



freeFlight

Volume 21, Number 1

Spring 2004

Introduction

by Betsy Finch

Another busy year, with 458 birds admitted. 204 released in '03 and 65 held over for further rehabilitation. That is still a lot of birds; but we held over 90 birds from '02! Of these, 49 have been released and 8 are still pending, giving us a preliminary release rate of 39% for 2002. Given that so many died of West Nile that year, we must be content to have released as many as we did. The preliminary release rate for 2003 is already 45%. Releases are ongoing, depending on weather. So far 35 birds have been released in '04. The West Nile birds are still affecting our activities, with cage space and food supplies tight. Thanks to domestic rabbit breeders, we receive a fairly consistent supply of bunnies. When the call went out for more fish to feed 6 Bald Eagles and 2 Ospreys, NE Game & Parks and the Omaha Fish & Wildlife Club responded. Although eagles will eat a variety of prey items, Ospreys are strictly piscivorous (fish-eaters).

Eagle release at DeSoto.



Testing for WNV is ongoing; blood is taken either at admission or at release. Some more results are in. Of 16 2002 birds released in 2003, 15 were positive for WNV. And so far in 2003 we have 58 confirmed cases. I strongly believe that these birds can confer immunity to their young; some evidence of that is in the number of young Red-tails we received with mild cases of WNV, from which most recovered. No one knows what this summer will bring, but work is continuing on an avian vaccine that may only have to be administered once to each bird. Though the incidence of the disease may vary each year, West Nile is here to stay.

Returning raptors to the wild is our main mission. But when possible, we like to share this celebration with outdoor education programs, while fulfilling our 2nd



Jessica Schell and Doug Finch at the DeSoto eagle release.

mission of education. Nothing underscores our purpose better than having young people watch a wild bird go free. During 2003, RRN speakers presented a total of 186 programs, some of at which rehabilitated birds were released. We spoke to 10,820 people across the state.

RRN will be hosting a well-known speaker from the St. Louis World Bird Center, Dr. Walter Crawford. His presentations are entertaining, informative, and conservation-oriented. A master falconer, Walt is fascinating to hear. Check the insert in this issue, and plan to join us in either Omaha or Kearney in July.

Finally, a word about Skywalker, our approximately 40-yr old resident Golden Eagle. His vision is limited by cataracts now. When the weather turned cold, this normally hardy bird had to be brought indoors. He is doing well, eating and relaxing in the indoor cage, but his vision will only get worse in time. A veterinary ophthalmologist at the University of Wisconsin can perform surgery to remove the cataracts and replace the lenses in Skywalker's eyes. We want to take him there in April when it will be warm enough to put him back in his outdoor pen after the surgery. The cost for this procedure is approximately \$2,000. Skywalker is a favorite of many of our members, having been with us for 27 years. If you would like to help us defray this cost, you may send a donation to RRN and mark it for Skywalker. After surviving West Nile, he deserves the gift of sight again. Thank you.



Skywalker and Betsy.

To people presenting sick or injured raptors...

Working for wildlife is challenging, difficult, and sometimes discouraging, as well as rewarding. We will always try to save a bird and work to release it or place it in an educational exhibit or breeding program if permanently crippled. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. It is important for everyone to understand that euthanasia is sometimes the kindest, most humane option for some birds. Providing a quick, painless death to a bird in pain, with no hope of being released back to the wild, is an important service of a wildlife rehabilitation organization. Raptor Recovery appreciates the efforts you make for a bird, and realize it is discouraging and disappointing to find out it should be euthanized. Please remember that you did a great service for the bird surely would have suffered a great deal if not for your help. We commend your willingness to help wild animals for together we can save some of the sick and injured raptors. We must keep in mind the long-range needs of wildlife and educate people on the importance and benefits of healthy ecosystems and healthy wildlife populations.

Thank You

A great big THANK YOU goes out to the Scarlet and Cream Chapter of National Residence Hall Honorary at UNL. They hosted a bike-a-thon last summer to benefit Raptor Recovery, and raised \$646.20!

Also a great big THANK YOU to PETCO Foundation for donating animal carriers to RRN when we were strapped with West Nile patients. The carriers will come in handy for holding overflow.

