



# ON THE WINGS OF EAGLES...

## THE AMERICAN BALD EAGLE FOUNDATION

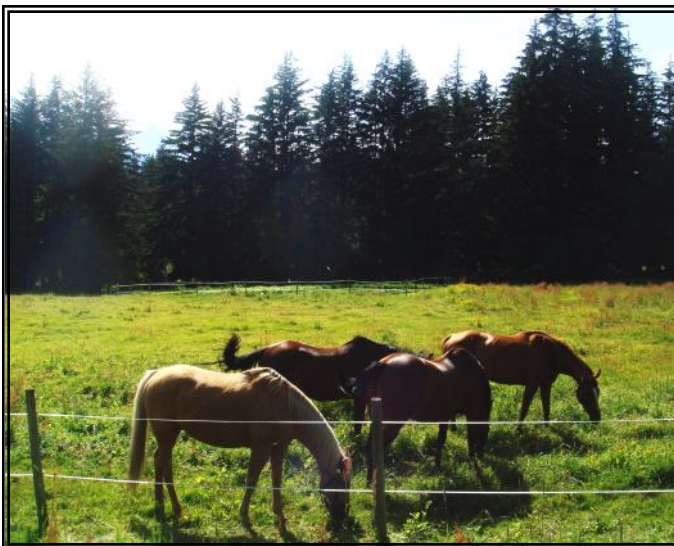
JULY 2010

### AMERICAN BALD EAGLE FOUNDATION GIVEN A GENEROUS DONATION!

The ABEF has received another generous donation. Former Haines Mayor Robert Henderson donated his 14 + acre farm to the American Bald Eagle Foundation for use in rehabilitating Eagles & other birds. The property will be the site of our two flight enclosures for retraining eagles to fly. During an Appreciation luncheon Mr. Henderson announced before our guests his intentions. "As you get more birds you're going to need more space. I have the exact space in front of my house that would be a perfect fit," Henderson told the gathering. I'm looking at a real future with the Bald Eagle Foundation and my property. The foundation and Mr. Henderson have come to an agreement that the land would



also be used to keep horses on and a community garden. A "Life Estate" agreement was given which will allow Mr. Henderson to stay on the property for the rest of his life. He told the gathering he is looking forward to watching the training out his windows. Mr. Henderson and our founder David Olerud were school teachers together in



Haines . This donation would allow the foundation to take its next step. The sky's the limit, and there's so much to be done. Our long term plans are to have "veterinarian externships" training at the ABEF in conjunction with Dr. Scott Ford and Auburns Dr. Jamie Bellah. Also our legislatively funded expansion and improvements will include flight pens to be utilized by any rehab center in Alaska. We are becoming the only Natural History Museum and raptor Center in Alaska. We are currently searching for a grant that would help us land a resident veterinarian, a requirement for a facility that rehabilitates birds. This summer the ABEF is making plans to erect the Flight Enclosures on the property and work with Mr. Henderson on plans for developing the rest of the property.

THE AMERICAN BALD  
EAGLE FOUNDATION

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ALABAMA

DR. DAN HART

ALASKA

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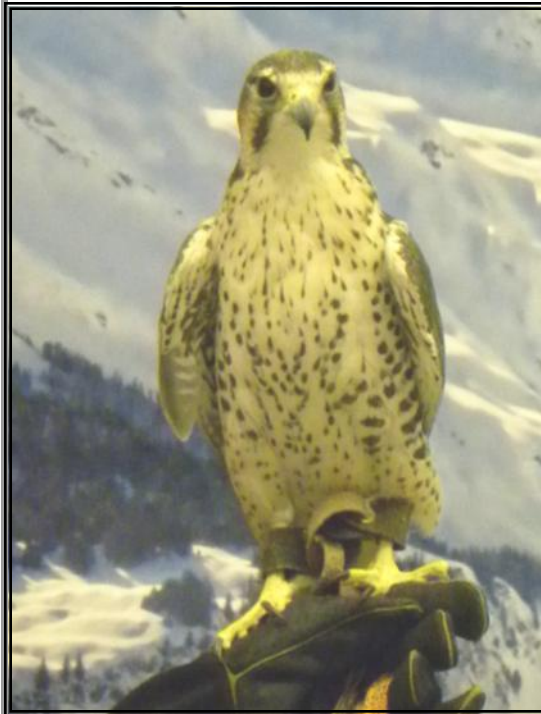
TRUSTEES IN MEMORIAM

