Florida Wild Mammal Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of sick, injured and orphaned wild animals. FWMA is equally committed to public education about wildlife issues.

198 Edgar Poole Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327 / 850.363.2351 / www.FWMA.org

Wildlife News & Notes

Summer 2016

WILDLIFE WINS

Orphaned Bald Eaglets get a second chance

The amazing story of these eaglets begins on St. George Island with eagle “neighbors” Kevin and Chantel Burdette along with Lauren Levi and Kenny Piotrowski, who rescued the month old eaglet sibling’s hours after a severe storm, toppled their nest. The eaglets were transported to FWMA for emergency care. Initially, Chris Beatty stabilized both eaglets, offered them food, applied a splint to one of the eaglets’ leg, which was fractured from the fall. She contacted Dorothy Kaufman at the Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida (WSNF) for her expertise in managing bald eagle rehabilitation cases, and the eaglets were transported the next day. One of the eaglets was uninjured, so planning began to try and return the healthy eaglet to a replacement nest built and secured in an adjacent tree. This required a coordinated effort between 3 state agencies, 2 wildlife rehabilitators, 1 veterinarian, the largest electric utility in the country, 1 bucket truck, several concerned citizens, 1 retiree, a federal agency to attempt to reunite the eaglet with its parents: The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Franklin County Extension (UF/IFAS); the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; several neighbors living in sight of original nest; the retired director of Audubon Eagle Watch (AEW); the FWMA and WSNF. Unfortunately, efforts to reunite the eaglet with its original parents were unsuccessful and Plan B was formulated to return the eaglet to WSNF to be raised by experienced eagle foster parents to have the best chance at a later release back to the wild. “How amazing that what seemed to be just a day about a single family of eagles... is actually an ongoing lesson in caring, awareness, and community”, said Dorothy Kaufman, Director of the Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida, Inc., located in Pensacola.

A Community Comes Together to Save a Martin’s Nest

A martin house roof and top story were ripped off by a terrible storm in Shell Point. The babies were exposed and overheating fast as the sun was beginning to rise. Although the FWMA rescue team had brought a ladder to the site, they soon realized they had underestimated the height of the nest and the pole it was on was secured by two large rusty bolts. Unflappable, the team went into the community to seek help. Soon the neighborhood came to their aid, a handyman down the street lent them an adjustable wrench and two men out fishing came ashore to lend a hand. With the extra help the team was soon able to safely lower the house and secure the roof. Afterwards they stepped back and watched the very anxious sets of parents return to their offspring and start feeding again. Thank you for everyone who stopped on their busy Saturday to help!

Look Who Came to Stay: Baby Season Edition

Two baby barred owls, rescued after ingesting something toxic, are on their way to recovery and will be introduced to the larger flight cage with adult barred owls soon. Presently, we are caring for 11 Barred owls

BEFORE

Twelve orphaned Opossums were brought into the center in April with their eyes barely open. They were given lifesaving care and love and were successfully released back to the wild in July. This year alone we have provided care for over 85 opossums.

AFTER

BABY BIRDS GALORE

Over 100 baby birds have arrived this season including: Carolina Wrens, Bluebirds, Martins, Woodpeckers and more! At least 82 have been raised and released!

We have eight orphaned fawns. Both have been moved to an outside enclosure to run and explore.

Helping Wildlife Tips

If you find an orphaned animal here are some tips to use and share:

- Make sure he/she is actually orphaned – unless it is in imminent danger, injured in some way or cold to the touch give the parents enough time to rescue their own babies.
- If you have determined you need to intervene put the orphan in a cardboard box lined with soft materials
- Keep the animal as warm, quiet, and dark as possible and don’t feed them ANYTHING! Orphaned songbirds require to be fed every 20-30 minutes so the quicker they receive care the better the chance of survival.
- Understand most rehabilitators are busy taking care of animals so please do not just leave a message.
The Struggle to Survive: Understanding the Nonprofit Challenges

FWMA does not receive any funding from county, state or federal government agencies. As a non-profit 501(c)(3), FWMA also does not sell a service or take in a profit. We rely solely on the generous contributions of our members, fundraisers, donations and foundation grants. A lesser known fact is there is no regularly scheduled funding. Grants are not a promise of funding and many times they are tagged for a specific purpose. For example, although we have received a large portion of funding through grants to build a new medical facility, the money cannot be spent on acquiring land needed to relocate the center. We are still seeking a donation of land or resources to purchase land. The cost was approximately $118,443 dollars last year to run the facility which increases exponentially due to the amount of animals we help. This is a rally for support and your assistance with the understanding of our unique financial challenges.

Learn more about our nonprofit status at http://findmeleaguer.guidestar.org – search for FWMA.

How You Can Help! Would you like to help our local wildlife by becoming a volunteer, but cleaning cages in this searing heat isn’t your thing? We are in desperate need of a fundraising committee and a coordinator to support their efforts. Baby season is the busiest time of year and with our resources already stretched to the max, FWMA has not been able to conduct fundraisers to collect donations when they are needed the most! Fundraisers are vital to raise money for animal feed, medical supplies, caging and special projects.

If you are interested in volunteering in this capacity, email Chris at choppaotta@aol.com.
Please include the word VOLUNTEER as the subject.

Recurring Fundraisers We Need Your Help With

- Yard sale setup and support (3-day event twice a year: March and September)
- Decorating small cedar trees (in early December for Christmas fundraiser)
- Golf Gone Wild tournament and silent auction setup and support (early May)
- Newsletter preparation for mailing (issued February, May, August and November)

ITEMS NEEDED FOR UPCOMING YARD SALE

| Thursday September 1st: Setup 8am – 11 am. Sale is 11 am – 4 pm. |
| Friday September 2nd: Sale continues 8 am – 4 pm.         |
| Saturday Sept 3rd: Final day 8 am – 12 noon.               |

- Yard sale donations can be delivered to storage unit 33A
- Located on the left side of the main building.
- To schedule your drop-off, please call Kathy at 850.926.2658
- To arrange for access to the unit (which is kept locked).
- All items accepted and can be delivered through Friday.
- All donations are tax deductible and are greatly appreciated.
- All proceeds from this event will be used to care for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife.
- Thank you so much for helping our local wildlife!
For further information please email Chris at choppaotta@aol.com.

Or you can hold your own fundraising event to benefit the animals at FWMA. We often receive donations from families who host birthday parties where the children are asked to bring gifts and donations from the FWMA “Wish List” that are delivered to the center. Be creative - anything you can do to support our wildlife rescue program would be greatly appreciated.

Big Thank You!

To all of the Facebook Donors and supporters who have helped us &
A special thank you to a private foundation for their generous grant!

To Tallahassee Action Grants, Inc. for the $250 grant award, $50 donation, all of the much needed supplies they collected & for choosing us as Rescue of the Month for May 2016

Find us on Facebook at:
Florida Wild Mammal Association

Please consider making a donation today.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FWMA is 22 years old!

To Linda From:

Lou Kellenberger
Chris & Kay Alward
Lois Hostnake
Heide Clifton
Lillian's Lucky
Joe Morgan

IN MEMORY OF

Gretchen Hobby
Thom Lewis
Luther Council
Dr. Dwayne Savage
Donna Pope
Hollis Vail

We have cared for over 15,000 animals with your help!

www.FWMA.org/2016-memorial-tree