How, one might wonder, do wild animals manage to survive, even to prosper, in cities. Not all that well, confined as they are to small parks and hedgerows, or the casual beneficence of householders. But in our area they have a better chance, thanks largely to a singular entity devoted to the convalescence of area wildlife.

Located on seven acres adjacent to Bayou Chico, the Wildlife Sanctuary of Northwest Florida is a refuge for wild animals—wounded in battle, tossed in storms, abandoned in the nest. Such as can be carried in a box or basket, are brought here by local rescuers, and with the care received, they will likely recover and return to nest or den, family and friends. A few, those deemed unable to survive in the wild will remain, giving the Sanctuary the aura of a small zoo—which it is not. It is a hospital, and 70% on average will be successfully returned to the wild.

As we wander the attractive grounds with director Dorothy Kaufmann, we see enclosures for bobcat, vultures, and a nesting Bald Eagle, born of a resident pair.

“We have a few such animals, like the bobcat and this eagle pair, but that’s not what we do here. We return wildlife to the wild, when they’re able to be released.” She points to a large L-shaped wooden structure, “that’s our flight cage, where we help injured raptors regain their flying and hunting skills.”

“We’re impressed by how much is accomplished here, and ask how it is possible, with limited help and resources. This is the kind of question Kaufmann hears often.

“We have eight part-time and one full-time staff, however, being open seven days a week our volunteers are the main support of our facility. We have over thirty active volunteers, and more for special events and our children’s educational programs. Applications are always accepted. And yes, the vets. We use Westside Animal Hospital and Pine Forest Animal Clinic. We couldn’t provide the level of care we do without their support.”

“Are you selective, I mean as to what animals you can take in and care for?”

“All animals received are given a thorough examination by Sanctuary staff, fed a diet most resembling the food they would seek in the wild. They’re carefully monitored to insure adjustment to temporary captivity. But release, as soon as possible, is our goal.”

“That must vary quite a bit.”

“Yes, but we take everything that’s brought to us—seabirds, shorebirds, raptors, turtles, beavers, raccoons, whatever people find in the woods or fallen from backyard trees . . . from hummingbirds to eagles, flying squirrels to black bears, as long as they’re Florida natives. We are the only operation of this kind in the Panhandle, so we get a lot of wounded and orphaned wildlife, more than 67,000 over the 31 years we’ve been in operation.”

“Wait a minute, Black Bears too?”

“Yes, we assist Florida Fish and Wildlife’s bear team—two cubs from Eglin recently. We stabilized them until they were ready for transport to Homosassa State Park.”

“And how long have you been here yourself?”

“I started as a volunteer in 1994, and took over as director two years later.”

From touring the grounds it’s obvious that the Sanctuary is performing a vital role in wildlife welfare, and we wonder how she manages to find sufficient funding sources. But Dorothy Kaufmann is an amazing person. She smiles in reply.

“The Sanctuary’s funding is through private groups, fundraisers, recycling, and as an outside agency with Escambia County. However, annual memberships provide the largest portion.”

We ask about education, and Kaufmann points out some of the methods and devices the volunteers have built as teaching tools.

Continued on page 7
Field Trips

All field trips are open to the public and free of charge, but contributions are appreciated. All experience levels are welcome. Bring binoculars and/or a spotting scope on birding trips. A camera, sunscreen, insect protection, appropriate shoes, hat, water, and snacks or lunch are recommended on all trips. Carpooling is encouraged. Questions? Call Lucy Duncan at 932-4792 or email her at town_point@bellsouth.net.

☐ Sat., July 27, Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Native Plants. James Burkhalter will lead us along the boardwalk through its bog and out to Weeks Bay. We will also visit the natural history museum there. Meet 7:30 a.m. in the Big Lots parking lot on Navy Blvd. in Warrington. Easy hiking; finish by noon. Bring a picnic lunch and drinks. Sunscreen and insect repellant are recommended.