During 2003, 105 of RRN's raptors were examined by Dr. Tom Curro, Staff Veterinarian at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. Most birds were radiographed, and many had either medical or surgical procedures performed on them. We are grateful for the donation of time and expertise by Zoo staff to help in our endeavors to return these birds to the wild.



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Biannual Newsletter of
Raptor Recovery Nebraska

Volume 21, No. 1 Elmwood, NE
Spring 2004

Executive Director.....Betsy Finch

OFFICERS

President.....Paul Tebbel
Vice President.....Doug Finch
Recording Secretary.....Phil White
Treasurer.....Nancy Hinnah

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2003 Bird Totals

The heavy snows and bitter cold that roared over us in February were a reminder that old-fashioned winters are still with us! While the rabbits happily munched on trees they could now reach over the fences, measures had to be taken to keep the smaller raptors from succumbing to the cold. They were either fed more often, or brought into a minimally heated building to wait until warmer temps. This is when you pray the power doesn't go out. Trudging through deep snow 2 or 3 times daily to feed/check on birds made life interesting!

Snowbound days do present the chance to catch up on paperwork. Here's a summary of the 2003 birds.

Red-tail hawk	99	No. harrier	5
Great horned owl	87	Turkey vulture	5
Screech owl	77	Osprey	4
Am. kestrel	53	Merlin	4
Barn owl	49	Prairie falcon	3
Swainson's hawk	11	Short-eared owl	3
Bald eagle	10	Golden eagle	3
Barred owl	9	Ferruginous hawk	2
Cooper's hawk	9	Snowy owl	1
Sharp-shin hawk	8	Peregrine falcon	1
Rough-leg hawk	7	Burrowing owl	1
Long-eared owl	7	TOTAL	458

Visit us at www.raptorrecoveryne.org

Raptor Recovery Nebraska
is proud to present
A KEARNEY Event!

“LET YOUR SPIRIT TAKE WING!” An Evening With Walter Crawford



We cordially invite you to spend a “en-raptorning evening with us on Saturday, July 17th at Rowe Audubon Sanctuary in Gibbon! Our featured entertainment is Walter Crawford of the World Bird Sanctuary in St. Louis, Missouri. Walt’s dynamic personality, along with his cast of live birds, will provide you a unique and memorable evening of entertainment. This event will begin with a beer/wine social hour, followed by dinner, then Walt. Tickets are \$75. All proceeds will benefit Raptor Recovery Nebraska and Rowe Audubon Sanctuary. Mark your calendars now!

KEARNEY EVENT

Yes! I support the work of Raptor Recovery Nebraska and would like _____ ticket(s) to the Walter Crawford Event on Saturday, July 17, 2004. Enclosed is my check for \$_____. (Please make out to Raptor Recovery Nebraska.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____

**Raptor Recovery Nebraska, 27320 Adams, Elmwood, NE 68349, (402) 994-2009
RRN is a 501 (c) (3) organization.**

Raptor Recovery Nebraska
is proud to present
An OMAHA Event!

“LET YOUR SPIRIT TAKE WING!” An Evening With Walter Crawford



We cordially invite you to spend a “en-raptoring evening with us on Friday, July 16th at Fontenelle Forest in Bellevue! Our featured entertainment is Walter Crawford of the World Bird Sanctuary in St. Louis, Missouri. Walt’s dynamic personality, along with his cast of live birds, will provide you a unique and memorable evening of entertainment. This event will begin with a beer/wine social hour, followed by dinner, then Walt. Tickets are \$65. All proceeds will benefit Raptor Recovery Nebraska. Mark your calendars now!

OMAHA EVENT

Yes! I support the work of Raptor Recovery Nebraska and would like _____ ticket(s) to the Walter Crawford Event on Friday, July 16, 2004. Enclosed is my check for \$_____. (Please make out to Raptor Recovery Nebraska.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____

**Raptor Recovery Nebraska, 27320 Adams, Elmwood, NE 68349, (402) 994-2009
RRN is a 501 (c) (3) organization.**

Photo Gallery



Michelle and Orion at the Hitchcock Nature Center Open House.



