

BAT WORLD

Conservation - Rescue - Sanctuary



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Bat World

Conservation, Rescue, Sanctuary



Chessie, an endangered Rodrigues fruit bat who was rescued, along with 90 of her roost-mates, from dire conditions. Read their story on page 23 .

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.

The content in this publication was created by trained, vaccinated bat care professionals in possession of all appropriate licenses or permits. No statement or photo contained in this magazine should be construed as permission or recommendation to handle bats.

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PRINTED ANNUALLY. Want more updates than an annual printing? Sign up to receive our free Night Flight News at batworld.org



Bat World, Volume 10, 2018

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

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2018 Year End Letter

Dear Bat World Sanctuary Supporters,

This year has been the most heart-wrenching year of our existence. It has also been one of our most joyous. The year started off wonderfully with the hiring of what we soon called "our brightest star", David Naranjo. David was only with us for 6 months, but during that time he showed an immense tenderness with the animals and an unbounded eagerness to learn more about them at every opportunity. Then suddenly, on March 29th, he was taken from everyone who loved him in a tragic car accident. See In Loving Memory on page 38.

Then, in April, we rescued 90 fruit bats from dire conditions. We had been watching the treatment of these bats for over 20 years; they were housed at "The Bat Zone", which thankfully closed this year. With sheer joy we were able to accept almost half of all of the bats they had to place. Many more were on loan from zoos and had to be returned. See 23 for the entire story.

From May through August, we rescued over 500 orphaned and injured bats, many from Mineral Wells, Texas, where long-needed renovations of decrepit downtown buildings were finally taking place. Many of the bat's were uninjured and able to be released into our bat castle, however over 40 were not able to fly again so they are now receiving lifetime sanctuary with us.

In August of this year we lost our precious Peekaboo to iron storage disease. Of all the bats that have come and gone through our doors over the last 25 years, the loss of Peekaboo was the most painful we have ever experienced, although we do take some comfort in knowing that her disease was painless so she did not suffer. See In Loving Memory on page 39.

Although this has been a tremendously difficult year, we persevered and have rescued even more bats than in recent years. As you read the stories of our rescues on the following pages, and the cruelty that some endured, please remember it is your support that saved their lives, and because of you, they flourish.

We are here for every bat in need that comes our way, but we can't do it alone. Please consider sending a donation to help us provide for the bats, both young and old. Use the enclosed envelope, or contribute online through our "Donate Now" button at batworld.org. Any amount you send will be incredibly appreciated.

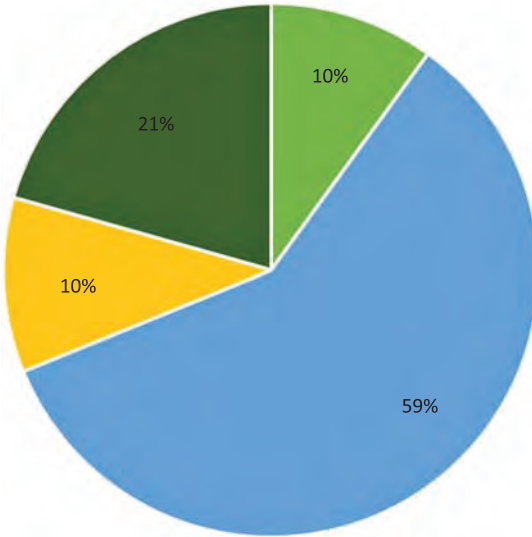
With sincere gratitude on behalf of all bats we love so much,



Amanda Lollar
Founder and President
Bat World Sanctuary

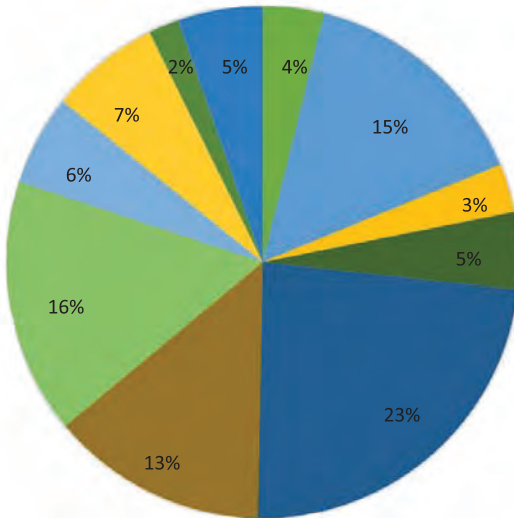
2018 Financial Accounting

Bat World 2018 Income



- Commissions from public awareness events & workshops
- Donations from the public
- Grants
- Workshops and educational programs

Bat World 2018 Expenses



- *International rescues
- Food & nutritional supplies
- Insurance
- Medical & veterinary supplies
- **Flight enclosure & facility repair & improvements
- ***Operational expenses
- Employee payroll
- Professional fees
- Shipping, office & resale supplies
- Travel (rescues, conferences)
- Printing & website services/fees

*Funds raised for the purpose of helping Bat World ReWild in South Africa (see page 33)

**Repair to flight enclosure ceiling after humidity damage, new enclosures for disabled bats received from OBC (see page 23), kitchen & clinic improvements, & fire safety equipment.

***Utilities, maintenance, cleaning supplies and enrichment items.

2018 Year-End Summary

Income

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Public awareness events & workshops | \$31,148.52 |
| Donations from the public | 185,941.27 |
| Grants | 33,000.00 |

Expenses

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Book/literature printing & website services & fees | \$13,947.66 |
| *Professional fees | \$14,833.80 |
| **Shipping, office & resale supplies | \$17,975.76 |
| Flight enclosure & facility improvements | \$57,743.31 |
| International rescues | \$9,999.80 |
| Operational expenses | \$39,279.76 |
| Food & nutritional supplements | \$38,821.38 |
| Medical & veterinary | \$12,690.53 |
| Travel expense - rescues & conferences | \$4,960.04 |
| Insurance | \$7,931.69 |
| Employee payroll | \$41,877.08 |

Total income **\$312,522.74**

Total expenses **\$260,060.81**

Net rollover \$52,461.93

*Professional fees include contractor, carpenter, book keeping and accounting fees.

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

Note: This accounting reflects 2018 through the third quarter; it does not reflect the entire year. Please see "Annual Reports" at batworld.org to view year-end IRS 990s.

2018 Rescues

Your contributions enabled us to save 2,016 orphaned, injured and displaced bats this year. Although a few of these bats were not releasable due to injuries, over 1,900 bats now fly free because you bought their food, medicine, and housing, and you provided resources critical to our rescue efforts. The bats featured in this section represent a few of the lives saved through your support. For a complete list please visit our online rescue log at batworld.org/rescue-log/

ELLA



Ella, a big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) was found clinging to the side of a barn in southeast Texas in early March. For two days, she was up near the roof and out of reach, so the homeowner kept watch to see if she could fly. The 3rd day, Ella had moved down near the ground and appeared noticeably thin and dehydrated (see photo on the left). The homeowner called us for help, and with the assistance of transport volunteers Tracy and Skip, Ella made her way to Arlington, Texas. On arrival, we found that her forearm was swollen (see photo on middle left), indicating permanent damage and the loss of flight.



Baby Miriam, all grown up and ready for release.

A month after Ella arrived, we discovered she had brought a bonus. On May 15, baby Miriam put in an appearance. She was born breech, but after a difficult labor both mother and baby were fine. Ella is a wonderful mother, and "baby" Miriam is a beautiful, healthy girl and fully releasable. The roost where Ella was found was demolished due to storm damage so Miriam will remain at Bat World MidCities until we have another releasable big brown bat with a known colony location. That way Miriam will have the best chance of survival in the wild.