☐ Sat., August 31, Historic Blakeley State Park. Native Plants. James Burkhalter will lead us to one of the lesser known beautiful parks in South Alabama, just north of Spanish Fort. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Publix parking lot at 9 Mile and Pine Forest Roads. We anticipate seeing the big leaf magnolia Magnolia macrophylla and the rare Crane Fly Orchid Tipularia discolor in fruit. Easy hiking. Expect to finish by early afternoon. Bring picnic lunch and drinks. Sunscreen and insect repellant are recommended. There is a modest entrance fee.

☐ Sat., Sep. 21, South Baldwin County Sod Farms birding. Jan Lloyd will lead us through south Baldwin County in search of fall migrants. We hope to see Black-bellied Plovers in breeding plumage and Pectoral and Buff-breasted Sandpipers. Also, with a little luck, we might see Upland Sandpipers and American Golden-Plovers. Expect easy walking and possibly wet conditions. We plan to eat lunch at a restaurant. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Food World parking lot located on the south side of Barrancas Ave. just east of Navy Blvd. in Warrington. We plan to return by mid-afternoon.

☐ Sat., Sep. 28, Bay Cliff Preserve in GB. Native Plants. James Burkhalter will lead us to this small gem within the City of Gulf Breeze where habitat slopes from coastal woodland through wetland and to the bay. Expected highlight is the Ladies’ Eardrop Vine Brunnichia ovata. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Visitors’ Center parking lot at the north end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge. An easy walk on the trails at Shoreline Park in Gulf Breeze follows. Bring a picnic lunch and drinks for the morning. We expect to finish by noon.

Chapter Meetings

Pensacola State College, 7:00pm, Main Campus, Baroco Science Center, Room 2142, unless otherwise noted. Guests are welcome!

☐ Thursday, August 22, 2013. Mr. Hank Burch, Manager of Five Rivers, Alabama’s Delta Resource Center in Spanish Fort, AL, will present a program on the Five Rivers Delta Resource Center and on the Alabama Coastal BirdFest to be held Oct. 3, 2013.

☐ Thursday, September 26, 2013. Lucy and Mo Michel will present a program entitled “A Trek in Nepal.” Trekking provided a way to see the country up close and personal. Walking ancient trails and stone stairs through the spectacular scenery of the Himalayas was a trip of a lifetime for Lucy and Mo. They will share their adventure through slides and stories of the Nepalese and their culture, focusing on trail-side scenes of the people who live amid the mountain splendor of this ancient kingdom.

Board of Directors

☐ Aug.1, Sept. 5 — The Board meets at 7:00pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bayou Blvd. Pensacola. Meetings are open to all members.

Newly elected officers are:

Presidents’ Council — Dana Timmons, Peggy Baker, Jim Brady and Annelise Reunert
Treasurer — Becky Grass
Recording Secretary — Lucy Michel
Correspondence Secretary — Ann Forster
New Directors at Large — Cindy Guttman and Kathryn Palmore
Returning Director at Large — Lucy Duncan

See page 8 for contact information.

WUWF Radio

Many of our chapter members are also supporters of our local public radio station, WUWF. As a thank you gift for certain levels of support, WUWF provides several minutes free air time. Several members have graciously donated their air time to FMWAS to advertise our chapter meetings and activities. If you have some unused air time that you would like to donate, please contact Brenda Callaway at 968-4516.
President’s Column

The sounds of spring I enjoy most are the beautiful bird sounds. The repeating call of the Brown Thrasher and the “cheer, cheer, cheer” of the Northern Cardinal bring suggestions of spring, cool mornings and the opening of our windows. My most magic moments are when I hear a different song and try to guess who the singer might be—Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush? For me they are the magic flutes of spring.

