

# FLORIDA WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS ASSOCIATION

Printed Quarterly – Spring • Summer • Fall • Winter 2019 • Volume 29, No. 1



Letter from the President

Greetings Rehabbers!!

FWRA will again be offering up to six full scholarships for the 2019 symposium to FWRA members. Yep, “full” that means that 6 of you will be able to attend our conference of absolutely FREE” FWRAAAAAAAA!!!!

Our 2019 symposium is scheduled for October 3rd to 6th at the FFA Training Center in Haines City. The scholarship application is available at [www.fwra.org](http://www.fwra.org). It only takes a few minutes to complete and transmit on line so you don't even have to mail it. Please see the article in this newsletter for scholarship and membership info.

This year the Founder's scholarship is in honor of my good friend and current FWRA Secretary Dr. Deb Anderson. Deb has been an FWRA Member since 1994, recruited me in 2001 and besides being FWRA's secretary, has served multiple terms as both president and vice president, and taught at many symposiums. Although I predicted her move from S Florida to more north and beyond, I'm still both sad and excited that her next move will be to Michigan! The Founders Scholarship couldn't go to a more deserving recipient!! We will miss her so much but wish her & Vinnie the best of everything on their new chapter in a new location!

We really do read you symposium attendees' surveys; here are some of the things that have been requested and that the Symposium Committee is looking into:

Wildlife artifacts, Bandaging, Caging and Habitat, Capture equipment demo, Education programs, Make and take, Microscope labs, Microchipping otters, Ophthalmology, Outdoor Activities- photo and nature walk, Skunks and raccoons, Radiology, Seabirds, Setting up a home lab, Turtle rehab, Snakes, Red tide

If you have any symposium class request send to [Symposium@fwra.org](mailto:Symposium@fwra.org) Your Symposium Committee is scouting other symposia for talent. Check out our <http://fwra.org/events.html> page for upcoming conference opportunities.

Start saving now!! Only couple of dollars a day and you will have saved all you need for the symposium! It's still the best value around!

Wishing you all a happy spring!! With warm regards & honored to be your President,

Beth Hirschfeld DVM, CVA, VMO  
President Hirschfeld Veterinary Consulting, Inc.  
Hollywood, FL USA  
IVAS Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist  
VMO - Veterinary Medical Officer- NVRT3- Dept. Of Homeland Security  
VMO- Veterinary Medical Officer-VMAT -AVMA disaster response team  
Florida Wildlife Rehabilitators Association - President  
Miami Dade Community College Veterinary Technology Program - Advisory Board

# FLORIDA WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS ASSOCIATION



## Mission:

The Florida Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (FWRA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the unification, education and dissemination of information to all wildlife rehabilitators in Florida.

## Purposes:

To provide an organizational structure within which various individuals and organizations involved in the rehabilitation of injured, orphaned and displaced wildlife may exchange information.

To provide training and assistance to individuals and organizations involved in the rehabilitation of injured, orphaned and displaced wildlife.

To increase public awareness through educational means of and support for the activities of wildlife rehabilitators.

To engage in such other activities as are permitted by Florida Law.

## FWRA Board of Directors

Beth Hirschfeld, DVM, President  
Dan Martinelli, Vice President  
Margaret "Noni" Beck, Vice Pres./Symposium  
Sue Small, Treasurer  
Deb Anderson, DVM, Secretary

## Members at Large

Leslie Johnson                      Dianna Flynt  
Debbie Helsel                      Winnie Burns

## Advisory Board

Phyllis Benton                      Yvette Carraco  
Vered Nograd                      Dorothy Kaufmann  
Beth Lott                              Sandy Renne  
Samantha Little, CVT.  
Missy Fox, CVT,  
Emily Holden,

Newsletter : Dianna Flynt  
newsletter@fwra.org

FWRA WEBSITE: www.fwra.org  
Webmaster:  
EMAIL: info@fwra.org

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Just a quick note to thank your FWRA Board for all the work they do throughout the year! Your Membership Committee is really shaping things up with tons of new perks for you and still keeping your membership fees at \$20 a year. Thank you to the Symposium Committee for scouting out new and exciting programs and workshops each year. I want to thank all the board members for writing and submitting articles for your newsletter, we hope you enjoy.

Dianna Flynt, FWRA Newsletter Editor

## New FWS Migratory Bird and Eagle Acquisition and Transfer Request form

Please replace any version of the 3-202-12 transfer form you have in your records with the attached form version that is also fillable online at <https://www.fws.gov/forms/3-202-12.pdf> (note form does not work if you use the Internet Explorer browser; go to the form via Google or Firefox or Mozilla or some other browser; we're working on fixing that).



