



21st Annual Call of the Wild

Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference

Hosted by The Wildlife Center of Virginia

**Best Western Inn & Suites Conference Center
November 11-13, 2016
Waynesboro, Virginia**

Sponsored by:

*The Wildlife Center of Virginia and
The Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries*

NOVEMBER 2016

Welcome to the Wildlife Center of Virginia's 21st *Call of the Wild* conference on wildlife rehabilitation!

Once again, we're happy to have a "full house" this year. It's been encouraging to see the conference grow, particularly during the past few years – it's wonderful to see so many people from different backgrounds and difference experiences come together in one location to learn more about wildlife.

We have some amazing speakers this year who will be sharing their knowledge and expertise, but remember – there's a lot of learning to be done in between classes, too! We have some knowledgeable and dedicated participants, so please take advantage of your "down time" and introduce yourselves to others – the connections you make can help you and your wild charges in the future!

Please be sure to fill out your evaluation so that, when planning next year's conference, we can continue to meet your needs – the conference is designed for **you**, and suggestions greatly help in the planning process!

Thanks for joining us this year, and thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of wildlife everywhere.

**-The Staff of the Wildlife Center of
Virginia**



DOOR PRIZES

A number of companies from around the country have donated door prizes for this year's conference! Each participant will receive 10 raffle tickets for each day of registration. Choose which door prize(s) you would like to win, print your name on the back of your tickets, and place them in the corresponding bag. The drawing will take place on Sunday after lunch; you need not be present to win.

Good Luck!

EXHIBIT AREA

We are delighted to have a variety of exhibitors join us this year—including several new vendors with wildlife goodies! Take advantage of those who are here and check out their information, wildlife supplies, and gift items. Get a head-start on your holiday shopping!

GIVEAWAY ROOM

Don't forget to check out all of the great free rehab supplies in the board room. We are very fortunate to have received a variety of useful items from the local Wal-Mart distribution center as well as the UVa hospital; we are excited to be able to pass these goodies on to you! Help yourself to cleaning supplies, medical instruments, animal food, cages, and much more! Even better—you don't have to wait until conference time each year to load up on medical supplies. Drop us an email to find out what we have in stock, and we can ship to you. Simply pre-pay shipping costs and wait for your goodies to come to your doorstep!

CERTIFICATES OF CONFERENCE COMPLETION

Certificates for continuing education will be available **after lunch** on Saturday and Sunday at the Wildlife Center registration table. Each day of the conference is worth six hours of CE credits. Veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians: please see the registration table for a special CE certificate for qualifying classes.

SATURDAY

7:30 am – 8:30 am: Registration (and Give-Away Room opens)

8:30 am - 8:45 am: Welcome (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

8:45 AM – 9:45 AM – SESSION 1

A. What's That Smell? An Introduction to Skunk Rehab (*Rockfish Gap*)

Skunks are playful, adorable, and wonderful animals to rehabilitate; however, they can be intimidating to those who have no experience with them. This class will cover the basic rehabilitation of Virginia's Striped Skunk from infancy to release, plus a few tricks and tips we have picked up over the years of rehabilitating them at Rockfish Wildlife Sanctuary.

Jessie Cole, info@rockfishwildlifesanctuary.org

Reuniting and Wild-fostering Birds (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

Reuniting methods for birds depend on an understanding of their nesting behavior, which varies widely from species to species. Cavity or open-cup nest? Territorial or colonial breeder? Precocial or altricial? Flighted or grounded as fledglings? Examples of reuniting methods for a variety of birds are presented, along with a discussion of their behavioral differences—and why they matter.

Anne Miller, amiller_1@bellsouth.net

9:55 AM - 10:55 AM - SESSION 2

A. Caring for the Loud “Flying Cigars”: A Guide to Rehabilitation and Release of Chimney Swifts (*Rockfish Gap/Afton Room*)

This class will provide participants with an overview on chimney swift rehabilitation.

Lydia Hoepfner, swvawildlifecenter@gmail.com

B. Reuniting Mammals: Understanding Maternal Behavior (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

Understanding maternal behavior is the key to success in reuniting healthy young mammals. The presenter has had many years of experience reuniting raccoons, skunks, opossums, squirrels and birds in an urban setting, and documents many reunions with videos demonstrating maternal behavior and the amazing strength of the maternal bond in a variety of species.

