It was a very windy Friday night in the hills of Atascadero. The Great Horned Owl’s nest sat high in the Coast Live Oak tree behind the Holman’s house. In it, rested a baby owl, just a few days old. The next morning John found the baby owl on the ground, blown from its nest, so he promptly brought it in to Pacific Wildlife Care’s Rehab Center.

After receiving a check-up and a clean bill of health, it was decided to try to re-nest the baby where it was found.

Bob Peak, PWC re-nester extraordinaire, devised a secure substitute nest made out of a laundry basket (allowing a secure perch where mom could land to feed her baby). With the help of Kathleen Dillon, Bob climbed a nearby tree and secured the “nest” in a notch where it would be safe from high winds.

Since the baby owl couldn’t yet see, it didn’t seem stressed by the re-nesting activity. Ample food was put in the basket to make sure the baby was fed well until its mother returned.

Then, the trick was to make sure the mother owl knew her baby was there. Bob had carried his boom box to the grove of trees and played a recording of a baby Great Horned Owl screeching for help. We all sat on the Holman’s deck, listening for the hoot of the mother. Sure enough, within about one minute into playing the distress call, we heard her! Now we were assured the mother was nearby and had heard the baby’s call.

Kathleen went back to the tree several times over the next few days to make sure that the mother was feeding the baby.

Happily, this baby Great Horned Owl now has the chance to grow up and join in the amazing dance of wildlife in the hills of Atascadero. It was such a joy to witness this!

Kathleen recently spoke with landowners, Anne and John, they confirmed that mom remains very attentive and that “our” little one is growing like crazy.

Fund-our-Vet Campaign Underway by Meg Crockett, PWC President

The PWC Board of Directors has launched a fundraising campaign called “Fund Our Vet.” The campaign will be asking members to help retain Dr. Shannon Riggs for 2014 since the Vetter-Winters Trust grant only covered one year. Letters will also be going out to the community at large (businesses, organizations and agencies). If you have an idea about who we might ask, please, let us know!
Species Released
January-April 2013
1  Bufflehead
1  Bushtit
1  American Crow
1  Ruddy Duck
1  Great Egret
1  Peregrine Falcon
7  House Finch
1  Purple Finch
1  American Goldfinch
1  Lesser Goldfinch
2  Clark’s Grebe
2  Eared Grebe
2  Horned Grebe
2  Pied-billed Grebe
4  Western Grebe
2  Helmeted Guineafowl
2  California Gull
2  Western Gull
4  Red-tailed Hawk
2  Sharp-shinned Hawk
1  Great Blue Heron
1  Anna’s Hummingbird
2  Red-throated Loon
1  Mallard
2  Northern Mockingbird
1  Bullock’s Oriole
2  Barn Owl
6  Great Horned Owl
5  Brown Pelican
5  Rock Pigeon
1  Surf Scoter
1  Western Scrub-Jay
1  Song Sparrow
2  White-crowned Sparrow
2  European Starling
1  Cliff Swallow
1  California Thrasher
2  Hermit Thrush
2  California Towhee
1  Spotted Towhee
1  Wild Turkey
3  Turkey Vulture
1  Yellow-rumped Warbler
1  Nuttall’s Woodpecker
2  Mexican Free-tailed Bat
1  Pallid Bat
6  Desert Cottontail
2  Black-tailed Jackrabbit
9  Virginia Opossum
1  Brush Rabbit
6  Black Rat
2  Western Gray Squirrel
2  California Vole

117 Total

OPEN HOUSE, WELL ATTENDED

Sixty-six attendees, including some practicing and retired Veterinarians, donors, members, friends and volunteers enjoyed champagne and snacks during Pacific Wildlife Care’s Open House, February 25th. Many got to meet Dr. Shannon Riggs for the first time and admire the facility upgrades including a digital xray machine, anesthesia machine, exam tables, stainless food-prep table, commercial refrigerator, kitchen sinks, counter tops and cabinets!

Members Sue & Karl Luft meet Dr. Riggs while touring the new surgery suite.