## Strangers In A Strange Land: The Case Against Trapping And Relocating

<https://www.humanegardener.com/against-trapping-and-relocating/?fbclid=IwAR2sfFCDE2Df5KxKBZZHAH5IFZICzhIXzwFTKbGiXOXOkdPTltdBbjDOYfE>

## Conservancy's python trackers find Collier County's largest breeding group

<https://www.naplesnews.com/story/news/environment/2018/04/14/conservancy-python-trackers-find-collier-county-largest-breeding-group/489650002/?fbclid=IwAR2lOlj8-JsGDWufZPtWVM8HmWkIE-nB3wHwMZdGpImZz0TDeXPGctAirS18>

## One Of A Kind

Thank you Renee Wahlen for see the need to continue making One Of A Kind gloves after our beloved Barbara Harvey passed. They are affordable and well designed for use in wildlife rehabilitation. <https://oneofakindgloves.com/>



to do, just go to our website [www.fwra.org](http://www.fwra.org) and go to Memberships and fill out the update only form for the membership team so we can make sure we have your current information on record.

For those attending the symposium, we will now have annual t shirts for attendees. A few extra shirts may be ordered for purchased at the registration table, but once they are gone, they are gone. There will not be any leftover t-shirts after the symposium as we will raffle off the remainders at the banquet on Saturday night. So they will become a symposium collectors' item!!

Also a reminder that you must be current on your dues to apply for the FWRA Scholarships for the symposium! If you have a question as to whether you are current or not, you can reply to the email when the newsletter comes or you can also email us at [memberships@fwra.org](mailto:memberships@fwra.org) and we will try to respond as quickly as we are able (being reminded we are all volunteers)

Thank you, your FWRA Membership Committee

### **Audubon's Plants for Birds**

By simply choosing native plants for our yards and public spaces, we can restore vital habitat for birds in our communities and help them adapt and survive in the face of climate change. Audubon's Plants for Birds program is designed to enable anyone to have a positive impact by planting for birds, right where they live. Visit the native plants database to create a customized list of plants native to your area, get connected to your local Audubon and native plant nurseries, and help us get 1 million plants in the ground for birds.

<https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>

### **Membership update:**

Thank you to everyone who has renewed and welcome new members! All current members still have their membership benefits in effect until September 2019 when annual renewals are due. We realize that some of you have renewed outside this new cycle, please don't worry, your time is still being adjusted accordingly with an overlap. Your new 2019-2020 membership packets will be distributed at the FWRA 31st Annual Symposium this October in Haines City. If you are unable to attend the symposium, your new packet may come one of two ways. Either it will be sent with other attendees from the same facility (thank you to those who have kept mailing costs down by helping with this!) or we will mail after the Symposium has ended. Your current login and password will remain in effect until the symposium ends and the new password will be on your new membership card. The login will always stay the same, and is listed on your membership card as well.

Please remember if you are a new member, (and a few of you current members need to also...) we really need you to fill out a membership form. Once you have done it you will not have to do it again UNLESS any of your information changes, such as facility affiliations or email address or phone number, etc. It takes less than 2 minutes and is really easy



Deb Anderson, DVM, Secretary and Beth Hirschfeld, DVM, President

### **Scholarship Announcement**

FWRA will again be offering up to six full scholarships for the 2019 symposium to FWRA members. Scholarships are given in memory of Herb Kale and in memory of Karl Sandler. We will also be offering up to three FWRA education scholarships.

Our Founder's scholarship is awarded each year in honor of or in memory of someone who contributed to the field of wildlife rehabilitation and to FWRA. This year the Founder's scholarship is in honor of Dr. Deb Anderson. Her career with wildlife started in 1989 as the very first intern at the Wildlife Center of Virginia. She spent the next decade as the Director of Veterinary Services at South Florida Wildlife Center, and part time with Flamingo Gardens Wildlife Sanctuary and the Humane Society of Broward County. When Brevard Zoo was looking for their very first full time staff veterinarian, she bolted out

of overcrowded south Florida to more rural central Florida. She spent her free time working with Florida Wildlife Hospital and Florida Aid to Animals. When FATA offered her a very nice incentive to work with them full time, she left the zoo but continued to consult and work for the zoo and FWH. Doing all the part time work gave her the idea of a per diem career, so she founded Sundog Veterinary Services. Dr. Anderson has also assisted many wildlife rehabilitators and facilities in Florida and has been an FWRA Member since 1994. She is currently FWRA's secretary, served multiple terms as both president and vice president, and taught at many symposiums. We sincerely appreciate her contributions to wildlife rehabilitation and wish her well with her next adventures in Michigan.