John Griffin, jgriffin@humanewildlifeservices.com

11:05 AM – SESSION 3

A. Wildlife Medication Administration Training [until 12:05 PM] (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

This course is designed to teach wildlife rehabilitators how to administer medications prescribed by their veterinarians both safely and accurately. We will cover terminology, types of medications, an overview of medication effects, ways to prepare and administer medications, the proper handling, storage and disposal of medication, and current hot topics like antibiotic resistance and adverse drug events.

Dr. Kelli Knight, kknight@wildlifecenter.org

B. Interactive Reuniting Roundtable [until 11:50 AM] (*Rockfish Gap*)

The moderators of this interactive roundtable will answer questions and discuss case histories from the audience focusing on problems and concerns about specific reuniting cases. The moderators will also challenge the audience with unusual reuniting cases to demonstrate how to develop an appropriate reuniting strategy for a variety of bird and mammal species, based on their behavioral differences.

Anne Miller, amiller_1@bellsouth.net and John Griffin, jgriffin@humanewildlifeservices.com

LUNCH AND NETWORKING 11:50 AM – 1:00 PM

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM – SESSION 4

A. Partnership for Success—the Critical Relationship Between Rehabilitator and Veterinarian (*Rockfish Gap/ Afton Room*)

The interaction between wildlife rehabilitators and their cooperating veterinarians can range from a close collaboration and life-saving partnership to a simple signature on a permit application and the exchange of Christmas cards. Potentially, the working relationship between the veterinary practitioner and the permitted rehabilitator is one of the most important factors in determining if wild patients live or die. This panel will explore what it takes to build that strong working relationship from many perspectives. Panelists include wildlife rehabilitators, cooperating veterinarians, agency personnel, and others. They will explore the medical, ethical, legal, regulatory, and financial aspects of wildlife medicine/rehabilitation, and the critical steps required for building an effective partnership.

Ed Clark, eclark@wildlifecenter.org, Dr. Heather Jenkins Brazzell, Dr. Kelly Gottschalk, and Barbara Slatcher

B. Debilitated and Emaciated Orphaned Mammals (*Blue Ridge*)

This session is an overview of assessing and caring for compromised orphaned wild mammals. It will include triage and initial assessment upon admission as well as the common conditions that can arise while in captive care.

Halley Buckanoff, nczoo.wildliferehab@nczoo.org

2:40 PM – SESSION 5

A. Have You Read Your Permit Conditions ... Lately? [until 4:40 PM]

(Blue Ridge Ballroom — LEFT)

This session will be an informal discussion of the permit conditions related to Virginia wildlife rehabilitator permits. Each individual permit condition will be briefly discussed along with related wildlife protection laws. At the end, recent non-specific issues with rehabilitators will be discussed and questions from the participants will be entertained.

Randy Francis, randy.francis@dgif.virginia.gov

B. When Good Wounds Get Bad: A Wound Management Workshop* [until 4:10 PM] *(Blue Ridge Ballroom — RIGHT)*

Wound management can be simple, but it involves a comprehensive care plan that considers all factors contributing to and affecting the wound and the patient. Simple actions can prevent good wounds from getting bad. Good management of a wound can prevent long recoveries, surgery, or long-term problems. During the lab, discussion includes how to manage simple and complicated wounds, when they need specialized veterinary care, and what rehabilitators can do with limited resources to prevent wound complications.

Dr. Ernesto Dominguez, edominguez@wildlifecenter.org

**This workshop is full. Advanced sign-up required.*

Virginia permitted rehabilitators: join us at **7:00 pm** on Saturday evening in the Rockfish Gap room for free pizza and beverages to discuss issues facing the rehabilitation community in Virginia. Home-based rehabilitators, rehab facilities, and DGIF will be represented. Help us build a plan of action to move rehabilitation in Virginia to the next level of excellence. **Open to those holding a current permit to rehabilitate wildlife in Virginia.**

SUNDAY

7:30 AM– 8:15 AM: Registration

8:15 AM – SESSION 1

A. Fear the Free-Roaming Feline: An Update on Cat-caught Admissions to Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities [until 9:15 AM] (*Blue Ridge*)

In the last several years there have been many studies and articles published on the impact of free-roaming domestic cats on wildlife predation and disease transmission. This talk summarizes the information for wildlife rehabilitators and also discusses the results of an 11-year retrospective study on cat-associated wildlife patient admissions to the Wildlife Center of Virginia and a five-year study in more than 80 rehabilitation facilities in the United States.

