

# Gillespie Creek Journal



Great Horned Owl  
Guardian  
by Julie Wahlert

This week marks the one year anniversary of my "Nature Notes" launch  
Now 53 issues later wonderful photos of Great Horned Owls with their newly launched babies and a poem by Mary Oliver are featured.



Fledgling Great Horned Owl  
by Audubon



Parent and Just Launched Great Horned Owllet  
by Nancy Appel

**The Owl Who Comes**  
**By Mary Oliver**  
The owl who comes through the dark to sit in the black bough of the apple tree and stare down the hook of his beak, dead silent, and his eyes, like two moons in the distance, soft and shining under their heavy lashes-like the most beautiful lie-is thinking of nothing as he watches and waits to see what might appear, briskly, out of the seamless, deep winter-out of the teeming world below-and if I wish the owl luck, and I do, what am I wishing for that other soft life, climbing through the snow? What we must do, I suppose, Is to hope the world keeps its balance; what we are to do, however, with our hearts waiting and watching-truly I do not know.

Need a refreshing book about Owls or our Changing Planet to read?  
Try these:

- Owls and Other Fantasies: Poems** by Mary Oliver
- Owls in the Family** by Farley Mowat ( a good read along with children)
- Owl of the Eastern Ice** by Jonathan C Slaght
- L A Weather** by Maria A Escandon



Owls Recuperating at the Center For Birds of Prey, Awendaw, S.C. photo by Judy Appel