Some time ago I was given an iPod with all my favorite birdsongs, including simple instructions for finding the songs of most every bird in North America. I was intrigued by the new toy and I began to experiment with its sounds and how well they caused reactions from the birds in my backyard. The Carolina Wren reacted, the Chickadees reacted, and even the Downy Woodpecker came in. It was not the same reaction as the “phishing” I have often used to get a bird’s attention. Their reaction to the iPod was right now and up front.

The song machine, BirdJam, brings out the birds, no doubt. The song duplication or alarm call, causes birds to defend their territories, thus exposing them to us birders—for pleasure, counting, or adding to our lists. This troubles me. By use of this machine, I wondered, was I affecting, even changing their behavior?

My first thought: Am I exposing birds to more perils of daily life? Cats, hawks, and other predators may have just seen their next meal. Secondly, am I causing a bird to seek out a possible rival entering its territory? This might even cause a reaction in the bird’s physiology, or change hormone levels in the bird’s chemistry. I can’t be certain, of course, how birds feel about this, or what stresses it causes them, but the use of bird recordings in the field, especially during breeding season, has raised many a heated debate among birders and scientists alike.

What I do understand is this: I should use the recorded sounds responsibly, and here are my suggestions to birders who use, or plan to make use of birdsong devices. First, don’t use the recordings in a heavily birded area. These birds could easily become over exposed to the use of recordings. Next, don’t use recordings where breeding birds are present. Birds readily react to defend their nesting grounds; and lastly, don’t use recordings where “special” birds are present—special birds being those rare birds and strays to our area, typically out of their home range.

I encourage you, whether you are a backyard birder or field trip leader, to carefully consider your use of bird recordings in the field, or even phishing. When, where and how to draw out a bird from its hiding is up to each of us—and our sense of ethical birding.

Education—Sharing our Shores

Our Naturalist, Jenn Butera, is working on an exciting project, Sharing our Shores, with children served by the Milk and Honey Outreach Ministries. Following a series of lectures on the ecology of barrier islands and their surrounding waters, Jenn led 24 youngsters and their leaders on a field trip to Gulf Islands National Seashore over spring break in March. On two consecutive days, despite chilly weather, the children explored the inhabitants of first the sound, and then the shore side of Perdido Key. Using hand nets, seines, and yabbie pumps, the students collected and identified several species of fish, arthropods, and worms from each setting, to compare and contrast the two habitats. Their leaders tell us the field trips were the highlight of the spring break camp.

In early June, we returned to the site, where the children shared the excitement of discovery with their parents. We ended that afternoon with a fish fry, which for some of the participants was their first taste of mullet. Thanks to Barbara Albrecht, Richard Mason, and JJ Bachant-Brown for helping Jenn with the field trips, and Dana and Sue Timmons, Mary Newman, Jane Dysart, Becky Grass, Annelise Reunert, and Lucy Michel for providing help with the fish fry. We will continue this work, funded by the Jesse Ball DuPont Foundation, with other youth groups in the fall semester.
FIELD NOTES

As I write this, spring migration is over. Compared to last year’s spring migration which was a non-event, this was an interesting spring for birders. A cold front and attendant squall line 19 April produced a fallout of warblers and other species. The Duncans tallied 16 species of warblers at Ft. Pickens. A well-attended F. M. Weston weekday field trip to Dauphin Island 23 April in non-fallout conditions somehow allowed the group to tally 106 species. But then, Dauphin Island always produces great birding during migration. A heavy movement of thrushes, Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Red-eyed Vireos and a few warblers fell out at Ft. Pickens and Gulf Breeze on 2 May when a low in the Gulf and attendant rain and front passed through. Finally, an unseasonal cold front and north winds forced migrants to accumulate along the coast 5 – 7 May, mostly Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Indigo Buntings, tanagers and some warblers. I heard no complaints about the absence of birds this year!

