

May 2014

## Dear Reader

Sláinte!

I was lucky enough to spend a good portion of May in Ireland; traveling with family and also sneaking in some vacation from my vacation to meet up with Emma Higgs of Wildlife Rehabilitation Ireland. I even got to meet a few Irish graduates of IWRC's Basic course while taking an all too short hike in Wicklow Mountains

National Park. I caught up on some interesting developments, such as learning that martens (*Martes martes*) prefer the invasive North American grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensus*) to the native red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*). This preference, the greys appear easier to catch, may be the start of a resurgence for the native squirrels.



Wicklow Mountains National Park, Co Wicklow IRE

Spoiler alert, Emma and I discussed additional IWRC

courses hosted in Ireland! More news in late 2014/early 2015. In the nearer future expect the IWRC symposium site and registration to be up in early June. We are trying something new for registration promos and I'm happy to say it will work in participants favor to the tune of a higher discount!

Cheers,

Kai

### **New Org Member Benefit: IWRC Practicum**

The IWRC Practicum Accreditation program provides wildlife rehabilitation facilities with consultation and oversight in developing an educational training practicum. Participating centers that meet the requirements of IWRC Practicum Accreditation will be able to offer practicum participants the ability to obtain an IWRC Certificate of Completion for their successful completion of

### Reminder!

Prices increase June 1st for new or renewing organizational memberships and for certification registration, renewal, and retake.

Pricing as of June 1, 2014 Organizational Membership \$125 CWR Registration \$115 CWR Renewal \$40 CWR Retake \$40

Changes will not affect current organizational members and CWRs until renew date.

# **Notes**

JWR 34(1) is now published! Available to all members from <a href="http://theiwrc.org/journal-of-wildlife-rehabilitation/jwr-current-issue">http://theiwrc.org/journal-of-wildlife-rehabilitation/jwr-current-issue</a>

Selected papers and presentations from the 2013 Symposium in Victoria are online at <a href="http://theiwrc.org/symposium/">http://theiwrc.org/symposium/</a>. Head over to peruse and download that talk you missed.

# Links

### **IWRC Courses**

Live courses are now done for the season. We'll start posting Fall courses in June. Meanwhile, if you are interested in hosting contact the facility's program of study.

We are piloting the program this summer with BCSPCA Wild Arc and Vancouver Aquarium's Marine Mammal Rehabilitation Centre. We'd be open to one additional pilot this summer/fall and will be opening the opportunity to all organizational members beginning in 2015. Contact me at director@theiwrc.org if you are interested in the final pilot spot or working with us next year.

Julissa at julissa@theiwrc.org

Upcoming Conferences
Other Upcoming Opportunities

#### Wildlife in the News

A short collection of recent articles selected just for you.

The return of a river gives hope for a rare marine mammal

Estimating the dead: models estimate mortalities from the Deepwater Horizon spill

Public pressure for wildlife intervention

Four part expose on the history of the trophy deer industry and costs to wildlife and people

#### Research Corner: Ticks on Bird and Mammalian Hosts

Continuing in 2014, John Scott is conducting a scientific study of ticks collected from birds and mammals recovered by wildlife rehabilitators across Canada and the United States. Since many tick-host records are more than 50 years old, the research team wants to get current information about ticks on a wide cross-section of vertebrates. Some birds and animals (i.e., Eastern Cottontail) have recently extended their biogeographic range and, consequently, naturalists are finding novel, unsuspecting ticks attached to these warm-blooded wildlife. John need hands-on help from front-line wildlife rehabilitators to collect ticks when they see them on recovering animals, including birds, which are submitted by the public.

A tick collection kit is provided for participants, and it includes vials for ticks and a 1-page instruction sheet, plus a pre-paid, self addressed envelope to send ticks back to John for identification. By the way, when a tick is submitted, John's team will return the identification and a replacement envelope for further submissions.

Please contact John for more details on this tick-host study. Changes 2/14: Study continuing through 2014 and now includes US as well as Canadian rehabilitators.

John D. Scott,

Co-ordinator, Tick-Host Project.

365 St. David Street South,

Fergus, ON N1M 2L7

Email: jkscott@bserv.com; Phone: 519-843-3646 (9:00 a.m.-4:00

p.m. Eastern, Mon.-Sat.)

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