

WILDLIFE HOSPITAL OF LOUISIANA

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine's Wildlife Hospital currently accepts more than 1,700 wild mammals, birds, and reptiles annually, with a 15% increase in case load anticipated each year. We do not charge a fee to the Good Samaritans who bring in these sick and injured animals. Your gift to the Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana makes it possible for our board certified veterinarians to continue saving lives, finding cures, and changing lives every day.

The Wildlife Hospital provides medical care for wildlife from private funds donated to the Wildlife Hospital. To find out how you can support our mission, please contact Tracy Evans, senior director of development, at 225-578-9870 or tracy@lsu.edu.

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

First name	Last Name	Suffix
Company		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Office Phone	Cell Phone	
Email		

I want to help the Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana continue their good work in treating and caring for injured and sick wildlife.

- \$1,000
- \$500
- \$250
- \$100
- \$100
- \$50
- Other \$ _____
- My company has a matching gifts program.

My check, made payable to *LSU Foundation* (notation: *Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana*), is enclosed.

I prefer to pay with my: Mastercard VISA
 AMEX Discover

Amount \$ _____

Cardholder's Name _____

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Billing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Signature _____

MAIL TO: LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, Office of the Dean, Skip Bertman Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Questions? Contact Tracy Evans, LSU SVM, at 225-578-9870 or tracy@lsu.edu.

Thank you for your support!

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine adheres to the policies of the LSU Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.



Photo courtesy of Eddy Perez, LSU University Relations

Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana

LSU School of Veterinary Medicine
 Skip Bertman Drive at River Road
 Baton Rouge, LA 70803

225-578-9600

www.vetmed.lsu.edu/vth

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WHL Busier Than Ever

WILDLIFE CASE NUMBERS INCREASING

After a short hiatus, our newsletter is back. During this time we have been busier than ever caring for an increased number of wildlife cases, in particular bald eagles. Our new facilities are now operational. Once again we would like to thank all of the donors who made this possible, and Dr. Peter Haynes, former dean of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, and the administration staff for their continued support of our program. The WHL continues to care for the wildlife in our state with the help of supporters like you who believe in the work that we do and its benefit to the state of Louisiana. Thank you for your continued support to our program.

Javier Nevarez, DVM (LSU SVM 2001), PhD (LSU SVM 2007), DACZM, DECZM (Herpetology) Director, Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana Associate Professor of Zoological Medicine



Scarlet, a red-tailed hawk, is one of our new education birds.

**LOVE PURPLE
LIVE GOLD**

Meet Our New Resident and Intern



Dr. Anna McRee, intern, examines a parrot with Helen Norton, fourth-year veterinary student.

We would like to welcome **Dr. Christine Higbie** to the veterinary team of the WHL. Dr. Higbie is a 2009 DVM graduate of the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to arriving at LSU, Dr. Higbie completed a one-year small animal internship at Garden State Veterinary Specialist, and a one-year zoological medicine internship at the Kansas State University Veterinary Health Center. Dr. Higbie also worked as a general practice and emergency veterinarian at Red Bank Veterinary Hospital. Dr. Higbie has various publications and is our first resident training for specialty certification by the American College of Zoological Medicine.

We would also like to welcome **Dr. Anna McRee** to the veterinary team of the WHL. Dr. McRee obtained her DVM degree from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine in 2014. She received various

awards during veterinary school and has a strong interest in zoo medicine.

Our WHL Team:

Javier G. Nevarez, DVM (LSU SVM 2001), PhD (LSU SVM 2007), DACZM, DECZM (Herpetology)
 Director, Wildlife Hospital of Louisiana
 Associate Professor of Zoological Medicine

Thomas N. Tully, DVM (LSU SVM 1986), MS (LSU SVM 1991), DABVP (Avian), DECZM (Avian)
 Professor of Zoological Medicine
 Service Chief for Zoological Medicine

Christine Higbie, DVM
 Zoological Medicine Resident

Anna McRee, DVM
 Zoological Medicine Intern

One world, one health, one medicine



Dr. Javier Nevarez



Dr. Thomas Tully



Dr. Christine Higbie



Dr. Anna McRee

Meet Our Student Co-chairs

The WHL relies on veterinary students to coordinate the daily operations of our rehabilitation facility and the care of our resident raptors. The current student co-chairs are Megan Partyka (year 3 student and head co-chair), Crystal Dozier (year 3), Jessica Hudspeth (year 3), Matthew Schexnayder (year 3), Carl Curtis (year 2), Cheryl Choolijan (year 2), Sarah Wray (year 2) and Aimee Trujillo (year 2). These students coordinate other veterinary student volunteers who feed our resident birds daily and care for the animals being rehabilitated. We also meet monthly to perform upkeep of our flight cages, examine our resident birds and learn about wildlife medicine and rehabilitation. Our co-chairs perform their duties on a volunteer basis, and they work during school breaks, including summer and holidays. We would like to thank them for their dedication and contribution to the continued success of the WHL.



Veterinary students and raptor co-chairs (from left) Sarah Wray, Aimee Trujillo and Carl Curtis help educate people about raptors.

New Ward, New Resident Birds and the Future

The new ward of the WHL is three times the size of our previous facility and includes a separate examination area and two animal housing areas. We have new energy efficient LED examination lights, new incubators to keep young animals warm and a run to accommodate larger animals like Bald eagles and Whooping cranes. This facility will help us meet the increased demand for our services as the only full-service wildlife medicine and rehabilitation facility in Louisiana.

We have a new resident red-tailed hawk named Scarlet. She is one year old and has a humerus fracture that prevents her from flying. Our student co-chairs have done a wonderful job training her to participate in our educational presentations. In addition to Scarlet, we have a male American kestrel and a Broad-winged hawk that are currently undergoing training. These two birds have not been named yet but will be once we get more familiar with their personalities. The training of the birds consists of getting them used to being handled by creating a food association with a leather glove; they learn that when they perch on the glove, they will be fed. This training gets them comfortable

with being handled and remaining calm during educational presentations. These new additions to our educational program allow us to show the public a wide range of raptor species present in Louisiana. It also expands our ability to continue educating children about the importance of protecting and respecting our wildlife species.

We have seen a continued increase in the number of Bald eagles brought to the WHL for treatment. This has resulted in increased expenses associated with their feeding, veterinary care and rehabilitation. In 2013, we spent over \$6,000 on their veterinary care alone. In addition to the eagles, we admit wildlife cases transferred to us from zoos, veterinarians and wildlife rehabilitators. This increased number of admissions has put additional strains on our already limited operating budget. Our current food costs are approximately \$15,000 per year. In order to meet this demand we need your support more than ever. Please consider making a donation so we can continue providing the best care for injured wildlife species in Louisiana. This is your hospital and it needs your support more than ever.



New treatment area and wards