Kate Rugroden

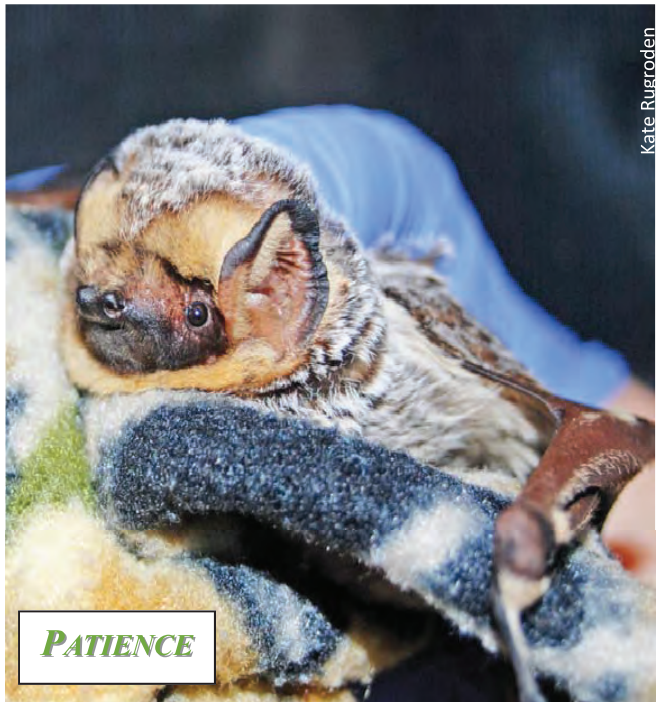
This is Ezekiel, a male eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) who was found grounded at a used car lot with a broken wing. Apparently the person who found him first spotted him in the morning but drove past. When they returned later in

EZEKIEL

the day, he was still there and that's when they called for help. He was rescued by Bat World MidCities. He had received pain medication and antibiotics and his wing had been stabilized when this photo was taken. He will not be releasable so he will receive lifetime care with others of his kind.

This gorgeous hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) was found grounded in Richardson, Texas. She was a bit dehydrated but otherwise fine, so "Patience" was able to be released after two days of rest and supportive care.

In the wild, hoary bats eat large beetles, moths, grasshoppers and wasps. They are solitary and roost in trees, using their stunning pine-cone like coloring to blend in with their surroundings and stay safe from predators.



Kate Rugroden

PATIENCE

EDNA

Kate Rugroden

“Edna” is an adult female evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) who was found in the parking lot of an office in Red Oak, Texas. She was cold and a bit thin, but soon gained strength and was able to be released back to the wild.

Evening bats are found throughout the US and resemble miniature grizzly bears. A colony of 300 evening bats can consume 6.3 million insects per summer, dining mainly on spotted cucumber beetles.



ECHO

Amanda Lollar



Echo is a sweet little juvenile free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) who was found in front of a Cafe in Mineral Wells, Texas. She was rescued and named “Echo” by a mother and daughter who heard folks at the cafe getting ready to throw her into a trash can. (How anyone can throw a living being into the trash to slowly die is beyond comprehension.)

Echo was so severely dehydrated when she arrived that we were afraid she would not survive. She could not open her eyes or move her back legs. A large amount of emergency fluids were injected subcutaneously to get her up to speed. The photo on the right was taken after she was fully hydrated. She made a complete recovery and, after a few weeks of supportive care, she was able to be released.

OLIVIA



Kate Rugroden

Olivia, a big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) was discovered with one wing stuck between the liner and bed of a pickup truck in the Texas panhandle. The truck was parked, so we don't know how she ended up there or for how long she was stuck. She sustained a permanent wrist injury, and is not a young bat, so she will spend the rest of her days in comfort with others of her kind.

DAPHNE



Kate Rugroden

This juvenile female eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) was found grounded after she had sustained a severe injury to her left wrist and ear, most likely during thunderstorms that passed through the area. She received fluids, pain medication, and antibiotics, had the debris and blood cleaned from her face, and a large number of fly eggs were removed from her fur. Her wing injuries rendered her nonreleasable so she is receiving lifetime sanctuary with the other permanent residents at Bat World MidCities.

This pretty little tri-colored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) was found on a homeowner's porch near Longview, Texas. It was clear she was injured, so the homeowners met transport volunteer Marzi half-way to transport little Kamaria to our rescue center Bat World MidCities, 2.5 hours away. Unfortunately, Kamaria had suffered a bad fracture of the right shoulder, so she will never fly again. She healed nicely and is now happily settled in with her new friends.



This little evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) was rescued after being found tangled up in artificial spider webbing (outdoor Halloween decorations). After being cleaned up, hydrated, fed, and rested he was able to be returned to the wild to eat moths, flies, beetles and ants.

It is easy for small animals and reptiles to become tangled in fake spider web decorations. If you use this product please be sure to check it several times daily to make sure no little critters have become trapped.

Protect yourself, protect them

**NEVER
RESCUE
A BAT
BARE
HANDED**



Find help at batworld.org

RANIX



Before



After

Amanda Lollar

‘Ranix’ is an orphaned free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) who was found injured in a vacant building, hanging all alone and covered in dust. His wing was badly infected and painful but after receiving antibiotics and pain medication, he made a full recovery. Little Ranix is not releasable due to his injury so he is receiving lifetime care with the other non releasable free tailed bats at Bat World.

This gorgeous Seminole bat (*Lasiurus seminolus*) was found on the ground near Tyler, Texas with a bruised abdomen and fingers, likely from a bird attack. Thankfully she was not severely injured so she was able to fly free after just a few weeks of rest.

In the wild Seminole bats eat ants, flies, wasps, beetles and moths. They are fast, direct flyers, feeding in flight as well as gleaning insects from foliage. They are solitary and roost in trees, using their unique coloring to camouflage themselves from predators. Hanging upside down with one leg, they resemble a dried leaf hanging from the stem.

LUCILLE



Kate Rugroden



Kate Rugroden

AGATHA

Agatha is a young female eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) who was found grounded at an apartment complex in Addison, Texas. On intake we determined she was most likely born last summer, and had a difficult time coming out of hibernation as she was very dehydrated and emaciated, but had no injuries. She responded well to injections of electrolytes and hand-feeding three times

daily. Once she recovered she was provided with a few days of flight exercise and then set free to be a wild bat once again.

Red bats eat many different kinds of insects, including moths, beetles, plant-hoppers, ants and flies. They swoop through a concentration of potential prey, attacking an insect on average every thirty seconds.

This handsome big brown bat, Norman, was found trapped inside a garage in Wheeler, Texas. He was stabilized by a local wildlife rehabilitator and then transported to Bat World Sanctuary for an exam. Thankfully he was not injured, just slightly dehydrated and very hungry.



NORMAN

Kate Rugroden

Norman was able to be returned to the wild just two days later to help humans by eating crop-damaging beetles, flies, stone flies, mayflies, true bugs, net-winged insects, scorpion flies, caddis flies, and even cockroaches.



Kate Rugroden

Sammy, an evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) was found grounded, injured and shivering in a driveway in Grapevine, Texas. The homeowner delivered him to Bat World MidCities where it was discovered that his left wing was badly damaged. He was started on antibiotics and pain medication right away. During his examination, we also noted a puncture wound on the inside of the right wing near the shoulder. He underwent a wing repair to remove the dead portion of the wing. A closer examination of his puncture wound revealed a 1/2" wood splinter embedded deep in his shoulder. The splinter was removed successfully and the wound treated. Sammy healed well from his ordeal and will receive a lifetime of care with the other evening bats at Bat World MidCities.