DR. HANS FLUEHLER, QUEBEC

MR. ED SHIRLEY, GEORGIA

## WE ARE PROUD TO INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR LIVE BIRD EDUCATION PROGRAM

### “ZILLA”



Our 1st Live Raptor to enter our Education Bird program is Zilla. She is a Lanner-Saker Falcon. Zilla was donated to the ABEF. She is a imprint bird meaning she was raised in captivity and would not be able to survive in the wild. She is a glove trained, fully flighted falcon in training now to do programs at the ABEF. Zilla has been participating in our daily bird presentations, and soon we will have, flying back and forth between handlers and flying after her lure. These falcons can fly up to 200 mph in a dive to catch their prey. She is a bird of open plains and desert-type habitats, breeding in middle Europe eastward into Asia. She is a bold and ferocious falcon, attacking prey much larger than itself; it is greatly favored by Falconers. Like other falcons, this falcon is equipped with sharp, curved talons for grasping prey, while the strong, hooked beak is used to tear its victim's flesh. We are very fortunate to have her as a educational bird in our program.

Our First eagle “Sir George” is an 8 yr. old Bald Eagle who came to us from the Juneau Raptor Center as one of our education birds. He was found out on the ice on Auke Bay in Juneau. His injuries deeming him non releasable are, he is blind in one eye and has 2 missing talons. Dr. Dan Hart is utilizing his skills he acquired from his training with eagles at the Southeastern Raptor center in Auburn , AL. We are hoping to have him ready for presentations by the end of the summer. George will be moving into our new Mew addition this fall and will live out his life with 2 other eagles. Our new Mew will provide our Eagles with a natural setting to live in, complete with a pond to bathe in, plant life, with an open aviary to allow in, sunlight, rain, snow ect. Our viewing area will be open for our guest to view these eagles from the 1st and 2cnd floor.

### “SIR GEORGE”



## “ HUNTER “

Introducing “Hunter” our Barred Owl.

Hunter came to us from the Juneau Raptor Center in May. Hunter had fractured his wing bones and, although repaired with wing pins, he is unable to fly well enough to be returned to the wild. US Fish & Wildlife has permitted us to care for and house him as an educational raptor. Barred owls are appropriately called hoot owls as they are one of the few who make hooting sounds or calls. Owls are nocturnal creatures and are most active during the night. His chest has numerous “bars” on it which is where the barred owl gets its name. They will eat most anything but prefer voles, shrews, mice, rats, squirrels, grouse, quail, jays, fish, frogs, snakes and even turtles. We here at the foundation are striving to keep Hunter’s diet as close to the wild as possible. However, we order in his food frozen. No live animals are fed to our birds. These owls are found in a wide swath of the USA from Florida to Southeast Alaska. If your walking in the woods and hear “ Who cooks, Who cooks, Who cooks for you all” Look up, It will be a barred owl!



## “ SARAH “



Sarah our “Great Horned Owl” was rehabilitated by the AK Wildlife Rehab Center in Wasilla, AK Her injuries include two fractured wings which have affected her flying abilities to hunt. Great horned owls have fully feathered feet and powerful talons. What appear to be “ears or horns” are actually tufts of feathers. However these owls use their ears far more than their eyes to find and locate their prey by having a facial structure similar to a disc. The disc funnels and helps direct sound waves into their ears which are located at two different heights on the head allowing them to pinpoint their prey exact position. Their extremely large eyes are then used as a confirmation before the strike. Owls can turn their heads a full 270 degrees in either direction. These owls can live up to 13 years in the wild. However, in captivity, they have survived as long as 39 years. These owls prefer a similar diet to the Barred owls in addition to hares and rabbits They are the only animals that regularly eat skunks. Their range includes South and Central America and most of North America except for the extreme northernmost parts of Alaska and Canada Great horned owls are usually between 17-24 inches with a wing span from 3.5 to 5 feet. Sarah is a beautiful addition to our Raptors at the ABEF.

