

WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS OF NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF WRNC INC.



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President's Message

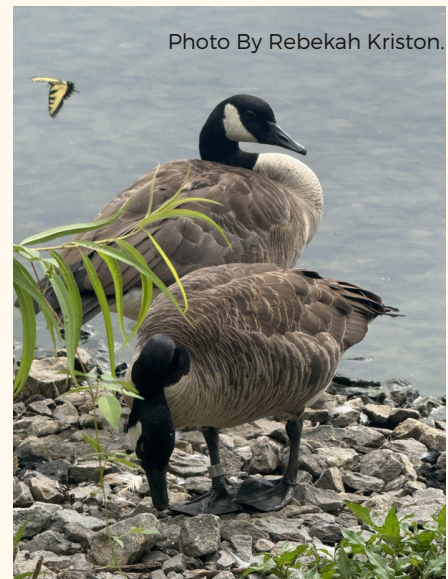
WRITTEN BY REBEKAH KRISTON

"The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man." Some may not agree with Charles Darwin's theories, but they cannot argue with his thoughts in that statement about the love mankind has for all creatures. As we think about the words "all creatures", it is important to remember that this includes human beings. As wildlife rehabilitators, we are quick to feel compassion, concern, sympathy, empathy, and even love for all the animals that come into our care, but sometimes we fail to carry these feelings over to our fellow wildlife rehabilitators.

President's Message

WRITTEN BY REBEKAH KRISTON

A lot of us call ourselves charities or see ourselves as doing charity work but let us remember what charity is. Charity is a working love combined with compassion. It is a characteristic of the heart and if we truly have a charitable heart, it will extend beyond the animals we care for to reach mankind. Charity is not proud and is not jealous. Charity is not easily made angry. Charity does not plot against others. Charity bears and endures all things. Charity believes all things and charity hopes all things. Friends, as we carry on in the work of caring for the beautiful, amazing creatures of our Earth, let us also show love and compassion to our colleagues. We already have so many variables working against us to make our efforts difficult, let us not create more burdens for each other. We need to work together supporting and helping one another. If we see a wildlife rehabilitator struggling, we should reach out to them to see how we can help. In some circumstances, wildlife rehabilitators are not doing the right thing and additional action may be required if a behavior continues, but don't make assumptions, jumping to conclusions right from the start. Extend to them working love and compassion. Remember, we are a group of people who have unfailing faith in the work we do and an inspiring hope in the successful rehabilitation of our animals, but our greatest attribute will always be charity.



Training Opportunity

PROVIDED BY CAROLINA
RAPTOR CENTER

Carolina Raptor Center is offering a webinar in October that will cover topics in raptor rehabilitation. The Raptor Medical Care Webinar includes four consecutive webinar classes that occur once a week. Each class is 60 minutes long, followed by 30 minutes for a question-and-answer session. Classes will be on Tuesdays from 4:00 pm-5:30 pm EST. The first class will be held Tuesday, October 7th. Click the link below to register for a month of learning and fun offered by Carolina Raptor Center!

<https://carolinaraptorcenter.org/webinars/>



WRNC News and Reminders

NEW SS T-SHIRT & CN SWEATSHIRT for 2026 SYMPOSIUM!

WRITTEN BY LINDA BERGMAN-ALTHOUSE, WRNC BD MEMBER



Photo by Linda Bergman-Althouse.

Yes, we're going GRAY (more specifically, CHARCOAL) for our new crewneck sweatshirt with the 'Liz Bradford' award-winning applique we showcased at the WRNC Symposium last year, and it looks fabulous and mega-comfy! We're also introducing a new 'John Althouse' applique that has received quite the buzz on our GARNET short-sleeved T-Shirt. Both of the new pieces will be available for purchase at our 2026 WRNC Symposium the weekend of 16-18 January in Raleigh, NC at the Vet School. They will be offered for \$20.00 (sweatshirt) and \$12.00 (T-shirt) in all sizes (Small to 3XL). These new WRNC apparel items will be fabulous additions to your existing WRNC T-Shirt/Sweatshirt collection. NEW COLORS – NEW IMAGES – ALL GOOD! Our remaining inventory of Tropical Blue, Chestnut Brown, Navy Blue, Royal Purple and Heather Graphite short-sleeved T-Shirts will be \$10.00 each. We will also have available our Azalea Pink hoodie for \$25.00 each. Never hurts to start saving now for the little extras that bring joy!

