



Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

Giving native wildlife a second chance ...

Spring/Summer 2011

Success is a Community Effort



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The end of the year is usually very light for new admissions. This gives us time to do a little extra cleaning, make cage repairs, get our annual reports submitted and spend a little more time with our families. This past winter was different. The end of fall brought us an influx of red foxes. We received calls from all over the county by concerned citizens who were seeing "hairless" foxes out sunning themselves. We were able to trap several and treat them for sarcoptic mange. Their crusty infected skin looked awful, but with some Ivermectin and Cephalexin, they quickly improved.

Many, many thanks to the following for helping pull these guys through: Dr. David Hale for his guidance in treatment, Publix for donating the Cephalexin (yes, people would look at you funny when you pick up prescriptions for "Vixen Beck"), our wonderful FSU students who washed bedding at least once a day, and the people who spent their free time cooking chicken. And most importantly, thanks to all of the people who called, allowed us to set traps, and then monitored them for us. We couldn't do it without you.

December brought us numerous red tail hawks and barred owls. Blood work showed Aspergillus to be the culprit. Aspergillus is a fungus that can invade the respiratory tract. Luckily, with the exception of one red tail hawk and one barred owl, who are still being treated, all have made a great recovery.

Baby season usually starts mid to late April, but this year has gotten off to an early start. The beginning of March brought us four baby raccoons. So now we're busy getting ready for the numerous baby foxes, songbirds, birds of prey, raccoons, rabbits and opossums who will be coming our way!



Medicine \$2.
Nutrition \$200.



Outcome Priceless!

Currently seeking sponsors and donations for the 2011 Wild Thing Auction. See page 4 for details.

Helping Hands





Eagle Returns Home to Tallahassee

Last October when Chris Beatty from Florida Wild Mammal called to ask if we could take in a bald eagle, we were happy to help. Chris had a shoulder injury and handling this big girl was painful for her.

A U. S. Fish and Wildlife biologist had found the eagle and stayed with her until a Florida Fish and Wildlife officer came to pick her up. Unfortunately the eagle appeared to have been shot because she had a three inch wound on her wing which went all the way through. The bad news was that this was not a new wound so there was a lot of dead tissue. The good news was that there were no broken bones. Unfortunately they have not been able to determine who shot the eagle.

Dr. David Hale examined the eagle and suggested a treatment regimen including



daily debridement. New volunteer Sheila Basu came every night and while Noni held the eagle, Sheila flushed the wound and picked off dead tissue. These daily debridements went on for over a week and then moved to every other day. You can't imagine how excited we were when new tissue began growing and the hole started closing up.

When the wound was completely closed, we put the eagle in our 50-foot flight cage. Once she was able to get herself up to the perches and was flying the length of the cage, Linda and Jim from Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Orlando picked her up so she could go into their 100 foot cage.

Discussions with Dianna from Audubon were a little disappointing at first. The eagle was doing well, but she had some permanent feather loss, so returning her to the wild was questionable. What an exciting day it was when Dianna e-mailed to say the eagle was ready for release. Although still missing feathers, she was compensating for the feather loss and looked great.

On March 17th, Colleen (Jim and Linda named her), was returned home by Jim and Linda. It was a great surprise for us when we went out to the field in Southwood to learn that St. Francis Wildlife had a male bald eagle being released as well. Their bald eagle, named Colin, had been treated for lead poisoning and had possibly been shot as well.

What a wonderful experience to see the eagle fly across the field, go through the trees and then over a lake to finally land in a tree! St. Francis' eagle did equally well and after flying across the field headed toward Tram Road which is where he had been found.

Many, many thanks to Audubon Bird of Prey Center for taking the eagles and getting them ready for release, as well as for providing the transports. What a great outcome for these two magnificent birds.

"Until he extends the circle of compassion to all living creatures, man himself will not find peace." - Albert Schweitzer

Barred Owl

By Noni Beck

In the twilight hours I hear you
Calling from the trees
Across a darkened meadow
Your voice whispers on the breeze.

Your gentle calls are sounding
Others call out too
The night is quickly coming
You're all soon on the move.

On silent wings you travel
Through darkened woods you fly
Listening for the bugs and mice
To feed babies hidden high.

The hunt is quickly over
And you fly back to the nest
Babies eat so hungrily
There's no time now to rest.

Many times you fly out
Many times you kill
Back and forth you fly again
'Til babies have their fill.

And now the light is changing
Morning soon will come
So hurry now and feed yourself
The night is nearly done.

Again your calls are sounding
Dawn is on its way
You're checking on each other
Soon you'll sleep the day away.



Did You Know:

- Just 60 days after being hatched, a young heron can fly
- An eagle's eyesight is so good that if it could read, it could perch on a football field's goalpost and read a newspaper under the goalpost at the other end
- Bats are the only mammals capable of true flight
- Adult opossums are immune to the venom of copperheads, rattlesnakes and cottonmouths
- Both parents of a fox care for their young
- A hummingbird eats spiders and gnats for protein

Art Goes Wild 2011

We are pleased to announce the 3rd annual Art Goes Wild, to be held May 1, 2011 from 1-5:30pm at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum on Highway 90. This artist show and sale will feature many great artists from our area. Some of the artists include: Sarah Allen, Bruce Cool, Linda Clark, Susan Lorch, Nancy Jefferson, Mike Parramore, Mike Vanderberg, Jane Elder, and Trish VanBuskirk. These artists work in watercolors, oils, wood, photography and jewelry. Included with your ticket is a self guided tour of the museum. If you have never toured the car museum there is something for everyone to enjoy in the tour. There will also be beverages, light appetizers and a beer and wine tasting, compliments of event sponsors Klassic Katering, Premier Beverage, and Costco. Special thanks to the Tallahassee Automobile Museum for providing the event venue again this year.



