

Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Saskatchewan

I WANT TO GO HOME!



*Presidents Message*

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Adieu, Adios, Aloha, and Arrivederci,

Well, this is my last opportunity to write the President’s Message for our Newsletter. I have enjoyed my time as President of WRSOS. I am proud of everything we have accomplished, and appreciative of everyone’s commitment and dedication to supporting Wildlife Rehabilitation in Saskatchewan.

Ours is a special niche. We are interested in supporting our wild neighbours in a very concrete manner. We are but a small piece of the larger environmental pie that provides a voice for wildlife. We must be committed to working with the other organizations in concert to maximize our efforts; from governments who can provide standards and maintain the rules; to environmental groups such as Nature Saskatchewan who defends the land and protects the habitat we need to be able to release our rehabilitated animals; to students, schools, and universities from whom we learn based upon their research how to better care for the animals in our charge. Without these partners, we would not be able to fill our niche.

It has been a rewarding several years. I had a choice when I first received my wildlife rehabilitation permit. I could take the paper and continue to do what I had been doing, caring for my local wildlife as they were brought to me. Or, I could take on the larger task of creating an organization and a voice for wildlife rehabilitators in Saskatchewan, to ensure the future of wildlife rehabilitation in Saskatchewan.

I seem to have difficulty in keeping things simple in life, and took the long road. It has been a huge amount of work, which I have done with joy and the knowledge that the animals will benefit from my efforts. I am delighted to step down, with the confidence that there is a strong group of dedicated individuals committed to the organization’s goals and vision.

I thank everyone for their support the last few years, and especially my husband who has been conscripted frequently, and without complaint. I look forward to watching WRSOS grow and expand its influence in Saskatchewan, one person and one animal at a time.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Shadick

## WCVM OPEN HOUSE, POTLUCK AND PET EXPO A GREAT SUCCESS

The tour of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) on January 30th was a resounding success! We invited our friends from the Saskatoon Nature Society to join us, and despite a small number of RSVP's, we had almost 40 people! It was a nice mix of members of both societies. We had to split them into two groups. The second group got to meet an injured pigeon and ask questions of the Wildlife Veterinary Intern. It was an informative exchange. There were several birds on the ward, and both groups were able to spend some time with Jasmine, the Swainson's Hawk used by the Wild & Exotic Animal Medicine Students (WEAMS) for educational presentations. There was a lovely buffet of coffee, tea, fruit and cookies for all to enjoy afterwards.

It was a pleasant afternoon among friends at the WCVM. Thank you to all who participated, and especially to Bonnie Baines for organizing the tour, and the WEAMS students who volunteered their time and energy. Thank you also to Jamille Heer, Geoff McLeod, Shea Long and Richard & Isobel Afseth for organizing the refreshments.

With that much success, we will certainly plan to do this tour again next year, if not sooner.

--Jan Shadick

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### Pet Expo in Regina

WRSOS sponsored an information booth at the second annual Regina Pet Expo at the Conexus Art Centre.

Over the course of the day, 77 people stopped by to ask questions about wildlife rehabilitation, share stories and let us know about how valuable our work is to wildlife.

Donations and merchandise sales totalled \$68.00 and four people indicated an interest in volunteering. Thanks to everyone that helped to set up, take down and staff the display. Each of these events helps WRSOS increase awareness of what we do and helps us connect with people that want to get involved.



## WRSOS POTLUCK RECAP

The Volunteer Appreciation Potluck was held on March 6th. Thank you to Shea Long and her husband, Matt, who hosted this event. Shea made a fabulous lasagna which was complimented by several salads and breads and other yummy foods that everyone brought. We all enjoyed the Thank You Cake, organized by Jamille Heer, for dessert.

We shared Wildlife Hotline stories, tips on what to do (or not do), especially when safety is involved, and laughed over the many predicaments we seem to find ourselves in when responding to calls to pick up animals.

