

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
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Overland, Mo 63114

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First the care...then the air

Plan to Attend Annual Silent Auction & Trivia Night Benefit

Are you ready to test your knowledge of facts and figures while having a great time? The Silent Auction & Trivia Night is the major fundraiser for Wild Bird Rehabilitation. This year marks the 5th annual event which will be held at the Kirkwood Community Center, Saturday November 9. The silent auction begins at 6 pm and Trivia begins at 7 pm.

Trivia and More

Trivia teams consist of eight members and cash is awarded for first and second prizes. In addition to trivia, there will be optional side games and a 50/50 raffle. Snacks, water, and soda are included with registration. Alcohol is permitted for those over 21 years of age but you must take home any glass containers.

Silent Auction

The silent auction features books, games, decorative items, vacations, jewelry and opportunities for unique experiences for the bird lover.

Send your entry fee

Send your entry fee of \$160 for a team of eight or \$20 for a single ticket and we'll match you up with a team. We offer a

special package which includes a reserved table for eight, two bottles of wine, and an appetizer platter for \$225. Send the registration form (*on page 3*) with your check to **Wild Bird Rehabilitation**.



The Peters family enjoy the "Bird Walk" in Tower Grove Park after they had the winning bid at the 2012 Silent Auction.

If you have any questions or would like to donate an item for the silent auction please email Denise White at wbrtrivia@gmail.com. Join us for this fun evening and help us fulfill our mission!



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

October 2013

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114
314-426-6400

*Please call before you
bring in a bird*

Hours of Operation
Daily
9am-1pm & 5pm-7pm

www.wildbirdrehab.org

On Facebook at
Wild Bird Rehabilitation



*Our Mission is to provide
the best possible care
for
injured, ill or orphaned
wild birds and release
them back to their
natural habitat*

Mission Accomplished

Releasing birds back to their natural habitat is much more than a line in the mission statement - it's the goal for all birds brought to Wild Bird Rehabilitation for care. To achieve timely release it is necessary that the bird's care progresses through WBR until he is physically ready for the next level, similar to the stages of a hospital stay.

A bird is admitted to the exam room for initial evaluation and treatment. When the bird's condition stabilizes, the next step is the recovery room for an adult or the nursery for babies. Eventually the bird advances to the outdoor aviary and then release. The length of the "hospital" stay varies based on the nature of the original problem and the treatment required. For some the stay at WBR is brief, while for others the stay is quite lengthy.

The case of the eastern bluebird

Wild Bird Chatter, April 2013 highlighted an eastern bluebird admitted in October immediately after suffering extensive burn injuries from a wood stove fire where he was roosting. He lost a portion of his beak and a digit. The bird was treated by Dr. David Kersting, who is a vet, specializing in avian care. Dr Kersting generously donated treatment which required surgery anesthesia. This bluebird finally reached the aviary stage in July and was released in mid-August. *He is shown here perched on a ledge in the aviary.*

Ready for the aviary?

To qualify for the aviary a bird must be healthy, able to fly and feed themselves. The aviary offers an environment where birds become acclimated to the weather and provides a large area for them to "test their wings". Aviary space is at a premium and WBR is drafting plans to increase the available area. Young birds require a week in the aviary, while adults are there for a minimum of two days. In addition to space requirements, the territorial nature of birds such as cardinals, blue jays and crows must be taken into consideration.

Time to take flight

Joan Stepzinski, who monitors the aviary and bird release, travels throughout the region to return adult birds to their originating location. Young birds are released in local parks and cemeteries. Joan released nearly 300 birds in the first half of 2013 and many more during the summer months.

The bird's journey is completed when they are finally released. "I've got the best job in the world...I see them fly away" says Joan. Staff and volunteers at WBR all share this sentiment, knowing they have all contributed to fulfilling the WBR mission.



*After a lengthy stay at WBR, this bluebird
is ready to take off! He is shown here a
few days before release.*

Here's what's going on at WBR...