Mark your calendars for the 2026 WRNC Symposium! Join us at NCSU Veterinary College January 17th and 18th for a weekend of classes, vendors, networking, and so much more!

The WRNC Mentor Committee has completed several forms to assist Mentors and Apprentices on their journey. If you are a WRNC member, you can access these forms here:

<https://ncwildliferehab.org/mentoring>.

If you are interested in becoming a WRNC Certified Mentor, please send an email to info.wrnc@gmail.com to make sure you are in our database. All WRNC members have access to the mentor/apprentice paperwork. You must log in to WRNC and then from the home page select Members and then select Mentoring. On this page, there are three (3) documents available to anyone: Is Wildlife Rehabilitation for You?, WRNC Mentor Requirements, and WRNC Code of Ethics.



Photo by John Althouse.

THREE CHIMNEY SWIFT TOWERS NEW TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

BY LINDA BERGMAN-ALTHOUSE, WRNC CST GRANT COORDINATOR

Thanks to the WRNC Chimney Swift Tower (CST) Grant Program, three 2025 alternate habitat towers are in the finishing stages in western North Carolina. Craig (Chuck) Dewitt has erected a tower in Leicester (Buncombe County), and Jessica (Cline) Clark has constructed a Chimney Swift Tower in Concord (Carrabus County) to provide appropriate and encouraging sites in which to nest and roost for Chimney Swifts returning to their areas each Spring. The construction of both towers appear to be exceptional builds, and WRNC wants to thank them both for taking on the challenge and doing a remarkable job ensuring their construction met the specifications and timeline established by the WRNC CST Grant Program. The third tower, being constructed by Sarah Cody from Burnsville, is currently on hold until she gets the green light from the Director of the Big Ivy Community Center in Barnardsville, (Buncombe County) NC to erect the tower at their selected location. Unfortunately, Sarah's area was devastated by Hurricane Helene, and the entire community is still busy tending to rebuild efforts and renovating their structures. Their renovations should be completed during the 2025 August-September time frame. Once she gets that "GO," she'll be able to prep the build site, pour the concrete slab for the swift tower, and erect the panels and tower additions she has already prepared. We wish Sarah the best as she powers through the obstacles she is persevering through and overcoming.



Photo submitted by Sarah Cody.



Photo submitted by Jessica Cline.



Photo submitted by Chuck Dewitt.

Chimney Swifts, migratory birds that help decrease our dangerously high insect pest population, are in decline due to loss of habitat. Fortunately, Chimney Swifts are well adapted to man-made structures, so it is possible to create nesting habitat specifically for Swifts. As a member of an environmentally active group, an individual environment enthusiast, a WRNC member or nonmember, this is an opportunity to build and maintain a chimney swift tower in your area to entice Chimney Swifts, acrobatic insectivores who vacuum the sky of annoying insects at dawn and dusk, to return to your community each year. WRNC offers up to THREE (3) \$500 GRANTS annually to assist you or your group in the undertaking of this valuable conservation project. For those of you who may be interested in the WRNC CHIMNEY SWIFT TOWER GRANT program, use this link to see if you are eligible: <https://ncwildliferehab.org/chimney-swift-tower-grant/> AND don't forget the DEADLINE to submit your application is 1 NOVEMBER, ANNUALLY.

Hydration Management Overview

WRITTEN BY LINNEA MINK, INFORMATION PROVIDED BY MIRANDA TORKELSON, DVM

Proper hydration is vital for the health of growing and healing patients in rehabilitation. Hydration is essential for supporting bodily functions, including temperature regulation, digestion, wound healing, and organ function. Oftentimes, patients arrive to rehabilitators dehydrated. This could be from their stay with the finder, losing fluids from a wound or diarrhea, being orphaned, being physically impaired, or any other circumstance that caused them to undergo rehabilitation. As a rehabilitator, hydration is one of the first things I tend to address, both for new patients and for monitoring daily needs. If a patient is dehydrated, they may struggle to digest food properly so they can grow, have more adverse side effects to medications, have a prolonged healing process, or experience other complications.