## OUR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

In appreciation of their support the ABEF invited guests to an American Bald Eagle Foundation Luncheon On Sat. May 15<sup>th</sup> Lunch was catered by the Bamboo Room. Our doors opened at 11:00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> touring of our new addition to our facility. Our guests met our new resident birds. Our honored guest included Representative Bill Thomas After lunch we had a live bird presentation and speakers. Our speakers included Robert Henderson who made the donation of his farm to the ABEF, Rep. Bill Thomas who was instrumental in getting the additional funding to finish our new addition, and Dave Olerud, our founder, who thanked everyone for their generous support and help they had given to the ABEF. Live bird Presentations were given by Dr. Dan Hart who presented "Zilla", our Lanner-Saker Falcon, Kory Gaskill, who presented our Barred Owl "Hunter", and Kathy Benner, who brought "Phil" a Gyr falcon from the Juneau Raptor Center



At 1:00 p.m. we departed to the Chilkat Eagle Preserve to witness our First Eagle Release of 2010 by Representative Thomas & our Mayor Jan Hill. We released a Juvenile Bald Eagle named "Winter" This eagle was struck by a car at 14 mile and was flown to the Juneau Raptor Center, courtesy of Wings Airlines. Winter was ready to be released and The Juneau Raptor Center wanted to bring "Winter" back to Haines to release her back into the wild in Haines where she was captured. The release took place at 2:00 p.m. at Letnikof Cove where there had been a lot of herring spotted in the area for food and numerous other Eagles. It's a amazing an feeling to witness one of these Eagles being released back into the wild. Winter flew out of his carrier and headed up the Chilkat River.



## HAINES OPEN HOUSE COMMUNITY DAY

July 10th we hosted "Haines Community Day" The residents of Haines were invited in as our guest for our "World Premiere" showing of our new DVD "Flight For Freedom" Over 140 guest were treated to 3 Live Bird presentations, snacks, and movie viewing.

Dan Hart, & Jim Bussey, one of the producers of our DVD from Echo Media productions in Modesto, CA. Presenting our 1st "Flight For Freedom" DVD sold to Marian Miller a member visiting Haines from Saginaw, Michigan.



Jessica Larson presented "Zilla" our Saker-falcon and Kori Gaskill presented "Hunter" Our Barred owl" and Eva Mathews with Sarah our Great Horned owl in a educational program about our raptors to our guests. We now have live raptor programs daily, educating the public about our raptors. Members, as always have Free admission, so please do stop by and visit if your in Haines or planning a visit!



## WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

**Ruth Fairall** We welcomed back Ruth Fairall this year as a volunteer! After wintering in Washington, Ruth and her husband Ben came back to their home in Haines. This is Ruth's 2nd Season at the Front Desk!



**Libby Jacobson** a high school student here in Haines has been volunteering her time at the foundation to learn about Raptor handling. We are very impressed with her abilities and are looking forward to training her as one of our handlers.



**Volunteer opportunities are available. Please call Cheryl McRoberts, at 907-766-3094**

## OUR "RAPTOR HANDLER" INTERNS FROM AUBURN UNIVERSITY,

**Kori Gaskill**, one of the new interns at the ABEF, is here from Holt, Florida. Kori is a graduate from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama with a B.S. in Equine Science. While attending Auburn she worked at the Southeastern Raptor Center and has been working with birds of prey for almost 3 years. Kory says, "At the South East Raptor Center, I worked with a variety of raptors, but mostly with Turkey Vultures. In my opinion they are awesome birds. Here at the ABEF I am Hunter, the Barred Owl's trainer and presenter. At The American Bald Eagle Foundation she is the primary caregiver for Hunter, on who she feeds, trains, flies, and gives presentations with. I will be staying in Haines until November to help with the "Flight For Freedom banquet and Auction and The Alaska Bald Eagle Festival. Kori being from Florida is telling us she looking forward to experiencing "the mysterious thing called snow"! Since Kory's arrival in Alaska, her Dad has come to visit and she has had the opportunity to experience some of what Alaska has to offer from a flight to Glacier Bay, a whale watching trip, and a one day hike over the entire Mount Ripinsky trail with her Dad.



