



Summer 2014...it's no laughing matter

2014 is proving to be no different than any other year – it has been a very busy baby season. This time of year always brings us many different orphaned wildlife patients. Along with the usual assortment of baby mammals and birds the center has received very large numbers of three species; Laughing Gulls, Barred Owls and Raccoons – it's no laughing matter!! Just in July alone 25 Laughing Gulls (with assorted injuries), 15 Barred Owls and 20 baby Raccoons (needing to be bottle fed every three hours) have found refuge and care and FWMA. Fawn season has just begun and we have five new arrivals already. Baby squirrels will be following soon! Our small (but very, very, dedicated) team of staff members has been assisted by some awesome volunteers this summer including some students from the Internship Program at Wakulla High School and students obtaining community hours for the Scholarship Program. Many thanks to all of these wonderful young people – without your help we would not have been able to take care of so many wildlife patients.



Medical Room Building Project and FWMA's New Home

FWMA has been taking care of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife for 20 years. When Chris and Mike Beatty opened FWMA on their 6.5 acre piece of property in 1994 they expected that, as the center grew, it would eventually move onto its own piece of property. FWMA has been able to stay open through tropical storms, the financial crisis and the Beatty's own personal adversities but funding has never been enough for relocation (FWMA's survival has always depended on the free use of the Beatty's property and their 24/7 devotion). Continuing to provide care as per the mission has always

been the number one priority for everyone here at FWMA but, as the center enters into its third decade we are seeking property / land so that even after the Beatty's are no longer able commit all their time and property to FWMA the facility will continue to grow and provide care to our area's wildlife. What a tremendous legacy it would be to donate a piece of land that would be used as a place for generations to come to care for the many wild animals that need treatment and give the young people in our area a unique opportunity to work hands on with our wild neighbors. If you have property

in the Wakulla County area that you would like to donate towards this very important mission please contact us at choppaotta@aol.com or call us at 850-363-2351. Earlier this year we launched our Medical Room Building fundraiser. Through our website (FWMA.org), our YouCaring.com donation page (the link can be found through our website) and the promise of a matching grant from a very generous foundation it looks like we will be able to break ground in early 2015. If you would like to support this project more information can be found at www.fwma.org.



Golf Gone Wild Thank You

FWMA would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who was involved with this year's Golf Gone Wild fundraiser at St. James Bay Golf Resort in Carrabelle on May 3, 2014. Many, many thanks to John & Helen Spohrer and Rob Burlison - you guys are fantastic! This was the third year for this event hosted by St. James Bay Golf Resort. Its organizers, John Spohrer, Helen Spohrer and Rob Burlison, brought the fundraiser together in magnificent fashion. Once again the weather was perfect and a fantastic day was had by everyone who came together to play golf and help wildlife at the same time. Congratulations to the winning team Rob Olin, Nola Tolbert, Gary Settle and Jason Fehring. Everyone had a great time, for a great cause. Funds raised from sponsors, players and the fabulous silent auction came to a magnificent \$5,000, which will enable FWMA to help wildlife patients from Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson, Taylor and Leon counties. We are so grateful to each and every one of you for your generosity. Also, a huge thank you to every one of our sponsors – without you this event would not have been possible. We would also like to thank our wonderful hostesses who volunteered their time for the entire event and were a crucial part of the smooth running of the day. They did their jobs superbly – we could not have done it without them.

Last, but not least, thank you so much to the St. James Bay Golf Resort for hosting this event at their beautiful eco-friendly golf course and resort. We are so grateful to be able to partner with an Audubon-sanctioned course that is very serious about co-existing with God's other creatures. We look forward to next year and our fourth Golf Gone Wild fundraiser. We hope everyone who has participated for the past two years will return to keep the tradition going. If you haven't yet been a part of this fabulous event, we welcome you to come join us next year for a fabulous day for a fabulous cause.



Look Who Came To Stay!

Here are just some of the many, many wildlife patients staying with us during our busy, busy baby season...



