



# TAMARACK WILDLIFE CENTER



VOLUME 27 NO. 1

SPRING 2021

## The Mission of TWC

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 ages, mammals all ages (except rabies vector species), reptiles, amphibians, herons and adult songbirds and adult woodpeckers at our Saegertown Center. Other species including ducks, geese and gulls are admitted on a case-by-case basis. Ducklings and goslings are admitted on a case-by-case basis at our North East location. This is subject to change depending on case load.

For more information call 814-763-2574.

### Hours

Daily 9am-3pm  
by appointment.

Evening admissions  
by appointment.



Official registration and financial information of TWC may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within PA:  
1-800-732-0999

Registration does not imply endorsement.



Top from left to right: Cottontail release; Kalle Egglestion prepares to release a young Eastern Screech Owl. Middle: Peregrine Falcon preparing for release; Midland Painted Turtle; infant opossums. Bottom clockwise from left: Linda Slomski releases a Cooper's Hawk; volunteer Candace Burkhammer feeds a Grey Squirrel; infant Fox Squirrels warm up in an incubator; Cooper's Hawk; infant Flying Squirrel; Eastern Screech Owl.

# Happy 30th Hatch Day, Lady Hawk!

by Laryssa Rote



“Sue, get your glove on...”

Sue DeArment, TWC’s former director, will never forget the day that the founder of Tamarack, Harriet Wilson, said those words to her regarding a juvenile Red-tailed hawk that was deemed non-releasable. This hawk, thought to have been struck by a car, had failed her fitness tests: a tendon in one wing was permanently damaged. Even time in physical therapy wasn’t enough to give her loft. Unable to return to the wild, Lady Hawk’s charisma inspired the addition of education to Tamarack’s mission as an ambassador for her species.

30 years later, Lady Hawk is still going strong. With the average hawk’s life span 7-15 years in the wild, her age makes her a true matriarch. Captivity can prolong a bird of prey’s life with some captive red-tailed hawks living 35 plus years. Over these 30 years, Lady Hawk has educated more than 100,000 members of the public. An astounding achievement for her and for Tamarack!

Bridging Tamarack’s past, present, and future, Lady Hawk makes an impression on everyone she meets. At public events, she captivates attention, and mesmerizes her audience. The largest ambassador raptor at Tamarack, when volunteers earn the privilege and training of stepping her to their glove, it is an unforgettable experience. TWC volunteer Will Harrod marvels, “she is still wild and comfortable with people.” And indeed, one of her trademarks is a large, arm-shaking rouse—a shake of the feathers that indicates contentment. Rick Wyman, a veteran TWC educator admits, “I still remember the first time I handled her. It was the thrill of a lifetime.”

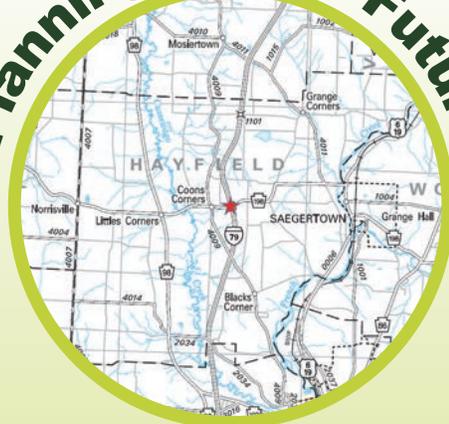


Director Carol Holmgren  
with Lady Hawk

Lady Hawk is a symbol for how far Tamarack has come in 30 years, from wildlife rehabilitation center—to a thriving rehabilitation AND education center. Her job has been to inspire the love of wildlife in young and old alike and bring awareness to the challenges our wildlife face. She is a vital team member to those who have been with Tamarack for many years.

Happy Hatch Day, Lady Hawk!

## Planning for the Future



As part of our strategic plan, the TWC board is developing a plan to allow TWC to serve wildlife and our community for generations to come. Anyone who has visited our site is aware of the challenges with getting to TWC, lack of site accessibility, and need for additional space. A move is part of our plan for the future of our work and impact on the region! We are actively seeking a suitable property near the Saegertown exit of I-79 (exit 154 for Rt. 198); this is central to the large region we serve, where TWC can continue outstanding rehabilitation and educational outreach. Your suggestions are welcome!

