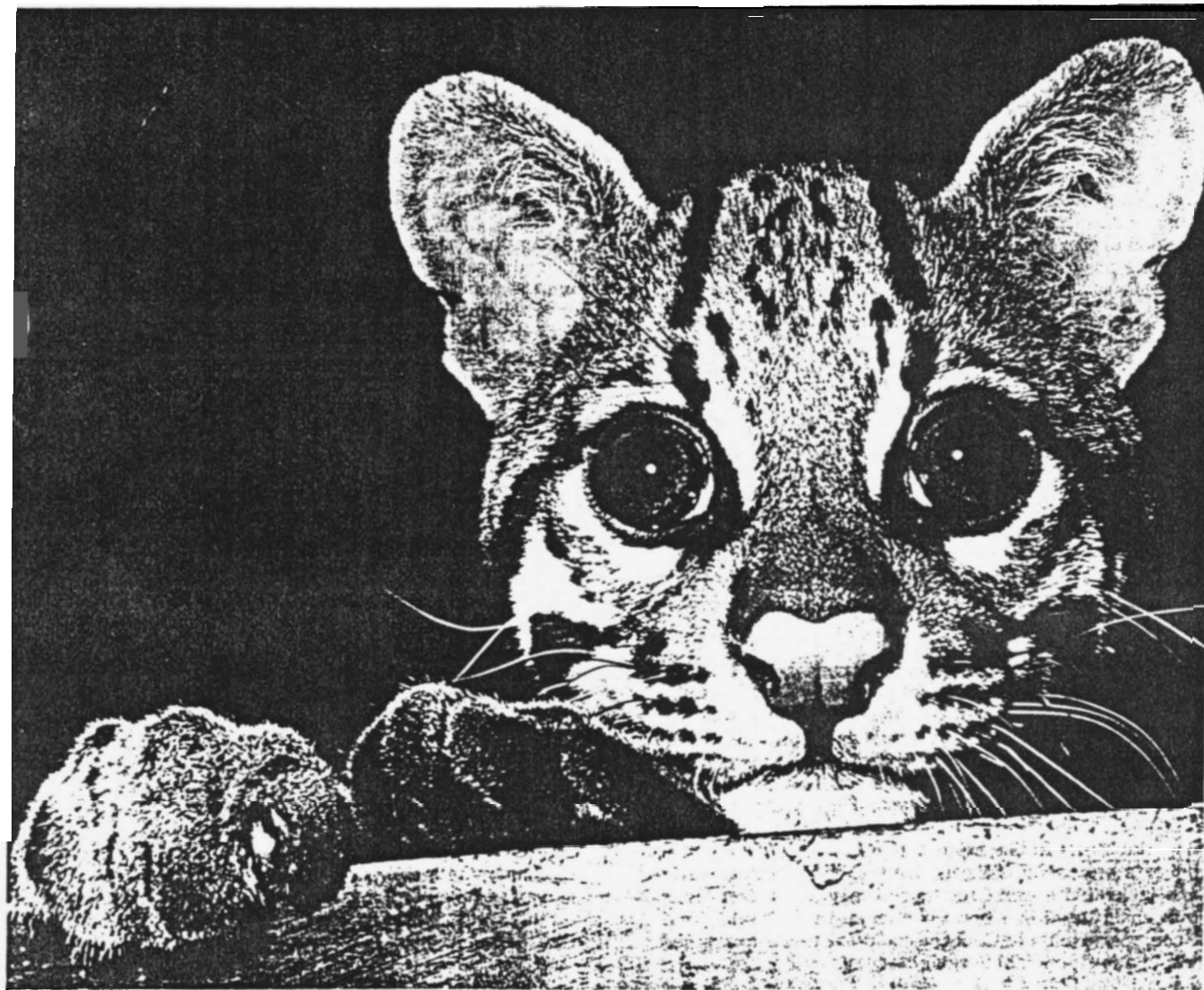


# LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB NEWSLETTER

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The Long Island Ocelot Club is a non-profit, non-commercial club, international in scope, devoted to the welfare of pet ocelots and like felidae.

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Volume 7 No. 3  
May 1963



**NEXT MEETING** Sunday, May 19, '63  
at 3:00 P.M.



BEAUTYLAND INC  
329 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, N. Y.  
(NEvins 8 5258)

DISCUSSION: 1963 picnic plans -- proposed  
site, Shavertown, Penna.

Trapping of ocelots (Commercial) - cause/effect

## IAGO

Looking into the innocent eyes of this ocelot belonging to Barbara and Steve Orden, 2 Center Drive, Flower Hill, Roslyn, L.I., N. Y., one wonders how he came by his villainous name. Perhaps there are some details regarding his conduct during his frequent visits to Steve Orden, Inc. (Marine Service) 76 Shore Road, Port Washington, N. Y., which are not widely known. Iago, who was younger when this picture was taken weighed 30 lbs at 18 mos. He has since learned the joy of the grape. He rolls over on his back, wine glass in his four paws, and drains it. Is it possible his name should have been umbrIAGO?

