



TAMARACK WILDLIFE CENTER



VOLUME 29 NO. 1

SPRING 2023

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

Call for admission instructions and to schedule an appointment. At present time Tamarack is able to admit birds of prey all ages, mammals all ages (except rabies vector species), reptiles and amphibians, adult songbirds and adult woodpeckers at our Saegertown Center. Other species including ducks, geese, herons and gulls are admitted on a case by case basis. This is subject to change depending on case load.

For more information call 814-763-2574.

Admissions Hours

Daily 9am-3pm by appointment.

Evening admissions by appointment.



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AND
INSTAGRAM!

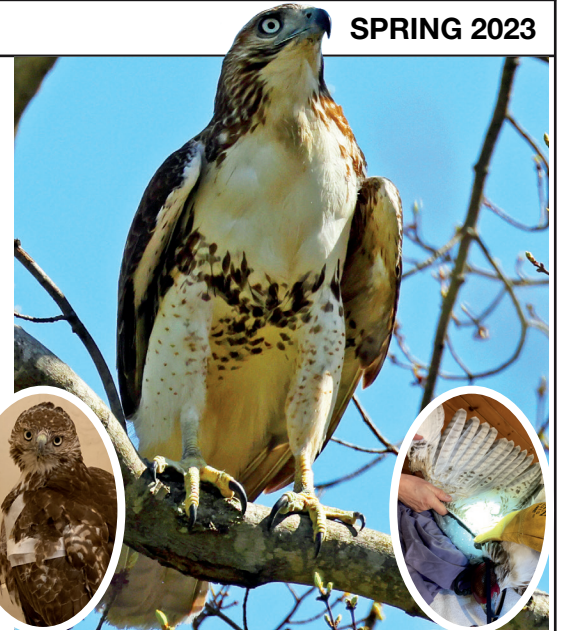
Official registration and financial information of TWC may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within PA:

1-800-732-0999

Registration does not imply endorsement.

WITH YOUR HELP, *Wildlife Treatment is* FLYING HIGH

With New Tamarack X-ray



Tamarack is taking our wildlife patient care to new heights with the addition of an in-house x-ray machine. This \$32,000 investment is possible thanks to Tamarack supporters and grants from Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, a Keybank Trust; Erie Community Foundation; and Crawford Community Heritage Foundation. Now many more patients are getting x-rays, with critical improvement to their quality of life, treatment, and recovery.

A young Red-tailed Hawk, nicknamed "Dino" is one patient that benefited greatly and is now flying free. Dino was living and hunting successfully when she had an accident and was admitted to Tamarack with wounds and fractures to her leg and wing-tip. Prompt x-rays confirmed that the location of the fractures meant she had a good chance for full recovery and

showed the best placement of splints to help the bones heal. Wing-tips, where one of her fractures was located, have poor circulation though, and Dino's wing bones took much longer to mend than is typical. Follow up x-rays were critical to confirming when her splints could be removed. None of these tests would have been possible without an onsite x-ray machine. On a warm day in March, Dino took to the skies, back home again.

Previously, only about 10 patients a year would get x-rays due to the cost and required staff time. Now with a digital x-ray machine at our facility, there is no extra cost to take x-rays, so all trauma patients can get x-rays in minutes with little stress to the patient.

We celebrate that more wildlife are flying, crawling, or hopping free thanks to x-ray!

Top left to right: Red-tailed Hawk "Dino" with splint; Dino healthy and free; Dino getting physical therapy. **Middle:** Bald Eagle "Regal" getting x-rays at the center; Regal's release; Nestling Great Horned Owl with broken wing x-rayed onsite; Dino the Red-tailed Hawk release. **Center:** Grey Squirrel; Eastern Cottontail are among the patients benefiting from onsite x-ray. **Thanks to Melanie Tepper for Dino and Regal's release photos.**



Left Top to Bottom, Left to Right: Common Loon; Cooper's Hawk released by volunteer Dorothy Krupa; Ring-billed Gull; Barred Owl release; Rehab Manager Jess Schombert with students; Saw-whet Owl released; Juvenile Bald Eagle; hatchling Painted Turtles; Barred Owl release with volunteer Martha Dale; Allegheny College volunteer Baraka Osborne with Red-tailed Hawk; Flying Squirrel; Ruddy Duck. **Right top to bottom:** Eye exam of Great Horned owl using our new, improved ophthalmoscope tool; release of Bald Eagle "Nora" with Carol Holmgren, rescuer Viola Laswell, and responding Game Commission Deputy Cory Clabatz. **Thanks to Karen Bukowski for the Bald Eagle and Barred Owl release photos!**

