WILDLIFE CENTER OF VIRGINIA

THE 25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON WILDLIFE REHABILITATION:

Call of the Wild



NOV 20-22, 2020

CO-SPONSORED BY THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Welcome to the Wildlife Center of Virginia's Call of the Wild conference on wildlife rehabilitation – our 25th annual conference, but our first online!

This year has been incredibly challenging in many ways. While it's sad not to be able to come together in person at the conference this year, we're delighted to offer an online equivalent, still full of many features that make conferences so great. In fact, in some ways, taking the conference online opened us up to new opportunities – for one, it enabled us to host many speakers who otherwise would've been unable to travel to Virginia. We're extremely thankful to have so many experienced, knowledgeable speakers in one (virtual) place, eager to share quality information about wildlife medicine and rehabilitation.

We hope you'll take advantage of the built-in networking opportunities within the Whova conference application to truly capitalize on this conference experience. While it may not be the same as sitting down at lunch with new and old friends, talking about your favorite wild animal, you still can chat with and even meet up with your fellow attendees. Be sure to take part in the fun and social events as well – a good opportunity to kick back and relax together this weekend.

Please be sure to fill out your evaluations – the comments and answers you provide will help us plan next year's conference, in whatever format that may be! The conference is designed for you, and we want to hear what you want. We hope you enjoy this excellent learning opportunity as you learn from home – and we hope you get a chance to relax and rejuvenate as we come to the end of this difficult and challenging year. Thank you for your participation in the Call of the Wild 2020.

- The Staff of the Wildlife Center of Virginia





Navigating the Conference via the Whova App

Use this program book to review the schedule, learn more about your speakers, find answers to commonly asked questions, and more!

WHOVA ATTENDEE GUIDE

Everything you need for the conference can be found on Whova! Use your web browser (please note, Chrome is recommended for attending live sessions) or mobile app to access classes, Q&A sessions, community boards, our Virtual Exhibitor Hall, and more! We encourage you to click around and explore this conference app; for specifics on accessing various parts of the app, please visit: **https://whova.com/pages/whova-app-user-guide/**

This year, our lectures are a mix of live webinars and pre-recorded sessions, immediately followed by live Q&A sessions with each speaker. Whether the session is live or pre-recorded, utilize the "Session Q&A" tab, located to the right of the lecture window on Whova, to ask questions of the speaker. See a particularly good question from someone else? Click on the thumbs-up "vote" button to up-vote that question. Our moderators and speakers will be reviewing all questions, and the up-vote feature will help them prioritize!

Please note that you can also access all of the Session Q&As under the "Resources" tab on the lower left of your Whova conference homepage.

COMMUNITY BOARDS

Just because we're not together in person doesn't mean we can't chat with each other and catch-up! Visit the "community" section of the Whova app to access a variety of topics. You can join a topic

conversation about a specific rehabilitation topic, education/outreach ideas, or start your own topic with your fellow attendees.

In this area, you can also schedule or join a virtual meet-up with fellow attendees – have coffee together one morning, or dinner and drinks together in the evening! You may link up your own Zoom or other webinar account if you choose, or use Whova's virtual meeting room for up to 30 people.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Join us on Friday or Saturday for an evening of wildlife trivia! Trivia questions consist of several rounds of basic trivia questions, a picture round, and an audio round -- all related to wildlife. Teams are limited to four players -- so grab your friends and register your team, or, if you need help joining a team, we're happy to introduce you to other players. You need not be in the same location as your team members – we will put you together virtually! All you need to participate is your computer (or mobile device) to connect to a private Zoom invite, a microphone, speakers, and a pen and paper.

Space is limited. Please register through the "Wildlife Trivia" session in the Whova Agenda! Both Friday and Saturday Trivia nights are the same, just repeated to reach more people (so just sign up for one night, please). Prizes will be awarded to the winning team.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITOR HALL

Stop by the virtual exhibitor hall to see a variety of products and information, and chat with some of the exhibitors! Each virtual booth has a chat window for easy communication with vendors. Some vendors will be scheduling live demos for additional opportunities to interact. Be sure to check out any giveaways or promotions they are featuring!

HANDOUTS

Handouts can be downloaded directly from each session within the agenda. Simply scroll down as you are watching each session and click on the handouts to read and/or save. Handouts can also be accessed by visiting "documents" located in the "Resources" section on the conference homepage on Whova.

CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE

General certificates of attendance will be emailed to all participants after the conference. With recorded lectures available through the end of 2020, each day of the conference is worth at least 10 hours of CE, which will be noted on certificates. Certificates will be emailed by early December 2020.

Veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians: please email us at academy@wildlifecenter.org for

your designated CE certificate for qualifying classes [based on 18VAC150-20-70, item 2.h]. A total of five hours are available Friday, four hours are available Saturday, and four hours are available Sunday. These classes are marked with a ** on the Whova Agenda and in this program book.
A total of 20.5 hours of CE is available for Animal Control Officers in Virginia with approval from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. A total of five hours are approved for Friday, eight hours are approved for Saturday, and a total of 7.5 hours on Sunday. These classes are marked with a ++ on the Whova Agenda and in this program book.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

We're excited to announce that a number of scholarshipst were awarded this year for conference attendance. A big thank you to the scholarship funders, and congratulations to the recipients! Angie Natter, a LVT candidate at Penn Foster, received the Wellesley Animal Hospital scholarship, which is for a current veterinary or veterinary technician student or pre-veterinary/technician student.

Sandra Acosta, Annie Beliles, Emily Garrigan, Lee Ann Hill, Carol Holmgren, Heather Wayne, and Deb Welter are recipients of the Rehabitat Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Scholarship for permitted Pennsylvania wildlife rehabilitators, veterinarians, and registered transporters.