# OBSERVATIONS ON BOBCAT FEEDING HABITS

By: Jim Yoakum  
1345 Princess Avenue  
Reno, Nevada

(Ed. This is a continuation of the article which appeared in the last (March) issue of the Newsletter. It is suggested that this be reread before continuing. To assist those who do not have the earlier portion available, Jim Yoakum's "Summary" is printed ahead of the continuation of his article)

## SUMMARY

Two bobcats were reared to study their feeding habits and food item preferences. Fresh and canned cows' milk was taken throughout the bobcats' lives. Mammals eaten included: voles, white-footed mice, beaver, muskrats, tree squirrels, marmots, cottontail rabbits, jack rabbits, badger and deer. Birds consumed were valley quail, wild pigeon, sage grouse, chukar, ring-neck pheasant and sparrow hawk. Two rattlesnakes were utilized. Fresh fish were caught but rarely eaten.

Notes were taken on the use of canned foods. Canned fish products were preferred over canned meats. Observations were recorded on feeding habits such as food preferences with age growth, methods of devouring prey and emotional reactions to different food items.

To continue:

Entire mouse would be consumed. The bobcats were good mousers and worked at hunting mice whenever given time and freedom to do so.

Skinned beaver carcasses obtained from a local tanner were used each winter as an important staple for the bobcats' diet. They apparently relished this meat very highly for it was eagerly sought and devoured.

Once a skinned muskrat carcass, minus the skull was fed and it was consumed except for the hind feet, tail and back bone.

Both the entire bodies of a marmot and a grey tree squirrel were fed at different occasions. The marmot was all eaten except the skull. The gray squirrel was entirely consumed except for the long tail and stomach contents. The characteristic feeding habit of commencing at the head and feeding down to the tail was accomplished here too. It took thirty-five minutes to make a meal of the squirrel.

Rabbits. In the examination of 200 eastern Oregon bobcats stomachs, 55 contained rabbits. Both cottontails and jackrabbits were fed these bobcats. In fact jackrabbits constituted the main portion of the animals' total diet. Generally each adult bobcat could eat three-quarters to a whole adult jackrabbit each day.

A typical feeding observation on a whole fresh killed jackrabbit was as follows: The bobcat would first play with the rabbit, picking it up in his mouth and throwing around, then lying down along side and kicking it, for half an hour or so. When determined to eat there was no more playing around. It would take about three quarters of an hour to consume an adult rabbit. When through, there often was not a trace of the rabbit except for a few sparse

patches of fur. At other times pieces of the hind foot, large intestines, or a few rabbit pellets and the tail tuft of fur were all that remained. No bones, ears, stomach contents or anything else generally were left as waste.

While in the field, the bobcats had opportunities to see live jackrabbits in the wild. Several times they tried to run them down but it was immediately apparent that the jackrabbits quickly outdistanced the bobcats and the pursuit was most often of a short duration.

Deer. The first experience with deer venison as a food item was related earlier in the paper when discussing the first food consumed. Deer meat was thereafter repeatedly used as a staple diet item. All parts of deer meat were readily eaten. This included the heart, liver, lungs and kidneys. At one time when ribs from an adult doe were fed, the entire ribs containing meat and all bones were used.

Badger. A skinned shoulder from a badger was fed and entirely consumed.

Opossum. An interesting observation was noted one of the bobcats being attracted to wild opossum. The opossum was ambling along when the bobcat spotted him and commenced a stealthy crouching stalk. Upon reaching the opossum the bobcat took a couple of sniffs and turned away to leave the animal alone. Although opossums are reported to be food for wild bobcats this particular case could possibly not have resulted in a case of predation since the bobcat had a full stomach and was unaccustomed to killing large prey for food.

Birds. The first bird fed the wildcats was a freshly killed adult valley quail. The bobcat was still a kitten being about three months old. He ate the entire bird except for the backbone.

When five months old, an adult wild pigeon, fatally injured by a golden eagle, was presented as a food item. It was consumed in its entirety except for the inside of the gizzard.

During March, 1958, an adult road-killed grouse was found and used for one of the bobcat's meals. Although the bobcat had not eaten for two days, it ate only half the bird leaving the hind quarters intact.

On several occasions chukar partridge were fed. Generally the characteristic habit of commencing at the head and working down to the hind quarters was accomplished in consuming these animals too. Approximately half an hour was taken to complete an adult bird. Although all the bird was often consumed, sometimes wing primaries and feet remained.

Pheasants obtained as road kills were used as a monthly variation in the diet. The entire bird would be fed and generally utilized except for the feet, primaries and tail feathers.

