

Spring 2008

Volume 25 ~ Number 1

Peace River Tracks

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Peace River Wildlife Center



FUNRAISER TO BENEFIT PEACE RIVER WILDLIFE CENTER AND OTHERS!

Second Annual

Kids Heart Show

Art Exhibition & Auction

Thursday May 15, 2008

5:30 PM

4th Floor of Charlotte Regional Office Building

713 East Marion Ave. (the office building is across parking lot from main hospital)

Featuring:

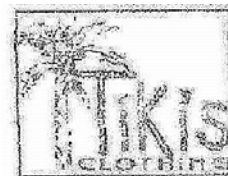
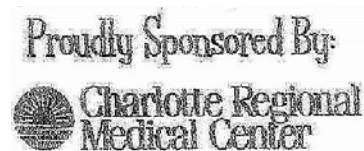
Original Works from Artists at Area Elementary Schools

Silent and Live Art Auction

Food & Drink

Pawtographs from Area Service & Therapy Dogs

Proceeds to benefit our Animal Friends at E.A.R.S., Center for Great Apes, Animal Welfare League of Charlotte County, & Peace River Wildlife Center



Residents and guests welcome you to this issue of Peace River Tracks

BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT:

Barbara Deeble

ACTING VICE

PRESIDENT:

Robin Jenkins

SECRETARY:

TREASURER:

Norman E. (Skip) Schmidt

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Holly Gunsher

JoAnna Kincaid

Carole Thorn

MEDICAL STAFF:

REHABILITATORS:

Kris Hoffmann

HOSPITAL ASSISTANTS:

Ernie Navarra

Ashley Ewing

MEDICAL DIRECTOR:

Dr. Cynthia Fiore

MANAGEMENT:

Gift Shop Manager:

Lois Cross

Administration:

Cathy Negrycz

Sheryll O'Crotty

A Message From the Acting Executive Director

Hello to all and happy spring! As you know, the longer warmer days mean baby season, and Mother Nature is not disappointing us. Staff in the hospital is gearing up, and foster homes have been identified to ensure that those "every-two-hour feedings" take place as scheduled and as needed. Spring also means we bid farewell to our part-time neighbors from up North. We hope that travel goes smoothly, and we look forward to their return in the fall. Thanks, as always. Departure leaves a hole in our volunteer ranks, so as a friend of the Center, if you are a permanent resident who can spend a few hours with us each week, we sure can use your help. Please stop by the office for a volunteer application. Our permanent wildlife residents will surely thank you for your kindness. The Wild, Wild West fundraiser was a smashing success for a first-time event. Plans are underway for a repeat next year. Thanks to all who participated. Keep your calendar clear for May 15th at 5:30 P.M. at the Charlotte Regional Hospital Medical Building. The "Kid's Heart Show" art exhibition and auction featuring original works by area elementary school artists will benefit PRWC, E.A.R.S., Center for Great Apes, and Animal Welfare League of Charlotte County. See the announcement on page one of the newsletter. Enjoy spring wherever you are. We hope to see you soon at the Center.

Norman E. "Skip" Schmidt, Jr.

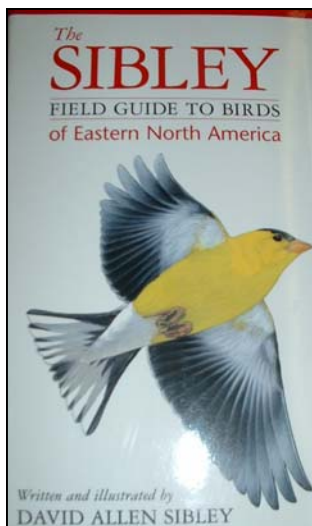
GIFT SHOP NEWS

The Peace River Wildlife Center Logo Shirts are back! It has been some time since we stocked the logo shirts. We have them in Black, Pine and Denim Blue in adult sizes, and Light Blue in children sizes. What was once old is now new again.

