



# The Wildlife Watch Binocular

PO Box 562, New Paltz, NY 12561

Summer 2006

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## When Wildlife is Caught in the Crossfire

### THE CRUEL EFFECTS OF HUMAN WARFARE ON OTHER ANIMALS

By E.M. Fay

Imagine you are a Black-crowned Sparrow Lark, nesting in Southern Lebanon or Northern Israel. You go about your business, gathering food for your chicks and guarding against predators.



Black-Crowned Sparrow Lark from [www.birdinginisrael.com](http://www.birdinginisrael.com)

Suddenly, without warning, your world explodes into searing flames and ear-piercing noises. Trees and buildings erupt in fire and ruin. It all happens so fast there is no time to fly up and out of the choking smoke, and even if there were, what of your babies, your nest?

For the sparrow, the stork, the grebe, the dove, or any of the other 200 species of birds indigenous to Israel and Lebanon, war can be more devastating than for humans. Birds and other wildlife lack human support systems such as emergency medical teams and alternative shelters. Although they know how to read nature's signs better than most humans to prepare themselves for natural disasters, they lack cognitive abilities to fathom politicians' and pundits' abstract justifications for warfare.

Simply put, wildlife species are war's unspoken "collateral damage."

Consider the current Middle East situation. The nuts, bolts, and metal shards of Hezbollah's rockets lobbed into northern Israel and Israeli Army missiles fired into southern Lebanon can rip apart such unique animals as gazelles, Israeli geckos or Ruppell's sand fox on the right.

Katyusha rockets that fall into forested areas burn trees and destroy the homes of thousands of passerines, eagles, and cuckoos.

Less well reported, but more pernicious and long-lasting in its effects than the exploding buildings, is fired ordnance's chemical pollution. Even without employing chemical war-

heads, warfare rockets and bombs release elements whose residue can burn, choke, and contaminate air, soil, and water. Wild animals have no access to gas masks, protective clothing, and bottled water. The

propellant used to fuel many rockets is potassium nitrate. Potassium nitrate can be absorbed by any animal it touches, and harms the skin, eyes, respiratory and gastro-intestinal tracts.

"General purpose bombs," those most commonly dropped from airplanes, may contain trinitrotoluene, HMX, RDX, tetryl, and more. Exposure to toluene can cause many symp-



toms from dizziness to death. HMX has been shown in animal studies to damage the nervous system and liver. RDX damages nerves. Tetryl has a wide range of effects, including nausea, vomiting, head-

ache, eye irritation, rashes, swelling, asthma - and on tests with rabbits, kidney and liver lesions.

Rocket initiators and igniters can contain arsenic, cadmium, manganese, molybdenum, and strontium, among other chemicals. Strontium is the principal health hazard in radioactive fallout. Cadmium vapor causes cancer and kidney damage. Manganese, a healthful element in small doses, can cause myriad mental and respiratory problems when in excess, and molybdenum causes fetal deformities and joint problems.

This is just a partial list. A US Navy report to the EPA determined that "Munitions chemical contamination is insidious. It can work its way into water supplies and into the food chain....."

The Navy acknowledges that "These substances tend to persist in animal and human tissue for long periods, accumulating to harmful levels over months and years. . . . While military munition impacts on human health are most often reported, damage to plants, wildlife, and the environment is also widespread and equally significant."

If the U.S. Navy can admit that, then it's time for the gen-

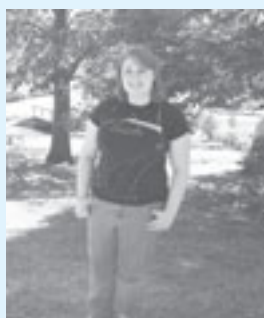
eral public and the general media to do so, too.

