



# Born to Be Wild!

## Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc. Newsletter

### July 2017

#### NOTICE FOR JULY MEETING

We will be meeting on Tuesday, July 11th at Grace Lutheran Church at 2225 Washington in Lincoln. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Our August meeting will be on the 8th.

Remember that we need to fill out acquisition forms for each animal we receive. If you need forms, please contact us. We also have an online form, so if you would like the link for that to complete your paperwork, contact Vikki at [dougvikki@cox.net](mailto:dougvikki@cox.net).

#### RECENT OUTREACH

Shelly Bruntz recently presented to a group of 4-H members from Adams, Webster and Clay Counties. There were approximately 65-70 kids who heard Shelly talk about what WRT does for wildlife in Nebraska. Thanks to the Extension Office in Webster County for contacting us!

Vikki Henry presented to two groups of kids at Academic Advantage in Lincoln in June. The kids had great questions and gave WRT thank you cards for teaching them that day.

#### GIVE TO WRT DAYS!

This year we were again lucky enough to be involved in three Giving Days! In May, we participated in Give to Hastings, Go BIG Give Day (Grand Island) and Give to Lincoln Day. All donations will be used to support our group by paying for animal supplies, vet bills and caging materials. We have spent over \$8,000 this year JUST on formula!

We received over \$500.00 from GIVE HASTINGS DAY, over \$400.00 from GO BIG GIVE DAY (Grand Island) and over \$2,560.00 from GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY.

Thank you

- to all who supported us by donating and/or telling your friends and family to do the same!



#### ELECTION INFO

We are currently accepting nominations for the 2017- 2018 Officers' positions. The positions available are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Some members are running for their positions again. If you are interested in running for office, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Mary Beth Lienemann at [mb@dalcpapc.com](mailto:mb@dalcpapc.com) or Vikki Henry at [dougvikki@cox.net](mailto:dougvikki@cox.net).

The election will be held at the September 12th meeting in Lincoln. Anybody who wants to run for a position must indicate that by the end of the August 8, 2017 meeting. At that time, all

- to those of you who have matching gift programs with your employers!
- to the Grand Island, Hastings and Lincoln Community Foundations for their support!

nominations will be closed.

Please remember in order to vote all memberships must be in good standing for at least 90 days, which means you **MUST** be current on dues.

**REHAB SEASON 2017**

We have been getting a variety of animals lately. A few raccoons, bunnies and opossums are still coming in to be rescued. Songbirds, waterfowl and the occasional woodchuck too. We have almost a dozen red foxes this year. The second round of squirrel babies has begun!

This past week was very busy because of the storms in the eastern part of the state. We had many calls about trees that came down and people were finding baby birds and injured animals, like squirrels, in the debris.

**WISH LIST FOR WRT**

We are always in need of kennels and carriers for our animals, along with blankets and sheets to put in and over cages.

Dog and cat food is in demand, especially this time of year as we are caring for approximately 200 raccoons! That doesn't include the dozens of opossums, squirrels and bunnies we have had this year.

Non-medicated poultry starter (crumbles) is helpful during the summer as we continue to raise the geese and ducks that we are rehabbing.



**WHEN TO RESCUE WILDLIFE**

July is the time of year that many turtles will cross the road to lay their eggs, so if you see a turtle crossing, leave it alone. If you need to scoot it out of harm's way, move it toward the side of the road it was going to when you saw it. With our rains lately, the turtles have also been washing up in strange places, like yards and parking lots. If the turtle is not hurt, release it nearby at a lake or creek. If it is hurt, call WRT so we can help.

**INSTAGRAM**

One of our members, Lydia Nunez, has created an Instagram account for us!

The Nunez family is a great help to WRT, as they are the Opossum Team Leaders in the Lincoln area and help with other animals too, like raccoons.

We are adding a link to our Instagram account on our Facebook page. Or you can go to Instagram and search for Wildlife Rescue Team for updates!



## FOR THE BIRD LOVER IN YOUR FAMILY

This weekend, I watched an interesting show on PBS called The Lost Bird Project. It was a project that created memorials for extinct birds like the Passenger Pigeon, Heath Hen and the Labrador Duck.

