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29th Annual Training Seminar - May 17th and 18th

2008 Training Seminar

by Tom Millham, LTWC Secretary/Treasurer

As I am 'sure' that you may have already heard, the 29th Annual Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care Training Seminar will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 17th and 18th.

It is from these training seminars that we get our dedicated volunteers who work so many hours during the summer months to make sure that each and every orphaned and injured wild bird and animal gets the proper care and treatment they deserve.

The seminar is two days for a reason. There is just too much information to ask anyone to try and cram it in on one-day training. We know. We tried it for many years. And, after reading critique after critique, we finally listened to those who had taken the training in prior years and, yes, we adapted. The first day is held off-site and is mostly lecture and video/PowerPoint presentations.

The second day is held at Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care. Another reason was that – in years past – we had a very small percentage of people - who took the class - to actually come to the center and volunteer, even though they had been trained. We asked why. Most people said that they felt, with ALL the information they received during the training, it was too

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Students at last year's class pay 'close' attention as Sally Sjolín teaches 'Exam and Emergency 1st Aid'. On the second day of the seminar, there are eight different segments, such as this.

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Secretary's Write-Up

by Tom Millham, LTWC Secretary/Treasurer

30th Anniversary

WOW! It is hard to believe that it has been thirty years since Cheryl read that article in the March 1978 Woman's Day magazine where she saw a picture of this 'lady' holding a baby raccoon!!

Well, that 'lady' was (and still is) Jinny Collins. She was one of the founders of a wildlife rehabilitation organization in Los Altos, California known as Wildlife Rescue. In the magazine, it told about their group, which was preparing to hold a 'Training Seminar' to teach local citizens 'How To' care for orphaned and injured wild birds and animals. That's right. VERY similar to what LTWC does now and HAS done since 1979! So, Cheryl called Jinny (see picture - to the right), told her that she was very interested in learning more about working with baby birds and signed up for the class.

That was in April, 1978. Today - - - Jinny is 'Still' a good friend of ours, in fact, we just saw her in March at her new home in Bend, Oregon.



Jinny Collins and recent house guest.

THAT – my friends – is how Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care got started. When we (Cheryl, our daughter, Connie, our friend, B. J. and myself) returned back to South Lake Tahoe, we contacted all of the 'entities' which we felt would come in contact with orphaned and injured wild birds and animals. We told them what we intended to do and asked them for their help. Well - - 30 years later and we are still here! During that time span, we have cared for almost 20,000 critters and have released almost 13,000 back to the wild, a 64% release rate. That is 'almost' two out of every three, a statistic we are very proud of and, without the wonderful support of the hundreds of volunteers which have worked with us over these last 30 years, would not be possible.

So. Where do we go from here??? A good question. I wish I had a definite answer, BUT, I will give you the best answer I can come up with - - - at this time!

Yes, it is true, that we are looking for a new location to move LTWC. We have been at this site (on Cherry Hills Circle) since 1983 – 25 years. When we moved here, we had NO IDEA what this organization would become in the latter stages. Well, now we know. So, we have plans to build a new and LARGER wildlife rehab center (from ¾ of an acre to 5 acres), and include with it a wildlife 'Park' (for non-releasable native wildlife) AND an Educational Center. The concept is in place, the design of the new location is in place, the only thing we need now is the 'Place' - - AND, of course, the funding.

We have high hopes that by the next issue of the Quill, we will be able to give you 'detailed' information of all the variables. Right now, things are just too much up in the air.

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THE QUILL

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Problem Animals

by Cheryl Millham, LTWC Exec. Director

The calls are starting to come to the wildlife center about conflicts between humans and wildlife.

Topping the list – as we go to press – are woodpeckers, raccoons and bears. BUT, soon to follow will be coyotes, Cliff Swallows, chipmunks and squirrels.

We all have to remember that ‘Spring’ is the time wildlife become more active. They are waking up from a long winter nap and also we accept – with open arms – the birds which migrate north to Tahoe just to nest and raise their babies.

Coyotes are having their babies and are very good parents. They will hunt for food to feed their pup(s) 24 hours a day. Because they are more visible in daylight hours, people tend to think there are more coyotes. Coyotes are very good parents and are very diligent in caring for their families. So, if you have a cat or small dog, consider yourself warned! YOU need to take the responsibility for your pets, because to a coyote, your small cat or dog is food for their kids.

We have been lazy all winter because the bears have been sleeping. But, they are now awake and moving around, looking for food. It is time to take care of your garbage. You should have the ability to put it into a bear proof container, especially if you leave it out the night before the refuse company comes by to pick it up.

If you have had a bear in your house, you need to secure the area where they have entered. That way, when the bear returns, he will NOT be able to get in. For example, the bear that entered our house opened the sliding glass door and grabbed some bags of peanuts. Tom and I heard something and were able to get the bear out of the house before he made his way to the refrigerator. So, NOW, EVERY NIGHT, we have to make sure to lock the sliding glass door. The bear has come back many times and he ALWAYS tries to open that same door.

BUT - - - if we did our job and ‘locked’ the door, he leaves. We can always tell when he shows up because he leaves a lot of dirty bear paw prints on the

Web Site and LTWC Shirts

by Tom Millham, LTWC Secretary/Treasurer

Tell me if you have heard this before.

Have you seen our new and improved web site???

Well, the reason we keep letting people know about our new web site is because we are so proud of the job our web master, Karen Johnson has done with it. She has worked very hard, listened to constructive criticism and done one heck of a job in keeping up to date and making constant changes.

