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Vol. 3, No. 1 January, 1959

TWIN OCELOT KITS BORN

We will all remember the announcement in the January 1958 Newsletter, just a year ago, of the birth on December (An oblong wood box, open only at one end, facing a 7, 1957 at 2:00 PM. in Los Angeles of a tiny healthy ocelot kitten. He was called Jesus, and swelled the menage of Jack and Lillian Kirk to three ocelots. Jesus continues in good health. As he matures, he grows gentler and is full of pep. His weight is now 18 pounds.

Since domestic ocelot births are so very rare, the Kirks were overjoyed when, this year, on November 17, at 4:00 P.M., Cheeta and Sheba presented them with twins, one female and one male, weighing in at 8 ounces and 8¹/₂ ounces, respectively. Both were healthy, vocal and hungry. Sheba is an attentive mother. When they approached a week of age, disaster came to the female.

Lillian Kirk tells the story: "The baby girl ocelot died Saturday, November 22, at 10 P.M. Dr. Patterson performed the autopsy. She had a ruptured liver and a hemorage in the right lung."

"On Tuesday we heard the fall from the birth box. wall. The box is located in Sheba's quarters, a few feet off the floor. Mrs Kirk feels that the quiet, isolated security of this "birth box" has contributed twice to Sheba's success in bringing forth her young.) We got there in time to see Sheba carrying the kitten back up to the box. She kept her in the box until Friday then brought her down and covered her with a laprobe we had on the floor,

"She knew, but I would not give up hope. I took the little one home, kept her warm and tried to feed her. Sheba kept trying to tell me it was hopeless. She died in my arms Saturday night."

"The boy is naturally gaining wonderfully. He weighs 19 ounces (November 28). His eyes are partially open. He sat up alertly and hissed from the day he was born."



PETS OF 1959

Caligula who was three years old last September, and weighs 33 pounds, is owned by James R McDonald, 53 E 64th Street, New York 21, N.Y. Jim comments: "Caligula often strikes this regal pose around the house, but away from home, he is the All-American boy.

News from Around the Jungle

Once again, Jerry Heywood's shop, Beautyland, Inc., provided an ideal meeting place for the December 14th gathering of members within travelling distance of Brooklyn, N.Y. In spite of the snow storm which made the highways dangerous, six cats and 24 people were there. Those present were: (Guests not listed)

| Cathering and Warren Chain |
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| Catherine and Harry Cisin |
| - Leon van der Elst. N.Y.C. |
| - Meg and Si Merrill, N.Y.C. |
| - Jayne and Wilbur Murray, Putnam Val. |
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| - Dorothy Marchese, Floral Park, N.Y. |
| - Elaine and Russel Schroeder, Paramus |
| - Joyce and Carl Emerick, Park Ridge |
| Dr. & Mrs. Theodore Zimmerman |
| Stan Yaloff, Akron, Ohio |
| Neil Todd, Amherst, Mass. |
| • • |
| Jim McDonald, New York City |
| Shaney Brooks, New York City |
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| Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Palmisano, Bklyn. |
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Helen and Fred Martini of Bronx Zoo found it impossible to attend. Helen must be on call every three hours when her new charge, tiger cub Dacca II, must be fed. Fred could not fill in at feeding time, because his services were needed where a cheetah was ill.

The surprise member, and first to arrive at the meeting was Stan Yaloff who had come in from Akron, Ohio. He and Mrs. Yaloff have quite an extensive animal family including two Yucatan margays. Stan expects to be on the west coast in the very near future, at which time he will visit some of the members in lower California.

Neil Todd, who had just delivered two porcupines to Bronx Zoo, did not have an ocelot with him, but proposes to bring some other animal to the next meeting. He wonders how the ocelots would react to a six foot boa constrictor. (Members have vetoed the boa as an attendant.)

Jayne and Wilbur Murray arrived quite late after a difficult drive from Putnam Valley, N.Y., with Zorro. He has the distinction of having the smallest teeth in the LIOC. He is approaching 1 year, and is by no means undersized, weighing about 20 lbs, but the average house cat would put his dental equipment to shame.

Clyde, (whose fur becomes longer and whose masculinity becomes more apparant at each meeting) under the handling of Ariane and Leon van der Elst has become an even-mannered, sociable pet. Perhaps sharing his happy home with Eulalie contributes. While no feline offspring is in view, the van der Elsts, themselves, have set a fine example with their brand-new son, Gabriel.

The Palmisanos, who recently lost their ocelot kitten through an accident, refrained from bringing their newly acquired second kitten, Baby Duke, since he is so very young. They were pleased to find, and be photographed with, Clyde who months before had inspired them to be ocelot owners.

Zorch was a bit crankier at this meeting. Dorothy Marchese, her owner, wonders if her irritation was caused by the discovery that her tail is just a little bit shorter than Montezuma's. He was the other margay present. Elaine and Russell Schroeder and their Pixie, brought with them Joyce and Carl Emerick and their new ocelot Caesar of Park Ridge, N.J. Caesar is 9 months old, about 18 pounds. He is in process of shedding his first canines. There was much inspection of Caesar's mouth, most of the attendants never having seen the once in a feline-lifetime occurence -- the presence of duplicate canines, old and new.

The next general meeting in the New York area will not be held until after the snow season. Members in other areas are urged to meet. The 1959 Anual picnic is tentatively planned for late in May in New Market, Virginia. Your reaction to the plan to picnic in the Shenandoah Valley with the Eichelmans: Ann, Alf and Baby, is invited.

New Members

Betty Tomeo, 1460 Eighth Street, Manhattan Beach, Calif. "We bought our ocelot in Mexico City while we were on our honeymoon. Surprisingly, ocelots are hard to find there. Finally, we found a man who would get us one. As we didn't speak Spanish and he didn't speak English, this was an interesting negotiation. But ten days later he had one as promised -a male, he told us -- hence <u>her</u> name, QUETZALCOATL, a male Aztec god."

