



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program
a second chance at freedom

2017 Annual Report

The Year in Review

Leadership Message
Review of Programs
Financial Statements

Rehabilitation • Education • Research

Table of Contents

2017 Annual Report

*“Welcome to
our mission,
our lives, and
our raptor
family.”*

*-Lisa Winta,
Assistant Director*



Our Mission	Pg 3
Cornerstones of a 30-year devotion.	
One Last Message	Pg 4
Director Judy Scherpelz retires after 30 years	
A 30-Year History	Pg 5
Evolution of a mission.	
Looking To the Future	Pg 7
Taking steps to further our mission.	
Service to Our Community	Pg 8
Giving back to those who give of themselves.	
Rehabilitation	Pg 11
Every day is a good day to save a raptor.	
Education & Outreach	Pg 15
Changing lives and enriching lives.	
Research	Pg 18
Furthering knowledge and conservation.	
Financial Statements	Pg 20
Your donations used for life-saving purpose.	
Volunteers	Pg 23
Hands-on, life-saving heroes.	
Making the Mission Possible	Pg 25
The people who transform the future.	
The Aerie Society	Pg 26
A cornerstone giving community.	
Freedom's Refuge	Pg 27
30 years of giving raptors shelter.	
The Legacy of Freedom Society	Pg 33
Leaving a legacy for the future.	
Staff and Board	Pg 34
A team to make dreams happen.	
How You Can Help	Pg 35
Becoming a part of our team.	
New Director's Message	Pg 36
Moving forward into 2018	

The Branches of Our Mission

Rehabilitation

A Second Chance at Freedom is the goal for every raptor that comes into our hospital. The RMRP staff of highly skilled, licensed raptor rehabilitators works closely with our veterinarians to ensure the highest quality care for every patient that needs our help.

Watching a raptor fly free after overcoming their injuries is the most joyous, encouraging reward for every ounce of effort it takes to return them to the skies.

For every set of wings that touch the skies again, we thank our supporters for providing us with a foundation upon which we can save lives each and every day.

Education

As the world changes around us, the need for education is now. We believe our passion for teaching others will inspire the love and appreciation of raptors and the spaces where they live: a vital way to save them.

“In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we are taught.”

- Baba Dioum, 1968

This quote is so very true, and we strive for others to understand the importance of raptors. They stir the soul like few other creatures, and their conservation creates safeguards for hundreds of other species in their habitats.

Research

We believe it is important to learn as much as possible about the raptors we care for and the diseases and hazards that affect them in the hopes of finding solutions to the problems they face.

Diligent work with energy companies, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and many other entities provides data for studies that will help us better protect the raptors we love.

The RMRP is involved in many projects—from genetic studies to testing powerline deterrents that protect birds from electrocution risk. We are always looking for ways to further our knowledge of raptors in order to have the best chance of conserving them.

One Last Message

A Warm Farewell

Thirty years ago, I became the Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program. An instant and a life-time ago, I was charged with taking a student club studying raptor rehabilitation and turning it into a community resource that ensures excellence in raptor rehabilitation, education and research.

During those thirty years, the program has grown and thrived and developed an excellent reputation for its work in caring for injured birds of prey, its dedication to educating the people of our community about the wonders of wildlife in our world, and its efforts in finding solutions to the threats that birds of prey face in our region.

I am proud to have been part of this adventure, but the time has come for me to start a new journey. I am retiring, entrusting the mantle of Executive Director to our long-time staff member and Education Director, Carin Avila. Carin is uniquely qualified and is **very** excited to start this new path at the helm of the RMRP. I worked closely with Carin during the transition into her new role, and retired effective December 31, 2017.

I will still be around as Board Member Emeritus, serving with the Board of Directors and lending a hand as needed, and I look forward to still being a part of the RMRP's future as I focus on other pursuits and spend time with my family.

I am excited about the direction of the RMRP, knowing that it moves forward with the same strength and passion that brought the organization this far. With the help of our wonderful supporters, I know the program has a bright future!
Warmest Regards,

Judy Scherpelz

Board Member Emeritus

Inspiring the appreciation and protection of raptors and the spaces where they live through excellence in rehabilitation, education, and research.

Cooper's Hawk

A 30-Year History

It began with a single hawk.

In 1979, an injured raptor was admitted to the Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital. At that time, there was no organized department to care for these creatures, so a student club was hatched that cared for a few raptors each year.

This club needed direction and funding, and in 1987 Judy Scherpelz took over to create the fledgling Rocky Mountain Raptor Program as we know it today.

1979

A student club was formed to care for raptors at the CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

1987

The Rocky Mountain Raptor Program was founded by Executive Director Judy Scherpelz.



Left: One of the very first incarnations of the RMRP raptor enclosures.

1989



Left: The first enclosures at the Environmental Learning Center were built to house Educational Ambassador raptors in 1989.

**Since 1987,
nearly 6000
raptors have
needed our
help.**

We eventually outgrew our space at the CSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and the hospital also needed more space to expand their services. In 2004, the RMRP became its own 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and began our search for a new home.

In 2005, the RMRP purchased 27 acres of land on Vine Drive in Fort Collins. Temporary enclosures, raptor treatment areas, and offices were quickly erected and the RMRP moved to our new home in January 2007. This new space gave us room to stretch our wings and prepare for the next evolution of our future.

2004

The RMRP outgrows its current home, becomes a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and separates from CSU.



*Left: Small offices are stacked to the ceiling—time for a new home!
Above: The tiny critical care room could hardly hold all of the patients, plus doubled as a storage room.*

2007

The program moves to its new, temporary home on Vine Drive.



Left: Built during a year plagued by terrible snow storms, the enclosures at the new Vine Drive property were finally ready for the big move in January 2007.

Because of the belief of our supporters, we continue to grow.

