

BAT WORLD

Conservation - Rescue - Sanctuary

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Bat World

Conservation, Rescue, Sanctuary



Tiny short-tailed fruit bats looking for melon treats. See page 22 for additional details.

Photo by Amanda Lollar.

Printed on 20% recycled paper certified by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, using 100% vegetable based ink.

NOTE: The articles in this magazine are written by the same humans who also care for the bats. Although we try very hard a few typos always seem to slip through. Please bear with us and overlook any mistakes.

PRINTED ANNUALLY. Want more updates than an annual printing? Please sign up to receive more news at batworld.org

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Bat World, Volume 6, 2014

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Bat World is published annually by Bat World Sanctuary, a 501c3 non-profit organization. Donations and memberships allow Bat World to continue its mission of rescue and

conservation. To join Bat World or obtain more information about bats and how they make our world a better place, visit www.batworld.org.

To inquire about local rescue, memberships, make donations, sponsor a bat, purchase merchandise or sign up for e-alerts, please contact us at:

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2014 Year End Letter

Dear Bat World Sanctuary Supporters,

This year Bat World Sanctuary marked its 20th Anniversary. We have come a long way from our humble beginnings in a small downtown store-front building where Bat World Sanctuary was founded in 1994. In July of this year we finally completed our new 7,200 sq. ft. sanctuary for bats in need, built on 13 acres of pristine land that Bat World owns. The sanctuary is complete with on-site living quarters for staff to allow us to be available for rescues and care of the sanctuary bats 24/7. The new facility is surrounded by native trees and sits on a bluff overlooking our bat castle and a large pond. There is no other sanctuary like it in the country, and **you** made it happen. We could not have accomplished this without your incredible, loyal support.

As typical with any construction, unforeseen costs took us over budget and completion took longer than expected. Once the professionals finished with all of their construction, it was our turn and that came at the worst possible time— orphan season. Each day for almost two months volunteer Mitch Gilley and I worked from dawn to near midnight, caring for orphans and permanent sanctuary residents while also readying the new facility for the bats (see page 28). The days blurred together until June suddenly became August, when we finally, *finally* were ready to move. Because of all the work done ahead of time we were able to move all of the animals in just one -albeit long and exhausting- day.

The sheer size of the new facility, combined with our ever-growing rescue and conservation efforts for bats, meant changes were inevitable. This year we found that after 20 years our workload mandated that we now move from being a 100% all volunteer organization to hiring paid bat caregivers with both the heart and the dedication to make certain Bat World will continue long after our years on this planet ends. We are actively applying for grant dollars to accommodate this necessary change. I will, as I have done for over 20 years, continue to volunteer my time and energy to this organization I love so deeply, as will our entire Board of Directors and Advisory Board of veterinarians.

Aside from our monumental move, it was a banner year for Bat World Sanctuary. Our international rescue efforts almost tripled, and we made significant progress in working with the AZA in an effort to bring a halt to bats entering the pet trade through unscrupulous zoos. Our Facebook page topped over 100,000 fans, enabling us to spread the good word—with just a few clicks- about both the value and the plight of bats to tens of thousands of people.

We are very proud to share with you our accomplishments on the following pages. This is what your donations did for bats in 2014; these are the lives you saved along with so much more.

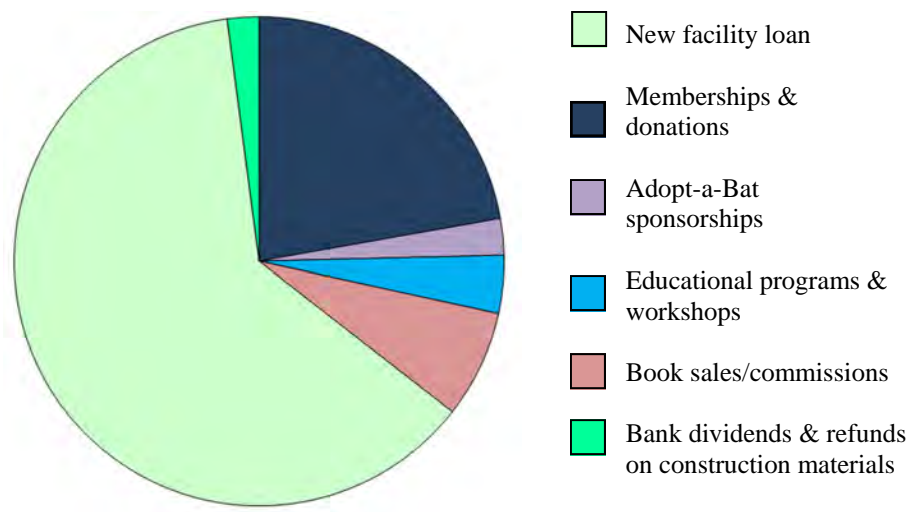
On behalf of the flying mammals we all love so dearly, thank you so very much for your continued, and unwavering support.



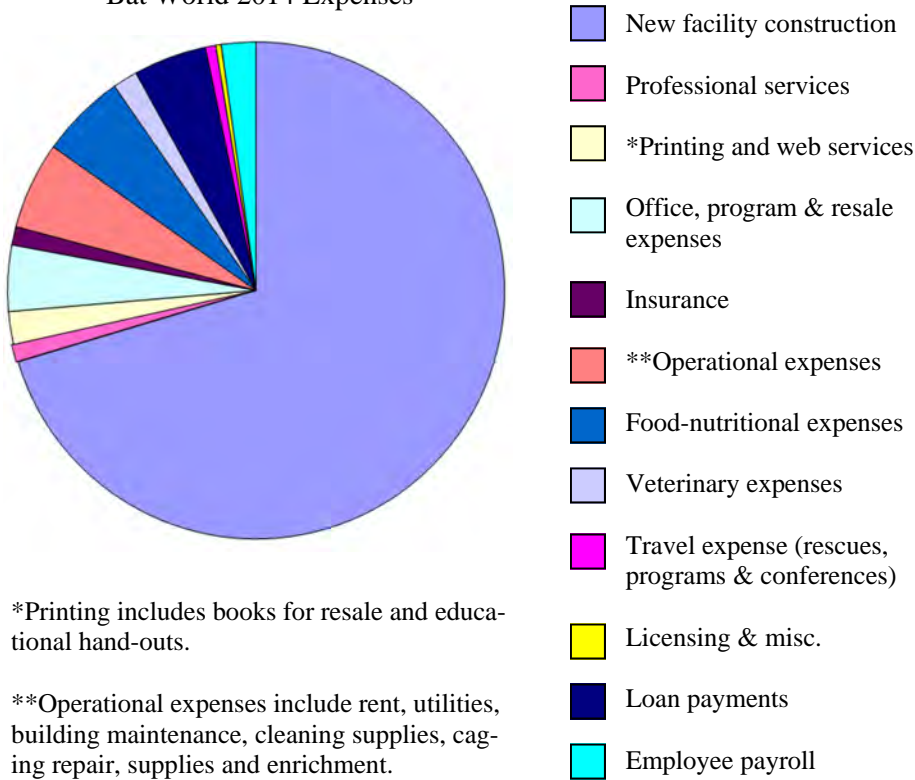
Amanda Lollar, Founder and President
Bat World Sanctuary

2014 Financial Accounting

Bat World 2014 Income



Bat World 2014 Expenses



*Printing includes books for resale and educational hand-outs.

**Operational expenses include rent, utilities, building maintenance, cleaning supplies, caging repair, supplies and enrichment.

2014 Year-End Summary

<i>Income</i>		<i>Expenses</i>	
Rollover from 2013 (savings for new facility construction)	\$105,007.37	New facility construction and wild sanctuary maintenance	\$345,686.33
Donations	\$87,231.64	Professional fees	\$5,669.64
Adopt-a-Bat sponsorships	\$9,470.56	Printing & web services	\$10,473.78
Educational workshops	\$14,897.55	*Office, program & resale expense	\$21,149.55
T-shirt, books & misc sales	\$28,008.16	Insurance	\$5,849.00
New facility loan	\$245,000.00	Operational expenses	\$27,886.95
Dividends * construction material refunds	\$8,213.20	Food & nutritional supplements	\$27,237.83
		Medical & veterinary supplies	\$7,915.36
		Travel expense - rescues & programs	\$23,304.63
		Permits, bank fees, licensing & misc.	\$1,738.03
		Loan payments	\$23,396.73
		**Employee payroll	\$11,037.09
Total income \$497,828.48		Total expenses \$480,307.83	

Net rollover \$17,520.65

Note: This accounting reflects 2014 through the third quarter. It does not reflect the entire year.

*Office and program expenses include items needed to create our Adopt-a-Bat sponsorship packages, ink, t-shirts, and shipping charges.

**Please see letter on page 3 regarding our need from being all-volunteer to hiring staff.

2014 Rescues

Your contributions enabled us to save over 625 orphaned, injured and displaced bats this year. Although a few of these bats were not releasable due to injuries, well over 600 bats now fly free because you bought their medicine, paid for their housing, and provided the food that sustained them. The bats featured in this section represent a few of the lives saved through your support.



An emaciated orphan being held by a trained, vaccinated bat care professional.

This starving orphaned free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) was one of almost 100 pups we rescued from our wild sanctuary this year. The first photo shows the pup minutes after she arrived. She was severely emaciated and so dehydrated that she could no longer open her eyes due to a lack of moisture. She was immediately hydrated with a large dose of electrolytes administered subcutaneously (under the skin) in the shoulder area. Notice the large bubble on her back containing fluids that were being absorbed by her starving little body when this photo was taken. A bat's metabolism is amazing in that fluids are absorbed very quickly, allowing us to feed starving babies right away, as seen in the second photo.

