

The PAWS Print

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Unusual and Uncommon

What in the world is that?

Possumwood Acres has had its fair share of various animal species over the years, but this particular year, the sanctuary took in many unusual and uncommon species under its care. They are the Black Bellied Plover, Manx Shearwater, Chuck Will Widow, Sooty Tern, Black Tern, Sora, Audubon Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, Black Scoter, and Yellow Crowned Night Heron. The group included a Marsh Rabbit, which was released over in the White Oak River marshes.

Sponsor an Animal

Won't you help a furry friend in need?

PAWS is home to opossums, screech owls, great-horned owls, barred owls, red-tail hawks, red-shoulder hawks, broad-wing hawks, geese, ducks, squirrels, kestrels, peafowl, pigeons, and vultures, all of whom have suffered physical injuries caused by gunshot wounds, vehicle encounters, and other unknown factors. They live on sanctuary grounds in custom-made cages that allow the animals to hop and flutter throughout their enclosures, even though their injuries keep them from achieving full flight. They are cared for

continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** School Programs
- 2** Miracle Babies
- 2** Summer Internships
- 3** The Kids' Page
- 3** Quack, Quack!
- 3** Golden Rule Award

The "Year of the Squirrel"

The aftermath of Hurricane Irene

In August, the volunteers of Possumwood Acres overcame an unusual challenge related to the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. Over one hundred baby squirrels were brought in at once during a time when the sanctuary was without power. Fortunately, a



generator was available to keep heating pads operational and formula warm. Had the generator not been available, the little babies would have died. Possumwood was also fortunate to have other generous wildlife rehabilitators living in the central portion of the state accept the transfer of many of these baby squirrels to them.

A case of mistaken identity?

Who are you, really?

A lavender Guinea fowl was brought into the sanctuary for care. Volunteers quickly realized that the finders mistakenly identified the animal as an injured eagle!

by staff members who provide them with an appropriate diet and monitor their physical limitations. The ultimate goal of PAWS is to allow these magnificent animals to live as close as possible to how nature intended. Please be sure to visit the sanctuary's website for detailed information as to how you can make a difference in an animal's life.

(http://www.possumwoodacres.org/Sponsor_An_Animal.html)

School Programs

Making a difference in young lives

Cathy Burns, Possumwood's Program Coordinator, continues to host educational wildlife programs at local elementary schools. Presentations include discussion on the various animals that are cared for at PAWS, their diet requirements, and the importance of helping our wildlife friends. Education animals are brought to the schools as visual aids for the purpose of in-depth learning of wildlife behavior.



Former Education Rabbits Retired

Two former education rabbits, Coco and Spiker Bunny, retired from Possumwood's education programs. Volunteers were sad to see them leave; however, they have moved to "forever homes" in which they are receiving an abundance of love from their new owners. Additionally, several lost and abandoned pets were brought to the sanctuary for placement throughout the year. A miracle occurred when a Good Samaritan brought in an albino rabbit for care. Otherwise, the rabbit would not have survived the cold, winter season.

Miracle Babies

A special case of survival

The pair of 6-week old black Runner Ducks, from Dixie Stampede of Myrtle Beach, SC that were stamped, resulting in severe pelvic fractures and vertebrae damages, are doing quite well. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of Possumwood's caring



volunteers, the ducks run around the duck area with their peculiar shape and gait. The "miracle babies" underwent extensive physical therapy to be able to hold their heads up enough to feed themselves and stand upright.

Summer Internships

A new form of higher education

Over the summer, Possumwood accepted several interns to work with injured wildlife animals to increase awareness of the importance of caring for wildlife. Wildlife is crucial to human health as it gives nature



the balance it needs for humans to grow. Interns learned basic care and behavioral patterns on various animals that reside at Possumwood. Any persons interested in this internship should call the sanctuary office for more information at 910-326-6432.

Senior projects under way

Students, get your volunteer hours in!

Local high school students have signed up early to earn their SAT hours. Consider using PAWS for *your* senior project!

Quack, Quack!

Who am I?

A mallard that was raised indoors is learning that he is a duck. Sebastian is slowly getting the idea that he needs to hang around the “noisy, quacky things” that he lives with now and that the outdoors is not all that scary. It will take some time before he truly feels he is “one of the flock”. Volunteers at Possumwood are confident that Sebastian will find himself a little duck girlfriend to settle down with.

Golden Rule Award

PAWS recognized for outstanding community service

Possumwood Acres Wildlife Sanctuary received the Runner-Up 2011 Golden Rule Award. Volunteers celebrated at Golden Corral in Jacksonville with many other organizations that were also recognized for outstanding community service.



Coming Soon

Possumwood Acres is proud to soon be selling to the public t-shirts of their beloved wildlife animals. T-shirts will be available in a variety of sizes for men, women, and children. Be sure to check out Possumwood’s website for additional information.

The Kids’ Page

Encourage your little ones to help their wildlife

Hey kids! Did you know that Possumwood has a place for you? Did you know that you can help your furry friends even if you cannot come to the sanctuary?

Recycle!

Get your friends together and start your very own recycling program in which you collect cans. Possumwood earns a small income for recycling cans, which in turn, is used to purchase food and medicine for its injured animals.

Write!

Do you like to draw or write stories? If so, let’s hear from *you* about *your* wildlife encounters and how you made a difference. Each month, one story or picture will be selected as the winner and posted on Possumwood’s website. The entry of the month will receive a certificate of appreciation of how you helped your wildlife friends. Be sure to include your name, address, and phone number. Email your submission to PossumwoodAcres@ec.rr.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DID YOU KNOW THAT PAWS HAS A CALENDAR OF EVENTS ON ITS WEBSITE? BE SURE TO CHECK PERIODICALLY FOR THE LATEST UPDATES.

CONTACT US

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