



Annual Report

National Eagle Center

2013

Spreading Our Wings and Taking Flight



We are pleased to present this annual report to community – the many and varied constituents who support, encourage, and are inspired by the mission of the National Eagle Center.

When I arrived at the National Eagle Center in May, 2012 I found an organization poised to take flight. The organization had all the ingredients of a superb non-profit:

- A world class facility in a magnificent setting
- A committed Board of Directors with aspirations to develop the Center's potential
- A talented and passionate staff ready to spread its wings
- A central subject – North American eagles – that is truly inspiring.

In the time I have been here I have not been disappointed by the National Eagle Center's potential. Wabasha community leaders completed the Center's capital campaign and have paid off the construction loan from the city. Five new members have been added to the Board of Directors. The amazing staff are taking leadership in such varied areas as Golden Eagle research, the impacts on eagles of lead poisoning and wind turbines, new programming such as Eagle Viewing Field Trips, and training our resident eagles to be even better educational ambassadors.

In addition, in the past year a number of steps have been taken to strengthen the organization. Financial and reserves policies have been implemented that improve controls and management. Social media vehicles such as Facebook have become vital components of a very engaging communications strategy. New fundraising programs such as "Bird to the Max" Day and "Primary Feather" memberships have been very successful.

All of this would not have been possible without the support – financial and otherwise – of the National Eagle Center's contributors and members. With your support we expect to fly even higher in 2014 and beyond as we truly spread our wings.

Rolf Thompson
Executive Director



Education Director Scott Mehus and Was'aka teaching young students about eagles and the Mississippi River watershed.

As we move into our seventh year in this landmark facility on the banks of the Mississippi River in Wabasha, MN, the Board is proud of our achievements. In the last year, the National Eagle Center has taken significant steps towards maturity as a non-profit organization. Much like a young eagle coming of age, the visible signs of maturity are now evident.

Early in 2013, we completed a strategic planning process that will guide our steps in the next 18-24 months. In it, we outlined strategic priorities including improving the visitor experience to attract new and returning visitors through the development of new and innovative programs and exhibits. We are already seeing progress, as we look to open an inspiring new exhibit, Masters of the Sky: Raptors, Flight and Migration this spring.

The Board of Directors has grown to ten members who all volunteer their time and talents to guide this organization. Implementation of committee structures and governance policies has strengthened the effectiveness of the board as a whole.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the board members for their dedicated service to this organization and I look forward to what the future brings for the National Eagle Center.

James Reidy
Board Chair

Programs and Events



Our annual attendance of more than 72,000 people includes general admission and group program visits to the National Eagle Center. In the last year, we hosted 79 group programs for a special live eagle presentation, including 26 school or youth group visits, and 25 adult travel groups. In March, more than 10,000 people visited during our Soar with the Eagles festival.

We also offered live eagle programs offsite at schools, senior centers, and community celebrations. A special Eagles Honoring Veterans fund has provided support for us to offer quarterly visits with a bald eagle ambassador to the VA hospital in Minneapolis. All these programs help us reach thousands more with a message of environmental stewardship.

Golden Eagle Project

The Golden Eagle Project continues to add significantly to the world's knowledge of North American eagles.



When Education Director Scott Mehus began the Annual Wintering Golden Eagle Survey ten years ago, few realized that the result would be the groundbreaking discovery of a regular wintering presence of golden eagles in the Upper Midwest.

Combined with satellite tracking data on golden eagles known to use the blufflands region, the Golden Eagle Project is contributing important research to further understanding the migration patterns, habitat needs and breeding origins of this population of golden eagles.

In May, Mehus and the Golden Eagle Project were recognized for these contributions as part of the Eastern Golden Eagle Working Group, which received the Wings Across the Americas Research Management and Partnership Award from the US Forest Service.

EAGLE CREW

Volunteers contribute thousands of hours each year to make possible all the great programs and events at the National Eagle Center. Our thanks to the following volunteers for their passion and dedication throughout the year.

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Suzanne Blue	Dave Kostik
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National Eagle Center staff

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Director of Finance and Administration - Alison Springer
Director of Public Relations - Eileen Hanson
Education Director - Scott Mehus
Director of Eagle Care - Bridget Befort
Facilities Manager - Bryan Hall
Naturalist and Avian Care - Jennifer Drayna
Naturalist and Volunteer Coordinator - Katie Huber
Marketing and Programs Coordinator - Danielle Daugaard
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Naturalist - Robert 'Bucky' Flores
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Thank you for your support!

nationaleaglecenter.org

National Eagle Center 2013

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Masters of the Sky

Raptors, Flight and Migration



Thank you for your support!

nationaleaglecenter.org

National Eagle Center 2013

We are grateful for the following grants to support the mission and programs of the National Eagle Center, the Golden Eagle Project, and our new exhibit, Masters of the Sky; Raptors, Flight and Migration.

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The National Eagle Center has taken flight!