Little "JL" found himself trapped inside a hanger at Lockheed Martin Aerospace in Fort Worth, Texas. He was transported to us by an employee, then treated for slight dehydration and transported back to Lockheed to be released. Little JL did not have security clearance to enter Lockheed so he



Moriah Champagne

had to be released at the gate (where he promptly flew off into the night and onto Lockheed property). Free-tailed bats can eat between 3,000 and 5,000 insects nightly, including corn-borer moths, flying ants and flying termites. They have a lifespan of 15 to 20 years in the wild and have an intelligence level equivalent to that of dolphins.

In 2018 it rained free-tailed bats! Here are just a few of the 556 we rescued this year.



Kate Rugroden

FEDERAL BATS



A number of Mexican free-tail bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) were spotted on the floor of the a Federal parking garage in Fort Worth, Texas in the early spring after a severe cold front passed through the area. Sadly, many of the bats did not survive, however, 22 bats that were still clinging to life were immediately transferred to Bat World MidCities. The survivors soon gained strength and were able to be released in shifts as their strength improved and the weather cleared. Among the group was a male with a healed injury to the tail, photo left.



Amanda Lollar

CHIMY

Little Chimy, a Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) was rescued after he was spotted flying through the banquet area of a Mexican restaurant in Mineral Wells, Texas. He was completely healthy, just lost and confused. Chimy was released into our bat castle so he could fly back to his colony that same evening. Interestingly, the primary diet of free-tailed bats is the corn-borer moth. They consume so many moths that individually, their tiny bodies actually smell like a corn tortilla.



THE LORENA BOYS

Kate Rugroden

These two male free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) were found in Lorena, Texas after they were grounded from fighting over territory. The spring is very hard on male free-tails, who migrate back to the area ahead of the females in order to set up territory for the girls they hope to attract. When a male crosses over into another male's territory (or tries to steal another male's territory that looks more promising), a fight ensues that literally resembles a bar-room brawl. The boys often inflict injury on each other, such as the wound on the wing shown above. If the injury affects flight or becomes infected it can be fatal.

Free-tailed bats are highly intelligent and have a very complicated social structure, using over 25 vocalizations to communicate. The males sing a song to attract females (a discovery made at Bat World Sanctuary in the mid-90s) and each male has his own unique song. Studies have shown these bats even use syntax, which equates their intelligence level to dolphins (and even humans).

These two males quickly became friends in captivity. Their wounds were treated and they recovered enough to be released to try again next spring.



CHEVY

Kate Rugroden

Chevy is an adult male Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) who was found in the door of a car near Waco, Texas. The driver had no idea how or when the bat had become trapped in his car door. Chevy was transported to us and we determined that he had two broken fingers that thankfully were not severe. After a few weeks in supportive care and a week of flight exercise, Chevy made a full recovery. Fly free, sweet Chevy.



THE "KRAZY" GIRLS

Several hundred free-tailed bats (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) were rescued over a three month period, from the downtown area of Mineral Wells, Texas as the older buildings were finally being renovated. Many of the bats were rescued after being trapped in "The Kraze Boutique". After discovering that these bats were pregnant, we contacted 911 Wildlife and a humane exclusion was performed on the building before the pups were born. This was a critical move as the area the mothers had chosen (The Kraze) would have allowed their babies to also become trapped over time. The bats were released into our bat castle in hopes they would realize that the castle is a safe place to live. We knew the day would come when the bats of Mineral Wells would need a safe haven as the downtown area was being modernized. Hence, we built the bat castle just for this purpose. Now that the time has come we hope to see permanent residents move in so they can be provided the protection they deserve. We are also working with the contracting company involved so future renovations are accomplished with as little disturbance to the bats as possible.

Little Dusty, a free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) was found at a construction site near Sanger, Texas. He was thin and dehydrated, and covered in concrete dust but thankfully, uninjured. He was transported to us by one of the construction workers, where he received injections of electrolytes, and received several days of supportive care to insure that he had not ingested any of the concrete dust, which could have proved toxic. Thankfully he made a full recovery and was released, soaring and bug munching his way through the night.





DIAMOND



Amanda Iolter

Diamond is a free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) who was found in the parking lot of Diamond's grocery store in Mineral Wells, Texas. She was dehydrated and suffering from heat exhaustion after temperatures in our area reached 109 degrees Fahrenheit. When she was examined we found that she had, at some point in her life, survived a broken leg and a skin laceration. Diamond was approximately 5 years old and had apparently done well for herself over the years despite her injuries. After a few days of rest (and the temperatures had cooled) she was released to rejoin her colony.

Lyra is a juvenile free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) who was found in the lobby of a business office in Irving, Texas. She was dehydrated and thin on intake, and showed signs of a condition called 'wing wasting syndrome'. Her wings were swabbed for laboratory analysis and the syndrome was confirmed. No one knows what causes the malady, it simply occurs in some bats. The condition causes the membrane to become painful and deteriorate. Although it heals over time, the membrane does not grow back. Lyra's condition is not fatal; she will instead live out her days with us, receiving the care she needs.



LYRA



Kate Rugroden

BORIS



Kate Rugroden

Boris, a tiny tri-colored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), was found grounded with a badly broken wing in Lindale, Texas. Our friends at Wild and Free Again took temporary charge of him until he could make it to us. He had to undergo a wing repair and several weeks of treatment, but he healed well. His wing injury rendered him not-releasable so Boris will remain with us.

Tri-colored bats are among the smallest in the US, weighing only 4 to 8 grams (less than a nickel). Their fur is a combination of three colors—black at the base, followed by a band of lighter brown with darker tips. In flight these tiny bats resemble large moths. Their diet includes small leafhoppers, ground beetles, flies, moths, and ants.

Abby is an adorable, little northern yellow bat (*Lasiurus intermedius*), who was orphaned when the tree in which she was born was pruned (despite city ordinances prohibiting trimming dead fronds from palm trees during bat maternity season). Sadly, her mother and all three of her siblings died as the result of injuries they sustained.

Abby survived, but is unable to fly well enough to be released, so she will spend her life at Bat World MidCities in comfort and safety.

In the wild yellow bats eat leafhoppers, damselflies, small flies, gnats, predaceous diving beetles, flying ants and other harmful beetles.



ABBY

Kate Rugroden

SAD NOAH



Amanda Lollar

This little evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*) was spotted floundering in a homeowner's pool. They quickly scooped him out and rushed him to Bat World Sanctuary, where he was examined and found to be fine (no aspiration or injuries).

This photo was taken just after he arrived. He looks upset, not yet understanding his fate. Many people don't realize that

bats have very expressive faces, just like dogs and cats. We use soothing tones with bats because they are so incredibly intelligent and they quickly realize that we mean no harm. Little "Noah" responded well to a little rest and was released to be the happy bat he was meant to be.



Jacqueline Sutherland

In contrast to the photo above, this rescued evening bat appears to be taking comfort in no longer being cold, wet and alone.

He was found and rescued along with several others on the same day, by our Bat World Bee Street rescue center. All of the bats were found in different locations, and in dangerous spots, after cold rain and dropping temperatures passed through the Dallas, Texas area.

During the fall of every year we receive up to a dozen evening bats, mainly first year young who are not yet experienced in migration and hibernation. They often end up lost and grounded, or clinging to the sides of buildings, under car ports, etc. Some of these youngsters need to be overwintered and then released in the spring, something we are happy to help them with.



ORPHANED RED BATS

The orphaned red bat pup on the left was rescued after he was found lying at the entrance door of Titan Bank in Mineral Wells, Texas. He was too young to fly so he likely fell off of his mother as she was trying to escape a bird attack. (Red bat mothers and pups roost in trees which makes them prone to attacks by both blue jays and crows.) Little “Titan” was barely clinging to life when he was rescued but he eventually made

a full recovery. After eight weeks of being fed round the clock and then eventually learning to fly well enough to survive on his own, Titan was released back to the wild.