The RMRP has faced many challenges in 30 years. From economic crashes that severely affected our supporters, and therefore our income; to epidemics like West Nile Virus and the burgeoning concern of Avian Influenza that caused a huge influx of patients or permanent, expensive changes to our biosecurity; to being at our “temporary” home for enough years now that it is in need of serious repairs...

...but because of you, we know that we can overcome any challenge. In our times of need you were always there for us so we can be there for raptors.

2017 and Beyond



***Above:** This conceptual plan demonstrates how the RMRP wants to improve our future—a facility that will help us inspire thousands and provide hope to wildlife.*

Hope for the Future

In partnership with the top museum and wildlife habitat designers in the United States, Rocky Mountain Raptor Program plans to build a wildlife center in the Fort Collins area that will become a destination for children and families from all over Colorado and from around the world, a place where visitors can celebrate life and all living things.

We hope our future will continue to include those who have supported our mission in the past. The dream to create a place where people can connect with nature and learn about raptors cannot be realized without those who believe in taking steps to better the world. With the help of our supporters, RMRP will continue to strive for excellence in rehabilitation, education and research.

Service to Our Community

Making Strides in Raptor Protection and Conservation

Here are just some of the ways you have enabled RMRP to continue our mission to save wildlife. In 2017, the RMRP was able to take part in the following services to our community and environment:

24/7 Emergency On-Call: The RMRP is reachable every hour, every day of the year for people who have concerns about injured raptors. We also help direct people with other types of birds and animals to their closest licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

Welfare Checks: Many situations call for a professional eye to assess a raptor with a potential problem. Many of RMRP's staff often drive out to do situation assessments when a concerned member of the public calls about a possibly injured or distressed raptor and we cannot resolve the incident over the phone. From young owls stuck in window wells, to downed trees possibly containing a nest of distressed nestling hawks, our team can help find a solution.



Golden Eagle
Photograph by Dan O'Donnell

Service to Our Community

*“Unless
someone
like you
cares a
whole
awful lot,
nothing is
going to
get better.
It’s not.”*

*-The Lorax,
Dr. Seuss*



Raising Awareness: We strive to alert our surrounding community to problems that wildlife of our area face. We use outreach, educational conservation programs, and publications to help others understand how they can make a difference in wildlife conservation.

Professional Science Masters Program (CSU): Students that are part of the PSM in Zoo, Aquarium, and Animal Shelter Management have the opportunity to learn at the RMRP with our knowledgeable staff as mentors. Director Judy Scherpelz also teaches several classes for the students to expand their knowledge of wildlife non-profits.

Golden Eagle Rescue Network (GERN) - Partners for Raptor Transport: RMRP coordinates with GERN to respond immediately to help injured raptors in the Southeastern Wyoming area.

Professional Workshops for Wildlife Professionals: RMRP hosts professional workshops providing education to energy companies, wildlife agencies, and environmental consulting firms, plus we consult with field operatives to help resolve and prevent conflicts with raptors.

Service to Our Community

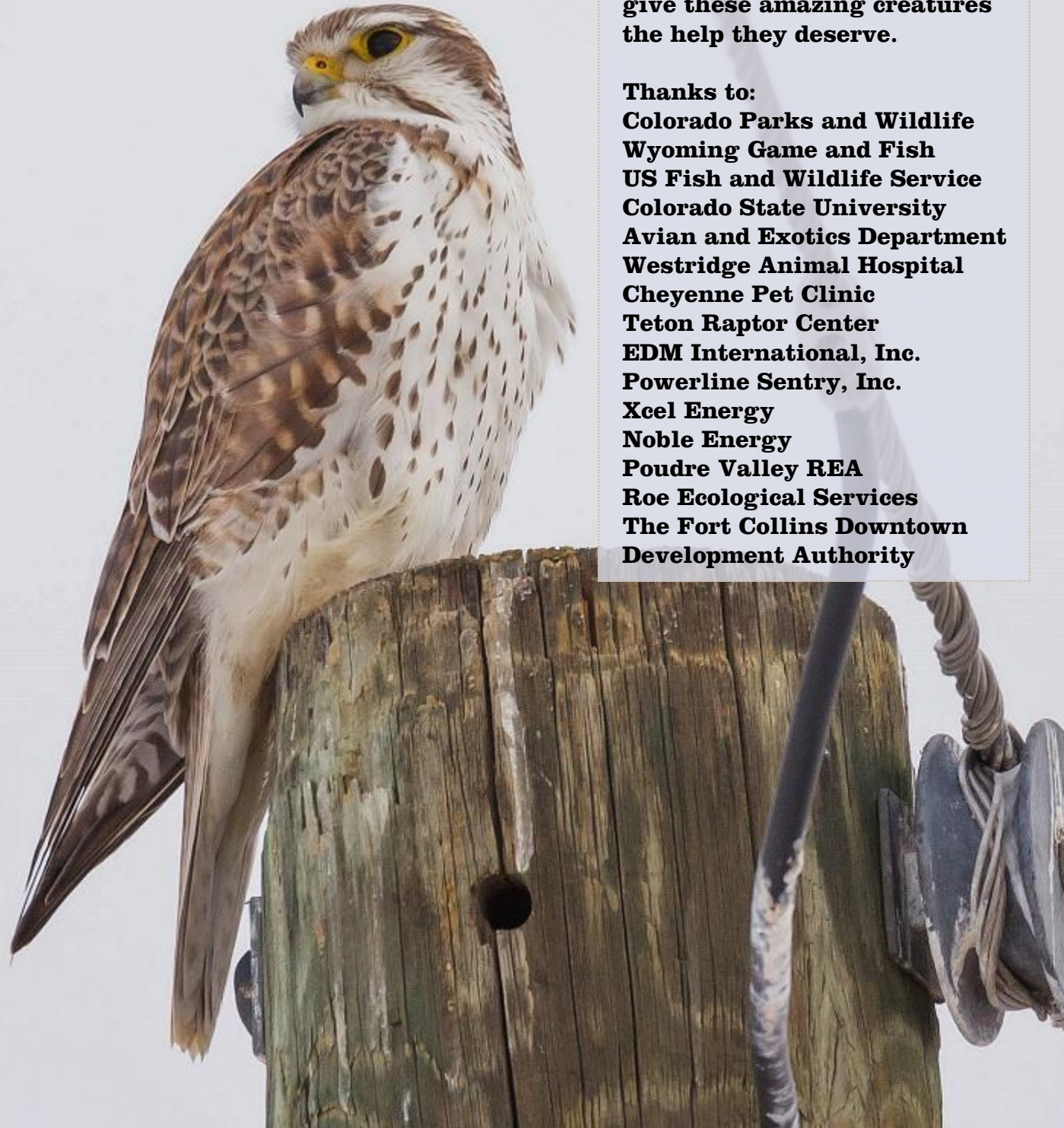
Powerline Safety: Raptor powerline deterrents and supplemental perches are tested at the RMRP using live raptors. This helps many companies understand how their designs will work to save wild raptors from electrocution and high voltage trauma risk.