Nancy and Perry at the Hitchcock Nature Center.



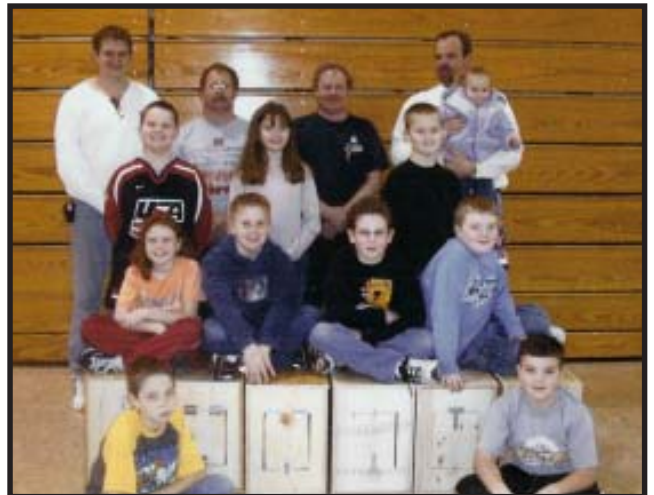
Elaine and Halsey in Omaha



Vickie and Sundance at Rowe Sanctuary's Fall Festival '03. Caylin McCormick (RRN volunteer, Michelle McCormick's daughter) looks on.



Doug and Chevy in Omaha.



This picture of R-7 fourth graders was in the Holdrege newspaper on Feb. 9, 2004. The students built six barn owl nest boxes as a community service project for their unit on raptors.

About Crops

Excerpted from "Beaks, Brains and Bones" by Kit Chubb

Many species of birds have crops, an out-pouching of the upper esophagus used as a reservoir to stockpile a feast that is later let down piecemeal into the stomach or gizzard. All hawks have crops, but owls do not. They still ingest large quantities at one sitting; it rests further down in the widely stretchable esophagus, and doesn't change their body shape.

We have seen 37 torn crops, with 70% being pigeons, the rest accipiters. While all the repairs were successful, of those shot, only a quarter were released; a bullet in the crop region proved ominous because of damage to the bones and nerves of the shoulder girdle beneath. Other known causes included cats, collisions that burst a full crop, and being caught and dropped by hawks.

Recognition: small slashes or punctures may not be noticed in the feathers, but the feathers themselves may be slightly separated or darkened by dribble, or there may be a sour smell of fermentation or even maggots from the interior of the crop.

Complications: They were other traumas from the same accident- paralyzed wings, fractures of the humerus, radius or clavicle, and particularly fractures or dislocations of the coracoid. Infections of the suture line were practically nil- the real infections we saw were deep, from shot.

Repair: Torn crops require a prompt suturing of each layer separately with a fine absorbable suture. The thin, non-elastic layers of skin and underlying crop membrane dry quickly- the longer the delay the harder the repair- and of course very little food or fluids can be absorbed until the crop is intact. Even with signs of internal bleeding, we repaired the accipiters immediately- they are so fragile compared to pigeons! If the bird was considered a risk, no anesthesia was used and did not seem necessary, as crop skin is not particularly sensitive to the entry of fine suture material on small, swagged-on needles, as long as the feathers are not pulled out. But some nervous birds and messy repairs may need 4 hands and a touch of knock-down. The greatest priority of the repair is not fluids, not infection prevention, but planning for the fastest return to the wild. The daily business of wild lives flows with the seasons, and seasons don't wait. Of what use is it to save a raptor and then keep it so long that babies may die, mates disappear, territory may be usurped, migratory urge lost? And of all raptors, accipiters, harriers and ospreys wear out fastest in captivity, wrecking their ceres, talons and feathers.

Wilderness Prep

Every possible feather should be left entire, because the bird can then be released soon (maybe in as little as 1-3 days). Plucking feathers really hurts. Cutting or shaving feathers is even worse; it not only leaves the area bare, it does not give the body the signal to replace the feathers until the annual molt, which might be as long as a year away. The linear direction of feather growth shows where the torn skin should go.