The following three sites intended for people who are interested in birding in Israel,

Cont'd on *WW-2*

## Sheryl is a hero to us

While finalizing this newsletter, the Wildlife Watch hotline brought a call from for help from a SUNY New Paltz student, Sheryl. One of many geese who live at the many ponds on campus was having a hard time moving. Despite Sheryl's attempts not to fall into the water, she tumbled down the steep embankment and once in the water it was a piece of cake to get the goose. She then had to contend with her unhappy patient and his family who didn't want him to leave (even though he was quite ill). She even gave up her sheet to cover him up. Sheryl is a hero to us. I told her I'd return the sheet to her, but she said, "Don't worry, I have others." Our job was easy, we drove the goose to the Newburgh Animal Hospital where they take wildlife and hire wildlife rehabilitators! Suggest that your vet hire wildlife rehabilitators!



## Like Watchable Wildlife? Try a Beaver Pond!

By Sharon Brown

Ever want a break from the merry-go-round of everyday life? You can leave the phone calls, faxes and e-mails behind and escape to another world for a relaxing hour if

slap her tail at a deer that's too close, or dunk a snapping turtle?

If you're lucky enough to have beavers on your own land, consider building a simple, bug proof "Lookout"



Photo by Owen Brown

there's a beaver pond on your property, or a protected one nearby. Since beavers are nocturnal, they awaken in the late afternoon just as many of us are finishing our workday. People who enjoy the "Beaver Hour" often arrive at the edge of their chosen pond a few hours before sunset.

It can be incredibly relaxing just sitting by the shore of a wild pond, surrounded by water, sky and greenery. Everyday is different with the changing cloud patterns and seasonal blooms, including white flowering viburnum and pink blooms of Joe-Pye-weed along the shore. Many ponds boast yellow and/or white water lilies (beavers relish their thick tubers) and some are edged with brilliant scarlet cardinal flower. Such areas are magnets for wildlife. Sit by a beaver pond long enough and you'll see almost all the wild creatures of the region, including the furry engineers themselves. Most beavers are cautious and will slap their tails and dive at the approach of a stranger. Sit quietly, at least 20 feet back from the shore in plain sight (they have a keen sense of smell and will know you're there; hiding just makes them nervous).

If the area is safely posted against trapping, consider bringing some halved apples to leave at the shoreline. Eventually the paddle tails will become used to your presence. That's when you're in for a treat by witnessing their behavior close-up - including interactions with wild neighbors. Have you ever watched a beaver talk to a muskrat,

using old windows and screens. You can erect it on four piers with a narrow boardwalk to the door in case the water rises. It's amazing how quickly the four-footed engineers change the landscape.

You'll see muskrats swim by with sideways movements of their narrow tails that look like fluttering from a distance. A mother muskrat makes many trips carrying marsh grass for bedding - sometimes all you see is a big green bouquet moving through the water! In comparison, beavers are much larger and do not use their tails while paddling.

The beavers' food cache of branches sometimes serves as a dock for a fishing mink. The small creatures shake vigorously after each immersion, but then dive right back in again. Occasionally while a mink is out, an otter appears nearby giving an opportunity for an interesting comparison. Otters tend to swivel their long necks and stare at any intruder. Once I saw a mother otter grab a fish from her offspring who was toying with it. As she swallowed the prize, I wondered if the lesson was, "Don't play with your food."

During the summertime a parade of female ducks (wood, black, and Mallards) and Canada geese, all with fluffy youngsters trailing behind, graces a typical beaver pond. Songbirds love to feed and nest near this "edge" habitat too. You may hear the catbird's meow and see her carrying packets of waste from her nest to drop in the water.

Continued on Page *WW-2*

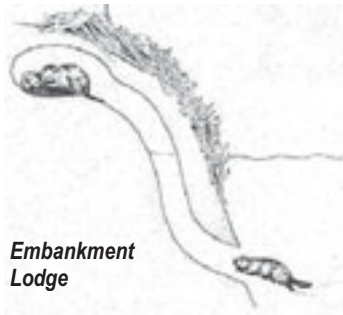
# Beaver Dams - An Invaluable Part of Sustaining Our Wetlands