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

*Sarah Sargent, PhD*, Board President

Happy spring! Trees are leafing out, birds are migrating north, and new generations of all kinds of wildlife are being brought into the world. Slowly but surely, our society is emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic, which feels like a special kind of spring, too. As mentioned elsewhere, young bunnies, opossums and squirrels are already being raised, and we are preparing for our busiest time of year with summer interns arriving this month.

As we celebrate Lady Hawk's 30th year with us as an Ambassador, the Board of Directors is thinking ahead to Tamarack's next 30 years. How can we ensure that Tamarack not only continues, but becomes stronger and better? Following the feasibility study we did last year, we are planning to relocate the center sometime in the near future, for both easier access and for more space. Our vision for the future includes outdoor aviaries for our ambassadors, the ability to host visiting school groups, and better designed rehabilitation spaces for patients. We are so excited about our plans, but the first step is finding a suitable location. Please take a look at the Planning for the Future map in this newsletter, and do let us know if you have any ideas about pieces of land that might be available within the circled area. We are looking for at least five acres.

From time to time, we seek new members to join our Board of Directors, so we would like to put together a list of interested people to call on. If you enjoy "big picture" thinking, would like to help ensure the future of the center, and can commit to periodic evening virtual meetings that last 1.5-2 hours, please let me know at [sarah@tamarackwildlife.org](mailto:sarah@tamarackwildlife.org).

## Go wild and join us at a program!



We are excited to be offering both in person and online programs this summer! In June, July, and August, we will be hosting a public program the second weekend of each month as well as onsite tours throughout the summer. The dates will be announced on our Facebook page and website, and pre-registration will be required. We will follow CDC guidelines for COVID safety at our events. We are wildly hoping to see you soon!

**Friday, June 18**  
Erie County Public Library  
Online 1-1:30pm

**Saturday, July 24**  
Erie County Public Library  
Erie, PA 2-3pm

**Tuesday, June 22**  
Andover Public Library  
Andover, OH 6-7pm

**Saturday-Sunday,**  
**September 11-12**  
Wild Wind Folk Art Festival  
Pittsfield, PA 10am-5pm

**Tuesday, June 29**  
Shontz Memorial Library  
Conneaut Lake, PA  
11-12pm

**Sunday, October 3**  
TWC Open House  
Details TBA

## Thank you to all our members, onsite and helpline volunteers, educators, and medics for making this possible!

**Thank you to our spring and summer helpers:** Summer interns: Natalie Sebulnia, Madison Story, Angel Vroman, Emma Yesko, Kyra Znaczk. Winter/Spring volunteers: George Ackerman, Allison Beck, Greg Bricker, Katie Brozell, Kathy Bussiere, Sarah Carlson, Rachel Cherry, Lee Coates, Martha Consla, Brooke Daeschner, Jim Daley, Cathy Davis, Dawn DeCrease, Linda Gleeson and family, Chris Green, Janelle Harrawood, Will Harrod, Hanna Hauck, Wendy Horning, Tim Kerr, Gina Kron, Abby Kuhn, Melyssa Mace-more, Cindy Ondish, Barbara Pagano, Larry Slomski, Jake Snyder, Stephanie Snyder, Leah Reibel, Megan Senovich, Melanie Tepper, Joyce Wilkes, Daniel Wilson, Emma Yesko.

**Our fabulous Wildlife Helpline Volunteers, coordinated by Diann Bolarsky are:** Rebecca Allen, Shari Barickman, Evon Barie, Diann Bolarsky, Connie Graham, Bob Hartman, Julie Hirt, Pam Jackson, Gina Jones, Connie Kisner, Marc Johns, Lynne Kasemer, Ginny Keim, Nancy Kerr, Lynne Martin, Tammy Rodgers, Marcella Smith, and Peggy Steele. Substitutes are Cathy Davis, Jim Fitch, Rita Ganoë and Sharon Wesoky.