Along with Titan, 67 more red bat pups, all with similar stories, were nurtured and returned to the wild this summer. In addition, we rescued and cared for 11 injured red bat mothers and their pups, all of whom were also eventually released back to eat moths, beetles, ants, leaf hoppers, plant hoppers, flies and other insect pests.

The red bats, along with the hundreds of orphaned and injured free-tailed bats we rescued this past summer, meant round the clock feedings by Bat World’s staff and volunteers (pictured below).





One week old red bat pups (*Lasiurus borealis*) above, cluster together for warmth and security. Red bats mature very rapidly and have a full set of teeth in three to four weeks, which can be partially seen in one pup, below.





ADIRA



This beautiful hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) was found down on the ground on her back, likely from a bird attack. The people who found her took her home, put her in a cage, and fed her meal worms for an entire week before deciding that she could not fly and that perhaps they should seek a qualified bat care professional. They were unwilling to transport little Adira even part way, although one of them did agree to take the bat to work so she could be picked up during the day at the workplace rather than waiting until evening. An exam revealed that Adira had suffered a severe head injury. The left side of her face was caked with dried blood. After she received pain medication, the dried blood was cleaned from her eye, which was destroyed. Her face and the inside of her mouth were also swollen. The fact that she has survived in this condition for a full week without any medical treatment suggests that she has a strong will to live. We are going to try our best to save her and give her the best life possible going forward.

We use social media to continually remind folks to contact their local wildlife rehab center when they find an injured bat, or better yet, contact us. We are available almost 24/7 for rescues. No matter where you are located, we will try to find help for the bat.

Two different species, a free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*), and a red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) both with permanent injuries that rendered them non-releasable this year.

These species do not have contact with each other in the wild. In captivity, not only are they getting along, they are enjoying each other's company. Humans have so much to learn from the gentle beings with whom we share our planet.



CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?

THE MICHIGAN 90

For two decades we had watched the sad conditions of the bats housed at the Organization for Bat Conservation (OBC) as they were being “used” in countless programs across the U.S. as well as being on display to loud, non-stop crowds at the “Bat Zone”. When OBC suddenly closed due to allegations of fraud and sexual harassment against the former Director, we jumped at the chance to offer the bats lifetime sanctuary.



Many of the bats were on loan from zoos and other institutions so those bats had to be returned to those facilities. The bats that remained, however, included 90 bats, some of which were old and infirm and with other various issues that made them unappealing to zoos and like-minded facilities, where appearance matters. The bats we rescued included 50 short-tailed

fruit bats, 10 Egyptian fruit bats, 12 African fruit bats, 15 Jamaican fruit bats, 2 Indian flying foxes and 1 Rodrigues fruit bat.

Taking on 90 additional mouths to feed is a daunting task but thanks to you—our wonderful supporters who helped us build a new, larger sanctuary—we have the room to accommodate these poor, unwanted souls.

When the bats arrived we were both joyous and saddened at the same time. We were joyous to give these bats a new lease on life with all the enrichment they deserve, but sad to see how emotionally and physically neglected some of them appeared to be, and that many of the smaller bats were thin and balding. Three of the elderly bats had nails that were so long they had to be physically cut out of the mesh crate in which they arrived.



After the bats were removed from their crates we trimmed their toe nails to an appropriate length. One of the bat's feet (above) was in such bad shape that his toes and nails were permanently disfigured.

Some of the bats needed to be rehabilitated both physically and behaviorally, including a critically endangered Rodrigues fruit bat (*Pteropus rodricensis*) who was born in 1997 and named Coco. To remove all stigma of her previous life, we have renamed her Chessie. In 2012, it was determined that Chessie was going blind so she and her roost mate were moved to a small cage. Her roost mate died, so Chessie remained confined to the small cage, completely alone. Per instructions of the former OBC director, it was believed that she would “freak out” if she was with other bats, which is absurd. We later learned from a former staff member that Chessie was allegedly kept in a broom closet for two years. The former staff member reported that she would leave the door of the closet open while she was there so Chessie could receive fresh air:



At OBC, Chessie’s toenails were allowed to grow so they curled 270 degrees, making it so she could barely move about. Because of this severe, curled length, Chessie could not unlatch her toes from the cage ceiling to turn right-side up (invert) to relieve herself, so she unwillingly soiled her body when she went to the bathroom. Bats are exceptionally clean by nature and use their toenails to groom. In order to maintain themselves they also must be able to ambulate. After Chessie’s nails were trimmed to the proper length, we worked with her daily to show her that she could invert when the need arose. The day finally came when she inverted to go potty all by herself, and the entire staff cheered her on.



Chessie hanging out by a food trough and using her properly trimmed toenails to groom her head and scratch her ear.

Along with Chessie, two elderly Indian flying foxes had toenails that were grotesquely long. These bats were so accustomed to not being able to move once they were placed in a certain location, that they just hung in the exact same spot for hours on end. We worked with these bats nightly to help them understand that they are able to move freely on their own within our expansive enclosure.

Several of the smaller short-tailed fruit bats were pregnant on arrival. These tiny future mothers were placed into an enriched flight area, segregated from the rest of the colony, to await the birth of their babies. Two of the females gave birth to girls within days of arriving so they were allowed to rejoin their colony in the large flight area with their offspring. One mother abandoned her baby, likely due to the stress of the transfer, so we hand-raised her baby until she was old enough to rejoin her mom and the rest of the colony (see bottom photo).



Upper left: A miserable-looking short-tailed fruit bat being held in a thick glove at OBC. Upper right: One of the rescued short-tailed fruit bat mothers with her baby girl clinging to her. Left: Bella, who was orphaned after being rescued from OBC. In this photo she had just learned to eat solid food—bananas in warmed goat’s milk.



*Above, the barren food and roosting areas of OBC. The bats had minimal places to hide and no enrichment, Below: Just one of the roosting areas at Bat World Sanctuary showing several places for the bats to hide and relax, a sweet potato kabob in case they need a “midnight snack” and access to fresh water via water bottles inside the roost. Chessie, the Rodrigues fruit bat mentioned on page 23, can be seen in the front. To the left and inside a plush hammock are several elderly Egyptian fruit bats. Some of the OBC rescued African fruit bats (*Eidolon helvum*) are seen in the background. The short-tailed fruit bat at the bottom of the photo decided to do a fly-by as the picture was being taken.*



Many of the bats were a little shell-shocked on arrival; likely do to the lack of space and enrichment they had been accustomed to for the years they had lived at OBC. As mentioned, many of the smaller bats were thin and balding but they also could not fly due to arthritis and nutritional deficiencies. We had a special enclosure made for them that we affectionately call the “Geribatric Ward”. The geri-ward hangs inside the large flight enclosure so the oldsters still have access to the sights and sounds of the other bats. They seem to enjoy being inside the smaller enclosure, where there is no competition for food or roosting space, and all of their daily needs are met.

One of the elderly Indian flying foxes (*Pteropus giganteus*) that we named Statler, was 31 years old on arrival. He had spent his entire life being used for programs. By the time he reached us he was arthritic and missing an eye (we do not know how this occurred). Statler was a bit overwhelmed at his new surroundings and took a fall onto the thickly padded floor of the enclosure so we took immediate measures to keep him safe. During the day, he sleeps with all of his friends in one of the roosting areas in the large enclosure, with an air pillow on the floor directly underneath him to keep him safe if he happens to fall while sleeping. At night, he is transferred to “Statler’s Tree House”, which we had made especially for him. It hangs inside the large flight enclosure so he has the sight and sounds of all of his friends, while also having his food, treats, juice and a hammock within easy reach, as seen below.