Colorado Wildlife Commission: Rehabilitation Coordinator Michael Tincher works closely with wildlife commissioners and regularly attends commission meetings to help ensure that rehabilitation issues and raptor populations are considered in state regulations to best protect and serve wildlife.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Raptor Training: Officers and volunteers at CPW are given training on identification and safe capture and transport of raptors so we can work together to ensure the best care for raptors in our area.

Thank you to those who help us give these amazing creatures the help they deserve.

Thanks to:
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Wyoming Game and Fish
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Colorado State University
Avian and Exotics Department
Westridge Animal Hospital
Cheyenne Pet Clinic
Teton Raptor Center
EDM International, Inc.
Powerline Sentry, Inc.
Xcel Energy
Noble Energy
Poudre Valley REA
Roe Ecological Services
The Fort Collins Downtown
Development Authority



Rehabilitation

Every day, a life depends on us.

Us, meaning the RMRP and YOU. Excellence in raptor rehabilitation comes from years of study, practice, and the sincere passion of our supporters.

The number of severe trauma cases has increased. More raptors are being hit by cars, burned by methane flares, poisoned by lead, and being forced by habitat loss into deficient hunting territories.

The average stay of a raptor that was returned to the wild was 87 days in 2017. **87 days to heal, recover, grow strong, and return home.**

Of treatable raptors, **nearly 80% were released back to the wild.** Without you, without compassion, that number would be ZERO. Their lives were saved because someone cared, because someone didn't give up. That someone is YOU.

“We will be armed with science, knowledge, and fortitude to battle any threat to these magnificent creatures that we have chosen to defend.”

-Michael Tincher, Rehabilitation Coordinator



Great Grey Owl
Photograph by Peter Hartlove

2017 Rehabilitation Statistics

Admission Species and Numbers

Great Horned Owl	77
Red-tailed Hawk	41
Swainson's Hawk	37
American Kestrel	29
Cooper's Hawk	26
Common Barn Owl	11
Golden Eagle	9
Eastern Screech Owl	6
Turkey Vulture	5
Rough-legged Hawk	5
Bald Eagle	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4
Saw-whet Owl	3
Prairie Falcon	3
Northern Harrier	2
Merlin	2
Long-eared Owl	2
Ferruginous Hawk	2
Snowy Owl	1
Northern Goshawk	1
Burrowing Owl	1

**Total Number of
Admissions: 272**

Types of Injuries and Numbers

(Categories are not mutually exclusive)

Fracture	113
Head/Spinal Trauma	71
Emaciated	53
Hit by Vehicle	32
West Nile Virus	23
Window Strike	12
High Voltage Trauma	10
Lead Positive	9
Caught by Cat	7
Barbed Wire	5
Gunshot	4
Oiled	3
Methane Burns	3
Leg Hold Trap	1



2017 Rehabilitation Statistics

Rescue Cities Serviced

Colorado:

Ault	Laporte
Bellvue	LaSalle
Berthoud	Lonestar
Boulder	Longmont
Briggsdale	Loveland
Brush	Mead
Crook	Milliken
Eaton	New Raymer
Evans	Nunn
Fort Collins	Orchard
Fort Morgan	Parker
Galeton	Peetz
Gill	Pierce
Granby	Platteville
Greeley	Severance
Hereford	Sterling
Holyoke	Timnath
Hudson	Virginia Dale
Johnstown	Wellington
Kersey	Wiggins
	Windsor

Nebraska:

Alliance
Kimball

Wyoming:

Casper
Cheyenne
Encampment
Laramie
LaGrange
Rotten Springs
Saratoga

The total number of Bird Care Days in
2017 was **10,691.**

For every day a bird is cared for by the RMRP, we count it as a "Bird Care Day." The total number of Bird Care Days is calculated from the day the bird arrives to the day it is released back to the wild, or is humanely euthanized due to its injuries.





Above: For the first time in 30 years, a Snowy Owl was admitted to the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program in December of 2017 from the Eastern plains of Colorado. He suffered from a broken wing, needing surgery, as well as being severely thin and traumatized. He would need lots of resources to recover.

Snowy Survival

Changing Climes, Changing Times

The winter of 2017/2018 saw an influx of Snowy Owls to the Colorado area. These “irruptions” are not fully understood, but every few years a large number of these birds come further south during their migration than normal.

The owls that were pushed this far south were not doing well. Some reports found them dead, some disappeared, and one special creature was rescued by the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program after probably being hit by a car.

Seriously thin and traumatized, it took several days for the bird to stabilize. A broken wing didn’t help matters, making the bird painful and scared. The break was in a bad area, right next to a joint. It wouldn’t stabilize so it could begin healing, so a surgery was needed to keep the bone in place.

