THE SKY IS THE LIMIT













Chat inspires me... EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JIM WARREN

Celebrating 30 years in Latta Plantation Nature Preserve in 2014



In FY2013, the entire year was one inspiration after another. Carolina Raptor Center gained the national spotlight by hosting a first night party for delegates from Iowa, Nebraska and Wisconsin to the Democratic National Convention. A national television appearance on FoxNews followed shortly thereafter.

Carolina Raptor Center focused on building our fundraising capacity this year. Three staff members attended Leadership Gift School with non-profits from across the region. The result was a complete organizational restructuring and the hiring of a new development director – all inspired by what we learned.

Significant changes to the thematic organization of the trail included the opening of the Owl Forest and Vulture Culture exhibits. Plans were made for new exhibits to include A Day in the Life of A Raptor Hospital, Made For Speed falcon exhibit and a conservation-based exhibit. Do Your Part...for the birds.

In 2014, CRC looks forward to celebrating 30 years in Latta Plantation Nature Preserve. Plans for the future are in the works looking towards the next 30 years in Latta and a renewed and energized partnership with Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation. Stay tuned for more information on this effort.

My day-to-day inspiration comes from a dedicated group of professional and compassionate staff, volunteers and birds. So, what inspires you?



VOLUNTEER AND PHOTOWILD PHOTOGRAPHER ROSIE CASPER HINKLE

"On August 8th, 2012, a friend called to say there was an owl sitting at her sliding glass doors! I could tell by looking at this Barred Owl it was not well. The staff of CRC guided me through the procedure to towel and box the owl for transport and off! Now the owl was patient #16331, and I became bonded to it -- it took my heart. It was a rough road for the barred owl, but finally, the owl was ready for release. I was thrilled and nervous driving to CRC that day to pick up the Barred Owl -- but the release went flawlessly! This is an experience I will never forget. It gave me an even deeper appreciation for Carolina Raptor Center what they do for birds of prey, and ALL the staff and volunteers who make it happen!"

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR NATALIE CHILDERS

"This year I've been amazed daily by the whoosh of wings and the pitter patter of vulture feet. We've taken the cause of vulture conservation under our wing and have spread the love about these amazing creatures to everyone. A number of our vulture species have been trained for flight shows and vulture feedings. Watching our black vulture soar down to the amphitheater from his high perch took my breath away, seeing our king vulture run down the trail after me on our daily walks together made me laugh, and hearing the "oohs" and "ahhs" of their new fans made me think for the umpteenth time: This is why I do what I do."

Built 130 foot Weyerhaeuser Flight Training Facility in FY2013





At 26%, "Hit by car" is the most common known cause of injury



Inspired Story PATIENT #16501 Great Horned Owl

Howard Slutsky, PsyD, was driving down I-77, when something crossed his field of vision and hit the front of his car. When he arrived home, he checked out the front of his car and realized that it was actually a Great Horned Owl stuck in the grill of his car.

"At first, I thought the animal was dead -- I was horified, devastated -- but when I realized that it was alive, I pulled myself together and called the police" Slutsky remembers.

The owl was alive and alert and looking to him for help. The Huntersville Police responded quickly and about 90 minutes later with the help of Animal Control, the bird was out of the car and into a box for an overnight stay at an emergency veterinary clinic. The next day a volunteer picked up the bird and took it to the Raptor Center.

The owl (patient #16501) was admitted to Carolina Raptor Center on October 23, 2012, with eye damage and two serious fractures - one leg and one wing. After a few days stabilizizing the bird, she underwent surgery followed by physical therapy and lots of time for recovery.



The surgical procedures involved inserting pins above and below the break to stabilize the area so that it can heal correctly. Physical therapy ensures that the bird is in good enough shape to enter the final phase of recovery that includes time in a flight cage and passing live prey school.

"I have found over the past five years at Carolina Raptor Center that these animals are resilient and often recover from injuries that seem to be unfixable," said Dr. Dave Scott, staff veterinarian at CRC. The owl recovered not only to be able to fly silently but also to be released back into the wild after 98 days of treatment.

"Imagine getting hit by a car going 50 mph and surviving the impact!" Scott said. "It really is a miracle that she recovered."

Slutsky was thrilled after over 3 months of treatment at CRC to be able to release the owl back into the wild.