Bottom left: The African fruit bats enjoying the discovery of something new every night. Bottom right: Even with her limited sight, Chessie happily explores her surroundings and is especially fond of romaine lettuce, which she receives nightly along with lots of fresh fruit.





One Facebook page

Above: The small, barren cage at the Bat Zone. This is where many of the bats at OBC were kept on permanent display. The glass front allowed for easier viewing of the bats but also served to further limit the areas available for hanging and climbing.

Below: When the bats arrived they were marked on the forehead with a non-toxic temporary green paste so we could monitor and watch the newcomers settle in to their new surrounding's. The photo below was taken of one of the Egyptian fruit bats enjoying the company of new friends and her expansive flight enclosure at Bat Word Sanctuary.



Amanda Lolla

As of this writing, all 90 bats have settled in and seem to be thriving. Some of the elderly bats are now on daily arthritis medication and can ambulate with more ease. Their toenails are maintained weekly and they have grown to a healthy length. The balding bats now sport lush, full coats. With access to our large, semi-outdoor flight enclosure, many (if not all) of these bats, are experiencing the nighttime air and the sweet sound of crickets for the first time in their lives. As one former volunteer later wrote us “Chessie especially was a very sad girl at OBC. I would try to pay special attention to her whenever I was there because she always looked so depressed. Statler and Chessie appear to be far more happy and contented now than before.”

Most of the Michigan 90 have a lifespan of 25 years or more. Your donations help us to accomplish all that we do for these bats, but by taking in 90 extra bats we have essentially reached critical mass. We have the room and the staff to care for them, however, we need to ensure that we have the funds available for the lifetime care of these neglected and abused bats so they never have to suffer again. We can only do this with your support.

We are trying to raise \$250,000 for their lifetime care. A lofty goal and one that we expect will take some time, but also one that assures these innocent bats will never again suffer. You helped to build the safe sanctuary they now call home; please help us give the once abused and neglected bats the lifetime care they so deserve. Please consider a donation for these bats through our fundraiser at mightycause.com/story/Batworld-Michigan90. Any support you can give, no matter how small, will be greatly appreciated. It takes a village...

**A very special thank you to Gladys and Dan for providing a matching \$15,000 grant for the Michigan 90 this year. Thanks to you, we are that much closer to our goal! ♥*



An African fruit bat, his lip torn off from fighting with another male while at OBC, seems to be welcoming his new life at Bat World Sanctuary with open arms.

Rescues in Other Countries

In 2018 we helped individuals and bat care professionals in 62 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 veterinarians, researchers, biologists and wildlife rehabilitators around the globe.

This year we provided book chapters on how to treat injured bats and raise orphaned bats to bat rescuers in the following International locations:

Argentina, Belarus, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kuwait, Malta, Pacific Ocean, Philippines, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Taiwan, the United Kingdom and Vietnam.

In 2018 we provided help and information to U.S. bat rescuers as well assisting the public with downed bats and humane bat exclusions in 41 states.

*For more details on our rescue work please see our **Rescue Log** at batworld.org where you can view the daily logs that include photographs and videos (when available).*

SPOTLIGHT ON INTERNATIONAL RESCUES



Monsoons and temperature drops in Pune, India, caused mother fruit bats to be unable to forage in the harsh conditions and subsequently were unable to provide nourishment to their offspring, which led to a number of abandoned and weak bat pups losing their grip and falling from trees.

Thanks to the wonderful work of Devna Arora, a wildlife rehabilitator at The Rehabbers Den in Maharashtra, many of these beautiful beings were saved (photo left). We provided information on medical treatments and husbandry, and the bats also received veterinary

support from Dr. Shiwani Tandel as well as a grant from the India Wildlife Trust. We are honored to be involved with this wonderful group of people who are bringing support and visibility to a critical and beautiful species.

Educational Efforts

*Your donations have allowed us to reach over **4 Million** people this year through educational events, news outlets, social media videos and posts and our magazine.*



In March of 2018 we presented a four-day educational event at the Texas Botanical Gardens. Pictured above is VP of Operations Kate Rugroden, presenting a slide-show presentation on bats. This large event allowed us to reach thousands of people on the benefits of bats to our planet.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS IN 2018

- We presented a program titled "Making Sense of Texas Wildlife Law" at the Texas Unites for Animals conference.
- We participated in a 'lunch and learn' program with the veterinary medicine students at the University of Illinois via webinar, focusing on captive care of insectivorous bats.
- In cooperation with the University of Texas - Arlington's Institutional Animal Care and Use committee, we lead a monthly roundtable discussion on Ethical Considerations in Animal Research. All researchers and students participating in animal research at UTA are required to attend. The discussion is focused on making responsible, ethical decisions when formulating and conducting animal research, and the impact of ethical conduct on research results.
- Kate Rugroden earned certification as an approved instructor for the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). With this certification, any individual who is appointed by TCOLE can request approval from their local training coordinator for continuing education hours for the wildlife-related classes. This includes Texas game wardens, sherriff's deputies, police, and correctional officers.

Workshops & Internships

Workshops



Amanda Collier

Every year we host several basic and advanced workshops on the rehabilitation of insectivorous bats for wildlife rehabilitators, animal control officers, veterinarians and veterinary students, biologists and researchers. These continuing education classes provide direct, practical experience in the captive care and medical management of native insectivorous bats. The small-group basic bat rehabilitation class focuses on appropriate handling techniques, feeding and nutrition, housing, and speaking with the public about bats. The medical management class provides hands-on skills practice in assessing and treating injuries using cadavers (bats that have died of natural causes).

By training veterinarians, licensed veterinary technicians, biologists, animal control officers, and game wardens, we can directly impact the health of these animals, raise the quality of care in zoos and research facilities, and reduce the number of bats needlessly euthanized in animal shelters. These classes are approved for continuing professional education credits by the Texas Department of State Health Services, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards. Students who successfully complete the courses are certified as bat care specialists. This year we hosted students from AR, AZ, CA, IN, ME, MO, OR, TX and WI as well as Canada.

Internships



Bat World Sanctuary hosted interns in 2018. Our Internships provide a unique opportunity to acquire basic knowledge of native and non-indigenous bat species. Pictured on the left is Alessandra Tomassini who interned from the Italian Bat Center. Also interning this summer for a second time was Taylor Driscoll, who is attending veterinary college at the University of Edinburgh.

Activism in 2018

We are extending our rescue centers internationally with the creation of a rescue center in South Africa, named Bat World ReWild, an off-shoot of ReWild, directed by Jane Burd, who formerly interned at Bat World Sanctuary. Bats are in dire need of rescue in South Africa, and public education is critical. Jane works tirelessly to change public opinion about bats, and works directly with pest control operators to encourage humane exclusion techniques (rather than fumigation or sealing babies into roosts, a common SA practice). The practice is illegal but no one is prosecuted so the practice continues. Working together, we are able to save many more bats and play a much bigger role in bat conservation.

Change has to come from the home owners becoming more aware and more appreciative of bats. Pictured on the right is Jane Burd and Gerhard from Bushveld Pest Control Services, who is performing a humane bat exclusion with Jane's guidance.



White Nose Syndrome Update

White Nose Syndrome (WNS), the fungal disease that has been devastating bat populations since 2007, continues its relentless march to the west. Bat World Sanctuary's VP of Operations, Kate Rugroden, serves as Chair of the Stakeholder Committee for the WNS Communications working group. Bat World Sanctuary, the AVMA, the National Speleological Society, American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians, Wildlife Conservation Society, and more, are working together to develop best practices for roost protection, rehabilitation, and potential treatments.