Once an adult female sparrow hawk was located as a road kill and given to the bobcat. He ate the entire bird, falcon beak, feet and all except for the primary feathers.

(Continued on Page 7)

# NUTRITION

Part III of three parts.

By: Frances Tweet  
P O Box 66  
Indian Trail, N. Car.

## Natural Food Preferences of Cats

If your exotic cat were still in the wild, what foods would he choose? For the many different species of cats there are many different kinds of "meat." A lion in Africa might choose a zebra; a jaguar in South America might select a capybara. Either the adult zebra or capybara would make several substantial meals (the capybara can weigh up to 220 pounds). A jaguarundi or any of the smaller cats, on the other hand, would look for his food among the small creatures -- a cavy or other rodent, or a bird such as the brush-turkey or partridge. A Canadian lynx would enjoy a meal of snowshoe rabbit.

If it is true, as is said, that the small dune cats of the Middle Eastern and Sahara Deserts do not take well in captivity to feeding with the flesh of large animals but fare best on a diet of small birds, then it seems that the small cats of our hemisphere would be more likely to thrive on small creatures than on large ones. When the lion in captivity is fed horsemeat, this food is similar to what he would get for himself in the wild.

## Animals in the Wild Correct Diet Deficiencies

Josue de Castro, the Brazilian nutrition authority, tells how animals search for certain foods to supply their needs when they have the opportunity: "Animals always feel the lack of a given food element and instinctively seek a means of correcting the deficiency. The instinct of animals directs their appetite toward substances which can supply specific elements in which the organism feels itself deficient. The hen suffering from calcium deficiency at laying time will hunt for a supply of the mineral and will peck plaster from walls or seek grains of limestone in the soil. Pet cats in wealthy houses kept on an unbalanced diet of sweetmeats will slip off to the garden to hunt lizards or other animals, and will gnaw bones to supply the calcium denied them in their defective domestic regime."

What happens to the pet who cannot go into the garden to hunt when his diet is faulty? He will suffer from partial hunger. If the nutritional lack is severe, he may fall victim to a disease against which, in his gradually weakening condition, he cannot put up adequate defense.

## Variety in Natural Foods

Let's take a closer look at an ocelot, for example, in search of food. His habitat would likely abound in a great variety of small animals and birds upon which he could feed. Furthermore, even the diet of the ocelot's natural prey would be varied -- green things such as leaves and grasses, fruit, nuts, bark or insects. There are many different creatures which might at some time constitute a meal for an ocelot. From this wide range of foods he would obtain a correspondingly wide range of his nutritional requirements. There would be fur, feathers, eggs -- the entire animal or bird for the ocelot to eat all or leave any part as he so needed.

Contrast this with the food of an ocelot in a home in civilization. Perhaps he gets only the scant nourishment of an abundance of chicken necks; yet even if his diet consists mainly of expensive lean beef, this still falls far short of the rich variety of foods that would be available to him in the wilds.

## Healthful Diets for Pet Exotic Cats

If the cat in civilization is provided with a healthful diet, he should live longer than if he were in the wilds because he lives in more protective surroundings. Basically the cat should receive the following:

1. A variety of appropriate meats.
2. The whole product, complete with fur and feathers, when possible.
3. Vitamin and mineral supplements.

## The Value of Food Supplements

Small cats can thrive on horse flesh when proper supplements are added. This has been proven at the National Zoo in Washington. All the small cats there are fed horse meat, ground or in chunks, mixed with Brewer's yeast, salt, ground oyster shell, Ledanac, A & D feeding oil, and purified bone phosphates. Sometimes they are fed mice and baby chicks.

That this diet has been successful at the National Zoological Park is shown by the statement of the General Curator, Dr. W. T. Roth:

"Our small cats live an average of from fourteen to sixteen years."



## **Back Newsletters**

For the benefit of recent members who wish to avail themselves of the wealth of information contained in previously published Newsletters, as well as those who wish to fill in their files, back issues of the Newsletter are available at a cost of \$1 per calendar year. There are six issues per year. Vol. 1 = 1957, Vol. 2 = 1958, Vol. 3 = 1959, Vol. 4 = 1960, Vol. 5 = 1961, Vol. 6 = 1962.

Send request and remittance to club headquarters:

Long Island Ocelot Club  
Amagansett, N. Y.

# LONGEVITY OF "EXOTIC" PET FELINES

(Including Survey of Premature Deaths)

By: Catherine Cisin, Founder  
Long Island Ocelot Club.

The Long Island Ocelot Club has been in existence since 1955. A review of the longevity of our pet felines has been undertaken. It is hoped that there may be significance in the findings of the project, although we fully appreciate that our review is too early. The project, at best, represents seven years of a feline's possible eighteen years. With brutal finality, it enumerates the premature deaths of some of the animals.

