

# WINGBEATS

The Fall 2018 Newsletter of RAPTOR Inc.

Celebrating 40 Years

## RAPTOR Newsletter Gets a New Name

By Marc Alverson, President

As you probably noticed, the name at the top of the page has changed from the "Hackback" to "Wingbeats". This change has been made to give the name a broader and more positive appeal, especially to people not already familiar with RAPTOR and our history. "Hack" refers to a training method that helps young falcons to reach their hunting potential by giving them exercise and experience and to prepare a falcon to become an independent hunter. The term "hacking," however, was not coined until the Elizabethan era, when

falconers brought a "hack," an old English word for a type of wagon, to a hilltop and placed young falcons upon it while they still did not know how to fly. The wagon would contain a nest and would provide a safe, intermediate place for the birds to transition to the wild and full freedom. Typically, food would be provided so that the young birds would have guaranteed meals until they struck out on their own. Young falcons were "hacked" "back" to the wild.

Today, hacking is associated with the illegal access of computers and private information. Without the positive context of returning a bird "back" to the wild, "back" can give a retrospective rather than a forward looking impression. RAPTOR sought to come up with a new name that would convey the positive and joyful benefits of our organization in the rescue, rehabilitation, and conservation of raptors. We hope that the new name, "Wingbeats", reflects a meaningful and upbeat impression of our organization.

## Cooper's Hawk Rescue, Rehab, and Release!

By Cindy Alverson, Executive Director

As a volunteer transporter for RAPTOR Inc., picking up injured raptors in need of help can be exciting; you never know whom you will meet or what you will find. We call them "raptor adventures." In April, volunteer Joe Lucas made the long distance trip to West Portsmouth, Ohio, to rescue a hawk on the ground. This location was 84 miles away, but Joe is a very dedicated volunteer and he knew there was an injured hawk needing help. The homeowner had called for assistance and said that a raptor was on the ground near a chicken coop fighting with his cat. Obviously, the bird was grounded, since it was unable to fly away from a predator such as a cat.

The initial physical examination of this immature hawk was also remarkable. Removing the Cooper's Hawk from the box, we could immediately see there was a problem with the feathers. The tail feathers were just stubs, broken off close to the body, and the flight feathers of both wings were also sheared off. One leg was sporting a simple leather strap, unlike any a falconer

would have attached or one an escaped education bird would have on its leg.

Birds depend on their feathers for flight and feathers in this condition were incapable of supporting normal flight. Watching birds outside your window, an observer can see the meticulous care and time birds spend preening their feathers to keep them in impeccable condition. Predators need to keep their feathers in pristine condition for pursuing their prey, and birds which are potential prey need to keep their feathers in tip-top shape for quick maneuvers and getaways.

In addition to the feather damage and leather strap, other abnormalities were noted such as dulled talons, abrasions on the toes, and the hawk was underweight. Birds of prey are noted for their sharp talons and, in the case of a Cooper's Hawk, they are usually razor-sharp. In this case, they were extremely dull and not conducive to killing prey quickly. Taking the talon condition into consideration along with the abrasions



*Cooper's Hawk at admission, before molt*

on the toes, broken feathers, and thinness, led us to believe that this bird had been kept illegally and in improper housing.

So how did this bird come into a situation where it could be kept illegally? It became obvious during the exam of the legs. The right leg had evidence of a healed fracture. If a bird had a leg fracture and was grounded, it could have easily been picked up and kept. Fortunately for this bird, it was able to escape and was found by a Good Samaritan who called RAPTOR Inc. for help.

*See Cooper's Hawk, on page 2*



**Mission:** Since 1978, RAPTOR Inc. (Regional Association for the Protection and Treatment Of Raptors) has been dedicated to "the rehabilitation and return of raptors to their natural environment, the education of the public on the importance of raptors, and the preservation of their natural habitat".

