



Issue 2

Winter Newsletter 2011

## Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc.

*Helping injured and orphaned wildlife and nurturing an appreciation for our local wildlife and environment*

### Editor's Note:

As we move ahead into a new year we can look back on the challenges that faced us in 2010, and try to prepare ourselves for what lies ahead in 2011. Spring is approaching quickly and we will be flooded with calls to care for injured and orphaned wildlife. We take in an average of 300 animals a year. We survive from year to year praying that we will be able to have the funds and volunteers necessary to transport and care for all the wildlife we are asked to take in. Your donations and time are essential for helping us reach that goal. We would like to become self sustaining through a source that would provide ongoing funding, such as a thrift store. Another dream of ours is to establish a wildlife center for Guilford County which would provide a shelter for the public to bring injured and orphaned wildlife for care, and a place to hold wildlife education programs. Let's hope that 2011 will bring us more prosperous times for the economy and non-profit groups like ourselves. We want to thank all of our loyal volunteers, supporters, and veterinarians for all their time, donations and support. We look forward to working with you again this year.

Kim Santos



Hansel and young friend Bella

### *Officers and Board of Directors*

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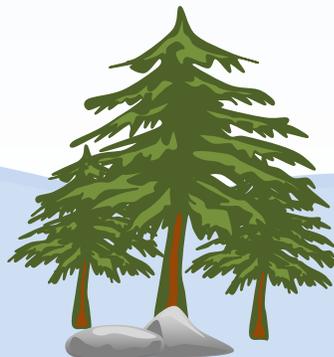
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336-580-6600 C

Website: <http://piedmontwildliferehab.org>



## Meet Hansel and Gretel

Hansel and Gretel are groundhogs that were orphaned in July of 2009 after their mother was accidentally killed at a construction site. They were only a few days old when they were rescued. A caring neighbor found them and brought them to a veterinarian who contacted PWR. Hansel and Gretel had some minor health issues that prevented them from being good candidates for release. We applied for a permit to give them status as educational animals. When they emerge from hibernation they will travel to schools and workplaces to tell their story, stories of other native wildlife and of PWR's efforts.

On January 30, 2011 Hansel and Gretel were featured in an article in the Guildford Record entitled "Group rescues groundhogs". The article written by Christy Vance Dunovant told the story of how they were rescued and became educational animals, and how student volunteers raised funds for a new cage. Hansel and Gretel also made their debut TV appearance on FOX 8 Morning News on Groundhog Day, February 2, 2011 to help promote PWR's mission. As you know, if a groundhog sees its shadow there will be 6 more weeks of winter. If not, there will be an early spring. It was a spit decision, Hansel saw his shadow, and Gretel did not. We will have to wait and see who the better prognosticator of the weather is.

### Groundhog Facts:

- Groundhogs, also known as woodchucks, are actually rodents and one of the few species that enter into true hibernation.
- They are a member of the Sciuridae (squirrel) family and the largest in its geographical range.
- They are well adapted for digging burrows with their long, thick claws, and use multiple burrows for sleeping, rearing young and hibernating.
- The burrows also serve as an escape from predators and provide habitat for other animals.
- Groundhogs can swim and climb trees.
- They are mostly herbivorous and eat grasses and other vegetation in the wild.
- Their habitat includes open land and woodland edges.
- Mating occurs between late February and mid to late April.
- They produce one litter each year usually containing 2-6 young that are blind and hairless at birth.
- Young groundhogs are weaned and ready to leave the den at 5 to 6 weeks of age.
- The groundhog weighs, on average, 5-10 pounds, and measures 16-27 inches long.
- Common predators include foxes, coyotes, hawks, owls, and dogs.
- The young can fall victim to snakes that can easily enter their burrows.
- Groundhogs can live up to 6 years in the wild, but the average is 2-3 years.

Please note: It is illegal in North Carolina to keep a native mammal in captivity without a permit.



1-2 weeks old



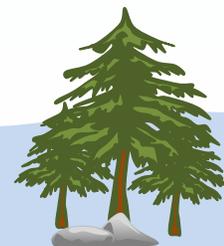
4-5 weeks old



One year old



A new house



## Our Dedicated Young Volunteers

We want to recognize a few of our special young volunteers for their contributions to PWR, Rachel Chism, Julia Errington, Emily Hawks and Adam Lineberry. Rachel Chism is a student at Southeast Middle School and is raising money for PWR to gain her Girl Scout Silver award. She makes telephone calls and recruits her fellow students to raise money for building and other supplies. Students also make flyers to distribute at school functions and at the local grocery store. Julia Errington is a student at St. Pius X Catholic School. She sold her Halloween candy to family and friends and donated the proceeds to PWR, and for her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday last February she selflessly asked for donations for PWR in lieu of gifts. Emily Hawks, a student at Greensboro Middle College, and her dad built the new cage for Hansel and Gretel with funding that was raised by Adam Lineberry of High Point. It took them approximately one month to plan and build the cage. Adam had a vision to raise money to build a larger cage for the groundhogs. He surpassed his goal of \$500 and raised \$750. Adam created a read-a-thon fundraiser in which he received donations from friends and family by promising to read books about wildlife for 30 minutes a day. Thank you to everyone who volunteers at PWR, and especially to our students.