We made it! The summer months were extremely busy, as usual. Hundreds of birds passed through WBR. Now the tempo is slowing as birds begin to migrate for the winter. In fact, our goal is to release many of the resident birds as soon as they are ready to go so they can migrate. During August and September our patients were primarily American goldfinches, chimney swifts and hummingbirds. Most of the other bird species we've seen recently are birds injured during migration.

During the coming months we'll see "local" birds – those that stay in this area during the winter months such as robins, cardinals, doves and pigeons. Remember to monitor your pets when they're in the yard. Many of the bird injuries we see are due to attacks by family pets. A bird attacked by a cat is required to take antibiotics for about seven days due to the bacteria in cat saliva which can cause a fatal infection. The swipe of the paw of a large dog can mean instant death.

In the upcoming months we'll be scrubbing the center, stocking up on supplies and making changes that will improve our operation next year. We'll be actively recruiting volunteers and conducting training classes. If you're interested, email info@wildbirdrehab.org or call the center. You'll find it very rewarding!



A fledgling and nestling hummingbird enjoy meal time!

WBR Staff & Volunteers

In Memory of...In Honor of

In honor of Linda Sobery Bohnenkamp
Nan & Steve Povinelli

In honor of Michelle Baker
Fred Cotsworth

In honor of David Ritchey
Kenneth & Jane Ritchey

In honor of the funny robins
Irene McCracken

In memory of MU-Kitty
Patricia Viamontes

In memory of Carl Sobery
Nan & Steve Povinelli

In memory of Blue Nobles
The Colagiovanni Family

In memory of John Daerda
Joseph Gioia

In memory of 1 Carolina Wren Baby
Wendy Green

In memory of Cricket
Janet Noble

Memorial Brick
Irene & John McCracken

Memorial Bricks are available for a donation of \$250 and provide an opportunity to honor or memorialize your family, family member or pet. If you are interested call or send your order to WBR.



eScrip pays off - Tracy Durrell, Executive Director, and Leslie Wainwright, Board President, (center) representing WBR accept a donation and *Certificate of Recognition* for being one of the top participating groups in the **Schnucks eScrip** program. The presentation was July 24 at the **Schnucks** in Overland.

The *eScrip* program allows you to designate a nonprofit organization to receive a donation of 3% of your purchase. Sign up for this program, designate **Wild Bird Rehabilitation** and use your *eScrip* card at **Schnucks** at the time of purchase to help area birds.

5th Annual Silent Auction & Trivia Night Benefit

Reservation Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Reservation for table for 8 @ \$160

_____ Reservation for a Table for 8, includes 2 bottles of wine and an appetizer platter @ \$225

_____ Reservations @ \$20 per person

Total \$ _____

See back page for additional information

Enclose form with check payable to **WBR**
& mail by November 1, 2013 to

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
9624 Midland Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63114

Please include a sheet containing the names of your team members

Calendar of Events

October 13 & October 14
Story Hour - 10 -10:30 am

Wild Bird Rehabilitation will visit Town & Country Whole Foods Market on Clayton Road, 1160 Town and Country Crossing Dr. for **Story Hour** held in the **Whole Lifestyle Center**. We'll be making trail mix from various types of bird food such as sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, apples, and berries and sharing some interesting "bird facts". Open to all ages, especially for children and parents.

Garage Sales
October - To Be Announced

Send an email to wbrsongbird@gmail.com with the subject **Garage Sale** and we will notify you as sales are scheduled. These sales benefit WBR.

Let us help you dispose of gently used items you have that are looking for a new home. Consider having a garage sale and donating the proceeds to WBR. This is a great way to make a donation and clean out your storage area! WBR will support you and help publicize this event. Contact Leslie at wbrsongbird@gmail.com.

November 9
Silent Auction & Trivia at Kirkwood Community Center

See back page for additional information and registration form on this page.



Tracy Durrell, WBR Executive Director and Angie Mock of KTVI, Channel 2 news prepare for a special feature on WBR which aired on Aug 21.

Board of Directors: Diane Bricmont, Jody Gross, Carol Kershner, Sallie Lynch, Mary Beth Spangler, Leslie Wainwright **Executive Director:** Tracy Durrell