## Save the Dates for Erie and Crawford Gives!



Thanks to you, the Erie and Crawford Gives have been a fantastic source of support for our center's work. Save these dates! Erie Gives is Tuesday, August 10 and Crawford Gives is August 30-31. Pick one or join in both! You do not need to reside in the county to participate. On the respective dates, you can visit [www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org) or [www.crawfordgives.org](http://www.crawfordgives.org) to make a donation for Tamarack Wildlife Center, or mail a check ahead of time. A percentage of all donations made will be matched by the Erie Community Foundation or Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, increasing the value of every dollar donated. The more donations made to Tamarack that day, the more matching funds the center receives!



TWC licensed rehabilitators Carol Holmgren and Heather Wayne attended and presented at online professional conferences this year including: National Wildlife Rehabilitation Symposium, International Association of Avian Trainers and Educators Conference, PA Wildlife Rehab Conference Virtually Wild, and New York State Wildlife Rehab Conference.



**A sampling of recent patients!**

**Top from left to right:** volunteer Omar Taylor holds ambassador kestrel "Watson"; Red-tailed Hawk "Crash" who was lodged in the bumper of a car after an impact and is making an amazing full recovery.

**Middle clockwise from left:** Mourning Dove release; Snapping Turtle; relaxed Red Squirrel; Turkey Vulture; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Screech Owl eye examination.

**Bottom from left:** Snowy Owl; cold laser treatment for eagle's foot; Dr. Consla examines a Bald Eagle; Downy Woodpecker; Heather Wayne and Great Horned Owl "Romeo"; Jordan Pierce releases a Screech Owl.



Kudos to **Max Giles** of Boy Scout Troop 254, Saegertown for designing and constructing a woodpecker recovery aviary for his Eagle Scout Project. **Max did an outstanding job!**



**New Food Prep Table**  
Thank you to the **Crawford Heritage Community Foundation** for a grant supporting TWC to acquire a new food prep table and professional wildlife medicine reference texts.



## Volunteer/Donor Spotlight: TOM NONNENMACHER

### Learned about TWC:

I became interested in birding around 2010 and was amazed that there was such a good rehabilitation center right in our region.

### Background:

Professor of Economics at Allegheny College.

### Supports TWC by:

Donating monthly, putting TWC in our will, serving on the Board of Directors

### What do you think is the most important work of TWC?

I am an avid birder, so the work that TWC does in rehabilitating birds is very important to me. Just as crucial, though, is the educational work that TWC does. It's vital to engage people, both young and old, in our region's natural beauty.

### Who inspired you to care about the natural world?

My grandfather was a member of the Schwäbischer Albverein, a hiking club in Germany, so I guess the love of nature is in my blood.

### Why do you donate?

As an economist, I teach my students the concept of "revealed preferences." It means that we should observe what people do to figure out what is important to them. Donating my time and money to Tamarack is my way of putting "my money where my mouth is."

### Why have you left a bequest to Tamarack?

When COVID hit, my wife and I were anxious about our health and decided to consider where we want our money to go when we pass on. With the help of a local lawyer, we created documents to reflect our priorities. TWC was one of the organizations that we both admire and want to support.

### What message do you have to share?

As a board member, I see the amazing work and dedication of the TWC's staff and volunteers to excellence in wildlife rehabilitation and education. I encourage everyone to visit the center (when COVID allows) or go to an educational program. And if you believe in its mission, consider donating, either now or through a bequest.



## Creating a Brighter Future with TWC Through Retirement Assets

*by Tye J. Cressman, estate planning attorney  
based in Meadville, Pennsylvania who specializes in elder law*

As an Estate Planning attorney, I find one of the most overlooked opportunities for charitable giving is retirement assets. For those who wish to support TWC, there are many benefits from donating retirement assets, including: (1) substantial tax savings; (2) ease of administration after death; and (3) low cost to execute. It is an option that many more clients should consider. Let me explain further:

Pre-tax retirement assets are the dominant form of retirement savings in our country and include your standard IRAs, 401(k)s, and 403(b)s. They are quite good for saving for retirement (thanks to the pre-tax benefit), but relatively poor wealth-transfer vehicles (due to their heavily taxed nature upon withdrawal). While surviving spouse beneficiaries can "roll over" a deceased spouse's retirement account, other beneficiaries have less ideal choices. Unless the beneficiary is a minor, disabled, or chronically ill individual, then the non-spouse beneficiary must with-

draw the entire balance of the retirement account within 10 years of death, paying all income taxes. This is in addition to any applicable state inheritance taxes due at the time of death.