The record during the first few years was haphazard. It became more accurate as the aims of the club materialized and crystallized. Prior to 1957, histories of many club cats are absent -- cats which died and cats belonging to members who were not primarily or actively interested in club projects. By choice, kittens which were very short lived are not included, either in the early or the later records. These, incidentally are estimated to perhaps equal the number of cats counted in Table A below, based on the assumption that nearly every member of LIOC now owning at least one adult cat has lost at least one kitten before it attained the age of four months. Most kitten fatalities were presumably due either to panleucopenia or infestation beyond tolerance of intestinal parasites.

Even a percentage of the cats whose records are reasonably complete fall into a category similar to those included in the early haphazard record. This percentage includes those animals whose owners failed to continually inform the club, having lost interest possibly because an animal died or because ownership was transferred to a non-member of LIOC. This group is included in the count of Table A and therefore in Table B. It must be realized when reading final figures that all counts may well be higher since some of the cats in the original figures have become "lost" in the final figures.

However, there is a reasonably accurate record of 226 exotic felines, as follows: 154 ocelots, 46 margays and 26 "miscellaneous" including pumas, bobcats, jaguars, jaguarundis and cheetahs. These have been carefully counted.

Year of Birth	Ocelot	Margay	Bobcat	Puma	Cheetah	Jaguarundi	Lion	Jaguar	Bay Lynx
1951	1								
1953	4	1							
1954	3								
1955	8				1				
1956	10	1							
1957	12	5			1				
1958	16	4	1	1		1			
1959	23	6	1	2		1			
1960	22	9	1	2					
1961	29	16	1	5			1		
1962	26	4	2		1	2		1	1

Total cats counted: ----- 226  
As follows: ----- Ocelots 154  
Margays 46  
Misc. 26

Table A. Distribution of Species

Table B which follows includes all species listed in Table A. This table shows how many of the 226 animals included in the project died and at what age death occurred. The paragraphs which follow Table B delve briefly into circumstances surrounding the deaths.

Year Born	Age (1963)	Alive	Dead
1951	12	1	
1953	10	4	
1954	9	3	1
1955	8	7	2
1956	7	6	
1957	6	12	6
1958	5	14	6
1959	4	21	10
1960	3	31	6
1961	2	43	6
1962	1	32	5

Total: 184 Alive  
42 Dead

Table B. Longevity

Autopsies were performed on sixteen of the 42 cats. Some of those which were not "posted" are known to have died accidentally (hanging, collision) or to have been destroyed. Some have literally been lost and are assumed dead. Several of the deaths have been mysterious inasmuch as autopsies were completely unrewarding, failing to disclose why the deaths occurred.

## Why Did They Die?

Predominant among the causes of death are intestinal blockage, ulcers, failure to detoxify anesthetic, panleucopenia (enteritis), pneumonia and kidney disorders. Several deaths are unaccountable. Many readers will be surprised to learn that autopsies did not solve the mysteries. This fact is not new among veterinarians and they have expressed discouragement on finding how little autopsies sometimes disclose even when done under ideal conditions accompanied by complete laboratory tissue analysis.

Theories have been advanced as to causes of unaccountable premature deaths. These are nothing more than theories. Dr. Daniel Duberman of Blue Cross Animal Hospital, Southampton, N. Y., considered blood parasites. Dr. Theodore Zimmerman, Beverlie Animal Hospital, Mt. Vernon, N. Y. suggests "these cats are extremely sensitive either to virus or bacteria which are not pathogenic (disease producing) to humans or other domestic animals."

## What to Do?

In search for medical defense against early mortality a questionnaire might be written by a veterinarian for distribution to veterinarians who have treated club cats. This might include pertinent questions relative to disease, surgery and theory regarding cause of premature death. This might later be summarized by the veterinarian who is the author of the questionnaire. (Continued Page 1.)

# News from Around the Jungle

## "THE BABY'S" PROGRESS.

"We haven't named the baby yet," writes Mayme Pasquinelli, 14726 So. Butler Ave., Compton, Calif. "I am trying to find a short name for 'surprised' or 'welcome'."

The baby referred to is the domestic-born ocelot of page 3 of the March Newsletter, (Vol. 7 No. 2). Mayme continues: "The baby weighed 3 lbs 10 oz. at two months (born 12/8/62) and at 10 weeks, 4 lbs, 5 oz. He is 16 inches long. He eats about three or four meals a day which include cereal with milk (canned -- half water, half milk) with a little Karo syrup; chopped chicken, heart, kidney, liver, beef with any vegetables I am using, and Polivisol drops. He still nurses once a day from Tisha.