Dr. Dave McRuer, dmcruer@wildlifecenter.org

B. Building Your Balance: Compassion Fatigue and Stress Management [until 11:15 AM] (*Rockfish Gap/ Afton Room*)

Compassion stress is a normal and natural response to working in a caring field -- and the field of animal care and protection is no exception. Awareness of suffering, our desire to take action to alleviate it, and the weariness that results from the volume of work and depth of caring all lead to exhaustion and burn-out if not carefully managed. Learn the signs and symptoms of compassion stress, fatigue, and burnout, and discover a variety of ways you can stay involved in a rewarding and equally challenging field. Participants will leave with strategies and tools to make the journey easier and sustainable.

Stephanie Itle-Clark, sitle-clark@comcast.net

9:20 AM – 10:20 AM – SESSION 2

A. Practical Wildlife Endoparasitology (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

Yes, it is true that many wildlife species have some level of parasitic infection throughout their lives and that this may not be associated with any clinical disease.

So why do you need to know about wildlife parasites? This lecture will provide an overview of relevant parasites in wildlife species with an emphasis on their life cycles. By understanding life cycles, rehabilitators will be better equipped to understand how the animal was infected, if the parasite can infect other wildlife patients or contaminate your facility, and how to assess whether or not treatment is necessary.

Dr. Michele Goodman, michele@webbedfootwildlife.org

Remember hotel check-out is at 11:00 AM!

10:25 AM – 11:25 AM – SESSION 3

Black Bear 101: The Basics about Black Bears in Virginia, Their Management, and How to Peacefully Coexist (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

With expanding populations of both people and bears, interactions are a common occurrence across Virginia. Perception and education have a great deal of influence on how people respond to bears. Most fears about black bears are perpetuated by misinformation and sensationalism. One of the most important things we can do for both people and bears is to replace the misinformation about bears with facts. This presentation will attempt to give you the information you need to truly appreciate this incredible animal.

Jaime Sajecki, Jaime.sajecki@dgif.virginia.gov

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM – SESSION 4

A. Initial Assessment and Care of Herptiles (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

Herps are a broad category of animals including but not limited to turtles, snakes, lizards, frogs, and salamanders. This session will cover the initial triage and basic considerations for caring for such a diverse group of animals.

Halley Buckanoff, nczoo.wildliferehab@nczoo.org

B. Loon, Grebe, Diving Duck, and Sea Duck Rehabilitation (*Rockfish*)

It's all about the waterproofing! Successful rehabilitation of these sensitive species requires access to clean water and innovative housing solutions to prevent contamination of feathers by food or feces. Common reasons for presentation, adequate nutrition, and prevention of secondary injuries will also be discussed.

Brie Hashem, bhashem@wildlifecenter.org

LUNCH AND NETWORKING 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

1:20 PM – 2:20 PM – SESSION 5

A. Waterfowl Rehabilitation Strategies – Dealing with Sensitive Species (*Blue Ridge Ballroom*)

There is more to waterfowl rehabilitation than mallards and Canada geese. Sensitive waterfowl species often present to wildlife rehabilitation facilities and can be quite challenging to rehabilitate. This lecture will provide rearing and rehabilitation techniques for the different varieties of sensitive waterfowl, with an emphasis on initial assessment, stabilization, stress reduction, supportive care, excellent nutrition, and innovative housing.

Dr. Michele Goodman, michele@webbedfootwildlife.org

B. The Best Ways to Make Facebook Work For You (*Rockfish Gap*)

There are more than 70 million business and non-profit pages on Facebook – it seems as though everyone has a presence in this popular social media platform, from schools to animal rescues, from libraries to gas stations.

With so many organizations posting content each day, how do you get your wildlife organization to stand out in the crowd? Learn about the most effective Facebook strategies that will help you build your Facebook community. Discussion will also include a number of helpful tricks and tools that will give your organization's Facebook posts a boost.

Amanda Nicholson, anicholson@wildlifecenter.org

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM – SESSION 6

A. Bats 101 (Rockfish Gap/Afton Room)

Explore the natural history and seasonal lives of mid-Atlantic bat species. We'll discuss the energetic demands of flight and echolocation in order to understand some common issues in rehab. We'll also discuss what is and isn't known about nutrition. The session will also include conservation concerns, including white-nose syndrome.

Leslie Sturges, lsturges@savelucythebat.org

B. What's Inside? An Anatomy Discussion and Necropsy Lab (Blue Ridge Ballroom)

Get to know the critters you care for inside-out! This hands-on session will include a (1) 45-minute overview of avian, mammalian, and reptilian anatomy, including respiratory tract, gastrointestinal tract, musculoskeletal system, etc. and (2) a 45-minute lab where attendees will be instructed on necropsy techniques and identification of organ systems and associated abnormalities/diseases.