She would do a much better job if I would get her the information she keeps asking me for, but I am only one person and now that I am retired, I have absolutely NO time whatsoever. (No body’s buying that, eh???)

Well, PLEASE, check out our web site at www.ltwc.org.

You will see lots of pictures, links to other organizations, a monthly calendar showing what is coming up AND, our store.

Our store now has T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Jackets, License Plate Holders, Magnets, Tote Bags, Lapel Pins, Posters AND, our brand new Polo (Golf) Shirts.

All prices include tax and shipping, so the price you see is what you pay. Nothing extra.

Since this is our 30th Anniversary/Birthday (see article in this issue of the Quill), we have a LOT of celebrating to do. So, please, visit our web site and – hopefully – you will learn something, see something and buy something. You can also renew your membership or become a new member. And, we offer you ‘MANY’ different places to make a ‘donation’ – should you be looking to do something like that!! (We hope you do.) Enjoy the web site and, please, let us know if you see anything which you feel can be improved.

window. I also have to remember to bring in the bird seed and suet baskets because bears think these are a real treat!

We have come with a ‘Problem Animals’ tip sheet which is on our web site. When you have a problem, we would ask that you go to our web site (www.ltwc.org) and click on the link. This will give you some ideas on how to co-exist with Tahoe’s wildlife. If you have any questions or need help to get any solutions, please feel free to call us BEFORE you are ready to pull your hair out. We just might have already encountered a similar problem and be able to help.

My First Year!

By "Jo" Hearn, LTWC Volunteer

Alright so I see this ad in the newspaper about the Wildlife Care Center seminar and I think what a great gift the kids can give me for Mothers day! My husband is overjoyed he doesn't have to go shopping and drives me over with his check in hand and before you know it I'm at a two day seminar learning how not to really harm animals I'm trying to help.

My first four hours into volunteering after the seminar and I've fallen in love with every animal Cheryl has let me near. Granted some of the baby birds I have fed seem hell bent on 'wearing' their food instead of eating it and the baby raccoon that I was holding after giving him a bath - he neither asked for nor appreciated - has pooped on me. There is a squirrel who is trying to escape each and every time I open the cage door to feed him and last but not least the bears keep trying to steal the hose from me each time it gets near their door. How many people can say they have had a tug of war with a black bear cub?

As the weeks and months go by, Cheryl found a way to get rid of me and/or shut me up. I was allowed to bring home two raccoon babies. I have twins and just fell back on how it was when they were babies. I can't even remember how many times I checked them to make sure they were still alive. I had thoughts of selling my house and sneaking out of town if anything happens. I'm so excited at the end of the weekend...their still alive and I proudly drive them back to Cheryl. So...now each and every time I walk into the house with a box (and I have brought many home) my husband realizes it's going to be more important than him and possibly, whatever I bring home, just might pee on him - on those rare occasions I ask him for some help. No longer does anyone in our house carelessly pick- up boxes or bags for fear that one of moms patients is inside and our lab ignores me each time I have a new critter and my husband becomes her best friend and I'm a traitor. Oddly enough, with all of this time I'm spending with the animals it seems that I'm spending even more time with my fam-



This River Otter came to LTWC last year as a 2 month old baby. Her main diet was catfish, crawdads and Rainbow Trout.

(My First Year - Continued)

ily. The kids seem to hang around more and my husband who declares he could care less - seems to always be hanging around when I'm caring for these furry little guys and I catch him watching more. He'll never admit it but he does!

Now I remember during the seminar that Cheryl said we take care of everything except mountain lions. Please be advised that Cheryl isn't lying however she wasn't exactly telling you the whole story either, bless her heart. It all started innocently enough I'm at home thinking about getting ready to go to work when Tom calls and says that we have a sighting of a mountain lion in the Keys and would I mind responding? He also has his own disclaimers "In thirty years we have never seen a mountain lion they are usually gone by the time we get there"..... yeah right. Well, as you might have read in the newspaper it wasn't gone and not only wasn't it gone but it wouldn't go away either. Long story short by the end of the rescue my twelve year old daughter, armed with her friend Cheryl, were happily watching the guys carry the mountain lion to the car. The best part is my daughter calling my husband on the cell phone telling him she was chasing a mountain lion. The cashier at Raleys over hearing this was kind enough to point out to my husband that chasing a mountain lion isn't safe.....he calmly response "It's o.k. she's with her mother!"

And that my friends, was my first year with Cheryl & Tom and Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care.

An 'Un-Believable Experience!'

by Sue Novasel, LTWC Board Member

“Holy Cow, what an unbelievable experience!”

That’s the best way to describe my first year volunteering at LTWC. I think back to the very first day of volunteering.

I had dutifully studied my “Care & Rehabilitation of Wildlife” handbook the night before. In fact, I brought my handbook with me that first morning figuring it contained any and all information that might be needed during the morning. I soon learned that there is no book written that can prepare you for your experiences at LTWC! And forget about reading anything while you’re caring for dozens of baby birds!

What I learned on my first day at LTWC is that these birds and animals’ lives are dependent on us. We are their last hope. It’s was gratifying to know that I made an immediate and direct difference to the wildlife I had been living next to for the last 30 years. Needless to say, by the end of my first day, I was hooked. I signed on to work every Friday morning and loved each and every moment.

Throughout the summer, I observed the many challenges that LTWC endured; the Angora Fire, the 5 baby bears, the baby bats (who would guess they could suck milk from an eye shadow applicator!). I was lucky enough to be able to feed and care for a menagerie of wild animals and birds. There were owls, hawks, hundreds of baby birds, raccoons (who can forget the tiny day-old family of 5 that was saved from a boat!), the 5 bears and one unforgettable river otter (I will always remember her energetic charisma that won the hearts of everyone at LTWC!).