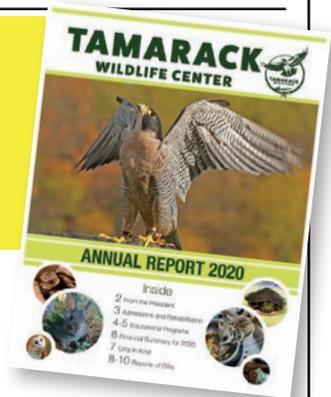
I worked with Tom Nonnenmacher and Shannan Mattiace on their will, including their pre-tax retirement accounts, which includes a gift to TWC. You can read about their decision to donate to TWC in the Donor Spotlight.

But most people won't need a lawyer to create a brighter future through their support of TWC. A simple solution is to name TWC as a charitable beneficiary on your qualified retirement accounts. Naming TWC as the beneficiary on your pre-tax retirement assets avoids the imposition of federal income tax and also avoids any state inheritance tax on those amounts. Truly, this is the most efficient use of charity in a person's estate plan and requires relatively little lawyer involvement.



## Tamarack's incredible 2020 Annual Report, including a listing of donors, is available at our website [www.tamarackwildlife.org](http://www.tamarackwildlife.org)

With your help, we treated a record number of patients, shared inspiring education in creative ways, and had a strong financial year which included completing a feasibility study, all in the midst of a pandemic! Amazing!



*Memorarium*

### In Honor Of:

*In Memorium*

**Barbara Pagano** from Robin L. Ernst • **Ben Haywood** from Eva Duggins  
**Brenda Stellato** from Bill Nesbitt • **Ed Caton** - In memory of his owl from Andy & Jenny Mumford  
**Hannelore Askins** - My good friend, for all her kindness & friendship for over 50 years from Lisa Booth  
**Melanie T.** - My friend from Dorothy Cokinos • **Wendy & Graham Baker** from Tom Schruers  
**Grace & Glen Black** from Nathan Black • **Harold Smithers** from Stephen Coleman • **Arlene Schultz** from Kip & Cathy Mostowy  
**Jack Musone**, a 5th grader who chose to forego his allowance for lent and donate it. We are so proud. from Michael & Sara Musone  
**Allision Gould** - just graduated Summa cum Laude with honors from Mike Lambert and Beverly Spiro