## Charitable Giving

*By Cindy Alverson, Executive Director*

The end of the year is fast approaching. Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's..., and many believe it is the start of the season of giving. It is the start of reflection on what we are thankful for and how our lives are enriched. Our mission at RAPTOR Inc. is to touch the lives of our community, to make a connection so that we enrich the lives of our guests as they learn about the raptors and how these birds can be found in their own backyards and what people can do to protect birds of prey. At presentations, as we display our education Eastern Screech Owl and hear the gasps of delight, and see the look of awe on our guests' faces as they see an owl for the first time, it is hard to imagine anything more impactful!

Like all non-profits, RAPTOR Inc. depends on the generous support of our community to achieve our mission. Although we are required to have state and federal permits to be able to rehabilitate and keep educational birds, we receive no government monies for our efforts. Our operations are primarily funded through memberships, educational programs, grants and donations. If making a difference is important to you, then charitable giving can be an important part of your life.

Charitable giving is easy to do and can be done in many ways. Consult with a financial or estate planner to see what way works best for your situation. Options include naming RAPTOR Inc. in your will, trust, IRA, life insurance policy, or a gift of cash or stock. Many donors are thinking about charitable giving this time of year because of the tax benefits they can receive if the donation is made by December 31, 2018.

Perhaps you would like to join our Legacy Society, by donating \$10,000 or more and at your discretion, receiving recognition as well as receiving invitations to special events. Some companies have matching gifts programs either matching employee monetary donations or matching volunteer hours with a gift. Talk with your company's Human Resources representative to see if that is an option.

The reason some people do not give is because they are not asked. In this season of giving, I am asking now, if you wish to give to RAPTOR Inc., to help us, and to help raptors.

### *Cooper's Hawk, cont. from page 1*

Given the condition of this hawk, we knew it had a long road of recovery ahead. It needed time and proper nutrition for molting. It also needed appropriate housing and perching options to enable the toe abrasions to heal and time for the talons to grow and sharpen. With all of these issues, we knew it would involve a great deal of time to rehabilitate this bird, if it could be done at all. Consulting with colleagues about this specific case, we knew some would not attempt to work with this bird since it would take so much time. Also, with feathers in such bad condition, it was not known if the feathers would grow in normally. However, it was RAPTOR Inc.'s belief that this bird deserved a chance and so we began care for this bird, hoping it could make a full recovery.

Consulting with one of our veterinarians, we decided to try a medication to induce a molt. This had been tried with other species and we had heard of positive outcomes with pet birds, but the 6-week-long course of medication did not work for this bird. There was no evidence of new feathers growing in and pushing out the old feathers.

With the high activity level of Cooper's Hawks, we needed the bird to be in a larger area to protect its current feathers, so it was housed outside where it would be in an outdoor environment getting plenty of sunshine, exposed to the elements, with limited exposure to humans. Being a good eater, it was easy to supplement the hawk's food with vitamins.

Birds which cannot fly are given ladders, usually sticks which lean against perches, so they are able to climb up to reach the highest perch available. This bird was no exception; it would climb up the sticks, yet it made no attempt to fly.

By the end of June, we were elated to see new tail feathers emerging and old feather shafts dropping to the ground. In another two weeks, we were noticing new wing feathers coming in. The hawk had started its normal molt.

With the emergence of wing feathers, we could watch the bird on our security camera begin to try out its wings. However, with the emergence of feathers in different stages of growth (different lengths), we could hear the feathers during flight, a sound which is not heard when a bird has a full complement of normal feathers. We knew this problem would improve over time as more feathers emerged and gaps between feathers disappeared.

By the end of September, new feathers had grown in and we could see by the plumage that this bird would be considered to be a second year (SY) bird. The feathers when the bird was admitted were brown and the new feathers which molted in were grey. This molt took several months to complete; the molt to adult plumage usually begins about one year of age. The accompanying photo was taken in early September and shows some adult grey feathers on its back and tail feathers of different lengths. By early October the tail feathers were completely in at full length.



*Molt in progress; feathers nearly full length*

Along with the emergence of all feathers, the growth of talons, and healed abrasions on the toes, the hawk had also been eating an appropriate diet and increased its weight by 25%.