"Tisha and the baby were on TV on George Putman's Newsreel. Tisha would not let the baby out of the guest room which they occupied. The photographer asked me to carry the baby to the living room which I did and sat on the floor with him. Tisha immediately took him from me and proceeded to take him back to the bedroom. It looked so cute on TV to see her carry him back to the bedroom and start to nurse him. The title of the Newsreel was 'Vitamins and Loving Care.' This happened on January 22nd."

In club circles "the baby" is unofficially referred as "Oneday". The reason for this is that all pictures have seen of him were at age: one day.

\* \* \* \*

Jo Zimmerman, Dallastown, Penna, wonders how many members caught the picture of cheetah, TOP CAT (name not mentioned) in the March 8 issue of Life Magazine, in full page advertisement for wall decorations and window shades.

It was an excellent picture, unlike Top Cat's fleeting TV debut in the Pontiac commercial. After all, we console Jo -- Pontiac is selling automobiles, not cheetahs.

\* \* \* \*

Bob Callahan and Efrain Gonzalez, 19 N. Grand Avenue, Baldwin, N.Y., report that Sheeba again appeared on "Captain Kangaroo" (TV), and will currently be seen in ads (Continental Can.) in Time and Newsweek.

\* \* \* \*

"Summer finally did it," writes Marilyn Chester, Clinton, Tennessee, of her year old ocelot. "She tried to play with a skunk. Now she is a stinkalot. She apparently was nimble footed enough to miss the main stream but not the fallout."

\* \* \* \*

Bulletin from Kansas City, Kansas: Special Delivery from "Snoopy" Kerle: "Ad for Newsletter: R SALE -- (1) Bobcat 23 lbs. 9 months old -- housebroken. Reason for selling Viz: eats too much, sleeps too much, plays too much. PRICE: \$1,000,000. Explanation: I knocked Daddy's electric shaver in the toilet. I think that is the main reason. He wants cash and doesn't want to re-possess me."

## REPORT OF MEETING

The March, 1963 meeting of LIOC was held on Sunday, the 10th at Bell Sound Studios, 237 W 54 Street at invitation of Dan Cronin and his massive ocelot, Shadrach. There were 42 people present with 7 ocelots, 1 Wooley Monkey and one kinkajou. There were 24 members present, as follows: Mr & Mrs E. O. Carey and Mary Louise (Rumson, N.J.) Catherine, Bill and Cathe Westhall, with Tamaar (Forest Hills, N.Y.), Jerry Heywood (Brooklyn, N.Y.), Bob Callahan and Efrain Gonzalez with Sheba and Kinkajou (Baldwin, N.Y.), May Cavale, (N.Y.C.), Vera and Gene Klein (Mountaintop, Pa.) Catherine and Harry Cisin, (Amagansett, N.Y.), Lillian and Richard Nasman, (Brooklyn, N.Y.), Jim Soutter with Tigger (Rye, N.Y. and St. Thomas, V.I.), Margaret Dalson with Willie (Mamaroneck, N.Y.), Dan Cronin with Shadrach (N.Y.C.) Charlotte Ahrendt (N.Y.C.) Camille and George Schwarz, (Brooklyn, N.Y.) Barbara and Steve Orden (Syosset, N.Y.)

Following introductions, the first item for discussion was introduced: Longevity of ocelots and other pet exotics, and the related subject -- premature deaths and their causes. This comprised a summary of club record, presented by Catherine Cisin. This is given on page 4 of this Newsletter.

Jim Soutter reported he had been conducting a survey re: the ocelot pouch. Jim stated his conversations with officials of the Bronx Zoo and Central Park Zoo had uncovered the following varying theories: 1. The pouch is simply a fatty formation, 2. The pouch is a sagging of skin in the aging cat and although not obvious, does exist in "domestic" felines, 3. The pouch is a loose portion of skin for use in jumping.

(Note by your reporter and Steve Orden: "Steve and I feel the pouch is unquestionably one of the many gifts bestowed on an ocelot by Mother Nature, invaluable to him in upholding his reputation for being swift. As he runs forward, in leaps (rabbit fashion) the pouch seems to disappear as it stretches to afford a span out of proportion to the actual length of his body. Climbing has the same effect on the pouch. The ocelot is fast moving, agile and can propel his body or part of it while in mid air or on all fours. We believe his pouch is responsible to some degree for his power of extraordinary body manipulations and for the mysterious way he can stretch to appear twice as long as he is. This happens especially when we are trying to pick him up against his will. Asleep he can wind himself into a ball in a one foot square. It is interesting that the pouch seems to be the only part of his body over which the ocelot has no control. We would discount completely the theory of the pouch being a sagging of skin in the aging cat since our ocelot's pouch was obvious at the age of four months.")