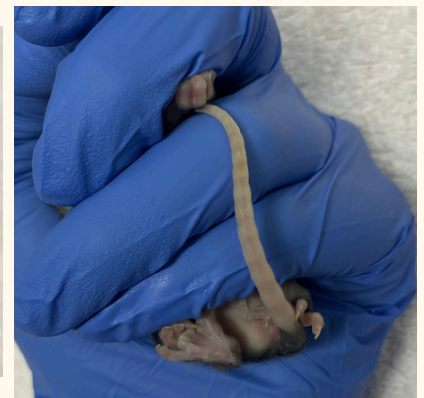
There are ways we can assess the hydration of our patients, with some variation across species. Dr. Miranda Torkelson developed a handy chart for use in assessing the hydration deficit of our wild patients. A deficit is the percentage of hydration that needs to be recovered. However, animals also have an amount of fluid needed daily for their bodily function, and this is referred to as their daily maintenance. Different species require different milliliters of fluid for each kilogram of body weight. This deficit chart should be used in addition to assessing the animal's daily maintenance needs. Dr. Torkelson also provided a guide to the daily maintenance needs for different species groups, as seen to the right. By estimating a percentage of dehydration, we are able to calculate the amount of fluids a patient may require in addition to their daily maintenance. We can assess this percentage by examining clinical signs of dehydration. Mucous membranes should be moist with appropriate coloration. If an animal's mouth is dry or tacky, it is a clinical sign of dehydration. Another clinical sign is decreased skin turgor. This is mostly helpful in assessing mammals. If we pinch skin, typically on the animal's back, and it stays pinched after release instead of retracting, this can indicate dehydration. Sometimes you can also appreciate the vertebrae on the tail in opossums and some rodent species. In birds, dehydration can present as a wrinkly, sunken vent, as opposed to being smooth and rounded. CRT, or capillary refill time, indicates circulation and dehydration. You can press an animal's gum until it turns white, and measure how long it takes to return to color.

| Estimated % dehydration | Physical exam findings |
|-------------------------|--|
| <5% (subclinical) | none |
| 5-6% (mild) | Tacky mucous membranes CRT 2s |
| 6-8% (moderate) | Decreased skin turgor (skin tent) Mucous membranes dry CRT 2-3s |
| 8-10% (moderate) | Sunken eyes Increased heart rate Weak pulses CRT 3-4s |
| 10-12% (severe) | Persistent skin tent Dull corneas Rapid heart rate Thready to no palpable pulses CRT >4s |
| >12% (critical) | Shock, death |

Charts formulated by Dr. Miranda Torkelson.

Daily Maintenance Needs

- **Birds:** 50-150 ml/kg/day
- **Non-herbivorous mammals:** 60-120 ml/kg/day
- **Herbivorous mammals:** 80-150 ml/kg/day
- **Reptiles:** 10-30 ml/kg/day
- **Amphibians:** 10-20 ml/kg/day



These are images of a neonate opossum displaying clinical signs of dehydration. He would fall into the "severe" category. You can see a persistent skin tent, vertebral appreciation on the tail, and sunken eyes.

Photos by Linnea Mink.

Hydration Management Overview

WRITTEN BY LINNEA MINK, INFORMATION PROVIDED BY MIRANDA TORKELSON, DVM

These are images of two Chimney Swift vents. On the left, you see a dehydrated swift. His belly is sunken and wrinkly, and he has dried feces caked to his tail feathers. On the right is a euhydrated swift, with a smooth, rounded, pink vent and clean tail feathers.

Photos by Linnea Mink.



We can calculate how much fluid to administer using simple equations. To calculate how many milliliters would be required to recover the deficit, multiply the animal's weight in grams by the percentage of the deficit.

The deficit equation is: animal weight (grams) x % deficit (in decimal form) = mL of deficit.

For instance, if an opossum is 7% dehydrated and weighs 200 grams, he needs 14 milliliters of fluid to recover that deficit. $200 \text{ (grams)} \times 0.07 \text{ (7\%)} = 14\text{mL}$. However, this does not account for daily maintenance. Consider the opossum has a head injury and cannot safely drink on his own. We may want to administer his daily maintenance fluids along with his deficit.

The daily maintenance equation is: animal weight (kilograms) x mL/kg/day (varies per animal) = mL/day.

If this same opossum needed 60mL/kg/day as his maintenance amount, he would need 12mL/day. $0.20 \text{ kg} \times 60\text{mL/kg/day} = 12\text{mL/day}$.

This opossum would need a total of 26 mL of fluids to be administered to cover his daily maintenance and replenish his deficit.