By E.M. Fay

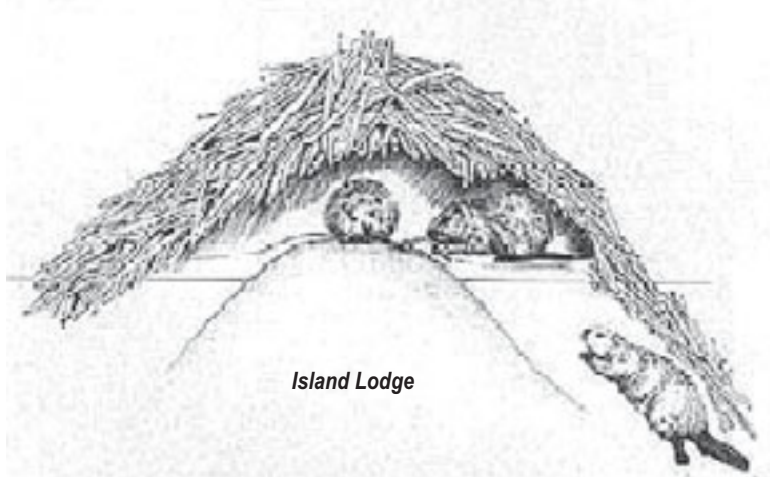
When you need a little lift to inspire you to work, just imagine the busy beaver, fashioning a sturdy dam or private cozy lodge by the streamside or lakeside.

Aptly named "eager beaver," these placid, intelligent aquatic rodents are constantly on the go, using only their

and lakes. They make their signature dams out of sticks, stones, and mud. A beaver-built dam may last for years if undisturbed. The pools they bring into being with their dams become wonderful little eco-systems, encouraging frogs, turtles, birds, and other



Embankment Lodge



Island Lodge

many people saw wetlands as a nuisance, limiting the available space for farming and building. As environmental education improves, however, we have come to recognize the vital role wetlands play in the control of floodwaters and erosion, in water purification, and as the only viable home for many endangered plant and animal species.

No wonder Native Americans called the beaver the "sacred center" of the land, instrumental as they are in both creating and maintaining the irreplaceable wetlands. Their tree felling also encourages healthier growth for many tree species.

strong teeth and dexterous paws to build the practical structures for which they are known.

Although they prefer streams and small rivers, beavers also live on the margins of forest ponds

animals to move in. Eventually, silt builds up, fills in part of the pond, and a wetland appears - yet another kind of eco-system is born.

Until about 10 years ago,



Photo by Ann Muller

The beaver makes his lodge into a dome-shaped island on the water, also built of sticks and mud. In winter, the mud freezes, creating a safe haven from predators. No fool, the beaver always maintains more than one entrance tunnel below ice level. Alternatively, beavers may live in a burrow dug out of a riverbank. Regardless of abode, with their large webbed feet and long, flat tail, they can swim fast underwater, and they stay in the water as much as possible. The tail is also used as a warning signal: they slap the surface of the water to warn other beavers of danger. Although some beaver behavior may be said to be instinctive, their cognitive abilities are proven by the fact that they also learn by imitation and experience. Animal cognition expert, Dr. Donald Griffin, has determined that beavers demonstrate conscious thinking, something that many humans mistakenly think is their own exclusive province.

There is much to admire about the beaver. They mate for life, both parents care for their kits, they are gentle, and they even play practical jokes. Certainly, until we humans began to emulate their dam building, and, in our characteristic way, grossly overdid it, with the resulting catastrophe to fish and other animal populations, beavers had the greatest effect on changing the natural landscape.

Unfortunately for the beaver population of the world, humans decided that their musk glands were a good ingredient for perfume and that their pelts were perfect for hats, robes, and other garments. Extensive trapping sharply reduced their numbers in Europe and North America. In the Old World, there are only a very few left, but their ecological value has been recognized in Scotland, where there is a plan to reintroduce them. Beavers were nearly made extinct on this continent in the last century, due both to trapping and draining of the land for farming, but some minimal protective laws were passed. Still, trapping is sadly a widely-accepted practice.