**Eva Mathews** is a senior at Auburn University at Auburn, majoring in zoology. Eva has her own farm in Waverly, AL where she has ten horses, four dogs, and two parakeets. Along with caring for her own animals and attending Auburn University full-time Eva, volunteers at the Southeastern Raptor Center six days a week. Every weekend she cares for all 24 educational birds at the SERC. Eva has been working with raptors since 2007 and she has trained owls, falcons, hawks and eagles. She firmly believes that all of God's creatures are intelligent in their own way and the secret to training them is to respect the animal on their level of cognitive skills. So far, her logic has proven true; she has trained everything from gerbils to eagles. Another talent of Eva's is her love for working with leather goods. She started her own business at age 16 and now she has become one of the leading model horse tack makers in the world. She is one of two tack makers selected in a worldwide search to give a tack demonstration this July at the Lexington Horse Park in Kentucky. These two quotes "I dream my painting and paint my dreams" by Vincent Van Gogh and "You can't just sit there and wait for people to give you that golden dream. You've got to get out there and make it happen for yourself" by Diana Ross, sums up Eva. Her life is proof that with hard work and faith you can achieve your dreams.

**Jessica Larson** is a junior at Auburn University where she is studying for a degree in Zoology. Jessica has only been working with raptors since January 2010 when she started volunteering at the Southeastern Raptor Center but she has been working with and training animals her whole life and has owned several pets. At The American Bald Eagle Foundation she is the primary caregiver for Zilla the Lanner-Saker Falcon who she feeds, trains, flies, and gives presentations with. Even though Jessica and Zilla took a long time to get acquainted and for a while we all thought it was hopeless, they have become friends and are a great pair. When Jessica decided to go to school in the south she never expected to end up in Alaska but loves living in Haines and thought it was great to have a snowball fight in June. Jessica loves the outdoors and enjoys taking the ATVs up the mountain and going on hikes. "The scenery around Haines is incredible and everyone here is so nice" she said. Jessica is so grateful for the support of friends and family to take this internship, and thanks the staff and fellow interns at ABEF for making this an unforgettable summer.



# ALASKA BALD EAGLE FESTIVAL NOV. 10<sup>TH</sup>-14<sup>TH</sup>



## WORLD'S LARGEST BALD EAGLE GATHERING IN HAINES, ALASKA

PHOTO WORKSHOPS WITH "WELDON LEE" "PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2010"

PRESENTERS, ENTERTAINMENT, AUCTION, EAGLE RELEASE & CEREMONY AND MORE

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION AT 907-766-3094



## THE ALASKA STRING BAND WILL BE BACK THIS YEAR!



Chocolate Extravaganza!



Silent Auction!