So, once we calculate how dehydrated our patient is, how do we fix it? We can administer fluids through multiple routes. If a patient is strong enough to self-feed and drink, he may be able to take care of his maintenance fluids on his own. If an animal is in a severe enough deficit, hydration may need to be recovered over multiple days, with the most common routes being oral fluid administration and subcutaneous fluid administration. Oral fluid administration can be done with a syringe or tube, depending on the animal. A gaping baby bird may take a syringe easily, but a down and emaciated hawk may need to be tubed. The gut is unable to hold a large amount of fluid, so pairing this with subcutaneous fluid administration is beneficial, as it allows for the administration of more fluid and its absorption to occur more slowly. Again, the skin can also only hold so much fluid, so remember to monitor your fluid bubble for tightness and space out administration if needed. Subcutaneous fluid administration should be done carefully in the correct location on the animal's body with an appropriately sized sterile needle and an appropriate choice of warmed fluid, a common choice being Lactated Ringer's Solution. Veterinary guidance is fairly necessary in learning the safety measures needed for both oral and subcutaneous routes of fluid administration. Intravenous and intraosseous methods are also used in correcting dehydration, but these methods are invasive and mainly only accessible to veterinarians in critical cases.

Assessing hydration and fluid maintenance is crucial in wildlife rehabilitation, as it's a vital first step to recovering an orphaned or injured animal's bodily functions. Sometimes equations and forced fluid administration can be intimidating, but with practice and veterinary guidance, it can become routine.

All information and methods in this article have been provided by Miranda Torkelson, DVM.

Checking in With Maggie Graham: A Songbird Superhero

STORIES BY MAGGIE GRAHAM, INTRODUCED BY LINNEA MINK

Maggie Graham is an independent songbird rehabilitator based out of Asheville, North Carolina. Songbird rehabilitators are more sparse than mammal rehabilitators in the state, and Maggie carries a crucial role in the rehabilitation of the songbird residents of Western North Carolina. This year she has been able to share the load some with fellow facilities and a mentee, but in previous years, Maggie rehabilitated around 800 birds as a solo rehabilitator. One person tackling 800 baby birds requiring frequent feedings is quite the feat! Maggie's kind heart is evident to all who encounter her, and she has a gift for connecting people and songbirds. Sometimes, interacting with the public can be a difficult part of rehabilitation, but Maggie has a gift for reaching people with patience and compassion in ways that allow the public to foster appreciation for their avian neighbors. She has met finders who've exhibited extreme care and passion for the animals they help. In our conversation, she shared multiple heartwarming stories of kind-hearted members of the public rescuing songbirds to be rehabilitated and released back into the wild.



Maggie writes a touching story about a Blue Jay whom she rehabilitated, named "Too Too" by the finder. This story highlights the importance of Maggie's work, not only in rehabilitating songbirds but also in connecting people with them and their beauty in a way that heals us all.

Maggie writes,

"Micky, the rescuer of a baby Blue Jay, found an abandoned baby on a trail, and couldn't find a rehabilitator to take the bird. He took care of the little bird for a week, feeding eggs and kibble. He was eventually given my number by Wild For Life. I took the bird and let him know all was well."

After being updated on the bird, Micky wrote back to Maggie, "Thanks so much for the message. I sure do miss him. My wife passed away three years ago, and he brought happiness and joy back into my home. He will always be remembered. I enjoyed him so much during his short visit. Thanks so much for taking him. Tell Too Too I love him."



Photos by Maggie Graham and finder Micky.

Checking in With Maggie Graham: A Songbird Superhero

STORIES BY MAGGIE GRAHAM, INTRODUCED BY LINNEA MINK

Maggie also shared a story about a pair of woodpeckers she rehabilitated. Woodpeckers play an important ecological role as primary cavity nesters. Primary cavity nesters include species of woodpeckers, which are able to create their own holes in trees for nesting sites. Not all cavity nesters can create their own cavities. Secondary cavity nesters, such as the Eastern Bluebird, rely on pre-existing cavities. Woodpeckers play an important role in the nesting process of other species, helping maintain biodiversity and general ecological health.



Woodpeckers once removed from the log.



Log brought to Maggie with cavity containing nestling woodpeckers.

After some time in Maggie's care, these two woodpeckers grew to be strong, vibrant young birds! Maggie's work and the finder's caring actions not only helped these two individuals regain a second chance at life in the wild but also assisted the other birds who will benefit from these woodpeckers' nesting cavities in years to come.