DOOR PRIZES

A number of companies from around the country have donated door prizes for this year's conference. While we're unable to replicate our "usual" door prize giveaway procedure by allowing participants to strategically place their tickets in bags corresponding to door prizes, we're still excited to select a number of winners! Each day of the conference, we'll randomly draw names of attendees registered that day and will post the winners' names in the Whova App. Check daily to see if your name is listed!

SESSION FEEDBACK & CONFERENCE SURVEY

Please let us know what you think about this year's topics and speakers! In each session, you'll find a "rate session" button, which will be available for you to fill out after watching the class. There's also a general conference survey in Whova listed under "Resources". Please let us know what you think – and be sure to let us know what topics you want to hear next year! Your opinions help shape future conferences!



Friday, November 20

Beginner Rehabilitation Session		*Topics in Wildlife Medicine Session*	
☐ 9:00 - 9:30	**Get Involved with Wildlife Rehabilitation++** Maggie McCartney	☐ 9:00 - 9:30	**Into the Eye**** Karra Pierce, DVM
☐ 9:40- 11:50	**Medical Math for the Wildlife Rehabilitator** Peggy Hentz	☐ 9:40 - 10:10	**Necropsy (Animal Autopsy): Uses, Limitations, & Basic Procedure**** Cameron Berg, DVM
		☐ 10:20 - 11:20	**Necropsy (Animal Autopsy) Lab Demonstration: Basic Procedure**** Cameron Berg, DVM
☐ 12:00 - 12:30	**Wild Fostering: The Fundamental Process++** Lydia Sancetta	☐ 11:30 - 12:30	**Battling Bugs with More Than Baytril: A Rehabilitator's Guide to the Educated Use of Antibiotics in Wildlife**** Nicki Rosenhagen, DVM
12:30 - 1:30	*Lunch break! Feel free to meet up online with each other, take a stretch break, and/or join us for a Wildlife Center tour of the hospital!*		
Public Outreach Session		***Topics in Wildlife Medicine Session continued***	
☐ 1:30 - 2:30	**Dealing with the Public Without Losing Your Cool++** Peggy Hentz	☐ 1:30 - 3:40	**Triaging the Wildlife Patient** ++** Renee Schott, DVM, CWR
☐ 2:40 - 3:40	**Fostering Coexistence with Wildlife in Your Community++** John Griffin		
☐ 3:50 - 4:50	**COVID Roundtable: Adapting & Coping** Karra Pierce, DVM; Lacy Kegley, Shannon Mazurowski, CWR; Gail Buhl, Nicki Rosenhagen, DVM; Linda McDaniel		

A total of 13 hours of CE (noted with **) is available for licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians in Virginia based on 18VAC150-20-70, item 2.h. A total of 20.5 hours of CE (noted with a ++) is available for Animal Control Officers in Virginia with approval from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Saturday, November 21

General Rehabilitation Session		*Education Session*	
☐ 8:30 - 9:00	**Building a Neonatal Incubator++** Peggy Hentz	☐ 8:30 - 9:00	**Virtual Programming: Theory & Concepts** Alex Wehrung
☐ 9:10 - 10:10	**Albinism in Humans & Wildlife: Myths vs Truth** Lynn Oliver	☐ 9:10 - 9:40	**Virtual Programming: Execution & Delivery** Lauren Edzenga
		☐ 9:50 - 10:20	**Classical Conditioning** Debbie Sykes
☐ 10:20 - 11:20	**Aquatic Freshwater Turtle Shell Repair** ++** Renee Schott, DVM, CWR	☐ 10:30 - 11:30	**It's All About Choices: Making Small Changes to Positively Impact the Welfare of our Animals++** Melissa Moore
☐ 11:30 - 12:00	**Thoughtful Enclosure Design: Creating the Best Environment for Your Patients ++** Kelsey Pleasants, CWR	*Grab your lunch and join a Wildlife Center tour, meet up with your colleagues, or prepare for a working lunch with DWR!*	
12:00 - 12:20			
☐ 12:20 - 1:20	**Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) Panel Discussion** ++** Aaron Proctor, Becky Gwynn		
Mammals Session		*Avian Session*	
☐ 1:30 - 2:30	**Triage & Initial Stabilization of Orphaned Wild Mammals** ++** Halley Buckanoff, CVT, CWR	☐ 1:30 - 2:30	**Insects: As Foes, Food, & Friends** E. Haley Olsen-Hodges
☐ 2:40 - 3:40	**Unusual Small Mammals of Virginia & How to Care for Them++** E. Haley Olsen-Hodges	☐ 2:40 - 3:10	**Common Complications in Hatchling to Fledgling Songbird Rehabilitation++** Katie Attas
		☐ 3:20 - 3:50	**The Early Bird Gets the Worm** ++** Jessica Dyer, LVT
Disease Session			
☐ 3:50 - 4:20	**Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease: What You Need to Know** ++** Sarah Sirica, DVM, MPH		
☐ 4:30 - 5:00	**Potential Drivers of Bat Population Persistence Despite Continued Prevalence of White-nose Syndrome ++** Alex Grimaudo & Nichole Laggan		

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Sunday, November 22

General Wildlife Education Session		*Nutrition Session*	
☐ 8:30 - 9:00	**Wildlife Rehabilitation Data & Rehabilitators as Sources for Insights into Ecological Processes** ++** Jon Anthony Stallins, PhD	☐ 8:30 - 10:00	**Nutritional Ecology: The Basics for Wildlife Rehabilitation** ++** Tamara Johnstone-Yellin, PhD
☐ 9:10 - 10:10	**Wildlife Conservation Threats & Efforts in Belize** Isabelle Paquet-Durand		
☐ 10:20 - 11:20	**Up, Up, and Away! ++** Gail Buhl	☐ 10:10 - 11:10	**Formula: What Is It & Why Do We Use It?** Leslie Sturges
☐ 11:30 - 12:30	**Echolocation: Seeing with Sounds** Leslie Sturges	☐ 11:20 - 12:20	**Nutritional Imbalances in Wildlife** ++** Nicki Rosenhagen, DVM
12:30 - 12:50	*Grab your lunch, stretch, and prepare for the panel discussion!*		
General Rehabilitation II Session			
☐ 12:50 - 1:50	**Interactive Panel Discussion: Resources for Rehabilitating Unusual Species** ++** Kelsey Pleasants, CWR; Renee Schott, DVM, CWR; Peggy Hentz; Halley Buckanoff, CVT, CWR		
☐ 2:00 - 3:00	**Helping Rehab and Educational Animals Thrive ++** Debbie Sykes		
☐ 3:10 - 4:40	**Releasing Wild Animals & Considerations for Post-Release Survival ++** Elisa Fosco		

