

Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center

VOLUME 21, NO. 1

SPRING 2015

The Mission of TWREC

Our mission is to help Pennsylvania wildlife by

- Caring for injured, orphaned or ill wildlife in order to enable their return to the wild.
- Promoting appreciation and understanding of wildlife through education.

Admissions

At present time, Tamarack is able to admit birds of prey (all species and ages of eagles, hawks, falcons, owls and vultures), small birds (all ages of song birds, wood peckers, etc.), turtles and opossums. This is subject to change depending on case load. For more information, call 814-763-2574.

Hours

June 8 - August 14:
Weekdays 10am-3pm
Please call before coming.
August 15 - June 7
By appointment



**JOIN US ON
FACEBOOK!**

Official registration and financial information of T.W.R.E.C. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within PA: 1.800.732.0999

Registration does not imply endorsement.



Canvasback release



Greater Scaup release



Horned Grebe release



Release of Lesser Scaup



Long-Tailed Duck in treatment

WINTER OF WATER BIRDS Finding Refuge and Release

By the end of February, Lake Erie was 98% frozen over, creating difficulty for water birds. Many flew south in search of food and open water, and ran into trouble along the way. Tamarack was there to help. This winter we treated seven different species of water birds and released all but one. Water birds require specialized care to provide an appropriate (often expensive!) diet for each species and especially to maintain proper water proofing of their feathers. This was the first year Tamarack has treated Canvasback, Greater and Lesser Scaup, and Long-tailed Duck.



Red-necked Grebe release



Red-breasted Merganser later released



Release of Great Horned Owl



Eastern Screech Owl returns home

RAPTORS FIND RESPITE

This winter Tamarack had a full house! Tamarack treated eight different species of raptors: Eastern Screech Owls, Red-tailed Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, Cooper's Hawk and Bald Eagle. This was in addition to the water birds, song birds and two turtles that were over-wintered. Admissions are typically slower during winter months with the result that we usually see fewer raptor species, often just half as many as this year! Since many of these birds were admitted with low body weight as well as injuries, these patients were housed at the Center until spring finally brought easier hunting conditions. Every available space was filled since most species cannot be co-housed with others. Then it was time for release!



Red-tailed Hawk release



Juvenile Bald Eagle



Turkey Vulture



Cooper's Hawk



Going home! Barred Owl release



Red-shouldered Hawk release

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

by Sarah Sargent

What a long winter! We had a surprisingly busy time with a number of diving birds admitted as well as raptors who suffered with the extreme weather.

We are well into spring now, though, and birds are returning!

Do think about your woods (if you own acreage) and which species can make their homes there (see the Forestry for the Birds article). Tamarack is fortunate to have had 56 acres of land donated to us by our long-time supporter Dick Raup. Unfortunately, Dick passed away this winter after a long and productive life. Tamarack plans to move forward with the Forestry for the Birds program on the land he gifted to us. Our Forester, Guy Dunkle, of the Foundation for Sustainable Forests, believes that much of the property was planted as a Christmas tree plantation in the 1970s. While the section planted to Norway Spruce is doing well, providing deep shade and good winter shelter, some other sections are not in very good shape, having been planted with short-lived species, or those unsuitable for this area. We will keep you posted as we work on improving it.

We received two grants recently! One from the Northern Allegheny Conservation Association, based in Warren, is supporting rehabilitation for several eagles this year. The other, from the Kenneth Scott Charitable Foundation in Cleveland, is supporting education and especially Carol's upcoming trip for an advanced raptor rehabilitation training at The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota. She's already an expert, but will become even more so. We are so thankful for these grants, and also for all the support that you, our faithful members, provide us with. We couldn't do this work without you!

HOW BIRD-FRIENDLY ARE YOUR WOODS?

Pennsylvania forests provide breeding habitat for dozens of species of migrant songbirds and the large areas of extensive forests in northern Pennsylvania are considered to be virtual "bird factories!" They produce a significant proportion of the entire global populations of some of the species that prefer large tracts of forest, known as forest interior species. In addition to supporting bird populations Pennsylvania forests also improve air and water quality and provide huge economic and recreational benefits. Forest condition is really important for all of these reasons. With your help, Tamarack treats injured wildlife so they can be released. If you are a landowner you can also help birds and other wildlife by creating better habitat for them to make their home!



