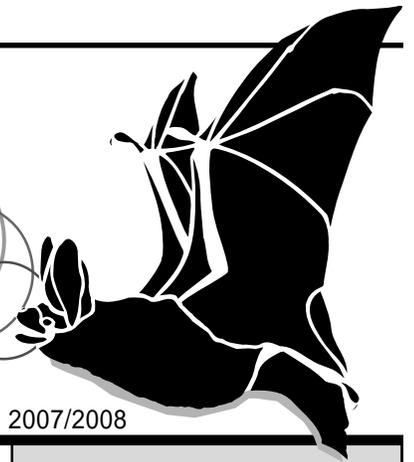


# Bats News Northwest



BNW IS A NON-PROFIT, ALL VOLUNTEER CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION WINTER 2007/2008

## The Croatia-Bellingham Bat Connection

by Kathleen Bander

I often get interesting bat calls from around the United States. People everywhere are becoming more and more understanding of bats, and when they search through the internet they find Bats Northwest's excellent website. For some, that's all that's needed, but on occasion someone will call for additional information.

That was the case a while back when a friendly woman from Bellingham called to say that her niece from Croatia was visiting the U.S., and since one of her particular interests is bats, wanted to know if they could meet sometime to talk. She'd be back soon after visiting relatives in San Diego, Tennessee, Los Angeles, and Chicago. She was driving back across the United States. This Croatian girl was seeing more of the U.S. than most U.S. citizens!

Never one to pass up an interesting bat experience, I agreed to meet with the niece, Norma Fressel, who is in her 4th year at the University of Zagreb, studying what is called "engineering of ecology" in that institution. This year she will be writing her thesis, the last requirement she must meet before graduating.

Norma became interested in bats during her study of biology, and a field trip to a delightful island where she helped net bats cemented that interest. For the wrap-up of that

excursion, a group of students prepared information and a presentation about the local bats to give to school children. Norma informed me that there is very little in the way of educational materials about bats available in Croatia. Given that the country was formed only in 1995, relatively little research on bats is being done in the country. The governmental agencies and biology departments so crucial for bat research in the U.S. simply aren't yet developed enough in Croatia.

All of this plays into Norma's choice of a career: it is unlikely she will be able to find a job directly working with or researching bats. Indeed, though Norma is an only child, her mother is encouraging her to move to Germany, where her education will open many career paths for her.

But no matter where Norma eventually settles (she says it would be hard to leave Croatia) bats will play some part in her future. It's basically the half-full, half-empty thing. Fact: There's not much going on in Croatia with bats. Norma could lament and complain, or she could make more happen. Now that's much more Norma's style. And we here at Bats Northwest will help in any way that we can.



Norma Fressel



Bats Northwest web  
site is waiting for you  
at:  
[www.batsnorthwest.org](http://www.batsnorthwest.org)

Join our monthly  
BNW Meetings!

Second Tuesday,  
6:30-8:30

Sand Point-Magnuson  
Park  
Building 30 Conference  
Room



**Bats Northwest  
Envisions a Future**

Where the Essential Role  
of Bats is Understood

Where the Public Recognizes  
the Vital Place of Bats In Our  
Environment and Economy

Where All are Inspired by the  
Remarkable Attributes and  
Invaluable Contribution of  
Bats to Our Natural Heritage

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## Just How Do You Say BAT?

*By Heather Galvin*

"Do you have any bat posters?" I asked the man at the art booth.  
And he innocently replied  
"No, we only have this baseball print here."