This immature male Snowy Owl has used many resources: the skilled hands of RMRP staff, the funding for expensive surgeries, nutritious food to help him grow strong, medication to keep him comfortable, heat discs to keep him warm, the list goes on.

These are common injuries on an uncommon bird. We are grateful to those who helped support his care in 2017, and we hope more will come to the aid of all the raptors we care for. He received his Second Chance at Freedom because of your support and belief.

Education & Outreach

Fueling Change

The RMRP's Education and Outreach programs are essential to the future health of our community and the environment. In 30 years, the RMRP has **reached over 17 million people** with our conservation message. Stimulating minds, inspiring change, and protecting raptors begins with the efforts each of us take to make the world better.

“Every day, I am honored to be the voice of these amazing creatures. When I see their magnificence reflected in the eyes of others, I am moved to renew my fight for them.”

-Jessica Miller, Education Coordinator



2017 Education & Outreach Statistics

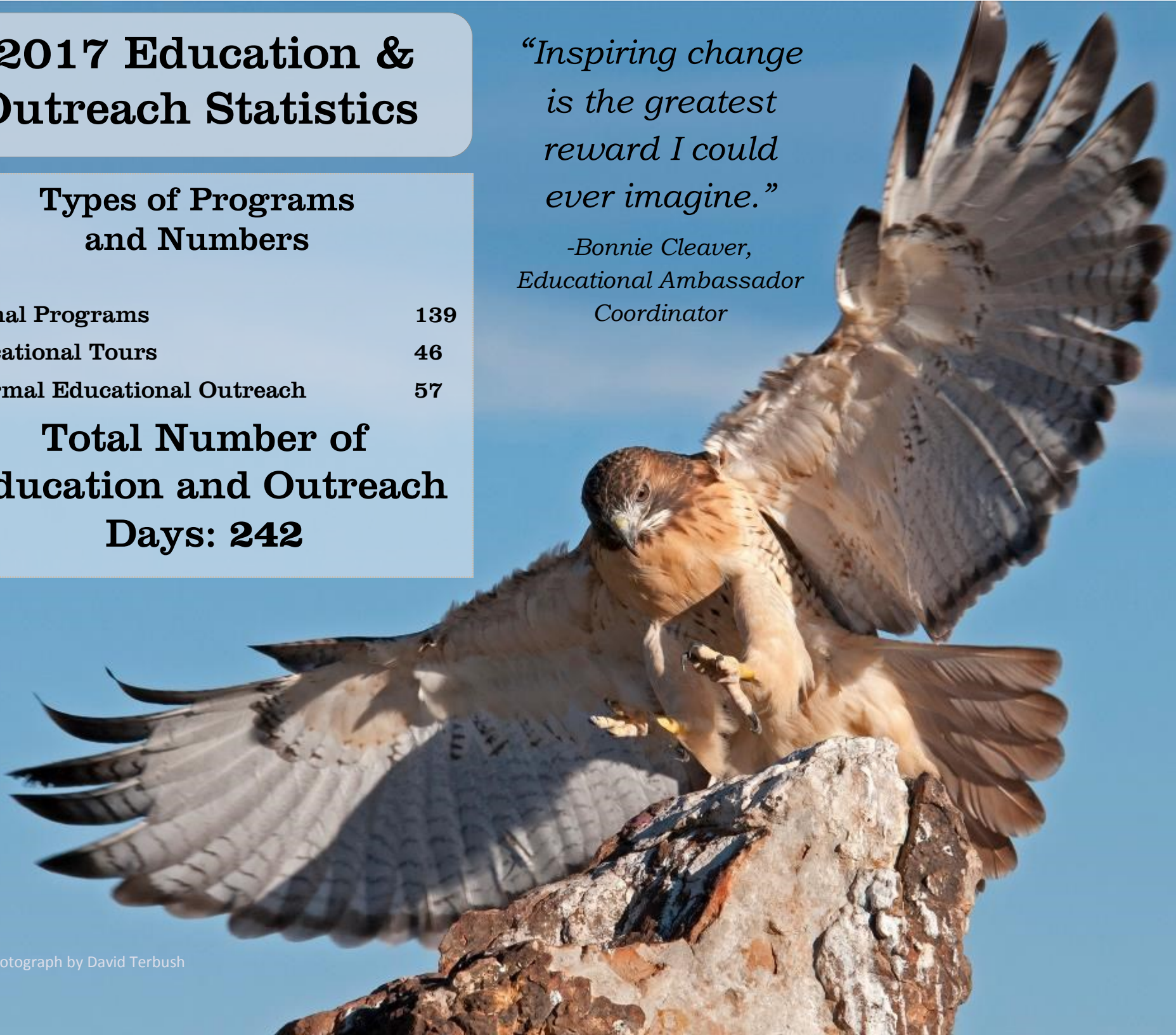
Types of Programs and Numbers

Formal Programs	139
Educational Tours	46
Informal Educational Outreach	57

**Total Number of
Education and Outreach
Days: 242**

*“Inspiring change
is the greatest
reward I could
ever imagine.”*

*-Bonnie Cleaver,
Educational Ambassador
Coordinator*



A Most Special Day

Better than presents under the tree.

Three non-descript wooden boxes. Nothing fancy, and yet they draw attention in the way that first wrapped present under the tree can. Hushed voices, barely containing the curiosity, run through the 3rd graders sitting on the gym floor in not so neat rows.

I'm at O'Dea Elementary School for an educational program. As I share with the children what makes a bird a raptor, the focus is unwavering. But quickly the students' intense curiosity becomes impatience as the boxes remain still and silent, the mystery hidden inside eagerly awaited.

