

Fall / Winter
2023



Number of Wildlife Patients
Treated since 2009: > 34,460

"...responsible stewardship of wildlife and habitat."

Chapter 1 and 2 of "The Final Move"

The best way to define our journey is "as a book" and we are only at the beginning.

Prologue: Back in 2008, as a result of a nature center's decision to close down the only bird rehabilitation center in Northern Utah due to the economic downturn, a small group of dedicated wildlife rehabbers felt it was time to build something permanent. It was a hard-fought struggle, but almost eight months later, with a 501(c)(3) status granted, wildlife rehabilitation permits in hand, and a temporary facility loaned by a supportive veterinarian, the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah (WRCNU) was born.

After a year and a half of negotiations with the local city government, WRCNU moved into the perfect animal facility – an old city animal shelter the city had no use for. This location was ideal for animal care and treatment. The fledgling organization received verbal assurances that this could be their forever home after proving sustainability, but as governance changed hands, so did the value of those assurances. After more than eleven years and tens of thousands of dollars in facility improvements, a surprise eviction notice arrived, plunging the entire Northern Region of Utah into fear, anger, confusion, and the possibility of losing its only rehabilitation facility for sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife.

Chapter 1 Summary: The community quickly rallied to keep WRCNU alive. WRCNU searched for property within the current budget, sought an extended stay at the animal shelter beyond the short six-month notice given, planned for the growth of the Board of Directors, organized capital campaign funding events, and more. WRCNU located and purchased a temporary facility with their first-ever bank loan, all while continuing the search for a "forever home." Simultaneously, they poured their blood, sweat, and tears into the temporary facility to ensure that a crucial part of their work could continue in 2024.

After overcoming many hurdles, WRCNU secured the six-month extension from the city. The temporary facility received significant support with assistance in tearing out carpets & preparing for new paint to begin renovations.

Chapter 1 ends, and now, it's October 2023 with a bit of breathing room. However, the work is far from over.

Chapter 2 Introduction: Work on the temp facility continues with necessary upgrades to ensure the safety of staff and volunteers. Roof leaks fixed, broken windows repaired, new LED lighting & fixtures installed, smoke and gas detectors added, and work has begun on the plumbing fixtures as most are in disrepair.

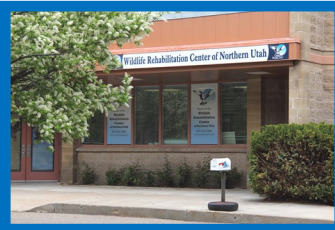
Progress is not without expenses, including the ongoing work on this temporary facility, currently at \$7,300, bringing the current "New Property Fund" balance to \$419,000—**as of September 30th**.

We are extremely encouraged by our Community's grassroots effort raising \$426,300 towards an expected goal of \$3 to \$4 million—**as of September 30th**. These funds are crucial for purchasing property and constructing a facility to house, treat, and rehabilitate animals—specialized housing for raptors, aquatic waterfowl, and mammals, including aquatic mammal species (beaver, otter, etc.). These specialized facilities aren't readily available for purchase, so WRCNU is determined to build it.

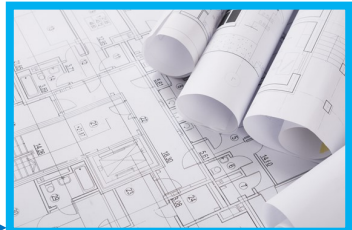
Stay Tuned for Chapter 3 of this journey!



From our humble beginnings 14 years ago (pre-2009)...