Dr. Kevin Willitts (above left), LTWC Vice President, draws some blood from one of the two Yosemite cubs the day before they are released back into the wild.

Overall, I would label my experience at LTWC as an incredible experience that I can’t wait to do all over again this summer. Thanks again to Cheryl, Tom and all the “fellow” volunteers for making LTWC a lighthouse to our wildlife that have no voices but certainly have all our hearts.

Proclamation from the City

As you will see, several times, in this issue of the Quill, LTWC is celebrating its 30th Anniversary/Birthday this year. Since April 1978, volunteers associated with Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care have been caring for orphaned and injured wild birds and animals in and around the Lake Tahoe Basin.

On Tuesday, April 15th, the South Lake Tahoe City Council presented a Proclamation to the organization with Tom and Cheryl Millham (Secretary/Treasurer and Executive Director respectively) accepting. The ‘honor’ of presenting proclamations, ‘usually’ rests with the Mayor, HOWEVER, for this instance, Mayor Mike Weber, graciously stepped aside and allowed Immediate Past Mayor, Kathay Lovell, to offer this gratitude of thanks.

Accepting a Proclamation from the City are Tom and Cheryl Millham with Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care. Presenting the 30 years of service award are Immediate Past SLT Mayor, Kathay Lovell and current Mayor, Mike Weber.

Photo - courtesy of Jonah Kessel, Tahoe Daily Tribune

LTWC's 2007 Annual Report

by Cheryl Millham, LTWC's Executive Director

The Annual Report is one of the articles in the Quill which is ALWAYS of interest to everyone.

It tells of ALL the birds and animals accepted during a given year. Last year, the Mexican Free-Tail Bats were a highlight of 'my' summer and Sally (Sjolin) and Denise (Upton) both agree. All three of us were able to raise five (each) from naked babies and what an experience it was.

I knew we were going to have a high number of chipmunks and after all were counted, we ended up with 47. Add to that number, all of the squirrels (55), we had a total count of 102 – and that was JUST the chippies and squirrels.

With all the chipmunks and squirrels, I was very surprised that we didn't have more hawks and owls. 'Normally' - - - when one count is up, so is the other. They seem to go hand in hand.

It will be interesting to see if the 'predator' count catches up to the 'prey'. IF so - - we might have a very heavy 'raptor' (meat eating birds) count this summer.

Please be sure to take a look at last year's Annual Report, found on pages 8 and 9.

LTWC's 29th Annual Training Seminar Sat & Sun May 17th & 18th

Fostering Wild Orphans To Wild Families

by Karan Sjolin, LTWC Volunteer

Wow! I had an amazing experience the first week of March when I was able to attend the NWRA (National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association) Symposium 2008 in Cherry Hill, New Jersey along with my daughter, Sally and Cheryl and Tom Millham. We had a great time. There were four days crammed full of wonderful classes. It was hard to decide which ones to take. We brought back many new ideas to try at Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care.

Out of all the classes I attended, there was one in particular that touched my heart. Carol Kelly and Judy Boyd of Medicine River Wildlife Centre in Alberta, Canada presented a class called Fostering Wild Orphans to Wild Families. The premise of the presentation was that wildlife moms do a much better job of raising orphaned wildlife than humans do. The discussion included the pros, cons and limitations of setting up a fostering program.

While Carol and Judy work with many species of animals and birds, their successful fostering program has been mainly with fawns, songbirds and raptors. We were shown a video of Carol and Judy uniting a fawn with a 'foster' mother. They have recorded a deer distress call; when an orphaned fawn comes into their facility; they take it out into the wilderness and play the distress call. Each time at least one lactating Doe comes running toward the distress call; the fawn is let out of his/her cage and unites with the mother. They sniff each other, touch noses and get acquainted; sometimes the fawn nurses or they just run into the woods together. The video brought tears to my eyes.

As far as their raptor program; Carol and Judy work with the local raptor counters and taggers in the area. If an orphaned baby raptor comes into their facility, they call the taggers who identify a nest for the baby to go into. Raptor moms seem to be willing to take almost any baby raptor at any stage of

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Did You Know . . . ???



by Bob Dietz, LTWC Board Member Emeritus

that **Wolverines** are scavengers? ‘Theoretically’, there have been NO wolverines seen in the “Lower 48” for decades. HOWEVER - - - there have been sightings in the Lake Tahoe area recently. Wolverines are solitary animals (coming together for only a brief mating period). I believe this ‘one’ guy is out of luck, UNLESS there are other sightings. Wolverines eat the remains of winter ‘kill’ animals and carcasses left by bears and natural deaths.

that **Butterflies** don’t generate their own body heat like other creatures. They rely on the sun to energize flight muscles and keep their body warm to incubate eggs. We – in Tahoe – only see small size butterflies. They are small, which enables them to most efficiently absorb and retain heat from the sun.

that the ‘**Kingfisher**’ (which probably should be called the “Queen” fisher) is one of the very few bird species in which the female is more colorful than the male! For several years, I have watched the same Kingfisher return to the same tree overhanging the lake. She dives into the water, ‘head first’. After catching a live one (minnow, fish), it returns to the limb (the same limb ALL the time), beats the fish against the limb, throws it into the air, then swallows it – whole, head first! Must be a “her” because SHE is so colorful!