A total of 13 hours of CE (noted with **) is available for licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians in Virginia based on 18VAC150-20-70, item 2.h. A total of 20.5 hours of CE (noted with a ++) is available for Animal Control Officers in Virginia with approval from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



Friday, November 20

Topics in Wildlife Medicine Session

Into the Eye [30 mins]**
In this lecture, discussion focuses on the fundamental parts of an ocular exam in avian, mammalian, and reptilian patients. The use of different ocular therapies are highlighted, as well as prognosis for common ocular abnormalities.
Karra Pierce, DVM, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Necropsy (Animal Autopsy): Uses, Limitations, & Basic Procedure [30 mins]**
A necropsy is an examination of a body, post-mortem, to identify abnormalities and help determine the cause of death. Gross evaluation of the organs and internal structures can provide clues on what processes may have contributed to death; however, many times further diagnostics may be necessary. This talk focuses on the uses and limitations of necropsy and introduces the basic procedure and normal findings. NOTE: this will likely have graphic photos that may be uncomfortable for some viewers.
Cameron Berg, DVM, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Necropsy (Animal Autopsy) Lab Demonstration: Basic Procedure [60 mins]**
This demonstration is a companion to the Animal Autopsy lecture and focuses on a basic procedure of a necropsy. NOTE: this will have graphic content that may be uncomfortable for some viewers.
Cameron Berg, DVM, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Battling Bugs with More Than Baytril: A Rehabilitator's Guide to the Educated Use of Antibiotics in Wildlife [60 mins]**
This talk provides basic information about how antibiotics work, as well as when and how to select an antibiotic for use in a wild animal.
Nicki Rosenhagen, DVM, Progressive Animal Welfare Society

Triaging the Wildlife Patient ++ [120 minutes]**
Wildlife rehabilitators deal with an enormous array of ages, species, and medical problems in their patients. At admission, it is important to efficiently determine which patients will not recover so they can be humanely euthanized, saving them from unnecessary suffering. In a case-based, interactive format, this seminar discusses how to triage spinal-injury patients as well as many other common wildlife patient presentations. The goal of the presentation is to help rehabilitators learn which patients have the best chance of being released and which should be euthanized on admission.
Renee Schott, DVM, CWR, Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota

Beginner Rehabilitation Session

Get Involved with Wildlife Rehabilitation++ [30 mins]
Interested in rehabilitating wildlife, but not sure where to start? Discover ways to get involved, including how to become a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Discussion includes defining the role of a rehabilitator, the rehabilitator's code of ethics, applicable wildlife laws, and other considerations on becoming a wildlife rehabilitator. While the specific regulations vary depending on where you live, the information in this presentation is applicable to anyone interested in helping wildlife!
Maggie McCartney, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Medical Math for the Wildlife Rehabilitator [120 minutes]
This medical math course takes the participant from the very simple to the complex in an understandable and easy-to-follow structured learning experience. Topics include: mastering drug dosing, metric conversions, reading syringes, interpreting drug labeling, diluting medications, reading prescriptions, determining stomach capacity, fluid therapy, and calculating caloric need. This course includes a 30-page workbook.
Peggy Hentz, Red Creek Wildlife Center

Wild Fostering: The Fundamental Process++ [30 mins]
Wild fostering is the process of placing orphaned wildlife with conspecific families in the wild. This procedure can greatly reduce the workload placed on rehabilitators and also increases the chance of survival for many orphans. This presentation highlights the fundamental steps and considerations of placing orphans back into wild families.
Lydia Sancetta, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Public Outreach Session

Dealing with the Public Without Losing Your Cool++ [60 mins]
This class is a comical presentation on how to handle THOSE people. Discussion includes tips and survival strategies for dealing with difficult personalities and social media, and also includes advice on how to de-stress, so your day isn't ruined.
Peggy Hentz, Red Creek Wildlife Center

Fostering Coexistence with Wildlife in Your Community++ [60 mins]
Wildlife rehabilitators not only play a crucial role in rescuing and caring for wildlife in a community but also are integral to providing information to the public on solving wildlife conflicts. In fact, rehabilitators have never been more important in educating the public on how to coexist with wildlife. Learn more about providing good information that will help the public better understand wild animals and the positive role that wildlife play in their neighborhoods. Overall, this presentation helps attendees provide and implement comprehensive conflict resolution advice that prevents unnecessary lethal control, helps prevent orphaning [reducing the burden on

rehabilitators], and saves wild animal lives.
John Griffin, Humane Society of the United States

COVID Roundtable

COVID Roundtable: Adapting & Coping [60 mins]
The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed all our lives this year – including how we, as wildlife rehabilitators and educators, care for wildlife and interact with the public. Whether at a large-scale center or a smaller at-home facility, many of us have been juggling an increased caseload with less help. Educators have had to fundamentally change their in-person programming, during a time when people are feeling isolated and bored. In this interactive roundtable, we'll share some perspectives on how COVID-19 has affected us this year, discuss the various ways we've adapted, and brainstorm together and think about plans for the future!
Karra Pierce, DVM, Wildlife Center of Virginia
Shannon Mazurowski, CWR, Wildlife Center of Virginia
Lacy Kegley, Wildlife Center of Virginia
Nicki Rosenhagen, DVM, Progressive Animal Welfare Society
Gail Buhl, Partners for Wildlife - University of Minnesota
Linda McDaniel, Augusta Cottontails

