



Flights of Fancy Newsletter

Duck, Duck, Goose!

Inside this issue:

Coming Up...	2
Duragno the Eagle Owl	2
National Geographic and EVRC	2
November in Review	3
Donation Form	3

Though Eagle Valley's primary focus is raptors (eagles, hawks, owls, falcons, and vultures), we get the occasional call on a songbird or goose (and once even an ostrich). Lately, however, we have been getting quite a few calls regarding ducks and geese with fishing line tangled around their legs.

The first of these calls was just a couple months ago on a Canada goose in Sedgwick County Park, and it took nearly as long to finally capture it. The poor bird had yards of fishing line wrapped tightly around both of its legs. The wire had cut deeply into the flesh, nearly severing one of the goose's feet (see picture below on left).

A veterinarian determined that the leg could not be saved and amputated it; the other leg remained intact, though it too

had suffered some lacerations.

The goose recovered from its amputation surgery and was permanently placed with the Hutchinson Zoo in Hutchinson, Kansas. The Hutchinson Zoo specializes in native Kansas species and was able to provide a permanent home for the injured goose, which can now stand and fly unassisted. It will live comfortably at the zoo for the remainder of its years.

Shortly after placing the first goose, EVRC received a call and took in a second goose with similar injuries. You can see its picture below, to the right.

Because of the prevalence of the calls on these types of injuries, Eagle Valley Raptor Center has teamed up with Westar Energy and Stone Nature Cen-

ter in Topeka, Kansas. We will be placing tubes mounted on wooden posts in fishing areas throughout the Wichita city limits. These tubes will provide a place for people to dispose of their discarded fishing line and hooks.

Please help us spread the word that discarded fishing line is causing serious damage to our native wildlife! If you fish, or have friends or family members who do, please take just a moment of your time to ensure your unwanted line is properly disposed of and not left where it can snag an unfortunate duck, goose, or other bird.

Just one simple step that can help ensure our native waterfowl can continue to always put their best foot forward!

Fishing line entanglement isn't just reserved for birds. Many other creatures can become entangled in it and studies have even shown that it is damaging to coral reefs!

In addition, wildlife officers in Utah have discovered bald eagles actually using discarded fishing wire to construct their nests...and then the birds get their feet tangled and can't get out.

Discard your line properly!



These photos show the damage that discarded fishing line can cause to birds, particularly waterfowl.



Coming Up in December

- Our great horned owl, Templeton, will be featured as “Bird of the Month” at Exploration Place on December 19th from 2-4 p.m. Stop by Exploration Place to see us and also catch their newest exhibit, “How to Make a Monster.” You can see a picture of Templeton on the right.
- Eagle Valley will be receiving a rough-legged hawk from the Juneau Raptor Center in Juneau, Alaska. This is the same center that our female bald eagle, Cessna, came from. This bird was found, cold and emaciated, long after his fellow hawks had migrated south for the winter. We will get the bird back into shape again and then release it in either Oklahoma or Texas to rejoin its friends.
- Our “Lovebird Tours” have been an incredible success! We’ve received many compliments and rave reviews on our unique experience. And don’t forget, Lovebird Tours make great Christmas gifts for bird lovers, or just plain lovers, everywhere. Contact EVRC at 316-393-0710 for more details.



Templeton, a male great horned owl, poses for the camera. Templeton is about 7 years old and has lived most of his life at Eagle Valley Raptor Center.



Durango a Huge Hit for EVRC

Our newest bird, a young Eurasian Eagle Owl named Durango, is proving to be a huge hit for Eagle Valley and for Wichita-area bird lovers alike!

He is a remarkably calm bird who has taken to programs and public viewings like...well...a duck to water? He appeared at

the Pride of the Plains Arts and Crafts Show on November 27 and 28 at Century II in Wichita, and earlier in the week on both KSN Channel 3’s Walk on the Wild Side segment and KWCH Channel 12’s Morning Show.

To the left is a picture of Durango at the Craft Show.

Nat-Geo Contacts EVRC

Ken Lockwood received a nice surprise the other week: a phone call from National Geographic’s Film & TV Crew researcher Rachel Teel!

Ms. Teel contacted the center for information and facts on eagles. National Geographic is currently filming a segment

with Dr. Brady Barr, a noted herpetologist, on animals of the American west. Dr. Barr has done shows for Animal Planet and National Geographic, including Dangerous Encounters, Croc Chronicles, and Reptile Wild.

It was an incredible honor to

be contacted by such a large and distinguished organization such as National Geographic.

The show will air sometime this spring.



Golden eagles can be found throughout much of the northern hemisphere. They are the National Bird of Mexico.

Eagle Valley Raptor Center

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

Phone: 316-393-0710
E-mail: raptorcare@aol.com

Visit our website:

www.eaglevalleyraptorcenter.org

Caring for Nature's Orphaned and Injured Wildlife



Please consider making a donation to Eagle Valley Raptor Center this month. In the month of November, we took in 9 red tailed hawks, 2 screech owls, 1 great horned owl, and 2 Canada geese. Our mild autumn weather meant we were able to offer more tours during the late fall than usual, but the sudden cold spell has put an end to our outside tours. We also will begin to get in birds suffering from starvation and hypothermia as the winter sets in. Your donation will ensure that we can continue to care for these birds—and it's fully tax deductible!

And don't forget our Lovebirds Tours! They make great stocking stuffers!!!



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