However, oftentimes these cavities are in trees that are old and dying, making them subject to being cut down. Many rehabilitators are familiar with patients who lost their nesting sites due to logging, as it is quite a common circumstance. This summer, Maggie helped a finder of two nestling woodpeckers whose tree was cut down. The kind-hearted finders brought Maggie the whole log segment, from which she retrieved the young birds so they could begin their rehabilitation stay.



Checking in With Maggie Graham: A Songbird Superhero

STORIES BY MAGGIE GRAHAM, INTRODUCED BY LINNEA MINK

Maggie writes another story about a kind-hearted member of the public undertaking a daring rescue endeavor for a nestling Barn Swallow in June.

She writes,

“Michael was taking a walk along the French Broad River when a downpour started, so he headed for a bridge. The deluge dislodged a baby bird’s nest from under the bridge. Horrified, he watched as the babies were swept into the river; One, still clinging onto the nest, floated by. Michael swiftly grabbed the nest with the baby still clinging on. A beautiful little Barn Swallow, still alive, and just slightly wet. He frantically called around and found me. He brought it to me a day later.

What a lucky bird! Thank you to Michael, a great person, for showing such kindness towards this helpless little bird, who will be released and go on to gobble thousands of mosquitoes every night!”



Barn Swallow release image by Maggie Graham.



Not only is Maggie a gifted wildlife rehabilitator, she’s also a profoundly talented artist. Her artist’s eye, paired with her ample time and experience spent among her avian muses, allows her art to capture the wild beauty of birds. Maggie’s art sales directly fund her vastly important work as a songbird rehabilitator. She says, “Saving these birds, although a tremendous amount of work, is so worth the rewards of seeing them survive and eventually be released.” To help support Maggie’s work, check out her art at New Morning Gallery!

<https://shop.newmoringgallerync.com/collections/artist-collection-maggie-graham>



Photos and artwork by Maggie Graham.

“The Smallest Falcon!”

AS WRITTEN FOR CAROLINA SALT MAGAZINE BY LINDA BERGMAN-ALTHOUSE

He was lying on his side in the box, pretty much flat out, when he arrived at the Wildlife Shelter in Newport, NC. A driver saw a pile of feathers in the road as he pulled to a stop sign, and at first glance thought the bird was dead, but before pulling away, the little bird lifted his head. That moment shifted the driver's attention from heading to work into full-on rescue mode! He placed the injured bird inside a container and called ahead to let the shelter staff know he was bringing him in. The feathered one did not look good when he arrived, and no one could possibly know by sight how extensive or severe his injuries were, especially when theorized that he had been smacked by a car. After the small bird of prey, which we identified as an American Kestrel, the smallest, most common and most numerous of all falcons, rested for a bit to de-stress, a thorough examination was conducted. No blood, no broken bones or punctured air sacs were found. Eyes were dilated, though and he was loopy, which we attributed to a concussion, and that meant he probably would not be able to eat on his own initially while in recovery. He was placed in intensive care and later that day an attempt was made to tweezer feed him tiny pieces of chicken. To his favor, he handled that well, ate like a champ and continued to do so after his arrival. He managed to get on his feet while still being tweezer fed and continued recovering well. Eating on his own and successful flight school became the treatment goals.



Photos by John Althouse and public domain.



A slender American Kestrel is roughly the size and shape of a Mourning Dove, which is between the size of a robin and a crow. They usually weigh in between 3 to 5.8 ounces with females typically 10% heavier than males, are 8 to 12 inches long and have a wingspan of 20 to 24 inches. The head looks a little too large for its body, and they sport long, narrow wings and a lengthy, square-tipped tail. In flight, the wings are often bent, and the wingtips sweep back. Their coloring is warm, rusty brown spotted with black on top and an overt, solid black band near the tip of the tail is obvious for males, but females are adorned with multiple bands on their tails. Males have slate-blue wings; females, who are paler, have wings that are muted, reddish brown. Both sexes have two bold and black vertical stripes on the sides of their face sometimes called a “mustache” or a “sideburn.” Both males and females also have bold, black eyespots at the napes of their necks. Early in the pairing-up process for breeding, groups of four to six birds may congregate to choose a mate. Courting pairs of Kestrels may exchange gifts of food, and usually the male feeds the female. These delicate falcons are secondary cavity nesters, who use woodpecker-excavated or natural cavities in large trees, crevices in rocks, and nooks in man-made structures rather than build their own nests. They simply lack the ability to excavate a nesting cavity and are dependent upon that skill in other species. Nesting materials are not necessary to line the cavities they discover, either. Barren will do! The male Kestrel will house hunt, and after finding something suitable, will show it to his mate, and she will make the final decision. Kestrels compete over the limited supply of nesting cavities with other cavity-nesters, and sometimes fight off or evict Bluebirds, Northern Flickers, small squirrels, and other competitors from their chosen sites. When offered, American Kestrels will use artificial nest boxes, and there is increasing public interest in participating in nest-box programs to conserve this bird.