**There are several humane and cost-effective methods for coping with the problems that beavers**

**inadvertently cause humans with their natural damming activities: Beaver bafflers (wire cylinders with inner tubes that fit inside a road culvert); exclosures, even careful relocation using live traps (not snares which can strangle or drown the beavers) are all preferable to killing a productive, happy beaver family.** Besides, killing them does not solve anything, as another beaver family is likely to move in when the first is killed, and the activity is repeated all over again. But of course, the main reason to employ the alternative methods is that they prevent needless cruelty and suffering.

Increased education is the key to eliminating human vs. beaver conflicts that often turn out to be simple ignorance on our part. Landowners can be made aware that the beavers' tree-felling work is helpful to tree growth and health in the long run. Municipal authorities can be informed that killing beavers to prevent flooding of roads or other inconveniences is neither effective nor necessary; cheap and simple alternatives are readily available. **And every child can be taught in home and at school to respect and admire the valuable work that beavers do work that benefits all of us.**



Photo by Sharon Brown

**E.M. Fay** is an environmental writer in NY. Be sure to visit [www.Beaversww.org](http://www.Beaversww.org) website where you'll meet this little guy to the right. The organization's website is a treasure trove for anyone interested in learning about these fascinating and helpful animals.

## Watchable Wildlife

Continued from Page WW-1

Red-winged black birds often build their nest in the marsh grass, perilously close to the water level. I watched four young red-wings fledge just in time before their nest was flooded.

As beavers build their dams of sticks and mud, they slow the flow of streams and spread water over several acres (15 acres/beaver colony is the average in New York State). Although they do this for their own benefit since there's safety in deep water, the paddle-tails are also restoring wetlands, the "rain forests of the North." About half the rare species need wetlands to survive, and as the beaver returned from near extinction, it's no coincidence that the beautiful wood duck recovered simultaneously.

Frogs and toads are becoming rare worldwide, but they thrive near beaver dams. If you do be-

friend a beaver family and gradually sit closer to the shoreline, a green frog may jump in your lap. Before the startled frog leaps off, you'll have a look at the shy singer who makes those guitar like twangs.

Be forewarned that pond sitting is addictive. You may soon find yourself skipping other activities to indulge in a daily relaxing and fascinating Beaver Hour.

**Sharon Brown** is a biologist with **Beavers: Wetlands & Wildlife (BWW)**, an educational nonprofit organization that helps people to co-exist with beavers and appreciate the vital eco-systems they restore. BWW's web address is [www.BeaversWW.org](http://www.BeaversWW.org). We encourage you to visit their website and e-mail them with any questions.

## Caught in the Crossfire

Continued from Page WW-1

Lebanon or Iraq, show many other unacknowledged victims of war.

<http://www.birdingisrael.com/birdNews/recentSightings/2005/index.htm>

<http://www.camacdonald.com/birding/melebanon.htm>

<http://www.birderblog.com/bird/Places/Iraq/IraqBirdsGallery.html>

Anne Muller, President of Wildlife Watch, sent an e-mail to Laura Erickson who has the third website above. She asked to know more about the site, when the photos were taken, and what effect the war was having on the birds.

Laura answered:

Soldiers and at least one military contractor have been sending me the photos for over a year--they send them after they take them. It started with some of them asking me to help them identify birds, but now has evolved into more of a sharing thing.

All wars, when justified and when not, are horrible for wildlife and for human beings. This war, like every war, is having a horrible effect on natural habitat and bird life. (Just one little example--spent ammunition is toxic. It's bad enough when it's lead, but imagine when it's spent radioactive material!) And all wars bear a heavy toll on the men and women in the line of fire.

