

# INTERNATIONAL OWL CENTER

126 East Cedar Street • P.O. Box 536  
Houston, Minnesota 55943

**Our mission is to make the world a better place for owls.** We do that by *educating, inspiring, and empowering people to live owl-friendly lives.* This includes actions like using traps instead of poison to control rodents, leaving dead trees standing when it's safe to do so, taking down soccer nets when not in use, and mowing less lawn. Of the visitors to the Owl Center who have filled out surveys after their visits, **nearly EVERYONE plans to make changes in their lives to help owls.** Now that's called having an impact!

Johan, a 12-year old raptor aficionado from the Twin Cities considers the International Owl Center to be his favorite raptor center. He says, "The owl center is a magical place with owls from across the world. You cannot compare it to anywhere else. When I was in The Netherlands last summer, Karla arranged for me to see Eurasian Eagle Owls in the wild. Without the Owl Center I would not have been able to do that." (Thanks to volunteer Marjon Savelsberg for giving Johan this special experience.)

As a non-profit, **we can only do what we do with the support of a whole lot of similar-minded people like you.** If you look at our income and expenses from 2016, you'll see that contributed support (your **memberships and donations**) make up the biggest part of our income. In short, **WE NEED YOU!**



In 2016 over 13,000 people visited the Owl Center and attended our on- and off-site programs, plus we reached about 1 million people through our website and social media. In 2017 already **more than 13,000 people have visited or attended programs**, and our **internet reach stands around 1.4 million people**. We expect this to grow as we increase our online programs, create online resources for owl educators around the world and add reference material for ethical owl photography to our website.

Enjoy the photos of what we have accomplished in 2017 and what we plan to do in 2018 with your support. To enhance your impact, the Owl Center's Board of Directors will be personally **matching donations of \$100 or more**. Matching dollars are limited, so act soon to make sure you get the most bang for your buck.

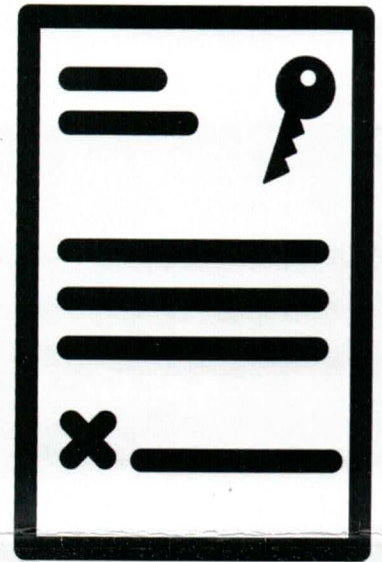
# With your financial support in 2017 we:



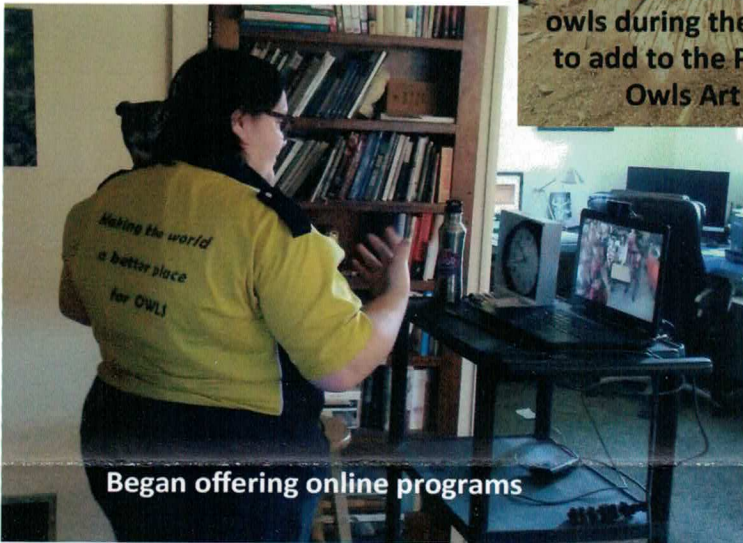
Kept our owls well-fed at a cost of up to \$750/month!



Had a dead tree carved with 4 owls during the Owl Festival to add to the Parade of the Owls Art Tour.