The Peekaboo Rescue Fund

We are pleased to announce the The Peekaboo Rescue Fund. Named in honor of our beloved spokesbat, Peekaboo, whom we lost unexpectedly to a genetic disorder earlier this year (see page 39). The Peekaboo Rescue Fund will provide funding for critical projects such as educational videos that show bats in a positive light, or to aid permitted bat rehabilitators who are dealing with sudden emergencies such as rescues after a botched exclusion or natural disasters, by reimbursing for expenses related to those emergencies. The grant criteria and application will be available on our website in January, 2019.



Worldwide Aid for Bats

- We assisted Stockholm Wildlife and Nordic Wildlife Rehabilitation with guidance to save this sweet, little parti-colored bat (*Vespertilio murinus*), who was found grounded due to a large hole in his tail membrane.
- We provided book chapters and practical standards for the care and rehabilitation of orphaned or injured bats to international bat rescue groups including the Tolga Bat Hospital in Australia; the KZN Bat Group of South Africa; Hessen Germany Wildlife Rehabili-

tators Interest Group; PhD students from Israel; a wildlife custodian in Ontario; an animal husbandry student at the University of Life Sciences in Poznan, Poland; the Horagolla National Park in Sri Lanka; the Toronto Wildlife Rehab Center; The Animals of Gili in Trawangan, Indonesia; the Cape Tribulation Tropical Research Station in Australia; Sarah's Bats in Australia; The Israeli Bat Sanctuary; Northern Lights Rehab in Canada; Wildlife Aid Odenwald in Germany; the Wildlife Rehab Center of Winnipeg, Canada, the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation, and to individual bat rehabilitators in countries listed on page 30.

- We also provided assistance and guidance for medical treatments to bat rehabilitators and wildlife veterinarians in South Carolina, Connecticut, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, North Dakota, Montana, New York, California, Nebraska, Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Washington, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Idaho, North Carolina, Maine and Iowa, and to Best Friends Wild in Utah; Wildlife Rehab of Lorena, Texas; Florida Wildlife Care Center; Arcadia Wildlife Foundation in Maine; the Ohio Wildlife Center and the South Carolina Wildlife Center who became overwhelmed when they received 120 bats in a trash bag after they were removed from a building in freezing temperatures by an animal control officer who was doing his best to save them (photo right).



Saved Bat Colonies in Roosts

- We stopped inhumane bat removal methods from occurring and provided alternate humane bat exclusion techniques to individuals and companies located in Michigan, Texas, Ohio, Tennessee, Oklahoma and Georgia.

Advocated Against Inhumane Marking Techniques

- We spoke out against a wildlife group in Arizona who hosted a program where bats were scheduled to be mist netted and examined in a public event. The event was to occur during maternity season. The stress of an event like this can easily cause mothers to abort their young or die of stress themselves.
- We stopped a potential freeze branding project that was being considered as a marking method for bats. Freeze branding attempts have been unsuccessful due to the small size of microbats and their highly irregular surface relative to the size of a typical marking. This is an unacceptable marking method due to the invasiveness of the procedure, pain and subsequent discomfort, and risk of infection that can lead to death.

Assisted with Publications

- We provided book chapters on the rehabilitation of insectivorous bats for Wildbase Wildlife Health Center in New Zealand.
- We also provided our book *“The Rehabilitation and Captive Care of Insectivorous Bats”* for translation in Argentina, to assist bat biologists in the Neotropic Region.

Provided Educational Literature and Information

- Provided educational information and materials to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources; the Davidson County College in North Carolina; For Other Animals International Project; and River East Elementary School in New York.
- Began collaboration with a biologist who is working with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, the CDC and a filmmaker from Chicago to produce a video short to dispel myths and present factual information regarding bats and rabies.

Provided positive Media Coverage

Bat World was featured in The Dodo, online media source; ViralHog, online news media; Ernie’s Earth, website blog; Right This Minute, television program; the Fort Worth Star Telegram, Texas; Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma; Genius Club Asia; Voyage Dallas magazine, Texas; “Creating Sanctuary for Animals: a global interview series; Chautauquan Daily, Western NY; The Eyes of Texas; and Your Parker County Magazine, Texas.

Combated Negative News Coverage

We contacted Chris Hayes, a weekday news and opinion television journalist on MSNBC, and provided factual information to thousands of his followers after he posted that he cruelly caught a tiny bat on a sticky trap for innocently roosting on the eve of his house. He eventually removed his post, but would not respond to what he did with the bat, despite our numerous requests to provide help.



Keeping Wild Bats Safe in Summer Months

Summertime is busy for everyone, including bats. Baby season for our North American bats starts in May and ends in early September, depending on the species. Here are a few tips you can use to help save the lives of the battie buddies living in your own neighborhood.

Be careful when mowing!



Bats roosting in trees are often attacked by blue jays and crows, ending up grounded in yards where they are often found by people or pets, or worse, hit by lawn mowers. A mother bat will try to protect her babies by spreading her wings over them as seen in the photo on the left. Please check your yard for downed bats before mowing. If you find a bat in need please visit batworld.org to find a rescuer in your area.

Save bats in palms

Don't trim their natural frond "bat houses"
(especially not in spring or summer during baby season!)



At least 12 of our 47 US bat species use dried palm frond "skirts" as natural bat houses. To protect baby bats and birds, don't trim dried fronds in spring or summer. Try to leave some dried fronds year round so bats have a safe place to raise their pups in summer or to hibernate in winter. In addition, cosmetic trimming of the fronds can make palm trees more susceptible to heat stress and drought, so leaving some fronds helps both the trees AND bats!

Please don't leave outdoor fans on overnight!



Ceiling fans can break tiny arm bones. Please turn any outdoor ceiling fans OFF at night to avoid tragic accidents with bats that may fly under your porch looking for a tasty insect treat.

Please give bats a break by NOT giving them a break! You'll save a little on your electric bill while also saving little lives.

Please don't destroy my nursery!



Once this pup's little, stubby wings grow out and she learns to hunt, she will be able to eat more than 1,000 mosquito-sized insects in an hour! Please give her a chance to grow up.

THERE IS NO HUMANE WAY TO EXCLUDE A BAT COLONY DURING BABY SEASON. Most bats give birth to just one pup starting in late spring and summer. If you seal out a bat colony or trim down their palm frond home during the spring or summer, baby bats will be left behind to die. If you have an unwanted bat colony in your attic, ensure there's no way they can get into the home's interior but wait until the end of summer before having the colony excluded. Visit batworld.org for humane ways to evict bats at the proper time of year.

Use Froglogs in Pools!



If you have an outdoor pool please add a Froglog as well as a "critter skimmer". Both of these items can save countless lives every summer. Froglogs are small and compact and simply hang from the pool edge, allowing mice, lizards, turtles, and toads and frogs to escape drowning.

(Note: The image on the left has been Photoshopped to serve as an example.)

Install a pup catcher!



Every summer we receive dozens of reports of baby bats falling from bat houses. This occurs when pregnant moms move into a bat house, not understanding that the population inside the roost will double when their babies are born. The pups grow quickly so it doesn't take long before the bat house is over-crowded and overheated. Installing a pup catcher is very easy to construct and costs very little. It is a simple net that catches fallen pups and allows them to climb back inside. Pup catchers can even be made to fit inside barns, under the eaves of homes and any other area where babies may be falling. If you have a bat house with bats, or have noticed pups falling from another type of roost, please install a pup catcher right away. See batworld.org for free instructions.

Special thanks to Cindy Myers for the use of her graphics and text!

In Loving Memory of David Naranjo



David, with Peekaboo. This photo was taken in January of 2018. Who could predict that two of the most beautiful souls to grace our earth would be taken just a few months later.