But as with all wars, nature gives the people involved--soldiers and civilians both--a little respite from the insanity. I love what Anne Frank wrote when she was hiding in an attic during another war:



[http://www.treknature.com/gallery/Middle\\_East/Israel/photo7544.htm](http://www.treknature.com/gallery/Middle_East/Israel/photo7544.htm)

**"The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles."**

Best, Laura  
Laura Erickson  
Staff Ornithologist, Binoculars.com  
[www.Birderblog.com](http://www.Birderblog.com)

**R.O.C.K. - REHABBERS OFFER CARE AND KINDNESS**

BY MELISSA JACOBS

I have been a licensed mammal wildlife rehabilitator and volunteer for over 15 years in the State of New Jersey. ...Being a licensed wildlife rehabilitator means the following but is not limited to:

- Serve the NJ tax-payers for free by answering their calls/concerns regarding wildlife at all times of the day and night
- Take-in and rehabilitate injured, orphaned wildlife
- Find safe release sites for the rehabilitated wildlife
- Supply medical care, food, shelter, supplies, etc. for each animal at our expense
- Work very closely with local shelters, veterinarians, conservation officers, landscapers, tree experts and even a very few decent pest control companies to help relieve the stress, misery and suffering that the wildlife in NJ is encountering at a rapidly increasing rate each year
- Protect the good-willed public from interfering with or harming themselves and wildlife
- Educate the public about our indigenous wildlife
- Deal with an increasing amount of animal abuse and illegal trapping

Although nobody has forced us to perform this service, this is a way of trying to help relieve the damage we as humans have caused and are continuously causing to our environment. For many of us, this is our avocation – our contribution.

Prior to 2002, there was always an increase in the number of new rehabilitators each year. Since 2002, there has been a serious and unnatural decline in licensed wildlife rehabilitators. The rate of public frustration, rehabilitator burnout and wildlife suffering is at an all time high.

In the not too distant past there were over 100 licensed rehabilitators. Now there are only 30 across the entire

State. Twenty one of the 30 rehabilitate mammals (or a combination of large/small mammals, bats, birds and/or reptiles). One rehabilitates bats only. One rehabilitates deer only. One located in Delaware rehabilitates birds contaminated by oil spills mostly. One rehabilitates turtles only. Four rehabilitate certain birds. One rehabs all reptiles/turtles. Clearly the way the rehabilitator list is designed, it appears that there are many, but there are not nearly enough rehabilitators to cover the amount of calls we receive for the types of species in need. You may check the list out at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/rehablst.htm> to see if there is a rehabilitator available in your County.

The wildlife rehabilitators and volunteers I have networked with came from all walks of life including veterinarians, zoologists, veterinary technicians, wildlife biologists, college professors, school teachers, doctors, healthcare providers, business professionals, conservation officers, veterinary students, and more. There is already quality, education, standards and professionalism among the wildlife rehabilitators.

NOBODY wants the training and continuance of education of a wildlife rehabilitator to be compromised or relaxed. Each year that I have been licensed, the conditions placed upon keeping that license have become more stringent. Some of these demands are certainly reasonable, and have been put in place in the best interest of the public and wildlife. But for other unforeseen and unfair demands, we have lost so many dedicated rehabilitators and that is the true reason for this decline. As an avocation it seems that a volunteer position should get easier with more support, but instead it has become more difficult and stressful. Once you know that the public and wildlife needs your expertise and assistance, it is hard to turn away no matter what the cost.

Because of the increase in public interaction with wildlife, there is a

greater demand and need for more wildlife rehabilitators right now. The public, veterinarians and shelters are screaming for help, and the recent decline in wildlife rehabilitators must be corrected. In a joint effort, several wildlife rehabilitators, The Humane Society, Monmouth County SPCA and New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance were kind enough to help run a volunteer recruiting program this past winter. We have managed to seek out and bring to the surface very dedicated, educated volunteers that wish to become licensed wildlife rehabilitators in the near future. In joint cooperation with the State, we can increase the number of dedicated, knowledgeable volunteers to help rehabilitate our wildlife. A strong recruiting program with the required training is one proven and positive way to get this show on the road.

**My calls have jumped from an average of 100 per year to nearly 800 since February.** The shelters have an unimaginable amount of wildlife calls with only a few rehabilitators to turn to. We are trying to get the attention and cooperation of the State and the public to recognize this dilemma and put a program in place to increase the number of wildlife rehabilitators without compromising professionalism, education, quality of care and training. Increasing the number of wildlife rehabilitators through a joint effort is a responsible way to balance out the damage we are causing to our wildlife without compromising risk to public health.