Saturday, November 21

General Rehabilitation I Session

Building a Neonatal Incubator++ [30 mins]
Incubators are an essential but often cost-prohibitive tool for wildlife rehabilitators. This step-by-step presentation illustrates how to build a sizable incubator that suits many species, is easy to maintain and clean, and is very affordable.
Peggy Hentz, Red Creek Wildlife Center

Albinism in Humans & Wildlife: Myths vs Truth [60 mins]
Have you ever gotten an animal with albinism in your rehabilitation or vet practice, but were not sure of its ability to thrive back in the wild once you've raised it or helped it heal from trauma? This presentation covers albinism in a general overview of what it is and what it is not, based on this wildlife rehabilitator's experience with her own son and parental thrust into the world of albinism. The information may help guide you in knowing the right things to consider, based on facts versus the many myths that are out there about being an animal (or human, for that matter) with albinism in a world of normally pigmented beings.
Lynn Oliver, Valley Wildlife Care

Aquatic Freshwater Turtle Shell Repair ++ [60 mins]**
Wild, aquatic freshwater turtles are often brought to wildlife rehabilitators in the spring and summer after sustaining shell fractures due to a vehicle collision. These patients need veterinary and rehabilitative care for these complex traumatic injuries. Topics covered in this interactive lecture include traumatic triage, initial stabilization, shell fixation, tips, tricks and husbandry "musts" to speed recovery.
Renee Schott, DVM, CWR, Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota

Thoughtful Enclosure Design: Creating the Best Environment for Your Patients++ [30 mins]
One of the top priorities is reducing the stress levels of patients in our care. A great way to do that is to create an enclosure for them that closely mimics their natural habitat. This presentation highlights ideal enclosure designs for commonly admitted species as well as creative ways to use the items you already have on hand to make those enclosures.
Kelsey Pleasants, CWR, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Education Session

Virtual Programming: Theory & Concepts [30 mins]
Educational communication is an essential aspect of wildlife rehabilitation, yet the audiences we seek to connect with are physically distanced this year. The solution? Online education and virtual learning: it's more engaging, more relevant, and more important than ever before. Understanding the core principles of virtual education from a wildlife rehabilitation perspective can help strengthen our connections with the public -- this year, and far into the future.
Alex Wehrung, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Virtual Programming: Execution & Delivery [30 mins]
This lecture covers the logistics of execution and delivery of online programs. Discussion will include subject matter for online programs as well as what equipment to use, with the goal of helping participants with the tangible side of online education.
Lauren Edzenga, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Classical Conditioning [30 mins]
Classical conditioning is a great tool to have when training your animals. Understand what classical conditioning is beyond Pavlov's dog, how it works, and how to practically apply it for counter-conditioning to help your animal overcome its fears.
Debbie Sykes, Nashville Wildlife Conservation Center

It's All About Choices: Making Small Changes to Positively Impact the Welfare of our Animals++ [60 mins]
We all want to provide the best quality of life for the animals in our care, but sometimes we miss the mark a bit on providing them one of their most basic needs: the opportunity to make choices. This presentation discusses ways – most very simple – that you can provide your ambassador

animals with more choice and control in their lives and thus a higher quality of life. See several examples that you can apply right away with your ambassadors.
Melissa Moore, New Mexico Wildlife Center

Lunch with DWR

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources Panel Discussion ++ [60 mins]**
The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) conserves and manages wildlife populations and habitat. DWR also administers the permitting and regulatory processes involved with wildlife rehabilitation in Virginia. This interactive discussion emphasizes the ways that DWR and wildlife rehabilitators can work together, and a large portion of the hour will be available for a question-and-answer session with our DWR panelists.
Aaron Proctor & Becky Gwynn, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Mammals Session

Triage & Initial Stabilization of Orphaned Wild Mammals ++ [60 mins]**
This presentation covers the basics of triaging orphaned mammals, from preparing for the incoming patient to initial assessment and stabilization of these wild mammals.
Halley Buckanoff, CVT, North Carolina Zoo's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Unusual Small Mammals of Virginia & How to Care for Them ++ [60 mins]
Mammal diversity goes well beyond the animals that we typically see in rehabilitation – this isn't a talk about our familiar opossums, squirrels, and other commonly admitted animals. This lecture focuses on the natural history and identification of East Coast small mammals and how those factors impact their care considerations in rehabilitation. Where do you begin with the identification of a mouse-like critter that you were brought? How do you tell the difference between an invasive Norway Rat and a declining Allegheny Woodrat? Which small mammal has a venomous bite? What makes shrews and moles so unusual? All of this and more is answered in this talk.
Haley Olsen-Hodges, Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center of Roanoke

Avian Session

Insects: As Foes, Food, & Friends [60 mins]
As wildlife rehabilitators, we usually think of invertebrates either as a food source for the animals we care for, or as parasitic pests that need to be eliminated. But even when considering food sources, we don't typically think beyond the use of mealworms, crickets, and other easily propagated insects – but what happens when we look a little deeper? Learn how the COVID-19 pandemic, a single grackle, and an entomology course led the speaker to begin to think differently about insects and how we could better utilize them in practical ways to provide better care for our patients – and both old and emerging science backs these ideas up.
Haley Olsen-Hodges, Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center of Roanoke

Common Complications in Hatchling to Fledgling Songbird Rehabilitation++ [30 mins]
Ever wonder what are the most common problems for young songbirds in a rehabilitation setting, and how we treat them? This lecture explores several common complications and highlights signs and symptoms of each, as well as causes and solutions. Complications covered include dehydration, external parasites, digestion, knuckling, and more!
Katie Attas, Wildlife Center of Virginia

