

December 2015

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Great Basin Wildlife Rescue is a 501 c3 non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center located in Utah County. We take in over 200 bear cubs and birds of prey a year. Our mission is twofold. First, it is to rescue and rehabilitate wildlife so they can be released back into the wild. Second, it is to educate the public how they can make a difference in wildlife conservation and to expand their knowledge of wildlife in general. We travel within Utah County providing educational programs to local schools, Eagle Scout courts of honor, fairs, and expos. If you are interested in having us attend your school or event, please contact us at greatbasinrehab@yahoo.com.

Thank You for Your Support in 2015



Great Basin Wildlife Rescue
PO Box 954
Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Dear Friends,

You are receiving this letter because you have supported Great Basin Wildlife Rescue and it is with great pleasure that we write to thank you once again for your generosity and appreciation of the beauty that Utah wildlife has to offer. We are pleased that you are one of those who understand the importance of keeping healthy wildlife populations for future generations to enjoy. Please let us share some of the facts that make us proud to be involved in wildlife rehabilitation in Utah.

- Great Basin Wildlife Rescue is an all-volunteer 501c3 nonprofit organization whose funding base is wholly dependent on donations from people like you. All donations go to the wildlife in our care.
- Great Basin Wildlife receives 150-300 injured raptors each year which are rehabilitated and returned to the wild.
- Great Basin Wildlife Rescue is state-certified to hold and raise orphan black bear cubs until they are old enough and prepared for release to the wild.
- Great Basin Wildlife Rescue holds a number of wild birds on education permit for exhibition and education. Over 125 educational programs have been presented to the public in 2015!
- Great Basin Wildlife Rescue has formed a DBA called Wings of Valor which supports wounded military combat veterans by offering the opportunity to become licensed falconers. Support for these soldiers comes from grants and area corporate sponsorship.

The volunteers at Great Basin Wildlife Rescue offer their thanks and best wishes to you and your family throughout this holiday season. During these times of reflection and giving, we invite you to once again share your love for the wildlife of Utah by donating generously. We promise that Great Basin Wildlife Rescue will be here each day to provide the service you expect. To donate please visit our website at www.greatbasinwildlife.net and hit our donate button or use the self addressed stamped envelope enclosed. Thank you so very much!

Sincerely,
Patti

Patti Richards, Executive Director
Great Basin Wildlife Rescue and Education
greatbasinrehab@yahoo.com
801 310-0186

Happy holidays everyone! The holidays are a time for family, friends, and giving to others. We would like to take this time to thank you for your support over the last year. Did you know that Great Basin receives over 200 injured birds of prey per year? We are also the only organization in Utah licensed to rehabilitate black bear cubs. Further, we are completely staffed by volunteers. We could not have done it all without your help! As the year draws to a close, please consider donating to Great Basin Wildlife Rescue. As a 501(c)3 non-profit charity, we are funded completely by donation. Also, your donation is completely tax-deductible. You can donate on our website at <http://greatbasinwildlife.net/Donate/Donate2.html> or you can contact Patti at (801)310-0186 for further ways to donate.

iGive



Do you shop online? Now you can support Great Basin Wildlife Rescue through your online purchases with no additional cost to you!

Through www.igive.com you have instant access to about 1,500 participating stores who will donate a portion of your purchase to Great Basin! It is easy and free to register. All you need to do is go to www.igive.com and follow the easy instructions. Once you register, you can choose Great Basin Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education as the charity you wish to benefit from your purchases. Each time you want to make an online purchase, you can logon to your favorite stores through igive.com or download the iGive application to your phone or other device. Remember, there are no additional fees or costs to you for using iGive, but Great Basin will receive a donation each time you shop!!

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Do you shop on Amazon.com? Now you can support Great Basin Wildlife Rescue through your purchases on Amazon with no additional cost to you! When you shop at smile.amazon.com you'll find the same prices with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price from your AmazonSmile eligible items to Great Basin! You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for Amazon Smile donation" on the product detail page.

You can use your regular Amazon account to make your purchases, no special account needed. Just simply go to smile.amazon.com from your web browser on your computer or mobile device. You will need to log in to your Amazon account. In the area where it says "Pick your own charitable organization," type in Great Basin Wildlife Rescue and click the "search" button. Select Great Basin Wildlife Rescue as the charitable organization that you wish to receive the donated funds. Once these steps are completed, at the top of the page to the right of the AmazonSmile logo, you will see some thing that says "Supporting: Great Basin Wildlife Rescue and Education Center Inc." Now you can go and make your normal Amazon purchases, knowing that your eligible items are benefiting Great Basin. You may even want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile so that all of your future Amazon purchases can benefit Great Basin. Supporting Great Basin has never been so easy!