The babies are fed using a foam eye-shadow applicator tip that has been removed from the wand. Warm milk is dropped onto the tip as the pup feeds. The foam tip also acts as a pacifier for the pup as they like to keep the tip in their mouths after they have fed. (Tips are usually discarded by the pup within an hour.) Free-tailed bats like to roost in crevices, where they feel safe, so we feed the orphans in a manner that allows them to derive a sense of security which is between the folds of a soft warm cloth. The cloth has a dual purpose of soaking up any milk not absorbed in the feeding tip, thereby keeping the pup clean.

Pups are fed in an "assembly line" fashion as it allows us to feed several at a time, as Mitch Gilley is doing in the photo (opposite page).

Several layers of roosting pouches can be seen inside the bat hut which is covered with a green cloth. Pups that are waiting to be fed are in the bottom pouch; pups that have been fed are placed into the top pouch. When the pups are older they often sneak from the top "fed" pouch back into the bottom pouch to be fed again. We allow them to sneak in as it



Amanda Lollar

is a form of enrichment. It's also easy to tell them apart from the unfed babies because of their bulging tummies. Some even go so far as to then dart from the bottom pouch into the folded cloth where they tuck themselves into the fold and look up at us hoping to receive another foam tip. Because of the danger of overfeeding (which can be fatal) we can't feed them again, so instead, we give these little smartie-bats a foam tip with one drop of milk (which they happily take) and they are placed back into the "fed" pouch.



Amanda Lollar



This one-day old orphaned free-tailed pup (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) appears to have too much skin. These tiny beings grow very fast and within a week to 10 days their bodies catch up to their skin and the wrinkles disappear. Even at this young age free-tailed bats have incredibly intricate faces.





This one-day old red bat pup (*Lasiurus borealis*) was rescued by our Director of Special Projects, Kate Rugroden. The pup was still clinging to her deceased mother who appeared to be the victim of a bird attack. Before summer was over she was joined by 82 more orphans that were hand raised and released when they were old enough to be able to fend for themselves.

Red bats roost openly in trees using their “dried leaf” coloring as camouflage. Despite this natural camouflage they are sometimes still spotted by birds such as blue jays and crows. Mothers trying to escape sometimes drop their babies while flying away.

Male red bats are more brightly colored than the females. As you can probably see from the photo on the right, there are four males and five females in the cluster.





Kate Rugroden

This beautiful Seminole bat (*Lasiurus seminolus*) and her three pups only needed a little R&R after being found grounded on a hot June day by a good Samaritan. After just a few days of rest mom and pups were released back in the same area where they were found.

This gorgeous free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) was rescued near the Convention Center in downtown Fort Worth. He had severe bruising on one wing, from shoulder to elbow. He was treated for pain and dehydration and spent several weeks in a flight cage to ensure he could fly and hunt successfully before being released.



Kate Rugroden



Kate Rugroden

Fuzzy, a big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) was found grounded in East Texas, after he had been attacked by a hawk. His rescuer found him huddled on a rock with the hawk still circling overhead.

Arrangements were made to transport him to Bat World MidCities, where he was promptly treated with pain medication for a broken tail (photo on the right) along with antibiotics for other scrapes received during the attack.



Unfortunately, Fuzzy also received fractures to his wing fingers and is no longer able to fly. He is now a permanent resident at our Bat World MidCities rescue center where he will live out his days with others of his kind in a simulated natural habitat setting (that is completely free of predators).

Protect yourself, protect them

NEVER
RESCUE
A BAT
BARE
HANDED!

Find help at batworld.org

Storm Survivors...

This beautiful hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) was found grounded with injuries to both wings in East Texas following a winter storm. Thankfully, the people who found her contacted Bat World and arrangements were made to transport her over 200 miles to us. After her wings healed she spent two months in a flight cage regaining her strength. When she was ready she was driven back to East Texas and released in her original territory.



Kate Rugroden

This stunning red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) was found grounded by a homeowner clearing tree branches from his yard after a severe storm occurred in September. The bat came in with a bloody nose, a broken canine tooth and head trauma. He will receive supportive care until he is well enough to fly and be released back into the wild.



Kate Rugroden



Kate Rugroden

“Puddle”, an adult female evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) came in after severe storms passed through the Dallas, TX area. Puddle sustained several injuries in the storm—a split lip, multiple bruises, and a fracture of the left wrist. She received pain medication, antibiotics, fluids, and wound care and responded well. Puddle will never fly again so she will join the other permanent residents at our Bat World MidCities rescue center.

Poor little “Autumn”, a red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) was fished out of a pool over the Labor Day weekend. She appeared to have been attacked by a bird before being driven into the pool, which would explain the wounds and debris covering her body. Thankfully a family celebration was taking place in the yard and she was spotted almost immediately. We were called shortly after and within an hour Autumn was at our Mid-Cities rescue center receiving treatment. The photo on the right was taken only two hours after Autumn arrived and received treatment.

Unfortunately her wing injury rendered her non-releasable. She is a very sweet bat who appears very grateful to have been saved. Autumn seems to be very happy in captivity spending her days with other non-releasable bats of her kind.



Kate Rugroden



After being hydrated with lifesaving fluids and fed a meal of nutritious food, this starving juvenile free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) made a remarkable comeback in less than an hour. He was released in mid-August with other juvenile bats who only needed a second chance.



Amanda Lollar



At approximately four-weeks old this young evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) was found in a park with tail, foot, and wing injuries. After weeks of supportive care the little bat healed and spent a solid month exercising in a flight enclosure eventually being released.



Kate Rugroden



Kate Rugroden

“Beauregard”, a Northern yellow bat (*Lasiurus intermedius*) was found grounded in downtown Dallas, Texas in September, after being observed roosting on the front of an apartment building for two days, hundreds of miles outside the normal range for his species. He was dehydrated and thin when he arrived and, while he has no apparent injuries, he is unable to fly well enough to be released so he will live out his days with us in a natural habitat setting.

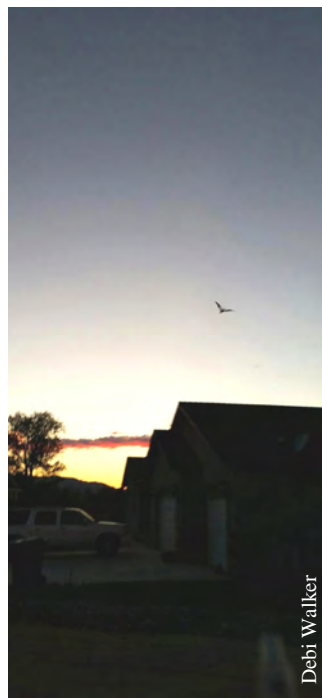
Facebook Rescue Post



Debi Walker

Dear Bat World,

First off, THANK YOU for what you are doing for these awesome critters. Love, love them. Secondly, thank you for the rescue information you post. My co-worker found a grounded bat and brought the bat to me today. I hopped onto your page on Facebook to look for a rescuer. I didn't see anyone close so I read up on what do while you are trying to contact rescue. After drinking his fill the little bat flew off into the sunset! If not for you and your willingness to share your stories on Facebook, I wouldn't have known what to do. So again from the bottom of my heart, thank you!



Debi Walker

Mildred, our Newest Adopt-a-Bat



By Mitch Gilley

Amanda Lollar

Before Mildred, a free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*), came to us she'd accomplished quite a lot in her lifetime. While she called the decades old bat colony in the heart of downtown Mineral Wells, TX home, each winter this tiny, two-inch long bat would fly out with the rest of her colony and head for Central America to escape the cold. Each spring she would return to the wild sanctuary with the rest of her colony to raise her pup; while keeping people who didn't even know she existed free of insect pests and free to enjoy the night in peace.

As the years took their toll, the migrations felt longer, gravity felt stronger and the heavy demands of motherhood grew heavier. Sometime over the years Mildred lost the tip of her tail, but for approximately eighteen years she persevered, until one day the rigors of it all became too much for her and she found herself grounded.

One thing saved her: she succumbed in her Texas home, and that home is a wild sanctuary under the care of Bat World. A volunteer found her starving and dehydrated, still pressing onward as best she could to crawl toward some kind of safety. She was rescued and she quickly recovered to the point where she would ordinarily be returned to the wild.

However, there were two problems. It was immediately clear that she loved being at Bat World Sanctuary. She took to her caretakers very quickly, and learned to feed herself from the meal worm dishes which is very unusual for a bat of her age. After just a few days it was clear that she liked them very much as she grew rounder and rounder. It was also clear that the old age that grounded her would only do so again if she were to be released. Time had worn her teeth down so that she'd have trouble grabbing insects from the air and holding onto them. It had likely made feeding difficult for her for some time and was almost certainly the problem that had rendered her starving.

Having worked so hard for so long she deserved an easy retirement, and so she was given one. Mildred will live out her life at Bat World, with many other non-releasable friends rescued from that same colony, where flying is simply for the joy of it, and plentiful food will never be out of her reach.

To sponsor Mildred please see the back page or visit: batworld.org/adopt-a-bat-now. Also see our new "Plush Mildred" toy on page 45.

Rescues in Other Countries

In 2014 we helped individuals and bat care professionals in 23 locations worldwide. Using photos and videos, we were able to identify species, share book chapters on bat care and rehabilitation published by Bat World Sanctuary, and offer medical advice to researchers, biologists, wildlife rehabilitators and others as seen with the photo below.