Please contact **Melissa Jacobs**, a NJ licensed wildlife rehabilitator, if you would like to help support a program that will help increase the number of licensed NJ wildlife rehabilitators. Her e-mail address is: [njwildlife@gmail.com](mailto:njwildlife@gmail.com)

**“Wildlife has a Face!”**

It’s important to see the many perils facing individual wild animals in their daily existence. Some can be avoided by personal steps that we can take - others need to be dealt with through education or passing laws and ensuring their enforcement.

Wildlife rehabilitators **are licensed by state game agencies, yet they are given no other support**, and they are **not allowed to charge for their “services.”** Sadly, animals often come to the attention of rehabbers when they are found by people who either don’t want them near the house or don’t know how to help them. When the DEC, DNRs or police are called, they normally recommend killing, and most veterinarians cannot take time from their busy schedules. Wildlife Watch has incorporated this section to help those who give so much to the care of wild animals.

**OUR TOLL FREE HOTLINE IS 877-WILDHELP**

Call if you need help with a wild animal. **Wildlife Watch** has had calls from all over the country and has been able to help.

Here’s Anne taking care of input. After a good dose of goat’s milk and a good night’s sleep, this little fellow went off to a wildlife rehabilitator.



Anne deals with essential input

**The Wildlife Watch Binocular is the newsletter of Wildlife Watch Inc.**  
 Executive Editor - Anne Muller  
 Managing Editor - Jeff Davis  
 Staff Writer - E.M. Fay  
 Guest writers - Sharon Brown, Melissa Jacobs, Christine Fiones

**IN MEMORY OF TATA**



Photo by Christine Fiones

Tata, considered the world’s oldest crow, passed away gently in the arms of his caretaker, wildlife rehabilitator, Kristine Fiones on Sunday morning, July 2nd.

Tata gained fame in 2002 when the DEC confiscated him along with Hohkmah, a red tail hawk, because Kristine didn't have her Federal bird license. The DEC law says that when Tata left his original family, where he was legally a pet, he reverted to being wildlife. Since he was blind with cataracts and couldn't fly, by DEC law he would then have to be euthanized. The case went before a packed courthouse in front of Woodstock Judge Frank Engel, who was able to secure a release for Tata. After six weeks of incarceration, Tata was returned to Kristine and Glenn on February 12, Abraham Lincoln’s birthday. The case was much publicized in the Woodstock Times and other local papers with many outraged people writing let-

ters to the editors. The writing staff at Kingston’s Daily Freeman at that time said that it was the strongest response they'd ever had to a story. Thereafter, the family received many calls inquiring after Tata and those loving calls for Tata from strangers have continued to the present time.

Grandfather Tataji was born on Long Island in a Jewish Cemetery in May of 1947. Soon after his birth he fell from his nest during a violent thunderstorm. The cemetery caretaker took him to well-known animal lover and healer Julia Manetta to see if he could be saved. Under the loving care given by Mrs. Manetta, her husband Robert, and their children Josephine and Robert Jr., Tata recovered from the cold and from most of his injuries. However, he was never able to fly. His natural crow life was over. Instead, he became a member of the Manetta family playing with the kids and the family dog.

In 2001 Mr. Manetta was ill with cancer and a heart condition and the family was in an emotional crisis. They began looking for a person to adopt Tata who was then 54 years old. Somehow, through wildlife rehabilitation circles they found Kristine Fiones and Glenn Miller who took Tataji into their family.

During the last years Tata has held court from his magnificent donated cage in the bay window of the family dining room. He had his own personal call when he communicated with local crows along Wittenberg Road. Those calls were loud enough to be heard all over the neighborhood. Bella voce!