Winter Birds Lingering

The Clay-colored* and Lark Sparrow* found in the fall stayed at Ft. Pickens until 2 May (Jerry Callaway et al). Very rare in the area was a Red-throated Loon* spotted by Laura Catterton at Pensacola Beach 15 Mar. Bill & Greta Bremser’s Vermilion Flycatcher observed on the CBC found Tiger Pt. to its liking and stayed to 16 Mar. The Razorbill* phenomenon which began in late fall continued into spring. Several valuable specimens were salvaged for museums during the winter. A late date was established when Toby Stapleton found a dead bird 13 May at Opal Beach. Indicating the success of Project Greenshores, a Nelson’s Sparrow* was found there 24 April (Andrew Carr).

Western Birds East

A Cave Swallow* over Gulf Breeze 25 Mar was a rare find (Bob Duncan). A very rare Lesser Nighthawk* found at Ft. Pickens 7 April (Patrick James) stayed to 2 May (Jerry Callaway). Another was at Gulf Breeze 9 April (Lucy & Bob Duncan). A very rare Bewick’s Wren* was observed at Ft. Pickens 26 April (Bob Duncan) establishing a first April record. On 10 May, Jim Brady found a rare Bronzed Cowbird* in his west Pensacola yard, a first May area record. Lucy Duncan’s photo of a Red-tailed Hawk at Ft. Pickens 15 – 16 April revealed it to be the fuertesi sub-species from the desert SW.

Other Great Sightings

Very early and rare was a Nashville Warbler* found by Daniel Stangland in Pace 22 – 30 Mar. Daniel’s male Painted Bunting there 24 Mar was also early. A second cycle Lesser Black-backed Gull* at Pensacola Beach 17 April was a surprising find (Bob & Lucy Duncan). A handsome American Oystercatcher, rare anytime, was observed by David Sparks and the Duncans at Opal Beach tidal flats 27 April – 1 May. Patrick James spotted a Masked Booby* at Ft. Pickens 14 April. Two hundred White Pelicans over Pensacola 4 April (Barbara Albrecht) must have been an impressive sight. Five Black Scoters* 3 May at Ft. Pickens (Bob & Lucy Duncan) were a first May record for the area. Ann & Dan Forster counted 53 American Avocets from their Bayou Grande home 10 May, the maximum ever in one day for the area.

As an encore, Dan photographed a Hermit Thrush there the same day, establishing the first documentation of the latest date ever for the entire state! Bob & Lucy Duncan counted 951 Semi-palmated Sandpipers* 10 May at the Ft. Walton Beach Sewage Treatment Facility, an all-time local maximum.

Francis M. Weston suspected, but could never prove, that Boat-tailed Grackles* bred in the area. They are consistently found in winter at the Floridatown Park and along the US 90 causeway. Almost always 12 – 25 males hang together and females are rarely seen and never with the males. The Duncans have observed this phenomenon and also wondered whether they bred in the marshes of the delta or whether they left in spring and returned in fall. On 11 May, Max Griggs watched a male exhibiting courtship rituals to a female in the marsh while he was fishing. He had observed this behavior on previous trips. On 11 May he watched a female gather nesting material and disappear into the reeds on the bank, thus confirming intention to breed. An avian mystery finally solved!

Outstanding finds of rare breeders was a Black-necked Stilt nest found at International Paper Wetlands 26 May (Jerry & Brenda Callaway) and a Willet nest with four eggs at Opal Beach 17 May (Lucy & Bob Duncan, Lilian Mauney).

Species with asterisks require documentation so that they may be processed to become part of the ornithological record. The Skimmer welcomes reports of noteworthy birds. If you have something to report, please call Lucy or Bob Duncan at 932-4792.
TRIPPING Together

An article in the Leisure Section of the Wall Street Journal about couples who share hobbies and interests made me think about some of the birding couples we have known. In many of them both members are equally enthusiastic and, according to the Journal, this condition makes for a long and happy marriage.