The Early Bird Gets the Worm ++ [30 mins]**
This talk describes the methods used to detect fecal parasites in our wildlife patients, with a focus on a few of the more common host-specific parasites in the avian patients that we see in Virginia. Discussion includes parasite identification, life cycle within the host species, distinguishing characteristics, and common treatments.
Jessica Dyer, LVT, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Disease Session

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease: What You Need to Know ++ [30 mins]**
Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV-2) is a foreign animal disease that was confirmed in wild rabbits in the United States for the first time in 2020. To date, all detections in wild rabbits have occurred in southwestern U.S.; the easternmost detection was confirmed in Texas. Discussion includes the current prevalence of the disease in the United States, including a brief overview on the viral pathophysiology. Learn what to be on the lookout for as a wildlife rehabilitator or veterinarian and learn how to properly attempt prevention and disinfection should the virus come your way.
Sarah Sirica, DVM, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Potential Drivers of Bat Population Persistence Despite Continued Prevalence of White-nose Syndrome ++ [30 mins]
P. destructans, the fungal pathogen causing White-nose Syndrome of bats, has led to devastating declines of North American bat populations since its initial introduction. However, following pathogen invasion, some bat populations have stabilized despite continued infections from highly contaminated hibernacula. To conserve North American hibernating bats effectively, it is important to understand factors that contribute to the declines or persistence of bat populations. Here, we review current research on the primary drivers of bat population persistence in the face of White-nose Syndrome.
Nichole Laggan and Alex Grimaudo, Virginia Tech

Sunday, November 22

Nutrition Session

Nutritional Ecology: The Basics for Wildlife Rehabilitation ++ [90 mins]**
This lecture discusses the basics of wildlife nutrition, including digestive systems and anatomy, macromolecules that make up a complete diet, nutritive value of diets, and responses to plant defenses. Discussion includes the pros and cons of a naturally foraged diet and a commercial diet for the recovering wildlife patient. Systems will be highlighted; this lecture focuses on herbivores and how they digest plant material.
Tamara Johnstone-Yellin, PhD, Bridgewater College

Formula: What Is It & Why Do We Use It? [60 mins]
Take a journey through time to trace the history of milk-replacement formulas, then explore the principles of modern formula manufacture, what is and isn't known about wild mammal milk composition, and why no one has a perfect formula. Discussion includes some traditional homemade formula components and provides resources for further study. You won't walk away knowing which is the "best" formula, but you'll have enough background to make wise choices and know when a formula isn't working.
Leslie Sturges, The Save Lucy Campaign

Nutritional Imbalances in Wildlife ++ [60 mins]**
This lecture reviews the pathophysiology of some of the most common nutritional imbalances encountered in wildlife in captive care settings and offers information on diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.
Nicki Rosenhagen, DVM, Progressive Animal Welfare Society

General Wildlife Session

Wildlife Rehabilitation Data & Rehabilitators as Sources for Insights into Ecological Processes ++ [30 mins]**
In conjunction with the St. Francis Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Tallahassee, Florida, a summary of trends in the animals brought into the facility over an eight-year period are presented during this lecture. Based on census data, discussion includes the demographics of who is bringing in these animals. While this information can be used to identify areas where wildlife education programs are needed, the main emphasis in this presentation is to query attending rehabilitators about their observations on trends in animal intakes, what their underlying ecological and environmental drivers might be, and how the network of individuals involved in a rehabilitation rescue interact.
Jon Anthony Stallins, PhD, University of Kentucky

Wildlife Conservation Threats & Efforts in Belize [60 mins]
This class introduces the most common threats for wildlife conservation in Belize as well as several projects and efforts to fight wildlife crime and resolve wildlife conflict. Efforts to conserve the scarlet macaw as well as the Hickatee (dermatemmys mawi) conducted from 2013/2015 to today are presented as well as the Wildlife Ambassador program which was geared toward law enforcement and community ambassadors.
Isabelle Paquet-Durand, Belize Wildlife & Referral Clinic

Up, Up, and Away! ++ [60 mins]
Being land-bound, humans look up and are amazed at how birds can fly. Birds use the sky as their pathway to food, freeway for migration, dance for romance, and an almost infinite playground. This discussion looks at some of the physics and biology that allows birds to take advantage of the wind and sky above us. The focus is on raptors to look at the advantages of different types of flight.
Gail Buhl, Partners for Wildlife - University of Minnesota

Echolocation: Seeing with Sounds [60 mins]
You know you want to know about Doppler shifts, frequency hopping, and wavelengths, don't you? Take a not-too-deep dive into bat echolocation and an overview of what a bat detector can do for you!
Leslie Sturges, The Save Lucy Campaign

General Rehabilitation II Session

Interactive Panel Discussion: Resources for Rehabilitating Unusual Species ++ [60 mins]**
What do you do when a species enters your care that you've never worked with, or if you don't have the proper enclosures or resources for that patient? This interactive panel discussion highlights resources used to figure out the best care for those unusual species, providing proper diets, and creating adequate housing. Come prepared to share your own favorite resources!
Kelsey Pleasants, CWR, Wildlife Center of Virginia
Renee Schott, DVM, CWR, Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota
Halley Buckanoff, CVT, North Carolina Zoo's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
Peggy Hentz, Red Creek Wildlife Center

Helping Rehab and Educational Animals Thrive ++ [60 mins]
This talk is for rehabilitators and educators at every level. Enrichment is generally geared toward zoo animals; as wildlife rehabilitators and educators, we have to look at it a bit differently. Focusing on welfare, this lecture emphasizes how to meet the habitat and behavioral requirements for your animals, reduce their stress, and provide mental stimulation.
Debbie Sykes, Nashville Wildlife Conservation Center