- Ontario, Canada: provided treatment protocol for big brown bat with a broken wing (pictured to the right)
- Quebec, Canada: provided treatment protocol for little brown bat with broken forearm
- Toronto, Canada: gave overwintering advice for 51 displaced big brown bats
- Forest Edge Nurseries, UK: provided treatment protocol for insect-eating bat stuck on flypaper
- Briston, UK: Highcroft Veterinary Group—provided advice on the feasibility of an amputation of a crushed wing on a big-eared bat
- Ireland: Irish Wildlife Matters—provided care routines on feeding orphaned insect-eating bats
- Germany: provided advice on long-term care of bats with membrane tears
- Italy: provided treatment protocol and subsequent care protocol for starving juvenile pipistrelle bat
- South of France: provided care routine for a starving juvenile insect-eating bat
- Poland: provided care routines for an orphaned insect-eating bat
- Rijeka, Croatia: provided care routines on feeding orphaned insect-eating bats
- Sweden: provided care routines for orphaned insect-eating bats
- Maharashtra, India: identified species and provided care on juvenile Indian pipistrelle
- New Delhi, India: identified species and provided care on Egyptian fruit bat
- Penang, Malaysia: provided treatment protocol for insect-eating bat with broken wing
- Thailand: provided treatment protocol for an insect-eating bat with a foot injury
- South Africa: provided care routine for orphaned insect-eating bat
- Wales: provided treatment protocol for an insect-eating bat with forearm injury
- Brazil: provided treatment protocol for injured velvety free-tailed bat
- Brazil: provided treatment protocol for an injured and orphaned Jamaican fruit bat
- Brazil: provided treatment protocol for adult Jamaican fruit bat with injured wing
- Mexico: provided care routine for a starving juvenile velvety free-tailed bat
- Mexico: provided treatment protocols for a tri-colored bat with injuries to the finger bones
- Mexico: provided treatment and care protocols for an injured Jamaican fruit bat that was caught on barbed wire



Photos like the above are emailed to us from international rescuers so we can assess injuries and add our observations to the photo (as shown above), then suggest a recommended treatment. We have recently subscribed to Skype in order to help through live video feed.

Poppy's Happy Life

An update on Poppy since her rescue in 2012, by Mitch Gilley

I'm loathe to admit that I have favorite bats among those we care for, but I am particularly drawn to a few of them.

There's Ichabod, for starters, the formerly injured and now chubby free tail who is responsible for me being at Bat World to begin with. It goes without saying that he would mean quite a lot to me. With the fruit bats, though, it's always been Poppy, a giant flying fox (*Pteropus giganteus*). You might have expected me to say Peekaboo, but that's backwards; Peekaboo has favorite humans. This arrangement cannot be reversed.



Poppy gently taking a melon treat from caretaker Mitch Gilley's hand

It's just that the tragedy of Poppy's history is palpable. She spent most of her life at a zoo in Canada where she was forced to keep a diurnal sleep schedule and endure exhibitions for the crowds of visitors. That she was profoundly unhappy at the zoo is evidenced by the warnings we received when she was sent to us - "Look out, Poppy likes to bite."

From day one, Poppy has never tried to bite any of us for any reason whatsoever. She has ample opportunity at treat time, but not only does she never bite, she's actually very careful in taking the treat from our fingers. Still, Poppy remained very, very shy. With her past, who could blame her? As one of the largest bat species on earth, she towered over the African fruit bats at Bat World. Even though I personally feared she'd always be lonely and there was nothing we could do to truly fix it for her, she would no longer be mistreated. When I brought her the traditional bit of papaya at treat time, I'd see sadness and trepidation in her eyes, and it broke my heart every single time. Yes, she was safe, and yes, she'd never be abused, but after what she suffered, I wanted her to be happy. She deserved to be happy.

It wasn't just her eyes, nor a flight of imagination extrapolated from what I knew of her background. When we'd bring her that chunk of papaya, she'd hide her face from us. My co-worker Angela and I quickly figured out that she was easily startled, and that if we approached her slowly and called out her name in a soft tone of voice before peeking into her roost, she was a little less nervous. It was a little thing, but it was something we could do to make her more comfortable, and we did it religiously thereafter, and still do.

(Continued next page.)

This pattern continued for weeks after I started volunteering, until one day I went to her roost with her papaya only to find that she wasn't there. Panic ensued, and Angela and I swept through the enclosure with as much haste as was possible without frightening the other bats until she spotted Poppy in a very peculiar place: the roosting area of the Egyptian fruit bats. She had settled into the back and blended into the dimness very well with her dark fur even as she dwarfed all the dozens of bats around her. It was only her big orange eyes that allowed Angela to find her, and it only occurs to me now as I write this that it was because she made eye contact with Angela. That was something that Poppy rarely did with us, if ever.



Poppy roosting with her Egyptian fruit bat friends

The next day, she had returned to her usual solitary roost, but every two or three weeks there would be a day where we'd find her with the Egyptians again. We all wondered what Poppy's reasons for spending the day with them were, and while I was tempted to observe her as much as I could, both she and the Egyptians are easily disturbed, and it goes without saying that their comfort did and will always take precedence over my curiosity.

Weeks passed, as they do, until recently we found her with the Egyptians two days in a row, which she'd never done before. Even more interestingly, that second day found her behaving very differently: she no longer hid her face from us. She took her papaya without hesitation. She looked me squarely in the eye, and I could swear that I didn't see any of the sadness I always saw before. At the time I shrugged it off; I wasn't entirely sure that those sad eyes weren't a figment of my sometimes overly romantic imagination, although in retrospect it made perfect sense. Bats are highly social creatures, and over the years Amanda has seen enough anecdotal evidence to come to believe that loneliness can actually severely impact their health, and is fatal in extreme cases. It makes perfect sense that Poppy would find her boldness with the Egyptians, even though they aren't her species. Bats don't concern themselves too much with such arbitrary divisions. To them, bats are bats.

As of today, Poppy has never returned to her old roost, and is a totally different bat. Today she waits expectantly for her treat and takes it eagerly. She doesn't shy away, and will even let me pet her without showing any nervousness or uncertainty. Best of all, though, she seems happy.

We'll never know exactly what caused the change: it could have been safety in numbers, perhaps Peekaboo's brazenness rubbed off on her, maybe we were just a few pieces of papaya away from gaining her full trust all along, but somehow overnight she found a boldness that I never expected to see in her.

What I do know, now, is that it happened so organically despite its suddenness that it was only in the last couple of days as I was telling the story to someone that I realized how significant this is. We've had many bats that were tragically orphaned, many others that endured ill treatment at the hands of people who didn't know or didn't care how to properly tend them, but Poppy had endured years of mistreatment. She was forced to perform and subjected to crowds and noise when her circadian rhythm dictated that she should have been sleeping, and finally subjected to what must have been a terrifying international journey, finding herself with us at the end of it. Many bats who suffer much less have difficulty forgetting it, and at best remain leery. It pains us, of course, that we can't convey to them that they are safe, finally, but ultimately we respect their wishes and keep our distance as best we can as we tend to the colony.



Poppy in her new home, hanging beside her favorite toy, a treat cup mobile

Poppy, however, with the help of her new and comparatively diminutive best friends, has overcome her past. The difference in her is truly amazing. They could have told me we'd taken in a new flying fox as an April Fool's joke, one that looks exactly like Poppy, that took up the exact same spot in the Egyptians' roosting area, that also insists on papaya at treat time, and I'd have believed it.

Words can't possibly convey to you how utterly great it has been to see Poppy come out of the shell she hid in for so long, and when we moved into the long-awaited new facility, we were afraid that Poppy would lose the progress that had taken so long for her to gain. But it was Poppy who first realized that she was in a new, beautiful, expansive home and set about exploring. She even took up residence with the Egyptian fruit bats just as she had at the old place. While she remains shy and timid, it's obvious now that that's just who she is. The fear that once drove her timidity, however, is completely gone.

The vast bulk of the credit goes to Poppy herself, and the accepting nature of bats in general. They don't see Poppy's huge size or her orange eyes or her fox-like face; all they see is another bat. That makes it their success story more than ours, and it couldn't be a more beautiful one.

From the cover



Amanda Lollar

In 2009 we rescued 50 short-tailed fruit bats *Carollia perspicillata* from a zoo that was closing in FL. These bats had been kept in a small flight area and allowed to reproduce uncontrollably, until there were over 400 bats. When the zoo closed, they reached out to other zoos and sanctuaries, and unfortunately exotic pet trade dealers as well, in an attempt to place the bats. We opted to take all the females we could house (50 total) knowing that most of these girls were likely pregnant. We would have liked to take all of the bats but sadly we did not have the room or finances to support that many bats. However, accepting only females helped to halt the number of “breeding stock” entering the exotic pet trade. Unfortunately, these bats are not indigenous to the US so could not be released back to the wild. (At Bat World we neuter our males to prevent any breeding of non-indigenous species.)

The zoo that housed these bats fed and watered them off the floor of their flight enclosure. The bats were forced to land on the floor to drink water and eat their fruit, which over time would become contaminated with their waste due to the bats hanging overhead in the small flight enclosure.

Today the female bats are doing very well and enjoying cubes of honeydew melon that is planted in the mesh of the ceiling for them each night. This allows them to “forage” as they would do naturally in the wild. When the photo above was taken the cubes of honeydew had all been snagged by lucky first arrivers, however, more cubes are always added so everyone receives their share.

Educational Efforts

*Your donations have allowed us to reach over **Two Million** people this year through educational events and online videos and posts. From classrooms to the Internet, we are making a difference for bats around the world.*



On the ground presentations were given in several states including Texas, Iowa, Virginia, North Carolina and Florida and we reached thousands of children and adults through events held at rotary clubs, Weston Gardens, Fort Worth, TX; Shangri-La Gardens, Orange TX; the Fernandina Wildlife Preserve, Fernandina Beach, FL; Bat Basics for Animal Control (pilot), TX; the DFW Wildlife Coalition, Dallas, TX; and the Botanical Research Institute Ft. Worth, TX. These programs enabled us to reach approximately 24,495 children and adults.



