

*Helping* birds of prey through education  
**rehabilitation and conservation.**



*Annual Report 2020*

*Hoo's Woods Raptor Center*

[www.hooswoods.org](http://www.hooswoods.org)



# Your help makes a difference!

Dear Friends,



We hope that all of you and your friends, families and colleagues remain healthy and safe during this time of difficulty for people everywhere. Through your contributions, we have been able to make some amazing changes and progress together in both education and rehabilitation. Hoo's Woods has remained open during the pandemic as a regional resource for injured, ill, and orphaned raptors. We are committed to the patients currently in care and we will continue to care for injured birds of prey during this period of social distancing as staffing allows.

Our programs were suspended early March due to the pandemic and closing of schools, libraries, clubs and many organizations. Our education programs are vital and one of our main sources of funding. In June, we were able to resume some programming both outreach and on-site, to smaller groups with safety protocols in place. We are continually exploring ways to continue to educate folks of all ages about the importance of wildlife and conservation.

With your continued support, we will be able to continue providing a high level of care for our patients, education for the public, and enhancement of our center. It takes a dedicated team to create these successes. We sincerely thank our board, staff, volunteers, sponsors, private donors and individuals who donate or help in some other way each year. The success of our center and work is shared by our community.

Dianne Moller  
Executive Director



*Birthday wish for Connie "99" to meet  
"Clark" our education barred owl*



# A Look at This Year!

## Statistics

- Over 200 birds cared for this year compared to half this time last year. 70% return rate
- April – August we averaged 20+ wildlife calls daily
- 5,000 lbs of food will be consumed by year end which include: 1 ton of commercially raised rodents, 1 ton of commercially raised quail and ½ ton of venison, fish, rabbits
- 7,500 miles placed on our vehicle which included: rescues, vet visits, programs, picking up food, and a lot of errands
- Recognized as 2020 Give Back Non-profit organization by Milton Area Chamber of Commerce

## Special Moments In Rehab

“Oopsie” the Saw Whet Owl was recovered early November after he flew into a large window at the Fitchburg Public Library. His right wing was injury and he is unable to fly due to permanent nerve damage. Oopsie will remain at Hoo’s Woods as an education ambassador. Saw Whet owls are the tiniest owls in Wisconsin, weighing 3 ounces and stand about 6 inches tall. They are a common owl but due to their size and secretive behavior, are not commonly seen. Although Oopsie is unable to be returned to the wild, he will bring many smiles and delight to those who meet him on our education programs. Photo by Margie Duerr



These baby kestrels were recovered in a barn that had collapsed. We were unable to relocate them into a new family as they were late season babies. They were fostered at our center and later released by 4 children at our Talons at Tallgrass program at Tallgrass Prairies. The kestrels were named by our community after wildflowers, “Jack in the Pulpit, Lily, Blazing Star and Clover.” (Baby kestrels by Tracey Leeder, Kestrel release by Mike Nightengale.





“Dandelion” Late July we admitted this young broadwinged hawk (left photo) with a fractured pelvis at Rock River Leisure Estates in Milton. Broadwingeds are the smallest hawk in the buteo family and look much like a miniature red tailed hawk. “Dandy” was named by our veterinarian Dr. Zilker describing his white downy head as a dried dandelion. Dandy is was not releasable due to his injury, however, he because he is able to fly he is one of three birds that are part of our flight demonstration team. Photo right: Flying at our “Raptors In Flight” photography class by Mike Nightengale.

“Clark” our 14 year old education barred owl at our Woodland Raptors photo class at Fair Meadows, Milton. Photo by Gary Shackelford, owner of Fair Meadows.



“Bill and Ted” eastern screech owls. This dynamic duo are two of our most popular education raptors. Small in size but big at heart! At Fair Meadows by Gary Shackelford.



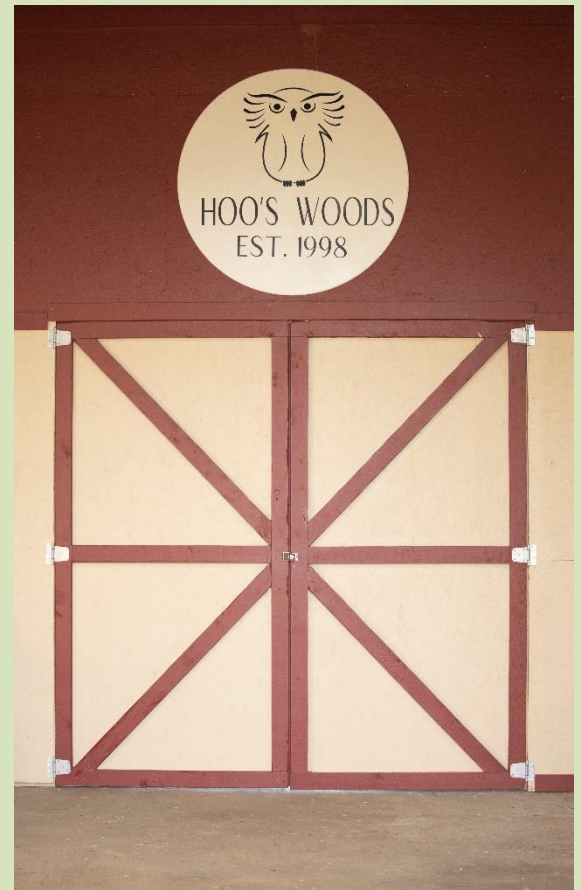
“Victor E.” Immature Education bald eagle by Laura Krasinski . With Wisconsin’s bald eagle population soaring, folks have enjoyed learning about eagles and their important role in our ecosystem.





# Facility Updates:

With your contributions we were able to make many upgrades to our center including a remodel of our clinic making it more spacious and comfortable for our patients.



Eagle flight cage was completed January 2020. We are now able to rehabilitate and recondition many large raptors for release in this 80ft new addition.



Our new education room is close to completion. This space is much needed to host programs, workshops, classes and training with lots of room for distancing. Thank you to We Energies Foundation, Antonia Foundation, Ecolab Foundation, Vitech Int'l, Green Bay Packers Foundation and Colleen Frentzel American Family Agency for making these projects possible.



# We Sincerely Thank You!

It takes an entire team to make an organization successful and that includes our board members, volunteers, sponsors, foundations, corporations, private donors and our community. Our veterinarians donate their time and ensure that each bird receives the same high level of care. A big thank you to the Token Creek Veterinary Hospital; Dr. Diane Zilker and Dr. Sonja Covington, and the UW Veterinary School of Ophthalmology: Dr. Ellison Bentley.

We are grateful to the following foundations for again helping us this year: Vitech International, Inc., We Energies Foundation, Tallgrass Prairies, Hang Glide Wisconsin, Antonia Foundation, Natural Resources Foundation, Ecolab Foundation, Green Bay Packers Foundation, Shackelford Family Foundation, Madison Gas and Electric Foundation. Colleen Frentzel American Family Insurance, James Holland Charitable Trust, (we apologize for any names omitted)

Your support is sincerely appreciated, we couldn't do this without you!

\*\*\*990 tax information available upon request



**“Alone we can  
do so little;  
together we  
can do so  
much” -  
Helen Keller**

**Thank you for your support!**

**[www.hooswoods.org](http://www.hooswoods.org)**

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Dianne with Wesley Snowy Owl by Margie Duerr  
Screech Owls "Bill and Ted" window frame by Martha Hidalgo  
We apologize for any omissions