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In this issue:

- [25th Anniversary!](#)
- [All About Owls!](#)
- [Vultures Are Our Friends!](#)
- [King Estate Benefit Dinner](#)

25th Anniversary!

So, what has Cascades Raptor Center accomplished in its 25 years of service to its feathered and human community? Our mission is to foster a connection between humans and birds of prey for the well-being of our shared world. We have two way to accomplish this:

Rehabilitation and release of orphaned, sick, and injured wildlife, primarily birds of prey (raptors), using the highest standards of medical treatment and care, and the best facilities possible; and **Public Education** designed to enhance the awareness, respect, appreciation, and care of the earth and all its inhabitants so critical for a balanced and healthy planet.

In these 25 years, the Raptor Center clinic has been entrusted with over 4000 raptors to whom we provided individualized medical care. Our visitor center has attracted over 120,000 general public visitors (since we started counting in 2004) and engaged another 86,000 children and other groups in educational programs, either in their classroom, other venues, or here on-site. Thousands have experienced an up-close and personal interaction with a bird and a handler that allowed full appreciation of the artistry of feathers, adaptations, and more.

We have created a large community of volunteers, many of whom have gone on to work in the fields of veterinary medicine, wildlife biology field research, animal training, zookeeping, and nature education - and all of whom have had an experience with wildlife that will have an impact on the rest of their lives. Just in 2014 alone, our remarkable volunteers contributed some 22,000 hours - the equivalent of 10 full-time employees! And we have a very talented and skilled staff, most of whom started as volunteers, who are dedicated to the well-being of the birds and demonstrate that every day. What a great team!

We have a huge family of in-kind supporters, donors, and members who care about not only Cascades Raptor Center, but wildlife in general. That's YOU! Thank you to all who have made these 25 years fly by and helped us accomplish so much. Here's to the next 25!

Our special thanks to the Register-Guard for a front-page story on the Raptor Center's anniversary. Click below for the article, a video, and some great photos.

>> [For the R-G article, photos, and video - click here.](#)



All About Owls!

Cascades Raptor Center invites families to take part in our fourth Family Nature Discovery Day of the year on this Sunday, August 30th, between the hours of 12:00 to 4:00 pm (Rain or shine - and, oh! we are so hoping for rain!) Participants can dissect owl pellets and learn what and how owls eat, and why owl pellets are fascinating to all ages. Kids can create a pine cone owl to take home. While visiting the Raptor Center, families can meet resident owls and view the nearly 50 permanent resident raptors. This Family Nature Discovery adventure is sponsored by **KVAL** and **Umpqua Bank**. *Special treat: Umpqua Bank's ice cream truck!*



Activities are recommended for children between the ages of 4-13 and children must be accompanied by an adult. Cost of activities are general admission to the Center (Raptor Center members receive free admission) and a \$2 activity charge for participants. If you ride your bike or hike the Ridgeline Trail to the event your activity fee will be waived!

Vultures Are Our Friends!

Cascades Raptor Center is celebrating International Vulture Awareness Day on Saturday, September 5th, from 12 noon to 4:00 pm. Come meet our resident Turkey Vultures and enjoy activities highlighting the special Way of the Vulture!

Vultures may not fit everyone's ideal of beauty – but beauty is as beauty does. And what vultures do is beautiful! Vultures fill a critically important role wherever they live: locating and eating carrion, thereby restricting the spread of many diseases. They can ingest and inactivate dangerous microbes such as anthrax without getting sick.



There are many species of vultures in the world but only the Turkey Vulture is found in Oregon. Vultures face many threats throughout the world - accidental and intentional poisoning, habitat loss, power line collision and electrocution. In the US, the greatest threat facing the California Condor is lead poisoning.

Participants can also visit with nearly 50 resident raptors during their visit. Regular admission rates apply: Adults \$8, Students/Seniors \$7, Children \$5. The goal of the Raptor Center's International Vulture Awareness day events is to enhance understanding and appreciation of the critical role vultures play in all ecosystems.

King Estate Benefit Dinner

Thank you to everyone who attended our benefit dinner this last weekend and helped us to celebrate our 25 years in service to our feathered and human communities! Except for the very smoky skies, the weather was delightful and the setting at King Estate Winery's Pavilion was perfect. The food and wine were excellent! Special thanks to Tim Fox from Country 93, who entertained us all as MC in

tandem with our own Kit Lacy.

We sincerely appreciate the good company and generous contributions of all who attended - and are especially grateful for the \$10,000 gift from King Estate. Announced by Justin King during dessert with these comments: *"Cascades Raptor Center has long partnered with King Estate winery and the King Family in caring for our region's raptors. It so happens that this is the 25th Anniversary of both the Cascades Raptor Center and King Estate Winery. This relationship and the festive nature of the shared anniversary are well represented by the Cascades Raptor Center dinner and fundraiser held every year at King Estate Winery."* All contributions will be used to help us care for the birds entrusted to us. Thank you!



King Estate has offered an organic vineyard and farm as a release site for many of our young Barn Owls, Red-tailed Hawks, and American Kestrels over the last five years. We appreciate the partnership - which has also led to partnerships with other vineyards and organic farms in the Willamette Valley.

As always, your financial support allows us to care for the sick, injured, and orphaned birds brought to us, to present engaging programs for visitors and school children, and to provide first class, long term care for our resident birds.

>> [Click here to make a secure online donation.](#)

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