So "prepping" birds has to be adapted to their needs; no cutting, shaving, plucking, scrubbing- the skin, intended to be constantly protected and hidden by the plumage, is too thin. But when trying to debride and suture a small hole in a sea of feathers that are straining to re-cover the site, we found a misty squirt of a household cleaner like Mr. Clean flattens and cleans the feathers, and appears harmless to the plumage (rinse off afterwards).

Examples

Northern Goshawk Jan.23 Found in a chicken coop 3 days earlier, kept in a rabbit hutch and fed on bunny. Transported to us with a giant cropful, but being highly agitated, she footed herself in the neck and tore her crop wide open distributing recycled rabbit all over the floor of the box. She was 850 gm, thin but strong, a screaming, hyperventilating, leaping gos. Crop was sutured at once and she was soon throwing herself about, very wild. Didn't dare put her in an aviary. Don't know why she starved before "chickening" but she did have an old skinning of her cere, so probably an earlier collision had put her out of business for awhile. Tried to keep her crop from being stretched but she was so snatching hungry! Despite the intake the crop did not leak. By day 11 weighed 1135 gm with an empty crop and wilder than before, she was banded and released with no worn-out parts.

Red-tail Hawk, Feb. Found on median of highway at a roadkill. Signs of brain damage. Crop full, with outer skin layer ripped back dramatically exposing the bleeding, intact inner layer like a skinned tomato. Surface rinsed lightly with Gentamycin and DMSO, skin tugged partly over large protrusion, and left overnight to put over his crop. Next morning only a small bulge remained, so the now looser skin could be sutured more easily. With forceps I puzzled out where to unite the jaggedly torn skin, letting the alignment of the feathers be my guide. When all the neck plumage was lying in the same direction, a few sutures were put in at key points, the lie checked again, and then the rest was sutured. Luckily he was in good flesh, so was kept fasting the next day before starting on small mice. Because of the brain damage, he was kept another 2 weeks before being released.

Sharp-shinned Hawk female, Sept. Hit window the day before, and had feathers and fresh blood in claws, and a hard bone sticking out of its chest. The bone was actually part of a small, rather ripe bird corpse stuck on the breast feathers just below a wide-open crop. The sharpie had probably ruptured it about 2 days before her 2nd collision, and was now beginning to get thin. Suturing was quite challenging, as it was badly torn in strips. Banded and released a week later.

Redtail Hawk, female, March. Probably in a fight; small slash in empty crop, several other slashes and punctures. Could fly. Hawk-fight punctures can be very deep, so Septra, Flagyl by mouth, DMSO to wounds. On day 2 we discovered the crop

wound was larger than we thought; after eating a whole rat, it started coming out of the hole! This time suturing was done with the crop full. Released on Day 22. Band return- found freshly killed on a road, good flesh. Wild time: 9 months.

About full crops: being chased or handled may cause regurgitation. In one case, a finder came to take a red-tail hawk back for release. The hawk had a full crop, and when netted, he regurgitated, aspirated, and died almost at once. Ever since we have been careful on the day of release not to feed, or to feed lightly and early.



Skywalker and Larry King



In Memory

The following people have made donations to RRN in honor of loved ones who passed away. They all shared a love of nature and of its creatures therein.

*Cliff & Marie Hollestelle
in memory of
David Buehlmann and
Howard Martin*

*James & Kathleen Nichols,
Earl Clossen, Mike Overman,
Charlotte Ivey, Richard De Priest,
and Mary Brown
in memory of
Evelyn Malzer who loved owls*



Volunteer Spotlight

by Carri Honz

It's hard to believe that Raptor Recovery has been around for 28 years. So much has changed — our name, our headquarter location, the number of birds we handle, the programs we perform — but the dedication of our volunteers has remained constant. This issue's spotlight is a tribute to one of those dedicated volunteers that has been with us almost from the beginning, Larry King.

