



Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

Giving native wildlife a second chance ...

Spring/Summer 2013

April Showers Bring...Babies!!



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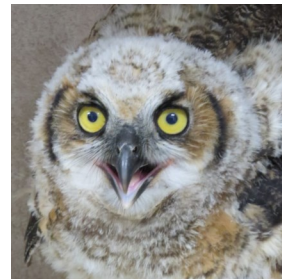
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Most years the majority of our animals come in late March through August but this year has been a little different. The difference has been that babies started in January. We usually see a few baby squirrels in April, but the majority of them come to us in the fall. This January we received our first baby squirrels (our first ever in January) and they continued through March. Baby opossums and raccoons started in March, along with rabbits and songbirds. Throw into this mix a couple of fawns, a baby otter and our first ever...oh wait, you can read about that on page 2. By April 1st, we'd already helped over 100 animals.

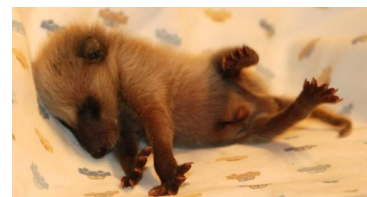
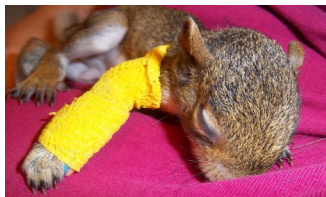
Also this spring, with the help of a grant, were able to build two new much needed raccoon cages. We also added two squirrel release cages and a songbird release cage. The release cages help the animals get acclimated to their new area before they are released. Once they are ready and released, they have the option to go in and out until they are ready to move on.

So far this year has been extremely busy. It's always a challenge being sure everyone is well cared for, but our wonderful volunteers and interns from FSU make it look easy. Everyone thinks of rehab as feeding and cleaning, but there's so much more. There's grocery shopping, ordering supplies, ordering formula, doing rescues, keeping up with the records, administering medications, doing wound management, getting animals to and from the veterinarian's, cage repair, and the list goes on and on.

So, thanks for being understanding about our being a little too busy to get a newsletter out this spring! Even when you don't hear from us, we still need you and your support. Without our supporters and volunteers, we wouldn't be here helping the animals!



Join us on Facebook for up-to-date pictures and stories about what's going on at Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary!



Another first at GCWS - A Baby Beaver

This year, we've had another first at GCWS. (You may remember last year we had Libby, the first piebald fawn we'd ever had.) 2013 brought us our first ever baby beaver, who became affectionately known as "Bennie".

A couple of fellows were fishing and Bennie came swimming up to their boat. At first they tried to ignore him, but he kept swimming into the side of their boat. Due to his small size and persistent "knocking" on their boat, they decided he must need help and scooped him up.



Bennie was in fairly good health when he arrived, but no one knew exactly where he came from or why he was all alone at such a young age. GCWS networked with other wildlife rehabilitators who get beavers each year to ensure Bennie was getting everything he needed (the right nutrition, exercise, water therapy and interaction.) After several weeks with us, we received word that another rehabber had just gotten in two baby beavers. As luck would have it, they were about the same age as Bennie. Thus, the process began to get Bennie transferred to their facility to be with the other beavers. Although we miss the daily swim lessons and watching him grow, it was the best outcome for Bennie!



A couple of interesting facts we wanted to share about beavers:

- You cannot tell if a beaver is a male or female without a scope (which we did not put Bennie through since there was no need).
- You can see in the pictures to the left, the distinct differences in their toes on their front and back feet. The front are much like fingers and separated from each other while the back are webbed to aid in their ability to swim.



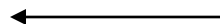
Webbed back feet help beavers swim.

Did You Know:

- A beaver's nose and ears have valves that can be closed when diving
- The average adult beaver weighs between 35 and 40 lbs (but can weigh more than 60 lbs)
- A beaver colony usually contains 6 to 8 beavers, including an adult pair and the kits from the previous 2 litters
- Beavers can swim at a speed of up to 5 mph
- Beavers can stay underwater for 15 minutes at a time



During one of the many daily swim lessons!



After a swim lesson, Bennie would wipe his/her face and let you know when swim time was over.



Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.



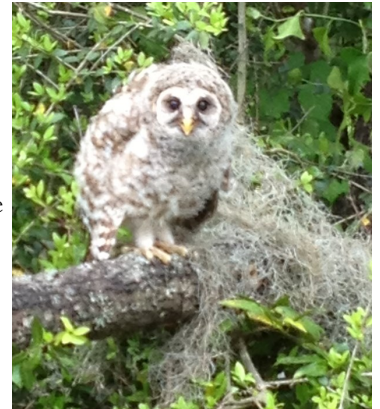


Sometimes Just A Little Assistance Is All That's Needed

We received a call about a baby barred owl in the road in Tom Brown Park. The caller had helped the owl out of the road and out of immediate danger before calling us for assistance.

During the next few minutes, the fledgling tried to head to the nearest wooded area and went straight into a fence. When we arrived, he was tangled in the fence and couldn't get himself loose. While working to free the owl, it became very apparent to everyone that the parents were watching from above and not happy about the situation. After a quick

examination, we determined that the owl had no injuries and was a fledgling. Since both parents were actively watching, we found a tree that had fallen at the edge of the woods where the parents were and sat him on highest limb we could reach. Upon our backing away, the fledgling scooted sideways along the limb into the denser area of the woods while the parents watched and called to him. We were all sure they were fussing at him for venturing out in the opening like he did!