On March 29, 2018, we lost our shining star, David Naranjo, in a tragic car accident. It is impossible to express the pain we feel over the loss of David. He truly loved the bats and Bat World Sanctuary, and he lived at the facility. Please know that the person whose words you read on some of our recent Facebook posts are those of David, whose likes and shares surpassed our own.

Although David was only with us for 6 months, little by little, that undeniable light that he had shining from within grew with each passing day; a light that touched the souls of those who knew him. David's tenderness with the animals that gravitated towards him was tangible; his expressive face would beam at the opportunity to gain more knowledge about the bats, and they thrived in his care as he embraced them for all that they are.

David was 6'9" tall and we use to laugh together at how his extraordinary height made him even more perfect for the job because he could reach any bat without a ladder. David physically towered over others but most of all he soared to heights of humanity that most of us can only dream of attaining. Many young people these days seem to only talk-the-talk, but David walked-the-walk without speaking a word. He was brilliant, yet he was humble; he was gentle, but so very strong; he was dedicated, kind and talented. In the short time we were privileged to know him, we feel that we had barely scratched the surface of the greatness he possessed.

We miss you so much, sweet David. We can still hear your laughter and feel your presence. May you always travel on the wings of the bats you loved so dearly.

In Loving Memory of Peekaboo



On August 2, 2018 we lost our precious Peekaboo, the smiling bat that we all loved so very much. Unbeknownst to us, Peekaboo had a genetic disorder called iron storage disease. Thankfully, this disease is painless. Peekaboo did not show the symptoms for over 8 years, and gave no indication that she did not feel well until the very end. Her loss is almost more than we can bear, but her Legacy will live on in the hundreds of pictures she allowed us to take, and seemingly posed for, over the past 8 years.

During her time with us, we were able to give her the best, most enriched life possible – a life where she never wanted for anything. For that we will always be grateful. We want to extend a special Thank You to Kathy at Diamonds Pharmacy for donating medication to help Peekaboo during her final days with us, and a special thank you to Tad Jarrett, DVM, for doing all he could to help us save her.

Peekaboo educated millions of people through Facebook and YouTube. We created a video to provide a glimpse into the beautiful soul she was and the joy she brought to so many people. Most of all, she educated millions of people about the wonder of bats through her online photos and “Happy Monday” posts on our Facebook page. You can watch Peekaboo’s video at batworld.org/peekaboo. We have also created Peekaboo’s Rescue Fund as part of her legacy.

Fundraisers

North Texas Giving Day



Staff member Moriah Champagne taking a little too much delight in dunking her boss and President Amanda Lollar.

September 20, 2018 was our fourth participation in North Texas Giving Day, a one-day event where nonprofits raise as much as possible in 16 hours. Our goal this year was \$50,000 toward the lifetime care of the Michigan 90 (see page 23). One of our crafty supporters suggested (and then donated) the use of a dunk tank to garner support, which we happily obliged!

Although we did not meet our \$50,000 goal we received a whopping \$34,378 - funds that will benefit the Michigan 90 with the purchase of food and medical supplies as well as veterinary care. We are incredibly grateful for the amount we received and the safety and security it

will bring to the Michigan 90 and the over 280 other bats permanently in our care. Having these funds in place also frees up the critical support always needed for rescues that occur throughout the year.

Cidercade Event



On North Texas Giving Day, The Bishop Cidercade in Dallas Texas pledged to give 10% of sales to Bat World Sanctuary. Director of Special Projects Kate Rugroden and our staff and volunteers presented a fun night of activity for the event, with bat quizzes, videos and prizes! Pictured left to right are Moriah Champagne, Bridget Cameron, Addison McCool and Adrian Burgi.

The Sunshine Rescue Club



Sunshine, the bat who started it all. Photo taken in 1988

In addition to the almost 400 permanent residents cared for daily at Bat World Sanctuary, we rescue hundreds of bats annually and return them to the wild. We also support organizations both nationally and internationally that rescue and release bats back to nature.

Each time we provide support, we spend a little more of our precious time and resources. By donating \$0.88 each time we provide assistance through our Sunshine Bat Rescue Club, you will enable continued support of bats in need worldwide. Why \$0.88 cents? Because that is the year of our very first rescue of a bat

named “Sunshine”, who became the inspiration for Bat World Sanctuary. Since then, tens of thousands of bats around the world have been rescued in her name.

When you register for the Sunshine Bat Rescue Club, you pledge to donate \$0.88 each time we support the rescue of a bat. We use the Rescue Log as the “official” counter. At the end of the month, you’ll donate \$0.88 for each bat rescued that month per the Rescue Log. For example, the Rescue Log highlighted the help of 16 bats in December 2017, which would have generated a \$14.08 donation. We’ll provide you with a monthly summary that highlights the number of bats you helped to rescue. And, you can cap your monthly donation so that you support only as many rescues as is appropriate for your budget. To join the Sunshine Rescue Club and also see our Rescue Log visit, batworld.org.

New Bat Goodies!



Not only do we have lots of new items in our store at batworldstore.org, but we have teamed up with batgoods.com, a site that has bat products galore! Choose “BWS” at checkout and each purchase

you make will generate a donation to Bat World Sanctuary! Please check out our new bat goodies, where 100% of the proceeds helps us rescue bats!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop at Amazon.com and Bat World Sanctuary gets a percentage donation directly from Amazon!

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Select your charity
3. SHOP!



Please sign up and choose Bat World as your charity at smile.amazon.com! When you shop on Amazon, we receive a donation from the site at no cost to you! Amazonsmile deposits quarterly donations directly to our account. The last amount we received from amazonsmile was over \$1,500, enough to buy 2 weeks of fruit for the fruit bats!

A Note on Transparency

By Amanda Lollar,
Founder and President

This past year we had two donors question the salary our staff receives and wondered why they weren't paid more for the important work they do. In the interest of transparency, I want to give our donors insight as to how our operation works. Admittedly, our salaries may appear to be on the low side but, in addition to salary, on-site housing -with utilities paid- is provided. We have it set-up this way for two reasons: 1) in the event of a dire emergency, such as a flood or fire, we have plenty of rescuers on hand to save the animals, 2) having on-site housing decreases the need for higher salaries we cannot afford, and 3) we hire people with unsurpassed passion for bats. All of this in turn lowers our administrative expenses.

How do we afford housing and utilities but not higher salaries? Let me explain: Salaries are static but donations are not. Consequently, we cannot afford higher salaries year after year, so we worked to find a solution to the problem. Fortunately, the 13 acre property we purchased to build Bat World Sanctuary had a mobile home on-site at the time of purchase. When we built the facility, small living quarters, as well as intern quarters, were part of the construction and are

located inside the main facility. Later, we received a grant specifically to build a small caregivers residence located on Bat World's land. Our property, including on-site housing for three staff members, is paid in full, leaving the organization in a very secure place. With almost 400 animals now in our care, it is critical that we have on-site staff in the event of emergencies.

All of this did not happen by accident, but by design. We wanted to leave Bat World to the next generation of bat specialists, mortgage free with all securities in place that are needed to sustain Bat World, and most importantly the animals in our care, well into the future. We have streamlined our work so that most of it is done between 8 am and noon. Outside of orphan season in the summer, each staff member's work week is normally between 25 to 30 hours, with some evenings included. We are so proud of our staff. They are the most loyal, hardworking, dedicated and happy employees we could hope for.

We trust that this gives you the assurance that when you donate, you are supporting a nonprofit organization that truly values your support and will always use your contributions wisely.