Despite the odds stacked against this bird, the care of this bird resulted in its ability to return back to the wild. It was a great day for all – Joe, rehabilitators, and bird alike – when this Cooper's Hawk was released on the RAPTOR Inc. property which is adjacent to over 1,000 acres of woods, prime habitat for a woods-dwelling Cooper's Hawk.

Although it was nearly a 6-month process, seeing this bird released back to the wild was proof that obstacles can be overcome and patience is truly a virtue.

# Beating the Odds: Raptor Success Stories in the Wild

By Kathleen M. Jenkins, volunteer

Raising baby raptors is a full-time job for two parents, with the female laying and incubating the eggs and caring for nestlings while the male provides for the family and guards the territory. When something happens to one of the adult raptors, this loss often results in disaster for the nest. But even though the odds are against them, there's sometimes still a happy ending. Here are a few of our favorite stories.

## Red-tailed Hawk in Bald Eagle Nest

Observers of a bald eagle nest in British Columbia were more than a little surprised when they began to see what was clearly a red-tailed hawk nestling living and thriving alongside three eaglets more than twice its size. Red-tailed hawks are normally prey for the much larger raptors, but the adult eagles had clearly adopted this little interloper, whom observers nicknamed "Spunky."

No one knew how the young hawk ended up in the eagle nest, but there were plenty of theories, including that one of the parent eagles had brought the hawk to the nest as prey, but that its cries of hunger triggered the female's maternal instincts before she completed the kill. Another popular theory was that a female red-tailed hawk had an egg in the oviduct when she was taken by the eagles, and the egg was forced out into the nest by the pressure of the eagle's talons, where the hawk egg proceeded to hatch alongside the eagle eggs.

However the young hawk got into the nest, it continued to thrive and fledged right on schedule for a red-tailed hawk, at about 7 weeks (bald eagles typically fledge in 12-13 weeks). The parent eagles continued caring for the young hawk following fledge, even though the eaglets remained in the nest and there was some concern that the eagles would view the hawk as prey once it was out of the nest. At last report, the young hawk was still doing well and hunting successfully on its own – but it had developed a clear, eagle-like preference for fish over the usual red-tailed hawk diet of rodents, snakes, and birds.

## Decorah Eagles – Mom Soldiers On

For more than a decade, the bald eagle pair located in Decorah, Iowa, successfully raised nest after nest of eaglets on camera. Typically, bald eagles have one or two nestlings, but the Decorah pair raised as many as three eaglets in a single year. The 2018 nesting season was well underway when Dad Decorah (as he's known to camera watchers around the world) disappeared following a late April snowstorm. Mom Decorah's increasingly desperate calls for him went unanswered, and though the local community organized multiple search parties, no trace of him was ever found. Fortunately, there were a few factors that helped this nest succeed. First, bald eagles nest earlier in the year than many other raptors, and by the time Dad went missing, the eaglets were large enough for Mom Decorah to leave them alone for short periods of time. The nest is strategically located near a fishery, so she had an abundant and accessible food source nearby. And while the male eagles typically

supply the bulk of the food for nestlings, Mom Decorah is an excellent provider in her own right, and shortly after she took over the role of sole provider, the camera caught a shot of her landing on the nest with a fish in each talon. Additionally, another male eagle stayed near the nest, and while Mom never let him near the eaglets, she tolerated his presence. He in turn took on the role of keeping other eagles away from the nest, and all three eaglets successfully fledged in late June.

## A New Hope

Atop the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh, a peregrine falcon pair was incubating a clutch of eggs when the male falcon disappeared suddenly (site monitors believe he was likely hit by a car). The female peregrine, named Hope, was left in an untenable situation – there was no way she could feed herself and successfully incubate the eggs on her own, much less feed any hatchlings. It looked as though the Pittsburgh peregrines were done for the season. Less than a week later, however, a new male arrived on the scene and began courting Hope. They were spotted soaring together and mating, and the new male began energetically defending the territory as well.