that **Fish** can suffocate from lack of ‘Oxygen’??? Especially if there is no access to a larger body of water. The pond, or small lake, will freeze over, completely from shore to shore. IF the fish can’t reach a larger body of water where there is wind and wave action, which generates oxygen, the fish literally suffocate. This spring, I saw this effect after the ice gradually melted, revealing hundreds of dead fish. The ONE benefit??? It attracted and fed scavengers, INCLUDING, vultures (non-native to the Tahoe basin), raccoons and coyotes.

that ‘**Black Bears**’ (the species that mostly inhabit the ‘Lower 48’) claws are not much good for digging??? Great for clawing lots for bugs and worms. AND, just right for climbing trees (obviously), which they commonly do to ‘escape’ danger. Alaskans say, ONE way to tell whether you’re being chased by a Black Bear or a Grizzly Bear - - - the Black Bear will climb the tree after you. The Grizzly bear will ‘SHAKE’ you out of it!

that the ‘**Mountain Lion**’, Puma, Cougar, Painter – ALL names of the same secretive creature, are perhaps the most widely distributed carnivore in the ‘America’s’??? Seldom seen, they are nocturnal and solitary. Another “first” for Lake Tahoe. One obviously hungry (and lost) cat, found its way, this winter, into a highly populated residential area. Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care was called to lend support to the El Dorado County Sheriff’s Department to deal with the ‘scared’, lost cat. It was eventually sedated and taken to a local veterinarian (Dr. Kevin Willitts, who is also the Vice-President of LTWC) where it was examined. Dr. Willitts found many porcupine quills in both front legs of the cat, but, otherwise, healthy (and obviously hungry). It was later released in an area where there would be a good food supply.



LAKE TAHOE WILDLIFE CARE, INC., 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

TOTAL WILDLIFE CARED FOR: **727**
 EXPIRED, EUTHANIZED, EOA AND DOA: **316**
 RELEASED, TRANSFERRED AND PERM. CARE: **411**

DIFFERENT SPECIES
 BIRDS: **62**
 MAMMALS: **21**
 REPTILES **2**
RELEASE RATE 57%

BIRDS

	NESTLING	FLEDGLING	ADULT	RELEASED	EXPIRED	EUTHANIZED	EOA	DOA	TOTAL	
<u>ANSERIFORMES (Water Fowl)</u>										
Canada Goose	8	2	8	9	1	1	6	1	18	
Cinnamon Teal			1	1					1	
Common Merganser	1		2	1	2				3	
Mallard	8		11	11	2		4	2	19	
Pintail Duck			2	2					2	
Redhead Duck			1		1				1	44
<u>PODICIPEDIFORMES (Grebes)</u>										
Western Grebe			4	3			1		4	4
<u>FALCONIFORMES (Vultures, Hawks & Falcons)</u>										
Osprey			1	1					1	
Kestrel (Sparrow Hawk)			1	1					1	
Prairie Falcon			1	1					1	
Red-Tailed Hawk		5	2	5	1		1		7	
Sharp-Shinned Hawk			1	1					1	11
<u>CHARADRIFORMES (Avocets, Sandpipers, Plovers, Gulls & Terns)</u>										
California Gull			4	1			3		4	
Killdeer	6			6					6	
Sandpiper	4			4					4	14
<u>CICONIIFORMES (Hérons and Allies)</u>										
White-Faced Ibis			1	1					1	1
<u>COLUMBIFORMES (Pigeons & Doves)</u>										
Band-Tailed Pigeon		1	6	5			1	1	7	
Mourning Dove		4	11	5	7		3		15	
Rock Dove	4	10	8	11	6		5		22	44
<u>APODIFORMES (Hummingbirds & Swifts)</u>										
Rufous Hummingbird			2		2				2	2
<u>CAPRIMULGIFORMES (Goatsuckers)</u>										
Poor-Will			1		1				1	1
<u>GALLINACEOUS (Pheasants, Grouse, Turkeys and Quail)</u>										
Blue Grouse			4	1	2			1	4	
California Quail	12		4	9	4		2	1	16	
Ring-Neck Pheasant			1				1		1	21
<u>GRUIFORMES (Cranes, Rails, Coots & Limpkins)</u>										
American Coot			7	7					7	7
<u>PELECANIFORMES (Pelicans and Cormorants)</u>										
White Pelican			6		5		1		6	6
<u>PICIFORMES (Woodpeckers, Flickers & Sapsuckers)</u>										
Downey Woodpecker			2	2					2	
Northern Flicker	3	1	9	7	3			3	13	
White-Headed Woodpecker	9		1	6	3			1	10	
Williamson's Sapsucker			3	1	2				3	
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker			4	3				1	4	32
<u>STRINGIFORMES (Owls)</u>										
Great-Horned Owl		6		6					6	
Pygmy Owl			2	1	1				2	
Saw-Whet Owl			1	1					1	9

NESTLING FLEDGLING ADULT RELEASED EXPIRED EUTHANIZED EOA DOA TOTAL

PASSERIFORMES (Perching Birds)

