



## [Raptor Flight Show and White Mountain Nature Center](#)

**Email Newsletter ~ February 12, 2023**

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### **Raptor Show news for this week:**

- An intruder!
- MailChimp says this newsletter has too many readers - YES YOU!

If you want to donate, [click here](#) and then click the Raptor Show Donation button - *we need your help* to feed and care for our show ambassadors and to build their new enclosures and viewing area.

Thank you so much!

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**Does something smell funny to you?**



We had an intruder last night - or more accurately at 4:19 AM today. Maybe he didn't realize that there are TWO Eurasian Eagle Owls here! And, one of the favorite foods of owls is skunk. Owls, like almost all birds except Turkey Vultures, have a very poor sense of smell, so the skunk's "stinky spray" defense mechanism is practically worthless against these pinnacle predators. As you know from our training exhibitions, Great Horned and Eurasian Owls are crepuscular - hunting just after dusk and just before dawn. We saw Mr. Skunk on our security camera and a few minutes later arrived to scoot him back under the container building where he lives. We will be more careful not to drop bits of food when we train in the future because that is clearly what attracted Mr. Skunk! Of course, here at the Nature Center we value all of the creatures in the forest, not just the predators, so we will strive to keep Mr. Skunk safe. Let's start by giving him a name! Click below to suggest a great name. The winner will get a free Funky Experience (\$50 value) when it warms up.

My suggestion for a name is: [Click here to Name Mr. Skunk!](#)

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***We're writing to let you know that we're making some changes to our Free Marketing plan. On March 10, 2023, there will be new limits on the number of contacts you can have in your account and how many emails you can send each day and month. You have a Free Marketing account with a contact count that currently exceeds these new limits, so we encourage you to continue reading this email to understand how these changes will impact this account and any other Free Marketing accounts you may have.***

Thanks to you, our number of contacts is at 1,385 - well over the free Mailchimp limit of 500. Their cheapest plan is \$20 per month so we are looking at alternatives and/or begging them to make an exception for a worthwhile charity that is doing good things for nature and the environment. We will keep you informed.



## [News from the White Mountain Nature Center](#)

# Calling All Volunteers!

The Nature Center needs you! Register for our new Volunteer Force and help us do more than ever before to connect people with nature! Click [here to get started: WMNCVolunteerSignup](#)

Last week two new volunteers signed up - and both of them are qualified wood workers! They are already tackling our new inside display upgrades. Thanks, ladies!



## White Mountain Eagle Fest, Feb. 25

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is partnering again with the White Mountain Nature Center in Pinetop-Lakeside, Ariz., for this year's Eagle Fest.

Eagle Fest will be on Saturday, Feb. 25, starting at 9 a.m. with a program designed especially for children and families. The program will include a live eagle from Liberty Wildlife and a presentation about eagles in Arizona by an AZGFD biologist.

Bald eagle viewing will be available to all participants on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at nearby Lazy Oaks Resort on Rainbow Lake to observe bald eagle behavior first-hand, weather permitting. AZGFD biologists and experienced naturalists will be there along with a limited number of binoculars and spotting scopes.

Participants are advised to dress appropriately for weather conditions for that day and to bring a set of binoculars or spotting scope for improved observation.

Directions to the viewing location will be available at the Nature Center.

**While you are here, buy a Eagle Fest shirt with the beautiful design by Anne Groebner that you see above. Don't think you can get one later at Walmart, you can't!**

For questions or more information, please call Dan Groebner at the Pinetop Game

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and Fish office at 925-532-2305 or [dgroebner@azgfd.gov](mailto:dgroebner@azgfd.gov)

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A \$10 donation to the White Mountain Nature Center is suggested for adults.

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