Catherine Cisin introduced Bob Madden, owner/manager of Pet City, East Orange, N.J., who appealed to all members of LIOC for testimonial letters regarding their exotic pets. He would use such testimonial letters in his anticipated controversy with the State of New Jersey where ordinances are in conflict with Bob Madden's operation as a dealer in rare and unusual pets. He plans to fight specific ordinances which he feels will be passed in the City of East Orange against ocelots as customary pets.

It was suggested to Mr. Madden that the finest testimonials written regarding ocelots and other unusual pets are contained in issues of the club Newsletter and such published matter would more likely hold the attention of the officials of East Orange than would three or four hundred individual letters or a lengthy petition. After discussion it was decided that the May Newsletter would contain a plea to members to aid Bob Madden. (next page)



Therefore, members may write Bob Madden at Pet City, 401 Main Street, East Orange, N.J.

Photos were shown as follows: JATE, cheet. belonging to Jan Giacinto of Tarzana, California; "ONEDAY" (See page 5 "The Baby's Progress" for explanation of name,) belonging to Mayme Pasquini, Compton, California; GHANZI, puma belonging to Beverley Roberts, San Fernando, Calif.

In passing, I am sure I heard the suggestion that Wooley Monkey and Kinkajou wear rubber pants to the next meeting! The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 19th. See first page for notice.

Submitted by:  
Barbara Orden, Secretary Pro-Tem.

\* \* \* \*

### RELUCTANT TRAVELLER

If Sultan had been consulted, he would have hissed at the whole plan. His availability was announced in the "Exchange" Section of the March Newsletter. Marion and Marvin Winter (Bronx, New York) felt he could temporarily not be a part of their household which now included a human infant.

Twenty-odd responses offering a temporary home to the 46 pound, handsome, tractable male ocelot were carefully screened. Marvin selected an ideal "home" in Nevada and Sultan's travels began: a slow trip to Idlewild (New York International) Airport, a fast jet to San Francisco, a slow auto to Reno. Then a brief stopover at his proposed new home. Next: back to San Francisco by car; to Idlewild by jet and back to Bronx, N. Y. and his familiar home with Marvin.



It was a matter of only hours until his sense of insecurity left Sultan. He ate, slept in his own bed, and made it very clear to Marvin that he never wants a different home. Marvin is in complete agreement with Sultan in the matter.

By Bruce Denning

Ed: Accompanying the Denning report were two items concerning the private life of the Denning ocelot, Pepper. These will appear in the next (July) Newsletter.

Muriel Ackers (572 Beverly Avenue, San Leandro) advises that kittens (ocelot, margay and puma) are quite easy to get at the present time. She imports kittens from an uncle in Peru. The last shipment contained a what's-it. That's what we want to know, What is it? We suspect it is a Columbian Bushdog. We have quite a few people working on identifying it, including Dr. Earl Harold of the California Academy of Sciences at Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Also trying to help figure this critter out is the University of California at Davis, California. We have taken some color pictures to supply some of these scientists. We'll advise LIOC when we find out!

Interest in cheetahs and demand for them in this area is terrific, as it is in many other areas.

Muriel has lost three of her ocelot kittens following enteritis shots. This will be checked out with Dr. Joseph Lorber at Lafayette, Calif. and a report will follow. We suspect that the second shot may have been administered too soon after the first shot -- eight days, I believe. It is possible they were given too much. Possibly the kittens were too young. The remaining kittens are now (April '63) four or five weeks old. Muriel has been getting kittens about two weeks old and raising them on a bottle until old enough to change over gradually to meat.

The next meeting of the Northern California Branch is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, May 19. We have one beautiful spot picked out but the owners will be away until the last of April. If this site is not available an alternate site will be selected. All parties interested in attending are requested to send post card or letter care of Bruce Denning, 26390 Adrian Ave., Hayward, California, and we will notify them of the location and how to get there. This will also give us a general idea how many people to expect. Please advise number of persons in party. Also don't forget full name and return address!

\* \* \* \*

### ANOTHER BRIDE FOR JOSE ??

A few weeks ago Betty Agee, New York City, turned over her nine month old ocelot to Jayne Murray, Amawalk, N. Y., hoping that Mitzi would find happiness with four and a half year old Jose, whose mate, Mitsu-ko, died last summer.

When Mitzi was presented to Jose, he set upon her so fiercely that Bill Murray had to forcibly separate the two cats. Mitzi recovered readily from her damage after a trip to Dr. Zimmerman for treatment. Why the cats did not agree is a mystery. Jayne and Bill know Jose has accepted a female. Dr. Zimmerman wonders if Mitzi might have been too young. It is doubtful that Jayne and Bill will try again to mate Mitzi and Jose. One cannot help but wonder if some of our ocelots may be monogamous.

