



## Wildlife Rehab Inc. NETWORK

September 2018

Photo by Michele Poe

### Wildlife Rehab Inc. Responds to Hurricane

Scott Sexton's column on the front page of the Winston-Salem Journal in the Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> issue of the Journal included an interview with WRI president Michele Poe and member Christy Hollar as they prepared for the after effect of the big storm. Food, medicine, and water were stocked up in anticipation of rehabbers needs to assist wildlife.

In email to the WRI Newsletter, Michele told us, "Nancy Porter reported that many volunteers stepped up to the plate to help with any displaced wildlife without hesitation."

In addition, Michele continued, "Sheets Pet Clinic in Greensboro (Kimberly Sheets, DVM, [sheetspetclinic.com](http://sheetspetclinic.com)) donated dozens of used pet carriers to help us to meet the needs of any displaced wildlife after Florence visited."

"WRI was the first to respond to the post and we became the recipient of their generation donation. Once the carriers are distributed to our rehabbers, they will be shared with area rehabbers."

"Our involvement in intake for hurricane relief has been quite complicated," Michele said, "and as it turns out, we've been asked for our help and then canceled, and now we've again been asked for our help again from coastal agencies. This plan is supposed to be finalized tomorrow but this is still undecided and unpredictable."

This is **fawn release month** and WRI's primary fawn rehabber Tammy Turner has been very busy. Some who were released seemed to know hurricane Florence was coming and headed to the safety of their original homes until the storm passed. Smart!



## Seasonal Plans: dates to save

**All members** are invited to the **WRI Chicken Stew Social** at 165 Redfield Road, Mocksville, the home of Michael and Michele Poe, on Saturday, October 27, at 6:30 pm. RSVP to Melonie at cell number 336-414-9613 or email address [chloegirl63@gmail.com](mailto:chloegirl63@gmail.com) *no later than October 17th.*

**Save the date announcement for our WRI Holiday Party/Member Meeting** on Monday, December 3 at Bleu Restaurant and Bar at 3425 Frontis Street, WS RSVP to Melonie at cell number 336-414-9613 or email [chloegirl63@gmail.com](mailto:chloegirl63@gmail.com) *no later than November 19th.*

## The Calendar:

**On-going through Nov 3:** Wildlife Rehabilitation course at Forsyth Tech

**Oct 20:** - WRI public wildlife rehab education program at Wild Birds Unlimited in High Point, 12 to 2

**Oct 27:** - Apple Fest at Historic Bethabara Park, 10 to 4, WRI public education program

“ - Members Social; chicken stew at the Poe’s house, 6:30PM

**Nov 3:** -WRI public wildlife rehab education program at Wild Birds Unlimited in Winston-Salem, 10 to 12

**Nov 16-18:** -VA Wildlife Conference, “Call of the Wild,” Waynesboro, VA (4 hrs N of WS) info at [www.wildlifecenter.org/call-wild-conference](http://www.wildlifecenter.org/call-wild-conference)

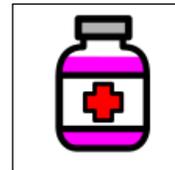
**Dec 3:** -Annual WRI Holiday Party / Members Meeting, Bleu Restaurant

**Jan 26 & 27:** -Wildlife Rehabilitators of North Carolina Symposium, Raleigh. See info at [www.ncwildliferehab.org](http://www.ncwildliferehab.org)

## Antibiotic Use in Wildlife- Food for Thought

By Melisse Hopping

Wildlife Rehabilitator, RN, certified Veterinary Assistant



I will be the first to tell you that I am not qualified to prescribe antibiotics for wildlife. Most veterinarians will tell you the same thing. That’s because medications used in domestic animals have been studied extensively but not their use in wildlife. The best they can do is make an educated guess.

In my research for this article, the only study I found regarding antibiotics in wildlife was “Determination of Flouroquinolone Antibiotic Residues in the Plasma of Eurasian Griffon Vultures in Spain.” The drug was from dead beef cattle ingested by the vultures, causing kidney failure and death of the vultures, resulting in a significant decline in their population.

Having said that, let’s assume I receive an animal that has been put on antibiotics by a vet or another rehabber.

There are five rules to consider when administering medication:

- 1) Right patient - Not all drugs have been studied for use in wildlife. This may not be an appropriate drug for this species.
- 2) Right route - If I receive a liquid medicine in a syringe, is it for injection, oral or topical use? Giving it by the wrong route may render it useless or cause harm to the animal.
- 3) Right dosage - How many milligrams per kilogram of weight do I give? Also consider species specific dosing and the age of the animal. Is this for an active infection, or to prevent one? If the preparation is concentrated, do I know how to dilute it to obtain a manageable amount for a dose? A “drop or two” is not an accurate dose.
- 4) Right drug - Is it labeled with the drug name, concentration, dose prescribed and for which animal it is intended? An unlabeled container with medication in it is inappropriate and unsafe.
- 5) Right time – Because of the way antibiotics work, doses must be spread evenly throughout a 24 hour period. For example, not given three times a day but every 8 hours. How long do I give it? Can I stop early if the animal improves? (No) Do I know the side effects or signs of an allergic reaction?

Most everyone is aware of the growing problem of antibiotic resistant pathogens. Many medications take days or weeks to completely clear the system and if the animal is later eaten by a predator or scavenger, it is possible for the consumer to receive a sub-therapeutic dose of the antibiotic or its by-products, contributing to more antibiotic resistance.

We don't know how long it takes for each species to metabolize or excrete any of these medications. Releasing or burying animals with chemicals in their tissues can have far reaching consequences for other animals and the environment as a whole.

## In Class with Jean Chamberlain

Each July, Wildlife Rehab Inc.'s birds of prey Rehabilitator presents an evening educational program to campers at the Hanging Rock State Park. This year, Jean and Park Ranger Laura were photographed at work by Don Kinney of Mother Earth Images.



The Fall edition of the WRNC Newsletter is available at <http://www.ncwildliferehab.org/newsletter/newsletter.html>

- Jean Chamberlain

## **Wildlife Rehab Inc.Org on the internet**

For the last few months, Jean, Nancy, Melonie and Paul – with guidance from the WRI Board of Directors – have been working on an updated version of our organization’s web site, [www.wildliferehab.org](http://www.wildliferehab.org)

We have engaged Jim Schwartz & Associates, a local web design firm, to work with us. Jim brings us the latest technology, design considerations, and applications. Included will be an updated calendar for on-call volunteers, on-line membership and payment features, and new photos, news, and schedules that WRI can administer. Look for it by the end of this year!

## **Join the Wildlife Rehab Inc. group on Facebook**

Send items or comments for Wildlife Rehab Inc. newsletter to Paul at [wripaul86@gmail.com](mailto:wripaul86@gmail.com)