Bat World Sanctuary's Director of Special Projects, Kate Rugroden, was invited to speak to over 800 attendees at the Texas Unites for Animals

Conference. Organizations lecturing at the conference are recognized as leading supporters of animal care, rescue and protection in the country.

Texas Unites for Animals is a non-profit venture sponsored by the Texas Federation of Humane Societies and the Texas Animal Shelter Coalition. Their mission is to provide relevant, quality education to animal control officers, shelter staff, volunteers, veterinarians, rescuers and animal welfare advocates throughout the Southwest.



Students from TX, NC MI, AL, NY, GA, NY, TN, OH, and WA attended our one-day Bat Rehabilitation Basics Workshop. Rehabilitators

learn the basic skills that are essential to successfully rehabilitating orphaned and injured bats and returning them to their natural habitat. The class format is a combination of lecture, discussion, and hands on activities designed to provide students with key information and experience on everything from a basic introduction to bats to assessing and treating injuries and illness. Students also receive a copy of Bat World Sanctuary's *Standards and Medical Management for Captive Insectivorous Bats* plus the companion video DVD.

Activism in 2014

From research projects to rehabilitation efforts to reaching the public, 2014 was a very satisfying year for our activism efforts on behalf of bats. The bullet list below provides a few of our significant achievements in 2014.

- Raised awareness through social media and action alerts to help stop the inhumane dispersal of the maternal bat colonies in Australia.
- Contributed a chapter for an upcoming book titled *Social Interactions on Bats* to be published by the National Polytechnic Institute of Mexico. Collaborated with the French bat working group on treatment protocols for insectivorous bats, including a future book based on Bat World Sanctuary's publications. Provided our book, *Standards and Medical Management for Captive Insectivorous Bats*, for translation to Bulgarian to be used by the Green Balkans Rescue Center, a leading organization in the field of conservation of rare species and habitats in Bulgaria.
- Provided images on pallid bats to place on an educational boardwalk sign at the Osoyoos Desert Society, in British Columbia, Canada. Provided fact checking for CBeebies Presentation, a children's television production with the BBC. Provided footage of Lil Drac for a potential Monumental Mysteries program on Travel Channel.
- Aided in stopping a research project that involved the taking of pregnant big brown bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*) into a lab to do studies on their young. This study would have resulted in the needless fatality of both mothers and their pups.
- Helped in preventing the deaths of free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) being gruesomely killed by a maintenance worker at Memorial City Mall in Houston, TX, who was stomping on the bats in front of mall customers, including children. A follow up email from mall management stated the following "*Thank you for bringing this to our attention. It is not our intention to hurt any animal in any situation. I have made the staff aware that animals recovered in the mall are to be captured and released and at no time should they be harmed. I will investigate the incident that occurred on October 10th and take corrective actions with that employee...*"
- Contacted a property owner about bats that had been purposely sealed in by maintenance workers at a department store in south Texas. Maintenance workers were made to unseal the cracks and insert proper exclusion tubes to allow the bats to escape.
- Worked with the Vermont Department of Health Laboratory on recommendations for a humane bat euthanasia kit for euthanizing bats that, unfortunately, must be tested for rabies. (Euthanasia techniques used by numerous health departments are inhumane.) The guidelines adopted by the VT Department of Health will hopefully set a precedence for other health departments to follow.
- Provided enrichment protocols for non-releasable insectivorous bats in wildlife rehabilitation centers in CA, VT, AZ, NM, MI, TX and WY. Provided fruit bat enrichment protocols for Egyptian fruit bats in VT, the UK and Canada.

- Began a media campaign to raise awareness about the inhumane manner that bats are often held for research photographs. Since creating this awareness we have noticed numerous people commenting against photos that are posted on the internet showing bats held with their wings outstretched and by their incredibly delicate finger tips, or with their elbows pinned toward their backs in dangerous and agonizing positions. Our campaign resulted in an immediate drop in bats being photographed in cruel manners and an increase in photographs being posted with bats held humanely. (Please see our Action Alerts page at batworld.org for additional information.)
- Initiated work with the AZA and the CDC in an effort to bring a halt to bats entering the pet trade as well as being donated to research through unscrupulous zoos that have allowed bats to reproduce until they no longer have the room or means to care for the surplus bats. This past year we documented several instances of zoos, some AZA accredited, involved in this despicable practice.
- Developed continuing education programs for Animal Services officers and Structural Pest Control operators. These classes, approved by the Department of State Health Services and the Department of Agriculture for continuing education credit hours, introduce attendees to bat species, inform them about all the ways in which bats benefit us and the environment, and instruct them in proper handling techniques. Through these efforts, in 2014 we instructed more than one hundred professionals about bats resulting in more bats being safely released or brought to us for rehabilitation instead of being needlessly killed. Our plans for 2015 include reaching out to over 400 pest control agencies in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area about this training opportunity, as well as continuing to work proactively with Animal Services agencies, shelters, and veterinarians.
- Created a program for the DFW (Dallas/Fort Worth) Wildlife Coalition on how to properly handle bat calls on their hotline. The DFW Wildlife Coalition coordinates rescues for displaced wildlife found by the public. They receive hundreds of calls a month and help to save thousands of animals every year.
- Spread positive information about bats through radio station interviews, television clips and newspapers across the US including the Heritage Radio Network, Brooklyn, NY; KRZA FM Radio, KDFM, Houston, TX; Colorado; Channel 8 News, Dallas, TX; Virginian Pilot News, Tidewater News, and the Virginia Beach Beacon News, VA; Children's Museum of Virginia; Norfolk Botanical Garden, VA; Hoffer Creek Wildlife Foundation, NC; and worldwide media outlets including 12radio.com, The Huffington post, Animal Radio and publicnewsservice.org.



Endangered Species Chocolate (dark chocolate with cacao nibs, 3oz bar) will soon feature Bat World Sanctuary! This particular bar is designed to bring awareness about the plight of bats through educational information printed inside the inner wrapper. This chocolate is sold online as well as Whole Foods and other grocery stores. Their cocoa is very special because it is bought from small family-owned properties, helping sustain the habitats and communities in which they exist.

White Nose Syndrome Update

By Kate Rugroden, Bat World's Director of Special Projects and chair of the National WNS Stakeholders Committee

For the past seven years, North American bats have been under attack by a ruthless, relentless, silent killer -- White Nose Syndrome. This lethal disease is caused by an invasive fungus, *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*, which appears to have been accidentally transplanted from Europe. We know that our supporters are concerned about the future of our bats, and we hear your frustration when you ask, "Why isn't anything being done?" The truth is that a lot is being done. Hundreds of researchers are working diligently in laboratories across the U.S., and many more people with State and Federal wildlife agencies are working in the field, collecting samples and monitoring bat populations. Millions of dollars have been spent on research to precisely map the DNA of the fungus, which will help not only to identify weaknesses and vulnerabilities that can be exploited to stop it, but also to provide a baseline so we will know if it begins to mutate.

Unfortunately, as with any new disease or environmental crisis, the response takes time. We must learn about the basic biology of the fungus, and what other pathogens it might be related to, so that we can understand how it works and what its weaknesses and vulnerabilities are. We must also learn much more about the biology of bats, so that we can understand why some species, like the Little Brown Bat, are affected so dramatically, while others, like the Virginia Big-Eared Bat, appear to not be affected at all. This will help us to find ways to protect the species that are most severely affected. Currently, efforts are being focused on identifying biological compounds that will stop the fungus from growing and spreading, without harming the bats and other organisms that inhabit cave ecosystems, and on how best to apply those compounds for the greatest effect. This year at the National Response Team workshop in St. Louis, we heard updates on progress being made in research labs, saw a demonstration of a possible dispersal system, and began final review of Best Management Practices documents for forest management, wildlife rehabilitators, nuisance wildlife control operators, and cave management. Our goal is to have these guidelines published and in use within the next few months. More information about White Nose Syndrome, current research, and other resources is available at www.whitenosesyndrome.org



Left: A healthy tri-colored bat in hibernation. Notice the ice crystals that have formed on its fur. Right: A tri-colored bat showing obvious signs of WNS.

Bat Castle Update

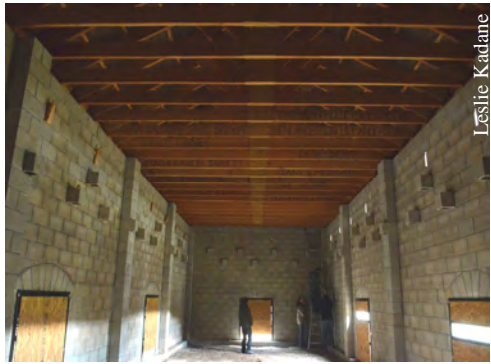
The past year was eventful in terms of our local bat population. The bat castle was used as the site of release for successfully rehabilitated bats. Some bats opted to spend a few days in the bat castle rather than return to their original colony right away, which is very promising. This year also sadly marked the end of the wild sanctuary in downtown Mineral Wells, where bats have roosted by the tens of thousands for over sixty years.

The wild sanctuary, a vacant old building built in 1899, was purchased in 1992 by Amanda Lollar to save the 20,000+ bats who had used the building for decades. The owner wanted to destroy the bats and sell the building, so Amanda bought the building to protect the bats. Over the years, the historical building's second floor was modified to make it as comfortable and alluring to bats as possible in hopes they'd reside where they would be safe from human populations.

Over the years, the population increased to 50,000 because of the modifications that were made to better accommodate the bats. Bat World volunteers maintained the building and cleaned up after the bats. Over the years a new roof was added and the foundation was stabilized (as well as the constant repair of old mortar between stones).