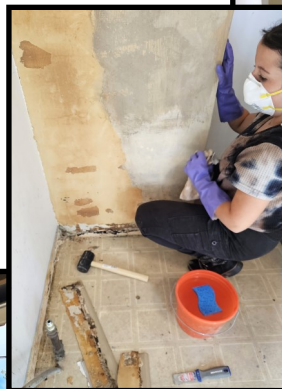
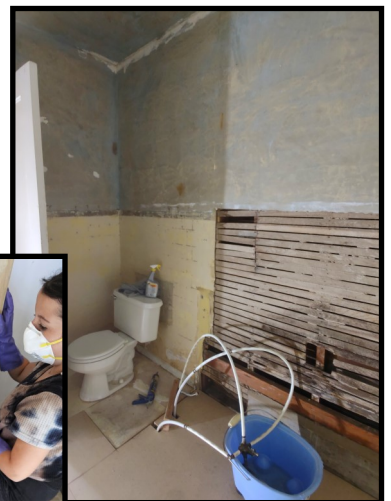
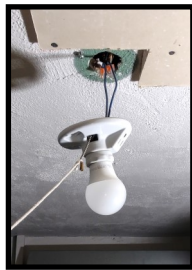


...To our current home that we must now vacate (2011-Present)...



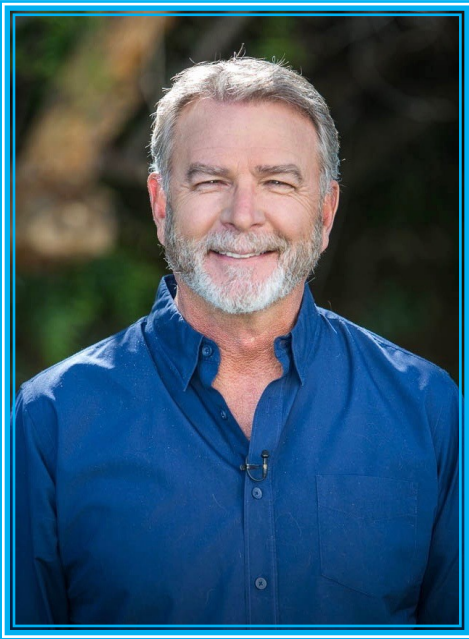
Preparing the Temp Facility to Move In...

...On to our forever home!



WRCNU New Property Fundraiser Status

Bill Engvall, Oct 7th, 2023



Bill took a one-time only break from retirement and said,

“Here’s your sign” one last time.

Bill accepted our call for help without any hesitation. He donated his time and performance and along with the support of several sponsors, 100 percent of the proceeds from this event came directly to WRCNU and our New Property Fund.

The income from the event was **\$88,557.63!**

THANK YOU BILL!



A final shout-out to our six amazing Event Sponsors! These sponsors paid for all of the venue expenses as well as the advertising costs to ensure 100% of the ticket revenue came to WRCNU. THANK YOU!



The “Story Teller” took us all on a ride, often taking the audience on a slight sightseeing detour, then back on the highway toward even bigger laughs.

Bill jumped in for selfies with the VIP ticket holders while our Education Raptor Ambassadors greeted guests as they arrived at the front doors to Salt Lake City’s Abravanel Hall.

Pie and Beer Day, July 24th, 2023



L to R: Buz Marthaler (WRC co-founder), Brad Wheeler, and Kate Wheadon (Urban Flea Market co-founder)

This event is the baby of Utah's own "Bad Brad" Wheeler: DJ, Musician and Utah celebrity. Brad donates the net proceeds each year to a cause and this year he selected Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah!

As of this printing, the estimated revenue is between \$5,000 - \$10,000

We cannot thank Brad and all of the participating vendors enough ... **THANK YOU ALL!**



In Downtown Salt Lake City!

Urban Flea Market

Flea Market Co-founders / Owners, Kate and Michael have supported WRCNU for many years.

We truly appreciate all they have done to make us feel welcome and "bending over backwards" actively promoting our non-profit's mission.

THANK YOU BOTH!



WRCNU's Great Horned Owl, "Rambo"

Timbermine Fundraiser, July 27th, 2023



The “brain child” of Gina Timmerman. Gina brought this event to life with the help of many others. On this night WRCNU presented their history from January 2009 to present (*Thank you to Haley Olson for building the presentation*). Our first organized fundraiser event of 2023 brought in almost \$11,000! Again, we cannot thank Gina, Haley and everyone involved enough ... **THANK YOU ALL!** 



Do You Want the LATEST on “What’s Happening”?