Earth Day T-shirts



We still have a few Earth Day T-shirts available for purchase for only \$13 plus S&H. Or, stop by Wild Birds Unlimited in Tallahassee and save the shipping & handling charges.



When We're Quiet.....

Spring is our busiest time for an influx of babies-feathered and furred! 2013 was no exception!!

Many people have asked why we don't have a newsletter or fundraiser during the heart of Spring since that is our big baby season....well....that's precisely why we don't have any of those during that time. During the busiest of times, the focus of all volunteers becomes the mouths that need to be fed, the cages that need to be cleaned, the food that needs to be cooked, the animals that need to be picked up, the wounds that need to be tended to. So, rest assured, just because you don't hear from us during certain times of the year, it isn't that we don't need you. That's the time the animals (and GCWS) need you the most! Please don't forget about us during those times!!

"Kindness is the language the blind can see and the deaf can hear"

Mark Twain



Gaby & Sami receive a shipment from Amazon.com

Wish List on Amazon.com

Another easy way to help the animals. Simply go to Amazon.com and click on "wish list" and search for Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc. Purchase any of the items on the wish list and they are shipped directly to us! If you are local and prefer to shop locally, simply use this list as a guide to items we need. We update the list as needs change. (Please notify us of your purchase unless you want to remain anonymous—Amazon doesn't send us any buyer information.) Many thanks to the wonderful supporters who have already purchased items directly off our wish list and made our dreams come true!!



GCWS participated in the 2013 Recycling Rumble, a fundraiser geared

toward raising money by recycling used ink and toner cartridges and cell phones. We were competing against another organization of similar size for a 3 month period. In the end, GCWS won and received an extra cash bonus. Special thanks to all who collected and donated on our behalf!! It's a win-win situation!! It raises much needed funds and keeps those items out of our landfills. GCWS participates in a recycling fundraiser year round. If you would like to collect on our behalf or would like to donate your recyclable items, email us at info@goosecreekwildlifesanctuary.org

Mark Your Calendars!

**Wild Thing Tennis Tournament
And Silent Auction**

August 24, 2013 at Forestmeadows Park in Tallahassee

Visit Facebook for more information

Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

Animal Hotline: 850-545-3491

Mailing Address Only:
3400 Williams Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Please note that this address is for administrative business only.
No animals should be dropped off at this address.

Administrative Phone: 850-508-7587
E-mail: info@goosecreekwildlifesanctuary.org



Become a fan on Facebook

And keep up with the latest news

Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., 3400 Williams Rd, Tallahassee, FL 32311 registers annually with the State of Florida. (Registration number FL CH 5849.) A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the State (800) 435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State.

There are many ways you can help. GCWS can always use volunteers and cash donations. If you would like to help, please contact us or visit our Facebook page.

Announcements and Events



The Cheeps Boutique resale event will be held again this fall to benefit GCWS! To donate items, help with the sale, or for sale specifics,

contact Shelby at 850-574-0852 or via email at thecheepsboutique@yahoo.com

Date and location to be determined. "Like" us on Facebook and check it often for important updates on this and other events. The Cheeps Boutique has its own Facebook page as well! Be sure to check out both pages!!

2013 Wild Thing Tennis Tournament

And Silent Auction

August 24, 2013

Forestmeadows Park
4750 N Meridian Road

Tallahassee, Florida

Silent Auction: 11 am - 2 pm

Tennis Tournament: Throughout the day!

Fastest Serve Contest!!

Shop locally and support animals at Re-Tail

Re-Tail is a resale shop operated for the benefit of several local non-profit animal rescue groups. GCWS is fortunate to be a beneficiary of this shop. Simply donate your items for resale to benefit GCWS and they handle the rest. It's a win-win situation for everyone. Please support this wonderful year round fundraiser for local animals by donating and shopping! Contact us to make donations on behalf of GCWS.

Re-Tail is located at 3686 Woodville Highway (at Frontier Trading Post about 1/2 mile south of the Fairgrounds). Store hours are: Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday noon to 5 pm. Visit their Facebook page for more information!

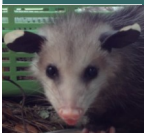
Plans are underway!!!

The joint silent auction with Florida Wild Mammal Association last December was so much fun and such a success, plans are already underway to hold another one!!! The success of this event depends on your donations! If you have items to donate for the auction, please contact us!! We need you! Date & location to be announced!



Get your shopping pass now!! Macy's national "Shop For A Cause" is fast approaching. For only \$5, you receive a shopping pass good for 25% off on regular, sale and clearance merchandise throughout the store, as well as 10%

off electronics, furniture, rugs and more good all day on Saturday, August 24th nationwide!! Your \$5 shopping pass purchase from GCWS goes directly to GCWS!



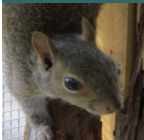
Yes! I want to help save these animals!

Macy's Tickets: _____ x \$5 Donation: _____ Total: _____

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



Fax this form to Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary 850-893-8244 or mail directly to our mailing address: GCWS, 3400 Williams Rd, Tallahassee, FL 32311

Check Enclosed

Credit Card Information

MasterCard Visa

Amex Discover

CC # _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____