"I've learned so much as part of my engagement with CRC - not the least of which that humans can have a negative impact on these beautiful birds of prey," Slutsky says.

WHAT CAN I DO?

When you throw even an apple core outside your car, you are creating a hazard for raptors who feed on the small rodents that eat the apple core alongside the road. This leads to the biggest cause of injury for birds admitted to Carolina Raptor Center - car collisions. So please don't add your apple cores or other litter to the side of the road.

Slutsky is so grateful for the help of CRC and is committed to ongoing support of the organization and encouraging his friends and family to do the same.

"The work that they do to get these beautiful birds back into the wild is terrific and to educate people about the causes of injury is a great service to this community," Slutsky said.

DONOR JUDY HELMS

"I sponsored a Tiny Talon Tales program for the W.A. Bess kindergartners. You could hear a pin drop when the raptors were brought out — each bird and their story. A magnificent Golden Eagle. A shy Barn Owl. Each story kept the children's eyes on the bird, and their ears on what the educators were saying. Then came the raised hands of not just children, but teachers, with question after question. Looking at the educators, I had to ask myself 'what could possibly be more fun than to love what you do and feel that it matters?"

Inspiration Starts Carly ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNGER KIDS

TINY TALON TALES

During a 45-minute program, our educators



encourage their students' imaginations to soar! Children spread their wings as they listen to stories of raptors and see them come alive. The kids get a chance to meet two of our feathered friends, hear a raptorthemed book, and

explore a touch table full of feathers and fur. Tiny Talon Tales offers hands on learning for the youngest of kids.

BIRDS AND BEASTIES SUMMER CAMP

This is one of our newest camps for our youngest campers. They will learn about all things avian (and then some) at Birds and Beasties camp. Campers will experience life from a bird's-eye-view with activities and games. Topics include Neotropical migratory birds, predator/prey relationships, adaptations, habitat, and ecosystems. Nature hikes, bug investigations, canoeing, and raptorcaching will bring out the nature adventurer in every child!

EAGER EAGLETS ART ACTIVITY

The visitor center staff encourages moms and

dads to bring your small eaglets out to the Raptor Center where they can create art work to take home after they take a walk on the Raptor Trail. Make a pinecone owl or paint a picture with feathers. Especially for preschool age children.







27,615 students saw education programs in FY2013





FY 2013 Government,

Corporation and Foundation Giving

Every attempt is made to ensure that names and giving levels are correct.

Contributions are from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. If you do not find your company or foundation's name in the correct category, please contact Ciara Moreno, Stewardship Manager at 704-875-6521 x 131 or cmoreno@ carolinaraptorcenter.org.



\$100,000+

Arts and Science Council of Charlotte - Mecklenburg, Inc.

\$50,000-99,999

NC Grassroots Science Museum Collaborative

\$25,000-49,999Anonymous Donor

\$10,000-24,999

JP Morgan Chase Novant Healthcare US Airways Foundation

\$5,000-9,999

Bank of America Charitable Foundation Partners for Parks SPX Foundation

\$2,500-4,999

Carolina Bird Club
CMC University
Microsoft
Piedmont Natural Gas
Plym Foundation
Russellene Angel Clut Charitable
Trust

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Ally Bank
Dell Giving Program
NC Department of Environmental
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Trust
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United Technologies Corporation
Aerospace Systems
Vulcan Materials Company
Wells Fargo Bank: Arboretum
Branch

\$1-999

Adventist Christian Academy Allstate Insurance **Balfour Beatty Construction** Charlotte Woman's Club Earth Fare Far Corners Garden Club Hartford Insurance Co. **IBM Corporation** Integrated Laboratory Systems, Inc. K & L Gates, LLP Lerner and Company LPL Financial Mallard Creek Animal Hospital Metrolina Regional Scholars Osmose, Inc Reedy Fork Elementary School Simple Green St. Mark's Catholic School The Boeing Company The Chop Shop TIAA-CREF Verizon Foundation Wells Fargo - Dunn Commons Branch Wild Birds Unlimited - Rock Hill Women Executives' Program Committee





\$10.000+

Bruce and Nancy Roberts

\$5,000-9,999

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John and Edith Steiger Seaman