The December raffle winner for the quilted wall hanging was Beverly Salvaggio of Port Charlotte, FL. Another raffle is on display in the Gift Shop.

We now have the Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America by David Allen Sibley. This field guide has been used by our own rehabbers to identify some of the unusual migratory patients brought to us for care. The cost of the book is \$19.95. In addition, we have matted pictures and note cards of our pelican family taken very recently, as well as new Wild Bryde earrings and pendants. Remember, PRWC members receive a 10% discount in the Gift Shop.

Lois Cross, Gift Shop Manager





Peace River Wildlife Center Wish List

AnimaLuvrs Gift Certificates
Autoclave - used
Beechnut Chicken / Chicken Broth / Turkey Baby Food
Bird Seed - small with no sunflowers-Vita Finch or Kaytee
Cable Ties
Chicken Cutlets - Frozen (skinless and boneless)
Chlorine Containers - 2 1/2 gallon empty yellow
Cotton Receiving Blankets - used
Del Monte Fruit Cups
Dishwashing Gloves
Esbilac, Multimilk, Goats Milk , KMR Powder from Pet Stores
Eukanuba Kitten Food - Chicken & Rice Formula
Exam Gloves - small and medium
Ferret Hammocks
Finch Seed (with millet, not just thistle)
Gift Cards - Gasoline - Home Depot - Publix
Glad or Rubbermaid Reusable Containers (small or medium)
Hardware Cloth
Heating Pads
Hose Nozzles
Insect Spray for our Volunteers
Kleenex (non-lubricated, non-scented)
Laundry Detergent - non-scented - HE (high efficiency)
Letter-Size Laminating Pouches (for heat seal)
Microscope
Paper Towels
Pet Owners Warehouse Gift Certificates
Pillow Cases and Sheets - used
Publix Adult Cat Food
Science Diet Canine Small Bites Dry Dog and Cat Food
Scrub Brushes - long-handled
Scrub Sponges - two-sided
Sterilite Showoff Boxes (small or medium)
Tall Kitchen Trash Bags (drawstring)
Tranquillizer Gun
Trash Bags - 55 gallon heavy duty - contractor grade
Vari-Kennels / Cat and Dog Crates (new and used)
Walnuts - shelled
Ziploc Bags - quart and gallon sizes

WILD, WILD WEST HAPPENINGS

On Saturday, March 1st, a benefit for the Peace River Wildlife Center was held at Vivante in Punta Gorda. There were pony rides for the children, miniature Zebu cattle to view, a cowboy telling stories and poems, old-fashioned "pony races", a game with sling-shots to try to feed the livestock, face painting, "panning for gold," which allowed the children some time in the "money machine." The adults also enjoyed country and western singers, lively square dancers, a silent auction, and the raffle of a HD DVD, and a big screened TV, which was won by Sean Perseo. A screech owl and a cedar waxwing, residents of PRWC, were on display. A special treat was the performance of the "Shoot-Out" gang from the Arcadia Rodeo, who came in costume and made two appearances during the day. On page 5, there is a listing of the sponsors for our benefit. Below are some pictures from the day's events. Everyone who attended had a great time, especially the children.



*"Thank You" to the Peace River Wildlife Center's
Wild, Wild West Sponsors*

Diamond Level

Bill Smith Appliances & Electronics
Charlotte Sun
Clear Channel Radio
Harbor Press
Marine Bank
Vivante at Punta Gorda

Double Eagles

Animal Medical Clinic
of Punta Gorda
Domino's Pizza
Harborside Internal Medicine
Jackson Signs and T-Shirts
Keller Law Office, P.A.
Medicine Shoppe
Of Punta Gorda
Morgan Stanley: The MC Group
Punta Gorda Garden Club
Waste Management

Eagles

Beef O'Brady's - Punta Gorda
Charlotte County Ford
Gene Gorman Auto Sales
Mama Nunzia *Ristorante*
Murdock Veterinary Clinic
Palm Auto Mall
Publix Supermarkets
Village Oyster Bar

