

Wild Bird Rehabilitation
9624 Midland Blvd
Overland, Mo 63114



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8TH Annual Trivia Night & Silent Auction Benefit November 12

Join us for this fun evening which is the major fundraising event of the year for Wild Bird Rehabilitation. It's a great time to enjoy the company of friends and family while helping area birds! The Trivia Night held at the Kirkwood Community Center is much more than a test of your knowledge. You'll have the opportunity to shop magnificent auction items and to purchase chances for a one-of-a-kind quilt.

Trivia and More

The silent auction begins at 6 pm and Trivia starts at 7 pm. Trivia teams consist of eight members and cash is awarded to first and second place teams. In addition to trivia, there will be optional side games and a 50/50 raffle. Water and soda are included and you may bring snacks and alcohol.

Silent Auction

The silent auction features gift baskets, gift certificates, books, games, decorative items, sports memorabilia, jewelry, unique experiences and special items for bird lovers.

Here's a great combination! Purchase Blues Hockey Tickets at a discounted price and Wild Bird Rehabilitation will receive a donation for each pm; Tuesday, January 10th vs



Quilt Raffle

Once again we have a unique hand-crafted quilt. Chances for the quilt are available at WBR and these locations: Native Traditions Gallery, 310 S. Main St. St. Charles; Wild Birds Unlimited, Chesterfield, 1739 Clarkson Rd; Wild Birds Unlimited, Florissant, Surrey Plaza 1, 2644 N. Highway 67. It's not necessary to be present at the Trivia Night to win.

Send your entry fee early for a discount

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. Mail the registration form (*on page 3*) with payment.

To pay by credit card, register online at www.wildbirdrehab.org in the **Events** section. **To receive a \$10 per team early bird discount register online before October 1 or mail your registration by September 24.**

If you have any questions, would like to donate an item for the silent auction or discuss sponsorship opportunities, please email Sarah Brewer at wbrtrivia@gmail.com.



ticket sold to these games: Tuesday, December 6th vs Montreal 7 Boston 7 pm. Check www.wildbirdrehab.org/Events for a link to

Like us on Facebook and visit our website www.wildbirdrehab.org for information about what to do if you find a bird, WBR events, bird rescue stories and more.



Wild Bird Chatter

Newsletter of Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Fall 2016

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

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

*Please call before you bring
in a bird*

Hours of Operation

9am - 1pm; 5pm – 7pm
Daily

www.wildbirdrehab.org



Our mission is to provide care for injured, ill and orphaned native wild songbirds and to release them back into their natural habitat. We also provide public education regarding the humane treatment of wild songbirds and the conservation of their habitat.

Taking Care of our Backyard Birds

Though we see flocks of birds leaving for warmer climates there are many birds that stay in our area year round. You can find a checklist of birds for the St Louis Area at mobirds.org. It lists which birds stay, which will be on the way to a warmer climate and which are winter visitors. Now is a great time to look at your home environment and decide how to make it more hospitable to birds this winter.

Bird Feeders

Select the seed mix in relation to the type of birds you wish to attract to your feeder and also the birds you want to discourage. Information is available from www.allaboutbirds.org and other sources.

Insure feeders are kept clean. Improper hygiene can result in conjunctivitis, which can lead to blindness and eventual starvation. Clean feeders with a 10% bleach solution and allow them to dry.

Also Water

Water is important year round to keep birds hydrated, but it's also used to preen their feathers. Without preening, the birds' feathers don't maintain position and alignment resulting in gaps in insulation and loss of body heat.

Window Strikes

As many as one billion birds die each year due to window collisions, which are most common during the migration timeframes. Birds don't see glass. Instead, birds see the reflection of what is behind them, and when they are looking for an escape route, or just a place to perch, they fly towards the glass.

To decrease the chance of window strikes, place feeders less than one foot away from windows. This distance limits a bird's flight momentum and decreases its chances of death if it flies into a window. Place decals, tape or hanging strips on the window. For more information on this see



Red-bellied Woodpeckers brought to WBR when they were found on the ground after tree trimming disrupted their nest.

www.wildbirdrehab.org-in-the-news.

Pets

It's important to keep pets under control. Statistics on bird deaths due to cat attacks list cats as responsible for between 1 and 4 billion bird deaths in the US. "Our findings suggest that free-ranging cats cause substantially greater wildlife mortality than previously thought and are likely the single greatest source of anthropogenic mortality for US birds and mammals," writes the study authors published in *Nature Communications*.

Tree trimming

Experts recommend pruning trees in midwinter. This avoids the chance you will displace a bird family in spring by removing the tree branch where their nest was located. We love to see birds in our neighborhood on those winter days—so let's help keep them safe and healthy!

