

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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## Message from the President

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On behalf of the Washington Wildlife Rehabilitation Association's (WWRA) Board of Directors, we are pleased to share the WWRA 2023 Annual Report. WWRA was officially formed in 2003, as a member-directed organization created to support the science and profession of wildlife rehabilitation and its practitioners. Board members represent the membership and work with one another on committees to develop professional resources, create networking opportunities, and connect with others working with wildlife throughout the state.

We were able to continue our scholarship and other grant funding support to our members. We were in our 2<sup>nd</sup> year of this 2-year project that was supported by Partners for Wildlife grant funding.

This past fall, we held our annual election. Our members elected to renew the positions for two of our current board members. Our board volunteered 620 hours of their time last year working in their committees and fulfilling board responsibilities. Wildlife rehabilitation is an important asset to the wildlife and citizens of Washington state. We are happy to facilitate an association that can help promote this opportunity and support the professionals that care for wildlife patients each day.

We appreciate your support of our mission,

*Suzanne West*

WWRA Board President

# Committee Achievements

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## BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Board Development committee suggested changes to the by-laws that were adopted by the BOD to allow board members to run for board positions for more than two terms. Each board member will need to be re-elected by the membership every three years, but they can run and serve an undetermined number of terms. This will allow for consistency in the board and executive positions.
- The yearly board member election was held, and both Emily Meredith and Sara Penhallegon were nominated and elected to continue to serve as WWRA board members.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- WWRA hosted its annual conference in October 2023 following a two-day hybrid model (virtual and/or in-person attendance) in Everett, WA.
- We offered 26 sessions with speakers of all different backgrounds (veterinarians, veterinary technicians, rehabilitators, permitting agents, and more). Topics included: orphan rehabilitation, diversity and inclusion, fundraising, technology, education, nutrition, caging, diseases and biosecurity, medical management, and more!
- The conference reached an audience of 134 individuals (52 virtual, 82 in-person), including speakers. Attendees joined us from 16 states (Washington, Minnesota, Alaska, Idaho, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Montana, Wisconsin, Oregon, Virginia, Rhode Island, New York, Maine, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and California). WWRA awarded 14 scholarships for conference attendance, using grant funds from Partners For Wildlife (P4W).
- Attendees could earn a total of 23.5 continuing education hours, including 4.5 RACE-approved hours for veterinarians and veterinary technicians. All sessions are recorded and available on the WWRA website for viewing until the 2024 conference. WWRA hosted an after-hours social event to provide a networking and relationship building opportunity to our members and the rehabilitation community.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- The committee produced a spring and fall edition of an electronic newsletter.
- Committee members reached out to new members, as well as distributed regular correspondence with the membership on behalf of other committees regarding educational opportunities, upcoming elections, and surveys to gauge interest in participation or feedback on committee planning.
- We hosted *Wild Wednesdays* virtual gatherings where our members shared presentations about raptor enrichment and another where we played some games and enjoyed some time together.

## Membership Overview

WWRA was able to provide membership scholarships to 14 individuals. All six Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regions are represented by the membership base. Home-based rehabilitators and rehabilitators from large centers form a vital part of WWRA's ongoing membership. We have even added members from other states looking for continuing education opportunities and professional connections.

- Organizational memberships
  - 14 organizations with 48 associated individuals
- Family memberships
  - 4 family membership, representing 6 individuals
- Lifetime membership
  - 3 lifetime memberships
- Individual memberships
  - 76 individuals
- WDFW Regions represented
  - All Regions 1 – 6, as well as members in Alaska, Idaho, Arizona, and Wisconsin

## WILDLIFE CARE COMMITTEE

- The committee continued to produce a variety of educational PDFs for the website and rehabilitation community:
  - It is the goal that wildlife centers and other interested parties will download and use these PDFs for education outside of the WWRA website.
  - This project's end goal is February 2024.
- The committee finalized basic wildlife stabilization and triage training for the veterinary community and the chair gave presentations for WSVMA, WSVTA, WWRA, WSU and PNWVC.
- The committee will be merging with the Education Committee in January 2024 to better align goals and objectives.

## FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Finance and Development committee continue to use our Profit and Loss report and our Balance sheet created by the consulting accountant.
- The Finance and development committee are very happy to report we had a 100% giving from our Board of Directors again in 2023. The promise to either donate funds directly, acquire donated item, and procure sponsorships for our annual conference is a sign of the boards unrelenting dedication and support for WWRA and our mission.

### 2023 Statement of Financial Position

Total Revenue	21,982.40
Total Expenses	14,231.58
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,747.82</b>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>35,102.28</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>30,183.86</b>

## 2023 Board of Directors

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WWRA Board members are fully committed to and engaged with the organization. Board members attended monthly board meetings (by conference call) and the annual conference. Board members volunteer their time as committee chairs and members for all aspects of the organization. WWRA had a total of 8 Board members in 2022.

### **President**

#### **Membership Services Committee Co-chair**

- Suzanne West, Sarvey Wildlife Care Center

#### **Co – Vice President/Education Committee Chair**

- Raina Domek, PAWS Wildlife Center

#### **Co – Vice President/Secretary Wildlife Care Committee Chair**

- Alysha Evans, Whatcom Humane Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

### **Co-Treasurer**

#### **Board Development Committee Chair**

- Sara Penhallegon, Center Valley Animal Rescue

### **Co-Treasurer**

#### **Finance and Development Committee Chair**

- Emily Meredith,

#### **Membership Committee Co-chair**

- Mathew “Tigger” Birch, Featherhaven

### **Directors**

- Kate Bouchard, Sarvey Wildlife Care Center
- Marcie Logsdon, DVM WSU
- Casey Mclean, SR3

**Mission Statement:** *WWRA acts as a collective voice dedicated to advancing professional wildlife rehabilitation in Washington state through education and community building.*

**Guiding Principles:** The Washington Wildlife Rehabilitation Association supports the science and profession of wildlife rehabilitation and its practitioners through:

- Fostering continued improvement of wildlife rehabilitation.
- Disseminating knowledge through meetings, reports, publications, symposia, and other means.
- Promoting educational programs, teaching natural history, and explaining the kinship among all living things.
- Promoting cooperation between professional and governmental agencies, wildlife rehabilitators, and the public at large.
- Providing support to its members through networking and mentoring.

