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Earth Day at Wagner Ranch



Earth Day will be associated forever more with long-time critter crusader, Gary Bogue, thanks to the City of Orinda which honored Bogue by declaring "Gary Bogue Day" at this year's Wagner Ranch Wildlife Festival April 21. Described by the New York Times in 2004 as "the Ann Landers of California wildlife, the former curator of the Lindsay Wildlife Museum and retired Contra Costa Times columnist was praised for his life's work in inspiring the public to learn more about and preserve their natural world. Bogue, who wrote three children's books, educated, amused and inspired readers of all ages through his popular columns while raising millions of dollars to support such organizations as the Muir Heritage Land Trust and Save Mount Diablo. He was also honored in September 2012 with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF). From left: U.S. Congressman George Miller, Bogue, Orinda City Council Member Victoria Smith, and Orinda Mayor Amy Worth. L. Snyder Photos Ohlen Alexander



This Eurasian Eagle Owl, who wowed animal fans of all ages at this year's Wagner Ranch Wildlife Festival, arrived in San Francisco's East Bay in 2003 at when she was just 7 weeks old. Born and bred in captivity in Missouri to serve as an education animal, she is a cousin to the Great Horned Owl of North America, and has been described by her caretakers at Native Bird Connections as "quite personable" and "an enthusiastic bather" who will bring toys and even breakfast with her as she "dips and flutters, shakes and shimmies" in the water.

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[back](#)

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