Dr. Peach Van Wick, pvanwick@wildlifecenter.org

**This workshop is full. Advanced sign-up required.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR EVALUATIONS
AND NAME BADGES AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE!
THANK YOU, AND TRAVEL SAFELY**

SPEAKERS

Halley Buckanoff is the lead veterinary technician at the Valerie H. Schindler Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at the North Carolina Zoo. Halley has a Bachelor's of Science in biology, is a certified veterinary technician, and a certified wildlife rehabilitator through the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and is an instructor for IWRC. Halley is a master bird bander and is conducting post-release survival studies on commonly orphaned and hand-reared backyard birds. As of late, Halley has become more interested and involved in herpetile medicine and rehabilitation and is working with IWRC on a herpetile course.

For more than thirty years, **Ed Clark** has been an international leader in the field of conservation. In November 1982, Ed co-founded the Wildlife Center of Virginia and has served as the organization's president since. Three Virginia governors have appointed him to boards and commissions including the Virginia Council on the Environment, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Virginia Environmental Education Commission, and the Special Commission for Natural Resource Funding. Ed has held positions on the boards of many conservation organizations, including vice chairman of the National Wildlife Federation, president of the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, and steering committee member of the Endangered Species Coalition. Ed has received many awards and a great deal of recognition for his conservation work. He won the prestigious Chuck Yeager Award from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, was named one of 500 Environmental Achievers by the US Committee for the United Nations Environment Programme, and received the 2006 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Bridgewater College. He is also a well-known television personality, having hosted both *Virginia Outdoors*, an award-winning series on Virginia public television, and *Wildlife Emergency* on Animal Planet. He has also been a regular guest on such programs as Larry King Live on CNN, TODAY on NBC, and Washington Journal on C-SPAN.

Jessie Cole grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia and has been around animals and nature her whole life. Her wonderful parents, who are animal lovers themselves, instilled in her a passion for helping all kinds of wild and domestic animals. That, coupled with her love of nature, led her to Rockfish Wildlife Sanctuary (RWS). Jessie has been working at RWS since 2008 rehabilitating wildlife, training interns and volunteers, and working on public outreach. She attended The Covenant School, after which she continued her education at Christopher Newport University, where she earned a degree in biology with a minor in anthropology. When she graduated in 2008, she returned to Charlottesville where she met Nathou Attinger, founder of RWS, and began an apprenticeship under Nathou's guidance to earn a wildlife rehabilitator's permit. Jessie says of RWS, "Every day is a reward to be able to help Virginia's wildlife, and I could not imagine spending my time on earth any other way. I am so lucky to be a part of such a wonderful organization."

Dr. Ernesto Domínguez grew up in Mexico City. He always loved animals, and after a safari in South Africa in 2002, he knew he wanted to be a veterinarian. After two years of studies in medical school (2003-2005), he quit med school to follow his dream of becoming a veterinarian. Dr. Ernesto graduated from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) School of Veterinary Medicine in 2013. After the second year of veterinary school, he volunteered at the Wildlife & Exotic Pet Hospital

at UNAM. During his last year of veterinary school, Dr. Ernesto spent some time doing his graduation project in avian orthopedics at the Wildlife Center of Virginia. After getting his degree, he completed different postgraduate training in wildlife centers and zoos around the world, including the Belize Wildlife and Referral Clinic, Arcas Wildlife Center in Guatemala, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, Africam Safari Zoo in Mexico, the Johannesburg Zoo in South Africa, and a second externship at the Wildlife Center of Virginia as a veterinarian. From September 2015 to June 2016 he completed an internship in Raptor Medicine and Surgery at the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota. He is interested in conservation medicine. Dr. Ernesto is excited to be back at WCV to work with black bears and reptiles, and be part of the staff.

Randy Francis is the wildlife permits coordinator for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. He has law enforcement experience on the Federal, State, and local levels. During his 38-year career, he has served as an investigator for four Virginia state agencies, the United States Navy, and local law enforcement agencies. He has served in the United States Army in an intelligence capacity and the United States Navy Reserve in law enforcement and intelligence capacities, where he retired as a Chief Petty Officer.

Dr. Michele Goodman received her veterinary medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. She was the founding director of Webbed Foot Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic located in Ambler, PA, a facility specializing in the care of waterfowl. While earning her graduate degree in health science from Quinnipiac University, Michele worked at the Livingston Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy, a facility dedicated to aviculture, research, and education. Michele currently serves as the secretary of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association.