Female Cardinal

There are all kinds of reasons that many forests in Pennsylvania are in rough shape, from a legacy of past overharvesting to ongoing problems with deer overbrowsing and invasive plants and insects. Although your woods may look great to you, forest bird species may be telling you otherwise by not being there! In fact populations of some forest bird species like the Eastern Wood pewee have been declining for decades, indicating that our forests are not in as good shape as they could be.



Great Horned Owl release

Since 75 percent of the forested land in Pennsylvania is privately owned by a half a million landowners, and 83 percent of Eastern Forest Bird distribution is on private land, the condition of private forests is crucial to the success of forest breeding birds. Even the smallest properties can contribute to large forest blocks that provide high-quality habitat for breeding birds. That's why Tamarack would like forest landowners to learn about an Audubon program called Forestry for the Birds. Looking at your

woods with the needs of forest birds in mind will help you understand what you can do to improve habitat conditions for them.

The program focuses on the needs of 18 bird species that have specific, but different, requirements. They were chosen because: 1.) they are simple to identify by sight and/or sound, 2.) they collectively use a wide range of forest types and conditions for feeding and for nesting, and 3.) they have a significant proportion of their global breeding population in the Eastern Forest.

Continued on page 4

HOW BIRD-FRIENDLY ARE YOUR WOODS (cont)

Although it is tempting to “let Mother Nature” take care of your woods, it could take hundreds of years for good habitat qualities to develop. In many cases you can jump start that process and really help out forest birds. Depending on forest type and current conditions, recommendations might include encouraging a more vigorous canopy to making canopy gaps, promoting a denser mid-story or understory, keeping snags and downed trees. Also, removing invasive species and retaining or planting native fruiting species such as black cherry, dogwood, serviceberry, blackberry, raspberry and elderberry are all good for birds.

You can contact Audubon Pennsylvania to sign up for more information at paforestbirds@audubon.org pa.audubon.org/forest-birds or by calling 814-333-1170. Audubon Pennsylvania can also provide presentations for land owner groups, training for foresters, referrals for assistance in forest bird monitoring and habitat assessments.

HELP WILDLIFE WHEN YOU SHOP OR SEARCH ONLINE: AMAZON SMILE AND IGIVE

You can raise funds to help wildlife **at no cost to you!** There are two ways to do this! Shop at **Amazonsmile.com** and select Tamarack as the organization you wish to support. A portion of your total cost will go to Tamarack at no additional cost to you! You can also view a wish list of items we can use at the center if you wish to make a purchase for the wildlife.

You can also register online at **iGive.com** (for free!), then select Tamarack as the non-profit cause you would like to support. Through iGive you can shop at 889 major online companies and a portion of your sales will be donated to Tamarack. Or search the web through the iGive site and one cent is paid to Tamarack for every search you do. Use it at work, when making hotel and plane reservations, and also at home.

These are wonderful sources of income for us to help wildlife and is free for you! It's a win-win!

FIVE ATTEND NWRA



Tamarack had 5 people attending the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association symposium in Princeton, NJ March 11-14. Pictured from left to right: Carol Holmgren, college interns Jessica Schombert and Lee Ann Streshenkoff, sub-rehabilitator Gina Kron, and educator Martha Sterba. Carol and Martha presented a workshop titled “Promoting Learning in Wildlife Presentations: Tools, Tips and Tricks” to an audience of eighty.

SPRING IS FINALLY HERE! WINTER INTO SPRING AT THE CENTER



Juvenile Bald Eagle

It's been a long hard winter for humans and wildlife alike. But at this writing, the sun is shining, there is a warm breeze and the seasons are clearly turning. Wildlife are staking out territories and starting families or migrating to their summer breeding grounds. We know soon the center will be bursting at the seams with new patients to be cared for. Our first baby of the year has already been admitted: a Great Horned Owl nestling. Another of our current patients is an enormous twelve pound (5.5 kg) female Bald Eagle with a wing fracture.