Congratulations to all the volunteers who earned a T-shirt or a Free Membership for your year of service to WRSOS:

Anna Cooper, Rochelle Dobni, Jim Elliott, Jordan Gyug, Sheri Hodgson, Andrea Kuntz, Shea Long, Stephanie Rainville, Doug Robinson, Jan Runnells, Gillian Sernich, Sharon Wacker, June Yang, Krista Sabo

I look forward to working with all of you in the coming season! -and sharing more wonderful food and stories at the next potluck!

Thank you to all who support WRSOS and make us such a successful organization!!

Jan Shadick



## *Upcoming Events and Announcements*

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### *Membership Renewal Time!*

All yearly membership expire on March 31, 2010 for those who have not renewed for the upcoming year. Please renew with the membership form at the end of the newsletter to continue your support of Saskatchewan Wildlife!

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#### Gardenscape

When: March 26-28, 2010      Where: Prairieland Park

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday April 14, 2010 @ 7pm

Room 2115, Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN)  
on the University of Saskatchewan Campus

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#### **Film: A Chemical Reaction**

March 16th 7 pm, Auditorium, City Hospital

The Canadian Cancer Society and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society are honoured to host the premiere of: **A Chemical Reaction: An acclaimed documentary film by Brett Plymale that tells the story of one of the most powerful and effective community initiatives in the history of North America: the Canadian movement to ban lawn and garden pesticides. The Trailer for the Award-Winning film can be viewed by going to <http://www.cancer.ca/sk>.**

Lisa Rendall will also MC a Q and A session with Paul Tukey – Organic Lawn Care Expert and Executive Producer of the film. A Book Signing for Paul Tukey's The Organic Lawn Care Manual will follow.

Admission by donation. To find out more please contact: Greg Rooke at [pesticide-free@environmentalsociety.ca](mailto:pesticide-free@environmentalsociety.ca) or 665-1915.

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#### WRSOS NEWSLETTER EDITOR REQUIRED

Our current newsletter will require a new editor in the immediate future. If you would like to take over this important and fun position contact Jan or Jamille about your interest.

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#### *WeLoveBirds.org*

The Natural Resources Defense Council and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology have created a new website: [WeLoveBirds.org](http://WeLoveBirds.org). This is a place where bird-watchers and others interested in birds can access information about birds, including nest cams, photos and videos. There are communication forums for asking questions or telling your own story. From beginners to experts, there is something for everyone at WeLoveBirds.org. Check it out when you have a moment



***HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!!!***

***FREE VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION***

***OPEN TO EVERYONE!***

***@***

***Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan,  
ROOM 2102,  
March 29, 2010, 7pm***

**Please REGISTER with Jamille Heer** first (652-2922, [jamilleheer@hotmail.com](mailto:jamilleheer@hotmail.com))

Check our website [www.wrsos.org](http://www.wrsos.org) for more information about the **Wildlife Rehabilitation  
Society of Saskatchewan**

## Grasslands National Park Black-footed Ferret Monitoring – Volunteer Program

**Location:** Grasslands National Park(GNP) - Val Marie, Saskatchewan  
**Project Title:** Citizen Scientist  
**Volunteer Project Coordinator:** Kathy Grant, Project Communications Officer  
**Volunteer or Group Name:** *To be determined*

**Project Duration:** 12 days **from:** March 22, 2010 **to:** April 2, 2010

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**Purpose:** To assist with ecological integrity activities in Grasslands National Park by monitoring black-footed ferrets with special permitted night-time spotlight surveys.

**Tasks:** Providing monitoring assistance to the GNP staff :

- Participate in 3 nights of spotlight surveying for black-footed ferrets
- Record and report on indicators and specific data requirements as determined by data sheets and/or researchers.
- Participate in orientation and training prior to fieldwork
- Provide communication feedback, suggestions and problems in a respectful and timely manner
- Fill out a Citizen Scientist Report Form electronically/or hard copy upon completion of each shift.