"There are 15 bat species in Washington State, and more than 1,100 species of bats in the world. So do bats speak different languages? Not necessarily, but the people do! Want to know where the bats are on your next travel adventure? Here's how to say "bat" around the world:

Chinese (Mandarin)	bian fú 蝙蝠
Japanese	koumori
Arabic	شفاخ khufash طاوطو wiwat
Russian	летучая мышь "le-TOU-chay-a muish" (= "flying mouse")
Spanish	murciélago
Portugese	morcego
German	Fledertiere, Flughunde (Megachiroptera), Fledermäuse (Microchiroptera).
Norwegian	Flaggermus
Swedish	Fladdermöss
Dutch	vleermuis
Czech	netopýr
Polish	nietoperz
French	chauve-souris
Italian	pipistrello
Greek	νυκτερίδα "nikh-te-RI-dha"
Turkish	yarasa
Amharic	yälelit wäf (= "night bird")
Thai	ค้างคาว "ka'ang kao"

If you would like to learn about bats and practice your language skills at the same time, go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bat> . Use the links on the left side of the page to read about bats in the language of your choice!

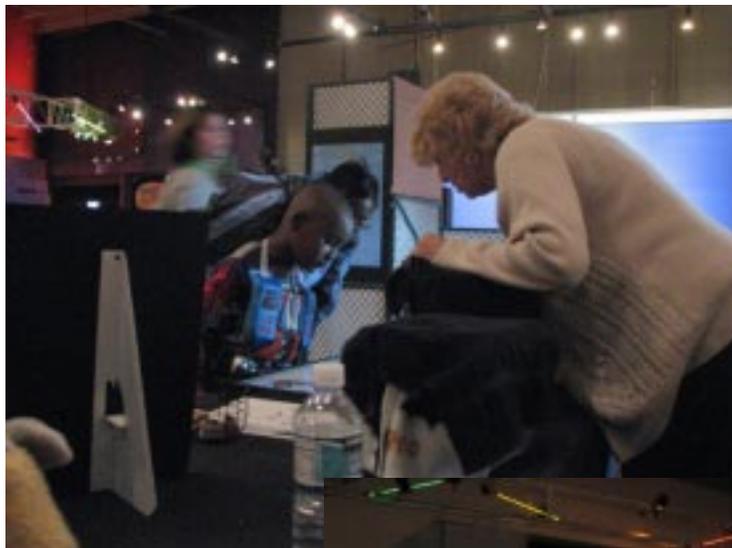
**206.256.0406**

[www.batsnorthwest.org](http://www.batsnorthwest.org)

# Halloween at the Pacific Science Center

by Michelle Noe

Halloween is time for spooky and scary stuff and our wonderful bats are drawn into the celebration too. This year Bats Northwest celebrated Halloween at the Pacific Science Center's Tricks Treats and Science Feats Event. Volunteers answered all of the bat questions posed by the goblins and ghouls that visited our station and handed out information and fun hand stamps to treat seekers. Visitors had the opportunity to see live bats and see how unscary and cool they really are. Thank you to all of you who visited our booth and other presentations throughout the year. We hope to see you again soon.



*Barbara shows a bat to a visitor*



*Barbara shows a bat to the crowd, including a bigger purple bat :)*



*Heidi is ready to answer any bat questions.*

## Our Mission

**Bats Northwest  
Envisions a Future . . .  
Where the Essential Role  
of Bats is Understood  
Where the Public  
Recognizes the Vital Place  
of Bats  
In Our Environment  
and Economy  
Where all are Inspired by  
the Remarkable Attributes  
and Invaluable  
Contribution of Bats to Our  
Natural Heritage**

Many bat sites on the Web provide worthy information and great photos from around the world.

BATS NORTHWEST is focused on our regional bats, but there is so much to learn about bat conservation worldwide. You may enjoy visiting some of these sites.