“The Smallest Falcon!”

AS WRITTEN FOR CAROLINA SALT MAGAZINE BY LINDA BERGMAN-ALTHOUSE

The North American Breeding Bird Survey reports that American Kestrel populations have declined 50% since 1966. This steep drop stems from continued clearing of land and felling of standing dead trees these birds depend on for their nest sites. The American Kestrel is also losing prey sources and nesting cavities to “clean” farming practices that remove trees and brush. An additional threat is exposure to pesticides and other pollutants, which can reduce clutch sizes and hatching success. For kestrels in North America, a larger problem is that pesticides destroy the insects, spiders, and other prey on which these tiny falcons also depend. American Kestrels, who are day hunters, eat mostly insects and other invertebrates, as well as small rodents and birds. Common foods include grasshoppers, cicadas, beetles, and dragonflies; scorpions and spiders; butterflies and moths; voles, mice, shrews, bats, and small songbirds. American Kestrels, also called Sparrow Hawks, include small snakes, lizards, and frogs in their diet, too. Some people have reported seeing American Kestrels take larger prey, such as squirrels and Northern Flickers. They will usually snatch their victims from the ground, although some catch a meal on the wing.



Photos by John Althouse and public domain.

They are gracefully buoyant in flight but sometimes erratic because they are small enough to get tossed around in the wind. Their flight speed peaks at 39 mph when they're bookin'. When perched, kestrels often pump their tails and look like they are trying to keep their balance. The American Kestrel inhabits open areas covered by short ground vegetation where it hunts mostly from perches, frequently from utility wires along the roadside, but can also hunt by hovering. The Kestrel faces into the wind when it hovers, with its head fixed, while the wings alternately flap and glide while the tail constantly adjusts to movements in the breeze. The kestrel is attracted to human-modified habitats, such as pastures and parklands and often is found near areas of human activity, even heavily developed urban areas. You may see a kestrel scanning for prey from the same perch all day long or changing perches every few minutes. Studies have shown that kestrels can see ultraviolet light like other hawks and falcons. This ability enables them to easily see the urine markings and trails that small mammals, such as voles and mice, leave as they run along the ground. These trails and urine markings probably look bright yellow to a kestrel which alerts them to a potential meal. A kestrel pounces on its prey, seizing it with one or both feet just as hawks or owls do, and a Kestrel may finish off a meal right there on the ground or carry larger prey back to a perch. During breeding season, males advertise their territory by repeatedly climbing and then diving while voicing a call of klee, klee, klee. Although diminutive and may seem unassuming, American Kestrels are known to harass large hawks and eagles during migration and even attack hawks in their territories during breeding season. So, no wonder this little falcon is not long-lived in the wild, on average, only 5 years. Kestrels are protected by the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, but hawks, owls and eagles are not aware of that. The oldest banded kestrel in the wild made it to 11 years and 7 months. That one must have thought twice about getting into a scrap with a big hawk or an American Eagle. We certainly hope, once rehabbed and released, our little Kestrel will think twice about tangling with the tough guys, especially those way bigger and stronger than he is!

