



Flights of Fancy Newsletter

EVRC Stunned by One-Legged Owl

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It's been said that in order to make a good impression, you should "put your best foot forward." However, one of the most recent birds to come to us might have a little trouble with that...as he only has one foot to speak of.

Fortunately for him, that one foot IS his best.

Wildlife rehabilitators—including those of us at Eagle Valley—have been taught by US Fish & Wildlife Service, as well as countless other avian specialists, that a raptor with only 1 foot cannot survive in the wild. A bird of prey needs both feet in order to effectively hunt. In addition, one-footed

raptors have trouble perching and maintaining their balance, which makes them unsuitable for life in captivity as well. As such, were we to ever receive a bird with only one foot, we would be expected to euthanize the animal due to the extent of its injuries.

Imagine Ken's surprise when he was called to rescue an owl that had flown head-first into a large picture window, only to discover that the owl was missing a foot!

The great horned owl was stunned by the impact with the window, but aside from that—and despite his lack of a foot—he appeared in perfect health

otherwise! His weight and feather condition, two indicators of overall health, were very good.

"It was an old wound," reported Ken, after examining the bird. "It was skinned over with healthy tissues—no open sores or bleeding." Ken believes that the owl had been caught in a trap at some point, yet managed to free itself. "How it manages to perch and catch its food without reopening the wound or getting it infected is mind-boggling."

The owl is currently at Eagle Valley and recovering from its head trauma.

Grab your flashlight and a blanket!

It's Native American Story Telling by Campfire at Eagle Valley!

On Saturday, October 31, at 6 p.m. we will have Eugene Cameron, from the Southern Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma with us for some fascinating stories and lots of fun!

A \$5 donation is asked and will help to support our birds during the coming winter.

Seating is limited! So call Ken Lockwood at 316-393-0710 or email raptorcare@aol.com by October 28 for reservations. We hope to see you there, for OWL-oween!



Here, Ken Lockwood holds "Captain Jack Sparr-owl" the one-footed owl. You can clearly see where his foot used to be. We are uncertain how this bird managed to survive so well in the wild with just one foot.

A Roof Over Our Heads

The new pergola roof over our seating area is now finished, and does it look good!



Below, the folk from East Shepherd's Center Senior's group give a big thank you to Boy Scout Laurence Barrett for his hard work on the project.

Thanks, Laurence!!!!



Boeing Group Tour



Eagle Valley recently hosted a group of Boeing employees and their families and friends. The tour was organized by EVRC Friend Dan Ludwig. The thirty or so people enjoyed a visit to the center and a tasty cookout in the Westar Energy Pavilion.

Just a reminder that our pavilion seats about 40 people and we have a big gas grill for barbecues. You can even bring a picnic lunch (but why have a picnic when you can have hamburgers and hot dogs, or even KC Strip steaks?!)

And what a beautiful day it was!

Exploration Place: Bird of the Month

Our first "Bird of the Month" program with Exploration Place kicks off this month! We'll be at EP on October 22 and 31 with our beautiful Krider's Red Tailed Hawk Harley.

Harley is a former falconry bird who was injured while chasing after a squirrel. His

handler contacted us when it was determined he would be unable to fly again and asked if we would give him a home for his "retirement."

Krider's are a subspecies of the common red tailed hawk. They are paler in color, especially in the chest and stomach, and their tails can be pink or

even pure white.

Harley is a beautiful bird and is accustomed to being around people. So put Exploration Place and EVRC's Bird of the Month Program on our schedule and come meet Harley.

Thurs. 10/22: 6-8 p.m.

Sat. 10/31: 2-4 p.m.



Owls on Film!

We will be featured on KSN's "Walk on the Wildside" on October 29 and we will be releasing a barn owl that we rescued after the wind storm in Salina back in August.

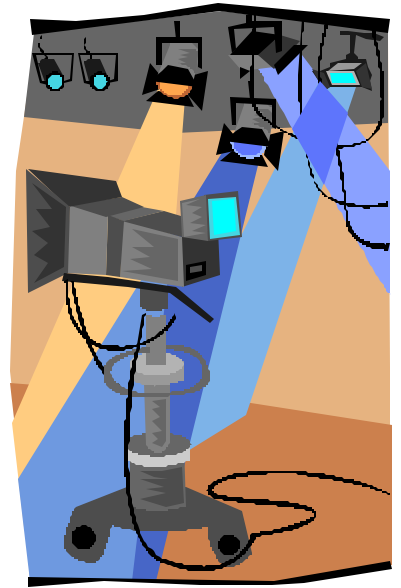
The winds blew the owl into the side of a house; in his

panic, he tried to fly into a window to escape the storm, but only succeeded in battering himself up. He has done well while in our care, and we're excited to be able to show his release on TV!

In addition, we will be appear-

ing on KWCH 12 with our very own resident barn owl, Miley.

So be sure to tune in and check us out!



Dinner & Silent Auction Benefit

This November, we plan to host a dinner and silent auction benefit to help fund Eagle Valley for the coming winter months. This event is still in the planning stages, and we will bring you more details soon.

If you are interested in either helping organize the event or have a silent auction item to

donate, please contact Ken Lockwood at 316-393-0710 or raptorcare@aol.com.



Coming Up...



Upcoming programs include:

- Camp Hyde YMCA
- Central Christian Academy
- American Legion
- Heartland Home School
- Heights High School

- Metropolitan Baptist Church
- Lincoln Home School

Also, our fall and Halloween themed magnets and ornaments are available now! Check the last page for the

order/donation form if you want to purchase some.

And speaking of Halloween, don't forget: OCTOBER 31, 6 p.m. is our first ever Native American Story Telling! Call 316-393-0710 by the 28th to reserve your spot! Seating is limited!

Eagle Valley Raptor Center

927 N. 343rd Street W.
Cheney, KS 67025

Phone: 316-393-0710

E-mail: raptorcare@aol.com

Please consider making a donation to Eagle Valley Raptor Center this month. With the winter coming up and our tours and programs slowing down due to weather, this is when we need your support more than ever!

Don't forget that purchasing magnets, coming to our Native American Story Telling, and attending our upcoming benefit dinner are also great ways to help support EVRC. We couldn't do it without you!!

Visit our website:

www.eaglevalleyraptorcenter.org

Caring for Nature's
Orphaned and Injured Wildlife



Name

Address

Phone

Email address

Yes! I'd like to help!

- Add me to your mailing list
- I'd like to volunteer or help with special projects.
- I am interested in Board of Directors/Committee membership
- I'd like to schedule a school/church program or tour of Eagle Valley's facilities
- I'd like to order ____ magnets and/or ____ hanging ornaments (fall theme). \$4 each or 3/\$10. Please enclose check.