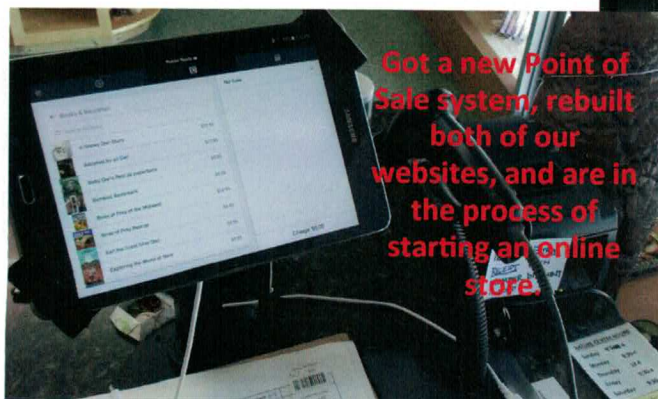
We raised over \$73,000 toward purchasing our future building site, for a total of \$93,000 raised so far. We started negotiating a lease with the City and terms of purchasing another property.



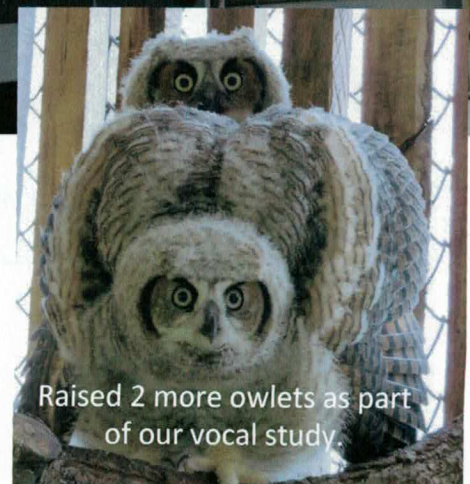
Began offering online programs



Led a workshop on Effective Owl Education Methods and presented vocal research at the World Owl Conference in Portugal.



Got a new Point of Sale system, rebuilt both of our websites, and are in the process of starting an online store.



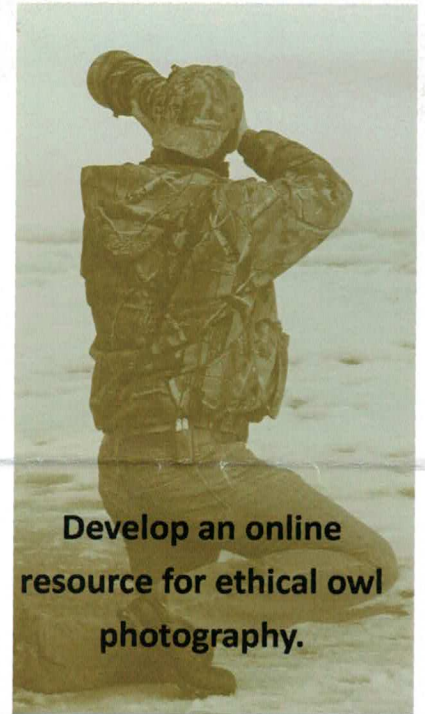
Raised 2 more owlets as part of our vocal study.

# With your financial support in 2018 we plan to:

Get a new owl ambassador.



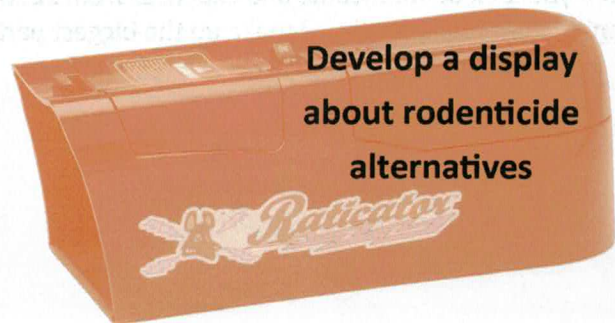
Purchase new display cases.



Develop an online resource for ethical owl photography.



Develop online resources for owl educators around the world.



Develop a display about rodenticide alternatives



Finish collecting and mounting specimens of most of the owl species in the U.S.

Continue site acquisition for our new building site.

