

Education Meeting

03-06-11

Present: Kent, Nancy W., Nancy M., Nancy P., Randi, Merle

Contact information: We will resume sending out our contact information to local vets, Troopers, police etc. for any bird incidents that they may encounter.

Ed Programs: We are expecting about 30 + programs for this summer to be booked by the end of March. There will be 4 programs for Alaska Wild Tours that will be at Cooper's Landing. We will be changing the ed program emails- they will now contain dates of meeting and other center information for volunteers.

Merle will contact Tamara at BLM to see if they are doing an Earth Day program that we can participate in- hopefully we will be able to camp out with the birds for the event as we did at Paxon.

Merle will contact Daveny at Allstate to confirm our participation in the Sportsman's Warehouse event (and the advertising) this fall.

Volunteer Recruitment Event: We have scheduled a summer Volunteer Recruitment event for June 12. The information will also be sent to the general membership list. The event will be held at Randi's home. We will BBQ, invite the public via newspaper and radio ads at least 2 weeks in advance of the event (community service/community corner spots), introduce them to the birds, with presenters giving short talks to those interested in specific birds, and let them hold the birds. All presenters needed for the event. (We need to cultivate contacts in TV and Radio to help sponsor advertising spots)

Laurie will handle the advertising, with Kent's help. Randi will take care of the food.

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic: Scheduled for July 23. Kent will provide the main dishes, and pot luck side dishes and desserts will be appreciated.

Caretaker Agreements/Logs: Dos and don'ts also apply to presenters; Ed Logs for 2010 are needed ASAP. Caretakers also need to keep and submit logs for their hours. New regulations (may be put into effect from 6 months to 3 years, most probably within 1 year) must have hours to caretake/house a bird, and lack of documentation will impact those currently caretaking birds, or those who may want additional birds). There will be different hours required for different species.

Annual news inspections and health checks: we need to standardize the forms- must have an annual mew inspection for birds housed outside the center, and annual health checks performed by a vet of the center director.

Required programs: Fish and Wildlife require 12 presentations per year. The center requires 18 presentations per handler (non-caretakers), and for caretakers, 18 presentations per bird per year. Each time a bird is returned to its kennel (they should have a 15 minute break for each hour of presentation) and brought back out counts as a presentation (F & G doesn't state how long a presentation must be).

Fish and Wildlife Roundtable: Kent attended the roundtable at the Albany NWRA Symposium: Education hours are handling of birds by species. We have no falcon experience at present. The birds will be categorized as Handled, Not Handled, and Flying Birds. The criteria for possessing eagles for ed programs is changing- to possess, we must be an AZA accredited zoo, Native corporation, or scientific research facility, and have an endowment for 50% of the center' annual operating costs. Research means that we have to write a paper and present it to the public (presenting a paper at the next NWRA symposium is acceptable). Ideas for research papers are the nest box project (we have a school on board that wants to participate in this)- we need to devise an outline of the requirements for the project, and what we expect out of it.

Notes:

We need to have the different levels and what the participant gets listed on the website for the Adopt-A-Bird program.

Number of presentations required by the center for handlers, birds, and caretakers are not shown in the caretaker/presenter handbook. Either 16 or 18 are required. Kent to review.