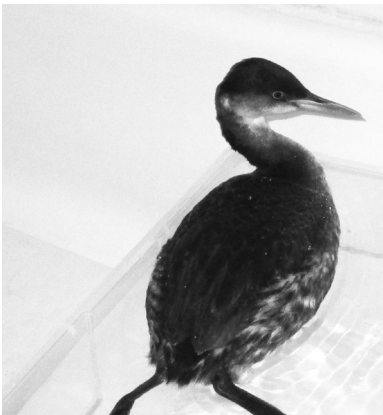
Great Horned Owl Nestling

With the deep snow and frigid temperatures Tamarack was more busy than typical, tending patients through the winter months. We had a full house with

every available space full with raptors, water birds and small birds, in addition to two turtles we treated through the winter. Our Facebook page is a great spot to see what patients we are treating and who is being released.

Tamarack is committed to continuing education and supporting the education of other rehabilitators. We were pleased to have five people from our center attend the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association symposium in Princeton, NJ. Carol and Martha Sterba presented a session on Wildlife Education Programs to an audience

of eighty and received many appreciative comments. In May, Carol will travel to The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota for a week-long raptor rehabilitation workshop for experienced rehabilitators and veterinarians.



Red-necked Grebe

Our outstanding educators and non-releasable raptors are already scheduled for many programs this spring and summer. To learn more about our education programs, check out our website or call the center to schedule a program.

Thank you to all our onsite volunteers, dispatchers and medics for your exceptional service to wildlife!

Thank you to our winter and spring helpers: volunteer weekend supervisor Amanda DiCola; Allegheny College Bonner leaders Lee Ann Streshenkoff, Meric Islam, and Bryce Howe; volunteers Martha Consla, Chris, Jesse and Sam Green,



*Morning Dove with
frostbitten toes.
Later released!*

Mary Haines, Melanie McClearn, Cathy Meigel, Larry and Linda Slomski, Martha and Bob Sterba, Russ Sundy, Terrie Swanson, Rick Wyman, and college students Katie Burgert, Lauren Erdman, Courtney James, Allysa Nelson, Jessica Schombert, Lee Ann Streshenkoff, Danielle Thieman, and Stephanie Wunderly.

Thank you to our wildlife medics: Joe Goertz, Janelle Harrawood, Gina Kron, Sue Pratt, Sarah Sargent and Jessica Williams.

Our fabulous Wildlife Emergency Dispatchers, coordinated by Bob Hartman are: Carol Brown, Debbie Cashdollar, Rita Gannoe, Joe Goertz, Jim Fitch, Mary Halko, Julie Hirt, Denise Hudson, Marc John, Lynne Martin, Roberta McCall, Barb Mitchell-Stull, Grace Ossa, Susan Scholz, Marcella Smith and Sharon Wesoky.



Female Bald Eagle with wing fracture



Long-tailed Duck



Great Horned Owl release

New Members and Contributors



Nestling America Kestrels raised at Tamarack.

GOLDEN EAGLE \$1000

- Lane, John – Cambridge Springs, PA
- Wiecezorek, Judith and Ames, BJ – Erie, PA
- Timo Family Foundation – Meadville, PA

PEREGRINE \$500

- DeArment, Bill and Linda – Meadville, PA
- Meadville Field Archers – Harmonsburg, PA
- Norcross, Shirley – Guys Mills, PA
- Ridge Road Taxidermy – Meadville, PA
- Tamarack Packaging Limited – Meadville, PA
- Wright, Scott and Picardo, Carla – Erie, PA

GREAT HORNED OWL \$100

- Baker, Belinda – Meadville, PA
- Carlson, Katherine – Harborcreek, PA
- Charter Oaks Garden Club – Erie, PA
- Csop, Suzanne – Erie, PA
- Honkus, Sharon – Johnstown, PA
- Komlenic, Nancy – Erie, PA
- Larson, Christopher and Patricia – Erie, PA
- Leberman, Robert – Rector, PA
- Massing, Patti and Raymond – Erie, PA
- McNally, James and Jane – Erie, PA
- Morris, Amanda – Auburn Hills, MI
- Phillips, Michael – Raleigh, NC
- Smith, Caitlyn (no city)

KESTREL/FAMILY \$30

- Braden, Terry and Carina – Springboro, PA
- Cole, Linda – Erie, PA
- Cook, Richard – Spartansburg, PA
- Eduardo's Tavern – Erie, PA