After learning the downtown area of Mineral Wells was slated for renovation, we built the bat castle in order to accommodate as many as 100,000 bats, including the bats at our wild sanctuary. We subsequently sold the wild sanctuary with an agreement with the new owner that we would be allowed to maintain the wild colony and slowly and humanely exclude the bats over a period of three to five years, while also training the bats to the location of the bat castle.

It has been three years and unfortunately, disrepair of the building began to occur



Leslie Kadane

In early November a building renovation caused 23 free-tailed bats to be displaced. The bat castle (above) provided a safe release site for these bats until temperatures warmed and allowed them to migrate to Mexico.

and it has progressed to the point where it's not only unsafe for our caretakers, but for the bats as well. Masonry and window trim has begun to fall and the floor has begun to sag. Additionally, on a few occasions a trio of owls have been seen around the building prior to sundown waiting for the bats to emerge. In September we found the sanctuary completely empty of bats when there should have been thousands. This has never happened before in the twenty years that Bat World has tended the wild sanctuary. It's very likely that the growing instability and exposure of their longtime home to predators meant it was no longer viable for the bats.

Still, we estimate that over the past two years several hundred bats were trained to know where the bat castle is, and while most flew back home as expected, there was surprising evidence many others stuck around for a while. The flight back to the wild sanctuary was trivial for healthy bats like those selected for training, and the faint but unmistakable clicks and squeaks picked up on several occasions by the bat detector, even as late as November, may be confirmation that bats are now calling the bat castle home.

For more information about our bat castle please visit batworld.org/conservation-efforts/

Accomplishments

By Founder & President Amanda Lollar

Our biggest accomplish in 2014 was, without doubt, our new sanctuary to accommodate more bats in need.

It began in 2007 as a pencil drawing on a scrap piece of notebook paper, created late one night after wrapping up the final day's feeding of the motherless bats that were orphaned that summer. At the time the drawing was just a hopeful dream, something methodically sketched while trying to unwind from an exhausting day. The next morning I put the sketch in a safe place in a filing cabinet, and every so often I'd come across it when looking for a document. I'd always stop and let it take me away for a moment, just thinking about how magical it could be for the bats in our care. Then I'd put it away again for safekeeping.

At the time I assumed that it would take 10 to 15 years to raise the funds to build a new facility. Our Board researched grants and we held fundraisers, with every penny we could spare saved for our goal. Then, in 2010 we had the terrible misfortune to become the victim of a malicious cyber-stalker dead-set on destroying Bat World Sanctuary (see page 46). Because of her defamation donations dwindled and all of our savings had to be used to merely survive. It was the worst nightmare imaginable. By 2011 our dream of a new sanctuary died when we were down to only \$200 in the bank and we were forced to borrow money to continue operating.

Despite all this, we remained determined and held on. And then, almost magically, we were saved by a tiny being called Lil Drac. I had created a video of him being cared for in Nov. of 2012, and almost overnight his video went viral. Suddenly, we had more support than we'd ever had before, and in less than a month we had enough saved to buy a few acres of land.

We found 13 beautiful acres less than five miles from our old facility. It is heavily wooded,



March, 2013

contains a huge pond and is full of wildlife. Shortly after purchasing the land we built a bat castle for wild bat populations (see page 27) and after the bat castle was built, we scouted the land and decided on the location for the new sanctuary. The photo on the previous page shows red dots that were added to the picture in 2013 to mark the spot where the new facility would be located.

Now that the land and the new wild sanctuary was secure, we needed to raise the funds to actually begin the construction on the new Bat World. The “land that Lil Drac bought” took almost everything we had, so we set about raising money through crowd-funding contests. Thanks to the popularity of Lil Drac and his new fans, we placed 3rd in all three contests, bringing in over \$100,000 toward a new facility. At that point (September of 2013) we made a Board decision to secure a loan to take our dream to fruition. A month later I received a call from Scott Petty, Vice President at First Financial Bank, with the news that our loan was approved. As I hung up the phone I felt tears of gratitude welling up in my eyes. Gratitude for Lil Drac, the tiny bat who literally saved us from financial ruin, gratitude for our incredible supporters who believed in us and helped us survive during the worst possible time of our entire existence, and gratitude for Scott Petty, who took the time to come to Bat World Sanctuary to better understand our mission, and then worked on our behalf to help us secure the loan.

Finally, in November of 2013 that now tattered penciled drawing made six years earlier was retrieved from the filing cabinet, but with a different intention this time—to use it to create reality in the form of a blueprint. Volunteer Larry Crittenden, an engineer, drafted several versions of the original drawing until the plans were absolutely perfect. Then, with the vast expertise of general contractor Mike Santibanez, the drawing came to life. The photos on the following pages show the construction as it occurred.

And the pencil sketch? Well, that treasured drawing is now laminated for protection and it is has been filed away. It now sits safe and secure under the very roof that it was used to create.





Left: In January of 2014 a 60 foot by 120 foot concrete foundation was poured.

Although it was only 30 degrees Fahrenheit the concrete set within a matter of days and allowed the large steel framework to start going up.

Right: By March the steel frame was complete. Metal buildings are unique in that the door and windows go in before the walls are added.



Below: The March winds slowed construction significantly as it didn't allow insulation or walls to be secured. We opted for not adding windows to the North side of the building to aid in keeping the building warmer during winter.



THE FRAMEWORK



Above: Framing the interior began in April. Two-by-fours were bolted to the concrete floors to form a base -an outline of sorts- for each room. The two bay doors, each 14 feet across, mark the area of the building where the semi-outdoor flight enclosure was built. When completed, the skylights above the enclosure, coupled with the open bay doors, allows the bats a sense of being outdoors without exposure to the elements. Staff and internship quarters were built just past the bay area. **Below:** The wooden framework for the offices and the inner flight enclosures can be seen. This photo was taken from the bay area looking toward the front of the building.



THE SEMI-OUTDOOR FLIGHT ENCLOSURE



Above: By May the interior framing was completed and the two sides of the building were closed off. The inner flight areas, offices, kitchen and clinic are on the left with the staff and intern quarters on the right. The bay area is insulated and not temperature controlled in order to allow ambient temperatures for the bats. **Below:** (Photo taken from the bay doors looking inside.) Framework for the semi-outdoor flight area began in June. The steel cage was covered in stainless steel mesh and the floor was painted with epoxy paint for ease of cleaning. The white double doors on the right lead to the fruit bats' inside flight enclosure. On mild nights, which occur 9 to 10 months out of the year in Texas, the doors can be opened allowing the bats to experience the outdoors.





Amanda Lollar

Above: By late August the semi-outdoor flight area was completed and the bats were allowed to experience their 40' x 32' semi-outdoor area for the very first time. At first they were apprehensive, with only one or two venturing out, but within an hour there were dozens of bats gleefully careening around their new-found playground.

Below: This view shows the security bars on the bay doors, which were also covered in an almost invisible stainless steel mesh called Zoomesh. This allows the doors to remain open all night without fear of predators, or even mice and insects, venturing inside. Clear shower curtains were hung along the sides of the enclosure to allow for easy hosing off and cleaning as volunteer Mark Gilley is doing here. A few of Bat World's rescued dogs can also be seen lounging around in the front of the enclosure.



Aanda Lollar

THE BATS' KITCHEN

Right: Our previous kitchen was functional but very crowded, with only two people being able to work comfortably at a time.

Below, right and left: This sink was our very first purchase for the new facility, obtained on Ebay for only \$150. It sat in front of the bat's flight cage at our former facility before finally being built into a functional cabinet at the new facility.

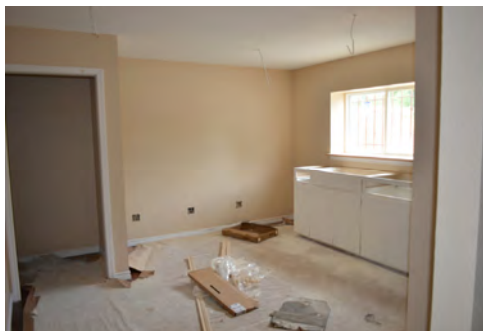
Below: Our new kitchen has ample room for volunteers and enough storage space to hold almost a month of food, which cuts down on errands and also fuel. Volunteers Shannon, Mitch and Angela can be seen making the nightly ration of fruit.



THE CLINIC

Right: Our previous clinic was functional and we were able to save thousands of lives in the small space provided, however, training interns was difficult due to the crowded conditions.

Below: In February the new clinic was just taking shape. The door leads to a small quarantine cage for newly arriving bats.



Upper and middle right: Our new clinic was completed in late July. There is ample room for training interns as well as a separate food prep and storage area for the insectivorous bat's needs.

Below: The photo on the left was taken in May and shows sheet rock being added to the office area. The photo on the right shows the completed new office area, which includes three work stations to fill orders, answer emails and research grants. The large shipping counter in the front allows us to more efficiently handle book orders and bat sponsorships.



THE OFFICE AREA



THE FRUIT BATS' INDOOR FLIGHT ENCLOSURE



Above: Framing of the inside flight enclosures was near complete in May, which then allowed the stainless steel framework for the interior cage to go up. The windows shown in the background lead to the office area (page 35), and the double doors lead to the semi-outdoor flight cage (page 33).

Below: After the framework for the enclosures were welded, polypropylene netting was secured to the frame and a padded vinyl floor -funds provided by the Two Herons Foundation- was added (page 40). A padded floor is necessary for older bats who sometimes have a tendency to fall in their sleep.