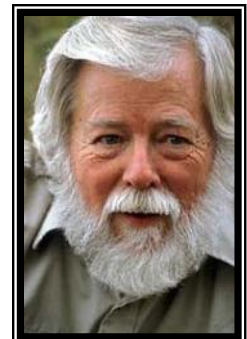


Kroschel Films Wildlife Center  
Photography Workshop

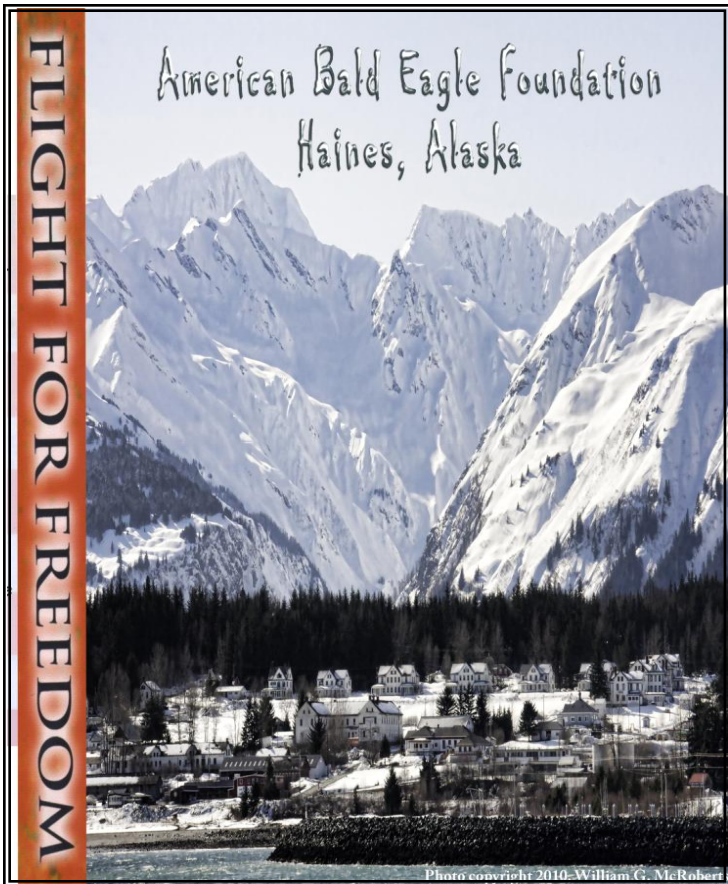
Congratulations to Weldon Lee who was selected as our Photographer of the year for 2010 . Weldon will be conducting Photography classes during the Festival in November and an Evening PowerPoint Presentation called "Trekking Planet Earth in Search of Wildlife" From eagles to elephants, the evening will be an all-out feast for the senses.

It's a once-in-a-lifetime presentation  
you simply can't miss!

eGallery: [www.WeldonLee.com](http://www.WeldonLee.com)



## “OUR NEW AMERICAN BALD EAGLE FOUNDATION VIDEO!”



We are proud to announce the arrival of our New American Bald Eagle Foundation Video **“Flight For Freedom”** on sale now. In our gift shop. The Video can also be ordered by order by calling the ABEF 907-766-3094 or email us at [info@baldeagles.org](mailto:info@baldeagles.org)

The American Bald Eagle was once hunted and brought to the very edge of extinction, until common sense laws and hard work from groups like the American Bald Eagle Foundation saved its very existence.

This video tells of the struggle and survival of our country's national icon. Learn about the Tlingit Indians and how they have co-existed with all creatures of this area. They teach a very basic, yet important concept about how all creatures, including man live within an area known as the “box of life”.

Professional photographer and local resident, Ron Horn, talks about what it takes to photograph Eagles in Haines. Pam Randles explains how a phenomenon over 250 million years ago still affects Haines today. And American Bald Eagle Foundation founder Dave Olerud explains how these magnificent birds have learned to survive in the Valley of the Eagles.

In this 24 minute documentary you will learn about the American Bald Eagle's...

### “FLIGHT FOR FREEDOM”



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[www.baldeagles.org / info@baldeagles.org](http://www.baldeagles.org/info@baldeagles.org)



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To date we have received \$259.89 Thank you!

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**AMERICAN BALD EAGLE FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

The American Bald Eagle Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax exempt Foundation dedicated to the conservation and protection of the bald eagle and its habitat throughout North America. The Foundation relies on memberships, gift shop sales and generous donations from wonderful people like you to continue this important work. Please support the American Bald Eagle Foundation by becoming a member. If you do not wish to become a member, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. You may download a membership application from our website or send in this copy. All members receive free newsletters, free admission to our museum and a color eagle photograph each year. Silver, Gold and Lifetime members receive additional discounts. Please visit our website for more information and consider becoming a member today. [www.baldeagles.org](http://www.baldeagles.org)

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

For memberships outside the United States, please add \$10 to the membership fees below.

**INDIVIDUAL - \$ 35      SILVER - \$ 150      LIFETIME MEMBER - \$ 1,000      FAMILY - \$ 50      GOLD - \$ 250**

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