A volunteer steps up to the first wooden box, pulls a thick glove over her hand, and unlatches the door. The hush from the students is heavy with excitement.

With a flourish the door to the box swings wide and into view comes an imposing great horned owl. Cries of "**Wow!**" "Oh!" "**Look!**" and "It's beautiful!" echo around the gym.

Most of the kids have never seen an owl, and certainly not this close. They listen keenly to the story of how she was injured and how great horned owls survive in the wild.

There is disappointment when I say it's time for us to go. But no emotion runs stronger than enthusiasm; it lies like a blanket over the whole room.

There's enthusiasm for **learning more**, enthusiasm for **sharing** what they've learned, and enthusiasm to **complete the challenge** I leave them with, to find one way each day to help ourselves and the raptors through reducing, reusing and recycling.

The brown boxes are loaded onto a cart and we begin to roll it away while dozens of eyes follow us. Those eyes are lit up with the *joy* of their unforgettable experience and the knowledge that *they* hold the power to make our world a better place.

It's just a simple brown wooden box, but it's what inside that matters the most.

Jessica Miller
Education Coordinator



Above: A row of non-descript boxes contains the inspiration for change.

Below: Educational Ambassador Female Great Horned Owl—a teacher that will never be forgotten.



2017 Research

Providing More Data to Save Lives

Research is a way for the RMRP to help increase the world's knowledge of raptors and the environment. We are involved in several ongoing projects, and we hope our contributions will continue to advance the conservation of raptors and the places they live.

Papers

Using Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) to Quantify Synthetic Baling Twine-Entanglement Risk in Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) Nests—*In Review*—by James F. Dwyer and Michael C. Tincher

Raptor Research Conference

The RMRP was proud to have Rehabilitation Coordinator Michael Tincher present a poster at the Raptor Research Foundation Conference in 2017. This poster detailed the problems facing nesting Osprey and baling twine. They often use the twine to build nests, then get tangled in it. Many die. In partnership with James Dwyer of EDM International, Tincher has begun using drones in a study of baling twine in Osprey nests.

We are very hopeful this data will help save Osprey from entanglement injuries and deaths.



“We are proud to contribute to the understanding of raptors. We hope this knowledge can make a difference to raptor populations on the brink.”

-Gail Kratz, Rehabilitation Director

2017 Research

Projects

Primary investigators listed in parentheses.

- ◇ Measurement data supporting the ongoing study of the taxonomic status of the Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk. (Allen and Clarke)
- ◇ Data collection for raptor electrocutions, electric shock victims, and methane flare burner injuries. (Harness, EDM)
- ◇ Survey of lead levels in raptors of Colorado. (RMRP)
- ◇ Raptor carcasses are sent to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to become a part of their tissue bank for genetic population studies.
- ◇ Specimens are also sent to the University of Northern Colorado to be used for teaching and education.
- ◇ Effectiveness of raptor exclusion devices and supplemental perches to prevent raptor electrocutions. (EDM)
- ◇ West Nile Virus surveillance. (CDPHE)
- ◇ Wing measurements for dimension of raptors on electric utility poles. (RMRP)
- ◇ Monitoring of Avian Influenza in raptors. (USDA APHIS)
- ◇ Nationwide monitoring of lead levels in eagles. (Vince Slabe, West Virginia University)
- ◇ RMRP is proud to host the 2019 Raptor Research Foundation Conference.

2017 Income Report

Analysis of Income and Expenditures

RMRP Income & Expense Statement

Income	2016	2017
Individual Gifts	\$290,704	\$299,488
Grants	\$71,777	\$85,060
Corporate Support	\$19,456	\$18,195
Auction	\$84,260	\$86,947
Merchandise Sales	\$26,624	\$31,175
Education Fees	\$22,980	\$32,478
Miscellaneous	\$982	\$1,661
Total Income	\$516,783	\$555,004
Expenses	2016	2017
Rehabilitation & Research	\$207,004	\$230,064
Education	\$124,803	\$135,948
Fundraising	\$68,851	\$77,612
Program Administration	\$69,034	\$79,251
Total Expenses	\$469,692	\$552,875
Beginning Balance	\$12,216	\$49,577
ENDING BALANCE	\$49,577	\$32,095

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2017

*“You can be assured
that your donations are
making a difference.
You are a hero to a life
in need.”*

-Carin Avila, Executive Director

Assets		
	Cash	\$119,292
	Fixed (net of depreciation)	\$0
	Land	\$1,176,264
	TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,295,556
Liabilities & Equity		
	Current Liabilities	\$9,651
	Long Term Liabilities	\$959,600
	Total Equity	\$345,607
	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$1,314,858

Conflict of Resources

These graphs show one of the biggest challenges the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program faces:

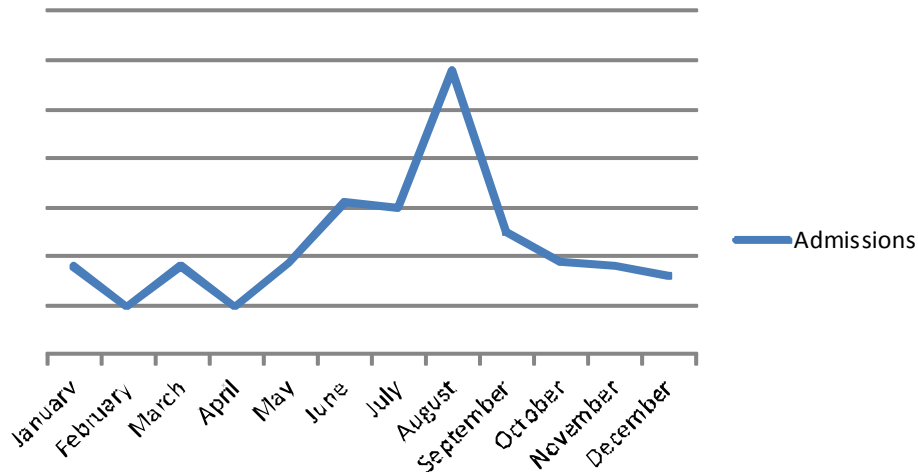
When the highest number of raptors need our help, we have the fewest resources to help them.