Releasing Wild Animals & Considerations for Post-Release Survival ++ [90 mins]
In wildlife rehabilitation, there is much focus on all aspects of the rehabilitation process, but very little attention to the release plan. Sadly, it is very common for us to spend hundreds of hours caring for our patients, only to have very low survival rates after release. Captive-reared animals and adults with no defined territory are very vulnerable as they enter or re-enter their wild home. With the goal of post-release survival, this presentation discusses considerations for releasing our common species as well as case studies on patients with more complicated concerns.
Elisa Fosco

Biographies:

Katie Attas is originally from St. James, New York, and has always been passionate about animals of all types, both wild and domestic. In 2015, she graduated from Alvernia University with honors with a B.S. degree in biology. In 2016, Katie completed a wildlife rehabilitation internship at Sweetbriar Nature Center in Smithtown, New York. During her internship, she traveled to Costa Rica to gain additional experience with wildlife rehabilitation and learn more about the importance of conserving both wildlife and the environment. After her internship, Katie worked for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, where she performed recreational fishing surveys and collected catch data to aid in fisheries management. She also obtained her personal wildlife rehabilitation license in New York. Katie joined the Wildlife Center team in November 2019 as a wildlife rehabilitator and is excited to work with native Virginia species. In her free time, you can find Katie traveling in her converted school bus, hiking, and spending time with all of her furbabies.

Dr. Cameron Berg started an internship in wildlife medicine at the Wildlife Center of Virginia in July 2020. Originally from Wisconsin, he graduated Veterinary School from UW-Madison, along with his twin brother. While focusing on exotic animals, Dr. Cam was also interested in pathology and worked in the diagnostic lab performing gross necropsies and collecting diagnostic samples. He was also able to spend time with the San Diego Zoo Pathology department, where his specimens ranged from poison dart frogs and hummingbirds to wildebeest and big cats.

Halley Buckanoff has a bachelor's of science in biology and is a certified veterinary technician and certified wildlife rehabilitator. She's a master bird bander and IWRC instructor and is currently working at the North Carolina Zoo's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

Gail Buhl has worked in the Ambassador Animal world for more than 30 years. Her professional career has focused on presenting and training Animal Ambassadors to present to the public on the glove and in flight programs. The goal of that Environmental Education is to help the public become environmentally literate in an engaging way. Gail has been a team member and supervised four very diverse collections and programs. Gail is one of the Editors for "A Guide for the Care and Use of Program Animals" 2nd Edition, 2018, published by the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (NWRA). Currently, Gail is the Partnership Coordinator for the Partners for Wildlife program at The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota.

Jessica Dyer is originally from Baldwinsville, New York, a small suburb of Syracuse. She is a 2015 graduate of Unity College, with a B.S. in Captive Wildlife Care and Education. Jess went back to school to pursue a degree in Veterinary Technology at Genesee Community College in Batavia, New York and graduated in May 2018. During her time in tech school, she focused all of her clinical externship hours toward wildlife, zoological, and emergency

medicine, participating in preceptorships at Cornell University's Wildlife Health Center, the Rosamond Gifford Zoo, and the Veterinary Medical Center of East Syracuse. Jess joined the Wildlife Center of Virginia in August 2018 as the veterinary technician intern and was hired as the full-time LVT in July 2019.

Lauren Edzenga's appreciation for the natural world and animals started at a very young age, growing up in South Jersey. After receiving a degree in environmental studies and anthropology with a concentration in Chesapeake regional studies, she decided to follow her passion for sharing conservation messages in the environmental education field. Lauren held many positions within the realm of the conservation world, including outdoor education, before joining the Wildlife Center of Virginia in 2017 as a student - first as an outreach extern, and then as a wildlife rehabilitation extern. In July 2019, she joined the outreach department as an outreach educator. In her free time, she loves to pet dogs, watch Netflix, and be outside.

Lisa Fosco (Elisa) is a wildlife biologist and a licensed veterinary technician who has been rehabilitating wildlife for more than 30 years. She spent several years as a home rehabilitator and has managed high-volume wildlife centers across North America, including managing the largest rehabilitation organization in Canada. Lisa was an IWRC instructor for 14 years and has taught professional wildlife medicine and rehabilitation on five continents. She has also worked in the field, focusing on the re-introduction of endangered species. Lisa's most recent role was as the Director of Animal Care at Walden's Puddle Wildlife Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

John Griffin oversees urban wildlife field and policy programs for the HSUS and works with communities across the country to adopt effective and humane solutions to conflicts with wildlife. He has more than 20 years of field experience, ranging from resolving conflicts with species like raccoons, bats, and deer to protecting great apes. John has consulted and provided numerous trainings for animal care and control agencies, states and municipalities and has led workshops at international, national, and state conferences. John is published on a number of topics and was a 2015/2016 team member on a National Geographic Expedition exploring raccoon behavior in urban areas.

Alex Grimaudo is a third-year PhD student at Virginia Tech in the Department of Biological Sciences. His research interests are in the ecology and evolution of infectious diseases, including host-pathogen coevolution, ecosystem-level impacts of infectious diseases, multi-host pathogen dynamics, and the conservation of species impacted by emerging infectious diseases. Alex's current research focuses on understanding how bat populations of North America persist with white-nose syndrome, inter-specific variation in response to white-nose syndrome, the effect of hibernacula environments on infection and population response, and understanding how dynamics of white-nose syndrome have changed since pathogen introduction.

A wildlife rehabilitator since 1991, **Peggy Hentz** brings enthusiasm and comedy to all of her presentation topics. She is the founder of Red Creek Wildlife Center, Inc and a member of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation and Education Advisory Council. She has developed the certification programs for threatened and endangered species in Pennsylvania, and wildlife capture and transport in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Peggy is the author of "Rescuing Wildlife, A Guide to Injured and Orphaned Animals," and two children's books "Zoey Finds a Bunny Nest," and "Zoey Finds a Fawn." Peggy's most recent project is www.WildlifeEDU.com, which offers basic training opportunities for wildlife rehabilitators through online classes. Peggy lives with her two Dobermans, Diesel and Zoey, and spends her private time writing.

