WHY IS THAT BIRD SITTING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROADWAY? By Nathan Friedmann

Kalyn & I were out on a Sunday drive and shortly after our departure from Los Osos toward San Luis Obispo on Los Osos Valley Road, we saw a bird sitting in the center lane and squawking at passing cars (it reminded me of a dog).

Since the animal was obviously injured and definitely stranded, we promptly made a u-turn and pulled into the center lane on the two-lane roadway. I jumped out to find a grebe fiercely fending off anything that came near it, including my hands as I reached toward it.

I distracted the distressed bird with one hand wrapped in my jacket while I plucked it up from the road, jumped back into the truck and held it on my lap. Luckily, we live just a minute up the road where we stopped in our driveway to get a better handle on the situation so the bird would stop pecking around frantically at me.

While there was no immediate, apparent injury to the bird, we decided that since we were not the experts on animal health, we reached out to my mother, Julie, who has previously rescued local animals in the area.

She put her jacket over the bird’s head to help keep it calm and directed us to Pacific Wildlife Care. We drove it to their clinic in Morro Bay.

Luckily when we arrived, Cika at the front desk helped out quickly and got the bird into the care it needed! We learned that grebes can not fly from land (they need water in order to take-off).

Thanks to Pacific Wildlife care for being so helpful to our situation and to all injured animals in our area!

THE PRESIDENT’S PERCH by Kimberly Perez

Happy New Year! How quickly 2018 passed, a year marked with some firsts!! It feels like we were just selected as Nonprofit of the Year by CA Senator Bill Monning in his 17th District. Imagine PWC! Just a small blip on the radar of so many worthy nonprofits in his district, yet he found us! Amazing... Only two animal-related nonprofits were selected in all of California, so definitely an honor. Our partnership with the SLO International Film Festival in sponsoring a youth award, The Wild World We Love, in the Young Filmmakers of Tomorrow category resulted in its first winner of this award, Logan Gilbert, a 6th grader from West Linn, Oregon. In addition, PWC sponsored a full-feature documentary, “The Cat That Changed America”, a film intended to educate about issues facing wildlife today. This film was about the infamous LA cougar, P22, who lives within an 8 square mile area of the Hollywood Hills in Southern California. We hope to bring this film back in 2019 along with others. These firsts were in addition to 2,490 wildlife cases, 30,608 total volunteer hours, 46,169 miles driven to rescue & transport wildlife, responding to 2,992 hotline calls, and 93 presentations by our wildlife ambassadors reaching over 5,000 people.

Much gratitude to our generous and compassionate supporters—donors, members, staff and over 225 volunteers. We ended the year on a positive note. We are fortunate to have retained the services of our wildlife veterinarian, Dr. Shannon Riggs. We’ve worked diligently to bring a number of noteworthy events to San Luis Obispo County as a means to inspire and educate—Meet the Raptors, Central Coast Wildlife Festival and Morro Bay WILD to name a few.

Keep PWC utmost in your thoughts; 2019 has arrived with quite a punch!! We’re experiencing a heavy influx of oiled seabirds with the recent storms, and baby season appears to be starting early ... a baby bunny arrived last week and a baby hummingbird arrived yesterday!

Most importantly, share our mission, inspire others, pay it forward and in the words of Mahatma Ghandi, “Be the change you want to see in the world.”
SPRING REMINDERS

Keep the wild creatures in the wild by taking these precautions

- Check trees & bushes for nests before trimming.
- Walk your property to look for ground nests before mowing, weed-whacking or leaf blowing.
- Trapping wildlife in the spring often results in their young being orphaned.
- You don’t need to feed orphaned or injured wildlife. They may be in shock and need veterinary assistance.
- Baby deer need to be left where their mother has safely stashed them. Only if they wander around crying do they need rescuing.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 70.5 years old and have an IRA (SIMPLE or SEP), you are legally required to make a minimum withdrawal (RMD = required minimum disbursement) each year. That required withdrawal is a taxable event – EXCEPT when all or part of that withdrawal is donated to a qualified charity. Please consider giving to PWC!