By: Connie McAnulty  
16001 Schoolcraft  
Detroit 27, Michigan

Cheetah was such a little thing -- an infant ocelot -- with the most beautiful, enormous eyes and grumpiest little growl. In early December she was approximately three months old and still without an owner. I saw her and discovered that she was unable to move her hind quarters. This was the most pathetic thing. She seemed to have the spirit but not the ability to move. Even with coaxing she could not put her weight on her hind legs, but just slumped down and any movement she made was a mere shuffle. In spite of this, or because of it, I took her home for the weekend. She had completely captivated me.

After a visit to the vet and a cortisone shot, followed by daily doses of the Parke, Davis product, ABDEC, which is a combination of the vitamins a, b, c, d and e, her condition gradually improved until she became the little monster, bandit and rogue that she is today.

Cheetah is still having her ABDEC vitamins every other day, under protest. The ABDEC is in liquid form and easy to administer. Well, -- fairly easy. We now have a "method" -- which is to let her know what is in store for her by letting her smell the bottle whereupon she dashes under the couch, but once caught she seems to struggle less than when she doesn't know what is about to happen.

We have had one or two difficult times, the first being when she ate about 12 inches of thread which was attached to one of her toys. After a visit to the vet and a few days of throwing up, the foreign object was disposed of.

In January she was declawed. . . . this really hurt me. . . without any really ill effect on Cheetah. She was given sodium surital. It took her two days to completely recover her equilibrium. During those two days she succeeded in removing all four tapes from her feet and was then quite ready to pounce around again. It certainly is more fun to play with her knowing that she has no claws -- only needle sharp teeth with which to puncture your skin! Actually she is quite gentle. It is just that I have a tender skin.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### LONGEVITY (Continued from Page 4.)

Thus we might one day be in a position to defend our vulnerable ocelots and other exotic felines against premature death by medical means, as we now defend them against pancytopenia by vaccination.

In search for defense other than medical, the Secretary of LIOC plans to review the histories of member cats which have been provided her over the years by the owners. She would give special attention to those cats continuing in good health. This review would attempt to single out parallel circumstances recurring in several histories. These parallel circumstances might be found in such areas as environment or diet.

The problem is doubtless as old as man's relationship with "exotic" felines, -- in other words, as old as man.

(The Secretary to M. Jacques Bouillault describes his two ocelots which live at his Parc Zoologique du "Tertre Rouge", La Fleche (Sarthe) France)

"We have two ocelots. The male one, called 'Gam' (Short for 'gamin' which means 'kid' or 'urchin') is about seven years old and weighs twelve kilogrammes. That is about 25 pounds. He is very tame but rather treacherous and several people including his master were scratched while petting him. He has also the naughty habit of 'wetting' the legs of those who come near him. But, as M. Bouillault will often say: 'One cannot but forgive him, he is so beautiful and so sweet when in a good mood.' The colors of his coat are bright, the tawny part being nearly orange and the spots of a deep dark brown, almost black.

"The second one, his 'wife', is much younger and smaller: three years old, about half the weight of the male. She is called 'Radjah.' She has been here for six months only and at first she was very shy, not daring to walk out of her little 'house' when there were visitors looking at her. Now she is quite accustomed to being admired, but remains aloof and does not allow anybody to fondle her. Even her 'husband' is not allowed any liberties and to our knowledge they have not mated yet.

"Her coat is much lighter in color than Gam's, in gray and beige tones generally. Her head is quite dainty, with a thin nose and large almond shaped eyes. Both animals have eyes green and gold in color. She comes from Guiana, and he comes from Brazil. Though they have a thick fur, they are sensitive to the cold and live in a 'house' where the temperature never goes down below 170 (centigrade). They feed on any kind of meat, including pigeons and guinea pigs and they prefer water to milk."

\* \* \* \* \*

#### BOBCAT FEEDING HABITS (Continued from Page 2)

Canned Foods. A variety of different canned foods were experimentally given the bobcats to check preferences. Canned dog and cat foods were seldom eaten. Straight horsemeat though would be used but not with much enthusiasm when compared to fresh meat. Canned sardines, tuna and smoked oysters were eaten with greater relish, especially oily sea food products.

Wildcat Stew. Possibly one of the bobcat's favorite food items, besides fresh meat, was a mixture made especially for them and termed "wildcat stew". It consisted of mixing a cup of canned milk, two raw eggs and a pound of fresh ground beef. This became a favorite dish for both animals. In fact so eagerly did they respond to it that they soon discovered the ingredients came from the refrigerator; consequently, they would come running when they heard the refrigerator door slam shut.

#### Discussion

Bobcat kittens raised in captivity do well when fed diluted canned milk. Milk is often used when available throughout life as a preferred food item. Raw domestic chicken eggs are also a highly desired item. It is believed that a diet of fresh meat tends to increase the chances of the animals being mean for experience has shown that bobcats raised on little or no fresh meat retained the most friendly dispositions. However, the animals fed fresh meat were mean only while in possession or in the vicinity of fresh meat.