Rachel Chism



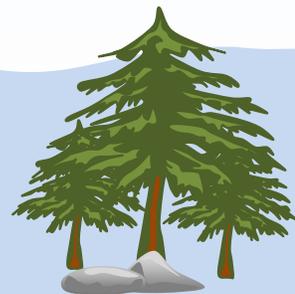
Julia Errington



Emily Hawks



Adam Lineberry



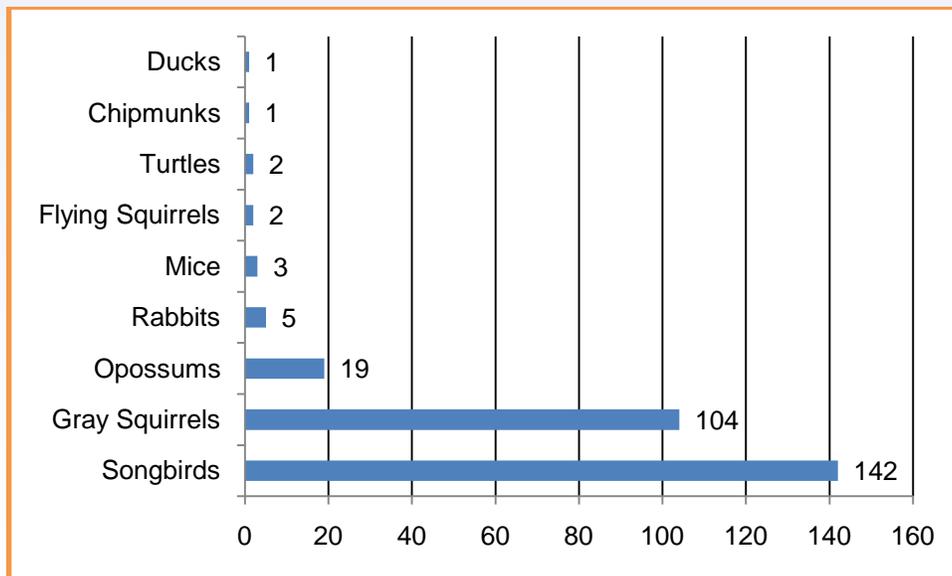
## Educational Programs

We believe the core of helping and maintaining our wildlife and natural environment is education. Through our educational programs, workshops and booths we promote the values of nature and wildlife and encourage respect for both. We welcome opportunities to bring information and hands on experiences to the public through our various programs. Our programs can be designed to meet the specific needs of your classroom, workplace, church or civic group. We can correlate to NAEYC and national learning standards for grades K - 12. All programs include live educational animals when available. See our website or contact us for more information.



**Quaker Lake Camp Program**

## 2010 PWR Numbers



# Please Help Us Help Our Wildlife

## **Donations Needed** *(these are tax-deductible!!)*

### **Food:**

- Walnuts, pecans, acorns, seed
- Cat food, preferably Whiskas or Purina One dry kitten, and Evo dry cat and kitten

### **Bedding:**

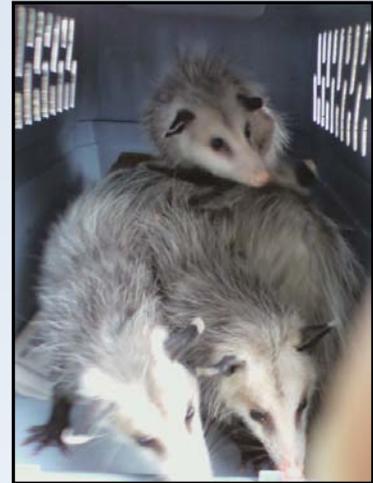
- Flannel, fleece, cotton, or any soft materials

### **Other:**

- Large cages, building materials
- Heavy feeding dishes
- Toilet paper, paper towels
- Plastic peanut butter or other jar lids
- Commercial building
- Incubator
- Shop Vac
- Vehicle to transport wildlife

### **Volunteer:**

- Help transport animals to rehabbers and/or to veterinarians
- Clean cages
- Yard work
- Build or repair cages and nest boxes (great service or Scout project)
- Fundraising
- Grant writers
- Intern to achieve permit



**Opossum Release in 2010**

**Money:** Your contributions are also greatly appreciated and can be made in Memory or Honor of a person or pet and listed on our web site. Mail to:

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**Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc.**  
2912 Liberty Rd.  
Greensboro, NC 27406

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Website:** <http://piedmontwildliferehab.org>



# Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc.

## About Us

*Piedmont Wildlife Rehab, Inc., a non-profit 501 (C) (3) formed in 2007 by licensed in-home rehabilitators. We receive no governmental or state funding and rely solely on private donations. Our goals are to relieve suffering in injured wildlife through rehabilitation and assist orphaned babies in a professional manner that prepares them for release back into a natural habitat, capable of reproducing another healthy generation for the environment and our enjoyment. We are committed to sharing the importance of environmental stewardship and encouraging a better understanding of our local wildlife.*

*PWR is a group of wonderful hard working board members and volunteers with too many to name. We thank all of the high school students, college interns, Boy and Girl Scouts and our few but consistent volunteers. We also thank the spouses that allow some of them to give so much time.*

*Our rehabilitators continue to learn through additional years of experience as well as yearly refresher courses. Combined, our volunteers have state permits for small mammals and Federal permits for song and migratory birds. We care for approximately 300 animals a year and average answering 10 phone calls per day. Wildlife Rehabilitation is a difficult and expensive volunteer job. We love what we do but can only be one link in the chain needed to give injured and orphaned wildlife a second chance at a natural life. Please help us to help them.*

## Upcoming Events

Please join us for The Human Race charity 5K walk/run on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex. Walk, run, or just join our team. If you would like to help us with fundraising, we have brochures for donations, and posters to distribute. You can also organize a Walking Team. Walking Teams can be members of a business, school, church, or other organization or group such as the local chapter of the Sierra Student Coalition who will be a Walking Team for us. Members of a Walking Team can receive free passes to the Rush gym to train. There will be free food, live music, prizes and fun for the whole family. For more information visit the following website: <http://thehumanrace.kintera.org>. Search for our Human Race homepage under Nonprofit Team Rank at this site.



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