(Top) The large main hall at the Vina Robles Winery provided plenty of space for attendees to peruse the lovely variety of Silent Auction items which raised over $6,000. WiW V Photos by Richard Baccigalupi.

(Lower Left) Jeri Roberts & Kelly Vandenheuvel with Rusty & Denali

(Lower Right) Ken Highfill wins as Frank Alvarado watches Rob Whittier’s “Wine Wheel” game of chance - everyone who ‘played’ won!
Amazing, Dedicated PWC Volunteers!

Pacific Wildlife Care could not do its lifesaving work without our legion of volunteers. PWC currently has over;
80 Center Volunteers, 50 Transporters, 20 Phone Volunteers and 50 home rehabbers. Recently, we have several new “Front Desk” and “Bookkeeping” volunteers who answer phones, keep up with data input, check mail, enter receipts, and help with intakes on wildlife brought in by the public. Thank you: Dorothy Correa, Joyce Pardue, Pati Scott, JoDea Harry, Sheri Dorsey.

As an organization, the Board of Directors understands that we have grown to the point of needing an Executive Director as well as needing an Office Manager (however, funding is not yet available for such important, organization-stabilizing jobs); so, in the meantime, we rely heavily on our wonderful volunteers!

We are grateful that our volunteers, when they recognize a “need” for PWC, step up, take initiative and just “do it!”

From Kelly Cherry (who stepped up to help with the Center and Phone Volunteer’s calendar and email reminders), to Christine Lanier (who saw the need to start up “Critter Corner” - a newsletter for our Volunteers), to Shawn Brown (who saw the need for one-on-one mentoring sessions for new volunteers), to Gary Bennett (who fixed the precarious cage washing area), to Karen Venditti (who has taken over gathering info for and emailing out “Critter Corner”), to Richard Grise (who will get the word out to our volunteers about Oiled Wildlife Care Network trainings), to Kathleen Dillon (who helped coordinate the recent Center remodel), to our volunteer Tech Guru / President / Treasurer Dave Klinzman (who has supported the organization beyond measure).

To all of you, we are so very appreciative for the vision you had and the time you committed to PWC!

The organization benefits from each and every volunteer who gives time, ideas and skills.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Look for information on the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic to be scheduled in late summer or early fall...
PWC’s mission is to rehabilitate and return to their natural habitat orphaned, pollution-damaged and injured wildlife; to educate our community to value wildlife including the need to respect the environment we share with them.

Special Thank Yous

Substantial donations to the Center remodel and upgrade (surgery room, baby bird room)

In loving memory of Dorothy L. Castro (Castro Family Trust)
Joan Sargen Sophidion Foundation Vetter-Winters Trust

Cambria Community Council – Grant for education presentations in Cambria schools
Jack Lowe – Designing & making seabird pool feeders, modifications to our pelagic pool & Center maintenance projects

Dorothy Correa & Garrett Foulke – Autoclave donation
Colab Charitable Trust – Generous donation to our General Fund
Mary Ellen Bohnsack – Graphic art poster design / donation
Christine Lanier – Center Orientations for new volunteers
Shawn Brown – Volunteer Mentoring Committee
Karen Venditti – “Critter Corner” (newsletter for Volunteers)
Bob Peak – Successful renesting of baby birds

Volunteers staffing reception area:
Dorothy Correa, Joyce Pardue, JoDea Harry

Membership/Donations Save Lives

“Yes, I would like to give wildlife a second chance!”

☑ Benefactor $2,500 ☑ Supporter $100
☑ Patron $1,000 ☑ Advocate $50
☑ Sponsor $500 ☑ Student/Senior/Volunteer $25
☑ Contributor $250 ☑ Other ________________

Visit us online at www.pacificwildlifecare.org to set up a monthly subscription or pay by credit card

Name: ____________________________________________
Phone: __________________________ Email: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: ______ Date: ______

Please check: ☑ New Membership ☑ Renewal ☑ Donation ☑ I would like to volunteer
Please mail completed form with check to Pacific Wildlife Care, PO Box 1134, Morro Bay, CA 93443

Dorothy Correa, Joyce Pardue, JoDea Harry