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

Terrie L. Swanson, Board President



Do you love seeing the tulips, lilacs, and hyacinths? Me, too. One thing I know is that spring spawns the arrival of baby wildlife, kicking off TWC's busy season. I want to briefly introduce myself as Tamarack's new Board President. After attending a Wildlife First Responder course more than a decade ago, I started assisting with patient / ambassador care and educational programs, eventually becoming a lead educator. I was later asked to serve on the Board which was an easy acceptance considering TWC's commitment to and elite care for local wildlife in need.

After 14 years as President, Sarah asked me to step into the position affording her time to focus on her role as Executive Director for Erie Bird Observatory. I could easily write my entire article on Sarah's exemplary contributions to TWC; however, I don't want to start off on the wrong foot with our Newsletter by going on too long. I will, however, say that I speak for the entire Board and staff in saying "THANK YOU" ... as TWC would not have experienced so much success without Sarah's devotion and leadership. I am pleased to announce Sarah is remaining on the Board to provide the continuing benefit of her experience, leadership, and devotion. I also want to thank the other Board members who have willingly stepped up to make this transition a smooth one.

Looking back at the past few years, it's not surprising to see that TWC's growth has been exponential. Just in 2022, our staff and volunteers responded to > 2,100 help-

line calls, admitted > 1,100 patients and added a full-time Outreach and Education Manager. With Melissa fully onboard and education programs back in full swing, we will be working on program differentiation. Carol has completed the daunting annual permitting approval task, which without, TWC would be unable to continue with its mission. Jess with assistance from staff and volunteers continued to deliver impeccable care to our patients resulting in several telltale releases. Barbara tirelessly keeps up with office demands of a growing organization. We continue to make physical improvements to our facility, which is only made possible as a result of our dedicated volunteers and supporters. Please take time to read the articles herein that highlight several success stories.

As TWC's operations grow, so do our financial needs. It's only with continued support from our donors that we have been able to keep up. Our Spring Shower was another success story! THANK YOU to everyone who donated and helped TWC meet our goal. If you are attracted by conceptualizing and problem solving, we are seeking Board Members with experience in finance, fundraising, real estate, employment law, or grant writing. If you or someone you know could offer any of these skills, contact our office manager Barbara Pagano (barbara@tamarack-wildlife.org) for details.

Remember to follow us on Facebook for updates regarding upcoming events, patient care, and success stories complimented with professional quality photography provided by our volunteers. Thank you to all who continue to support TWC and I look forward to meeting more of you.

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

Thank you to our amazing onsite helpers: Summer Interns: Emily Falcone, Kat Farrell, Ava Watkins and Dylan Young. **Allegheny College students (Bonner and work-study):** Macy Hesler, Skye-Lee Lyons, Baraka Osborne, Velia Rodriguez. **Volunteers:** Diann Bolharsky, Lee Coates, John Dale, Martha Dale, Jim Daley, Cathy Davis, Dawn DeCrease, Lyndsay Denny, Mark Fisher, Linda Gleeson and family, Patrick Holter, Gina Jones, Vicky Kaufman, Ginny Keim, Tim Kerr, Ann Kleinschmidt, Dorothy Krupa, Rachel Mannino, Dolly Neely, Cindy Ondish, Barbara Pagano, Leah Reibel, Jesse Russell, Natalie Sebulna, Megan Senovich, Nik Simone, Madison Story, Melanie Tepper, and Dylan Young. Thanks also to Wildlife In Need colleagues for assistance with capture and transport.

Our fabulous Wildlife Helpline Volunteers, coordinated by Diann Bolharsky are: Rebecca Allen, Evon Barie, Diann Bolharsky, Rebecca Hart, Bob Hartman, Jessica Helsley, Julie Hirt, Gina Jones, Lynne Kasemer, Ginny Keim, Nancy Kerr, Linda and Ken Langford, Tina and Dale Langton, Lynne Martin, Brianne McClellan, Tammy Rodgers, and Peggy Steele. **Substitutes are:** Cathy Davis, Connie Graham, Pam Jackson and Marcella Smith.