PWC’s Tax ID is: 77-0196350

SPECIAL THANK YOUS

Edwin & Jeanne Woods Family Foundation for a $10,000 grant and a $15,000 matching challenge grant for the Center Director’s services.

Dr. Joel Germond (Center Volunteer and Board Member) for holding an Art Sale of his ceramics to benefit P.W.C. raising over $3,000.00!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Jeri Roberts of the PWC Education Team introduced our newest Education Ambassador, Ginger (a Barn Owl)

Attendees enjoyed PWC volunteer and Cal Poly graduate student, Ashley Wilson’s presentation regarding her research on the effects of artificial light and noise on birds and what we can do.

All photos by Joel Germond

Welcome New Members & Donors  (Sept – Dec 2018)

Barbara Akle Shelby Alligood April & Lloyd Balkind
Ilona Baran Helen Barge Casey Barge Ray Belknap Morgan Berden
Cathy Bezek Barbara Bolton Marie Boutsen Barbara Boyer Rebecca Carey
Christian Carvel Lisa Wolf Chick Charles Christian Andrew Clark
Lauri Coats Katherine Cole Cika Cook Aidan Dellinger Jessica & Nathan Delaney
Arlene & Kent Driver Jacqueline Eagan Steve Ezzo
Kathy Ferguson Kathleen Fisch Treg Fischbach
Allison Fishburn Julie Fitzpatrick Lisa Franco
Jan Galeazzi Ashley Gastineau Timothy Glennon Paula Greene
Greenheart Farms Alice Griselle Sally & CA Grogg
Libby Harrison Katie Hemler Kimberly Hernandez
Allen Hire & Robin Bell Nancy Hobson

Terry Hobson Cosima Hopper Maureen Husum Cletus Hyman
Jane Janise Farrah Johnson Ella Jolly
Penny & Thomas Jolly Frances Jorgensen Roberta Jorgensen
Roberta & Joel Kelsch Mrs. Korbin
Jordan Kritzer Kathleen Lambeth Chris Larson
Joan Lassen Paul Ledesma Jerry James
Alicia Lindheimer Molly Loberg Emily Locher
Debe Loomis Sabrina Madden Charles Main
Cate & Brooke Markowitz Nancy & James McQueen
Kristin Miller Oscar Munoz Mary O’Brien
Roxanne Nolan Mary O’Brien Bea & Bryan O’Meara Naomi Oyler
Andre Peterhans & Donna Gallagher Lauren & Camryn Platte
Zoha Qader Madison Rasmussen Pamela Rhoades
Julie & Bob Rice Carolyn & James Rivaldi Katelyn Rock
Thomas Rubenstein Scott Rucker

Timothy Rutledge Donald Ryuji & Cynthia Breaux Paula Schroeder Walter Schob
Shiela Schraub Patti Shay-Dagenais Judi Sharp
Joel Siegel Holly Sletteland Holly & Steven Teixeira
Sandra Thompson Courtney Tuskan Donna & Scott Underwood
Patricia & Eric Wagner Alice Welchert Jenna Whitted
John Wilson Debbie Yamashita Brandi Yeo Isobel Young
Brittany Zemlick Judy Zessin
We are pleased to report that Kelly and Arent Vandenheuvel have built a beautiful new enclosure for one of PWC’s new Educational Ambassador “Alice.” Alice, a Great-horned Owl, comes to PWC from a wildlife rehabilitation group in northern California who ceased their education program. Thank you Kelly and Arent for providing a beautiful new home for Alice.

Arent builds a new cage for Alice, a Great Horned Owl.

Inside Alice’s new home.

2018 Soupabration! A HUGE SUCCESS!

This year’s Soupabration "Fund-a-Need" pledge-a-thon successfully raised over $13,074.00 for medical equipment for the Clinic (ex. blood analyzer, oxygen concentrator, centrifuge, surgery light, etc.) We thank all 38 members who pledged.

- The Best of Show soup offered at the 8th Annual Soupabration! came from the kitchen of Divine Street Catering by Chef Gary Barker for his New England-style Clam Chowder with Pacific shrimp.

- The People’s Choice Award went to Chef Matt Beckett of Linn’s Restaurant in Cambria, for his Organic Bi-Colored Corn & Shishito Pepper Chowder with Monterey Bay rock shrimp.