John Griffin is the Director of Urban Wildlife Programs at the Humane Society of the U.S., where he's constantly working on solutions to wildlife conflicts in urbanized areas. John has more than 20 years of field experience working with a wide variety of wildlife. He founded a humane wildlife control service in 2006 and now oversees Humane Wildlife ServicesSM, a service based at the South Florida Wildlife Center. John presents and writes on topics that include humane approaches to resolving wildlife conflicts, wildlife in disasters, and reuniting wildlife. He recently completed a stint as a National Geographic Expedition team member exploring raccoon behavior in urbanized areas.

Brie Hashem is a Pennsylvania native who earned her Bachelor of Science in environmental resource management from Penn State University. After graduation, she spent almost five years as a clinic supervisor at Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, Inc. in Newark, Delaware. She is currently finishing her graduate certificate in wildlife management through Oregon State University before beginning her master's in fisheries and wildlife administration this spring. She recently relocated to the Shenandoah Valley with her husband and two dogs and is looking forward to working with mammals and reptiles.

Lydia Hoepfner has been involved with Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center of Roanoke for several years, and is known as the "Head Dwarf". She's currently a student at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Stephanie Itle-Clark is the director of learning for Humane Society Academy, a department of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), where she specializes in pedagogy, learning theory, and curriculum design. She has been fortunate to provide professional development offerings and compassion fatigue workshops all over the globe through in-person and online trainings. Before joining The HSUS Stephanie was a classroom teacher, a counselor in a teen shelter, and acted as therapeutic support staff for special needs children. In each of these roles she witnessed compassion stress and fatigue in staff and volunteers. Her academic interests include humane and critical pedagogy as a means to increase awareness of best teaching practices and supporting use of prosocial methods to drive social change. Stephanie received her Doctorate of Education in Leadership for Change from Fielding Graduate University, holds Certified Humane Education Specialist Credentials from The HSUS, and is a Certified Compassion Fatigue Educator through the Green Cross Academy of Traumatology.

Dr. Kelli Knight graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry and from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine with a doctorate in veterinary medicine. She first came to the Wildlife Center of Virginia in 1995 as a veterinary extern. After a successful career in small-animal practice, she returned to WCV in 2011 to complete a wildlife rehabilitation externship and fell in love with the field of wildlife rehabilitation! In 2012, Dr. Kelli joined the staff at the Wildlife Center of Virginia and has held several positions including wildlife rehabilitation intern, wildlife rehabilitator, and, currently, the assistant director of veterinary services. Her duties include overseeing the veterinary department and staff in the director's absence; training and supervising the rehabilitators, apprentices, rehabilitation interns, rehabilitation externs, and animal care volunteers; overseeing the rehabilitation of all animals at the Center; serving as a liaison between WCV and Virginia permitted rehabilitators; and teaching rehabilitation classes and speaking at conferences. In 2013, Dr. Kelli became a certified wildlife rehabilitator after passing the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council's certification program. Currently, there are fewer than 100 certified wildlife rehabilitators in the world. She is also an IWRC instructor and a member of NWRAs national team. Dr. Kelli lives in Waynesboro and spends her free time at her home away from home in Blacksburg, cheering on her Hokies at football and basketball games.

Dr. Dave McRuer is from the small rural community of East Gore, Nova Scotia Canada. He obtained a B.Sc. in biology at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick (1999), and then a M.Sc. in ecology and evolutionary biology from Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario (2001). From 2001-2005, Dr. Dave attended the Atlantic Veterinary College and acquired his veterinary degree. After graduating, he went west to conduct an internship in zoological medicine, exotics, and wildlife at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (2005-2006). Dr. Dave then traveled east (August 2006) to become the veterinary resident in preventative medicine at the Wildlife Center of Virginia. Dr. Dave became a Diplomat in the American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine in August 2009. Since 2008, Dr. Dave has served as the Center's director of veterinary services, where he trains veterinarians and veterinary students in wildlife and conservation medicine. He is responsible for overseeing the teaching hospital, supervising the creation of an innovative software program designed to monitor trends in wildlife health (WILD-ONE), and treats and supervises treatment on native wildlife.