The Bookshelf

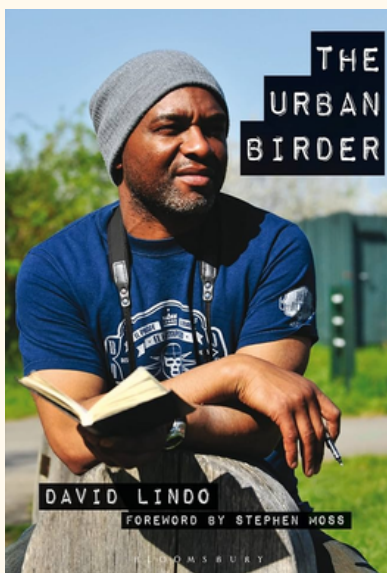
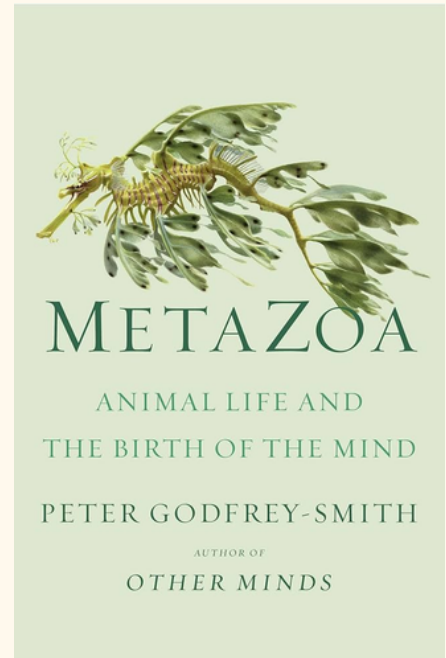
COMPILED BY LINNEA MINK

Metazoa: Animal Life and the Birth of the Mind

BY PETER GODFREY-SMITH

Dip below the ocean's surface and you are soon confronted by forms of life that could not seem more foreign to our own: sea sponges, soft corals, and serpulid worms, whose rooted bodies, intricate geometry, and flower-like appendages are more reminiscent of plant life or even architecture than anything recognizably animal. Yet these creatures are our cousins. As fellow members of the animal kingdom—the Metazoa—they can teach us much about the evolutionary origins of not only our bodies, but also our minds.

In his acclaimed 2016 book, *Other Minds*, the philosopher and scuba diver Peter Godfrey-Smith explored the mind of the octopus—the closest thing to an intelligent alien on Earth. In *Metazoa*, Godfrey-Smith expands his inquiry to animals at large, investigating the evolution of subjective experience with the assistance of far-flung species. As he delves into what it feels like to perceive and interact with the world as other life-forms do, Godfrey-Smith shows that the appearance of the animal body well over half a billion years ago was a profound innovation that set life upon a new path. In accessible, riveting prose, he charts the ways that subsequent evolutionary developments—eyes that track, for example, and bodies that move through and manipulate the environment—shaped the subjective lives of animals. Following the evolutionary paths of a glass sponge, soft coral, banded shrimp, octopus, and fish, then moving onto land and the world of insects, birds, and primates like ourselves, *Metazoa* gathers their stories together in a way that bridges the gap between mind and matter, addressing one of the most vexing philosophical problems: that of consciousness.



The Urban Birder

BY DAVID LINDO

Birding is cool and anyone can do it, even in the heart of the city. That's the message of David Lindo, a.k.a. the Urban Birder. Whether the reader is at home, in the park, traveling to work, or just looking out a window, the opportunities are always there. This inspirational guide to birding in our cities recounts Lindo's personal journey of discovery, and includes entertaining stories of encounters with human as well as avian city dwellers around the world.

Quinto's Comedy Corner

WRITTEN BY LINDA BERGMAN-
ALTHOUSE

QUINTO says:

You might be a Wildlife Rehabilitator if you've ever said, "Don't touch that towel, it's full of squirrels."

You might be a Wildlife Rehabilitator if people think you smell like nature, but you know it's actually possum pee.

You might be a Wildlife Rehabilitator if you open your fridge and can't tell if it's dinner or duck food.

You might be a Wildlife Rehabilitator if you measure your sleep " between feedings."



WRNC Newsletter Editor & Copy Editors

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Linnea Mink | Editor |
| Linda Bergman-Althouse | C-Editor |
| Jean Chamberlain | C-Editor |
| Carla Johnson | C-Editor |
| Ann Rogers | C-Editor |
| Kelli Johnson | C-Editor |

Comedy submissions
for my column can be
emailed to
linneam01@gmail.com!



Photo By John Althouse.

WRNC Newsletter Schedule

The WRNC newsletter is published quarterly.

March 1

June 1

September 1

December 1

Do you have a wildlife-related idea you would like to share with the WRNC membership? Please submit it to our editors for consideration. How about a relevant article you found somewhere? Send us a link so we can ask for permission to reprint it. Email all articles, ideas, comments, and questions to linneam01@gmail.com.