- Linn’s Restaurant also won Best Bisque/Chowder soup award with Chef Matt Beckett’s chowder.

- Shine Café of Morro Bay won the Best Vegan/Vegetarian soup award with Chef J’s Mexican Pozole with hominy, tortilla strips and braised jackfruit carnitas.

- Honorable Mention went to Manta Rey of San Simeon with their Minestrone Verde with pistachio pesto.

- Cavalier Coastal Kitchen of San Simeon won the Best Seasonal soup award with Chef Samuel Cots’ Roasted Pumpkin Bisque with olive oil, micro greens & purple carrot foam.

- Honorable Mention went to Manta Rey again with a second soup entry, roasted cauliflower with hazelnuts and bacon.

Thank you to these restaurants: The Black Cat, Blue Sky Bistro, Cavalier Coastal Kitchen, Divine Street Catering, Fig @ Courtney’s House, Linn’s of Cambria, Manta Rey Restaurant, Robin’s Restaurant, Shine Cafe & Thai Bounty. Thank you also to Cass Winery, Moonstone Cellars, Sculpterra Winery, Tin City Cider Co., Firestone-Walker Beer, Buttercup Bakery and Mama Ganache Artisan Chocolates.

PWC’s Annual Soupabration! fundraiser was fortunate to have these esteemed judges blind-taste this year’s soup submissions at the event in Morro Bay in November. Seated: Terry Bayus (Food writer/producer); Matthew Beaudin (Executive Chef Monterey Bay Aquarium), Dakota Weiss (Co-owner Sweet Fin Poke). Back: Bruce Gibson (S.L.O. County Supervisor), Consuelo Macedo (Culinary Columnist, The Cambrian)

2018

A Huge Success!

Total: 169

RELEASES

September-December 2018

American Coot 4
Anna's Hummingbird 5
Band-tailed Pigeon 1
Barn owl 2
Black Crowned Night Heron 3
Black Rat 7
Black-tailed Deer 2
Bobcat 1
Botta’s Pocket Gopher 1
Brandt's Cormorant 3
Brown Pelican 2
Budgerigar 1
Cackling Goose 1
California Gull 5
California Newt 1
Cedar Waxwing 1
Clark’s Grebe 1
Common Loon 3
Cooper’s Hawk 2
Eared Grebe 4
Eurasian Collared-dove 26
European Starling 1
Golden Crowned Sparrow 1
Great Horned Owl 2
Grey Fox 1
Hermit Thrush 1
Hooded Merganser 1
House Finch 2
House Mouse 2
House Sparrow 1
Least Bittern 1
Mallard 2
Marbled Godwit 2
Northern Mockingbird 1
Northern Raccoon 3
Osprey 1
Pelagic Cormorant 1
Pied-billed Grebe 2
Red Phalarope 1
Red-tailed Hawk 2
Rock Pigeon 11
Ruddy Duck 3
Sora 1
Surf Scoter 1
Turkey Vulture 4
Virginia Opossum 10
Virginia Rail 1
Western Gray Squirrel 4
Western Grebe 21
Western Grey Squirrel 1
Western Gull 5
White-crowned Sparrow 3

Total: 169
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.

“Springtime is baby wildlife time! Read page 2 on how to ‘protect’ them!”

IN MEMORY OF FIONA

Kelly Vandenheuvel sadly reported that Fiona, PWC’s Ed Ambassador & surrogate mother (a Red-shouldered Hawk) died unexpectedly on February 1. Fiona had raised orphans every year for a decade: 24 in all! She was a nurturer, and always made sure the young she raised had plenty to eat, often times feeding each of her “babies” until their crops were full before she would eat herself. Fiona will be missed, we are all so sorry to see her go, but are grateful for her surrogacy. Thank you Kelly & Arent for providing a home for Fiona all these years.

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
- Other ________________

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

Board Officers
President: Kimberly Perez
Vice President: Marcelle Bakula
Secretary: Joel Germond
Treasurer: Bob Blakely

Board Members
Craig Christakos
Kathleen Dillon

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

Thank you to all who donate to make this newsletter possible.
pacificwildlifecare.org
(805) 543-WILD (9453)