### In Memory Of:

**Beverly Wells** from Patricia Baldwin & Brian Pardini • **Carlos Rabbit** - My little friend from George & Stacey Duke  
**Cecelia F. Patton** - My Mother who passed away at 102 from Roberta & Gary Mahannah  
**Cecelia Patton**-A wonderful lady from Janice Jacklett • **Earl Schriver** from Linda Gleeson • **Earl Schriver** from Susan Schriver Kline  
**Earl Schriver**- A dear friend & legendary "birdman". One of PA's original falconers. from Carol & Rick Holmgren  
**Earl Schriver** - An extraordinary person, a great friend to wildlife and an educator to many for over 50 Years.  
 He would be happy for all you do for wildlife at the center from Bob & Linda Gleeson  
**Harold Smithers** from Stephen & Diane Coleman • **James Fitch** - beloved father of Jim Fitch from Carol & Rick Holmgren  
**Cecelia Patton** from Janice Jacklett • **Joan Brautigam** from Ann Areson & Greg Dauber  
**Joan Brautigam** - Beloved mother of Jane Anderson & John Brautigam from Carol & Rick Holmgren  
**Joan Brautigam** from David Hotchkiss • **Joan Brautigam** - My grandmother, a lifelong animal lover from Claire Brautigam  
**Joan Brautigam** - My grandmother. She was a lover of all animals and enjoyed every visit to the Tamarack Wildlife Center.  
 In her memory, may more animals thrive. from Gillian Brautigam  
**Joan Brautigam** from Gretchen Brautigam & Scott Phelps • **Joan Brautigam** from Julianne & Gordon Van Cise  
**Joan Brautigam** from Marcia Findlay & Douglas Mehan • **Joan Brautigam** from Mary Beth Anderson Family  
**Joan Brautigam** from Performance Systems Development of NYC • **Joan Brautigam** from Robert Brautigam  
**Joan Brautigam** - A lifelong lover of all animals; mother of Jane Anderson from Robert Brautigam  
**Joan Brautigam** from Susan Slote • **Joan Brautigam** from Susan West Pallant & Eric Pallant  
**Joan Brautigam** - Mother of a Women's Services board member John Brautigam from The Board of Directors & Staff of Woman's Services  
**Joan Brautigam** from The Weibel Family • **John Eshenbaugh** from Regina Johnson • **John Eshenbaugh** from Jennifer Overmier  
**John Eshenbaugh** from Cory Hamilton • **Katherine** from Susan Henschel  
**Lynn Martin's father** - Who celebrated his 100th birthday last fall from Carol & Rick Holmgren • **Marion Weyand** from Ronda Janicki  
**Michael Csop** from Binnie DeCreate & Nancy Zawadzki • **Michael Csop** from Carol & G. Jay Habas  
**Mike Csop** from Darla M. Long • **Michael Csop** from Edward & Patricia Czulewicz • **Michael Csop** from Geraldine Marz  
**Michael Csop** from Jane, David & Helen Thiemann • **Mike Csop** from Lisa Nathanson & Janet Woods  
**Michael Csop** - My dear Godfather. He was kind to humans and animals. from Kathleen Kosko  
**Mike Csop** from Robert Marz • **Michael Csop** from Suzanne & Michael Csop • **Peggy Colera** - My friend. God Bless. from Sherri Porter  
**Michael Csop** from The Lucas Family (Jon Lucas, Paula Washko & Patty Motter  
**Walter Duda** from Mike & Susan Smith • **Walter J. Duda** from his great-nephew Alan Baker and family  
**Walter James Duda** from Huntington Hospital IT PMO Dept.

To make a contribution in honor or memory of someone, donations can be made online or mailed to:  
 TWC, 21601 Stull Rd, Saegertown, PA 16433. Be sure to include: whether this is in honor or memory;  
 name/address for TWC to send acknowledgment; your (donor) name/address.

All members and contributors (except those desiring to be anonymous) will be listed in our annual report.

## Winter into Spring at the Center

*Carol Holmgren, Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator*

Signs of spring are everywhere. You may notice trillium in the woods, or increased bird song in your yard. As wildlife rehabilitators, we see the progression of the spring season in the species we treat: first migrating birds, then infant Cottontails and squirrels, followed by opossums, turtles, and young raptors starting with nestling Great Horned Owls.

This year infant Grey, Fox and Flying Squirrels were admitted a couple of weeks earlier than typical. Our days now begin with the sweet smell of species-specific mammal formula as we carefully weigh, feed and chart the progress of our youngest patients.

The increased admission of patients that we experienced throughout the pandemic last year is continuing. Nearly 300 patients received care by mid-May. Big thanks to our onsite volunteers and staff who have gone above and beyond while we reduced the numbers on our crew teams in response to COVID. We are excited to welcome a fantastic team of interns for the summer and are increasing the size of our onsite teams as vaccination becomes available. Madison Story, who interned last year, returns as our first "Wildlife Rehabilitation Crew Leader." We aim for this to be an ongoing seasonal position, with housing and a stipend, available to previous interns.

Of course, if you think you have found a wild animal that needs assistance, our helpline volunteers are here to help. Just call 814-763-2574 and leave a message. We are here for you and will return your call!

We extend a hearty welcome to Lane Potts of the Game Commission Wildlife Futures Program! We collaborate with Lane to help track wildlife diseases and toxins in our region.

Recent releases make us smile. Those going free include Red-tailed Hawks, Barred Owls, Cooper's Hawks, Eastern Screech Owls, Downy Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Mourning Doves, and Cottontails. More are in the pipeline, with release expected soon, including a Painted Turtle, squirrels, Turkey Vulture, Cottontails, White-footed Mice, more Red-tailed Hawks, Barred Owls, Cooper's Hawk, and a Peregrine.