## New Members

MR. & MRS. ROBERT BUCK, 1811 Mizell Ave., Winter Park, Florida, are enjoying their six month old margay, Lance

MRS RICHARD L. CREWS, 117 Park Drive, Boston 15, Mass. has been interested for several years in buying an ocelot. In June Michael and her husband will be moving to San Francisco where they have one on order.

FAWN TIARA DAWKTER, 828 Willow Road, PO Box 219, Menlo Park, California has recently lost her young ocelot kitten, Touche, who will soon be replaced by a new kitten which will be called Voodoo.

MR & MRS JOHN DUDLEY, 4570 Almond Drive, Reno, Nevada call their eight pound, seven month old ocelot Sparticus.

SYLVIE HARWIN, 2806 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland Heights 18, Ohio is hoping to make the acquaintance of an ocelot before ordering hers.

SHIRLEY HUBBARDS, New York, N. Y. is the owner of an extremely beautiful three year old margay, Tommy.

MARY ANN HUBER, 56 Blauvelt Avenue, West Haverstraw, N. Y. recently lost her year old ocelot, Tito. She has a new ocelot kitten.

PAUL JAMES, 668 Tudor Court, San Leandro, Calif. (NorCal) has recently become the owner of a 16 lb. 3-1/2 month old S. A. puma he calls "Lady Bird".

B. FRANKLYN LARUE, 415 Fairview Avenue, Orange, N.J. has a young margay named "Lita".

E. G. K. LOPEZ-ESCOBAR, 2447 Derby Street, Berkeley 5, Calif (NorCal) .

CONNIE McANULTY, 16001 Schoolcraft, Detroit 27, Michigan. (See Connie's story about her ocelot, Concheetah, on page 7.)

MR & MRS FRED MEADE, 8003 Nannestad Street, So. San Gabriel, California have a nine month old ocelot named "Veejay".

ELIZABETH ROGOWSKI, 117 S. Franklin, Ames, Iowa. has a male margay on order.

MR & MRS GENE R. TRAPP, 239 Roehl NW, Albuquerque, N. M. are interested in obtaining a young jaguarundi and a margay. Gene is a mammalogist and Carolyn a free-lance biologist. They are concerned with getting to know the smaller cats. "The Felidae," writes Carolyn, "due to their solitary, usually nocturnal habits are among the least-known and most confusing of the mammal groups. Identification, distribution and taxonomy of this highly interesting family are in a hopeless tangle at present. Zoological works to date offer only vague, contradictory information about all but the best-known species. Each investigator seems to have invented his own scientific nomenclature for each species he discovered ..... Confusion doesn't just reign, it comes down in buckets, exasperating students of the Felidae."

CATHERINE WESTHALL, 259 Puritan Avenue, Forest Hills 75, N. Y. has a young male ocelot which was purchased in Florida. "Tamaar" is one of the blondest cats in the club.

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## Renewal Members

Joseph Cicinelli, New York, N. Y.  
Sally DeLong, Seattle, Washington  
Earle and Michell, Paradise Point, Crystal River, Fla.  
Dr. & Mrs. Wade Elliott, Kansas City, Kansas  
Mr. & Mrs. P. D. Fowler, Toronto, Ont., Canada  
Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Kerle, Kansas City, Kansas  
E. Fred Kriszat, Doylestown, Penna.  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Malyszka, Santa Ana, California  
Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Mechana, Jr., Baton Rouge, La.  
Mr. & Mrs. John Mercer, San Jose, California  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Naylor, Austin, Texas  
Marion Ryan, Flushing, N. Y.  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Westervelt, Bayport, N. Y.  
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Winter, Bronx, N. Y.  
Kenneth J. Walsh, San Jose, California

## "EXCHANGE"

LIOC plays no part other than "advertising" cats which are available and cats which are wanted. If buying or selling, giving or taking, please contact people directly concerned.

WANTED: Two young male ocelots, not over four months: John Mercer, 1455 Kerley Drive, San Jose, California.

One margay six weeks or younger, either sex, guaranteed healthy. Also: one infant jaguarundi, preferably only a few days old, either sex, or a pair of same, male and female. Mr. & Mrs. Gene R. Trapp, 239 Roehl NW, Albuquerque, N.M.

AS THIS NEWSLETTER GOES TO PRESS -- rumor arrives at headquarters from a potential ocelot owner.... "We were over at the Cincinnati Zoo yesterday and looked at the two ocelots they have. They also have two babies in an incubator. These are only ten days old. They are like fuzzy little kittens." We assume that the Cincinnati babies are the offspring of the pair of ocelots at the zoo. Will a member in the Cincinnati area please confirm our assumption? The Curator of Felines at that Zoo is being asked to supply LIOC with the details should this pair of captive (as opposed to domestic) ocelots have reproduced.