Our 2019 symposium is scheduled for October 3rd to 6th at the FFA Training Center in Haines City. The scholarship application is available at [www.fwra.org](http://www.fwra.org). It only takes a few minutes to complete and transmit on line so you don't even have to mail it. Our memberships are now all renewable in September, but if you join and want to apply for a scholarship, your expiration date will be September of 2020. If you don't have your own wildlife rehabilitation permit, we need confirmation from your permitted rehabilitator. This is a requirement no matter your status, volunteer, staff, veterinarian, vet tech, biologist, etc. You can do this on line from our web site, send an email to [treasurer@fwra.org](mailto:treasurer@fwra.org), or mail a note to FWRA, PO Box 411087, Melbourne, FL 32941. The deadline is July 1, 2019. Be sure you include all required information to be eligible for consideration.

## Stay Safe, Stay Healthy

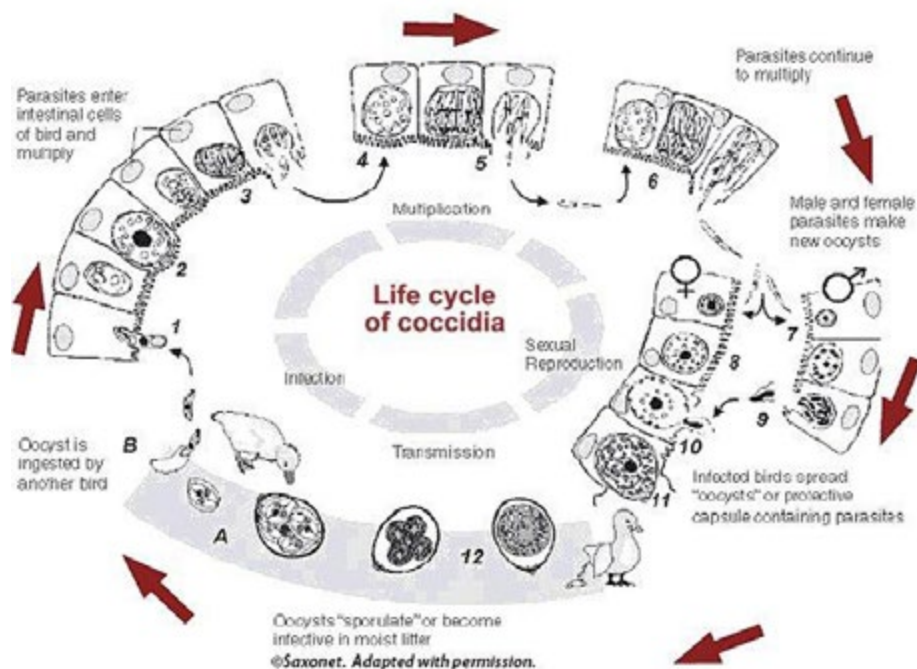
By Sandy Renne, Physician Assistant, LHCRM, Trained OSHA Instructor, Florida Permitted Rehabber and Volunteer at Conservancy of Southwest FL.

As part of the FWRA newsletter safety series, we are reviewing zoonotic transmission and human exposure to zoonotic disease. This article will address coccidiosis and human risk.

### The Infection

Coccidia are single cells or organisms called protozoa of the genera Eimeria or Isospora. There are many species that are found in various birds and animals. In birds these parasites belong to the genus Eimeria. They're all capable of invading the intestinal tract as well as the liver and sometimes the kidney. In animals and birds they can cause anorexia, dehydration, emaciation, anemia, and in extreme infections, even death. They can affect wildlife, domestic animals and pets. The species affecting birds typically is not zoonotic to humans. However, infections in wild mammals and pets can infect humans.

The parasite invades a single host for its entire life cycle, consisting of up to 2 weeks. A female parasite in the host intestine produces oocysts, which are shed into the environment. Initially, the oocysts are not infective in the feces. These grow into an infective sporulated form and if ingested, further develop in the intestine of a new host. These sporulated oocysts are capable of damaging the epithelium of the intestine, causing symptoms.