Dr. Tamara Johnstone-Yellin is an Associate Professor of Biology at Bridgewater College in Virginia. She completed her Master of Science at Washington State University on mule deer fawn survival in Eastern Washington and the use of Vaginal Implant Transmitters to monitor parturition in deer; she then completed her doctorate at Washington State University on nutritional ecology and sex allocation in cervids. Dr. Johnstone-Yellin spent her postdoctoral fellowship working with the Forest Ungulate Research Network, a consortium of foresters and ecologists working on forest-cervid interactions. She also has experience working in the captive breeding recovery

program for the endangered pygmy rabbit. She teaches courses in ecology, wildlife management and human-wildlife conflict. Her current research with the U.S. Forest Service assesses the effects of fenced exclosures on the nutritional carrying capacity for white-tailed deer. She is also assessing the effects of drying and storage methods on the nutritional quality of acorn masts to inform storage and use in rehabilitation facilities. Dr. Johnstone-Yellin has hands-on experience working with mule deer, elk, pygmy rabbits, blue duikers, and ground squirrels.

Lacy Kegley was born and grew up in southwest Virginia and developed a passion for nature and wildlife at an early age. In 2008, she graduated with a biology degree from James Madison University and looked for an opportunity to stay in the Shenandoah Valley and expand interest in wildlife conservation. She found that opportunity at the Wildlife Center of Virginia as an animal care preceptorship student, and, soon after, as the weekend front desk coordinator. Eventually, she began working full-time as the Development Associate and advanced her experience interacting with the Center's generous donors. Lacy is now the Vice President of Administration and her responsibilities include creating the Center's annual budget, working closely with all the Center's departments on spending and fundraising, and supporting the staff, students, and volunteers. Lacy enjoys reading, camping, hiking, traveling, and spending time with her furred, scaled, and human family and friends.

Nichole A. Laggan is a second-year PhD student at Virginia Tech in the Department of Biological Sciences. She completed her BS in Biology and Marine Science at the University of Tampa in 2018 and is a 2019 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. She has been researching fungal pathogens and emerging infectious diseases for six years. Her research began by studying alternative hosts and vectors of the amphibian chytrid fungus at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. Her interests now focus on understanding pathogen evolution of the fungus causing white-nose syndrome of bats and how the environmental pathogen reservoir contributes to white-nose syndrome disease dynamics.

Shannon Mazurowski is a Virginia native who has always been fascinated by animals. In 2016, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in animal and poultry sciences from Virginia Tech. During her time Virginia Tech, she took an ornithology course which ultimately sparked her passion for wildlife. After graduating, Shannon completed a rehabilitation externship at the Center, followed by a one-year rehabilitation internship ... soon after, she returned yet again as a full-time staff wildlife rehabilitator in May 2019. As a rehabilitator, Shannon helps oversee the daily care and rehabilitation of the many patients admitted to WCV every year. Shannon is happy to permanently be a part of the team and enjoys with the Black Bear cubs and baby Chimney Swifts. When she is not working, Shannon can be found attending kickboxing classes and exploring trails with her dogs.

Maggie McCartney was born and raised outside of Charlottesville, Virginia, where she developed an early interest in wildlife, especially reptiles and amphibians. She graduated with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in environmental science from Christopher Newport University. During graduate school, Maggie served as a graduate STEM fellow in K-12 education through the National Science Foundation. Following graduation, Maggie returned to CNU as adjunct faculty while working as a zoo herpetologist (reptile and amphibian specialist) and veterinary assistant. From 2015 through 2017, Maggie served as a sea turtle biologist on a remote South Carolina island, where she managed more than 600 loggerhead nests. After returning to Virginia, she joined the Wildlife Center in March 2018 as a front-desk coordinator. In September 2018, Maggie became the coordinator of the Center's Wildlife Care Academy, where she is responsible for management, development, and execution of online classes in wildlife biology and rehabilitation as well as the general management of the Academy. The Wildlife Care Academy provides training and continuing education for wildlife care professionals around the world in order to expand and advance care for injured and orphaned wildlife, and to promote conservation education.

Lynn Oliver is a small-mammal rehabilitator who specializes in groundhogs, skunk babies, squirrels, flying squirrels, and chipmunks. She is part of Valley Wildlife Care and lives in northwestern Virginia. Her son was born a preemie, with the most unique platinum-blond coloring at birth, but during his time in the NICU, he was "just very blond", until some years later when a geneticist confirmed albinism. Her interests in both rehabbing wildlife and raising a

child with albinism led her to develop this overview of what albinism is and is not. There are many myths and much false information surrounding albinism in humans AND in animals.

Dr. Isabelle Paquet-Durand is a German-trained veterinarian with a PhD in Parasitology who has dedicated her career to wildlife conservation in the neotropics. Dr. Durand has spent 25 years working in wildlife rescue and rehabilitation in Latin America; she settled in Belize in 2003 and opened the Belize Wildlife & Referral Clinic [BWRC] in 2011. The BWRC took a lot of inspiration from the Wildlife Center of Virginia and has since seen more than 3,000 patients. The BWRC supports 10 different partners and field projects in support of wildlife conservation and animal welfare.

Dr. Karra Pierce is from Canada and grew up just outside of Vancouver on Canada's west coast. She did an undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Victoria on Vancouver Island, and during this time started working as a staff wildlife rehabilitator at a large wildlife rehabilitation center. Here, she fell in love with wildlife rehabilitation. Following her undergraduate degree, Dr. Karra moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (in the middle of Canada), to attend the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. During this time she continued to dedicate herself to working with wildlife, doing multiple external rotations with a wildlife focus, including a six-week veterinary externship at the Wildlife Center of Virginia in August 2016. After receiving her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, she did a one-year small-animal rotating internship at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Karra is thrilled to be working with wildlife again at the Wildlife Center of Virginia.

