June 2, 2011

Dear Friend of Wildlife,

Did you know that in the last year the Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic at The Schuylkill Center treated more than 3,200 animals of 120 species, everything from tiny bats to massive turkey vultures? Or that we released 60% of them? That's almost 1,920 creatures given a second lease on life in the wild.

And did you know that 100% of these were treated because of your support, or because you cared enough to bring one (or several) of them to us? Thank you!

We also enable wildlife conservation by community members because we provide a place for the public to bring displaced and injured wildlife free of charge.

Today, I'm writing to ask you to consider renewing your support for our work at Greater Philadelphia’s only state and federally licensed, all-species wildlife clinic.

All types of animal care and sheltering – from companion to wildlife – are expensive but critical to communities. Without ongoing support from individuals like you, we would not be able to save animals like Baby G (pictured below, at left).

Baby G is an infant Great Horned Owl, separated from his mother when the tree he called home was cut down. He was unfortunately found homeless at a critical time in his development, and would not have survived on his own. But after three weeks in our clinic, Baby G is now able to take care of himself and will soon be released. This was only due to our earlier efforts to protect an older, wiser Great Horned Owl who is serving as Baby G’s surrogate dad: Jackson.

Jackson is one of The Schuylkill Center’s non-releasable Wildlife Ambassadors. Four years ago, he found his wing painfully caught on a barbed-wire fence in Jackson, North Carolina. His wing was unfortunately amputated by the individual who rescued him, and he was transferred to a nature center that could not care for him.

That was when The Schuylkill Center stepped in. For the fourth year in a row, Jackson has re-primed his role as surrogate dad to orphaned baby owls. When we first looked at orphaned Baby G, he chirped loudly for food. Then, we introduced him to Jackson, who hissed and clacked angrily at us. Baby G looked at Jackson, then back at me, and started hissing and clacking with his surrogate dad. It did not take long for Jackson’s behavior to imprint on Baby G.

I care about native Southeastern Pennsylvania wildlife!
Please use my donation to help The Wildlife Clinic meet its operating expenses:

- $40 (average cost of care per animal)
- $65 (average cost of a tank of gas for The Clinic van, used for rescue and transport)
- $100 (cost of one month of medical supplies)
- $250 (cost to Philadelphia schools of one (1) one-hour educational Wildlife program)
- $500 (cost of purchasing food and formula for one month at the Clinic)
- $1,000 (cost to repair or build one (1) small avairy)
- $2,000 (cost of one (1) PCV autoclave, used to titre blood samples in house for diagnosis and prompt treatment)
- $3,000 (cost of one (1) isoflurane nebulizer (anesthesia machine))
- $____ Other amount

Please fill out payment information on back of form completely.

The official registration and financial information of The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1/800/732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.
The work that we undertake is so important to the future of conservation of all wild animal species – even in a city. At the Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic, we use human compassion to create positive outcomes for animals that have been negatively affected by our species.

With more resources, The Schuylkill Center can continue to elevate the quality of care we provide to animals like Baby G. And, we can increase the number of wildlife education programs that our Wildlife Ambassadors, like difficult-but-doting dad Jackson, deliver to Philadelphia’s nature-starved schoolchildren.

I hope you’ll take a minute today to give generously in support of The Clinic. Though I am a state and federally licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator, we do not receive any state, federal or municipal dollars to operate The Clinic.

If it were not for your benevolence, The Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic would simply not exist: thank you!

Baby G and the other injured and displaced wild animals brought to us for care will never know you were the reason they could fly again or survived their injuries. But without your support, we cannot protect the future of native animal species like theirs in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Thank you for all you do for wildlife, and for helping protect the future of conservation.

Richard Schubert
Director of Wildlife Rehabilitation

www.schuylkillcenter.org