Many people have learned about Raptor Recovery from our booth at the State Fair; such is Larry's case, who found us in 1981 and jumped right in. The close contact with the raptors was special for him as he had a fascination for wild creatures. Like so many of our volunteers, Larry started out as a feeder at the barns. Later he became the official caretaker of 2 of our educational birds, a red-tail named Icarus and our Golden eagle, Skywalker. He developed a special bond with Skywalker, whom he felt was a kindred spirit.

Larry was an experienced skydiver and could probably relate to birds on a level few of us can. Having felt the wind beneath and around him during dives, he had better insight as to what birds experience. Larry actually is the one who came up with name for our newsletter, Free Flight. His wit and humor gave rise to his cartoon characters, Hoots and Baldy, who graced several issues of Free Flight.

Larry also loved music and was a talented musician. He started on the saxophone but switched to bass guitar, and traveled the road for some time in a band. Larry also organized several concerts to raise money for RRN. His passion for things that interested him led him to give everything he had to those causes.

After he moved to Beatrice, he worked at the Beatrice Animal Shelter where he combined his love of animals and his computer skills. He worked there with another RRN volunteer, Drue Bauer. She credits him with a willingness to help whenever possible with the birds that came in. His work at the shelter made Larry the recipient of the Herb and Marion Weston Humanitarian of the year award last year.

I had the opportunity to meet Larry once at an RRN celebration/open house at the Wildlife Safari in Ashland. He was there, camera in hand, thoroughly enjoying all of the birds we had there that day. Larry is featured here in this article one last time. He passed away on Feb.19, 2004, after a brief hospitalization. He was only 59. Thanks for everything Larry. We will miss you.

Mail Bag



Carri,

Thank you so much for your participation in the 1st Roots & Shoots day! It is because of people like you that kids are inspired to make a difference in the world around them. The kids really enjoyed seeing the owl & merlin! You have an awesome operation with raptor recovery! Thanks again for sharing your time & knowledge of birds with us!

Susie McGuire
 Roots & Shoots
 Omaha

Dear Betsy and Nancy,

Thank you for the wonderful program at Twin River School. The students are still talking about the birds and the information they learned.

We appreciate you taking the time to share your knowledge with us. It was informative and interesting.

We all have a better understanding of what Raptor Recovery does. It takes special people to do what you are doing. Nebraska is lucky to have such a wonderful program. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Twin River Elementary Students & Teachers

.....

• Write to Raptor Recovery Nebraska at: •

• RRN •

• 27320 Adams •

• Elmwood, NE 68349 •

.....

Denise,
Thank you very much for a wonderful program. The students loved it and we all enjoyed a valuable and educational experience!

Sincerely,
Amy Leising
Bryan High School

Denise,
It is obvious that you love what you're doing. You read students very well. Keep me in mind for a student teaching experience if you decide to get certified. I know you'd be great.

Patti Severson
Bryan High School

Denise,
Thank you for taking time to enlighten our students about the wonderful work that you are doing! The students really enjoyed your presentation.

Mrs. Elf
Bryan High School



Cornhusker Power Goodwill Fund donates to Twin River School.

We would like to thank you for the information and you bringing your birds for us to see.

Lincoln Cottage YRTC, Kearney

Fifth grader, Dolly McDole, dressed as an eagle.

Red Cloud



Raptor Recovery,

You gave a fantastic program! I really admire what you do for raptors. I never knew about imprints! I thought your program was very interesting! Thanks again!

Brooke Ballou
Fifth Grade Student
Cambridge Elementary

Betsy

Thank you so much for sending us Cari - what a fantastic presentation and the children and parents loved the presentation. Lets just hope they keep that experience in their memories forever so that they become our future nature preservers!

Much appreciation and thanks for all your love and devotion.

Peg Fletcher

Hello Betsy & Doug,
We are having a very unusual snowy New Years weekend, first time we've seen it in our three winters here. Winter birding is awesome as usual. Here is a story of a little encounter Laura and I had last weekend. Hope you are having a good winter.