**Skill Level:** Requirements for volunteers:

- Ability to backpack at night in the dark, in adverse spring weather, while carrying 25-40 lbs. in their backpack, traversing flat and/or uneven terrain on the open prairie.
- Must be physically fit to be able to walk 15-23 km/night (depending on location of colony) over an 8 hr. period while carrying a loaded backpack
- Data recording and observation skills and basic map-reading ability
- GPS skills or willingness to learn how to use a GPS
- Interpersonal skills - responsible, reliable, patience and communication

**Training/Orientation:** Volunteers will commit to:

- ½ day required orientation/training prior to monitoring
- 3 nights minimum of surveying
- Citizen Scientist roles, responsibilities, code of conduct and logistics
- Ferret survey protocols and use of equipment

**Evaluation:**

- a) *Results:* The volunteer will adequately manage most aspects of the organizational, support and research activities associated with the Black-footed Ferret monitoring. Volunteers will be formally evaluated after each session and review of work done, interests/opportunities for future will also be discussed.
- b) *Measures:* Increase in the amount of quality data collected(recorded), quality of volunteer observations that assist staff in achieving their goals and objectives.

**Resources available for the Volunteer:**

- Spotlights & 12 volt battery, scanners, reflectors, map & data sheets, (for loan out -GPS units, compasses, a few external or internal frame backpacks)
- Packing list for volunteer's general equipment/personal needs
- Transportation to and from the necessary monitoring sites from Grasslands National Park

**Benefits for the Volunteer:**

- Field research experience, professional involvement, enjoyment and ecological stewardship
- Contribution towards the black-footed ferret conservation

**Benefits for the Organization:**

- Provides additional resources for GNP making it possible to offer services which could not normally be provided by employees
- Data gathered to monitor success of ferret reintroduction
- Feedback from the volunteer is also of value as it may suggest improvements or changes made to the program

## Target Veterinarian Clinic List

Vet Clinic	Vet	City	Phone #	Notes
Acadia Vet Clinic	Dr. Altina Wickstrom	Saskatoon	477-1222	
Orchard Vet Clinic	Dr. Rekha Orchard	Saskatoon	668-7297	
Forest Grove Vet Clinic	Dr. Sue Tedesco	Saskatoon	955-6111	Will look at gulls and terns
Albert North Veterinary Clinic		Regina	545-7211	
Animal Clinic of Regina	Dr. Karen Harasen	Regina	525-5244	
Lakeland Vet Clinic		North Battleford	445-3757	
Park Range Vet Clinic	Dr. Peter Surkan	Prince Albert	764-6998	
Animal Hospital of Assiniboia	Dr. Bonnie Brandt	Assiniboia	642-4204	
Shaunavon Animal Clinic	Dr. Loretta Fritz	Shaunavon	297-3455	
Northwest Veterinary Services	Dr. Miles Johnson	Turtleford	845-2870	
Indian Head Animal Clinic	Dr. Roth	Indian Head	695-2238	
Martensville Veterinary Services		Martensville	933-2677	
Vet college Small Animal Clinic	Dr. Parker	Saskatoon	966-7126	All wildlife except skunks, raccoons, gulls, terns, pigeons and bats

Once again we would like to thank all of our target Veterinarians for their invaluable help in accomplishing our mission for wildlife rehabilitation

If you would like more information about the

**THE WILDLIFE REHABILITATION SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN**

visit our website [www.wrsos.org](http://www.wrsos.org)  
or call our wildlife hotline 242-7177



**JOIN US  
KEEP SASKATCHEWAN WILDLIFE WILD!!**



Make cheques payable  
to: **WRSOS**  
Mail to: **WRSOS**  
c/o 903 Temperance  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0N3

For more information:  
call (306) 242-7177

or visit our website:  
[www.wrsos.org](http://www.wrsos.org)



**WRSOS Membership Application Form**

Annual Application Fee **\$15.00**    Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_    Total \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_    Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ (monthly newsletters will be emailed)

I would like to be contacted about volunteer opportunities.