Roland J. Tiellere, 27 Centre Street, Fairhaven, Mass. His cat, Simba, is nearing three years of age. He weighs 18 pounds. (One more unaltered male has been added to our roster of cats). Simba's master says: "I'll bet I take the prize for giving my cat enemas. Have you ever tried giving your cat one with just the use of gloves? Boy, what a fight!"

Lyman E. Woodard, Owosso, Michigan (Renewal) "Senor Gato (now $2\frac{1}{2}$ years old) is enjoying the best of health, and we are enjoying him all the way. He will still stop whatever he is doing when I put on the accordian for a concert, and he does not move regardless of how long the concert lasts, until it is over. I am positive he is a great music lover -at least my accordian music."

Arthur Glowka, 101 Moorland Drive, Scarsdale, N.Y. During the eight months Arthur spent in the Brazilian jungle he raised and trained his Duece, a native ocelot. "He is trained to leash and harness and is accustomed to being with many people, since I take him everywhere I go."

<u>Art Mathews</u>, 318 W. Wilken Way, Anaheim, California. President of the Southern California Ccelot Club, which is now about a year old, Art has two ocelots. Each weighs 30 pounds, -- Simba, three year old male and Rodan, two year old female. Art is "training Simba for use in movies and has been working on a special 16 mm to be used on TV."

Stan and Boecke Yalof, 2857 W. Bath Road, Akron 13, Ohio. "By avocation we are zoologists and have spent about a year and a half in tropical America." The Yalofs brought back two margays which they named Rosencranz and Guildenstern. "They are highly affectionate, -- happiest when we are around, always underfoot or atop shoulder where they love to ride. Their intelligence is high and they learn the things which they wish to, very rapidly. They will go to any lengths to eat our clothing. Socks are most vulnerable, but any soft underclothing gets enormous holes chewed in it. The cats have learned to fish out clothing from baskets, dresser drawers, -- and even will take a first bite while we're still wearing them.

(Continued on back page)

*TLALOCELOTL TIDBITS

Dictated by: EVE

Interpreted by: new york 3, n. y.

Our president, Carlotta (Cisin) has been ill. We are happy to know she has recovered.

anel

One felis tigrina member (margay) is posing a problem for his distressed owners. We won't mention his name, but he persists in spraying beds, windows and an occasional visitor. Anyone knowing of a successful cure and/or prevention for this unfortunate behavior, please forward same posthaste, c/o Shaney B.

Tom Lane (Benton, Penna.) has twice visited me sans Felix, much to my regret. Tom is thinking seriously of getting a permanent female playmate for Felix.

Mr. Guyette (Rajah's owner) says the difference between him and Meg Merrill is "He knew <u>he</u> was crazy long before she made the same discovery".

Both Rajah and Monte (Meg and Si Merrill) respond to a hand clap, jumping from any given point right into their owner's arms.

Rajah likes to roughhouse all day. Then when evening comes, for reasons known only to him, he becomes extremely docile and affectionate.

Dr. Zimmerman has sold his Manhattan practice, so we must now travel to Mt. Vernon, N.Y. for his kindly care. His new address is 17 W. Grand Street. Phone: MOunt Vernon 4 2784.

Baron and Baroness have a black leopard on order! The homo sapien kitten has already arrived -- A boy. Congratulations!

Stan Sherman, who owned Lancelot, the young ocelot which leaped out a third floor window to escape military band music, has had an unfortunate introduction to humans. After the heralded incident and consequent tangle with the law, Stan had to board Lancelot in Jersey. Our luckless cousin was tied by persons unfamiliar with his habits. He jumped over a rail and strangled. Mr and Mrs. Sherman were broken-hearted. However, they hope to obtain another feline, perhaps a larger cat.

Poor Jim McDonald was swamped with letters. No more please. I heard that Jim's Caligula (he is a handsome cat) has been registered with Animal Talent Scouts.

Dorothy Marchese phoned to say her margay, Zorch, did a disappearing act one fine afternoon. Needless to say, Dorothy and her husband searched frantically until it became dark. They collapsed (exhausted emotionally and physically) in the kitchen, gazing out into the darkness which has swallowed up their most prized possession. To their utter amazement, said prized possession was sitting outside the door gazing right back at them. All ended well.

John Allen, passing through New York on his way to Europe, called to express his desire to meet members human and feline on his return trip. Sheba, his five year old spayed female ocelot is joining him in Europe and will return with him. How about a club meeting to welcome these world travellers?

Your correspondent has discovered a new passtime. Tail suckers are relatively common. There are Felix (Lane), Clyde (van der Elst) and a few others I've met. But my occupation is original! One by one, I have reduced the claws on my hind feet to non-existence. Now that Shaney has learned about it, a trip to Mt. Vernon is imminent.

OLD OCELOT PROVERB: A bird in the mouth is worth two in the bush!



TLALOCELOTL (TLALLI - field OCELOTL - tiger)

Ocelots in Print

FELIX (Lane) "Meeting of Ocelot Club Held in New York City", Benton Argus, 10/4/58

Seven cats, Long Island Ocelot Club, In Animaland, (Published by Staten Island Zoo), September, 1958

MONTEZUMA (Merrill) "Caty-Cornered", New York Daily News, 11/7/58

MONTEZUMA (Merrill) New York World Telegram, 11/6/58

SIMBA (Mathews) "This Fearless Pair Raise Ocelots" Daily News, Garden Grove, California, 11/12/58

CAESAR (Emrick) with John Hopkins, New York Journal-American, "Feline No Pain."

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