SIGN UP FOR OUR MONTHLY e-NEWSLETTER

If you do not already receive our [e-Newsletter](#) and are interested in being added to our monthly educational adventure to get the most up-to-date status on WRCNU’s move and upcoming events, please sign up directly on

our website at wrcnu.org/newsletters

You may also send your name and email address to: newsletter@wrcnu.org

Some subscribers are finding their newsletters going to their “Spam” boxes, so please “allow” the address to ensure it drops into your Inbox each month.

2023 Fundraising HIGHLIGHTS (April—September)

Thank you to ALL of our Contributors Large and Small

New Property Fund Grants/Donations:

x543 Various Donations < \$1,999	\$ 87,600
Anonymous (IMO: Lim Kui Guat)	\$100,000
“Anonymous” Family Fund	\$ 20,000
Stephen G and Susan E Denkers Family Fdn	\$ 20,000
Douglas N. Thompson Foundation	\$ 5,000
Ford Family, Chris & Mary	\$ 5,000
Four Paws Family Charitable Fund	\$ 2,000
Lester Family, Julia & Roger	\$ 2,000
MacKenzie Family Charitable Fund	\$ 2,000
In Memory of Marriner Bigelow Browning	\$122,000
Melling Family Foundation	\$ 10,000
Muller, Benjamin	\$ 2,000
Read Family, Ronald & Melanie	\$ 2,000
Schenk Family, Alison & Joel	\$ 10,000
Smith, Liz	\$ 5,000
Smith, Nikole	\$ 5,000
Tracy Aviary	\$ 7,000
Walmart Store Grants (x5)	\$ 4,750
Willard L. Eccles Charitable Foundation	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
Total	\$421,350



Ogden Music Festival



Ogden's Harvest Moon Festival

Six of our Community Walmarts donated a total of \$4,750 to WRCNU with the lion's share (\$2,500) coming from our Ogden Store (#3789) on Wall Ave! THANK YOU!



Operating Costs Donations:

Stephen G and Susan E Denkers Family Fdn	\$ 5,000
Dave Durbano Family Foundation	\$ 10,000
Various smaller grants x5	\$ 1,400
Davis Meats (In-Kind)	\$ 4,990
Sustainer Donations x1,351	<u>\$ 87,663</u>
Total	\$109,053



We know you are feeling frantic and wondering, “What will I do with this sick or injured animal I have found?”

Thankfully the season has slowed down, but sadly, there are still not a lot of options ... here is one:

Go to the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) website @ www.wildlife.utah.gov, **click on:**  **Search** in the upper right hand corner and enter **“wildlife rehabilitation”** for a list of licensed rehabbers in Utah.

Your Donation Support is Extremely Important to Us



One-Stop Shopping.
Use 1 Link to find it all!
[Linktr.ee/wrcnu](https://linktr.ee/wrcnu)



No matter how big or small, your donation makes a HUGE IMPACT!

There are many ways to support Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah and all are greatly appreciated.

