

# Sky Hunters

## Raptor Education and Rehabilitation

*Of all the birds, our Creator  
chose the Eagle to be the leader*



### THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

We want to take this time to thank all of our many dedicated members and those that yearly sponsor our education birds.

A special thank you to our volunteers who have helped to save many raptor lives, made good contacts with the public, and put many miles on their cars. The birds and we are very grateful.



## NOTES FROM THE NEST Winter 2020

### GREETINGS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Well, 2020 is at an end and we don't know anyone who isn't happy that this year is going to be over! We hope you and your families are staying healthy and finding creative ways to stay connected within your communities.

Our barn owl community was very busy this year. We heard and saw many videos of their activity in nest boxes. They double clutched, and that is very unusual here in San Diego. When folks take their boxes down to clean them, remember to spray the inside ceiling with WD40 so bees don't move in, as they too like cavities to make their home.

We helped low numbers of birds this year but with San Diego Humane Society taking over Project Wildlife and the Fund for Animals in Ramona, wildlife in San Diego that is orphaned or injured is in good hands!

While we haven't been able to do all our education outreach in schools, campgrounds or any of the nature centers due to the corona virus, we have worked with some home schools and many of the garden clubs all over San Diego. However, fewer programs makes for fewer donations and we still have our expenses for food and care for our education raptors. Please consider a donation to Sky Hunters to continue our mission of caring for raptors during this uncertain time.

*Blessings for the New Year to you and yours,  
Nancy and John Conney*



### Looking for a Holiday Gift?

*Make a donation to Sky Hunters in someone's honor! Your donation will support our efforts to educate the public about these wonderful birds and the role they play in keeping nature in balance. See back page for donation details!*

## Get to Know Sky Hunters Education Raptors Burrowing Owl

The burrowing owl nests in a hole in the ground. Here in southern California, they regularly use holes of California ground squirrels. Burrowing owls live in dry, open areas with no trees and short grass. They are also found in developed areas like golf courses, vacant lots, fields or pastures. The burrowing owl is diurnal—foraging during the day and night—but they are most active in the early morning and evening. Prey includes insects, scorpions, small mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles, and owls catch more insects during the day and more mammals at night. Researchers can easily tell what owls have been eating from the regurgitated pellets of indigestible food like fur, bones, and beetle carapaces. Owls catch their prey like other raptors with their feet; they hunt by walking, hopping, or running along the ground, or by flying from a perch. The San Diego Zoo is researching squirrels and owls—you can read more at: <http://www.sandiego.com/articles/2011-08-29/san-diego-zoo-conservation-project-uses-squirrels-help-owls>. Check out the video of owlets and their parents at the burrow as well as the video on the squirrel/owl research!



**SKY HUNTERS**

c/o Nancy Conney  
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www.skyhunters.org

Your membership and donations are vital to Sky Hunters' work to rehabilitate and release ill, injured, and orphaned raptors, and to educate the public about these amazing birds. We are grateful for your support! Please complete the application and send along with your donation to: Sky Hunters at PO Box 1275, Lakeside, CA 92040. Or join/donate online at [www.skyhunters.org](http://www.skyhunters.org)!

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or DONATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my tax deductible gift.**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Student/Senior

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75 Family

**Sponsor CHECK ONE RAPTOR OF YOUR CHOICE IN THE CATEGORY**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 75 \_\_\_\_\_ Kite \_\_\_\_\_ American Kestrel \_\_\_\_\_ Burrowing Owl \_\_\_\_\_ Screech Owl \_\_\_\_\_ Pygmy Owl

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Red Tailed Hawk \_\_\_\_\_ Harris' Hawk \_\_\_\_\_ Peregrine Falcon

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Barred Owl \_\_\_\_\_ Great Horned Owl \_\_\_\_\_ Barn Owl

\_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ Bald Eagle \_\_\_\_\_ Golden Eagle

***Thank you!!  
Sky Hunters depends on  
your support!***