Owls

Captain's Landing
Center for the Performing
Arts
Discount Golf
Dr. Samuel V. Estepa
First Community Bank
Gator's Bar and Grill
Steve's Auto Shoppe, Inc.
Sweetbay Supermarkets
The Turtle Club
Sun-Sea Diving
Visani and the Comedy Zone

Pelicans

Anthony's Ladies Apparel Shop
Applebee's
Benedetto's Restaurant
Busey Bank
Captain Bill's Barber Shop
Dean's South of the Border
Elena's Restaurant
Fish Cove Mini Golf
King Fisher Fleet
Old Punta Gorda Cigar Shop
Prepped and Ready
River City Grill
Sand Pebble
Seams to B Upholstery
Smuggler's Enterprises
SW Florida Veterinary Services
Swiss Connection
The Wood Street Grill
Trattoria Limoncello
Vicky's Sheer Experience

ADOPTIONS - A GREAT GIFT !

We make it very easy for “foster parents.” No dirty work involved. Our volunteers take care of cleaning out the birds cages and providing their special foods.

Our resident birds can be adopted for as short as a month or for as long as anyone wants for any occasion - birthday, anniversary, holidays, memorials. Parents and grandparents have adopted a child’s favorite bird and presented them with a certificate or specially created card. It’s a creative gift for someone who is hard to buy for and loves our native Florida wildlife.

The adoption fee helps defray the cost of the specialized food purchased for that bird. A list of our residents and the adoption fee per month follows:

Barred Owl	-	\$28.00	Gull or Tern	-	\$15.00
Black Crowned Night Heron	-	20.00	Osprey	-	20.00
Caspian Tern	-	15.00	Pelican	-	25.00
Cooper’s Hawk	-	25.00	Red-Shouldered Hawk	-	30.00
Cormorant	-	20.00	Red-Tailed Hawk	-	30.00
Eagle	-	35.00	Sandhill Crane	-	15.00
Fish Crow	-	15.00	Screech Owl	-	15.00
Great Horned Owl	-	30.00	Turkey and Black Vultures	-	20.00

Adoptions can be arranged by mail, through a visit to our gift shop, or even over the phone. Your contribution can be charged to a credit card if you wish, and the adoption packet mailed to you or your named gift recipient.

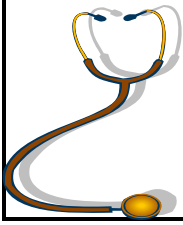
If visiting our gift shop, you can take home your certificate or specialty cards for family and friends. Adopting a bird makes visiting PRWC even more enjoyable, and your contribution is tax deductible!



Mission Statement

The mission of the Peace River Wildlife Center is to treat and rehabilitate injured and orphaned native Florida wildlife (except venomous snakes) and, if possible, to return them to the wild. If they cannot be returned to their natural habitat due to sustained non life-threatening physical limitations, a permanent home shall be provided by the Center.

We also seek to inform the public about native Florida wildlife and how to coexist with these beautiful creatures successfully through formal educational outreach activities.



HOSPITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Birds</u>	<u>Reptiles</u>	<u>Mammals</u>	<u>Total</u>
2007 Totals	1015	14	488	1597
January	31	2	20	53
February	41	2	41	84
March	90	4	46	140