Camera viewers quickly learned that the new male, named Terzo, turned out to be N29, a peregrine falcon who hatched at Cincinnati's peregrine falcon nest at Fourth and Vine Streets downtown. The pair successfully fledged one nestling, a female who was banded C29.

## A Cautionary Tale

While these stories have happy endings, they are the exception to the rule. More often than not, the loss of a parent during nesting season ends in nest failure – and it's one of the many reasons RAPTOR, Inc. admits so many nestling and fledgling raptors in spring and summer.

Raptors face immense odds, and when a young raptor takes to the skies, it is a moment of joy and wonder – and sometimes, like in the success stories we are sharing here, it is nothing short of a miracle.

## What You Can Do

While we can't have a direct impact on nest success or failure, there are things we can do to reduce the number of nesting raptors killed each year. Raptors are often killed by vehicle collisions, diving after prey that's attracted to food and trash along the highway, so avoid discarding food from vehicles. Window strikes are another major cause of death for raptors, so add reflective window clings or other visual indicators to large windows to prevent window strikes. Finally, avoid using poisons in attempting to rid your home and lawn of pests like moles, chipmunks, and mice. Poisoned animals are easy prey, and raptors consume them or even feed them to their young, which over time can lead to the demise of the raptors.





## Please Pardon Our Dust (Mud)!

*By Marc Alverson, President*

If you have stopped by the Red Barn lately, you have probably noticed the collection of heavy construction equipment, stacks of material, and lots of mud. RAPTOR is excited to announce that two new flight mews (cages) are nearly complete and ready for use. The mew construction was made possible through a \$50,000 grant from a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. Unseasonably wet weather has made work difficult, but completion is now in sight.

One of the new flight mews is 12'W x 12'H x 46'L and the other is 12'W x 10'H x 38'L. These will provide additional capability for our rehab efforts which have increased dramatically, now that we are seeing well over 300 injured raptor admissions per year rather than the 200-225 admissions per year that we have historically experienced. The extra 100 birds each year have taxed our ability to adequately assess, rehabilitate, and exercise birds prior to their release in a timely fashion. We generally cannot place different species of birds in the same flight mew. This has resulted in lots of jockeying and delays in getting birds into a flight mew to complete their rehabilitation. The new flight mews will help ensure that our rehab birds have the necessary environment to fully recuperate in a timely fashion.

The new flight mews are located alongside existing mews on the hillside on the south side of our property. The hillside presented some additional challenges, since retaining walls had to be incorporated into the design. Like our other mews, the new flight mews are constructed with wooden slats to contain the birds. This use of wood has proven to result in less feather damage to the birds compared to other materials such as netting or screening. We are looking forward to these new flight mews increasing our capacity and capability to perform our rehabilitation mission.