American Robin	12	18	20	29	10		7	4	50	
Audubons Warbler			4	3	1				4	
Barn Swallow		1	1	1				1	2	
Black-Headed Grosbeak			2	1	1				2	
Brewer's Blackbird	4	22	8	26	3		3	2	34	
Cassin's Finch	3	3	3	6	1		1	1	9	
Cliff Swallow	9	10	5	14	7		1	2	24	
Common Raven			2				2		2	
Dark-Eyed (Oregon) Junco		4	4	5	1		1	1	8	
European Starling	3	8	2	6	2		5		13	
Evening Grosbeak		2	1	2				1	3	
Fox Sparrow	2	3	4	5	4				9	
Gold Finch			4		2		2		4	
House Finch	4	1		4	1				5	
House Sparrow		2	2	2	2				4	
Lark Sparrow		5		3	2				5	
Mountain Chickadee		8	7	7	7		1		15	
Pine Siskin			11	3	4			4	11	
Purple Finch		2	7	3	3		1	2	9	
Pygmy Nuthatch	6	3	4	7	6				13	
Red-Breasted Nuthatch		2	4	4	2				6	
Scrub Jay		1	1	1			1		2	
Stellers Jay	22	35	19	39	18		13	6	76	
Townsend's Solitaire		1	3	3	1				4	
White-Breasted Nuthatch			2	1	1				2	
White-Crowned Sparrow									0	
Wilson's Warbler			5	2	3				5	
Yellow-Rumped Warbler									0	
TOTAL BIRDS	120	160	237	290	125	2	65	35	517	517

MAMMALS

	INFANT	JUVENILE	ADULT	RELEASED	EXPIRED	EUTHANIZED	EOA	DOA	TOTAL	
Belding Ground Squirrel			2		2				2	
Big Brown Bat			2		1		1		2	
California Ground Squirrel	7	4	4	11	2			2	15	
California Myotis Bat			7	2	3		2		7	
Chickaree Squirrel	13	8	8	22	1		5	1	29	
Coyote		1	1				1	1	2	
Golden Mantel Squirrel	3	1	5	6	1		1	1	9	
Jack Rabbit			2		2				2	
Least Chipmunk	20	7	5	23	6		2	1	32	
Lodge Pole Chipmunk			6	2	4				6	
Long-Eared Chipmunk		5	4	5	3			1	9	
Mexican Free-Tailed Bats	15			13	2				15	
Mountain Cotton Tail		6	2	2	3		3		8	
Muskrat			2	1			1		2	
Porcupine **			2	1	1				2	
Raccoon	3	11	3	11			4	2	17	
River Otter	3	2			5				5	
Snowshoe Rabbit		2	4	3	3				6	
Weasel			2	2					2	
Western Gray Squirrel	9	15	11	14	8		4	9	35	
Yellow-Bellied Marmot			1	1					1	
TOTAL MAMMALS	73	62	73	119	47	0	24	18	208	208

Reptiles

	INFANT	JUVENILE	ADULT	RELEASED	EXPIRED	EUTHANIZED	EOA	DOA	TOTAL	
Rubber Boa		1	1	2					2	
TOTAL AMPHIBIANS	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	2

	NESTLING	FLEDGLING	ADULT	RELEASED	EXPIRED	EUTHANIZED	EOA	DOA	TOTAL	
GRAND TOTAL:										
MAMMALS & BIRDS	193	223	311	411	172	2	89	53	727	727



2008 Training Seminar (Continued from Page 1)

overwhelming and they didn't feel they could do the program justice.

Well - - - we had to change 'that' way of thinking. So, by bringing the class to the center on the second day, they actually get to see what they are volunteering for and can see what birds and animals might already be 'in house', see the caging, the office and exactly what they would be doing. It was amazing. Each year, more and more people felt a 'comfort' zone and would sign up to work a four hour shift.

And, 'That' is why we have these training seminars, so we can get more people involved, trained (correctly) and prepared to work with the birds and animals when they come to the center.

One other thing. Every year, we do a very short survey, asking those people who attend the class, "How did you FIRST hear about this training seminar?" OVERWHELMINGLY, the large majority stated they heard by 'Word of Mouth'. We gave them a number of options, such as radio, newspaper, television, fliers, etc. With OUT exception, the answer is always, 'Word of Mouth'. So. This is YOUR opportunity to help spread the 'Word'! The registration form is on page 11 in this issue of the Quill. It is also on our web site - www.ltwc.org.

Please tell your friends and family who have expressed interest in helping care for wildlife, this is their opportunity. Don't wait. Every year, the class fills up. The price is \$60 per adult (16 years of age and older) and \$40 for each additional family member.

We hope YOU will help spread the word. Help US to give Mother Nature a helping hand.

Meet your Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care Board of Directors and staff! From left: Helen Tanner, Tom Millham (Secretary/Treasurer), Lori Ross, Denise Upton, Sally Sjolin (Assistant Director), Cheryl Millham (Executive Director), Morgan Amsden, Sue Rutherfordale, Kevin Willitts, DVM (Vice President), Bob Dietz (Board Member Emeritus) and Tom Davis. Not pictured are Bob Rutherfordale (President) and Sue Novasel.

LTWC's NEW Logo

We now have these in a lapel pin. This design is also available in our new T-shirts and Sweatshirts.

Order from our Web site. Go to:

www.ltwc.org/store



LAKE TAHOE WILDLIFE CARE, INC.

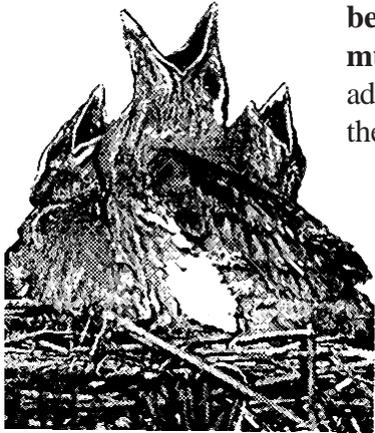
29th Annual 2-Day Training Seminar

2008 CLASS REGISTRATION FORM

LAKE TAHOE WILDLIFE CARE, INC., is an independent, non-profit, volunteer organization whose function is to 'RAISE, REHABILITATE and RELEASE' wildlife. All orphaned and injured animals are given foster home care by trained volunteers of

LAKE TAHOE WILDLIFE CARE, INC!