- Eiler, Teva – McKean, PA
- Gentile, Barbara – Erie, PA
- Griffin, Sally – North East, PA
- Hart, John and Sandra – McKeesport, PA
- Hartman, Bob and Behmke, Bill – Erie, PA
- Herhold, Robin – Girard, PA
- Hileman, Keith and Thurau, Alice – Clarion, PA
- Hinkle, Shannon – Pittsburgh, PA
- Michael (no last name) – Conneaut Lake, PA
- Sayers, Brian – Edinboro, PA
- Valdiserri, Paul and Myrna – Chandler, AZ

CHICKADEE/INDIVIDUAL \$20

- Bojewski, Colleen – Girard, PA
- Brown, Carol – Conneaut, OH
- Carrick, Ann – Erie, PA
- Cashdollar, Debbie – Girard, PA
- Clarion Area Elementary 5th Grade – Clarion, PA
- Collins, Margaret – Erie, PA
- Derry, Jason – Fairview, PA
- Drake, Neil – Meadville, PA
- Foht, Melinda – Erie, PA
- Gannoe, Rita – Erie, PA
- Hals, Curtis – Edinboro, PA
- Hawm, Bea – Conneaut Lake, PA
- Heidt, Fred – Erie, PA
- Helmbreck, Lisa – Butler, PA
- Holmberg, John – Erie, PA
- Holmes, Dennis – Conneautville, PA
- Jassak, Dave – McKean, PA
- Kelly, Michael and Gloria – Centerville, PA
- Klahr, Lewis and Nancy – Erie, PA
- Lacny, Linda – Waterford, PA
- Lucas, Lindsay – Erie, PA
- Main, Casey – Erie, PA
- Martz, Marti – Edinboro, PA
- Nightway, Amanda – Erie, PA
- Ossa, Grace – Union City, PA
- Reilly, Tom – Erie, PA
- Robinson, Carrie – Erie, PA
- Rodgers, Tamra – Centerville, PA
- Runser, Matt – Erie, PA
- Ryan, Kathleen – Erie, PA
- Shaffer, Robin – Meadville, PA
- Smith, Marcella – Fairview, PA
- Southard, Emily – Erie, PA
- Stanger, Carol – Erie, PA

- Stevens, Sandy – Cranesville, PA
- Urbanik, Scott – Pittsfield, PA
- Vargo, Michael – Meadville, PA
- Zeller, Dean – Erie, PA

IN HONOR OF

- Sharyn Spinelli by Sharon Honkus
- Sue DeArment by Scott and Pam Curtis
- Glen & Grace Black by Nathan Black
- Jack & Care Kerlin by Susie & Jerry Dorn

IN MEMORY OF

- Charles Chatfield by Mary Halko
- Earl Charles Chatfield, Jr. by Roberta McCall
- Carol's father, Charles Chatfield by Denise Hudson and Joe Goertz
- Carol's father, Charles Chatfield by Amanda DiCola
- Carol's father, Charles Chatfield by Susan Smith
- Carol's Father, Charles Chatfield by Bob Hartman & Bill Behmke
- Carol's Father, Charles Chatfield by Sarah Sargent
- Carol's father, Charles Chatfield by Mary Chatfield
- Imogene Yetman by William Yetman
- JoAnn Massena by Paul & Myrna Valdiserri
- JoAnn Massena by John & Sandra Hart
- Pat McCright by Hugh McCright
- Peeker by Cherly VanHouten



Release of female Bald Eagle.

In-Kind Contributors:

Animal Friends Cremation • Deb Apthorp and her reindeer • Deb Chilcotte • Christian Critter Kids • Dr. Donny Consla
 Dr. Cheropovich & Dr. Helgert of Crawford Co. Humane Society Veterinary Hospital • Joel Eidbo
 Galeta Public Library Knitting Group • Linda & Bob Gleeson • Chris, Sam and Jesse Green
 Greener Pastures Veterinary Clinic • Don Harvey • Herbs for Healthful Living • The Home Depot
 Dr. Lindstrom of Animal Clinic Northview • Katie Lubresky • Dr. Erica Miller DVM • Stacy Mortimer
 Poff's Bait Shop • Dr. Ramey & Dr. Radford of Animal Kingdom Animal Hospital • Ridge Road Taxidermy
 Larry & Linda Slomski • Russ Sundy • Pam Wheeler

If we neglected to include you - please let us know! We appreciate all our supporters and do our best to remember you all.

