

# Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc.

## Newsletter - November 2021

Helping injured, orphaned and abandoned wildlife in the state of Nebraska since 1979.



### ELECTION RESULTS

**Congratulations** to the officers who will serve for the 2021-2022 year:

Vice President Shelly Bruntz,

Treasurer Mary Beth Lienemann and

Secretary Vikki Henry.

Our Board members are:

Suzanne Hasiak, Kathy Johnson, Kelsie Kreps, Dawn Lautenschlager and Kelly Linde! They will serve two year terms.



**Thank you** to Carrie Nunez, who served as our President during this past year. Also, thank you to Penny Vanlear, Lydia Nunez and Lynne Knutzen-Young, who served as Board members for the past two years, along with Carrie Nunez, who served a year on the Board prior to becoming our President. Cindi Arthur also finished a year of serving on the Board in her ex officio position after being President the year before. We appreciate your hard work and dedication as representatives of WRT!



### NOTICE FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 9th. Join us at 7 p.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 2225 Washington St. in Lincoln. Please join us virtually if you can't be with us in person. We will send out the Zoom meeting link a couple days ahead of time via Mailchimp email. Keep your eyes open!



### MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

We are accepting nominations for awards. We typically do Member of the Year, Rehabber of the Year & Rookie of the Year. We have had many new (and old) members step up this year to help with animals, especially with COVID-19 STILL changing people's schedules and day-to-day lives. Please tell us in a short paragraph how that person has made a difference this year! We have received a few names already.

Send nominations to the Nomination Committee at [contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org](mailto:contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org). We will decide the recipients in Dec. and award them in January or February.

### New info on membership dues!

Beginning next March, we are changing when dues are due. During the months of January, February and March, we will be recruiting new members and will remind current members to pay their dues. They will be due by the end of March so ALL members are due at the same time. We hope this will help us with some of our paperwork. Also - we will be having orientations and training to get new and current members involved! Stay tuned for more details.

## ACQUISITION SHEETS!

Remember that Acquisition Sheets/forms need to be completed for **each** animal we rehab. We need these forms to complete the reports that we do yearly. Please send them in by the end of the year so we can complete reports for Nebraska Game & Parks and US Fish and Wildlife. You can bring them to a meeting or mail to the PO Box in Lincoln.

Make sure you are putting in as much info as you know about the person who called about the animal, along with what happened to it - did it die, was it relocated? Was it released? How old was it when you got it? When did it die or when was it released? Did it go from one rehabber to another for final care and release? Do not put another rehabber's name for the rescuer unless it actually came from their yard. If you don't know - put "public" but hopefully you have a name, town, phone #, etc. from the initial contact. Thank you for helping keep our records accurate!

## RECENT RESCUES!

Some of our recent rescues include the following:

An injured Eastern Gray Squirrel that was found in Fontenelle Forest in Bellevue. She was recently released after recovering from a leg injury. These squirrels are only found only on the southeastern edge of Nebraska, along the Missouri River. They seem to be moving north through the forests, as they are now found in the Omaha/Bellevue area.



This Franklin's Gull was recently found at a lake with a wing injury. After a couple weeks, it was released so it could continue its migration south. Did you realize they travel all the way to South America for winter?



This beautiful pink pigeon nicknamed "Pinky" was found around the Unadilla/Palmyra area in Nebraska. She was banded by a local Pigeon Club and we were able to find her original owner, who missed her. She returned home, which was a success for WRT and her owner!

Recently, Shelly in Hastings, helped with the rescue of a duck at a lake that had some fishing line around her leg. After many attempts to catch her, Shelly, Jan and Dallas caught her and removed the line. She was released back to the same lake with her family and was happy to be able to swim freely again!



We have also been busy lately rescuing pelicans. We have rescued two of them so far and both of them have wing injuries. If you would like to donate to feed the pelicans, please contact WRT at 402-473-1951.



### Recent Outreach

In early October, our member Shelly had a WRT table at the Harvestfest event at Prairie Loft in Hastings. It was a great day and Shelly talked to a lot of people about what WRT does for wildlife. We received not only donations, but some people were interested in becoming new members. Thank you to Prairie Loft for giving us this outreach opportunity!



### WILDLIFE NEWS FROM OTHER PLACES

Interesting news on trying to bring back the Passenger Pigeon by using "regular" pigeons. <https://reviverestore.org/projects/the-great-passenger-pigeon-comeback/progress-to-date/>.

If you love bison like I do - here's a good article: <https://earthjustice.org/features/bison-recovery-prairie>

To join Audubon and the Christmas Bird Count, contact Jason "the bird nerd" at [scp@audubon.org](mailto:scp@audubon.org).

Sad news to report - the Ivory-billed Woodpecker is extinct. The last accepted sighting was in 1944. <https://www.coasttocoastam.com/article/ivory-billed-woodpecker-declared-extinct/>.

### FUNDRAISING

Giving Tuesday is Nov. 30th! This gives us another opportunity to reach the public and receive donations that will continue helping us help wildlife!

### FUN TRIVIA

On our Website we had 490 clicks in August and 342 clicks in September! In contrast, we had 710 clicks in May and 674 in June. It is starting to slow down for the season.

### REMINDERS

If you have an animal that needs a visit to a vet, contact your Team Leader first! If you have vets that will work with us, let us know that too. We are always looking for more partners for WRT and veterinarians that are able to help with injured wildlife.

### NON-PROFIT STATUS

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit and when someone donates items to WRT, we send them a thank you for tax purposes. Any items, including money, that are donated to you as a member, need to be reported to our Treasurer and the monies turned in so that we can keep complete records.

### HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Remember to use Amazon and Amazon Smile, and iGive.com when you are shopping! If you love recycling, check out this website: <https://www.capeclasp.com/products/grand-canyon-national-park>. They recycle plastic into bracelets and they are themed after National Parks.

### NEWSLETTER INFO

If you have photos or stories to share, send them to [contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org](mailto:contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org). If you currently receive the newsletter via snail mail, and you have an email address to share, please send that to us and we can save postage. We use Mailchimp to send the newsletter to over 800 people each month! Newsletters come out in February, April, July, August, September and November.

### WILDLIFE CRIME STOPPERS

When it comes to wildlife abuse, like someone removing or destroying nests or eggs, remember that WRT members are not the police. You can contact your local Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Conservation Officer or the Crime Stoppers hotline at : 1-800-742-7627.

### JOIN THE TEAM - If you want to become a member, complete this form. We will send you paperwork and contact you about the training next Spring.

If you need help with anything - a rescue, supplies, advice, etc. - call our hotline!  
Mail this form to: Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc., P.O. Box 80127, Lincoln NE 68501

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

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

Hotline Phone: (402) 473-1951 Website: [www.wildliferescueteamincne.org](http://www.wildliferescueteamincne.org)

Email [contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org](mailto:contact@wildliferescueteamincne.org)

Find us on Facebook at Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc. and Instagram wildlife\_rescue\_team\_inc\_ne