John Sullivan

While driving through the agricultural grass field country of the mid Willamette Valley of Western Oregon this December, Laura Johnson and I witnessed an amazing sequence of events. A large raptor streaked across the road in front of us. Wings tucked in a falcon-like stoop, it rocketed across an open field, hitting another large bird, taking it to the ground. We pulled over immediately to discern what was happening. An adult Red-tailed Hawk had nailed a first winter Glaucous-winged Gull. The two birds writhed on the ground in a violent battle, while we watched through binoculars and spotting scope and, amazingly, the gull broke free from the raptor's talons. Seemingly unable to fly, the gull made it only about 30 feet away before the Red-tail was on it again, pinning it to the ground. The Red-tail's powerful grip had overcome its prey this time and the struggle was soon over. It looked like curtains for the gull. We were very surprised then, to see the Red-tail release its meal and fly several yards away. Before we could guess what was happening, an immature Peregrine Falcon appeared on the scene, landing a few yards from the gull. The gull, flat on it's belly, wings spread, lifted its head, with mouth gaping and the three birds looked at each other for a minute, waiting to see who would make the next move. It was the gull that decided it was time to make another break for it, and it was able to fly! A 30 yard head start was given before the Peregrine quickly closed the gap between them. Frantically turning and rolling, trying its best to outmaneuver the Peregrine, the gull had turned it's aerial acrobatics on full blast. After several passes, in which contact was made a couple times, the Peregrine was unable to get a hold on this much larger quarry, soon giving up the chase. The Red-tail, now perched in a nearby tree, watched the gull fly off into the distance. It makes us wonder how often dramas like this are played out in the wild unseen by human eyes.

Thank you for coming to our school. It was a wonderful experience for the students to actually see 3 different raptors. It was a real education for them with all of your information. Awesome! We appreciate the time you took with us.

All the students and staff
Southern Valley Schools at Orleans

Adopt-A-Bird

Raptor Recovery Nebraska maintains a group of nonreleasable birds of prey that are the stars of our educational program. Last year volunteers presented over 150 programs and tours to schools, youth groups and civic organizations to increase public awareness of these unique birds as well as the problems they face today. These "live ambassadors" always make quite an impact with their audience. Your participation in RRN's Adopt-A-Bird program can help meet food and housing expenses for these special raptors.

In addition to the knowledge that you have directly assisted in the care of an individual bird, you will receive a photograph of "your" bird, a certificate of adoption, an arranged tour of the center, plus two issues of our newsletter *Free Flight*. And, of course, all donations are deductible to the full extent of the law. Birds available for support include:

Species	Donation Amount
Bald or Golden Eagle	\$150
Red-Tail Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Turkey Vulture	\$100
Barn Owl, Peregrine Falcon, Short-eared Owl, Swainson's Hawk, Long-eared Owl	\$75
Mississippi Kite, American Kestrel, Eastern Screech Owl, Merlin, Saw-whet Owl	\$50

Adopt-A-Bird Adoption Form

Yes, I would like to adopt a _____ for \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Please make checks payable to Raptor Recovery Nebraska and mail to 27320 Adams, Elmwood, NE 68349

RRN Membership

Raptor Recovery Nebraska, Inc. invites you to become a member of our organization. Each contributor receives a subscription to the biannual newsletter *Free Flight*, which outlines the activities of Raptor Recovery Nebraska (RRN) and its members. The Rehabilitation Facility near Elmwood is open to tours by appointment, for members only. Membership contributions are crucial for the maintenance and rehabilitation of the raptors under RRN's care. All donations are tax-deductible. If you are interested in helping Nebraska's birds of prey please fill out the form. Nebraska's raptors thank you.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership categories: Individual \$ 15 Sponsor \$ 100
Family \$ 25 Sustaining \$ 500
Patron \$ 1000

Raptor Recovery Nebraska, Inc.
27320 Adams
Elmwood, NE 68349

I want to become actively involved in RRN. Please contact me.

Phone _____

Raptor Recovery Nebraska Relay Team Volunteers

These people comprise a network of licensed volunteers who can receive and transport injured raptors to Raptor Recovery Nebraska, or to another relay member. Keep this list handy for future reference.