\$2,500-4,999

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\$500-999

T. Jonathan Adams and Paige B. McThenia Lynn Beckham Peter H. Bell Douglas C. and Susan Bowman John V. Boehme James R. Brennan Philip and Kayla Burrus Abe A. Bush **Grady Carroll IV Neil Carpenter** Stephen Tyler Cochran Tina & Vince Condon Anne Cooper Leanne I. and Barron C. Fishburne Rachel Hardy Dianne W. Howell and Pete Cayado Dave and Dawn Franchina

FY 2013 Individual Giving

Every attempt is made to ensure that names and giving levels are

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Brian and Melissa Hughes Charlotte and Douglas Marshall Jarrell Kathleen Kanev Scott Kaysen and Julie V. Chavez Stephen and Connie Knight Diane M. Kosec John Barton & Laurie Lamb Katherine McLoughlin Jackie A Mills Jeff and Lori O'Keefe Manoiith Padala J. Steven & Wanda Phifer Russell and Janice Rector Michel Reed Margaret G. Reed-Lade Terry and Marcia Scaia **Howard Slutzky** Ruth and Donald Slutzky Mark Stanback and Nancy Popkin Stephen B. and Cecelia D. Stewart Fredric A. and Joan A. Stoner Kathy and Larry Wilson Josh Wright and Amanda Caines

Thomas and Amy Zacharias

FY 2013 Individual Giving

Anonymous

\$250-499

James Edward Beard John W. Campbell, Jr. Brian G and Melanie Coley Ceasar Cone III Allen G. Depew Brian and Leah Desloge William Eargle Lanny G. Ellis Maggie and Walter Farrell Paul J and Elisa B Fronapfel Randall and Victoria Graves Billy Hager Alexander Hambacher Charles & Geraldine Harrell Eric Harrold James & Alison Hickmon **Catherine Hines** Rosie Casper Hinkle Jonathan and Patricia Holway Nat and Renee Hyde Julie Kossler Elizabeth L. Kruger Hermien Loedolff Mike and Lee Lumpkin Gus and Geary Mandrapilias Andrew and Elisabeth McCray Scott and Diane McLaine Tom T. and Sally S. Moore Elizabeth P Murphy Joseph Nenichka Steven & Linda Nye Timothy J and Ruth D Parker Peter and Ona M. Pickens Patrick Pinder Ruth Pollow and Richard Mead

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\$100-249

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Catherine Carmichael



STAFF VETERINARIAN DAVE SCOTT

"Most of the birds that we see in the hospital are here because of a human cause — whether that be hit by car or window collision or lead poisoning. I feel like we have an obligation to do whatever we can to help these creatures. They are so resiliant - -I'm inspired by how much they can take and still be able to survive out in the wild. This year, we seem to be running the hospital in a much more efficient manner and handle

a very large caseload with very few people. I believe it is a combination our many years of experience and attention to detail as well as a compassion for our patients, the use of great technology and an amazing level of dedication."

Leighton and Linda Carmichael Jay H. & Linda K. Casselberry Robert W & Jean H Chamberlain Joni L. Chastain Mauro and Beth Cieri Jeff and Carolyn L. Cline Justin Coates Deborah and Steven Colerick Nancy Cornwell-Daves Annette and Michael J. Cossentine Logan Thomas Cowan Fred Darnell Catherine and Beatrice Denham Kerri DeRuyter Ronald Duncan Thomas Gordon Duncanson Kathryn Ann and Bret Cameron Estridge **Gregory Shane Evatt** Kristi J. Evatt Gerald and Joyce Farrow Carrie and Kevin Fawcett Britt Ferguson Webber W and Denise S Ferguson, Jr Brona Busick Fish

John F. and Bethanie R. Flynn Henry Lee & Lauretta P. Forrest Deborah Arnold and Sean Fox Susan J. Fox Ann Gabrielson Bill and Emily Gardner Gina B. and Dell Gardner James and Pam Gildersleeve Tony and Madeleine Jimachello Glover Harold Goebel Marjorie Elizabeth Grant and Lee Schwartz William H. and Tipton H. Gray Brice Griffin Susan C. and John C. Griswold Kevin Grundmeier Zachery and Susan Thomas Hains Monica L Hancock John Hardy and Terri Daniels-Hardy Tim Haselhorst Katherine Harrell Hawley Tom and Patricia Hearron Keith Hornbeck Gregory R Horne Brett H. and Cheryl Houston Nancy Howe Elaine Chapman Howle Therese Humphrey Caroline S Hunsuck Andy and Lori S. Jarman Anne W. Jerands Mary Jane Jessep Amy V. Johnson and Carol Hewett

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Maura S. Weathers and John Bird Rachel L Webster Deborah Welton Charles and Shirley Whitaker Carolynn Whitley Vicky W. Wilkison Rosemary Williamson Sandra J. Wilson Ron Wolfe Julia Wood John and Sandy Yakob

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965 birds were treated in 2013 at the Jim Arthur Raptor Medical Center



Nancy Roberts and her husband Bruce donate to the Raptor Center because they believe that they have an obligation to share their good fortune with both humans and animals.

