What inspires you?
THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

RESIDENT BIRD CARE - REHABILITATION - EDUCATION - RESEARCH
The Raptor Trail ~ The Jim Arthur Raptor Medical Center
What inspires me...

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JIM WARREN

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

The Weyerhaeuser Flight Training Facility, built in FY2013, is the last stop for Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks receiving medical care at Carolina Raptor Center. The facility was built by volunteers with the assistance of Weyerhaeuser and crowd funded by power2give.org.
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 horrified, 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 stabilizing 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.

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.

**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.

At 26%, “Hit by car” is the most common known cause of injury.
Inspiration Starts Early
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 raptor-themed book, and explore a touch table full of feathers and fur. Tiny Talon Tales offers hands on learning for the youngest of kids.

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.

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!
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

$25,000-49,999
Anonymous 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

$1,000-2,499
Ally Bank
Dell Giving Program
NC Department of Environmental and Natural Resources
Sonitrol Security Services, Inc
The Duke Energy Foundation
The Grace Jones Richardson Trust
The Raftelis Foundation
Rudisill Charitable Foundation
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 Academy
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

Over 300 people watched Volunteer Anne Steinert and Staffer Carly Smith release a juvenile Bald Eagle in Latta Plantation Nature Preserve on July 4, 2011. The Eagle dubbed “Independence” was one of 17 Bald Eagles treated at the Jim Arthur Raptor Medical Center in 2011.
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“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 resilient - -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.”

STAFF VETERINARIAN
DAVE SCOTT

FY 2013
Individual
Giving

$250-499
Anonymous
James Edward Beard
John W. Campbell, Jr.
Brian G and Melanie Coley
Caesar Cone III
Allen G. Depew
Brian and Leah Desloge
William Eargle
Lanny G. Ellis
Maggie and Walter Farrell
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Jonathan and Patricia Holway
Nat and Renee Hyde
Julie Kossler
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Andrew and Elisabeth McCray
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Joseph Nenichka
Steven & Linda Nye
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Peter and Ona M. Pickens
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Ruth Pollow and Richard Mead

Susan and Robert Powers
Sandra & James Radlein
I'Ans Reeder and Karen Parker
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Jessica Schroeder
Douglas A. and Diana B. Singleton
Mary M. Spitler
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Tracy L Stone and Jim Jessie
Marilyn Sullivan
Sumiko & Patrick Tray
Davis Turner
Kathleen J. Turner
Frederic W. and Roswitha Voss
Scott Walker
W. Richard and Coralee Walker

$100-249
Arabella and Richard Aab
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Chris and Candy Adams
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David Arone
David P. Bach
Kristina Barker
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Sharon Belle
Brad and Carolyn Vanmackelberg Belluk
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Alisia and Aaron Bergsman
Elizabeth O. Birch
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Thomas E. Bontempo
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Michael Brut
Kristen and Robert Bruton
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Jan and Robert Q. Busch
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Catherine Carmichael

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Robert W & Jean H Chamberlain
Joni L. Chastain
Mauro and Beth Cieri
Jeff and Carolyn L. Cline
Justin Coates
Deborah and Steven Colerick
Nancy Cornwall-Daves
Annette and Michael J. Coessentine
Logan Thomas Cowan
Fred Darnell
Catherine and Beatrice Denham
Keri 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
Brett 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
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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

James B. Johnson
Ronald T. Jolley
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Dee Kantner
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Jackie E Kulp, Jr.
Bryan and Becky Lanier
Hendree Lensch
Robert and Gina K Leslie
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William MacInnis
Madison Anne Maher
Amelia Martinez
Beth Matthews
David McCart
Leslie E. and Jim McDermott
Robert and Sandy McDonald
Cheryl McKinney
Joan Melville
Mary Jo Merriam
Bradley and Stacy Millon
Susanne and Eric Mittelstadt
Susan and Leopold Moeykens
Jackie Molliis
Darwin and Margarita Moon
Laura and Morris Morgan
Leslie Morin
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 it is incumbent upon all who can to support efforts to protect the fine balances that exist.”

FY 2013
Individual 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.
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.”
Financial Inspiration
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

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

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.
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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Lori O’Keefe - Ally Bank
Valerie Patterson - Duke Energy
Lynn Pettus - Ernst & Young
Lisa Renfrow, Master Level Volunteer - Bank of America
Bryan Spach - Vulcan Materials Company
Brian Woody - Piedmont Natural Gas

Master Level Volunteers
Ron Clark  Ruth Pollow
Maggie Farrell  Pat McDonough
Anne Steinert  Diane Nielsen
Sandy Mutterer  Laura Morgan
Linda Flanagan  John Robey
Lisa Renfrow  Ann Powlas