Tallahassee has some of the best artists in the world and we are very fortunate to have several generous and talented artists attend at our event. Art Goes Wild last year was a great success and we look to making this event bigger and better every year. Please come out for a fun time and support GCWS and the artists.

Tickets are \$25.00 in advance and \$30.00 at the door. Please call **850-556-2094** or **850-508-2809** to order your tickets by phone. You can also get tickets at the Antique Car Museum and from Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary.

Rehab Can Be Amusing



By Beth Roddenberry

Not to be too graphic here but, when caring for animals, it can get messy. I usually wear an old pair of shoes when feeding fawns in their pen because, well, things are hard to avoid. No matter how hard you try not to, you're going to step in "something". Once the fawns have been fed and I'm ready to leave, I remove my shoes and place them in a plastic bag. After all, I don't want my vehicle to start smelling like a zoo. After one such fawn-feeding excursion, I arrived home late and just placed the bag of shoes next to my back door to be hosed off later.



The next day, my favorite handyman came by to fix the flange on my door. He often brings his teenage daughter with him. "Do these shoes need

to go inside?" he asked, holding up the plastic bag by the door. "No, I still need to clean off the fawn doo," I replied. His lovely daughter then said, "Oh, did you have fondue at The Melting Pot?"

Get it?



The Intriguing Armadillo

Most folks in northern Florida are not great fans of the armadillo. In fact, some people loathe them due to their inadvertent destruction of well-cared for lawns. But there are some very interesting facts about them. The nine-banded armadillo is not native to Florida. They were introduced in the early 1900's and can now be found in all parts of the state. Upon a threat, they cannot roll into a ball like the southern armadillo but they can dig a burrow and disappear in seconds. A litter has 4 identical babies called "pups", all formed from a single egg. So, they are all either male or all female. If you find a baby armadillo, leave it alone. Chances are the mother is near. But if you know that it is orphaned, contact GCWS immediately.

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If armadillos are tearing up a flower bed, try putting out some mothballs. If they are tearing up your lawn, really the only way to keep them out is with chain link fencing, buried at least a foot in the ground. Or, move away from the southeast, because armadillos are here to stay, for better or worse.



GCWS is accepting donations and sponsorships for the 2011 Wild Thing Auction.
See page 4 for details

Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

Animal Hotline: 850-545-3491

Mailing Address:
1017 Summerbrooke Dr.
Tallahassee, FL 32312



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

We're on the Web! Check it Out!

www.goosecreekwildlifesanctuary.org

Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., 1017 Summerbrooke Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32312 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 website.

Announcements and Events

ART GOES WILD 3

A benefit to support wild animal rescue and rehabilitation

Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.

Sunday, May 1, 2011
1:00pm - 5:30pm

Hosted By The Tallahassee Automobile Museum, Klassic Katering, Premier Beverage and Costco

Tallahassee Automobile Museum's Cord Banquet Hall, 6800 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee 1-10 @ Hwy 90E. (Exit 209A)

ARTIST SHOW AND SALE

Tickets: \$25 in advance - \$30 at the door
Seniors \$15 in Advance

Price of admission includes a self-guided tour of the Tallahassee Automobile & Train Museum 1-4pm, Beer & Wine sampling and light appetizers.

Advanced tickets are available through your favorite local artist or by calling 850-556-2094 or 850-508-2809

2011

WILD THING

Auction

October 14, 2011

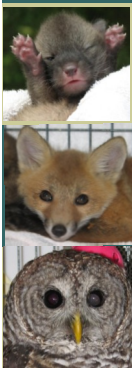
Capital City Country Club
Tallahassee, Florida



Wild Thing Auction Donations

GCWS is funded through donations and fundraisers. The **Wild Thing Auction** is a great opportunity to show your support for this wonderful cause and advertise your business to hundreds of potential customers. The **Wild Thing Auction** is one of the largest auctions in the Tallahassee area and provides the greatest portion of our revenue. Donations received by September 15, 2011 will be recognized in the event program. If you would like to help GCWS by donating a service, merchandise, gift certificate, or sponsorship for the **2011 Wild Thing Auction** please contact us via email (info@goosecreekwildlifesanctuary.org), call our business number (850-508-7587), or fax the optional commitment form below. You may also send your donation directly to our business office:

Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc.
1017 Summerbrooke Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312



Yes! I would like to donate the following to GCWS for the 2011 Wild Thing Auction:

Item(s):

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Fax this form to Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary 850-893-8244 or mail donation directly to: GCWS, 1017 Summerbrooke Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32312

Check here to request a Sponsor Package

Check here to have a GCWS volunteer contact you.