Omaha

Denise Lewis—402-731-9869
John Brooks—712-323-7956, work—402-341-5181
Beth Dietz—402-597-1828
Alicia Dunn—402-553-5185, work—402-351-7443
Kathy Hill—402-334-5720
Kristie Horn—402-346-4135
Melony & Carey Hoefler—402-492-2106
Tracy Marshall—402-397-3160
Jene Petersen—402-253-2311
Dave Stage—402-332-5307, cell—402-616-1565
Teresa & Kevin Wheelock—402-455-5150
Teri Van Beverin—402-393-6379

Alliance

Christie Hill—308-762-6168

Beatrice/Plymouth

Beatrice Animal Shelter—402-228-9100
Drue Bauer—402-656-3202
Jackie Berlowitz—402-228-1542

Bennet

Linda Backer—402-782-8768

Columbus

Dennis & Pam McCollum—402-352-5589,
Pam work—402-563-4151, Dennis cell—402-649-7787

Cozad/Gothenburg

Sue Cullers—308-784-3810, work—308-784-4299
Connie Schmeeckle—308-537-3645
Jennifer Bartlett—308-784-2084, work—308-537-3684

Crete

Marc Orsag—402-826-4162, work—402-826-8219

Crawford

Cindy Hornung—308-665-2412

Dannebrog

Blake Hatfield & Vickie Orr—308-383-1875

Fairmont/Geneva

Bette Mattox-Manning—402-759-4821
Joyce Votipka—402-266-4391

Fremont

Jamie Sommers & Jeff Kruger—402-721-6896

Glenvil/Hastings

Cody Carson-Brown—402-460-6922

Grand Island Humane Society—308-385-5305

Holdrege

Michelle McCormick—308-995-4056

Imperial/Champion

Marla Smith—308-882-4859, work—308-882-5415
Laura Lou Kelly—308-882-5987

Kearney

Area Coordinator—Barb Tebbel—308-236-5848
Robin Harding—308-468-5057, work—308-865-8490
Laurel Badura—308-237-1496, work—308-865-5332

Lincoln Area

Raptor Recovery Nebraska Headquarters—402-994-2009
Elaine Bachel—402-488-7586
Terry Bangs—402-944-2344
David & Cindy Cochran—402-797-3155
Doug & Betsy Finch—402-994-2009
Phil & Jeryl Hauptman—P. cell—402-432-3511,
J. cell—402-440-8967
Nancy Hinnah—402-781-2434
Jeanie Lackey—402-785-7858, work—402-471-5581
Donna Martin—402-464-4857
Bill & Judy Mueller—402-785-2402
Todd & Susan Rivers—402-467-1314
Carri Honz—402-483-4303
Phil White—402-464-0504

Ord

Tom Tolen—308-728-5084

Rosalie

Natalie Davis & Howard Sawyer—402-863-2261,
work (Natalie)—402-878-2380

Sargent

Mary Beltzer & Jim McMaster—308-527-3922

Seward

Joseph Gubanyi—402-643-3989, work—402-643-7316,
cell—402-643-1482

Superior

Dick & Nancy Fish—402-879-4874

Weeping Water

Dale & Sharon Nielsen—402-267-3925,
work (Dale)—402-267-5322, (Sharon)—402-267-2435

York

Bruce Stephens—402-362-5055, work—402-362-3603
Jan Bestwick—402-362-3453, work—402-362-8538

Toll-free for Greater Nebraska west of Highway 14: 308-233-2OWL





27320 Adams
Elmwood, NE 68349

Raptor Recovery Nebraska, Inc.

The mission of Raptor Recovery Nebraska is to provide care and support for injured and orphaned raptors in preparation for release; to assist in the management of raptor populations and raptor research; to enlist public support for raptor conservation through educational programs, displays and special events utilizing live raptors as ambassadors for their kind.

Raptor Recovery Nebraska is unique in its structure; a statewide volunteer network that picks up injured or orphaned raptors and releases those successfully rehabilitated.

RRN also presents educational programs on raptors across the state.

Founded in 1976, RRN has to date rescued and treated over 5,000 raptors from across Nebraska. Nearly 50% have been released back to the wild, among the highest success rate in the country.

RRN is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Bequests and donations can be designated for:

- 1) an endowment;
 - 2) general fund for annual operations; or
 - 3) specific programming and areas of operation.
-
-