Save the Dates: Erie Gives is August 8 • Crawford Gives is August 27-29

Thanks to you, these community fundraising days have made a tremendous impact on our center's work in the past. Help wildlife have a brighter future by picking one or joining in on both giving events. You don't have to live locally to be a part of these special days. A percentage of all donations made will be matched by the Erie Community Foundation or Crawford Heritage Community Foundation so every dollar donated goes further to help send wildlife home again.



New Mission for Former Patients

Melissa Goodwill, Outreach and Education Manager

Last summer brought two very special birds to TWC, a young Eastern Screech Owl and a juvenile Peregrine Falcon. Their unique personalities captured our hearts right away. From the start, the future was uncertain for these two patients, but the team at TWC did all that could be done to set them up for future success. It was eventually determined that they were unreleasable, but they were perfect candidates to become ambassadors for other centers.

Eastern Screech Owl,
Buddy
(now Raven)



“Against all odds” best describes the recovery story of Buddy. Buddy suffered severe head trauma after an animal attack. After stabilizing her, we discovered that she had cognitive disabilities that would prevent her from returning to the wild. The perfect home for Buddy was found at the Erie Zoo where she was renamed Raven. She will be on display later this summer, but for now, her keepers say that she is an amazing little bird with a big personality! She loves enrichment, especially taking baths. Raven is reported as a joy to work with and the entire Erie Zoo family looks forward to sharing her with visitors.



Reggie sustained a compound fracture in his wrist last fall. With treatment and physical therapy, he healed and regained the ability to fly short distances, but with restriction in his injured wrist, could not fly well enough to go free. Rehab manager Jess Schombert began introducing training that would help him be an ambassador. Reggie was naturally curious and quickly began

hopping onto a scale for daily weighing, and flying to Jess’s glove on cue. He kept everyone laughing with his enthusiastic daily baths. His forever home is The Wild Center in upstate New York. According to Reggie’s new caretakers, he stole their hearts from the moment he arrived. Within a week of his arrival, he was happily flying to his new handlers. He loves exploring his environment and interacting with food puzzles. Reggie will be making his public debut soon!

Not every patient is a good candidate to become an ambassador. They must be comfortable in human care and around the public, and their injuries must not cause chronic pain. They have personalities that might be described as curious or motivated. We ensure that these animals are placed at a facility with a knowledgeable staff, proper environment, and ability to care for them long term. We are confident that Raven and Reggie will thrive in their placements and spread important awareness about their species for many years to come.

Peregrine Falcon,
Reginald
“Reggie”
P. Falcon



2023 Donor Spotlight:

Beverly & Dimitri Pucher



Background:

Beverly and Dimitri live in Kimberton, PA near Philadelphia. They met while attending Penn State and have been married 57 years. Dimitri had a career in aerospace engineering for Lockheed Martin while Beverly did graphic design. Currently they both enjoy gardening and try to make their property wildlife friendly.

Who inspired you to care about the natural world?

Beverly: My father was influential. He loved animals.
Dimitri: Bev is the one who inspired me!

Learned about TWC:

Through a local news feature story about TWC. We both love animals and were impressed with what we saw. We have been contributors ever since.

Support TWC by:

Since 2009, we have been financial supporters. This year we wanted to make a big difference with a larger contribution by using a Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA. This allowed us to support TWC and also to avoid paying income tax on a Required Minimum Distribution from the IRA.

What do you value most from partnering with TWC?

We want to make a difference. We appreciate that TWC is a small, local organization with “hands on” experience. At Tamarack, our contribution goes a long way and makes a big impact.



What is inspiring about Tamarack’s recent work?

We love to see pictures of patients we’re helping like Regal the eagle and other critters, and it is heartening to be part of the comeback eagles are making. We are also excited about Tamarack’s addition of an x-ray machine.

What message do you have to share?

Where we live there is a lot of encroachment. Cherish the open spaces, and the animals and birds there. Take care of them and support organizations like Tamarack.



Go *WILD* and join us at a program!



Education is key to our mission and we are excited to offer a variety of programs this summer. The wildlife ambassador team will be on display and eager to connect with all who attend each event. If you’re interested in attending, please check with each host location to see if pre-registration is required. We hope to see you this summer!

