



EDCF Rehab Center Closes

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The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Kansas Wildlife and Parks made the decision in late August to shut down the El Dorado Correctional Facility Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. The center had not maintained the proper permits to house injured wild animals, and nobody on staff had the required training.

They called Ken at Eagle Valley to come up and assess the condition of the animals and take possession of the ones whose outlook was good.

One great-horned owl was ready for release, so we let him go. Sadly, one other owl and two hawks were not suitable candidates for release, so local veterinarian Davey Harkins humanely euthanized them.

Success Story

This teeny, tiny baby barn owl was found by a farmer in his barn (where else?). The poor thing was only a day or two old at the most and was lying in the straw and muck, surrounded by cows.

We can't believe they didn't step on it.

Those that remained we brought back to EVRC: one fawn, one baby squirrel, and two bald eagles.

The squirrel we transferred to a rehabilitator in nearby Cheney, Abbie Wisdom, who specializes in small mammals. Before he left, we made sure his belly was full—and boy, was he hungry!

The fawn, whom the EDCF staff had named "Pumpkin" was eating on his own, so Ken was able to contact a gentleman in Goddard who owns a large fenced acreage where deer and other native wildlife can live undisturbed.

The two eagles will be housed at EVRC until a new home for them can be found. Both are amputees: both are missing

more than half of a wing. They have no flight capability at all.

The good news is this: They have been in captivity for so long now that they are unusually comfortable around humans. This makes them ideal candidates for an educational exhibit, like a zoo or wildlife park. EVRC will be working closely with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife to ensure these beautiful birds get the best home and the life they deserve.

What It Takes to Be a Wildlife Rehabilitator

- 100 contact hours with the species you will be working with
- Completion of required wildlife rehab course work and a passing grade on the IWRC's Intro Rehab exam
- Appropriate housing for the species you will care for
- Required State & Federal permits
- Lots of patience and dedication!!



Welcome Rudy & Sam!

Introducing our new house-guests: Rudy and Sam! These two bald eagles lived for many years at the El Dorado Correctional Facility Rehab Center and were the unofficial “City Birds” of El Dorado. Despite their handicap, they are still magnificent to look at and are chock-full of personality!

The two have taken up temporary residence with our own male bald eagle, Wasu. He’s not too pleased, as Rudy has decided she is “queen of the roost” and has taken to bossing both the smaller males around!

We were most concerned about Sam, who suffers from a condition known as “bumblefoot”. Because birds are always on their feet—they never sit down—any minor injury or irritation can lead to this condition, which is incredibly difficult to manage. Sam has a very chronic and severe case. In fact, if you look at the back of his right foot in the picture, you may be able to see how swollen his back talon is compared to the rest of them. This is primarily due to the fact that the perches in their pen were too large for these birds, and they were unable to grip

properly. By having to “balance” on their feet, instead of gripping the perch and standing upright, tiny blisters and sores appeared on Sam’s feet. Imagine having a blister on your foot that you continue to walk on every day for a year—that is what has happened to poor Sam’s feet! We also learned that his diet was somewhat lacking in calcium.

However, since coming to EVRC and having appropriate perches and a proper diet, Sam’s feet are getting a little better. That’s good news for both us AND Sam!



Sam (above) is male, and Rudy (below) is female.



Getting In Touch with My “Mammal Side”

(By Rachel Bournival, Volunteer)



After working so much with birds of prey, it’s kind of refreshing to have the opportunity to spend time with some species in my own taxonomic class. When I went to El Dorado with Ken to help catch up the eagles and evaluate the remaining birds, I honestly didn’t expect to find any mammals there. I’m not sure why;

after all, I knew they did rehab there for all kinds of wildlife, not just birds. Still, it was a pleasant surprise to have the adorable little deer fawn, Pumpkin, walk right up to me for scratches and attention. And when I heard the words, “baby squirrel”, I could not resist! His eyes weren’t even open yet, but as you can see

from the photo on the front page, it hadn’t stunted his appetite any!

I’m pleased we were able to re-home Pumpkin, and to such a great location as well. And the baby squirrel is getting the care he needs with Abbie. And while I don’t think I’ll ever lose my fascination with raptors, there will be that little part of me that always says, “Awww...what a cute baby mammal! Can I feed it?”