In Honor of...In Memory of

**In honor of Jackson
Schneider**

Harriet Schneider

**In memory of Doris
Fortner**

Walter Fortner

**In memory of Betty
Blankmann**

R. Blankmann

**In memory of Randy
Grim's Rescues At Stray
Rescue of St. Louis**

Patricia Viamontes

**In honor of
Katherine
Mandel's Birthday**
Jane Basler

**In memory of
Eleanore Anderson**
Brooks Anderson

In memory of Punky
Eric & Lisa Mueller

**In honor of Glenda
Albertson &
Chump**

Angela & Josh
McGuire

**In memory of
Matthew Wiese**
Julie Wiese

**In memory of my sweet
horse Trigger**
Sharon Hoppen

**In honor of the
WBR Staff**

Marvin & Sandra Ginsberg



Tufted Titmouse rescued from a glue trap.

**In memory of Sandra
Konopelski**
Tina Riggs

**In memory of Harley &
Charlie, our beloved cats
who loved to watch birds**
Mary Kerbler

In memory of Mary K.

& James J. Guilfoxy
Margaret Tyler

Caring for Killdeer Hatchlings

In early spring, the busiest time of the year at WBR, four Killdeer hatchlings were brought in after they were found abandoned. WBR turned to Dr. Marie Bauer, a local veterinarian for assistance. Dr. Bauer is a licensed rehabilitator and very familiar with the requirements of caring for Killdeer.

Early Development

The first 3 days are critical. It was necessary to focus on keeping the baby birds warm and feeding them mealworms and other nutritious foods. By the third day they were pecking at the ground, hunting for insects and able to self-feed.

For the first 4 weeks, they lived in a large storage box with a heat lamp. Then, for the next 2 weeks, they lived in a mesh enclosure in Dr. Bauer's backyard walking, bobbing their heads and running around the pen in spurts, which is typical Killdeer behavior.

Ready for flight?

During their time outdoors, they built up their wing muscle strength by practicing short bursts of flight in their outdoor pen. By six weeks of age, they had fully developed their flight feathers and were ready for release. Dr. Bauer released them at a site that has large meadows that gently slope into a lake.

They like to feed in the shallows at the water's edge and hunt for insects in the grass. Killdeer frequently fake a broken wing to lure predators away from the nest.



The Killdeer in their backyard pen shortly before release.

Killdeer are in our area all year, found on lawns, golf courses, athletic fields and parking lots.

Must be a licensed rehabilitator

WBR continually receives requests from those who want to nurse a bird back to health in their home which is in violation of the **Migratory Bird Treaty Act** which prohibits this unless the individual or entity (such as Dr. Bauer or Wild Bird Rehabilitation) is a licensed rehabilitator. This practice can be detrimental to the bird's health and result in injury or death.

Thank you, Dr. Bauer for your help during this critical time!

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

Time for a sigh of relief! We made it through a busy spring and summer! Now it's time to focus on the migrating birds. We have the birds who are leaving our area as well as those who migrate to our area for the winter. Then we have our year round residents.

In the coming months we'll be treating primarily adult birds injured as a result of window collisions, cat and dog attacks and the various type of situations our urban birds encounter.

Protecting Migratory Birds

We often receive calls where Rescuers want to raise or treat injured birds. This is forbidden for birds covered by the **International Migratory Bird Treaty Act**, which currently includes over 800 species. This year, we had a number of cases where well meaning, but uninformed Rescuers brought us birds that had to be euthanized on arrival due to their severe condition. House Sparrows and European Starlings are not covered by this Treaty and can be raised at home, but please consult us for instructions.

The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** issues permits for activities prohibited under this act. These include permits for taxidermy, falconry, propagation, scientific and educational use. Wild Bird Rehabilitation is granted permission under this act to rehabilitate "native wild songbirds".

This year is the 100th anniversary of the **International Migratory Bird Treaty Act**. It does not

distinguish between live or dead birds and grants protection to any bird parts including feathers, eggs and nests. The Act was enacted in an era when many bird species were threatened by the commercial trade in birds and bird feathers.



American Goldfinch recuperating from a cat attack.

Enjoy Birds of Missouri

Missouri has many great birding trails that provide a glimpse of many of the birds migrating to our area. Visit mdc.mo.gov, select **Discover Nature** and **Places to Go**. This provides a tool you can use to select the type of trail and geographic area in order to enjoy birds and fall colors.

WBR Staff & Volunteers

Many thanks to the Volunteers who helped make 2016 a successful year!

Trivia Night & Silent Auction Reservation Form **Early Bird Discount Available**

Payment is required to reserve your seat. Reservations are required & non-refundable.

I would like to reserve _____ seats (at \$20 each) = \$ _____

I cannot attend but wish to make a donation of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

If available, please include a sheet with the names and contact info of those included in your reservation.

Please mail form with payment by **Nov 9, 2016**. Mail by **Sept 24** to receive a **\$10 per table early bird discount**.

Send to:
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