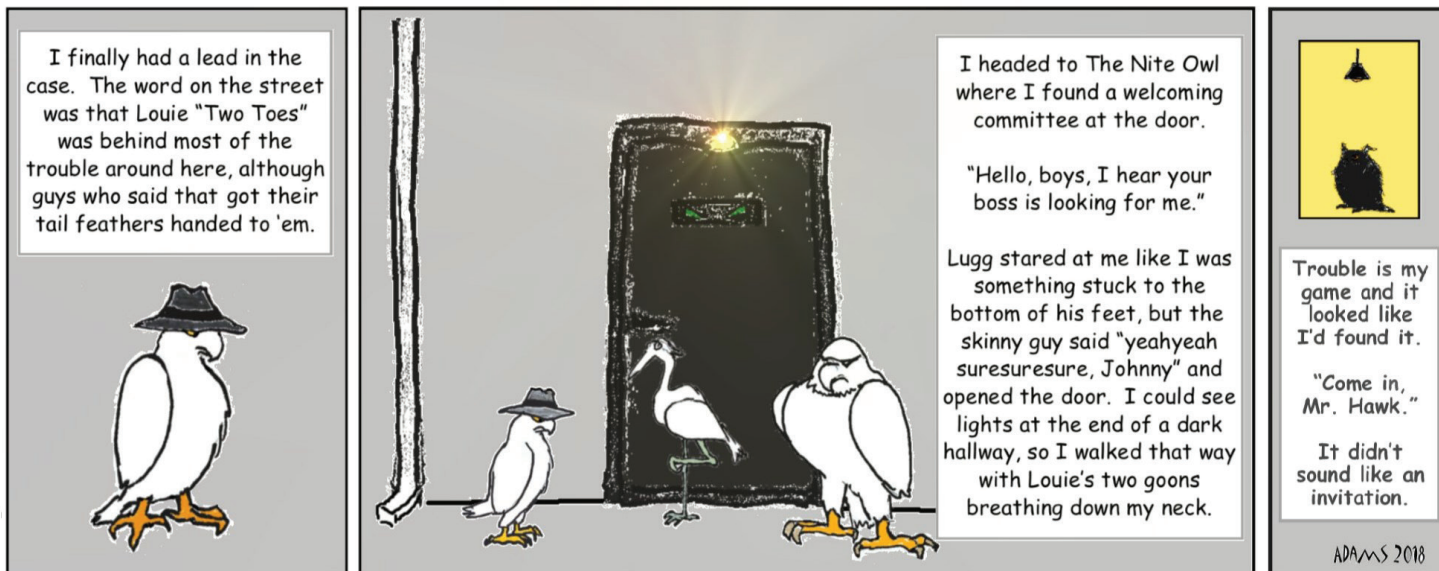
## Would You Like to Live on the Grounds on RAPTOR Inc.?

Early next year RAPTOR Inc. will be looking for a new tenant for the cabin on our property. The small, 1-bedroom cabin is located on the RAPTOR center grounds, close to both Cincinnati Nature Center and civilization with Milford and Eastgate Mall close by. This is a unique opportunity for someone (non-smoker) without children or pets, and it comes with some work responsibilities including feeding the birds during the week. If you are interested, contact Marc at [marcalverson@cinci.rr.com](mailto:marcalverson@cinci.rr.com) by January 15.



## Raptor Ink

*by Catherine Adams*



## Book Review: *Urban Raptors: Ecology and Conservation of Birds of Prey in Cities*, edited by Clint Boal & Cheryl Dykstra

By Tom Eisele, Volunteer

Birds of prey and humans do not mix – so we may assume. But is this assumption correct?

It is true that birds of prey usually avoid human beings, seeing them (legitimately) as a threat. And for many centuries, humans have repaid raptors their shunning behavior by ridding the world of apparent predatory birds whenever humans had an interest – livestock, possibly, or perhaps a desire to develop land – with which these birds seemed to interfere or conflict. Recently, however, we are finding evidence that humans and raptors can live together in several interesting ways.

This book describes many ways in which birds of prey, finding the world increasingly urbanized by the works of humans, have been able to adapt to those urbanized areas, and sometimes even to thrive in them.

This is not light reading, with very few warm and fuzzy anecdotes. It is, rather, a compilation of almost 20 scientific studies written by raptor experts who have studied these matters, measuring and quantifying along the way. Anyone picking up the book, then, must approach it with the recognition that it is first and foremost an exchange of scientifically collected and tested information, initially shared among scientific experts, yet also welcoming any layperson who wishes to dip into this area of study.

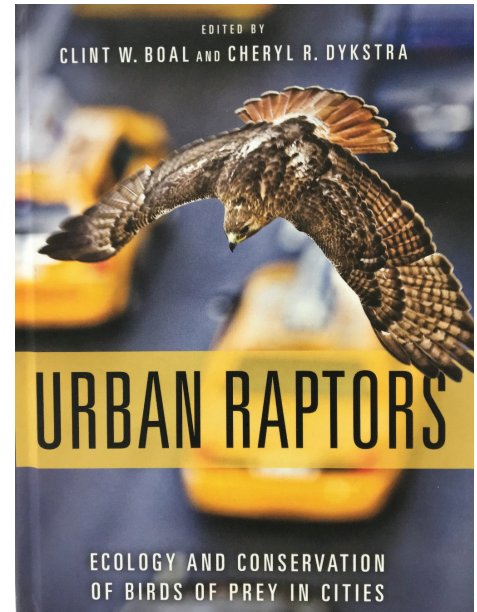
There are three main topics in this book: first, the activities of humans that birds of prey must deal with; second, the behavior of raptors in adapting to or shunning those human activities; and third, the environments and communities created by

the mutually accommodating behaviors and activities, within which humans and raptors more and more frequently interact. Let me review them in turn.