GIFTS / BEQUESTS / MEMORIALS

- ◆ Leonard P. Conte of Punta Gorda, FL requested memorials in December, January, February, March and April in memory of his wife, Esther G. Conte and dog, Tiger.
- ◆ A memorial for Joan Ladd was requested by Marilyn S. Burki of Janesville, WI.
- ◆ Helen Dobosz was memorialized by Ron and Connie Primozic of Palos Hills, IL.
- ◆ Carol and Thomas Cairns of Punta Gorda, FL requested a memorial for Charles and Margaret Cairns.
- ◆ Walter Slank was memorialized by Rose Wawrzyniak of Port Charlotte, FL.
- ◆ Marne Kelleher of Treasure Island, FL requested a memorial for George and Jody Friess.
- ◆ Rex Warden was memorialized by Dr. Franz and Mrs. Wenger of Punta Gorda, FL. Rex was a volunteer at PRWC taking care of baby bunnies for many years.
- ◆ Robert McCarthy was memorialized by Mr. & Mrs. H.N. Killam of Chamberlain, ME, Patrick & Katherine Leggett of Stamford, CT, Elizabeth Schultz of Punta Gorda, FL, and Richard Masters of Round Pond, ME.
- ◆ Wilfred G. Phillips of Port Charlotte, FL was remembered with memorials by the following people: Suzanne Macklen of Manchester, NH; Kirt and Kaye Bennett of Punta Gorda, FL; Dr. Marc and Mrs. Cindy Melser of Punta Gorda, FL; Patricia E. Wood of Fort Myers, FL; Ann and Thomas Bott of Harwinton, CT; and Ruth Anne Ryan of Gordonsville, VA.
- ◆ Norma Craik was memorialized by the Windmill Village Club of Punta Gorda.
- ◆ A \$1,000.00 donation was made by Janet K. Hertzberg of Contoocook, NH in memory of her aunt, Thyra S. Nelson of Port Charlotte, FL. A plaque has been placed on our sidewalk in her memory.
- ◆ Robert and Janet Osborne of Port Charlotte, FL requested a memorial for Roscoe.
- ◆ Katherine Genaw of Port Charlotte, FL requested a memorial for Matthew O'Brien, who would have celebrated his 31st birthday on March 20th.
- ◆ A bequest was received from the estate of Isabel Jahnle of Port Charlotte, FL in the amount of \$1,000.00. A plaque will be placed on our walkway in remembrance.
- ◆ Patricia Dean of Port Charlotte, FL requested a memorial for Walter Sherwood, Jr. James & Barbara Edgett donated \$1,000.00 in memory of Homer Lechenwalter of Punta Gorda, FL. A memorial plaque will be placed in Homer's memory.
- ◆ Lucy Schmidt of Port Charlotte donated \$1,000.00 as a "big thank you for all you do in helping our wildlife get back in their own environment and for taking care of those that cannot." A plaque will be placed on our sidewalk in her honor.
- ◆ The Punta Gorda Garden Club donated \$250.00 to the Center. The funds were raised during the Holly Days Home Tour held in December.
- ◆ West Marine at 700 Tamiami Trail in Punta Gorda, FL raised \$235.00 renting Flea Market spaces and presented the donation to the Center.

BEQUESTS: We are very grateful to the people who have made us beneficiaries in their wills. This ensures that their commitment to caring for injured and orphaned wildlife continues to be carried out.

PLAQUES: We place plaques on the Center's walkway to honor contributions of \$1,000 or more.

We wish to thank everyone who has remembered Peace River Wildlife Center with a gift,
bequest or memorial donation on behalf of their loved ones.

Peace River Wildlife
Center

3400 West Marion Avenue
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
(941) 637-3830

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Punta Gorda FL 33950
Permit #182

IF YOU FIND AN INJURED OR ORPHANED BIRD, MAMMAL, REPTILE bring it to us, or if necessary, call: *Animal Control 764-4320* to pick it up and bring it in. For domestic animals, call the *Animal Welfare League 625-6720*.

PEACE RIVER WILDLIFE CENTER MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/DONATION FORM

All memberships include a 1-year subscription to newsletter & 10% gift shop discount.

Choose from the following:

PELICAN: \$25/yr. ___ OWL: \$50/yr. ___ EAGLE: \$100/yr. ___ OTHER: \$ _____

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

City & State: _____

Zip: _____ **Phone:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Date: _____

MEMORIALS: In memory of _____

Mail check to PRWC- 3400 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Charge my credit card: ___ Visa ___ M/C ___ Amex

Account Number: _____ **Exp. Date** _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

MAILING LIST CORRECTIONS: Please, if your address label is incorrect in any way, please let us know. This includes duplications, spelling errors or any other correction which is necessary. Just drop us a note. Thanks!!