On the other hand we have known happy couples in which one spouse was addicted to birding while the other spouse was addicted only to the birder. Ann and Al Miller from Birmingham were often at Fort Morgan. She had the best camera equipment around and was in great demand when rare birds needed documenting. “Go get Ann; I’ve got a Sage Thrasher!” Her husband drove, parked in the shade, read a book, and visited with other by-standers and seemed happy with his role. Another couple we knew had not resolved the issue as effectively. He was the birder. Like so many his age he got his start as an Eagle Scout, was the first president of Atlanta Audubon Society, and was responsible for many environmental successes in Georgia. He had bought his wife the best binoculars and often convinced her to go on local field trips hoping for a conversion. As far as we could tell she never identified a bird and worse yet disliked sunshine, insects, and early rising. He would sometimes jump the traces and go alone on a birding trip after which retribution happened. This usually consisted of a trip which included opera, a luxury hotel, and ritzy restaurants. They were absolutely devoted to each other but reserved the right to whine out of ear-shot of the other.

We’ve noticed (especially in our case) that many birding couples have a new division of interests in which one has developed into an ardent photographer/documenter of bird behavior while the other is still devoted to identifying and observing. With all these serious birders armed with incredible digital cameras, there should never again be the rancorous relationship between the records committee and the field birding community.

Unlike some of the hobbies mentioned in the Journal article (especially ice skating and skiing) birding can be done in any region and by people of all ages, most physical conditions and income levels. When we think about all the wonderful friends we have made and how much birding and related activities have enriched our marriage, we think the Journal may be onto something.

Beautiful No-Mow Yards, Evelyn J. Hadden; Timber Press, 2012; $24.95.

Here’s a new garden book for all wildlife lovers, Beautiful No-Mow Yards is a bit of miss-titling. It’s about turning your yard, especially your front lawn, into a garden, and it speaks to all suburbanites, woefully encumbered with a garage or shed full of lawn maintenance paraphernalia. But it’s more than just weekend freedom in question. Here’s a quote from the Forward: ‘Slowly we’re learning about the environmental damage done in the name of the Great American Lawn—the wasted water, the fertilizers running off into waterways, the pesticides harming everything they touch. We’re seeing connections between disappearing wildlife and the vast acreage we’ve devoted to a single plant that provides virtually nothing for wildlife. And then there are those spewing mowers and blowers.’

Through nineteen beautifully illustrated chapters Hadden explains the why and the how to replace your lawns, front and back, with truly elegant year-round gardens. There are chapters on rain gardens, xeric gardens, patios, edible gardens and play areas, for example, while taking us through ‘converting lawn to garden, designing an eco-friendly garden’, and all the chapters in between. The color photos alone will provide the incentive needed to get busy creating one’s own private paradise. And there is a practical element, with descriptions and growing habits of some of the most useful ground covers and shrubs to complete your garden scheme. Here’s an added quote to goad the altruistic in us, as well: ‘One landowner on one small city lot can make an enormous difference to the survival of other species. Every one of us can take action in our own yard to help conserve biodiversity, expand urban forests, mitigate climate change, and make life richer and more fulfilling for our families and ourselves.’ And yes, for our resident and migrating birds too.

Jere French
Whazzat?—It’s a parking lot, no it’s a beach-nesting bird site. Really? Yes, a colony of Least Terns decided that the parking lot at the Landshark Landing, Margaritaville Hotel was just the best place to nest. And, a colony of Black Skimmers chose a back beach area next to them. Approximately 100 nests have chicks hatching out of both species. Thanks to Margaritaville for allowing the birds to stay and giving up about half of their Landshark Landing parking lot to these special birds. On weekends, volunteers have been at the nesting area to educate visitors about beach-nesting birds. Remember to watch for chicks when you are walking and driving at the beach. Volunteering is rewarding, help protect species in peril, contact Bonnie Samuelsen, 941-951-7704, or bsamuelsen@audubon.org