Class Fee is \$60 Per Person! For Families, \$60 for the FIRST Family Member and \$40 for each additional member. ONE training manual included. Minimum age - 8 years. Children under 16 years of age **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. No wildlife is given to a child for care unless an adult family member has also taken the class. We believe this to be a reasonable safeguard.



Learn to be a trained wildlife care volunteer by taking this two-day seminar. The lecture will cover diets, feeding techniques, housing and first-aid, capture and transportation, anatomy and examination and will be taught by **Cheryl Millham**, Founder and Executive Director of **Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care**.

The seminar will take place on **Saturday and Sunday, May 17th & May 18th, 2008**. The **Saturday** session is from **9am to 4pm**. The **Sunday** session is from **9:30am to 4pm** at LTWC's Center with lunch provided (Sunday).

CLASS FEE

\$60.00 Per Person! OR, For Families, \$60 for the FIRST Family Member and \$40.00 for each ADDITIONAL Family Member.

The class fee **must** be paid in advance **AND** accompany the registration form.

The fee includes a one year membership with **Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care** and ONE Training Manual.

Deadline for registration fee is **Sunday, May 11, 2008!**

For further information, call

(tear off and return)

Cheryl Millham at 530-577-2273!

(tear off and return)

Registration Form

I desire to register for the **BIRDS and MAMMALS Class** on Sat. May 17th & Sunday, May 18th, 2008.
\$60 Per Person! OR \$60 FIRST Family Member and \$40 for each ADDITIONAL Family Member!

Name _____ Street Address _____

P O Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Please complete this registration form and mail immediately with your class fee to:

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care, Inc.

1485 Cherry Hills Circle

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150-4921

LTWC's Wish List

We often get calls asking if we have a 'Wish List'. We do our best to have something ready to tell people, but, other than money, which is needed for 'special' diets, equipment and medicine, we gave it some thought over the winter and actually came up with a list. Ready or not - - here it is!

STAND UP FREEZER - (Obviously in good condition)
CARNIVORE CARE BY OXBOW
GERBER DRY CEREAL (Mixed)
BEECHNUT BABY FOOD (Beef and Beef Broth)
SUNFLOWER HEARTS
SPRAYS OF MILLET
FRESH OR FROZEN WHOLE FISH (NOT Cleaned)
FROZEN WHOLE OR SLICED BERRIES
FROZEN MIXED VEGETABLES
ZIPLOCK FREEZER BAGS (QUART & GALLON SIZES)
LAUNDRY SOAP
T-50 STAPLES (3/8" AND 1/2" - FOR STAPLE GUN)
CABLE/MULTI-PURPOSE TIES (ALL SIZES) - LOT'S OF THEM
VARIABLE SPEED CORDLESS DRILL
HEATING PADS - 3-SETTINGS
SOFT-SIDED PLAYPENS - (MUST BE IN GOOD CONDITION)
WHITE KLEENEX
PAPER TOWELS
1 PLY - WHITE TOILET PAPER
GREEN 45 GALLON TRASH CAN LINERS (Rolls of 80)
HARD PLASTIC TOYS (For raccoons, bears, bobcats)
AQUARIUMS - Cracked glass is OK (for mice)
GIFT CERTIFICATES - Feed Stores, Grocery Stores, etc.

(30th Anniversary - Continued from page 2)

We have several planned functions to celebrate our 30th year. First of all, on May 17th and 18th, we will have our 29th Annual Training Seminar. And, each family will receive a commemorative Tote Bag. We are working with the Horizon Hotel/Casino right now, and 'HOPE' to have an evening in the Golden Cabaret with 'Yesterday', a tribute to the Beatles. We don't have a date yet, but keep an eye on our web site (www.ltwc.org) for more information. The cabaret only seats 200 and we feel very confident that this will be a sell-out. As we hear more on that, we will get the information to the various media in South Lake Tahoe.

THEN - - - on August 3rd, we will have our Annual Open House. BUT, this will not be your 'usual' Open House. This will be a BIRTHDAY Party Open House, celebrating the 30th birthday of LTWC. Only time will tell as to 'what' kind of birds and animals we will have in August.

So. As you can see, there is NO grass growing under our feet. We hope you ALL can find the time to visit on Sunday, August 3rd from 10am to 4pm. With any luck, this will most likely be one of the last Open Houses at this location.

Have a GREAT Summer. We plan to!

(Fostering - Continued from page 6)

development and raise it. The raptor fostering program at Medicine River Wildlife Centre has been quite successful.

Additionally, Carol and Judy have a successful baby bird-fostering program. They identify nests around the area of all kinds of birds. When an orphaned baby bird comes in, they immediately put it into another mom's nest for her to raise. The birds will accept babies of the same species at the same stage of development. Carol and Judy literally filled up a mother bird's nest, always with an apology. They keep track of the orphans by counting beaks each day. Carol and Judy have reported seeing a mother bird raise as many as ten babies successfully.

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care would like to try fostering this year. We are asking anyone with nests in your yard to call LTWC (577-2273) and let them know what kind of bird and at what stage are the babies in their development. If we have a baby orphan that matches in age, we can see if the mother will accept the baby. It's very exciting.

Truck For Sale

Last year, we were fortunate enough to receive a grant from the Hallador Legacy Fund to purchase a new (to us) truck.

The two trucks we have are now 19 and 29 years old and, well, let us just say, they have seen better days.

We were able to purchase a 1997 Dodge Ram 1500 with a camper shell, which we have been talking about for several years.

NOW - - we have 'three' trucks and, well, we need to get rid of at least one.