Questions for Rose, our Northern Saw-Whet Owl

How Do You Find Owls?

If you want to find an owl, it's great to go at night since owls are nocturnal, but dawn and dusk can also be good times and have the benefit of better visibility. Owls tend to stay in their territory, so if you've seen an owl in a certain location before, that's a good place to start. Otherwise, look for a location that has trees next to a big, open grassy area.

At night, it can be hard to see owls because of the darkness, so it might be easier for you to use your ears to find them. Before you go out, familiarize yourself with the calls of owls in your area (there are many websites that feature owl sounds). If you know what the owls in your area sound like before you go owling, you're more likely to recognize their calls when you hear them. If you don't hear any owls, you can try playing a pre-recorded owl call to see if you can get one to respond. You may have to be patient and play different calls in different places.



Northern saw-whet owl.

If you do see an owl, remember to keep your distance. Getting too close will scare them away, and owls can become



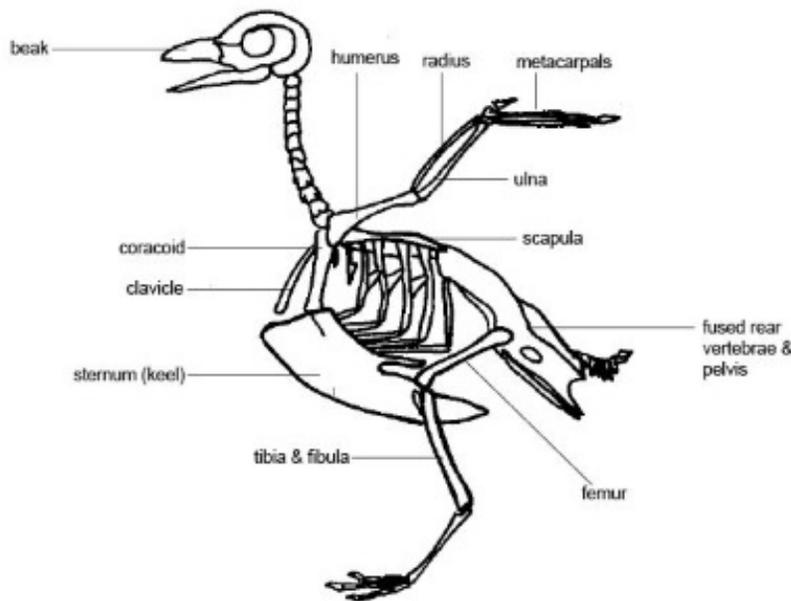
Great horned owl, *Bubo virginianus*

aggressive if they think you are threatening them or their nest. And be careful not to shine lights and camera flashes directly at them, as this can disrupt their night vision and make them nervous.

If you don't see or hear any owls on your owling trip, don't give up! It can sometimes take a few tries—and a few locations—before you find one.

How does a bird skeleton differ from a human's?

While birds have many of the same types of bones as humans, most birds' bodies are made to fly, so there are some major differences too. For example, having a more rigid skeletal



structure helps birds' bodies withstand the stresses placed upon them by flying. Hence, while birds and humans both have collarbones, in birds, the collarbone (also known as the wishbone) is fused together to make it stronger, as it is part of the support system for the bird's wings. Similarly, in birds some of the vertebrae sections are also fused together to make the backbone more rigid for

flight. Birds and humans also both have tibia and fibula bones in their legs, but while in humans these bones are separate, in birds these two bones are fused together. Like humans, birds have ribs, but a bird's ribs overlap in what is called the uncinat process; this makes the ribcage stronger so it doesn't collapse when the bird is flying and also helps with breathing.

Another way a bird's skeleton is different from a human's is that while both humans and birds have sternums, a bird's is under its body and flight muscles attach to it, where as in humans the strongest muscles in the torso are anchored from the back. Even the bones themselves are different in birds. Many bones in flying birds are pneumatized, which means they have air pockets that make them lighter, allowing the bird to be light enough to fly. Birds' heads are also smaller in proportion to their bodies than humans' are, because a big head would make it hard to fly.

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