

Tiny

On September 9th, wildlife officer Vince Pontello called to say that he had received a call saying an eagle was down in Roane County. Those of us who take these calls always assume it will be a large red-tailed hawk, which is exactly what Vince said to me, “probably a red tail”. About an hour later the phone rang again and I could hear the disbelief in his voice when he said it was an adult Bald Eagle; we just don’t get a lot of eagles. He was at my house with it in about a half an hour. We examined it and found a broken femur and some blood in the mouth.

The next day being Monday I took the eagle to the vet’s office with help from Sheila Saltmarsh. The bird was as much as I could handle and more, even with the leg broken. X-rays were taken and a plan made for the surgery to take place. The leg was badly broken with 6 separate pieces of bone, but fortunately all but one small piece had a good blood supply. The surgery took an hour and a half, and two pins and several wires were required to hold the leg all together.

Then the fun began. Every day the eagle had to be gotten out of our largest pet carrier and given his medications and some food since our bird didn’t choose to eat yet. It took nearly a week and a half of getting him out twice a day before he began to eat on his own and we could put the medications in his fish. As soon as the two weeks were up and he could stop the antibiotic, we took him to a room at the Raptor Center. He couldn’t be given too much space as he could still hurt the leg, but it sure beat a large pet carrier. Now it will just take time and lots of fish to see if the healing will be what is needed for a release in the future. Our student volunteers named him “Tiny”.



Photo by Sheila Saltmarsh



Photo by Tom Haynes

Longevity (life expectancy) - It's possible for bald eagles in the wild to live longer than thirty years, but the average lifespan is fifteen to twenty years. A captive eagle at West Stephentown, NY lived to be at least 48 years old.

Size:

Length.....28 to 38 inches Wingspread.....66 to 96 inches Weight.....6.5 to 14 pounds

(Tiny weighs 9.5 pounds)

A day in the life ...

August 10, 2009... Got a call about a young vulture beside the road on the way to Clinton. Got a box and a pair of gloves and a towel and off I went. Found it laying in the grass in the sun and the temperature is 90 today..so brought the poor creature home and put him in the coolest place I could think of, my bathtub. Figured that would help. Offered a bit of water and it drank but didn't let it have too much, it may need sub-Q fluids as it is very thin. Can't stand up, may be weakness from starvation or might have been hit by a car since it was so close to the road. Guess I need to make a trip to the store. As I stood in line with my pedialite and a container of chicken livers I wondered how "normal" people spend their day. Got back and offered the pedialite and it didn't want it so tried a small piece of chicken liver which disappeared in a flash. Guess for now I will just give a small piece of liver every couple of hours. He just goes to sleep in between the times I offer sustenance. I guess I will get a box for him so he doesn't get too cool in the tub since he doesn't have much reserve energy. It is doing better since the food though .

August 11... Took Vulture to Dr. Hinson for exam. There is some sort of swelling at the foot joint on one leg and the hock joint on the other. Started antibiotics and an anti-inflammatory and pain medication. After about 5 days there was no improvement so the bird was sent to UT Veterinary Teaching Hospital, where it finally had to be euthanized on the 24th. No one ever could discover what was the cause of the joint swelling but the bird never could stand up and a necropsy was planned.

Katie

Raptor Update

Date	Species	Reason for Admission	Outcome
July 5	Turkey Vulture	Thin, on ground	Euthanized, Aug 18
July 7	Broad-winged Hawk	Head trauma	Died, July 7
July 10	Red-shouldered Hawk	Fell from nest	Released, Aug 1
July 10	Red-shouldered Hawk	Fell from nest	Died, July 14
July 29	Broad-winged Hawk	Fractured leg	Released, Aug 29
July 29	Broad-winged Hawk	Injured shoulder	Released, Aug 29
Aug 5	Red-shouldered Hawk	Wing fracture	Euthanized, Aug 11
Aug 10	Black Vulture	Thin, swollen joints	Euthanized, Aug 24
Sept 9	Bald Eagle	Fractured leg	Pending
Sept 24	Barred Owl	Both wings fractured	Euthanized, Sept 25
Sept 26	Red-tailed Hawk	Old healed fracture	Euthanized, Sept 28

Non-Raptor Update

Date	Species	Reason for Admission	Outcome
July 19	Ruby throated hummingbird	Wing fracture	Died, July 21
July 26	Ruby throated hummingbird	Juvenile on ground	Released, Aug 9
Aug 5	Ruby throated hummingbird	Unknown	Died, Aug 7
Sept 25	American Crow	Paralysis (West Nile?)	Died, Aug 26
Oct 6	American Crow	Paralysis (West Nile?)	Died, Oct 7

**The Raptor Center is having an ALL day workday this Saturday, October 17th beginning at 9:00 am.
Low-skill carpentry for cage repair and yard work volunteers are needed.
It will be re-scheduled in case of rain. Call Katie for more details (483-8265).**

The Supporters Who Make It All Possible – THANK YOU!

Barbara Burton & Edmund Perfect
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 Dawn French
 Harriman Public Library
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As Always, a BIG Thank You to...

OAK RIDGE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Thank You to everyone who has helped with the eagles food and care.

Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery for fish
 Mike Acuff for fish
 Ryan Winchester for venison heart and liver
 Peggy Teague and Ann Hensley for being Eagle Holders
 Sheila Saltmarsh for taking pictures at the clinic
 Tom Haynes for more pictures

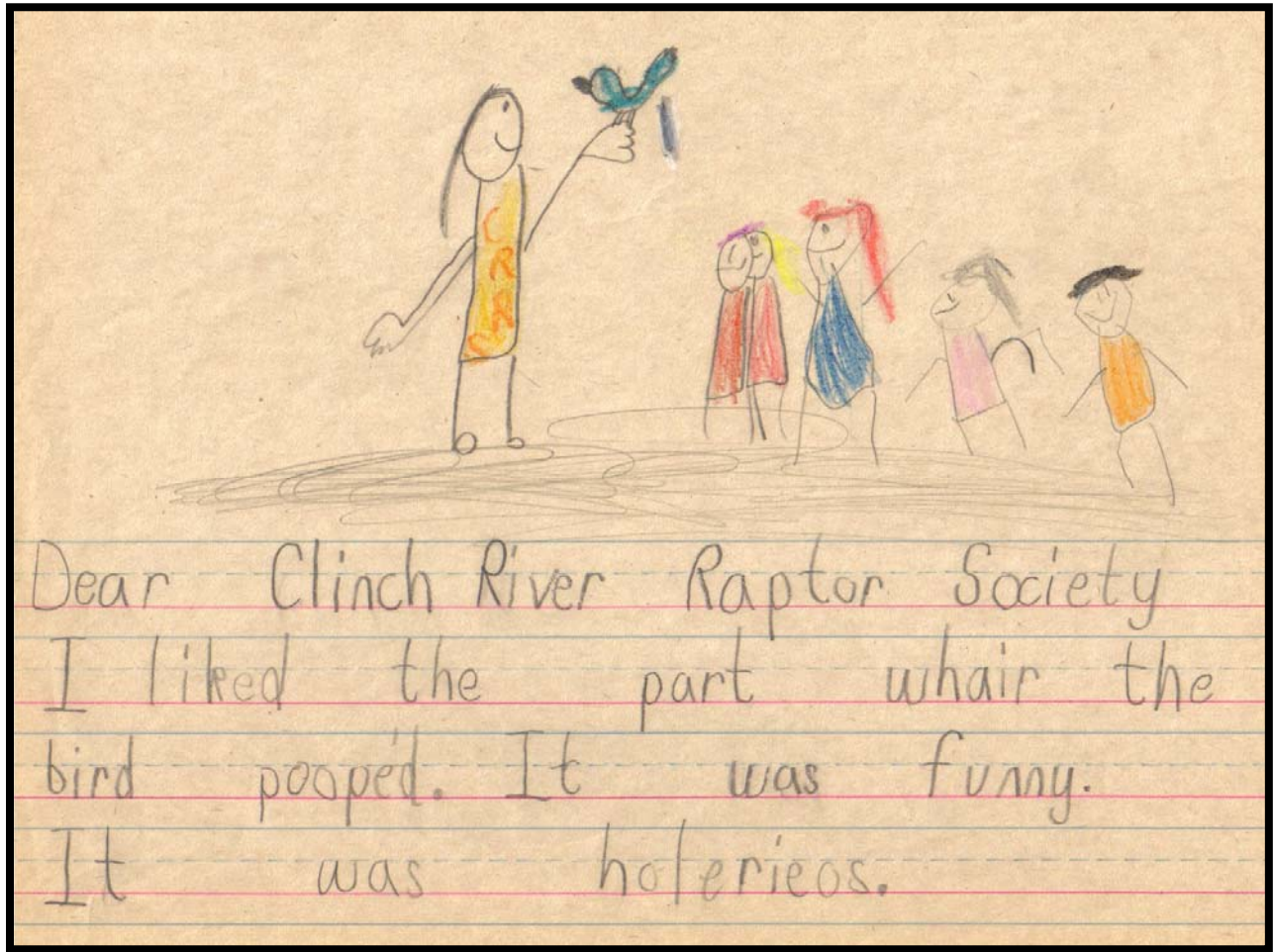
If it takes a village to raise a childit takes half of East Tennessee to keep an eagle fed and cared for!

Owl Prowl

On October 24th the Raptor Center in conjunction with the UT Arboretum will present an owl prowling at the Arboretum on South Illinois Ave. A program will begin at 6:30 pm at the shelter featuring owls of East Tennessee from the Raptor Center. The program will be followed by walks on the grounds of the Arboretum to try and call some owls with our recordings. Those who do not wish to go on the walks may visit with the education owls and some of the center volunteers. Children accompanied by adults are welcome.
 Bring a flashlight and come join us!

Programs

Date	Location	Volunteers
July 4	Norris Dam State Park	Matthew Gibson, Kathy, Katie
July 8	Harriman Public Library	Kris, Katie
July 23	Girls Incorporated Oak Ridge	Matthew Gibson, Frank Hester, Katie
Sept 2	TN Ornithological Society Knoxville	Katie, Kathy



In Support of Clinch River Raptor Center

THE CLINCH RIVER RAPTOR CENTER

Clinton Middle School
 110 N. Hicks St.
 Clinton, TN 37716

Date: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____

Yearly Membership:

(includes quarterly newsletter)

Individual \$10

Family..... \$15

Al Rodd Great Horned Owl Print \$25

Other Donation\$_____

I am interested in becoming a volunteer.

Phone: () _____ - _____

Contacts

Katie Cottrell	483 - 8265
Kathy Strunk	482 - 6058
Kris Brantley	463 - 7387
Gary Mascaro	924 - 5472
Melora Doan	661 - 6507
Oak Ridge Vet Hospital	483 - 6614
U T Vet School	974 - 5667
Clinton Middle School	457 - 3451