So we are now selling the 'older' of the trucks, which is a 1979 Ford 150. It has automatic transmission, power steering, AM/FM radio, 4-wheel drive, new brakes (less than 500 miles) and tires which have less than 1,000 miles. The body is 'worn' and rusty, but the engine runs good and the reason we are selling it is that we need something a little newer.

We are asking \$1,500. There is one front bench seat with no seats 'behind' the driver. It has been a good truck for us. If you are interested, please call 577-CARE (577-2273).

Bear Food Thank You's

As you probably have already heard, in 2007, LTWC cared for five bear cubs, the most in our history. By June, we had three cubs, which at 'that' time was the most we had ever cared for. THEN, in August, we got two more from Christmas Valley.

OK. This presented us with a problem we have never had before. Feeding FIVE bear cubs. Well, it wasn't too bad at first. BUT, when they started putting on weight and wanting more food, then it made us think.

I am here to tell you that Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care has friends in this community and those friends came up big.

We ended up getting a LOT of produce from four entities in South Lake Tahoe and we would like to offer our sincere thanks to them. They kept the bear cubs fat and sassy and made it a 'lot' easier for us to complete their rehabilitation while at LTWC.

Our total gratitude goes out to: Melodie and Erik Ulman of Freshies Restaurant; Steve from Raleys ('Y'); Steve from Bonanza Produce; and Mike from Grocery Outlet.

Some of the produce we received as a donation. It was produce that wasn't good enough to sell, but not 'BAD' enough to throw away. I guess you would call it the 'In Between' produce.

Then, there were times when we didn't get enough 'donated' produce and we just had to buy food. That is when IFAW came to our rescue.

After the Angora Fire, Jennifer Miller and Wit Davis visited LTWC. They both work for IFAW which is the International Fund for Animal Welfare. After seeing what we were going through, they were able to put in an application - on our behalf - to get us a grant for \$5,000. Well, needless to say, those funds became very useful, especially when we are accustomed to one or two bear cubs and we ended up with five!!

Thank You, Jennifer and Wit. You two were wonderful. We thoroughly enjoyed your stay with us and we hope that you get a chance to come back to Lake Tahoe.

Also, thanks to Melodie, Erik, Steve, Steve and Mike. You all did an outstanding job in helping us get the proper food for the bear cubs and we are indebted to you.

One more 'Thank You' should be sent out. And that is to all the volunteers who worked with the bear cubs this past year. TWICE, EVERY DAY, and sometimes three times, we would have to go into the two cages and CLEAN and FEED. The volunteers who did this are indeed our heroes and we thank you!

2008 Open House

by Tom Millham, LTWC Secretary/Treasurer

Each year, the public is 'allowed' behind the 'Closed Doors' of LTWC. As a normal routine, ONLY the volunteers - who feed and clean the wild birds and animals at LTWC - are allowed in the area where all the cages stand.

There is ONE exception!!! That is when we have our annual Open House. This year's Open House will be just a little different!! You see, we are celebrating our 30th Anniversary - - - or 30th Birthday, whichever you want to call it.

You see, the reason I am having trouble distinguishing whether to call it an Anniversary or Birthday is very simple. Even Wikipedia can't distinguish the difference. Take a look at this:

“ **Birthday** is the name given to the day that some people in many cultures celebrate the anniversary they were born. It is often marked by a birthday party and/or friends when gifts are given to the person celebrating the birthday.”

So. Whether YOU want to call it a Birthday or an Anniversary, the bottom line is this!!! We are having a PARTY!!! Everyone knows what a Party is! And, our party will be at this year's Open House.

The Date??? Oh yeah!! Forgot to mention that, didn't I?? It will be the FIRST Sunday in August, which is the 3rd! We start at 10am and PARTY until 4pm. Heck, if we get a big enough turn-out, we might even stay open later (but don't count on it)!

At the Open House, we take YOU through the various pathways where we keep all of our wild life! We even will take you UP into our clinic, where, IF we have any bears, you will be able to see them on BEAR-TV!!! It is our own closed circuit television system. Yes, we are working on getting it onto our web site, but we are not there yet. By the way. You will be able to see more information on our Open House by going to our web site, which is, www.ltwc.org.

We hope to see you on August 3rd. AND, if you want to bring a present, we absolutely LOVE green!!! So, bring LOT's of it. You will make the birds and animals SOOOOOOOO happy.

Have a great summer and Happy 30th Birthday/ Anniversary, Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care!

God Bless America! Land of the Free – “BECAUSE” of the Brave.

Show support to our men and women who serve this country in the armed forces!

Lifetime Bald Eagle Members

As we mentioned in previous issues, beginning in 2000, we initiated new membership 'clubs'. However, those supporters who were members of the Bald Eagle (Life Member) club, will remain Life Members and we appreciate their support. Listed below are those people who contributed \$1,000 or more in a 12-month period of time. Thank You. You will always be in our Bald Eagle Club!

Jim and Ethelmae Haldan	Michelle and Perry O'Dell
Willetta Strong	Suzanne McDowell
Don Henley	Robert I. Wishnick Foundation
Jane Kenyon	Sierra Pacific Power Co.
Josette Denton	Tahoe Mountain Milers
Bob and Sue Rutherford	Robert M. Lee Foundation
Mickey Dugdale	Rob and Chris St. James
Calif. Sierra State Parks Assn.	Tony and Beth Sears
City of South Lake Tahoe	Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Lane
Caesars Tahoe Dealers	Larry and Julie Moore
Jack and Mary Lou Cassingham	Pete and Diana Mountanos
Lake Tahoe Kiwanis Sunrisers	Gloria Bourke
Mandy Davis and Rodney Volkmar	Doni and Jim Glassmaker
Jarrold and Brennan Davis	Harrah's Tahoe
BankAmerica Foundation	Estate of Alice Valla
Tilton Family Foundation	

Randy's Locksmith - Greg Cattoni
Kirk and Lynda Gillaspay



Included with this issue of the Quill - and ALL issues - is a self-addressed envelope. This is provided for YOU, should you wish to make a donation to LTWC! Thanks.