A Sticky Situation Has a Sweet Ending

And you think *you* had a bad day. How about this poor owl? Minding his own business, he’d flown straight into a barbed-wire fence and wrapped himself up tight.

Ken received the call on this poor guy from the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks

and knew he had to act immediately if he was to have any chance of saving it.

An owl may have a razor-sharp beak and formidable talons, but it takes more than that to get free from this sort of predicament. Fortunately for him, Ken had just what was needed:

a pair of wire cutters, and infinite patience.

“Barbarino” the owl, as we are calling him, was extremely lucky—he had no broken bones or internal injuries. He was just very, very sore.

We expect to release him within a couple of weeks.



American Legion Riders' State Rally

This newsletter is turning into an "El Dorado" special of sorts! But EVRC will be back in El Dorado this Saturday with Talon, our golden eagle, for the American Legion Riders' State Rally, honoring these

courageous veterans for their service to our Nation and to its citizens.

You may recall that the local Legion Riders group came out *en force* to Eagle Valley and helped construct the gazebo

roof over our new pavilion extension. We are thrilled to be able to return the favor by dedicating our beautiful eagle to them!



What's a "Webkinz"?

If you don't know, I bet your kids do.

Webkinz are stuffed animal toys that come with a secret code that allows you to "adopt" a virtual version of your plush pet online. They are all the rage with kids, and of course there are plenty of adults who are addicted as well. Our volunteer Rachel is one of them.

Webkinz recently released a bald eagle to their growing line of adoptable pets—and it's their very first bird of prey. Being the eagle-fanatic that she is, volunteer Rachel simply had to have—not one—but two of

them, to name after our two resident bald eagles, Cessna and Wasu.

"I didn't expect to have a Rudy and Sam staying at Eagle Valley, but I felt that purchasing four eagles would be going just a little bit overboard," she says.

We've included a picture here of her new "pets" (Cessna and Wasu) both the real-life version and the online pets.

So, if you're a raptor lover like Rachel, swing by your local Hallmark store or Webkinz retailer and pick up one of their new bald eagle pets!



Aren't they cute?



"Cessna" and "Wasu", as displayed in the online Webkinz World

To check out all that Webkinz World has to offer for your kids, visit www.webkinz.com. It's kid-friendly and very safe!

Coming Events

Aside from the upcoming dedication at the American Legion Riders' State Rally, we also have the following programs lined up:

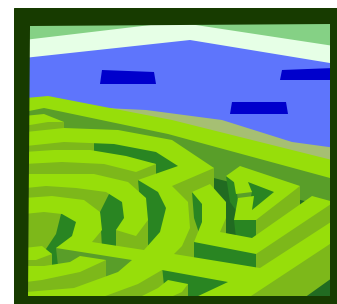
- Lincoln Elementary, Augusta
- Wichita Home School
- Bel-Aire Senior Center
- Central Christian Church

- Dyck Arboretum
- City of Kingman's 150th Anniversary Celebration
- Cow Town Senior Wednesdays

Also, we've been invited back to the A-Maze-In-Grace Corn Maze at Christ Community United Methodist Church, at 2130 S. Webb Road. The

Maze is open every weekend from October 3rd to November 2nd. EVRC will be there on October 18th & 25th with some of our resident birds.

For more information on the maze, call 316-871-7144. We'll see you there...as long as you don't get lost!



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www.eaglevalleyraptorcenter.org

Caring for Nature's
Orphaned and Injured Wildlife



Please consider making a donation to Eagle Valley Raptor Center this month. Our two houseguests, Rudy and Sam, have increased our food usage by about 40%!

Also, don't forget our "Walk This Way" sidewalk campaign, which is still on-going. We're closer to our goal, but we still have a ways to go! So don't be afraid to "get your feet pitch help us our walk in and get side-built!"



Photo by T. Reding, 2008



Name

Address

Phone

Email address

Yes! I'd like to help!

- Add me to your mailing list
- I'd like to volunteer or help with special projects.
- I am interested in Board of Directors/Committee membership
- I'd like to schedule a school/church program or tour of Eagle Valley's facilities
- Enclosed is my donation for the "Walk This Way" Sidewalk Campaign: \$ _____