An unstable and unpredictable income makes it extremely hard to balance resources. This is a problem we have faced every year, and while we have learned to adapt, we hope our supporters will help us take the next step forward.

You can fix this funding instability easily. By signing up for a monthly donation, you create a strong platform that we can depend on when injured raptor admissions soar.

We hope to gain at least 10 more monthly donors in the next year. If you can add to our foundation, please visit us at www.rmrp.org/donate or call us at 970-484-7756 to set up a monthly pledge.

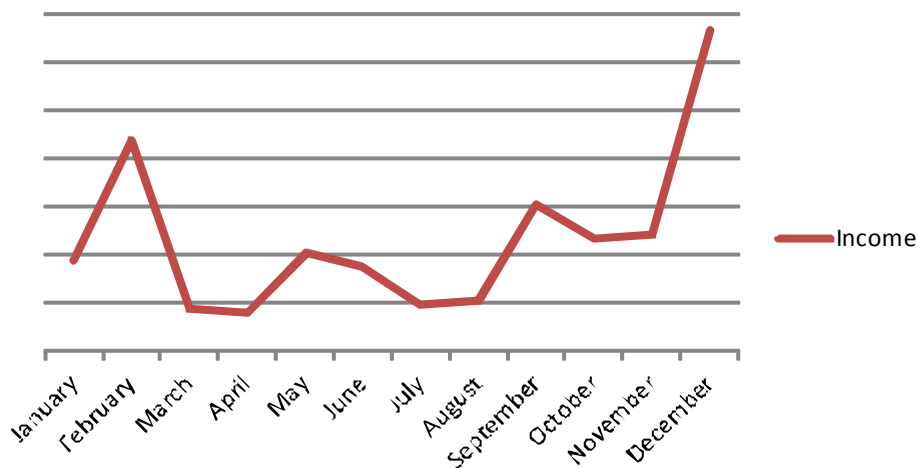
2017 Admissions by Month



Above: Graph of raptor admissions in 2017 by month.

Below: Graph of income in 2017 by month.

2017 Income by Month



Volunteers

Over 100 volunteers donated their time to the RMRP in 2017. These volunteers are an invaluable resource that allows the RMRP to function well beyond its means.

2017 Hours Volunteered: 34,558

A fulltime job is approximately 2087 hours a year, so volunteers contribute the equivalent hours of **17 fulltime employees.**

Hiring 17 employees, even at minimum wage, is beyond our capability. In this way, volunteer labor **saved \$352,491.60 in 2017**, not including any extra taxes, insurance, and benefits that would apply if we needed to hire employees to fulfill all our needs.

This community effort means the RMRP can provide services well above what it can currently finance. We are extraordinarily proud of the time, effort, and love these amazing people devote to raptors.

Want to get involved? Visit www.rmrp.org/volunteer to learn how you can become hands-on at the RMRP.

Great Horned Owl

Barn Owl Bureau

The Barn Owl Bureau recognizes RMRP volunteers who have gone beyond the call of duty to raise over \$1000 in funds for the RMRP, have given over 10 years of volunteer service to the RMRP, or gave the most number of volunteer hours in the previous year.

John Adams
Piper Aune
Neal Bauer
Jenny Berven
Catherine Burns
Amanda Burton
Kimmi Chevalier
Jeane Darst
Carol Dollard
Barb Duffner
Leah Geurts

Pat Gifford
Loene McIntyre
Natalie Gros-
Potter
Britta Pohlman
Stephen Scheid
Jeff Stark
Becca Stock
Amanda Sutton
Sarah Webb



Common Barn Owl
Photograph by James Steele



A Culture of Stewardship

The Rocky Mountain Raptor Program wishes to thank the following donors who have dedicated themselves to the rehabilitation of injured raptors, the education of the public, and research to help change the world.

To become a part of one of the following societies, visit us at www.rmrp.org/donate to see how you can make an impact for the future.

“I feel like our donors are family. They are always there for us when we need it most.”

-Lynsey Reed, Director of Donor Relations



Rough-legged Hawk

Alice N. Jenkins Foundation
Margo and Dean Allman
Piper Aune
Susan Baker and Stephen Scheid
Lawrence Barker
Bernice Barbour Foundation, Inc.
George and Barbara Biedenstein
Black-Periman Foundation
Jim and Jessica Brostron
Kenneth Buran and Traci Marra
David and Sandy Butler
Bryan Byers
Roberta Cipriano and Lula Callahan
Colorado State University Global Campus
Kitty Cottingham
Ross and Jill Cuniff
Tharon and John Deakins
Ed and Setsuko Decourcey
The Denver Foundation, Nordic Pearl Fund
The Denver Foundation, Lauren Townsend
Memorial Wildlife Fund

Barbara Duffner
Kenneth F. and Mary Dunnington
Dick and Anne Farr
Carl and Judy Ferenbach
Dennis and Geri Georg
Heather and Brandon Gleeson
Barbara Green
Robert Gregory
Rosana Guimaraes
Jessica Hagewood
Barry Hamilton
Linda S. Hamilton
Jon and Kimberly Hassinger
Bob Heer and Mary Kolesnyk
Hillside Construction, Inc.
David and Erik Holmgren
Andrew Hornbrook
Scott and Ria Hudson
Gene and Susan Humphries
Infinite Wellness Center
George and Margaret Janson
Michael and Gayle Lettenmaier
Jim and Joanne Matson
Judy McArthur
Seth and Erin McEwan