The sculptor created beautiful sculptures that were then placed on locations where the birds were last seen like Carolina Parakeet in Florida and the Great Auk in Newfoundland. Some of these birds haven't been seen since the 1880s.

It brings awareness to us about what our actions do to animals and many of us may have the Passenger Pigeons in our memory banks, but how many other animals have gone extinct in the past 100 years?

You can find more info at [lostbird.org](http://lostbird.org).

## FUN THINGS TO DO

Have you been enjoying the Nebraska Passport program this summer? According to the website "The 2017 Nebraska Passport program is focused on giving travelers truly memorable experiences. From May 1 through September 30, Passport travelers will create lifelong memories while they explore Nebraska. The 80 Passport stops offer a mix of unique adventures; from discovering Nebraska's hidden gems to celebrating Nebraska 150, the 2017 Passport showcases what makes Nebraska special." My family and I have had fun experiencing some of these locations as we drive around picking up animals or dropping off supplies with other rehabbers! Check it out and see what's in your neck of the woods!

Planning way ahead - the Total Solar Eclipse will be on Aug. 21st! There are many places across Nebraska to enjoy it, including Beatrice

## A NEW USE FOR OLD MAKEUP!

The Appalachian Wildlife Refuge requested that people save old mascara brushes for their wildlife and received an overwhelming response.

*"We use mascara brushes to help remove fly eggs and larvae from the fur of animals. They work great because the bristles are so close together! Do you have old mascara just lying around in a drawer? Know a makeup artist? Clean off those old wands in hot soapy water and we can put them to good use!"*

See the article at: <https://dose.com/your-old-mascara-wands-can-help-animals-in-need-563cc06fddda>



## BEING TEAM PLAYERS

We realize that since we have members across the state of Nebraska, some people might feel lost in the shuffle. We would love you to attend meetings and we would like to stay in touch with you. If you need supplies, let us know. If you aren't sure who your Team Leader is for the animals you have or your area of the state, let us know. We want to make sure that the animals are cared for properly, that you have the supplies and information you need and that everyone has paid their dues to be legal to rehab. Our permits from Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and US Fish and Wildlife Service requires that we are licensed, so if you haven't paid dues lately - please send them in. If you aren't sure when you are due, contact us.

### Remember -

Bad teams: individuals play for themselves.  
Good teams: individuals play for their coaches.  
Great teams: individuals play for each other.

**If you are interested in a speaker or presentation** please contact our hotline in Lincoln at 402-473-1951. We do not charge for our presentations, but donations are always accepted, like money or items from our wish list like towels, blankets and cages.

## FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Use iGive.com and/or Amazon Smiles - go to <http://smile.amazon.com> to sign up and shop. When you shop online for your summer goodies, part of the purchase price goes to WRT!

## BLACK-FOOTED FERRETS

Ferrets are vulnerable to canine distemper and the sylvatic plague. There are so few left in the wild, that

There was an interesting article recently in the Nature magazine put out by The Nature Conservancy. It discusses Black-Footed Ferrets and the release of some in a prairie west of Meeteetse, Wyoming. Ferrets are the rarest carnivore in North America.

“The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bred the ferrets, the Wyoming Department of Game and Fish helped prepare the land for their return and The Nature Conservancy is ensuring that the prairies where they are released remain protected.”

In the wild they live in tunnels created by prairie dogs. Prairie dogs are also their food source. “At least 100 species rely on prairie dog colonies to some extent.”

there is a breeding program so they can be bred in captivity and then released into the wild. The ferrets are vaccinated for plague before release.



## JOIN THE TEAM

Mail your completed form to: Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc., P.O. Box 80127, Lincoln NE 68501

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHOOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP TYPE AND MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Active - handles animals (must be 16 or older)

Associate - does not handle animals, but believes in what we do!

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

Active Individual \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Active Family \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Citizen (62 or over) \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Supporter \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

After we receive your dues we will send you paperwork to fill out to become a member. If you are an active member, you will receive a membership card to carry with you as you rescue/rehab animals.



Hotline Phone: (402) 473-1951



Website: [www.wildliferescueteamincne.org](http://www.wildliferescueteamincne.org)



Find us on Facebook at Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc