

The Wild Side

Quarterly newsletter of Peace River Refuge & Ranch - Forest Animal Rescue

March 2011 Volume 2011 No. 1

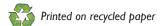
www.PeaceRiverRefuge.org

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Peace River Refuge & Ranch — A True Sanctuary

- Fully licensed by state and federal authorities
- * Accredited by the American Sanctuary Association (ASA)
- Recognized as a World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) Member Society
- * Animals receive *lifetime care* and are never bred or exploited
- * Guided tours offered only <u>twice a month</u> by reservation



Sumter Disaster Animal Response Team

We are so lucky to be affiliated with some of the most fantastic animal rescue teams in the country. Ronnie Graves, Founder of the Sumter Disaster Animal Response Team (DART), brought several team members and friends to the new property in the Ocala National Forest to assist with site preparation.

With a great selection of Kubota equipment and sufficient camping gear, water and supplies, the team was an impressive sight as they made their way to help in preparation for the sanctuary's future.

With each weekend visit of this fantastic team, we make progress that would take months for us to accomplish on our own. Ronnie, thank you so much for your generosity, friendship and never ending compassion for all animals. With help like this, the big move doesn't feel so far away.

To learn more about what Ronnie and his crew, please visit their website at www.sumterdart.org



Alternative Spring Break volunteers need your help

Every Spring we are fortunate to host up to five "Alternative" Spring Break groups in Florida as they volunteer to help the animals. Instead of partying with the rest of their classmates, these bighearted students take a pledge to set a good example and help make the world a better place.



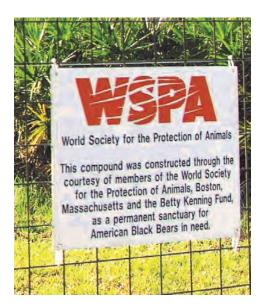
The first two groups that (Continued on page 2)

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Would you (or your business) like to be recognized?

As we begin the construction of our new facility, we have a unique opportunity to offer our initial donors. For donations of \$5,000 or more, you can become a "Wildlife Champion" and have an animal habitat, a building or other structure permanently named in honor of you, your business or a loved one at the new sanctuary in the forest.

Show others your level of dedication to preventing cruelty to animals while helping the sanctuary move to a safer location.



This is a fantastic
opportunity to be an
integral part of moving the
animals to safety.
By helping with the groundbreaking construction needs,
you will be among our most
valuable supporters.

Alternative Spring Break volunteers need your help (continued)

(Continued from page 1)
are coming this spring are Ohio State
University and the University of
Vermont

You can be a valuable part of this project by donating toward the purchase of materials for the students to work with. Please help them accomplish their goal of building an animal habitat during their stay with us.

What a fantastic opportunity for

everyone to help guarantee the safety of the animals!

You can be a valuable part of this project by donating toward the purchase of materials for the students to work with. Please help these dedicated volunteers to reach their goal and help the animals

Donations toward this project can be made on our website at www.PeaceRiverRefuge.org or by mail to:

Peace River Refuge & Ranch PO Box 1127 Zolfo Springs, FL 33890

Thank you!

Progress report: Moving the sanctuary to Marion County

When a huge housing development was approved near the sanctuary, we realized that a fight would eventually begin and we would be forced to move.

We made our plan to secure the future of the animals by making a commitment to move them to a new location sooner, rather than waiting until we were forced to spend money on legal battles only to prolong the inevitable.

We have 80 acres of heavily wooded land in the Ocala National Forest, surrounded on three sides by federally protected land. The animals will no longer be at risk of losing their home to development.

With necessary zoning and permits in place in the forest, we are working on site preparation while we strive to raise the money needed to build.



Before
the
animals
can be
moved to
safety, we
must
construct
all of the
habitats
needed as
well as
sufficient

infrastructure to move the entire sanctuary at once.

Without paid staff, it is impossible for us to slowly move one group of animals at a time while maintaining proper levels of care and security at two facilities at once.

The only option we have is to build first, move all of the animals at one time and get them settled. Only after that is accomplished, can we go back to the old property and tear down the empty habitats, salvaging most of the materials for re-use in the forest.

The difficulty that we have is raising the funds needed to carry the expenses of the construction while

You can earn money for the animals while browsing and shopping online

the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

And if you download the GoodSearch – Peace River Refuge and Ranch toolbar, our cause will earn money

If you do your holiday shopping online, remember to visit www.goodshop.com first!

searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

What if Peace River Refuge and Ranch

earned a donation every time you

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoopowered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first!

Add the Peace River Refuge and Ranch toolbar at http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/peace-river-refuge-and-ranch



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Progress report: Moving the sanctuary to Marion County (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

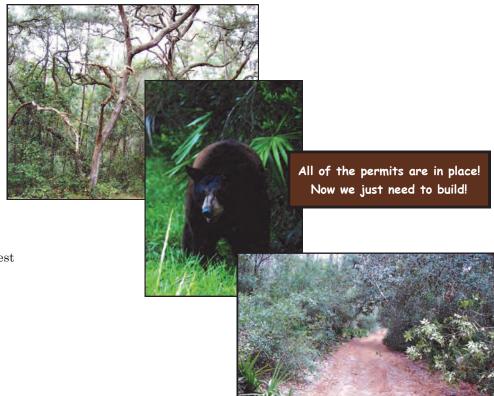
still paying all of the expenses for the sanctuary in Zolfo Springs.

With the economy in its current state, we know it will be an uphill battle to make this happen.

We were the last hope for the animals when they came to the sanctuary. Please don't let them lose their hope.

We welcome any support to help with the construction. The sooner we can move, the sooner we can sell our old land and pay off the debt that we are carrying while we struggle to maintain two locations.

The animals must be moved to safety—and the Ocala National Forest is the perfect location for them



What a great bunch! Thank you!



Yes!! I will help!!

Mar 2011

Address			
City	State	Zip	
Phone	E-mail_		
I am enclosing my tax	x-deductible donation of \$		
-OR-			
Please charge my	Visa or MasterCard	in the amount of \$	
My card number is:		Exp	
Name on card:	Signature:		Date:
Please send instruction	ons for me to set up regular m	onthly gifts from my bank ac	ccount or credit c
Commonta		, c	

The animals can count on me!!

Why doesn't the sanctuary have regular visiting hours?

As a true accredited sanctuary, our concern for the well being of the animals will always come first.

As many of you already know, most of the animals at the sanctuary have suffered at the hands of humans before their arrival here.

As a result, it is not in line with the definition of 'sanctuary' if we allow our need for funding to override the right that the animals have to a stress-free environment.

The compromise that we have found

If you would like to visit the sanctuary, please call us at 863-735-0804 or contact us through the website at www.PeaceRiverRefuge.org to schedule a guided tour

is to offer exclusive guided tours <u>twice</u> a month, led by one of our founders.

By limiting the frequency of tours and ensuring that the people are accompanied by someone that the animals all know and trust, we can satisfy everyone. We are still mindful of the privacy that the animals require and the animals are confident that the visitors will maintain a respectful distance because they are accompanied by someone they have grown to trust.

We request a minimum donation of \$15 per person for a 2-hour guided tour, to help with the care of the animals.

The more notice you allow, the more likely we are to be able to accommodate your requested date. To request a tour, contact us at 863-735-0804 or through our website www.PeaceRiverRefuge.org

On any given day, there are almost 200 animals at Peace River Refuge & Ranch Here's how your donations help with their care:

- \$ 15 gives a rescued monkey the wholesome food he needs each week
- \$ 25 buys the fresh produce a fruit bat needs for one whole month
- \$100 feeds a rescued tiger the best nutrition possible for a whole week
- \$500 pays for the lounging platforms, toys and necessities for a new home in the forest
- \$5,000 buys enough materials to have an animal habitat at the new property named in your honor!

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Peace River Refuge & Ranch

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Phone: 863-735-0804 Fax: 863-735-0805 E-mail: info@PeaceRiverRefuge.org

Nonprofit wild animal sanctuary and educational facility



Dear Friends,

We did it together! We made it all the way to Texas to rescue two tigers, Tony & Roy, who were left to starve when their owner died. We took a leap of faith that it would all come together and made the commitment.

We built their quarantine enclosure, their veterinary needs have been met and they are learning to trust their caregivers in the safety of the sanctuary.

We have all of our permits in place and are making steady progress on the new facility in the forest so that we can move all of the animals to safety before that housing development pushes us out.

We couldn't do this without help like yours! Happy fall!

Lisa Stoner, VP Peace River Refuge & Ranch