[www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org)  
[www.wa.gov/wdfw/wildwatch](http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/wildwatch)  
[www.batsound.com](http://www.batsound.com)  
[www.lubee.com](http://www.lubee.com)  
[www.athertontablelands.com/bats](http://www.athertontablelands.com/bats)  
[www.batbox.org](http://www.batbox.org)  
[www.batworld.org](http://www.batworld.org)  
[www.californiabats.com](http://www.californiabats.com)  
[www.batcrew.com](http://www.batcrew.com)  
[www.warksbats.co.uk](http://www.warksbats.co.uk)



## A New Batch of Bat Ambassadors

by Michelle Noe

Welcome to all of our new Ambassadors. Bats Northwest held our annual Bat Ambassador Training on Jan. 12. Over 30 people showed up, making it one of our largest training sessions ever. It was a diverse crowd, including teachers, carpenters, ecologists, rangers, shop owners and more. The board and other seasoned presenters had a great time covering the basics of bat education. If you haven't gotten the chance to attend an Ambassador training session, keep an eye on our events page for the announcement of next year's date or send us an e-mail, [info@batsnorthwest.org](mailto:info@batsnorthwest.org), if you would like to help Bats Northwest in any way now.



*Barbara shows the BAT Ambassador trainees a bat.*



*Kathleen answers questions about another bat.*

## Responses From Our Ambassadors:

We asked our new ambassadors to write down something that they learned, their feelings, or how they found out about our training and programs. Here are a few of their responses:

It was so fun to hear about  
some very common but very  
sneaky PNW residents!  
I didn't know there were so  
many different kinds of bats  
in Washington.  
-Kelly Berger

Edmonds Backyard Wildlife Habitat project  
\*Barbara guest speaker on 2/7  
[www.edmondsbackyardwildlifehabitat.org](http://www.edmondsbackyardwildlifehabitat.org)  
\*Laura Spehar

Great presentations - I learned  
about 50-60% of bats have rabies  
antibodies but cannot shed virus or  
infect people, which is  
fascinating.  
-Andrea Wuenschel



Keep up to date!  
Check out  
Bats Northwest's  
Website.

Watch our  
Events Page  
for news on  
upcoming  
presentations and  
field trips.



NORTHWEST  
FLOWER & GARDEN  
SHOW

Make Life Beautiful

feb 20-24  
convention center  
7th & pike, seattle  
2008



Live Beautifully. Live Outdoors.

Come join Bats Northwest at the  
Northwest Flower & Garden Show, Feb. 20-24, 2008.

There are still volunteer slots to fill if you would like to share  
your bat knowledge with other gardeners.

Sign-up ASAP on the Events page at [batsnorthwest.org/events.html](http://batsnorthwest.org/events.html)

## BATS OF THE NORTHWEST



*Eptesicus fuscus*  
*Lasionycteris noctivagans*  
*Lasiurus cinereus*  
*Corynorhinus townsendii*  
*Antrozous pallidus*  
*Euderma maculatum*  
*Parastrellus hesperus*  
*Myotis lucifugus*  
*Myotis evotis*  
*Myotis thysanodes*  
*Myotis volans*  
*Myotis yumanensis*  
*Myotis ciliolabrum*  
*Myotis californicus*  
*Myotis keenii*

Big Brown bat  
Silver-haired bat  
Hoary bat  
Townsend's Big-Eared bat  
Pallid bat  
Spotted bat  
Western Pipistrelle bat  
Little brown myotis  
Long-eared myotis  
Fringed myotis  
Long-legged myotis  
Yuma myotis  
Small-footed myotis  
California myotis  
Keen's myotis

# Emerging Threat to Bats "White Nose Syndrome" in the Northeastern States

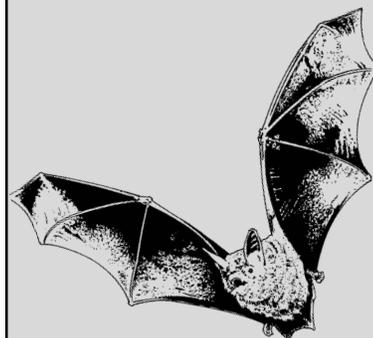
By Michelle Noe

Alan Hicks has been tracking a problem showing up in northeastern U.S. bats called "white nose syndrome." An obvious white fungus has been observed on the faces of bats in New York caves. Cavers and biologists in NY have observed the syndrome, but it is unknown how the fungus is being spread -- possibly by humans. The fungus has been identified as DOH (*Fusarium* sp.) a common fungus typically associated with plants, but has not been identified to the species level, nor has an origin been determined. It is believed that between 8,000 and 11,000 bats in four caves last winter died from WNS, possibly wiping out the Indiana bats in Hailles Cave. This fungus infection appears to be a new problem. Anyone encountering "white nose syndrome" bats should report them to the appropriate state agencies and Alan Hicks.