Humans create structures and vehicles, both of which can harm raptors. Skyscrapers? Their reflective glass is deadly for birds of all kinds, as well as the problems caused birds by their disorienting lights. Cars and trucks and buses? Raptors hit them in the day and at night, often with devastating consequences. Electric lines and phone lines and cell towers and transmission structures? All can be deadly to birds of prey. The opening section of this book contains five chapters devoted to specifying how humans create problems for raptors, and how raptors have responded, some more successfully than others.

How do raptors cope with these dangers? “Adaptability,” says Cheryl Dykstra, one of the editors of this collection. The more adaptable the better. Raptors which have the ability to adapt to changing home ranges, or which are flexible in choosing nesting sites and foraging areas, can and do thrive in many urbanized areas.

Some types of raptors show a greater ability to adapt than do other types of raptors. In the group of hawks, several studies in this book feature the Cooper’s hawk, the Red-shouldered hawk, and Harris’s hawk, as displaying remarkable flexibility in dealing with the challenges of urbanized areas. Other studies in the book focus on barred owls and burrowing owls as flexible nocturnal denizens of the urban airways. And peregrine falcons – as we know – can



also thrive in urban canyons of skyscrapers. Eight chapters in all discuss different types of raptors which have found ways to survive in urban areas.

The closing six chapters talk about the past, present, and future of human – raptor relations in urban areas. Mortality rates, inherent and invented conflicts, possible accommodations and helpful perspectives, past problems and future hopes – all are touched on in this section of the book.

It is an interesting collection with much to teach us, written by scientific researchers and students who very much want the uneasy relationship between humans and raptors to continue to evolve and grow.

## Welcome Our New Educational Ambassador

RAPTOR Inc. has added a new Eastern Screech Owl to our educational ambassadors. Our Eastern Screech Owls are some of our hardest working birds - they are easy to carry and display, and they are not as scary as some of our larger birds. So, they are immensely popular, especially with children. The addition of a third screech owl will reduce the work load on our existing screech owls, Rufous and Athena.

Our new screech owl, named Sirin, is a female bird that hatched this spring. She was found as an orphaned nestling in a flower bed in Martinsville, OH (east of Cincinnati). While she did not appear to have any obvious broken bones or other injuries, her flight was rather unusual with hovering and poor landings. A subsequent evaluation of her eyes by Dr. Haeussler revealed cataracts in both eyes with no vision in her right eye and the left eye compromised as well. Based on her eye troubles, she was determined to be non-releasable and thus eligible to become an education bird.

Sirin (sear - in) is named after a mythical creature that was part woman, part owl, one that sang beautiful songs that enthralled men. Sirin has moved in with Athena and is learning to perch calmly on the glove. Gradually, Sirin is becoming accustomed to people. Once fully trained, she will join her compadres in future RAPTOR Inc. programs.





## Can you help? Grad Student Studying Raptors Needs 2019 Housing.

The grad student from University of North Texas who studied suburban red-shouldered hawks in Cincinnati in 2018 is returning for her last field season in 2019. Her project funding is very tight, so she needs free housing from mid-February to about early June. She will need her own bedroom and bathroom, and the opportunity to use the kitchen occasionally. If you can help, please contact any member of the Red-shouldered Hawk research team, Cheryl Dykstra, (cheryldykstra@gmail.com), Jeff Hays (jlhays@fuse.net), or Melinda Simon (melindasimon@cinci.rr.com) by January 1. Thanks in advance for your support of hometown raptor research!