Keeping Our Sanctuary Safe



Read more about how Barricade Fire Gel works at firegel.com

Wildfires have always been a great concern to us in keeping the bats in our care safe. We looked into a sprinkler system, which wasn't feasible due to the high cost. In searching for an alternative, we found Barricade Fire Blocking Gel, a biodegradable gel that coats buildings, making them impervious to fire. The gel is sprayed on with a high pressure system (photo left). After a fire passes the product can simply be hosed off, with no harm to the environment. The system pictured is enough to cover our entire facility, the caregivers residences and the bat castle in the event of a potential wildfire headed our way. Thanks to a donation from Lynn Hochstetter, we were able to purchase the system as well as a trailer to move the tank around from building to building.

Batty Word Search

Use your batty brain to find the words below that include bat behavior, bat species, and the many beneficial products that bats bring to us.

S Y N W O R B E L T T I L T A B D E R F
 I B E A N S V D N I A L L I U Q E T A T
 T V T K P U M A E L I A T T R O H S G I
 O E A S O A P L L I A Y A P A P T R S U
 Y G B H L G C L L A F R M F H F N D O R
 M T G I L I H S E T D E W I L O E R N F
 M A N B I N O P R E E E G I G E A W O N
 D B I E N K C I T E R B E Y S R O R A C
 E L N R A S O C S R I R S D P R A C Y H
 T E E N T P L E I F A A A E B I I T Y E
 T S V A E E A S P T H E G G C A T E E W
 E S E T S T T I I W R Y I A M I L A E I
 L E I E R S E S P P E B U A V L P P N N
 U N C C U A R S S B V I J M O E O S R G
 A I A O B P D E R O L O C W A R T S A G
 P C V F B H O L M K I C B S I N G S T U
 E I E F E T T R E E S A I C H I R P C M
 K D B E R O G N A M T A D A R I D A E S
 B E A E H O I L S S E U G I R D O R N H
 Y M T K N T P A L L I D O O W A S L A B

AGAVE
 ALLSPICE
 BALSAMIC
 BEANS
 BEER
 BIG BROWN
 CAVE BAT
 CHEWING GUM
 CHIRP
 CHOCOLATE
 COFFEE
 CORN
 EGYPTIAN

EPAULETTED
 EVENING BAT
 FAST FLIER
 FREETAIL
 FRUIT
 HIBERNATE
 HOARY
 INKS
 JAMAICAN
 LITTLE BROWN
 MANGO
 MEDICINES
 MIGRATE

MYOTIS
 NECTAR
 OILS
 PALLID
 PAPAYA
 PIPISTRELLE
 POLLINATES
 RED BAT
 RODRIGUES
 ROPE
 RUBBER
 SHORT TAIL
 SILVER HAired

SINGS
 SISSEL
 SOAP
 SPICES
 SPREAD SEEDS
 STRAW COLORED
 TADARIDA
 TEQUILLA
 TOOTH PASTE
 TREES
 VEGETABLES
 YELLOW BAT
 YUMA

Letters

Sharing a few of the messages we received in 2018. Receiving notes like these means more to us than we can fully express! We hope you enjoy reading them as well.

Earlier tonight I was moving my truck and saw something unusual in the driveway. Turns out it was a bat. I went back to finish what I had been working on, and when I was finished I decided to go back to see if the bat had died. It was alive so as with most problems in this day and age I took to the internet and found your website.

I followed the instructions (placed box over it) and slid thin cardboard under it to get it in the box. I then placed the box on a table and put a towel in the box. I was wearing a headlamp for the work I was doing outside so I had the light directed at the bat. The headlamp also had a night vision option so I turned it on. When I did, the bat reacted and started moving around and making high pitch cries. At this time I'm 5' from the ladder, and all of a sudden I felt something fly by me. It was a larger bat. The bat made a wide circle, headed back to the box, hovers an instant, and then dropped into the box!

After about 10 minutes the larger bat shoots out of the box and took off. I take a look in the box and it was empty. I then realized that this was the mom, and she took her baby home. Thought you might like to hear how your website saved a bat tonight.

I just wanted to thank you for all you've done, and to let you know how happy I am that the Michigan 90 are in a place where they are genuinely loved and cared for. Don't ever think that what you do isn't important or meaningful.

When I began my career in bat work years ago, it was working rescuing and rehabilitating bats here in Devon, UK.

I just wanted to say thank you for the many times I accessed your rescue info online. Although I no longer have the time to continue my rescue work, I wanted to say thank you again for being such an inspiration.

I found a darling juvenile bat in the street today. A huge thank you to Bat World Sanctuary for the wonderful information on their Facebook page as well as to Mr. Frank, who is listed as a rescuer on their page. Although the bat appeared uninjured and I had gotten him up in a tree, Mr. Frank came over to be sure it was okay. After checking him out, Mr. Frank decided he was a bit young to be on his own and needed care until he is ready to be out in the world.

I've really enjoyed following the sanctuary the past several years on Facebook and it was the first thing that popped in my mind when I realized what I was seeing in the street was a bat. I'm so grateful to you and to Mr. Frank.



Loving Tributes

*In Loving Memory of Virginia Upham
~ Kathy Upham*

*In Loving Memory of Laura Flandreau
~ Meredith Flandreau, Richard Timberlake, Megan Timberlake,
Brenda Malinics, Rosemarie Curcio, Sandy Thorpe,
Nancy Landers and Deb Welter*

*In Memory of Laura, who is a dear friend and is flying free with her
beloved bats.
~ Sandra Acosta*

*In Memory of Spinner
~ Peggy Persson*

*In Loving Memory of David Naranjo
~ Amanda Lollar, Moriah Campagne, Bridget Cameron, Larry
Crittenden, Dottie Hyatt and Kate Rugroden*

*In Loving Memory of Peekaboo
~ The Bat World Sanctuary Staff*

*In Memory of David and Peekaboo. He and Peakaboo are together. We
need more love and compassion for all beings, they served as ambassadors
for both.
~ Deanna McClain*

*In Honor of Nancy B. of Olympia, Washington
~ Pink Jackalope Studio*

*In honor of Megabatty, Batzilla and Batusi Nights on YouTube, for
introducing me to the joy of bats
~ Jennifer Marlatt*

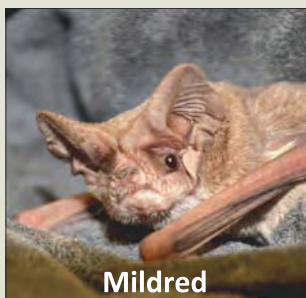
*In Honor of the Michigan 90
~ Donna McCaulley*

Sponsor a bat in need for \$35!



Your sponsorship package includes:

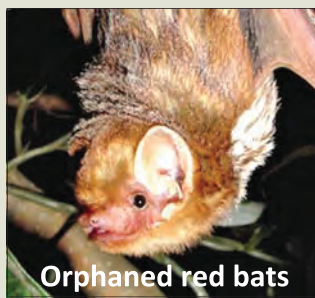
- An adoption certificate listing you as the official sponsor.
- The personal background of your sponsored bat.
- The natural history of the species.
- A matted photograph of your bat, suitable for framing.
- A graphic that represents the actual size of your bat.
- A one-year online membership to BWS 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. 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.



Mildred



Bootsanna



Orphaned red bats



The Michigan 90



Lil Drac



Ernie



Bengler the Avenger



Sticky



Gizmo



Delilah



Cornelius



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 \$6.00 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 special 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, volunteer-based 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 educational materials, videos, kid's games and rescue information. You can even sponsor a bat in need through our Adopt-a-Bat program. Sponsors receive educational materials and *BAT WORLD*, our conservation magazine that includes beautiful photos of rescued bats. You can also receive an online membership to *Night Flight News*, our e-newsletter, by simply making a donation of any size through batworld.org.