- Monthly Sustainers:** “WRCNU Sustainer Team” continues to grow—WELCOME to our new members!. These members understand that they really don’t miss the automatic monthly donations coming out of their credit/debit cards OR from their checking/savings account through their monthly “Bill Pay”. Visit our Donate tab’s “*Become a Sustainer*” page for more information on becoming a “*WRCNU Sustainer*”.
- Donate your old vehicles** (cars/trucks/scooters/motorcycles/boats/RVs/etc.) through our partner CARS nonprofit. No cost to you, CARS schedules and does all the “heavy lifting” and provides a Tax Deductible receipt for your donation and sends WRCNU a nice check. See our link to the CARS donation form on our website’s “*Donate*” tab (scroll towards the bottom of the page).
- Employer Matching**—many Businesses will double your gifts by matching your donations; Ask your employer if they have a Matching Gift Program. If WRCNU does not already have a program with your employer, it’s still pretty easy. They will contact us by email and we will gladly enroll for the opportunity to double your gifts.
- Mailed Donations:** Checks should be mailed to our mail only address at **3127 N Pelican Dr., Farr West, UT 84404**
- In-Kind Donations:** Go to our Website’s donate page at wrcnu.org/donate, scroll down to our **Amazon Wishlist** link
- Facebook Fundraisers:** If you have a Facebook (FB) account, why not start a small celebratory fundraiser for a birthday, anniversary, or “Just Because”? Go to our FB page and click on the “Fundraisers” tab, then click on the “Create a Fundraiser” button. Whether you earn \$5 or \$500, every dollar adds up and is just another way to support WRCNU without spending a dime of your own.
- Combined Federal Campaign (CFC):** **CFC Charity Code is 74219** We cherish our federal workers (Military & Civilian). Ask your CFC Rep. how to donate through Payroll deduction now that the campaign has begun for the 2024 season.

8) **Venmo:**



9) **PayPal:**



CHRISTMAS FOR CRITTERS!

Saturday, Dec 2nd, 1pm—6pm
1490 Park Blvd, Ogden 84401

Come show your support for the human impacted wildlife who can't be home for Christmas and those in need of a Utah Rehabilitation Center like WRCNU. Our 4th Holiday Social and the first in-house event since 2019!

Come enjoy warm drinks, holiday treats, WRCNU's Raptor Ambassadors, Museum Displays, Christmas gift Baskets, and help us spread some badly needed “**Holiday Cheer**”.

Still in our Care

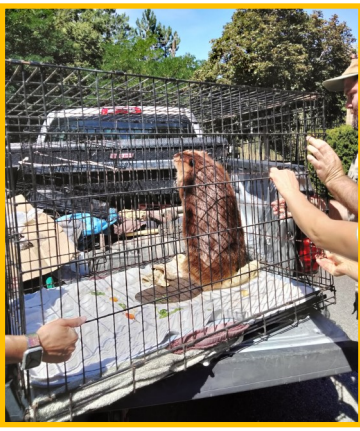
- 18 Raptors
- 14 Passerines
- 1 Waterfowl
- 1 Mammal

Includes: 1 N.A. Beaver kit, 3 Bald Eagles, 2 Golden Eagles, & a very rare UT visitor a Yellow-billed Cuckoo!

HEY KIDS! Phoenix tells us that the word on the street is, there may be a...
“*Special Visitor from the North Pole*”.

Donations are always welcome, but not required, as we continue supporting the 34 animals still in our care, our “*New Property Fund*”, and our Mission to Educate, Rehabilitate, and Release!
“*be the change you want to see...*”



Two year old "Bea" is loaded into the back of a DNR vehicle for transport



U of U students move Bea to his release location.

One Down, One to Go!



2023 Beaver Kit feeling much better!

Beaver kits require the longest rehabilitation of any animal WRCNU takes in. To release a kit (without its parents) before they are 2 years of age is proven to be a 100% mortality rate. The end of July, in conjunction with Utah DNR and the University of Utah, we reaped the rewards of treating and caring for "Bea" a male beaver who arrived in June of 2021, by releasing him in habitat where he will help improve a degraded riverscape.

This spring, we took in a new kit that was found without it's parents, weak and very dehydrated. If we are not able to get another extension to remain at the animal shelter to allow us to gain the funding for a new facility with aquatic facilities, we do not know what will become of this latest patient.

Northern Utah and the Native wildlife of Utah NEED a strong and experienced Rehabilitation & Education Center. WRCNU is here to answer that need, but we can ONLY do it with YOUR support.

Three American Kestrel chicks. What would happen to them without WRCNU?



Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
of Northern Utah
3127 N Pelican Drive
Farr West, UT 84404
www.WRCNU.ORG
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