Anne Miller founded Alabama's first wildlife rehabilitation program in 1977. Under her leadership, it grew from an all-volunteer group to become the Alabama Wildlife Center at Oak Mountain State Park, caring for more than 2,500 animals of more than 100 species annually. Since her retirement in 2008, she has been teaching and writing about the importance of reuniting young wild animal with their parents. Anne also led the Birmingham Audubon Society's partnership with the Alabama Tourism Department to create a system of birding trails throughout Alabama. She is currently serving as president of the Alabama Ornithological Society.

Amanda Nicholson first became involved with the Wildlife Center of Virginia when she attended Bridgewater College – first as a volunteer, then as an animal care preceptorship student in 2000. After graduating with a degree in biology in 2001, Amanda joined the staff as the weekend receptionist and part-time rehabilitator. Over the years, Amanda has held several different positions at the Wildlife Center; currently she serves as the director of the outreach department. In this position, Amanda oversees the department responsible for public education and community involvement. Amanda oversees the Center's website, manages the "Critter Cam" and moderated discussion, organizes the annual *Call of the Wild* conference, teaches online wildlife rehabilitation classes, and finds placement for non-releasable animals at educational facilities. She also serves as the program coordinator for the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association's annual symposium. Amanda loves the dynamic nature of the ever-changing activities going on at a wildlife hospital and sharing the Wildlife Center's mission and stories with others.

Jaime Sajecki, black bear project leader for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, has been with the agency since 2006 and has 16 years of experience working with black bears in California and Virginia. Jaime got her BA in biology from Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY and MS in wildlife management at Humboldt State University in Northern California. During her time in Humboldt County, Jaime worked on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation in a bear program aimed to find solutions for reducing bear damage to conifers and conflict with Tribal members. Since she began working with bears, especially in Virginia, Jaime believes that with just a little information, most people can realize and appreciate what amazing creatures we share our environment with.

Leslie Sturges is the president of the Save Lucy Campaign, a conservation and education organization based in Virginia. She trained with Bat World Sanctuary in 2001 and has been rehabilitating bats ever since. She has worked extensively with biologists in VA, MD, and PA, US Forest Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service on bat related issues. She sits on the National Bat Week steering committee, regularly presents at *Call of the Wild*, leads workshops in bat rehabilitation, and presents at bat working group meetings while leading a five-person rehabilitation group in four Virginia counties. She really needs some volunteer help!

Dr. Peach Van Wick grew up in the small town of Pearl, Mississippi, and, following in the footsteps of her parents and older brother, attended Mississippi State University after high school. Dr. Peach had always known she wanted to be a veterinarian, so while she was an undergraduate student, she spent three years working three different positions at MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Peach attended MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine from 2011-2015, and while she enjoyed working with cats and dogs, she also became extremely passionate about directing her career path in a way that would benefit the "un-owned" animals of the world, particularly free-ranging wildlife. This interest in wildlife was solidified when Dr. Peach studied abroad in South Africa and had the chance to work with free-ranging African species in a conservation medicine course. During her third year of vet school, Dr. Peach enrolled in her school's DVM/MS dual degree program in order to pursue a Master's degree in population medicine. She received her DVM in May of 2015 and spent the next 12 months completing her Master's by gaining experience and exposure to different aspects of wildlife medicine and conservation. Dr. Peach spent time at the Audubon Institute in New Orleans, the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, and, of course, the Wildlife Center of Virginia. Additionally, Dr. Peach provided relief work at various small-animal practices in north Alabama between her externships. She is extremely excited to be back in Waynesboro joining the WCV team and is most looking forward to working with bears, raptors, and contributing to public outreach efforts.

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The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) The VDGIF is responsible for managing Virginia's wildlife and inland fish to maintain optimum populations of all species to serve the needs of the Commonwealth, to provide an opportunity for all to enjoy wildlife, inland fish, boating and related outdoor recreation, and to provide educational outreach programs and materials that foster an awareness of and appreciation for Virginia's fish and wildlife resources and their habitats. A very special thank you to the VDGIF for co-sponsoring the Call of the Wild 2016. Their support aids in the advancement of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife conservation.

Class Materials Handouts from the 2016 Call of the Wild conference can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/zycl36u>
This link will remain active until the end of 2016.



CONTACT US

The Wildlife Center of Virginia invites you to share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. Feel free to contact, at any time: The Wildlife Center of Virginia P.O. Box 1557 Waynesboro, VA 22980 Phone: 540-942-9453 Fax: 540-943-9453 wildlife@wildlifecenter.org Website: www.wildlifecenter.org Hours of Operation: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, 7 days a week See you next year! Join us November 2017 for the 22nd annual Call of the Wild Conference

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