

the Wild Side

JULY 2016

Volume 2016 No. 1

Newsletter of Forest Animal Rescue (formerly known as Peace River Refuge & Ranch)



Former game show host Bob Barker shows his support

We have some very exciting news to share – As we finally enter our final stage of construction at the new facility, we are able to rescue more animals!

(continued on page 4)

Socialize with FAR:



ForestAnimalRescue.org



Facebook.com/forestanimalrescue



Twitter.com/ForestAnimalRes



Youtube.com/ForestanimalrescueOrg



A TRUE SANCTUARY

Forest Animal Rescue (FAR) is a nonprofit sanctuary dedicated to meeting the lifetime needs of almost 100 rescued wild animals.

At FAR's state-of-the-art, 80-acre facility in the beautiful Ocala National Forest, we are 100% committed to providing each animal with:

- a spacious, natural habitat
- a healthful, natural diet
- high-quality care by staff and volunteers
- quality veterinary care, when needed
- a firm "no breeding" policy
- socialization and enrichment appropriate to each animal's preferences, and
- protection from further victimization

FAR is an internationally recognized organization, accredited by the American Sanctuary Association.

Forest Animal Rescue
640 NE 170th Court
Silver Springs, FL 34488
(352) 625-7377

FAR is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.



Bear Freedom Project is a continued success

AVONACO and **BEAU** were the first wild bear cubs to be rehabilitated and released when we launched our “Bear Freedom” project last year. They were Louisiana black bears and went back there for release.

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) followed by bringing three more bear cubs in need.

CHARLIE, DAISY AND EMILY. They all successfully regained their strength and learned to fend for themselves while remaining properly wild and afraid of humans at the sanctuary. They were released into an area of ideal bear habitat in Florida.

So far 100% of the cubs that we have received have been restored to good health and released.

Scan the QR code to watch the release videos online at
www.ForestAnimalRescue.org/portfolio/wild-black-bear-cubs

To be able to continue the expansion of this project to include the smallest, weakest bear cubs that need critical veterinary care, we must complete the construction of our on-site clinic.



Cubs are happily released back into the wild where they belong

When the biologist went to catch him, he made a few steps toward a tree then just stopped, crouched and cried. He knew he wasn't strong enough to escape.

That is how our "Bear Freedom" project started...

The biologist was Maria with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife. She found out about our capabilities with critically ill and injured wild animals and requested that we obtain the proper permits to rehabilitate black bears. They didn't have a facility in their state capable of nursing this cub (now known as **AVONACO**) back to health. He orphaned and slowly starving; he weighed only 15 pounds. He was missing a toe on one foot, had a badly infected wound on his shoulder, fluid in his lungs and a fever. They didn't expect him to live.... but he did – and he thrived under our care.



BEAU was a yearling when he was found in an area of Louisiana with almost no natural food for bears. He was about 65 pounds underweight and had almost starved to death. He was trying to live on the stubble left over after sugar cane is harvested.

Both of these cubs gained strength and a tremendous amount of weight in a short time in our rehabilitation facility. They were successfully released back into the wild in Louisiana, in proper bear habitat.

BEAU, when he was found eating remnants from harvested sugar cane



Each cub is placed in a "human-free zone" to recuperate and build strength for a healthy return to the wild.

FWC followed their lead

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission biologists followed the example set by Louisiana, bringing **CHARLIE, DAISY AND EMILY**.

CHARLIE & DAISY, siblings, were rescued by FWC when their mother had to be destroyed due to people leaving trash out and teaching her to become a nuisance bear.

EMILY came to us when the State's own rehabilitation facility was filled to capacity. With the increasing conflicts between humans and bears, this is likely to be an ongoing issue.

The cubs' lives depend on remaining afraid of humans, so when they are tranquilized for examination all of our interns are excited to finally be able to get close!



We are increasing our capacity to rehabilitate more bear cubs as well as rescuing more captive wild animals in need with the construction of our new *Bob Barker Animal Care Building*

Former game show host Bob Barker shows his support

Bob Barker, former host of *the Price is Right*, has made a \$100,000 gift to Forest Animal Rescue to begin construction of our Animal Care Building.

The building is a \$250,000 project and this gift will start the ball rolling to construct a building that will ensure continuing high standards of veterinary and nutritional care for the animals at the sanctuary.



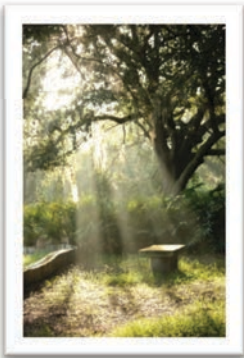
We are making substantial progress toward completion of a state-of-the-art animal sanctuary in the Ocala National Forest and *you* can be an integral part of that accomplishment.

Now, in addition to providing lifetime care to over 100 nonreleasable wild animals that would have otherwise been destroyed, Forest Animal Rescue is rehabilitating orphaned black bear cubs for release back into the wild. Bob Barker is helping to take this newest program to the next level.

Working with wildlife officials in Louisiana and Florida, we nurture orphaned black bear cubs until they are ready to be released back into their native habitat. With the construction of the on-site clinic in this building, we will be able to provide the best possible environment for the smallest, most fragile bear cubs that are in constant need of veterinary care.

This building will give us the ability to provide on-site veterinary care for all of the rescued animals at the sanctuary. It will increase our capacity to save even more wild animals from being killed for lack of a place to go and it will provide more working space for our interns and local and international volunteers as they learn about what we do.

Will you join Mr. Barker in supporting the sanctuary and help complete the project? We are already halfway there!



Are you a member of our Legacy Society?

This society is created exclusively to honor and recognize people who have helped to continue our life saving work through a gift to Forest Animal Rescue in their wills, estate plans or trusts. As a Legacy Society member, you will receive a certificate of appreciation and a Legacy Society lapel pin to serve as a reminder to others of your support of our mission. Your gift can be recognized publicly, unless you prefer to remain anonymous.

If you have already arranged for a bequest or other planned gift, please notify us so you can receive your membership perks. If you are still considering such a gift, please let us know so we can help you and your advisors complete your gift in a way that benefits your estate and makes clear your intention to help the animals at Forest Animal Rescue; contact us at 352-625-7377 or development@forestanimalrescue.org

When you join the Society, you demonstrate your commitment to the prevention of cruelty to animals and help ensure the long-term strength of Forest Animal Rescue and the lifetime care of all of the animals at the sanctuary.

Would YOU like to help rescued animals?

The sanctuary has limited staff so our volunteers are an integral part of the operation. Would you like to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience while making a real difference in the lives of rescued animals? *WE NEED YOU!*

Every year we are amazed to see the increasing numbers of volunteers who come to help the animals. The level of dedication we see is such a heartwarming display of how caring people can be and how much they appreciate being able to make a

Part-Time Local Volunteers

Part-Time Local Volunteers are worth their weight in gold to us. These volunteers typically live within a reasonable drive of the sanctuary and come to help as their time and our scheduling allows.

Whether they give their valuable time intermittently to help with projects or on a regular schedule long enough to learn how to help with animal care, they fill in the blanks where we need them most.

Volunteers must be 18 or older.



Cole Dellisanti came to us as an intern for 6 months. He was a recent graduate from Arizona State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Biology and Ecology and a minor in sustainability. In this photo, Cole is saying goodbye to **BEERCAN** the donkey as his internship completed ☺



Pam Laster from Ocala, FL has been volunteering part-time to help the animals for over *two years!*

Animal Care Internships

Our internship program is designed for US citizens with a college background in biology or other animal-related science. Interns help us in a variety of ways while continuing their education in their chosen career path. They are the primary caregivers for the animals, spending most of their time preparing food and medicine, feeding animals, cleaning habitats, doing enrichment activities, and other animal husbandry chores. They also help to supervise volunteers and work on projects like groundskeeping and habitat construction.

Full-Time Residential Volunteers

We have a program where volunteers from the US and abroad can pay in advance for their housing and food – then stay in our housing and volunteer full-time alongside our interns and local volunteers.

There is no prior education required; we teach everything you need to know. This is the best way for someone who loves animals to learn about the operation of the sanctuary and build their resume.

The minimum length of stay is 4 weeks and participants must be 21 years or older.

Want to help?