The 2018 Aerie Society



**The Aerie Society is a
cornerstone giving
community that includes
donors who have given
\$1000 or more to the
RMRP in 2017.**

Pygmy Owl
Photograph by Mark Fuller

Aaron and Ashley McGrew
Dr. and Mrs. John McGrew
Peter and Jane Mellers
Messing Family Charitable Foundation
Myers Family Foundation
John Nigh
Noble Energy, Inc.
Terri Orcutt and Charles Berner
OneTech Computer Consulting, Inc.
Pajean Wildlife Foundation
Platte River Power Authority
James Pisula
The Powell Foundation
Nancy Prior
Lyal E. Quinby
Andrea Rayford
John and Maria Reed
Larry and Heather Reeder
Vic and MC Reichman
Terence Rhoden
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Robertson
Rotary Club of Fort Collins
Sean Rogers and Alison Larsen
Cristine Romarine and Tony Serafin
Dr. Erica Runkle
Dwight Rus
Save our Spirits of the Whatcom Community
Foundation
Rick Snow and Helen Petrak
Starbucks Coffee Company
Cordelia Stone
Russell Taylor and Mary Wilson
Tim Tillson and Kathleen Kiefer
George Tomasevich
Hadely Trotter and Adrien Robenhymer
Heather Weich
Steven and Teresa Wells
Jean and H. Denise Wilks
William H. Donner Foundation
Dyanne Willow and Jason Loftus
Mike and Leslie Winn
Eiland and Jill Wood
Mary Catherine Wynne and William
Humphrey
Shannon and Rob Yockey
Chapman Young, III

A photograph of a Cooper's Hawk perched on a branch with clusters of bright red berries. The hawk has blue-grey feathers on its back and wings, and a lighter, buff-colored throat and breast. It is looking towards the left of the frame. The background is softly blurred, showing more branches and berries.

Freedom's Refuge

Freedom's Refuge is a lifetime giving society that recognizes donors who have supported the RMRP throughout its 30 year history.

We sincerely thank everyone that has made the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program a refuge for raptors in need. The following pages acknowledge those who have given \$5,000 or more to the RMRP in their lifetime.



Eagle's Stronghold

Lifetime Giving of \$100,000 +

Rosana Guimaraes
Monfort Family Foundation
Mortimer Charitable Lead Trust
Mary K. Stallings Trust
The Powell Foundation





Peregrine's Preserve

Lifetime Giving of \$50,000 +

**Elizabeth Bassett
Bernice Barbour Foundation
Elinor Patterson Baker Trust
August and Christel Pfeiffer
Wayne and Phyllis Schrader**





Owl's Haven

Lifetime Giving of \$25,000 +

Alice N. Jenkins Foundation
Animal Assistance Foundation
William and Kris Bensler
Bohemian Foundation
Sheila Boll
John Brooke and Cheryl Teuton
James Doyle
Barbara Duffner
Carl and Judy Ferenbach
Robert Gregory
Jessica Hagewood
Richard Luebs
Vic and MC Reichman



Artwork by Bonnie Cleaver
Great Horned Owl



Osprey's Harbor

Lifetime Giving of \$10,000 +

Heman and Pat Adams
Piper Aune
George and Barbara Biedenstein
BP Corporation of North America
David and Sandy Butler
Bryan Byers
Roberta Cipriano and Lula Callahan
Richard and Jeane Darst
Carol Dollard and Harry Bates
Barbara Duffner
El Pomar Foundation
Scott Gale and Nancy Cox
Dennis and Geri Georg
Robert and Carol Gocke
Jon and Kimberly Hassinger
Sean and Alison Rogers—Hillside Construction, LLC
Gene and Susan Humphries
George and Margaret Janson
Doug Johnston and Karen Uyeda
Kennedy and Coe, LLC
Kenneth and Myra Monfort Charitable Foundation
Rick and Nancy Lorenzen
Ron Malm and Tandie Opsal

Jim and Joanne Matson
Dr. and Mrs. John McGrew
Dick and Lynn Minor
Molloy Family Foundation
New Belgium Brewery
Terri Orcutt and Charles Berner
Kevin and Jean O'Toole
Todd and Lisa Kerr—Power Line Sentry, LLC
Nancy Prior
Andrea Rayford
John and Maria Reed
Larry and Heather Reeder
Vic and MC Reichman
Judy Scherpelz
Rick Snow and Helen Petrak
Rutt and Annie Bridges Family Foundation
George Tomasevich
The Vermont Community Foundation
Steven and Teresa Wells
Dyanne Willow and Jason Loftus
Mike and Leslie Winn
Xcel Energy Foundation



Red-tail's Retreat

Lifetime Giving of \$5,000 +



Bernie and Barb Alexy
Margo and Dean Allman
Alsager Animal Care Center
Anadarko
A-Train Marketing
Nancy Avila
Phil and Lynn Beedle
Maxine Benjamin, DVM
Dr. Thomas Bennett and
Jaqueline Bennett
Frank and Carla Bennett
Christine Berkness
Julie Bettis
Black-Periman Foundation
Daryl and Helen Boggs
Dennis Bogott
Bonanza Creek Energy
Dave and Kerry Brookman
Fred and Cynthia Burdick
Robert and Ann Chlebnik
Colorado Division of Wildlife
Community First Foundation
Kitty Cottingham
Ross and Jill Cunniff
David Dahms
Tharon and John Deakins
Eric Defonso
Paul and Ellen Dudek
Kenneth F. and Mary
Dunnington
Engle Family Foundation
Trish Faubion
Fort Fund
Bob and Rose Francella
Scott and Rosemarie Hanson
Bob Heer and Mary Kolesnyk
Karl and Cindy Hoff
Shawn and Evon Holladay
The Home Depot Foundation
Andrew Hornbrook
Scott and Ria Hudson
IBM International Foundation
Infinite Wellness Center