## Mark Your Calendars for our Upcoming RAPTOR Public Appearances

Sat, Dec 29	2pm & 5pm	Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival*	Christ Church Cathedral, 318 E 4th St, Cincinnati, OH 45202
Sat, Dec 30	2:30pm & 5pm	Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival*	Christ Church Cathedral, 318 E 4th St, Cincinnati, OH 45202
<b>2019</b>			
Sat, Jan 5	2pm-3pm	Fernald Nature Preserve Visitor Center	7400 Willey Rd, Hamilton, OH 45013
Sun, Mar 31	1pm-4pm	Open House at RAPTOR Inc.	961 Barg Salt Run Rd., Milford, OH 45150

\*tickets required

## 2018 Admissions

American Kestrel: 24	Saw-whet Owl: 0	Rough-legged Hawk: 0	<b>2018 Dispositions</b>  <i>Released : 48%</i> <i>Under Care: 12%</i> <i>Transferred: 2%</i> <i>Died: 18%</i> <i>Euthanized: 20%</i>
Merlin: 0	Snowy Owl: 0	Northern Harrier: 1	
Peregrine Falcon: 3	Short Eared Owl: 1	Turkey Vulture: 14	
Eastern Screech Owl: 17	Sharp-shinned Hawk: 0	Black Vulture: 3	
Barred Owl: 34	Cooper's Hawk: 22	Osprey: 1	
Barn Owl: 1	Broad-winged Hawk: 1	Golden Eagle: 0	
Great Horned Owl: 46	Red-shouldered Hawk: 50	Bald Eagle: 0	
Long-eared Owl: 0	Red-tailed Hawk: 55	<b>Total 273</b>	

## RAPTOR Wish List

RAPTOR Inc. needs the following items for our bird care facility. To donate any of these items, please email RAPTOR at: raptor@raptorinc.org or call 513-825-3325.

- Latex or Nitrile exam gloves (any size)
- Lysol Disinfectant Spray
- Paper towels
- Pine bedding
- Office Max Gift Card
- Stamps (Forever)
- Volunteers—Retired Teachers

Thank you for all of your donations!

## Amazon Wish List

RAPTOR Inc. is now listed on the Amazon Wish list. For a complete listing of all of the items we use for rehabilitation and to provide our volunteers with all of the necessities, please visit <https://goo.gl/s0LVpG>.

If any of these wish list items is purchased, it is shipped directly to our RAPTOR facility in Milford.

How easy is that?

## Thanks to the following individuals and groups for their recent financial contributions to RAPTOR Inc. for the last quarter of 2018.

Connelly, Mr. & Mrs. Michael  
Hansford, Carol  
Hogan, Christine  
Honeywell Matching Program  
Larsh, Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery  
Nash, Amanda  
Paulos-Strike, Pam  
Stroeh, Judith  
Wales, Mary

### Falcon Level \$500 to \$999

Hays, Mr. & Mrs. Jeff  
Kroger Community Rewards  
Rhinegeist Brewery

### Osprey Level \$1000 and up

Gray, Meredith  
Wild About Birds

### In Kind Donations

Alverson, Marc  
Bentley's Pet Stuff  
Edwards, Jenny  
Einson, Steve  
Fore, Kim  
Jones, Liz & Kevin  
Lucas, Joe  
Meyer Funeral Home  
Seafood Station Inc.  
Wright Brothers, Inc.

**RAPTOR Inc. Board**

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 Vice President: Jeff Hays  
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 Trustee: Rosie Ayers  
 Trustee: Dan Begin  
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 Trustee: Joe Lucas  
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 Cindy Alverson, Executive Director  
 Jackie Bray, Associate Director

The Board of Trustees generally meets the third Wednesday of each month, at 7:00 P.M. All RAPTOR members are welcome to attend.

Contact Marc Alverson at [marcalverson@cinci.rr.com](mailto:marcalverson@cinci.rr.com) for meeting time and location.