Kelsey Pleasants was born and raised in Waynesboro, Virginia and has always had a passion for animals. She earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from Longwood University in the spring of 2013. During her time at college, Kelsey completed a wildlife rehabilitation externship at the Wildlife Center of Virginia and upon graduation, she completed a year-long wildlife rehabilitation internship. It was during her time at WCV that she realized her biggest passion was working with wildlife. From 2014-2017, Kelsey worked at a wildlife center in south Florida doing wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. She returned to Virginia in the fall of 2017 to re-join the team at the Wildlife Center as a wildlife rehabilitator. In this role, Kelsey oversees the care and rehabilitation of the thousands of native patients the Center receives each year and also trains wildlife rehabilitation interns and extern students. Kelsey is very excited to be back at the Wildlife Center and to once again work with black bears and American robins. While she is not working, Kelsey enjoys attending concerts and traveling.

Dr. Sarah Sirica knew she wanted to work with animals from an early age. She grew up in a semi-rural setting in King George, Virginia, and spent most of her time reading, playing with her dogs and cats, and hanging out by the river. She graduated from Bridgewater College in 2009 with a BS in biology. She went on to receive her DVM and MPH from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in 2013, where she gained experience in a variety of zoos and spent time in South Africa working on canine rabies research from a One Health perspective. From there, Dr. Sarah has had a variety of experiences with small-animal and exotic medicine in Richmond, Virginia, and Santa Fe, New Mexico, as well as a variety of volunteer roles in wildlife medicine. Most recently, she was a regular volunteer with the New Mexico Wildlife Center, and she spent time with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish taking samples and learning about how a state agency is run. She enjoys working with all types of wildlife in the clinic and in the field, and she would be happy to talk about One Health all day long. Her hobbies include hiking, spending time with family, and beekeeping.

E. Haley Olsen-Hodges has been rehabbing wildlife for nearly a decade and primarily specializes in the care of songbirds, but her insatiable desire for knowing more about the natural world has led her to branch out into other areas of interest over time. In addition to being a rehabilitator, Haley is a wildlife conservation major and entomology minor at Virginia Tech as well as a certified Virginia Master Naturalist. Haley is interested in how traditional wildlife biology and conservation practices can be used to bring better understanding and improvements to the field of wildlife rehabilitation, and likewise how rehabbers can help inform managers about larger-issue conservation issues, like contributing to Breeding Bird Atlas data. Haley believes that finding common ground

between rehabbers, state agencies, and other stakeholder groups is necessary if we are to save the wildlife that we care about—and collaboration is the only way we will have success in doing so.

Aaron Proctor is a native of Staunton, Virginia and developed a passion for the outdoors and wildlife at an early age. In his senior year of high school, he participated in a semester-long internship at the Wildlife Center of Virginia. He then went on to receive his B.S. in Wildlife Science from Virginia Tech and M.S. from West Virginia University. Aaron served as a DGIF wildlife biologist for more than 10 years between the Hampton Roads and Greater Richmond areas, enjoying a mix of rural and urban wildlife management experiences. In 2016, he began taking an interest in the regulatory and policy side of wildlife management. In 2018 Aaron transferred to the DGIF [now Department of Wildlife Resources] headquarters and became their Regulatory Coordinator and Freedom of Information Officer, where he enjoys drawing upon his education and experiences to work in the policy and regulation arena. One of his primary focuses is creating and maintaining effective stakeholder relationships that provide mutually beneficial outcomes.

Dr. Nicki Rosenhagen graduated from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 2015. She is currently employed as the full-time veterinarian at the PAWS Wildlife Center in Lynnwood, Washington. Dr. Rosenhagen worked as a wildlife rehabilitator at the PAWS Wildlife Center before vet school, and she now has more than 13 years of experience working with more than 200 species of wild animals.

Lydia Sancetta is the current rehabilitation intern at the Wildlife Center of Virginia. She received her B.A. in Animal Behavior from Beloit College in 2018 and has since completed internships at Fox Valley Wildlife Center in Illinois and Medicine River Wildlife Center in Alberta. After working as a clinic supervisor at Treehouse Wildlife Center in Illinois, she came to WCV to broaden her skills as a rehabilitator.

Renée Schott, DVM, CWR is currently the Medical Director and Senior Veterinarian at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (WRC). She has been involved in wildlife rehabilitation for 16 years and has worked at wildlife rehabilitation centers across the country. Additionally, Renée teaches courses at the University of Minnesota-College of Veterinary Medicine, is a Course Instructor for the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council , and is a former board member of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association's Board of Directors.

Jon Anthony Stallins is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Kentucky. He conducts research on human-wildlife interactions.

A wildlife rehabilitator and educator since 2012, **Debbie Sykes** has held every position from volunteer, to education care coordinator, to director of animal care. Debbie's goal is to learn as much as possible and implement protocols to ensure the animals she releases and the staff and volunteers she supervises are not just surviving, but thriving.

Leslie Sturges is the president of the Save Lucy Campaign, a bat conservation, rehabilitation, and education organization. She has been hand-raising bats for 20 years and has been caught in the crossfire of at least one formula war.

A North Carolina native, **Alex Wehrung** was inspired to pursue a career in the outdoors from a young age. After graduating from West Virginia University with a B.S. in parks, recreation, and tourism resources in 2012, he traveled the country exploring a number of different professions – from park ranger to zoo keeper -- and quickly understood the value of connecting others to nature through education. Alex discovered the Wildlife Center when he moved to Virginia in 2015, and began training as a volunteer outreach docent shortly afterwards. He joined the full-time staff as an outreach coordinator in 2016, graduating from Slippery Rock University with a M.Ed. in environmental education later that year. As a member of the outreach department Alex works to create meaningful and lasting relationships with the public in a variety of ways, such as presenting educational programs, creating website and social media content, training volunteer docents, and providing care for the Center's non-releasable education ambassadors.

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The Wildlife Center of Virginia invites you to share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. Feel free to contact, at any time:

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