Birdathon 2013
We had a very successful Birdathon this year, with 8 teams comprising 30 stalwart birders, spotting 124 species—for a grand total of approximately $4,000. I want to personally thank all who made this event successful. You did all the hard work. The teams were:
Brady Birders – Jim Brady, Betsy Tetlow, Ann Forster and Dr. Hal Hinman
Brown Creepers – Becky Grass, Ann Forster and Jan Lloyd
DBM (Duncan’s Birding Mach) – Bob Duncan and Lucy Duncan
Gourmet Birders – Annelise Reunert, Roberta Bonwit, Carolyn Henning, Mary Jones, Dave Maitland, Jan Osborn, Bob Strader, and Sam Tagatz
Intrepid Trio – Peggy Baker, Sue Peters-Ferree and Larry Goodman
Jay Birds – Dana Timmons, Sue Timmons, Jere French, Lucy Michel, Mo Michel, and Kathryn Palmore
The Bird Chasers – Les Kelly, Bruce Furlow, Larry Goodman
The Roadrunners – Les Kelly and Robert Shell

Les Kelly, Birdathon Chair

FMW Audubon Society Awards
At the annual dinner this May, the Francis M. Weston Audubon Society presented the following awards:
The Francis M. Weston Award to Peggy Baker for her many years of sustained service to the chapter. She was especially recognized for the Hyatt Center restoration partnership with the Escambia County School District. She also started the successful Birdathon fundraiser. She has served in many capacities on the board and within the chapter, currently serving as Outreach chair.
The Conservation Award to the Blackwater River State Forest Bird Survey Team for the work done in the 189,184 acre forest. This team of volunteers headed by Peggy Baker and Larry Goodman counted 180 bird species that use the forest during the year.
The Government Award to Keith Wilkins for his work developing the 15 mile Jones Swamp Trail and boardwalk through a wetland preserve. Environmental education signs will be posted along the trail.
A Certificate of Appreciation to Gulf Power, a Southern Company, for their Perdido Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facility that has generated more than 50 million kilowatt-hours of renewable energy from methane in the past two years.
A Certificate of Appreciation to Wayne Blocker, a contractor to Gulf Power, for his work changing out a power pole and line without destroying an Osprey nest. The nest was carefully moved during construction and securely replaced. The adults returned and began incubating eggs.

Audubon Adventures is a “newspaper” produced by the National Audubon Society for grade school children. These newspapers provide interesting and informative topics regarding a diverse range of environments and wildlife around the globe. FMWAS, with your help, has been providing Audubon Adventures to area schools and the Roy Hyatt Environmental Center.
We are asking for your support again for the 2013-14 school year. For $50 you can provide a set of four issues to each child in a classroom or one issue for 128 students who visit the Hyatt Center. Donations of any amount help. Please send donations to Francis M. Weston Audubon Society, PO Box 17484, Pensacola, FL 32522 with a note including your name, address and amount. If you would like to sponsor a specific classroom, please include the name of the teacher and the school with its address. Also, please write Audubon Adventures on your check.
It’s a gorgeous day in Oceanside, a few puffy cotton clouds riding the blue sky, a gentle breeze across the cobalt Pacific, its frothy waves rolling rhythmically over the beach below us.

I’m motoring through the hilly coastal ridges of Mesa Drive, not driving but enjoying the rare experience of being a front seat passenger, someone else minding the road while I, in a sort of kinetic fast lane, peruse what nature has to offer, as our car winds through amazing tight turns and downward spirals. I just sit back and watch the scenery curl past, a constantly changing panorama of sparkling sea, rolling hills, and wooded valleys. From my seat, neither aware of nor concerned for oncoming traffic or impatient tailgaters, I take in the best of coastal Southern California on a sunny, summer afternoon—but for one depressing contradiction.

The view I enjoy, looking toward the sea, is nature undisturbed—a wilderness of native vegetation, beautifully varied in a richness of hue, shape and texture, with no evidence of intrusive development—resolutely intact, I assume, by the grace of local government’s keenness for preserving natural beauty.