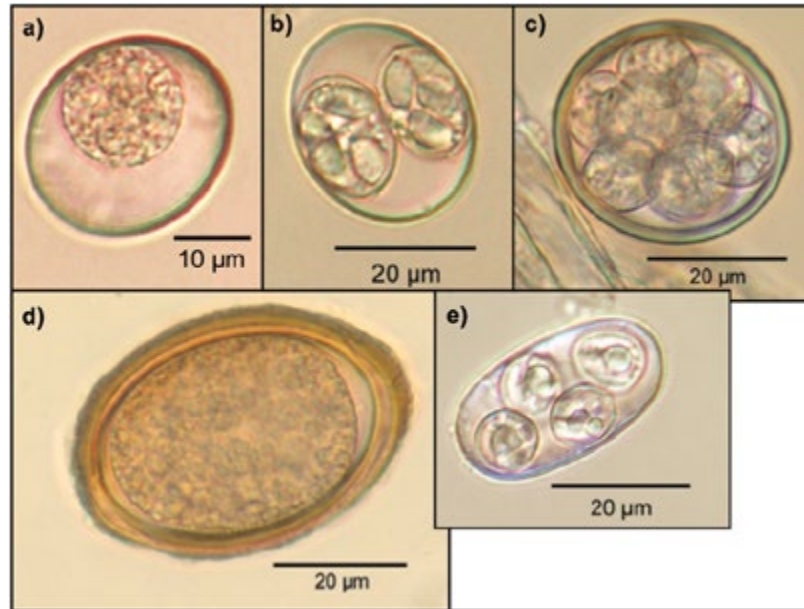
## Diagnosis

In mammals specifically, (including humans), the infection is consistent with enterocolitis. The epithelium of the intestine is destroyed as well as the underlying connective tissue. Diarrhea, intestinal hemorrhage, anorexia and emaciation may occur. Typical signs include hematochezia, tenesmus, dehydration and hyponatremia. Often the life cycles are self-limiting and end in a few weeks spontaneously.

The mainstay for diagnosis is by the evidence of coccidial oocysts in the feces. Diagnosis is made when oocysts can be identified in feces on a fecal floatation.

Because diarrhea may precede output of oocysts: multiple fecal examinations of a specific animal or single fecal exams of multiple animals housed together must occur to confirm the diagnosis. A positive fecal finding does not necessarily mean active infection that is pathogenic in that host. It must be accompanied by symptoms in that individual to be considered pathogenic.

Infected individuals should be isolated.



## Treatment

Treatment with medications may be required if symptoms are severe. Soluble sulfonamides are commonly used to treat, however, prevention of the ingestion of sporulated oocysts is the key to preventing reinfection. Most infections are self-limiting. Symptoms over a few days accompanied by weight loss would necessitate antibiotic therapy.

## Environmental Control

Meticulous husbandry helps to keep the infection at bay in captive wildlife. Most animals acquire these infections in the younger stages of life. They may develop immunity and become carriers, without clinical signs of infection. The shedding of the cysts are the sources of infection for cohabitants. In confined animals, it most commonly occurs in conditions of poor sanitation, poor nutrition or overcrowding. Proper cleaning and proper diet management are imperative, to prevent fecal contamination of cage-mates. It most commonly occurs in young animals between one month and one year old. Resistance appears to develop against clinical disease in older individuals.

## The “take home message”

Human caregivers must abide by appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), and proper handwashing to avoid fecal contamination and subsequent human infection.

Good handwashing practices with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds, after the removal of gloves, is a must for all employees and volunteers. Ingestion of food should be prohibited in any animal areas. These should be standard protocols for best practices in your facility.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!!

# Thank you to our Associate Members

**Avian Recondition Center**

[www.arc4raptors.org](http://www.arc4raptors.org)

**Peace River Wildlife**

[www.peacriverwildlifecenter.org](http://www.peacriverwildlifecenter.org)

**South Florida Wildlife Center**

[www.southfloridawildlifecenter.org](http://www.southfloridawildlifecenter.org)

**Animis Foundation**

[animisfoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:animisfoundation@yahoo.com)

**Pelican Harbor Seabird Station**

[info@pelicanharbor.org](mailto:info@pelicanharbor.org)

**Back To Nature Wildlife Refuge**

[www.btnwildlife.org](http://www.btnwildlife.org)

**St. Francis Wildlife Association**

[www.stfranciswildlife.org](http://www.stfranciswildlife.org)

# Thank you to our Supporting Partners



Medicine, Surgery & Acupuncture  
Wildlife, Exotics, Domestic

**Hirschfeld Veterinary Consulting, Inc.**  
Beth M. Hirschfeld, DVM, CVA, VMO  
President, Owner

[DrBMH@hotmail.com](mailto:DrBMH@hotmail.com)  
Cell/W 754-244-8387



**Fox Valley**  
ANIMAL NUTRITION, INC.

Fox Valley is a world leader manufacturer of milk (formula) replacement for orphaned and injured wildlife.

Day One Formula milk replacers are species specific and all play a unique role in feeding young animals. These products closely match the unique composition of mother's milk, to assure proper nutrition if mothers cannot, or will not, suckle their own.

Quantity discounts are now available.  
Call for more information.

*Please call for more information.*  
Sales / Technical Service: (800) 679-4666  
Fax: (815) 578-4240



**ACES**  
Animal Care  
Equipment and Services

- Handling & Capture Equipment
- Chemical Capture •Veterinary & Kennel Products •Disease Control
- Uniforms & Accessories •Professional Development & Services

1—800 338—ACES (2237)

Animal Care Equipment & Services LLC  
3075 75th Street (#2), Boulder, Co, USA 80301  
[www.animal-care.com](http://www.animal-care.com) email [aces@animal-care.com](mailto:aces@animal-care.com)