Tataji has shown the people around him what true heart is. He lived completely in the moment, accepting what was. He was able to communicate this love to anyone who would spend a few quiet moments with him. They would soon find themselves swooning with love or with tears rolling down their cheeks and the room would be filled with the palpable energy of intense and pure love.

Tata is also given credit for bringing local wildlife rehabilitators together during the emergency of his situation. The result of that was the formation of Ravensbeard Wildlife Center, a not-for-profit center for the rehabilitation of wildlife.

Donations may be made in Tata’s memory to Ravensbeard. <http://ravensbeard.org/> **Christine Fiones** is co-founder of **Ravensbeard**. C.A.S.H. also thanks **Del and Fred Seligman, Esqs.** for bringing the lawsuit against the DEC that allowed Tata to stay with Christine. Through Del, C.A.S.H. served the DEC with a Temporary Restraining Order the evening they were going to kill Tata.

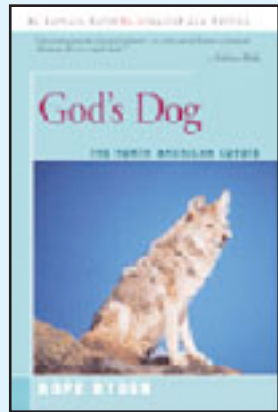


## WILDLIFE WATCH CATALOG

We will be continuing to develop our catalog with items of interest to our readers to provide wildlife lovers and watchers with enjoyment and enrichment. Your purchases help to support this publication and our efforts to develop a more peaceful world for wildlife. We look forward to your "finds" to help develop this section. Please check our online catalog as it develops at [www.wildwatch.org](http://www.wildwatch.org) Always feel free to e-mail us at [wildwatch@verizon.net](mailto:wildwatch@verizon.net)

### GOD'S DOG, A Celebration of the North American Coyote,

by Hope Ryden For two years naturalist/photographer **Hope Ryden** camped in remote areas of the West observing and photographing coyotes. With eloquence and clarity, she



describes the private life of this much-maligned animal in a book that has been heralded as the classic treatise on the subject. While observing her controversial subjects, Hope endured hardships and peril, events she weaves into her beautiful story "Full of charm and tenacious inquisitiveness as the appealing animal she pleads is allowed to live."—*The Washington Post*. \$24.95 or \$20.95 members.

### The World Peace Diet: Eating for Spiritual Health and Social Harmony

by Will Tuttle, Ph.D. "This book is not a New Age rant; it's an Old Age treatise, so to speak, that draws upon ancient wisdom, scientific data and reasoning, spiritual grounding, and a fine mind." Jeff Davis, Managing Editor *The Wildlife Watch Binocular*. \$20 or \$18 for members



### MAGNETIC NOTE HOLDERS:

The magnetic hold-a-note is ideal for shopping lists, messages or reminders. With a strong magnet on the back, the hold-a-note adheres to refrigerators, filing cabinets or any steel surface. Each hold-a-note comes packed with paper and a pencil. It's easy to refill the hold-a-note with more paper when needed, use it over and over again. Approximate size of the hold-a-note, with paper, is 4.25 x 5.25 x 1 inch. Made in the USA. \$9.95 or members \$7.50  
\*Also Blue Bird, Groundhog, and Beaver.



OPOSSUM NOTE HOLDER

**ANIMAL SONGS**  
**Original Piano Music Blended with Voices of Animals and Nature** by Will Tuttle. Cassette - \$10.00 or \$8 members CD - \$15.00 + \$13 members



### BIRD-OPOLY

The traditional game of Monopoly is the foundation for this game. Birders will love this game. Learn interesting facts about birds, as well. Some of North America's favorite birds are "characters" in this game.

**\$23.95 non-members;**  
**\$19.95 members;**  
**Additional \$4 shipping/handling**



**WILD ANIMALOPOLY ALSO AVAILABLE**

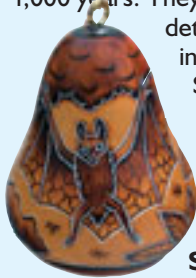
### MAGNIFICENT GOURD ORNAMENTS/BOXES/BIRD HOUSES

These gourds are fair trade gifts. They are made with natural products and handmade with pride by talented artists in Peru.