Above: In July artist and bat rehabilitator Sarah Kennedy flew from New York to Texas to paint a forest mural on the walls just outside the flight enclosure. This beautiful 30 foot long mural will provide year-round visual enrichment to the bats when they can't make use of their semi-outdoor enclosure due to cold weather. (Sarah is also the illustrator for Bat World's children's book, *Baby See-Through*, see page 44.)

Below: This photo taken in September shows the completed 25' x 35' indoor flight enclosure ready for the nightly activities of the bats. The padded vinyl floor is covered with 25 full-sized sheets to catch the nightly debris while also allowing for easier clean ups (they are washed daily and re-laid after the floor is swept and mopped). The plastic sheeting on the walls catches debris and helps immensely in keeping the netted walls pristine.

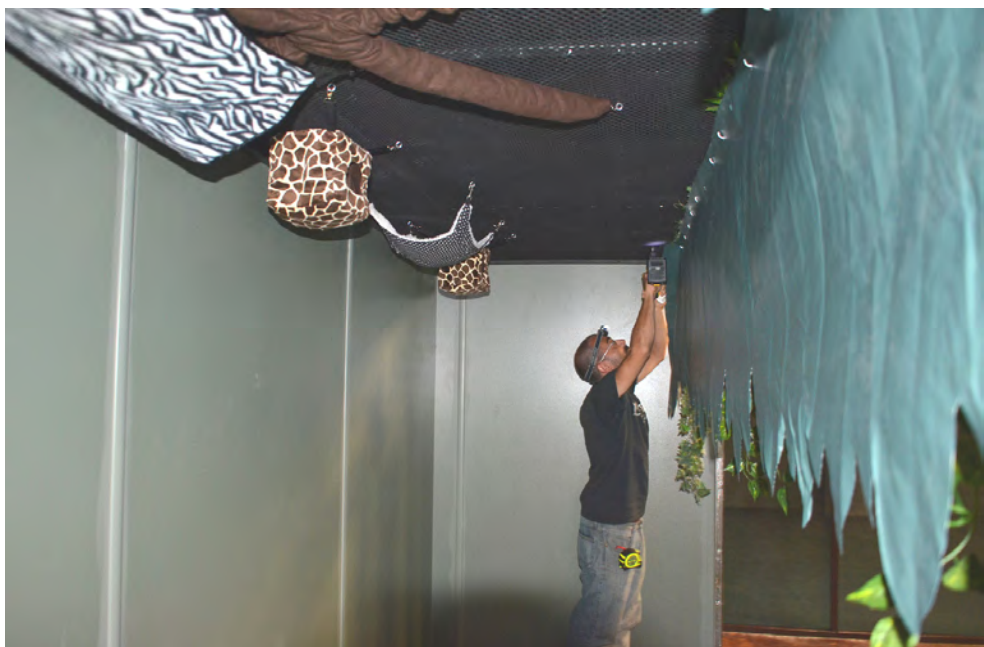


INDOOR FLIGHT ENCLOSURE, CONTINUED

It took Mitch Gilley and I several weeks to complete the work on the indoor flight enclosures. We duplicated the simulated natural habitat enclosure the bats were accustomed to, complete with padded floors, food and water dishes, vines, ropes, toys and toy baskets, kabobs and other amenities. Every morning we rescued, fed and cared for orphans, then took care of the permanent sanctuary residents, and made a daily trek to the new facility to work on the flight enclosures. We worked late into the night, only catching enough sleep to do it all over again the next morning. Finally, after two months without a day off, we were ready to move.

But how does one go about catching and moving hundreds of flying mammals? We toyed with the idea of gradually moving a few at a time over several days but ultimately decided to do it all at once. The insect-eating bats were easy to move as they snuggle up in their roosting pouches that hang inside a simulated cave during the day (page 42). This allowed us to just gather the pouches -with the bats inside- and place them into a crate for transport. Their new home had a duplicate cave so the roosting pouches -bats inside- were simply hung inside the new cave.

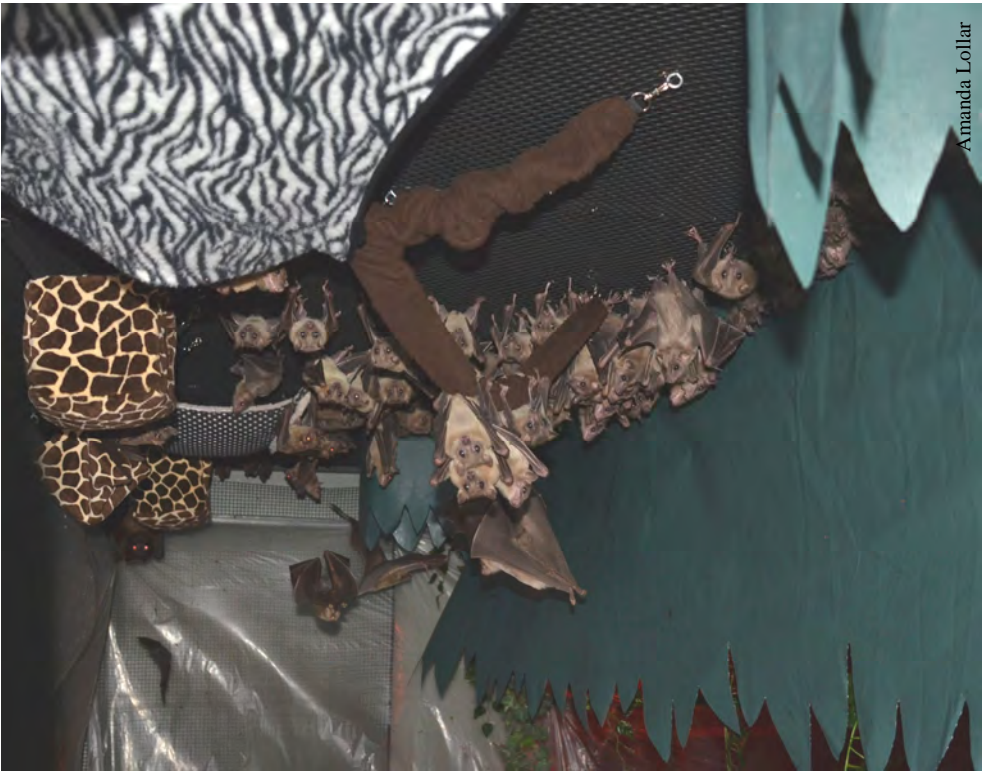
The fruit bats were much harder because they are very active by day. Crates were readied with padded floors and covers were placed on the outside to prevent any accidents and ease stress. Then, using netting, the 55' long flight enclosure was sectioned into smaller areas to make it easier to catch the bats one by one. As each section was cleared, enrichment and foliage was removed from that area to make sure no bats were hiding behind anything. The bats were loaded into crates for the short 5 mile trip, with us talking softly to them all the while. It took five trips to get all the bats moved, but we managed to accomplish it before noon so the bats had ample time to adjust to their new surroundings and get some rest. By 10:30 pm of the same day we had completed the entire move—bats, dogs, appliances, office equipment, incubators and even the orphans still under our care.





Amanda Lollar

Above: Rescued Egyptian fruit bats (*Rousettus aegyptiacus*) trying out one of several new roosts they found in their new enclosure. **Left:** Mitch Gilley hanging bat roosting cubes and hammocks behind a roosting curtain. **Below:** several species of fruit bats enjoying the fruits of Mitch’s labor. Poppy can be seen in the far corner.



Amanda Lollar

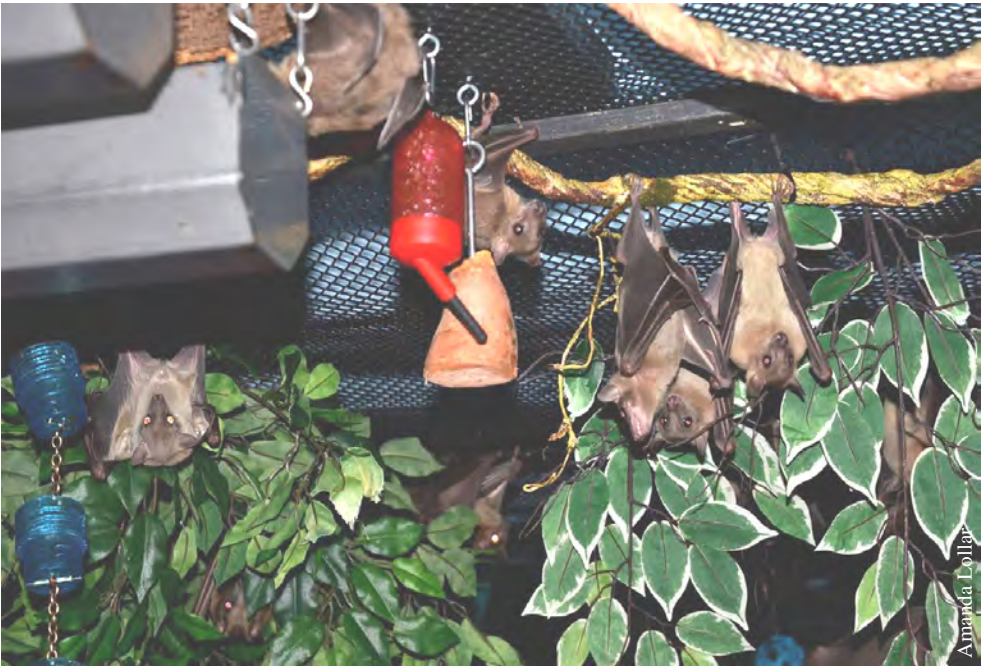
THE “FEEDING TREE”



Above: To add enrichment for the bats we created a feeding tree using the stainless steel support beam located in the center of the fruit bats’ enclosure. The steel post was painted brown and branches of grapevine were attached to the ceiling to create a tree-like effect. Stainless steel fruit troughs were designed to fit under the tree, and artificial leaves and smaller branches were also added, along with fruit kabob and juice holders.