LTWC's 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

- May 17th & 18th LTWC Annual Training Seminar. Two-day event.
 May 20th LTWC Monthly Board Meeting @ LTWC @ 7pm.
ALL Board Meetings are now the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except June and August) @ LTWC.
 July 26th Living History Days - Ehrmann Mansion - Sugar Pine Pt. State Park
 August 3rd LTWC Open House - 10am to 4pm. It's a Birthday/Anniversary Party!!
 October 4th & 5th Kokanee Festival - Lake Tahoe Visitor's Center - Taylor Creek
 October 12th Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. 12 noon @ LTWC.

Check out our web site for ALL upcoming event. www.ltwc.org, then click on 'Events'!

Do you have a car, boat or other vehicle, in good working condition, you are considering trading in on a new one? Instead of trading in your old(er) vehicle, why don't you donate it to **Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care** and receive a tax deduction.

If this is something you are considering, then just call **LTWC** at **530-577-2273** and ask for help in your contribution.

In the past, **LTWC** has received over \$40,000 for vehicles and boats which have been received by contributors.

Other ways you can help **LTWC** in the future is to consider leaving a bequest. We recently received a donation because we were named in a will and several others have told us we are mentioned in their wills as well. This is one way to assure our long range financial success.

We have been working with the orphaned and injured wild birds and animals in and around the Lake Tahoe Basin for 30 years. Our success is due to support from our volunteers in the form of financial support, hours served and spreading the word.

For those of you who have been working 'with' us in the past, we thank you. For those of you who have thought of working with us, why not make 2008 the year to make a commitment.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION!

Active (ONLY those who have taken the training class.) **Honorary** (Those who wish to help out financially)

Our "Club" Program

Select your choice of either your favorite wild bird or animal, or the amount of your contribution.

Black Bear	\$10,000
Bobcat	\$5,000
Bald Eagle	\$2,500
Golden Eagle	\$1,000
Great-Horned Owl	\$500

Beaver	\$300
Merganser	\$150
Red-Tailed Hawk	\$100
Raccoon	\$65
Fawn	\$35
Steller's Jay	\$20

Your selection is:

Club Name

\$

Amount of Contribution

Are you an Active or Honorary member? Active Honorary

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail this form with your Tax-Deductible donation to:

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care, Inc.
 1485 Cherry Hills Circle
 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150-4921
 530-577-CARE

LTWC 'Club Members'

Listed below are those supporters of LAKE TAHOE WILDLIFE CARE who have contributed (during a 12 month period of time) in an Extra Special Way. You will notice, in the 'Membership Information Form' (page 11), the various 'Clubs' which individuals or families can contribute. Would you like to see your name added to these lists? We sure would! Please help us to

"Give Mother Nature a Helping Hand!"

Black Bear

(\$10,000 Donation)

Pete and Diana Mountanos
Wells Fargo Foundation
Hallador Legacy Fund
Anonymous

Bobcat

(\$5,000 Donation)

Estate of Alice Valla
John and Cari Simonsen
Sierra at Tahoe
Sharlee L Cotter
Carol Auslen
IFAW
Parasol Comm. Foundation

Bald Eagle

(\$2,500 Donation)

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Lane
Harveys/Harrahs Lake Tahoe
Drew and Carol Rutter
McLane and Adelle Tilton

Golden Eagle

(\$1,000 Donation)

Robert M. Lee Foundation	Marcia Hopkins
Rob and Chris St. James	Larry and Julie Moore
Kirk and Lynda Gillaspey	Barbara Harootunian
Greg Cattoni - Randy's Locksmith	Betsy Cohen
Jennifer Randall - Youth Develop. Fdn.	Bob Dietz
China & Don Niemann	Caesars Tahoe Dealer's
Tahoe League for Charity	Suey Smallwood
Bill and Jonna Hutt	Tammy and Harley Hoy
James Leva	B T Rocca Jr Foundation
Curtis Fong - TGFT - Bike the West	Willette Strong
Yosemite Foundation	Christina Robinson
Brenda Knox	Kiwanis Club of Tahoe Sierra
BEAR League	

Great-Horned Owl

(\$500 Donation)

Kevin & Kathryn Schaller	Christensen Automotive
Mike, Lesley & Staci Furtado	Don and Kay Edwards
George and Jan Smith	Cliff Hansen
Mike and Charmaine Pape	Pat Fagen
Carla Yant	Howard and Linda Lewis-Perry
Richard and Dana Smith-Miller	Howell Johnson
Pat Banner	Bill and Carol Frye
Jim and Linda Mueller	Lake Valley Firefighters
Ron and Jan Cook	Alpine Co. Chamber of Commerce
Barbara Kucala	Dawn Holley
Dr. Mireya Ortega & Ron Cline	Rick Ahlswede
Evie Viera & Dave Isenberg	Cliff and Holly Hansen
Bob Eldon	Mark Ockerman - WINESOX
Soroptimist Int'l of SLT	Christina Robinson

Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care, Inc.
(530) 577-CARE
1485 Cherry Hills Circle
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150-4921

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