The other side of Mesa Drive, however, tells another story. Government has applied its hand here as well, but with a different purpose—and result. Here are the houses of the well-to-do, perched on valued real estate that overlooks Mesa Drive and the sea, and here the landscape that accompanies the residential development is of an entirely contrasting character. On these artlessly engineered slopes, I observe an invasion of foreign plantings—trees and shrubs from Africa, Asia, and Latin America—staked or strapped to the carved hillsides. It is more a landscape of Kafka’s vision, these dreary interlopers, languishing here despite all apparent effort to nourish them.

Why do we do this? Why do we tear out a natural landscape that has, over centuries of ecosystemic fine tuning, provided us with a logical order of development in harmony with existing environmental conditions? Look at what succeeds, one might suggest, and plant the same—as we try to do here, on Pensacola Beach following a disruption. Why not plant the slopes of Mesa Drive with those trees and shrubs that are already there—on the coastal side of the road?

But no, we seem to have more to think about than beauty, or slope stabilization. Or logic. We must accept overriding economic concerns—that the contrived landscape overlooking Mesa Drive has real value, while the native landscape on the other side of the road has none at all—at least in terms of dollar value. And this being California, those earthquake and fire codes must be enforced—on behalf of said real estate. We try to do the right thing, but as is so often the case when accommodating the many and varied whims of human comfort within the codes and limitations imposed on behalf of safety, government runs roughshod over nature on one side of the road while saving it in toto on the other—as we observe on Mesa Drive on a beautiful summer day, from the passenger’s seat.

A Passion for Panhandle Wildlife—continued from page 1

“Education, ecotourism in the community, is one of our goals, through our quarterly newsletter, On The Wild Side. We are open seven days a week, and we also provide information, tours, presentations to foster public awareness, safety, and appreciation of wildlife. There’s always lots to see here. The Sanctuary has opened its doors to over 3,000 animals or more each year.”

Kaufmann seems quite at home, relaxed and comfortable in a job that is clearly demanding. “This is, after all, an emergency hospital, with patients arriving daily and unexpectedly. It means late nights and early morning hours, taking home animals that need extra care and feeding. It means transport of injured and orphaned wildlife, and networking with similar facilities across the United States.”

“Obviously it requires dedication.”

“A Passion for Panhandle Wildlife—continued from page 1

“Caring for wildlife is my passion, even on days when I’ve been bitten and scratched, or worse. I’m thankful to have fallen into the best job a person could wish for.”

This kind of devotion is what has driven the Wildlife Sanctuary for the past thirty-one years—nineteen under her direction.

“Do you have advice for our readers?”

“If you come across a wounded or orphaned wild animal bring it here, to 105 North S Street, or call us at (850) 433-9453. We’re open every day, 8am to 5pm. The Sanctuary is also open for self-guided tours Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 3:30pm.”

And remember, volunteers are welcome. You don’t have to be a veterinarian, or even a good birder, to teach a child about wildlife.
Introductory Membership
National Audubon Society
(includes Audubon Florida and our local chapter)

Individual/Family: One-year —$20
(Make checks payable to the National Audubon Society.)

Student Membership—local chapter only
One year—$7.00
(Include a copy of your student id with a check payable to FMW Audubon Society.)

Mail to the Francis M. Weston Audubon Society,
PO Box 17484, Pensacola, FL 32522.

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City __________________ State ___ Zip ____
Phone ____________________________
E-Mail Address __________________________

Francis M. Weston Audubon Society Chapter C3ZE460Z

The National Audubon Society occasionally makes its membership list available to carefully selected organizations whose mailings you might find of interest. To have your name omitted from this list, please check here. ___

Corporate Supporters—Armstrong World Industries, Ascend Performance Materials and Pfizer

Chapter Meetings
Aug 22 and Sep 26

Field Trips
Jul 27, Aug 31, Sep 21 and Sep 28

Details on page 2