The National Eagle Center began as a vision for our community and with the generous support of many in the community over the last seven years this vision became a reality.

A world class interpretive center now home to five rescued eagles welcomes more than 75,000 visitors to Wabasha each year. We are pleased to announce the conclusion of the capital campaign. All monies lent by the City of Wabasha for the construction of the National Eagle Center have been repaid.

We are truly grateful for the generous support of the Wabasha community and the many individuals and businesses who contributed to this capital campaign and have allowed the National Eagle Center to take flight and soar!



September, 2013

Jerry Arens and Don Jacoby
National Eagle Center Capital Campaign co-chairs

Thank You!

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Special in-kinds gifts

Murt and Rollie Seltz - Taxidermied golden eagle mount

Paul Schreiber - golden eagle sculpture



Thank you for your support!

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National Eagle Center 2013

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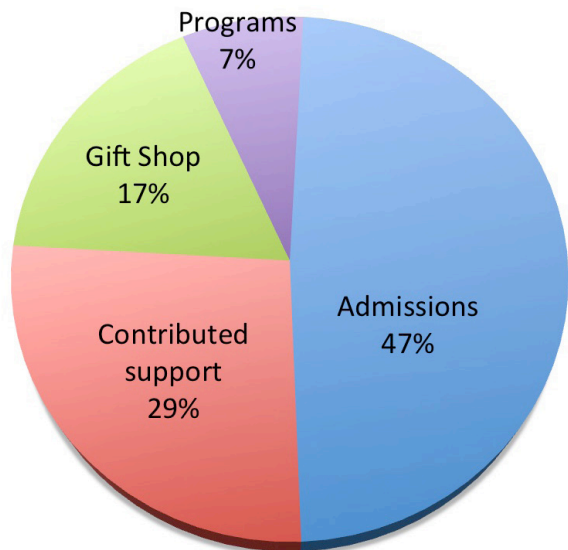
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In memory of **David Barker** - Jan Anderson, Janice Barker, Dale and Carol Nibbe
In memory of **Eugene Bradt** - Arlen Anderson and Claudia Delzoppo
In memory of **Steve Fenske** - Ed and Luci Passe
In memory of **Matthew Gerwill** - Kristen Walton Kimball
In memory of **Helmer Moe** - Robert and Gertrude Gaarder
In memory of **Dorothy Waldron** - Thomas Limberis and Elizabeth Chisholm
In memory of **Betty Wempe** - Phyllis Freund
In memory of **Mary Zalusky** - Jodi Gulla

Audited Financials for Eaglewatch, Inc (dba National Eagle Center)

Fiscal Year 2013 (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013)

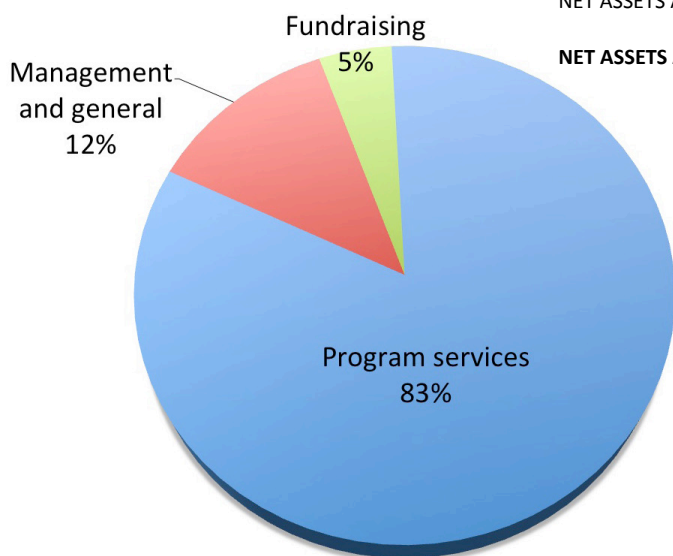
Income



FY 2013

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
REVENUE, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT			
Admissions	\$ 404,787	-	404,787
Contributed Support	221,244	25,875	247,119
Gift shop income (net)	144,645	-	144,645
Program revenue	62,949	-	62,949
Miscellaneous income	3,927	-	3,927
Net assets released from restrictions	73,341	-73,341	-
TOTAL REVENUE, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT	\$ 910,893	-47,466	863,427
EXPENSES			
Program services	\$ 738,695	-	738,695
Management and general	110,003	-	110,003
Fundraising	41,926	-	41,926
TOTAL EXPENSES	890,624	-	890,624
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	20,269	-47,466	-27,197
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 318,197	1,473,511	1,791,708
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 338,466	1,426,045	1,764,511

Expenses



Hawkins Ash CPAs completed an external audit of the National Eagle Center's 2013 financial statements. Additional financial information is available at nationaleaglecenter.org.



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Thanks to these generous sponsors for supporting all the programs and events during our SOAR with the Eagles festival in March.



Jerry Arens
State Farm Insurance