You can help prevent wildlife emergencies! Check your yard for rabbit nests before mowing and investigate trees for nests before trimming or felling. If a young animal falls from a nest, call our center for advice. Keeping cats indoors is a big help to wildlife. If you can't do this year-round, consider doing it in spring and early summer. Clean bird feeders and baths regularly to reduce disease. When driving, slow down if an animal is on the road.

Of course, if you think you have found a wild animal that needs assistance, our helpline volunteers are here to help. Just call 814-763-2574 and leave a message. We are here for you and will return your call!

## Wish List

- Paper towels • Bleach • Kitchen scissors, heavy duty
- Liquid laundry detergent for high efficiency machines (he)
- Trash bags, 30 gallon • Newspaper (no glossy pages) • Forever stamps
- Cohesive bandage, 2"
- Fresh fruit/veggies/greens (call to verify what is needed)
- Nuts in the shell, including acorns and hickory nuts
- Nuts shelled, including walnuts and almonds • Puppy pads
- Surgical drape (unused from hospital surgeries)
- Sterile saline or lactated ringers (IV bags)
- Wood pine or ash shavings for bedding (not cedar)
- Dog toys such as HOL-ee Roller or durable dog toys for ambassador & patient wildlife enrichment
- Fake flowers and greenery for patient housing enrichment
- Latex or nitrile exam gloves, all sizes
- HP Ink Cartridges HP 952XL black and HP 952 color
- Simple Green D Pro 5 cleaner/disinfectant
- Gift cards to Tractor Supply, Home Depot, Walmart, Amazon



*Nestling American Kestrels, raised at the Center and released.*



*Bluebirds raised from nestling by Tamarack's songbird specialist, Gina Kron*

*For more great ideas, look up Tamarack Wildlife Center's Amazon Smile wish list at <https://tinyurl.com/tamarackwild>*

# TAMARACK WILDLIFE CENTER

(814) 763-2574  
www.TAMARACKWILDLIFE.org  
21601 Stull Road Saegertown, PA 16433



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## Spring 2021 Newsletter



### Yes! I want to help wildlife!

Become a member of TWC and help wildlife. Members receive two newsletters per year and are invited to our annual open house. Your donations are tax deductible and give you the satisfaction of helping our native wildlife. If your membership is not up for renewal but you wish to provide extra financial support, your additional donation or memorial contribution is always welcome. Donate on our website ([TamarackWildlife.org](http://TamarackWildlife.org)) or send contributions to:

**Tamarack Wildlife Center**  
21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433

**Annual Membership:**

- Chickadee.....\$20-29
- American Kestrel.....\$30-99
- Great Horned Owl.....\$100-499
- Peregrine.....\$500-999
- Golden Eagle.....\$1,000 or more
- Other Amount.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to receive the newsletter via:  
 Mail  Email  
*(If email, please list below)*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**All Contributions are Tax Deductible!**  
If your address label is incorrect, please let us know.

**TWC's**  
 Executive Director.....Carol Holmgren  
 Director Emerita.....Suzanne DeArment

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 Vice President.....Terrie Swanson  
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 Board Member.....Sharon Wesoky  
 Board Member.....Tom Nonnemacher  
 Board Member.....Terrie Swanson  
 Board Member.....DVM Donald Consla  
 Office Manager.....Barbara Pagano

**WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS**  
 Carol Holmgren, Janelle Harrawood, Gina Kron

**WILDLIFE REHAB MANAGER**  
 Heather Wayne

**SPONSORING VETERINARIANS**  
 Dr. Consla, Animal Friends Veterinary Clinic  
 Dr. Ramey, Animal Ark

**WILDLIFE REHAB ASSISTANTS**  
 Dawn Decrease, Sarah Sargent, Jessica Schombert

**WILDLIFE EDUCATORS**  
 Cathy Davis, Linda Gleeson, Richard Wyman, Terrie Swanson, Janelle Harrawood, Stephanie Snyder

**WEBMASTER**  
 Shannan Lynes, Knock Design Inc.