Wed., June 14
Shontz Memorial
Library at Conneaut
Lake Elementary
11 am - 12 pm

Tues., June 20
Millcreek Library
Erie, PA
10 am - 11 am

Fri., June 30
Iroquois Library
Erie, PA
1 pm - 2 pm

Tues., August 1
Stone Memorial
Library at
Lord and Mason Park
Conneautville, PA
11 am - 12 pm

Sat., September 9
Wild Wind Folk Art
Festival
Pittsfield, PA
10 am - 5 pm

Thurs., June 15
Lincoln Community
Center
Erie, PA
10 am - 11 am

Tues., June 20
Blasco Memorial
Library
Erie, PA
1 pm - 2 pm

Sat., July 8
Pymatuning Onion
Festival
Pymatuning State Park
1 pm - 4 pm

Sat. August 5
Tamarack Wildlife
Center
Saegertown, PA
10 am - 11 am

Sun., September 10
Wild Wind Folk Art
Festival
Pittsfield, PA
10 am - 5 pm

Mon., June 19
Edinboro Library
Edinboro, PA
10 am - 11 am

Sat., June 24
Tamarack Wildlife
Center
Saegertown, PA
11 am - 12 pm

Sat., July 15
Tamarack Wildlife
Center
Saegertown, PA
10 am - 11 am

Sun., August 20
Girl Scout Office
Edinboro, PA
1 pm - 2 pm

Sun., October 1
Tamarack Wildlife
Center Open House
Saegertown PA
TBA

Winter into Spring at the Center

Carol Holmgren, Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator



The sun rose with a golden glow this morning and warm breezes herald the changing seasons. Migrating birds are singing and feeding in preparation for the next leg of their journey. At the center, the seasons are reflected in the patients we see. Spring brings infant cottontails, squirrels, opossums, ducklings, goslings, migrating birds, and nest-

ling raptors, all in need of help following injury or being orphaned. In spring, we also bid farewell to patients we have tended over the winter: turtles, hawks, eagles, flying squirrels, and migrants not healed in time to travel last fall.

This spring we are partnering with Erie Bird Observatory to study and treat migrating birds that are found injured in the city of Erie, since artificial light found in cities can be disorienting to night migrating birds. Volunteers are walking specified routes each morning and gathering any birds found. Injured birds are then transferred to TWC. We celebrate the Song Sparrow who was the first BirdSafe Erie patient to be treated and released!

As we enter the busy season for wildlife admissions, thanks to our supporters, we are excited to have new tools improving the care we provide our patients. In addition to the new onsite x-ray

machine, we now have an oxygen chamber for patients in critical condition, and a better ophthalmoscope to examine the eyes of our patients. Many of our raptor patients have eye injuries, so performing a detailed eye exam allows us to better treat injuries that can impact their vision and improve the likelihood of their release.

Bird Flu continues to be an issue for wildlife in 2023 so triage and quarantine spaces have been created onsite, and increased disinfection protocols are in place to help prevent disease transfer between patients or to people.

You can help prevent wildlife emergencies! Check your yard for rabbit nests before mowing and investigate trees for nests before trimming or felling. Keeping cats indoors or on a leash, like we do dogs, is a big help to wildlife. If you can't do this year round, consider doing it in spring and early summer. Cleaning bird feeders and baths regularly helps prevent disease. When driving, slow down if an animal is seen in the road to prevent car strikes. Of course if you think you have found a wild animal that needs assistance, our wildlife helpline specialists are just a phone call away at 814-763-2574.



Looking for our Wildlife Wishlist?
Check out www.tamarackwildlife.org/wishlist or Tamarack Wildlife Center's Amazon wishlist.



HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

In Honor Of

ANN WHIPPLE - Sponsored Romeo and Willow in honor of Ann from Jennifer Valerio • **GRACE & GLEN BLACK** from Nathan Black • **LISA BOOTH** - A Christmas donation in Lisa's honor from James & Michele Klein • **LISA BOOTH** - A Christmas donation in Lisa's honor from Karen Oliver • **LISA BOOTH** from Wendi, Jim, James & Lauren Propers • **STEVE HIGBEE** - In honor of my twin brother Steve from Jim & Susan Higbee Kish • **ZACH LUTZ** from David & Charlene Stull