You can learn more and apply through our website at ForestAnimalRescue.org

Alternative Break Groups

An Alternative Break is a trip where a group of college students engage in volunteer service, typically for a week at a time. The trips fall during the school's fall, winter, weekend or summer school breaks and, counter to 'traditional' spring break trips.

Each trip has a focus on a particular social issue. The groups that wish to focus on environment or animal issues often choose to come to the sanctuary for their service trip.

The sanctuary has hosted Alternative Break groups for over 17 years – and we always have room for more.

Contact us for details on how to reserve a week for your



Ohio State University has the all-time record. They have sent their Alternative Break students to us **NINE TIMES!** We already have **THREE MORE OSU** groups scheduled for the upcoming school year.



Team-Building Opportunities

Are you looking for a team building opportunity for your employees? Do you have a group of friends that want to make a difference?

Team-Building Days can be arranged to involve your group in positive team-building activities while giving back to the community at the same time.

We will set up a project that benefits the animals and at the same time it will demonstrate your commitment to the community and boost employee morale!

No experience necessary – we will teach your team everything they need to know to help on the project.

Animal Spotlight: Damien



DAMIEN, one of the most memorable animals for every volunteer, is a black leopard.

This beautiful animal was rescued from a "Pseudo Sanctuary" – A place that calls itself a sanctuary but actually exploits the animals. He was forced to live in a tiny 10'x10' cage with a concrete floor, along with another leopard for 6 years.

Damien was about to be confiscated by authorities and destroyed, but they gave permission for us to pick him up and save his life.

He was extremely aggressive as a result of his unhappy life, but we managed to safely relocate him. He quickly learned that his mistreatment by humans is a thing of the past and although he still has his moments, he has learned to trust his caretakers more than we ever thought possible.

He is happy now and will live the rest of his life in peace at our sanctuary.



YES - I WILL HELP!!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

☐ I am enclosing my tax-deductible donation to Forest Animal Rescue for \$ _____☐ Please charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____ CVV Code: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

Please earmark my gift: ☐ Where it is needed most ☐ Animal Care Building project☐ Nourishment/medical care ☐ other _____☐ ***Make this a recurring monthly gift, ending on (date)*** _____*(One-time and monthly donations can also be made securely at ForestAnimalRescue.org)*☐ Please contact me to discuss a tax-deductible contribution of the following equipment or materials: _____☐ Please contact me regarding a planned gift to The Legacy Society

Interested in a volunteer experience?

Visit ForestAnimalRescue.org for additional details and application forms!

Thank you!

Forest Animal Rescue is grateful to our dedicated volunteers,
who help us care for more than 100 animals at our 80-acre
location in the beautiful Ocala National Forest

Peace River Refuge & Ranch dba Forest Animal Rescue is a Florida charitable corporation, registration #CH9372. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

We are tax exempt under IRS 501(c)(3), EIN 65-0864695.

Forest Animal Rescue

640 NE 170th Ct.
Silver Springs, FL 34488



NON-PROFIT
ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
OCALA, FL
PERMIT NO.

Join our email list ☐

Make a difference



MEET THE ANIMALS

Scan this with your smart phone

THE WILD SIDE

www.forestanimalrescue.org

JULY 2016

FAR Extends our deepest gratitude for support from the following

Groundbreaking Sponsors:

- DJ & T Foundation
- June Albert
- The Felburn Foundation & Mr. Guy Marwick
- For our Friends the Animals Foundation
- The Morningstar Foundation
- Winn Dixie of Silver Springs
- Winn Dixie of Ocala
- International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
- Sparr Building & Farm Supply
- Silver Springs Storage
- Consie VonGontard
- Westbrook Services
- ASL Administration Services, Ltd.
- Northern Tool & Equipment
- Master Lock
- Nutramax Laboratories, Inc.

What's new in 2016?

It's hard to believe, but FAR recently celebrated the third anniversary of our state-of-the-art, 80-acre facility located in the Ocala National Forest! We felt this was the perfect time to update our friends on the new animals, projects and programs underway at FAR in 2016.

Warm regards,

Lisa Stoner



FAR Officers:

President Kurt Stoner; Vice President Lisa Stoner and Secretary Lila Hepner