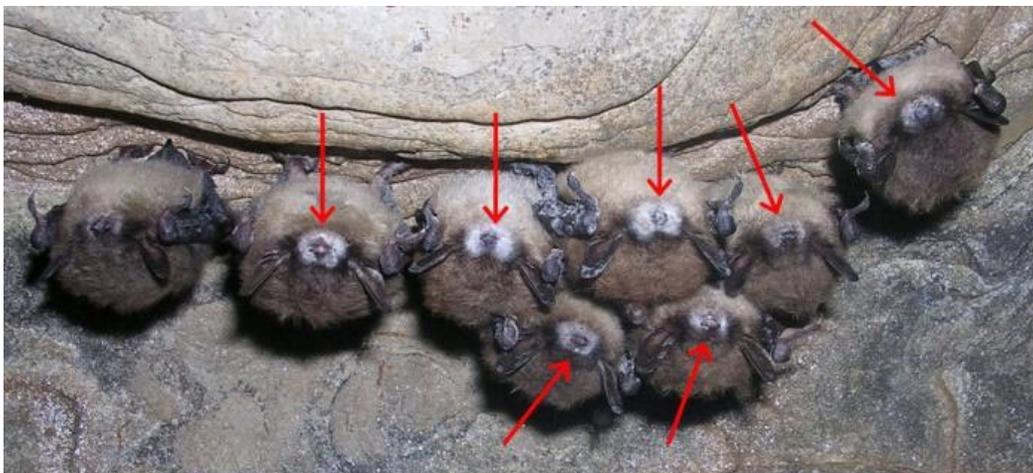


*Infected bat in Howes Cavern in Schoharie County NY. Photo by Alan Hicks..*

The bats that have been observed with this condition so far are bats in the genus *Myotis* -- little brown bats, northern long-eared bats, and Indiana bats -- and an eastern pipistrelle. Preliminary results indicate that the fungus is not the main cause of death and is not in the lungs of the deceased bats. Dead bats with the "white nose" appear to have exhausted their fat reserves. The fungus has now been found in a cave in Vermont as well. The study of the syndrome is ongoing and hopefully a cause of infection will be determined soon. An analysis of the body composition of infected and non-infected bats and thermal imaging has been proposed, along with looking at where the infected bats are roosting. Wildlife experts are still trying to determine how the fungus spreads from cave to cave, whether by bats or human cave explorers. The USFWS has created a website to keep the public and biologist up to date on this issue, <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/mammals/inba/BatAilment.html>



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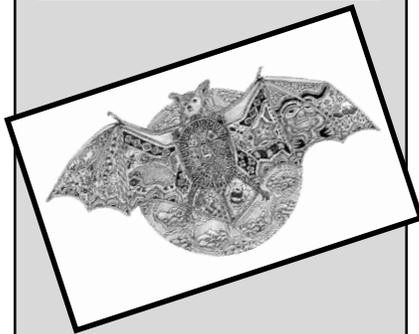
*White fungus. Photo by Alan Hicks.*



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206.256.0406

Bats Northwest web site:  
[www.batsnorthwest.org](http://www.batsnorthwest.org)



## Become a Bats Northwest Member

**Become a Bats Northwest Member.**

**Join us in the adventure to learn more about our bat neighbors!**

Membership Options:     \$35     \$50     \$75     \$100     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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*You'll look great in our Bats Northwest Long-Sleeved T-Shirt! It also makes a wonderful gift.*

*Heavyweight cotton, natural off-white, with a brightly colored bat graphic.*

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