**Thank You To Our Veterinarians!**

Bob Dahlhausen, D.V.M.  
 (513) 576-1990

Joseph Grossi, D.V.M.  
 (513) 772-6060

D.J. Haeussler, D.V.M.  
 (513) 374-3963

J. Peter Hill, D.V.M.  
 (513) 793-3032

Vanessa Kuonen Cavens, D.V.M.  
 (513) 561-0069

Paul Levitas, D.V.M.  
 (513) 871-8866

Ann Manharth, DVM  
 (513) 248-0904

**Communications**

Gary Young, Newsletter Editor  
 To submit articles or pictures for consideration in HackBack, email the article to:  
[raptor@raptorinc.org](mailto:raptor@raptorinc.org)  
 or by mail to:  
 RAPTOR Inc.  
 961 Barg Salt Run Road  
 Milford, Ohio 45150

To report an injured raptor in the Greater Cincinnati area call  
 RAPTOR Inc.: (513) 825-3325

**Mission**

Since 1978, RAPTOR Inc. (Regional Association for the Protection and Treatment Of Raptors) has been dedicated to "the rehabilitation and return of raptors to their natural environment, the education of the public on the importance of raptors, and the preservation of their natural habitat".

**RAPTOR Inc. Membership**

Renewal notices are sent out at the end of the year for annual collection for the following year. Dues paid after September 1 will be credited for the following year.

Please use the form below to become a member or update your contact information. You can also become a member online at our website: [www.raptorinc.org](http://www.raptorinc.org)

If you don't need the membership form, pass it on to someone who might be interested in becoming a member of RAPTOR Inc.

Your membership dollars provide for care, treatment, and feeding of our birds as well as the continuation of our education programs.

Mark the membership level you request. All membership levels include electronic (default) or postal delivery of the newsletter, as well as an invitation to the Fall Picnic. Members are also invited to attend Board meetings and may nominate candidates to serve on the board.

☐ \$10 Student Membership  
 (1 year - up to age 18)

☐ \$25 Hawk Membership  
 (1-year)

☐ \$50 Owl Membership  
 plus receive stunning Raptor Notecard Set

☐ \$100 Eagle Membership  
 plus receive Charley Harper designed T-Shirt

☐ \$500 Lifetime Membership  
 plus personalized tour for 5

**Eagle and Lifetime Memberships, please indicate T-Shirt Size: (S, M, L, XL, XXL) \_\_\_\_\_**

*Eagle and Lifetime Memberships also include perks from the level(s) above.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ Check if you prefer postal delivery of HackBack

Mail this completed form with your check or money order to:

**RAPTOR Inc., 961 Barg Salt Run Road, Milford, Ohio 45150**

**Attn: Membership**

Thank you for your support of RAPTOR Inc.!

Sponsor a Banded Raptor

Since the fall of 1994, RAPTOR Inc. has been banding most rehabilitated birds released back into the wild. Over a long period of time, this will help us determine how successful our rehabilitation efforts are. You can get involved with our "Sponsor a Banded Raptor" program. Sponsors will receive a fact sheet on the selected species and a certificate with the following information:

- Species and date of release
- Age (if known)
- Weight at time of release
- U. S. Fish & Wildlife band number

If the bird you sponsor is recovered, you will be notified of the date and location of the recovery.



Yes, I would like to sponsor a banded bird of the species checked below:

- ☐ *American Kestrel*: \$25    ☐ *Eastern Screech Owl*: \$25    ☐ *Cooper's Hawk*: \$25    ☐ *Barred Owl*: \$25
- ☐ *Red-shouldered Hawk*: \$25    ☐ *Great Horned Owl*: \$25    ☐ *Red-tailed Hawk*: \$25

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

In the event your selection is not available, we will contact you to arrange an alternative. Sponsoring a bird is tax deductible. All proceeds benefit RAPTOR Inc. Complete this form, enclose a check or money order, and mail to:

**RAPTOR Inc., 961 Barg Salt Run Road, Milford, Ohio 45150**

Thank you for your support of RAPTOR Inc.!