In Memory Of

ARLENE & CHARLES SHULTZ from Cathy & Kip Mostowy • **ARLENE DUNLAVEY** from Marcia & Peter Lindstrom • **ARLENE DUNLAVEY** from Maura Hamilton • **BARRY BONNELL** from Ann Areson & Greg Dauber • **BRUCE WITTMERSHAUS** In memory of a wonderful colleague, a caring teacher, scholar, nature lover, and retired professor from Penn State Behrend, Dr. Bruce Wittmershaus. from Qi & Vince Dunsworth • **EARL C. SCHRIVER** from Robert & Susan Kline • **EDWARD STORMER** from Joseph & Nancy Schneider • **FRED SWARTZBECK** Fred was a forester and lover of all wildlife. We know he appreciated the work you do. from The Fairchild Family • **FRED SWARTZBECK** from William Henry • **FRED SWARTZBECK** from Lorie & Thomas Darcangelo • **FRED SWARTZBECK** from Dave & Rhonda McMillin • **GINNY PADASAK** from John & Carolyn Kerlin • **H. CHARLES SHULTZ** from Cathy & Kip Mostowy • **JOETTE AMY** from Rossbacher Insurance Service • **JOETTE AMY** from Mark & Diane Kolaja • **JOETTE AMY** from Rebecca S. Jackson • **JOETTE AMY** from Patricia Harwood • **JOETTE AMY** from Al & Carol, Dorothy & Dave, & Barbara Smith • **JOETTE AMY** from Charles Amy • **JOETTE AMY** from Colleen & Gary Rambish • **JOHN BARIE, JR.** from Denise Liptak • **JOHN BARIE** from Pia Carelli & Lynn Ramich • **JOHN BARIE** - For Evon Spoonhoward Barie's husband. from Don German - USS and Hays moderators • **JUDITH WIECZOREK** from Bertha Jean Ames • **STEVE HIGBEE** from B. Lucille Wheeler • **STEVE HIGBEE** Steve was a hunter and wildlife enthusiast. He will be greatly missed. from Daniel Zischkau • **STEVE HIGBEE** from Scott Levenson • **STEVE HIGBEE** from Marie & Kevin Hart • **STEVEN LEE HIGBEE** from Jessica Helsley • **TERRENCE DARCANGELO** His kind & generous family has made your organization a beneficiary of his love for nature. from Kimberly & Paul King • **TERRENCE DAVID DARCANGELO** from Tim Lyons • **TERRY DARCANGELO** To commemorate Terry & his love of nature. Terry you have been a part of my life for over 70 years, and I will miss you, With Love Sandy. • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from The Clay Rozic Family • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Helen Beier & William Henry • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Karen & Ralph Wilson • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Karen & Ralph Wilson • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Karen & Ralph Wilson • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Pasquale Marsh • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Patrick & Linda Kemper • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Cynthia Rebar & Marty Mitchell • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Rhonda & David McMillin • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Don & Kathleen Haven • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from R. Richard & Arlene Tedesco • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from James & Pauline Sonowski • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Craig Newell • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Marc Sylvester • **TERRY DARCANGELO** from Robert Morris • **VAL EILER** from Teva Eiler • **VIRGINIA PADASAK** In memory of the mother of Tamarack Supporter Care, Padasak Kerlin from Karla Kerlin • **WALT PREST** from Susan Demaison • **WALT PREST** from Phyllis Wright • **WALT PREST** from Nancy Wallace • **WALT PREST** from Rebecca Collier • **WALT PREST** from Susan Tau • **WALT PREST** from Mary Lou Lazar • **WALT PREST** from Lisa & Eddie Middleton • **WALT PREST** from Kathleen Allio • **WILLIAM "RED" YOUNGMAN** from Robert & Marilyn Saunders

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.

Sponsorships Make Great Gifts!

You can give a sponsorship of an ambassador for \$30 per year! Sponsors receive a certificate of sponsorship, a 4x6 photograph, and a brochure about their ambassador. Sponsorship funds help provide food and medical care.

You can sponsor on our website (TamarackWildlife.org) or fill out the form below, indicating whether this is for a gift, and send the form long with a check to

TWC, 21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ruby, Red-tailed Hawk | <input type="checkbox"/> Apollo, Peregrine Falcon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sophia, Barred Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Romeo, Great Horned Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Myrtle, Box Turtle | <input type="checkbox"/> Willow, Eastern Screech Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watson, American Kestrel | <input type="checkbox"/> Luna, Barn Owl |

Apollo, Peregrine Falcon



Name of Sponsor: _____ Gift Recipient's Name: _____
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TAMARACK WILDLIFE CENTER

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Spring 2023 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) 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.....\$ _____

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