Meet our Owls

Barred Owl “Norton”

Eurasian Eagle Owl “Artemus”

Barn Owl “Newton”

Fabulous Falcons

in a choice of 3 different shows

• Educational Birds of Prey
• Birds of the Gauntlet™
• A Day of Falconry
“Falconry is really a glorified form of bird worship. Men devoted to this fascinating sport hold a falcon in a light which few others visualize her. All of the noble attributes which man has recognized and admired through the ages: beauty, power, speed, intelligence and courage -- are to be found in the Peregrine Falcon. Her spell has enthralled the great men of many centuries. Little wonder that Falconry has survived from time immemorial as the oldest sport of man.

Though never spectacular, the growth of falconry in America has been steady, however slow. Each year found an ever-increasing number of devotees carrying on the traditions of the pastime. Unlike so many fads in this country which suddenly soar to popularity and fade as quickly, the followers of the sport are men who love it earnestly and continue to carry on in spite of the numerous handicaps confronting them.”

--- Alva Nye Jr.  

Educational Birds of Prey

My name is Kitty Tolson Carroll. I am a licensed falconer involved in the art of falconry since 1974. I offer programs to the general public about falconry and birds of prey.

I also bring live birds for the audience to view and photograph. If space permits, the hawks may be flown free to the fist, or a “simulated hunt” with a lure may be demonstrated. My goal is to teach the general public about hunting and predation in nature. To help people appreciate the role predators play in our environment and to help them understand their natural habits, which may be perceived and misunderstood by some as offensive or evil. The programs feature several formats. One is the modern-day context where I discuss the birds and conservation efforts by falconers to bring the Peregrine falcon and other endangered birds of prey back from the brink of extinction. Another presentation is in a historical context, where I dress in historical clothing and discuss the importance of falconry and the birds in our history and language. An additional format is a display at trade shows, corporate gatherings, or openings where the live birds are on display and questions are answered about conservation and the environment.

Our programs are given to schools, day care centers, senior groups, outdoor groups, corporate meeting and conventions; to people of all ages interested in learning more about these graceful and beautiful birds.
The festival. This type of program is intended to give dramatic and historical venue. This show is often presented as contemporary attire for the appropriate eras. I also can do the program in Renaissance, Colonial and Edwardian.

owls and humans, often in historic clothing of various time periods. Ranging from Middle Ages to the Renaissance, Colonial and Edwardian eras. I also can do the program in contemporary attire for the appropriate venue. This show is often presented as part of an Agricultural Fair, Medieval Gathering, Renaissance Fair, Celtic Event, Highland Games, Cultural Festival, Equestrian Event or Wildlife festival. This type of program is intended to give dramatic and historical ‘flair’ to an event focused on historical or cultural performing arts.

There are three facets: Birds of prey in a display area, free-flight program and a simulated hunt.

The Free-flight program presents an entertaining and educational exhibition of the raptors in action. Often this involves a bird on the fist as they would be carried and cared for in many historical circumstances. When possible, they can even be flown from person to person and allowed to exhibit various natural behaviors. If conditions permit, a simulated hunt demonstration can be conducted with a traditional lure. In this, a free flying bird is allowed to fly and chase a lure that is swung on a long lanyard to simulate a flight on a small game bird by the raptor. This can be very exciting to watch as the birds exhibit extreme speed and agility in the flights while they dive and swoop.

All phases of our programs provide ample opportunities for the patrons to take photographs and have their questions answered. The birds themselves are often one of the largest crowd draws at any event and can even be a focus of news media coverage and sponsor promotion.

Sponsors take note: If you wish to see the maximum number of visitors and most memorable impact at your sponsored attraction, this is THE tool for it.

These programs have been tailored for the following venues: Agricultural Fairs, Renaissance Festivals, Scottish Games, Cultural and Wildlife Festivals, Sportsmen’s and Boating Shows, Equestrian events, Museum Openings, Rodeos, Half -Time Shows, Schools; other venues, such as private parties and grand openings.

We are flexible, we can tailor a program for nearly any event!!!

Imagine having a trained hunter working with you in the field in your pursuit of game. Now imagine that hunter is a flying, diving, predator who is your partner! The thrill of stalking and taking wild game is exceptional and very memorable.

Think of the possibilities that an alliance between that predator and you, the human, can do. That is the essence of falconry, the oldest hunting sport that uses a trained wild predator. The time-honored art of falconry has always been the genuine sport of kings and nobility because it represents the pinnacle of both hunting and natural life studies as well as dedication. Many significant historical figures were somehow involved in the sport either as falconers themselves or sponsoring and employing professional falconers to keep charge of the hawks. Today, falconry is not as popular as it once was because it is extremely time consuming and continues to require exceptional dedication. Throughout the ages and into today, falconers have kept extremely high standards with regard to their hawks and how they are kept.

In order to provide an opportunity for people to experience this unique and time-honored tradition, I offer half day and full day field excursions to spend a time in the field with me, and trained hawks. As with all hunting endeavors, a day in the field is our greatest reward, whether or not wild game is caught. The joy of spending a day in the natural cycle of our planet while participating in one of the most thrilling hunting experiences you can have is simply -- fantastic. Incidentally, these experiences make for unmatched photographic and video opportunities!

A Day of Falconry

--- This is an opportunity that most people only get to see in nature documentaries. You will get to watch the human/hawk alliance in the field first hand in our pursuit of game. You will see how a hawk hunts and how game animals use their skills and instincts to survive. It is an act of nature; the struggle for survival between predator and prey, played out for thousands of generations and you can be part of it!
**Hawk Walks**

I offer nature trail walks with guidance and educational lectures with an added thrill in which the hawks are flown free (one to two hours).

Groups large or small can experience outdoor life in a very REAL setting along with live hawks for a very memorable outing. Even young and hard-to-reach children come away from these adventures with memories and an added sense of the natural world. Registration and pre payment required. Locations may vary.

**Falconry Apprentice Workshops**

For those who wish to investigate falconry more seriously I offer half day and full day falconry workshops to introduce the art and science of falconry. I demonstrate and explain how a person can get involved and start to gain experience with the goal of becoming an apprentice and eventually a falconer. These workshops cover history, laws & regulations, equipment, ethics, the birds themselves, the time & effort required and real-world commitment needed to enter into this very special vocation. This is a good introduction into understanding not only the birds and their care but also the genuine reality behind falconry in the modern world.

For those who wish to go further, I will provide ample background information to allow the sincere potential apprentice the resources to contact a sponsor and begin the journey. Courses are available as one-on-one meetings or group lectures. Registration and pre payment are required.

**International Falconry Academy™**

For those who wish to embark on their falconry pursuits and get a real foothold on the issues, knowledge and training involved, I offer an intensive three-day course on falconry. This is intended to be a first step in the serious academic pursuit of falconry apprenticeship and learning.

Classes will cover laws, ethics, hawks used, training techniques, hawk safety and behavior, how to find a good sponsor, hunting techniques, equipment, training, real-world issues and introducing a hawk to the world of falconry. This is done as much as possible in a very personal, hands-on setting involving face-to-face discussion and, whenever practical, outdoor environments. Course fee includes lectures, instruction, workbook and a gauntlet. Registration and pre-payment are required. Arrangements must be made well in advance. Additional sessions and more advanced lessons and activities can be scheduled for students that show commitment and progress.

**Consulting for Television, Film and Print**

I am available for consulting work for film, script development, television, print and other media regarding falconry & birds of prey.