Kenneth & Myra Monfort
Charitable Foundation
Marie Kirkpatrick
Karen Kleehammer
Lakin Family Foundation
Joel and Ruth Larner
David and Diana Larson
Michael and Gayle Lettenmaier
Ed William Lewis
Hal Litoff
Charles and Gail Lowrie
Michael Mabbitt and Diane Hill-
Mabbitt
Bruce and Susan McGill
Dr. and Mrs. Gary and Loene
McIntyre
Messing Family Charitable
Foundation
Aaron Miller and Carin Avila
OtterCares Foundation
Pajeau Wildlife Foundation
Patagonia, Inc.
Lyal E. Quinby
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth
Robertson
Dwight Rus
Robert Schein
Drs. Steve Strauss and Olga
Boltalina
Robert and Sue Taylor
Russell Taylor and Mary
Wilson
Michael and Christine Thomas
Tim Tillson and Kathleen
Kiefer
Rebecca Van Pelt
Sarah and Ryan Webb
Wesch Family Foundation
Wild Birds Unlimited
William H. Donner Foundation
Mary Catherine Wynne and
William Humphrey
Chapman Young, III

*“They can’t
fight for
themselves,
so we must
fight for
them.”*

*-Carrie Laxson,
Rehabilitation Assistant*



The Legacy of Freedom Society

The Legacy of Freedom Society honors those donors who have chosen to give a future gift by including RMRP in their will to ensure their legacy will live on through the freedom of raptors.

Barbara and Bernie Alexy

James T. Alsop

Elizabeth A. Armour

Susan Baker and Stephen Scheid

Maxine Benjamin, DVM

Mara Blatt

Bob Bixler and Colleen Shannon

Dave and Kerry Brookman

Fred and Cynthia Burdick

Amie and Benji Durden

John Feist

Bob Francella

Bob Heer

J. Michele Hogan

Gene and Susan Humphries

Bob Janis

Barbara Jones

Rick Luebs

Jim and Joanne Matson

Kathryn A. Merkel

August and Christel Pfeiffer

Vic and MC Reichman

Dr. Steve Ryder

Laura Schafer

Cordelia and Amanda Stone

Ray and Janet Thurman

Rebecca Van Pelt

Suzanne Westgaard

Lisa Winta

Staff and Board

The dedication of these individuals, backed by the support of generous donors, has enabled the RMRP to become the leading raptor rescue and rehabilitation facility in the region.

Staff Members:

Judy Scherpelz, Executive Director
Carin Avila, Executive Director/Education Director
Lisa Winta, Assistant Director
Gail Kratz, Rehabilitation Director
Michael Tincher, Rehabilitation Coordinator
Jessica Miller, Education Coordinator
Bonnie Cleaver, Educational Ambassador Coordinator
Lynsey Reed, Donor Relations Director
Carrie Laxson, Rehabilitation Assistant
Ashley Hagenloh, Rehabilitation Associate

Board Members:

Judy Scherpelz, Board Member Emeritus
Susan Baker
Robert Gregory
Rick Snow
Dyanne Willow
Retired Members: Jerry Craig, John Reed and Todd Kerr



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program
a second chance at freedom



Rehabilitation
Education
Research

How You Can Help

By becoming a supporter of the RMRP, you can ensure the future of our mission. Supporters at every level build the base upon which we build our mission.

Donate Online:

Go to www.rmrp.org/donate to generate immediate resources for the RMRP.

Wish List:

Such a huge endeavor as the RMRP uses a lot of resources. Can you fill some of our needs? You can find our current wish list online at www.rmrp.org/donate/wish-list.

Become a Sponsor:

You can be a foundation for RMRP to stretch our message even further. Sponsorship opportunities are available for our photo calendar project, annual gala dinner and benefit auction, community outreach events, and much more.

Shop Smart:

By using iGive.com, Amazon Smile, or GoodShop you can ensure that your regular online shopping will also give back to your community. You can find links to these programs online at www.rmrp.org/donate/other-ways-to-help.

Join the Legacy of Freedom Society:

By adding the RMRP to your will or estate, you can ensure a future for the creatures we care for in generations to come.

Become a Volunteer:

You can see what our volunteers do to aid the RMRP on a daily basis by checking out our volunteer program online.

...AND SHARE. Your love of raptors can inspire others to join our life-saving mission.

New Director's Message

Soaring Ever Higher

2017 is a year of celebration, of reaching new heights and looking back at how far we have flown. We bid the fondest of farewells to our founding Executive Director, Judy Scherpelz, who is retiring after 30 years of being our leader. As the new Executive Director, I aspire to lead the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program as warmly and passionately as Judy has.

In 30 years, we have grown beyond our humble beginnings. In 1987, we saw 47 injured raptors, while 2017 brought 272 lives into our care. 30 years ago, we presented 15 educational programs to spread our mission. This year we devoted 242 days of educational outreach to our environmental education efforts. In 1987, we were a part of one research project, but 2017 saw us submitting data to ten huge research efforts.

Each year we push a little more, each year we work a little harder. Each year, you help us take one more wing beat to reach the top of the mountain.

The effort each of us give toward this mission makes a huge difference. Year to year we keep growing, we keep saving lives, we keep changing lives. Join me in making Judy proud in 2018, as we continue to make her legacy soar.

Warmest Regards,

Carin Avila

Executive Director

Inspiring the appreciation and protection of raptors and the spaces where they live through excellence in rehabilitation, education, and research.



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program

Mailing Address:

2519 S. Shields Street, #115
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Physical Address:

720 E. Vine Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Phone: 970-484-7756

Emergency On-Call Phone: 970-222-0322

Fax: 970-484-7763

Website: www.rmrp.org

Email: info@rmrp.org



Scan this code to sign up on
our e-news mailing list.



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program
a second chance at freedom