Below: The feeding tree completed. This photo was taken in August during routine cleaning of the enclosure and shows the completed feeding tree.





Above: Egyptian fruit bats (*Rousettus aegyptiacus*) congregate underneath the feeding tree every evening to enjoy their sweet-potato kabobs, juice and fresh fruit mixture found in the troughs. **Below:** Rescued African fruit bats (*Eidolon helvum*) enjoying a new-found hangout in the feeding tree.



THE INSECT BATS' FLIGHT ENCLOSURE



Above: Construction for the 15' x 35' insect-eating bat's flight enclosure began in May. Although it is somewhat smaller than the fruit bat's enclosure it provides ample flight space for these tiny 2" to 3" long bats.

Center and right: By late July the enclosure was complete. Most insectivorous bats are shy and secretive and prefer to roost in dark crevices. The miniature cave provides a simulated natural environment as well as security and enrichment.



Volunteer/Staff Spotlight



Megan administering medication to an insectivorous bat receiving rehabilitation.

Megan Smith has been an animal advocate all of her life, adopting shelter dogs and volunteering for various animal rescue groups in the north central Texas area. She moved from Utah to Mineral Wells, Texas in 2010 and has a background in customer service and competitive sales.

Megan and her fiancé, Jose, both volunteer for Bat World Sanctuary. Jose offers his handy man work in the Sanctuary for the fair exchange of feeding treats to the fruit bats, in particular Poppy, who Jose adores. Together they have 3 children who all take great pride in sharing literature released in Bat World's annual magazine and reading Bat World's children's book *Baby See-Through* (see page 45) with their school class. Megan looks forward to a position within Bat World Sanctuary that will allow her to educate our future generations on the importance of bat conservation worldwide.

Fundraisers

BAT WORLD SANCTUARY IS ELIGIBLE FOR KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS!

Bat World Sanctuary has joined the Kroger Community Rewards program for North Texas! You can help us secure funds for our rescue efforts simply by linking your Kroger Reward Card to support Bat World. Go to www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com to link your card. Scroll down to "Texas" and click "Enroll". Our number is 94862. Starting today, any time you shop at Kroger using your Kroger Plus Card you will be accumulating rewards that will help us save bats. Purchases will not count until you register your card online, so if you are from north Texas and shop at Kroger, please register. <https://customer.kroger.com/communityrewards.aspx>

Fundraisers



This year Bat World Sanctuary participated in North Texas Giving Day for the very first time. North Texas Giving Day is an online giving event that provides nonprofits the opportunity to gain exposure to new donors, and for people in North Texas to come together to raise as much money as possible for local nonprofits.

In just six years North Texas Giving Day has pumped more than \$86 million into the north Texas community. In 2014, North Texas Giving Day generated 98,000 gifts totaling \$26.3 million, benefiting 1,580 nonprofits.

Donations were made one day only, from 6 AM to midnight on September 18, 2014, and in this short period of time Bat World Sanctuary was able to raise \$26,538.55 and won the second place prize of \$3,000 for having the most unique donors for a small non-profit. We'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who participated, your donations allowed us to replenish our emergency fund that we were forced to deplete when construction of our new facility took us over budget. A special *Thank You* to the North Texas Giving Day staff and the wonderful foundations who gave so generously; we look forward to participating again in 2015!



We were able to raise over \$3,000 through bonfirefunds.com with the sale of the above t-shirts (graciously modeled by Megan Smith and Mitch Gilley). The funds were used to help us care for orphaned and injured bats. Due to demand, the fundraiser has been extended indefinitely and the shirts can purchased at bonfirefunds.com/bat-world-sanctuary

BAT WORLD WINES!



This Collector's Pack of wines, complete with Bat World Sanctuary labels, includes one bottle each of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Chardonnay, Malbec, Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc. Order one bottle or the entire collection! The taste is even sweeter when you know you are saving lives with every sip.

Purchase at benefitwines.com/batworld

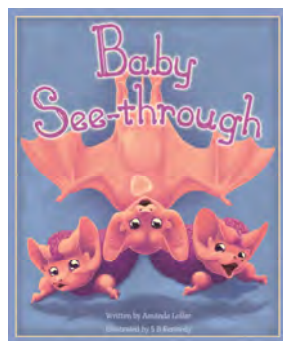


In celebration of our new location we have designed a new t-shirt featuring Bat World's "spokes bat" Peekaboo, an Egyptian fruit bat. A relaxed fit with 100% cotton, pre-shrunk and ready to wear with reinforced double-stitching on all seams. Adult unisex sizes only. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of this shirt benefits our rescue efforts for bats. \$25 to \$27. Purchase online at batworld.org/shop or call to order at 940-325-3404.



This Cuddlekins plush bat looks so much like cute, fluffy little Mildred (see page 17) that it deserved to be called just that. Five inches tall with a wingspan of 16." \$12.95. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of Plush Mildred benefits our rescue efforts for bats. Purchase online at batworld.org/shop or call to order at 940-325-3404.

A story of how a bat pup came to love herself, and be loved, because of her uniqueness. Written by Amanda Lollar, and illustrated by renowned artist Sarah Kennedy. \$18.95. Includes a book mark and a "color me" card. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of this book benefits our rescue efforts for bats. Purchase online at batworld.org/shop or call to order at 940-325-3404.



COMING SOON! A CRITTER CAM!

Please check batworld.org for the latest news on our new critter cam which will show –in real time– fruit bats munching on kabobs and fruit, playing with their toys, flying in their flight enclosures, and at times, even the staff caring for the bats.

Our Cyber-Stalker Update

Although we hate to mention anything negative in our Annual Report, we feel it is necessary to update our supporters on the subject of our cyber-stalker.

What began in 2010 as a battle to protect our good name from a disgruntled intern who found the work at Bat World Sanctuary too challenging to complete, has led to us uncovering perhaps the most notorious cyber-stalker on the internet.

Our cyber-stalker, who is 49 years of age, has been involved in over 30 lawsuits to date according to the website marycummins-exposed.com. She has allegedly cyber-stalked dozens of people over the years, including attorneys, judges, actresses, such as Jennifer Anniston, and nonprofit animal rescue groups like Best Friends Animal Society, Wild Horse Ranch Rescue, The Gentle Barn, and even renowned philanthropist and spinal surgeon Dr. Gary Michelson, an amazing man who has spent millions protecting animals through his Found Animals Foundation.

Many people who have been harmed by Mary Cummins have reached out to us for advice, which we happily provided. We learned early on that turning the other cheek does not work when it comes to protecting yourself on the internet. There are no laws to stop cyber-trolls like Mary Cummins from -with a few clicks of a mouse- ruining long-built reputations and causing untold personal grief to families and friends. The only recourse is to fight back and we have created a free page on how to do just that at stand-up-to-cyberstalkers.blogspot.com/

As you already know, thanks to animal rights attorney Randy Turner, pictured above, we won a \$6.1 million-dollar judgment against our cyber-stalker in June of 2012 for her defamation of Bat World Sanctuary and founder Amanda Lollar.



Attorney Randy Turner offering Peekaboo, an Egyptian fruit bat, a piece of honeydew melon.

Although it has been a long, continual battle, we are happy to report that in June of this year, we seized one of her bank accounts and collected \$4,300 from that account. We are prepared for the fact that our collection efforts will be ongoing for quite some time as giving up is never an option when it comes to fighting for what we believe in.

Mary Cummins is a career litigant representing herself pro-se in the vast majority of her lawsuits. She secured an attorney early on after we sued her, but he subsequently dumped her for lying about Randy Turner and testified on our behalf.

Because Mary Cummins continues to cyber-stalk and post defamation about Amanda Lollar, Bat World Sanctuary and Randy Turner on the internet, even after she was ordered to stop, she will eventually be charged with Contempt of Court with the likelihood of jail time after a decision is made on her appeal. Until then, our only recourse is to expose her malicious behavior to our followers. For more information and to stay updated on our ordeal please visit batworld.org/batworld-stalker-mary-cummins and randyturner.com/index.php/randys-cyber-stalker for a complete summary of the malicious activities of cyber-stalker Mary Cummins.

BATS in the PANTRY!

Look for the 🦇 to see the ingredients
either brought to you by bats or
protected by bats.

POTATO SALAD

8 oz plus 2 Tbsp salad dressing or
Veganise

1½ to 2 Tbsp vinegar

1½ tsp salt

1 tsp sugar

🦇 ¼ tsp black pepper

🦇 1 large stalk celery

🦇 20 green olives

🦇 4 to 5 cups cubed potatoes

🦇 1½ cups uncooked spiral pasta

2 eggs (Certified Humane or egg
substitute recommended)

Cut potatoes into small cubes, place into pot of cold water and bring to a boil. Boil potatoes for 20 minutes and drain. Boil eggs and peel. Cook pasta and drain. Allow all cooked ingredients to cool. Dice and mince celery. Remove pimentos from olives (if necessary) and cut into rings. Mix salad dressing/veganise, vinegar, salt, sugar, ground black pepper, celery and olives in large serving bowl. Chop eggs and add to mix. Add potatoes and pasta and mix well.



Larry Crittenden

Black pepper - (Peppercorns). A full one-third of the world's pepper supply is fertilized with bat guano (manure), one of the richest sources of nitrogen. Okay, before you say “eeewwww!” read on. According to ancient belief, bat guano brings good luck to those who possess it, and recent findings about bat droppings include the discovery of bacteria useful in detoxifying wastes, improving detergents and producing gasohol and antibiotics. Pass the pooper, er, I mean pepper please.

