Horse Unit her senior year at Cal Poly and also worked at an equine rehabilitation center. She graduated with a degree in Animal Science.

Gia first volunteered for PWC before completing her summer internship.
McKaila, McKaila, McKaila!
(Your parents must be bursting with pride over the generosity you have shown PWC all these years!) For McKaila’s birthday, as she often has done starting when she was in grammar school, she invited friends and family to view some of PWC’s Wildlife Ambassadors and in lieu of gifts, asked attendees to send donations to PWC: this year totaling over $800.00!

Injured Opossum in recovery at PWC

“Thank You to all current, new & long-time supporters and volunteers for years of doing your best for our important SLO County Wildlife!”

PWC’s mission is to support San Luis Obispo 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 Yous

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Membership/Donations Save Lives

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

- Benefactor $3,000
- Patron $1,500
- Sponsor $600
- Contributor $300
- Supporter $150
- Advocate $60
- Student/Senior/Volunteer $30
- End of Year Giving

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

Thank you to all who donate to make this newsletter possible.

www.pacificwildlifecare.org
(805) 543-WILD (9453)

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Vice President: Marcelle Bakula
Secretary: Kathleen Dillon
Treasurer: Robert Blakely

Board Members
Craig Christakos
Dr. Joel Germond

Newsletter
Editor: Marcelle Bakula
Copy Editor: John FitzRandolph
Layout: Jeanette Stone

Rotary Club of Morro Bay – $800.00 for pelagic pool cameras
SLO County, Fish & Game Fine Committee - $3,500.00 Grant
Animal Care Clinic’s Annual Gala Fundraiser - $3,500

Kimberly Perez accepts check from Rotary Club
Animal Care Clinic Staff – Facebook Cover Photo

Injured Opossum in recovery at PWC