Wish List

See AmazonSmile.com and search for Tamarack's wish list for more great ideas!



Bleach
 Paper Towels
 Dawn Dish Detergent
 Liquid Laundry Detergent for High Efficiency Machines (HE)
 Duct Tape
 Forever Stamps
 Mixed Bird Seed
 Black Oil Sunflower Seed
 Old Pillow Cases, Flat Sheets
 Surgical drape (unused from hospital surgeries)
 Sterile Saline or Lactated Ringers (up to 2.5 dextrose) IV bags
 Cardboard Boxes (esp. computer printer size) for temporarily housing birds
 Frozen archery hunted pure venison to feed hawks, owls and eagles
 Wood Pine or Ash shavings for bedding (not cedar)
Bald Eagle release photo and Goldfinch shortly before release.



SPONSORSHIPS MAKE GREAT GIFTS

You can give a sponsorship of our educational animals for \$25.00 per year. Sponsors receive a certificate of sponsorship, a 5x7 photograph and a brochure about the bird they are sponsoring. Additionally, sponsors' names are displayed by the bird's enclosure and sponsors may arrange to visit the Center for a personal encounter. Indicate which animal(s) you would like to sponsor. Send this form, along with a check for \$25 per animal per year to TWREC, 21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433.

Lady Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk	_____	Sophia, Barred Owl	_____
Jasper, Eastern Screech-Owl	_____	Alice, Cooper's Hawk	_____
Pierre, Peregrine Falcon	_____	Willow, Eastern Screech-Owl	_____
Jedi, Merlin Falcon	_____	Peshabon Kiakiak, Red-Tailed Hawk	_____



Name of Sponsor: _____ Gift Recipient's Name: _____
 Address of Sponsor: _____ Gift Recipient's Address: _____

**Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation
and Education Center**

21601 Stull Road
Saegertown, PA 16433
Phone: 814.763.2574

**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SAEGERTOWN, PA
PERMIT NO. 46**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Spring 2015 Newsletter



Join us on Facebook!

Yes! I want to help wildlife!

Become a member of TWREC and help wildlife. You will receive two newsletters each membership year and be invited to our annual open house. Your donations are tax deductible and you will have the satisfaction of helping our native wildlife.

If your membership is not up for renewal, but you want to help further financially, your additional donation or memorial contribution is always welcomed. Send contributions to:

Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center, Inc.
21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433

Annual Membership:

Individual/Chickadee - \$20

Family/Kestrel - \$30

Great Horned Owl - \$100

Peregrine - \$500

Golden Eagle - \$1000

I'd like to receive
the newsletter via:

☐ Mail ☐ E-Mail

(If e-mail, please list below)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

In Memoriam or Honorary Contributions

Enclosed is a contribution of \$

in ☐ **Memory** or ☐ **Honor** of

Please send acknowledgement to: Name

Address:

From (Donor's name):

Donor's Address:

**All Contributions are
Tax Deductible!**

**If your address label is incorrect,
please let us know.**

T.W.R.E.C.'s

Executive Director Carol Holmgren

Assistant Director. Kris Steiner

Director Emeritus. Suzanne DeArment

Board of Directors

Board President Sarah Sargent

Treasurer Jessica Williams

Vice President Susan A. Smith

Secretary Lindsey Sylvis

Board Member Bob Hartman

Board Member Sharon Wesoky

Corresp. Secretary Anita Sundean

Sponsoring Veterinarians

Dr. Ramey, Animal Ark Pet Hospital

Dr. Polumbo, Glenwood Pet Hospital

Wildlife Rehab Assistants

Ginny Buttrey, Linda Gleeson, Joe Goertz,

Janelle Harrawood, Gina Kron,

Sue Pratt, Sarah Sargent

Wildlife Educators

Linda Gleeson, Carol Holmgren,

Kris Steiner, Martha and Bob Sterba,

Richard Wyman, Cathy Meigel

Wildlife Rehabilitators

Carol Holmgren, Kris Steiner