What To Do If You Find A Baby Squirrel

Although we are more than half way through general baby season (phew!!) squirrels didn't get that memo and their baby season is just beginning. If you find a baby squirrel (or any orphaned mammal) here are the steps you need to take to make sure you don't do more harm than good;

1. Make sure he/she is actually orphaned - unless he/she is in imminent danger, injured in some way or cold to the touch give the parents enough time and space to rescue their own babies.
2. If you have determined from step 1 that you need to intervene put the orphan in a cardboard box lined with soft blanket type material.
3. Keep the animal as warm, quiet and dark as possible. Transport to FWMA or your nearest wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible. Do not call, do not leave phone messages or e-mails - most rehabilitators are busy taking care of animals!
4. Please do not feed the animal ANYTHING. Feeding the wrong diet or giving any type of fluids incorrectly can be fatal!
5. If you would like to learn how to be a foster parent for injured / orphaned wildlife please become a volunteer - contact FWMA or your nearest wildlife rehabilitation center.



Photo Contest

FWMA invites photographers at all levels of experience to enter the 7th annual photo competition. We are looking for nature images from anywhere and of anything. Photographs are judged by a panel of photographers based on technical quality, creativity, originality, content, composition and artistic merit.

Each photographer may enter up to 3 images per category. A person could submit a total of 12 photos if three are entered in each of the four categories. The categories include; Florida native wildlife, other wildlife (non-native to Florida), landscape/flower/plant life, and altered (any of the other three subjects).

Photographers must describe the photo, including the location taken, a title, and the subject of the photo. A fee of \$10 is required per category entered regardless of the number of images entered (i.e. if you submit just one or as many as three images in your category entry, the fee is still \$10). Youth entry fees are waived (age 17 and under).

The contest will officially start on August 20th and end on October 31st. Entries can be dropped off or mailed; entry details will be posted on the FWMA Facebook and website (www.fwma.org). Questions can be directed via email to fwmaeast@aol.com.

We had many, many great entries last year, and look forward to seeing another set of fabulous shots again this year! All entry fees go directly to wildlife care, so send in your favorites and help the innocent critters.

In Memory of Elizabeth "BJ" Buntrock



It is with much sadness that FWMA has lost another dear friend and wildlife supporter. BJ was one of FWMA's main financial supporters for many years. FWMA's Youth Education Program was funded through her foundation offering many of our local young people the unique opportunity to work, volunteer and complete service hours at the center. Without BJ FWMA would not have been able to stay open during some of the toughest financial years. BJ touched a lot of people's lives. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends.

Big Thank You's!

Capital City Bank



Duke Energy



Crawfordville Animal Hospital



facebook **WOW!** Our Facebook page now has 1637 "likes/friends"absolutely fabulous.

Events Calendar

Friday, September 26th - Estuaries Day at Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, 108 Island Dr, Eastpoint, FL, 32328. Come join us to support this great event and meet some of FWMA's animal ambassadors.

Thurs., Fri., Sat., October 2nd, 3rd & 4th - FWMA Yard Sale - Nad's Storage, Shadeville Hwy, Crawfordville, FL.

Friday, October 31st - Deadline for FWMA Photo Contest.

Friday, October 31st & Saturday November 1st - Apalachicola Seafood Festival. Come sample some fantastic Florida seafood and meet FWMA's wildlife ambassadors.

Saturday, November 22nd - Hearts Gone Wild Music Festival. Hosted by Rick and Nelle Ott and From The Heart Music Studio, Sopchoppy, FL. 100% of proceeds benefit FWMA. Volunteers needed to collect donations and run the silent auction.

Saturday, November 29th - FWMA's Christmas Trees go on sale and leaves will be available for our online tree.

Yes! I want to help orphaned and injured animals...and FWMA thanks you!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: _____

Please send your donation to: FWMA, 198 Edgar Poole Road,
Crawfordville, FL 32327