**Owl** – Tree ornament. Young and old owls are here to bring natural wisdom and charm to holiday and year-round decor! Each accent has been hand-carved and naturally colored with fire by a Peruvian artist following a technique that dates over 4,000 years. They average 1.5 - 2.5" inches tall and details will vary as nature and the artist intended. **Price is for one ornament.**



**Bat Tree Ornament** – Petite 2"H-3.5"H \$12 \$10 members



### Sea Turtle Gourd

**New!** These graceful swimmers are carved gliding freely through the ocean. The uncanny beauty and long life span of sea turtles make them a natural marine wonder, here replicated by our contemporary Peruvian master gourd carvers who follow a tradition of over 4000 years. They finely carve the intricate designs with simple hand chisels and then naturally color them with fire. Sizes and details shown will vary as nature and the artist intended. The inside of this gourd box has been finished with a protective coat and we hand pick every single piece to give you only the best. 3"D x 4"H \$25 or \$22 members



## WEBSITES AND BOOKS OF INTEREST TO THE WILDLIFE WATCH BINOCULAR READERS



Box Turtle

<http://www.lakejacksonturtles.org/> - creating safe passage for box turtles (and other animals) needing to cross busy roads.

[http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/columnists/carl\\_hiaasen/14511394.htm](http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/columnists/carl_hiaasen/14511394.htm) - excellent editorial about burying animals alive during development. The gopher tortoise of Florida "stars" here.



Gopher Turtle

### PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THE NATURE LOVER

#### AND WILDLIFE WATCHER:

**RESCUING BIRDS FROM GLUE TRAPS:** Canola oil is superb for removing polybutenes. Olive, corn, mineral, and other oils were NOT successful in removing polybutenes. <http://www.owra.org/gluetrap.htm>

**REMOVING TICKS FROM HARD-TO-GET-AT-PLACES** like your back, between your toes, and your scalp: Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball and swab the area for about 20 seconds. The tick will come out and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. Sent by a nurse to Jackie McCarney, our nature photographer.

**WHEN CARING FOR YOUNG FAWNS** one of the worst things that can happen is that they get diarrhea for it can lead to death. One caller from Arkansas to the Wildlife Watch Hotline reported that she had taken a fawn home, perhaps mistakenly believing the Mom was not around, and the fawn ended up with diarrhea. We were able to get her a name of a nearby fawn rehabilitator, though she wanted to care for the fawn on her own. She did agree to turn the fawn over to the rehabber for release at a later time. After our inquiry several days later, she e-mailed the following message: "I gave him liquid immodium using about one fourth of the measuring cup that came with the product." She reported that Sugar's stools were normal after just one dose." Sugar, she said was the size of the fawns on our website: [www.wildwatch.org](http://www.wildwatch.org) Wildlife Watch spoke to a fawn rehabilitator in North Carolina to find out if this was a proper treatment, and she said that while she hadn't tried it, she was happy to learn of new ways to help fawns.

### WILDLIFE WATCHING

**Joan Lee** of Esopus, NY sent us her photo of wild turkeys who grace the land by her house. They enhance the quality of life for Joan, as they do for many others. Notice that they also enjoy bird seed from Joan's feeder.



### CAW OF THE WILD: Observations from the Secret World of Crows by Barb Kirpluk.

Wildlife author Barb Kirpluk is a devoted birdwatcher who has logged over one thousand hours in the study of the American crow. She has volunteered her time and efforts to a wildlife rehabilitation facility where she also studied the resident captive crows.



Awarded "Editor's Choice" and chosen as the monthly selection by "Of Bogs and Books" at Volo Bog State Natural Area, "Caw of the Wild" provides insight into one of the most common but underappreciated members of our neighborhoods."

Please contact CROWS to buy a copy. Contact **Rita Sarnicola** at [jsarn@adelphia.net](mailto:jsarn@adelphia.net)

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