



Thursday, May 15, 2014

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**Barn Owl Flood**

Well, maybe 'flood' is an exaggeration ... but baby season has gotten started with a serious trickle! In our March e-news, we reported on returning a Great Horned Owl chick to a nest. Great Horneds are typically our earliest youngsters. Barn Owls are usually next and we have already had 20 come in!



Barn Owls often make poor choices on where to nest. Not poor choices from their point of view, of course, but nests that often do not match the needs of the humans in whose environs they often choose to nest. They'll pick a piece of farm machinery, say, that hasn't been used since the previous fall but suddenly is in demand again. Even an industrial fan or a chip bin at a lumber mill. Or will nest between hay bales - very well insulated, protected and perfectly placed for hunting - until the farmer picks up the whole stack of bales and loads it onto a truck to send off for sale.

Our first batch of Barn Owls this year came in as eggs: eight of them! The nest was in the wall of a 100-year old school that was undergoing renovation. The wall got torn down before the contractors knew there was a nest there. Moving hatchlings or nestlings to a nearby nest box is often successful because the babies can vocalize and let the parents know where they are. Such a move is more difficult with eggs. And in this case, there was so much activity at the site, the chances of the parents finding their eggs in a new spot was even less likely - and we didn't want the eggs to get cold.

>> [More on Barn Owl babies!](#)

**First Member Monday is Here****SAVE THE DATE!**

Our third annual benefit dinner, hosted by King Estate Winery, will be on Saturday, August 9th, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm this year! Save the date if you are interested in gourmet dining, fine wines, great company, beautiful birds, and a wonderful opportunity to support our cause. Call us for more information or to make a reservation: 541-485-1320. More information and menu to come!

**Family Nature  
Discovery Days**

Our May Member Monday is this coming Monday - May 19th! We've changed the hours and format a bit this year, with kids' activities (sidewalk art) from 3:00-6:00; and then 'Happy Hour' from 6:00-8:00 with local beer and wine. **If you are a member, please join us!**



The theme this month is Spring Fever - come hear how our resident birds' activities change in breeding season! Hand sticks to our Magpie as she tries to make a nest, watch our American Kestrel try to entice you into his nest box... our Bald and Golden Eagles are still on eggs (infertile) as this goes to press, and our Burrowing Owls (both females) have laid their first egg of the year. We do apologize that the printed invitations are late due to a printing snafu but they should get to you soon!

## Big Thanks to ...

We would like to thank all of you who have designated Cascades Raptor Center as your charity of choice for the Fred Meyer rewards program! Over 52 families have named CRC as their chosen non-profit, just since we announced this opportunity last month's... resulting in a our receiving \$800 from Fred Meyer for the first quarter. THANK YOU ALL!



This is an easy way to help the birds in our care. If you shop at Fred Meyer, you too can designate CRC as your charity of choice and painlessly help raptors every time you shop! Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works for those who missed it:

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Cascades Raptor Center at [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards). You can search for CRC by our name or by our non-profit number 80821.
- Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping CRC earn a donation!
- You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the



Family Nature Discovery Days return for 2014, the last Sunday of each month from May through September. Please join us for child and family activities with different themes monthly. As always, members get in free; non-members pay regular admission; everyone participating in the activities is asked for a \$2 activity fee to cover the cost of materials. And that activity fee is waived for visitors coming via bike or by hiking the Ridgeline Trail. Huge thanks to **KVAL** for their sponsorship of these events and to our co-sponsors, listed below.

Sunday, May 25th - Birds in Springtime (egg painting and nest building) - **Wild Birds Unlimited of Eugene**

Sunday, June 29th - The Art of Nature (artworks by you with found objects from nature) - **Umpqua Bank**

Sunday, July 27th - Wildlife Play Hospital (rescue an 'injured' stuffed animal) - **Springfield Utility Board**

Sunday, August 31 - All About Owls (owl pellet dissection and pine cone owls) - **Capella Market**

Sunday, September 28th - Migration Station (Migration Bingo) - **Mountain Rose Herbs**

Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

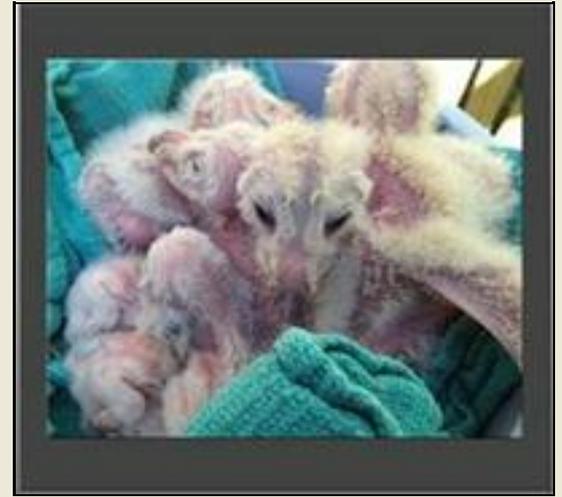
THANK YOU!

Hope to see you and the whole family here!

## AND:

We so appreciate the support our whole community provides towards our work. Special thanks to **Wild Birds Unlimited**, whose 10% donation of their Earth Day sales resulted in a generous donation of well over \$600!

Thanks also to **Ninkasi** and YOU - our recent Pints for a Cause appearance, with Dmitri, of course, was very well attended and contributed over \$500 to CRC. Our local craft breweries are a great place to spend an evening and support our raptors! Stay tuned for upcoming appearances at Hop Valley Brewing Company on June 18th, Ninkasi again September 15th, and Oakshire Brewery on October 1st. Hope to see you there.



Family of eight!

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