"We are all interrelated in many ways essential to the well-being and survival of the Earth as we know it, and we feel that is incumbent upon all who can to support efforts to protect the fine balances that exist."





89 NC counties served in 2013 through visitors, programs, or birds treated/released



103 permanent resident birds are models, teachers, and aviators

The Next 30 Years



Carolina Raptor Center is celebrating our 30th Anniversary in Latta Plantation Nature Preserve with 30 events starting in April 2014 and culminating in a Farm to Fork Dinner at Rural Hill on Saturday, April 11, 2015. We'll be riding, teaching, learning, eating, building, releasing, and plain old celebrating all year long as we look forward to the next 30 years in Latta Plantation Nature Preserve. Here are just a few of the events we have to look forward to:

TUCK FEST

THURSDAY NIGHT FLIGHTS

GO WILD!

HSBC YOUNG VET'S DAY

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A RAPTOR CENTER

PHOTOWILD

IAATE DAY

RAPTOR RIDE

RAPTOR RELEASES

HOOTERFEST

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

HOOT N HOWL

TAKE FLIGHT SOCIETY

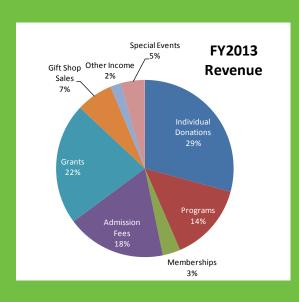
FARM TO FORK DISC GOLF

ASSOC. EXEC. DIRECTOR MICHELE MILLER HOUCK

"I've gotten to know one friend of Carolina Raptor Center a little better this year. She's someone who likes to fly under the radar, but she makes such a huge impact on this organization with her small acts of support and kindness. Whether it is purchasing an electric saw to help the rehabilitation folks cut up fish, sharing every Facebook post or answering every single call for support with a gift of \$100 or \$200 or \$400, she is always there. She inspires me with her compassion, her involvement, and her respect for the natural world."



FY2013 JULY 1, 2012 - JUNE 30, 2013



Individual Donations

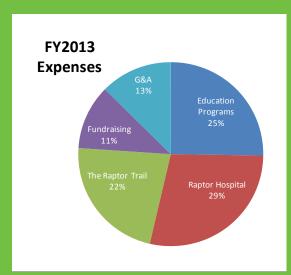
• Over 1000 inspired individual gifts averaging \$235.00

Admission Fees

• Over 33,000 visitors enjoyed the raptor trail and presentations

Grants

• Grants represent funds from foundations, corporations, the Arts and Science Council, Grassroots Science Museums Collaborative and Earthshare NC.



Raptor Hospital

- Worked to conserve over 965 admitted patients.
- Provided education opportunities to over 200 Wildlife professionals and Veterinary Students

Education Programs

• We reached over 33,000 individuals of all ages through programs, summer day camps, and community presentations.

Opened the Raptor Trail

- Opened the new Owl Forest exhibit
- Opened the new Merlin display
- Opened the new Vulture Culture exhibit

An institutional 990 tax form for FY2013 is available on our website at www.carolinaraptorcenter.org. FY2013 audit performed by Goldberg & Davis, CPAs, Charlotte, NC.

*Estimated value \$22.14/hour - from national estimates.





1000 volunteers logged more than 20,000 service hours valued at \$442,800*



Over 150 orphaned raptors are brought to the Medical Center each spring



Almost 3,000 people viewed the flight show, Talons: Birds of the World, last summer



Inspired Service







SENIOR STAFF

Executive Director: Jim Warren

Associate Executive Director: Michele Miller Houck

Programs Director: Natalie Childers Bird Curator: Amber Rosintoski Staff Veterinarian: Dr. Dave Scott

Development Director: Robert Touchstone

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