Celery - More tummy ticklers for bats – the cutworms, cabbage loopers, leafminers, corn earworms, armyworms, carrot weevil leafhoppers are the bugs that stalk our celery.

Olives - Used for centuries as food, cooking oil, and fuel, the humble and widely spread olive and its many cultivars are one of the most pest resistant plants and fruits known to humankind. Resistant, but not immune! The olive kernel borer moth, medfly, and olive fruit fly can cause havoc amongst both domestic and imported olive crops.

Potatoes - (all varieties, including new, sweet and yams; and let's not forget the spirit distilled from potatoes-Vodka): Spring rose beetles, cutworms, leafhoppers, potato beetles, the wireworm and the flea beetle all eat potatoes, and all these bugs are yummy to the tummies of insectivorous bats.

Pasta - Thanks to bats, our amber waves of grain are protected from red rust flour beetles, sawtooth grain beetles, grain borers, armyworms, and cereal leaf beetles.


Letters

Sharing a few letters we received in 2014. Receiving letters like these literally makes our day! We hope that you enjoy reading them as much as we enjoy receiving them.

I thought you would be interested in knowing that I had a great experience with rescuing a small bat. He was lying in the doorway of our front door and people had just stepped over him as they thought he was a leaf. When I went to look closer I realized it was a bat, that was weak but alive. I quickly did all the things that you have imparted to all of us by putting on gloves, finding toweling material, and putting him in a shoe box with a tiny bit of water. Then I started searching for a rescue center and turned immediately to your web site. It turns out that there was a very nice lady named Barbara from Bats Northwest who lived within an hour and a half from our place. Thus we got the bat to Barbara as quickly as possible. Barbara said that she had been to Bat World to take one of your courses and learned a tremendous amount.

Thank you, as always, for all you have done and continue to do for bats. This was my first bat rescue and I was so relieved there was somewhere to go to help this little guy in his hour of need.

I have something special to thank you guys for. I am an animal lover, and especially, a lover of some of the.... "least liked" animals of the human population. I used to have pet rats. They, like bats, have not been understood, and a lot of people have never given them a chance. They just stuck their noses up to them because they thought they were "nasty". Now, today, I see your Facebook page pop up in my news feed. I scroll through all the pictures. Silly pictures, beautiful pictures, and sweet ones, as well. Because of pages like yours, it teaches people that some of the animals that they "despise" or think are so nasty, really aren't as bad as they think they are. They are just as beautiful and sweet as any other creature. It brings awareness for beautiful creatures like bats, and helps people be more likely to rescue them when they see them. From this gal in North Carolina, I APPRECIATE WHAT YALL DO!!!!

ar Amanda and all the
ff and volunteers
orld Sanctuary
CA 931
02 OCT 2014 PM 2 T
would like to thank you
much for all the hard
rk you all do for bats,
d For providing such
uable educational resources
the public. I first discovered
t World Sanctuary through
ebook, and I love the
lates and information
post (especially photos of
Kaboo!) Please don't let
erbulies and trolls bring
n down- there are thousands
people who love and support what
do for bats.  your
fan

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Hello, I stumbled upon your website and watched the videos on Lil Drac. Seriously you guys A+ work. I work over in Saskatchewan Canada.

Generosity and kindness is a rare occurrence. Myself included, just watching the care and kindness you guys put into your work. One of the best things I have seen in a very long time.

I'll now think twice about things and the creatures I encounter. Keep on doing what you guys are doing. Words can't explain how those 2 videos made me feel.

-Justin

Just a word of Thanks for all your amazing work and for bringing The lives and world of bats into the mainstream of education. At 63 I have learnt more these past few weeks by following your posts, than the whole of my 63 years. I wish you a long and continued success in this. My fondest regards.



Loving Tributes

In Loving Memory of Paul Devries,

~ Barbara Esten

In Loving Memory of Fred, who so loved the bats

~ Ellen

For the love of Nathaniel - In Memory of Gwen Fields

In Loving Memory of my Father, John Louis Gargaro

~ Dianne Gargaro

In Memory of Kathy Stafford,

~ Nancy Ballard

In Loving Memory of Jack Ciliberti,

~ Brian Dolan

In Memory of Jack Ciliberti,

~ Wayne & Lela Russell

In Loving Memory of Wendy,

~ Ellen

In Loving Memory of Maya Palacios

~ Anna Talkins

In Honour of my father

~ Sally Szekely

Sponsor a bat in need!

***Existing members \$30**
Non-members: \$40

Your sponsorship package includes:



- An adoption certificate listing you as the official sponsor.
- The personal background of your bat.
- The natural history of the species.
- A matted photograph of your bat, suitable for framing.
- A graphic that represents the actual size of your bat.
- A one-year online membership to BWS that includes *BAT WORLD*'s magazine.
- A personalized message

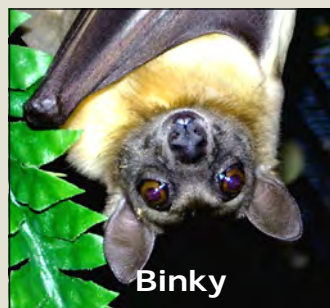
for a gift Adopt-a-Bat. Our standard gift card message reads: This "Adopt-a-Bat" sponsorship has been made in your name by (giver's name). Your sponsorship package includes a one-year membership to Bat World Sanctuary, our *BAT WORLD* magazine and an informational card on bat rescue. Enclosed you will find a 5" x 7" photo of your adopted bat, who thanks you from the bottom of its little bat toes for the food and medical supplies your gift has provided.



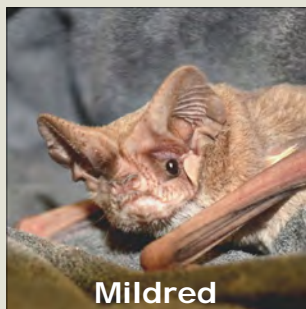
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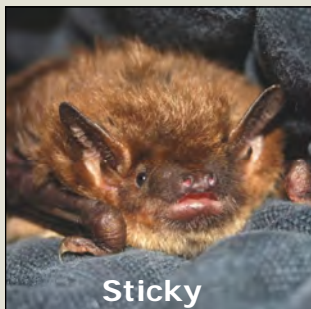
Cornelius



Binky



Mildred



Sticky



Bootsanna



Peekaboo



Lil Drac



Mr. Kitty



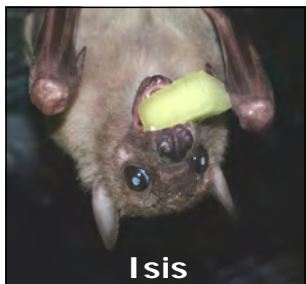
Little River 8



Mini-Me



Little E



Isis



Peppy



Tinkerbelle

Please enter the name of bat(s) you wish to sponsor: _____

Name as it should appear on the certificate: _____

Email address (to receive our online magazine) _____

NOTE: We do not sell, trade, or share your personal information with anyone.

BILLING INFORMATION:

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Date: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS:

Name (if different than above): _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Total of sponsorship (**Please remember to include \$5.00 shipping, USA only**):

_____ Check enclosed _____ Charge _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: MO _____ YR _____

NOTE: If this is a gift Adopt-a-Bat, please include any special instructions, such as a gift card message, on a separate piece of paper.



WHY SAVE BATS?

Roughly one of every four mammals on earth is a bat. Consider this: if your day includes soap, toothpaste, cosmetics, coffee, margarine, chewing gum, candles, paper, ink, wood, fuel, rope, twine, rubber, spices, vegetables, fruits, chocolate, margaritas, air fresheners or even life-saving medicines, you are not only involved with bats, you are likely dependant upon bats. Bats are among the most beautiful and beneficial animals on earth. They are clean, gentle and intelligent.

Bats are vital for healthy ecosystems and enhance our lives in many ways. Fruit and nectar bats bring us approximately 450 commercial products and 80 different medicines through seed dispersal and pollination. Up to 98% of all rainforest re-growth comes from seeds that have been spread by fruit bats. Insect-eating bats are literal vacuum cleaners of the night skies, eating millions upon millions of harmful bugs. They protect us by eating insects that destroy crops as well as insects that cause human disease.

Yet for all they do, bats are continually killed due to myths, superstition and fear. The life expectancy of a single bat may exceed 20 years, but slow birth rates limit their population growth. When just 5 bats are needlessly killed, a potential 100 years of animal life is destroyed. Worldwide, almost 60% of bats are either endangered or official candidates for listing, and they desperately need your help.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

In a world where so many look away, Bat World Sanctuary is on the front line to end the abuse and destruction of bats. We have been recognized as the world leader in bat rehabilitation for nearly two decades. Each year we rescue thousands of bats that might otherwise die. Lifetime sanctuary is given to non-releasable bats, including those that are orphaned, injured, confiscated from the illegal pet trade and retired from zoos and research facilities. You can help us save bats by educating others about their plight, and by donating to Bat World Sanctuary.

Bat World Sanctuary was founded in 1994 and is a 501c3 non-profit, all volunteer organization. Donations allow us to continue our rescue efforts for bats.

Bats are now in their 11th hour. We can save them, but we cannot do it without your help. Bat World Sanctuary is not state or federally funded, our funds come from caring people like you. Please join us in our efforts to save bats by making a donation and becoming a member of Bat World today.

BATWORLD.ORG offers free pages on educational materials, videos, kid's games and rescue information. You can even sponsor a bat in need through our Adopt-a-Bat program. A one-year membership is included with sponsorships. Sponsors get educational materials and *BAT WORLD*, our conservation magazine that includes beautiful photos of rescued bats. You can also receive an online membership by simply making a donation of any size through batworld.org.