

NEWSLETTER

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Long Island Ocelot Club
Amagansett, N.Y. 11930

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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



Spotsy, with Ellen Bend1, of the Mid-Atlantic States Branch of LIOC. Ellen rescued Spotsy when the New York Board of Health sentenced him to be destroyed. On page three Ellen tells of acquiring this nearly starved, blinded with cataracts ocelot and his return to the beautiful healthy cat he is today.



**LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB
NEWSLETTER**

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Submitting Material for Publication

Material for publication in the Long Island Ocelot Club Newsletter should be submitted by the 10th of the month preceding Newsletter publication, i.e. by the 10th of the even numbered months.

Local groups are advised that, if convenient, the holding of meetings during the odd numbered months will ensure the earliest publication of their meeting reports due to the above deadline.

Please send renewal checks directly to .

Mrs. Daniel Treanor, Sec. Treas, LIOC
1454 Fleetwood Drive E.
Mobile, Alabama 36605

CHANGE OF ADDRESS ??

To assure continuous receipt of Newsletters, be sure to notify Shirley Treanor who keeps the LIOC Roster and, simultaneously, the mailing list for Newsletters.

Mrs. Daniel Treanor, Sec. LIOC
1454 Fleetwood Drive E.
Mobile, Alabama 36605

Shirley 

Second Chance

by: Ellen Bendyl
Elizabeth, New Jersey

A year ago last February we got a phone call from Art Human in Connecticut. He said he had heard about an ocelot kitten that was in desperate need of a home and immediately--were we interested?

It seemed that a pet shop in New York had this kitten and had no license to sell it. The cat had been impounded by the board of health and was to be destroyed. Barbara Stager and Joan Strahm had found out and were looking for a home for the kitten. They had promised the board of health on Thursday morning that the kitten would have a home outside the state within twenty-four hours. This was Thursday night. We called Barbara immediately and told her we would take the cat. The kitten then had to undergo an examination before the state would release him. By Saturday afternoon, we had all the details. Iago as he was called was a four month old kitten in perfect health except for one thing. - he had a complete cataract on one eye and a partial on the other. The cataracts were getting worse and the vet said that there was nothing to be done. Iago would be totally blind within three months. Barbara asked if we still wanted him and we said "yes". Sunday morning we drove to Long Island to pick him up.

He was still under the influence of the tranquilizer that the veterinarian had given him on Friday. When we got him home we tried to feed him a piece of chicken. He smelled it but could not find it. He grabbed, missed the chicken and got my hand instead. Needless to say I dropped the chicken. He still couldn't find it, but could see the vague shape of my hand which he continued to go after. I think he thought we were teasing him and he started to run around the room. He couldn't stand up on his own and he used the walls and furniture as supports. Jim finally got him back into his carrying case after a number of clawings and bites.

We then called Dr. Ray McPeck in Newton, New Jersey and told him what had happened. Ray said to bring the cat to see him as soon as we could get there. That afternoon we made the hour and a half trip to Ray's home.

When we got there Ray took a look at Iago and told us several things - none of which was encouraging. First of all, the cat was at least nine months old, he had his permanent teeth and was already spraying like an adult male. He was dehydrated, extremely close to starvation, looked as if he might have rickets, and, yes, he had cataracts. Ray said that these were probably due to malnutrition. He thought that there might be a possibility of arresting the cataracts with medicine, he couldn't promise anything however.

We left that pitiful bundle weighing less than ten pounds in Ray's care and wondered if he would pull through. Iago was there for eighteen days. When we finally came to pick him up, he was a different animal. With proper diet and care Iago had put on over five pounds. The medicine Ray had given him not only halted the cataracts, but caused them to recede! The eye that had had the partial cataract was completely clear and the one that was entirely covered was now only partially obscured.

I was terrified of our new pet. The bites that he had given me had become infected, and I was allergic to his saliva. I ended up with blood poisoning in both hands and thus came to the conclusion to have him declawed and defanged. When we got him back this had been done. We found he still had to be handled with heavy leather construction gloves. When I put my hand in to feed him or give him water I was very glad of the gloves. In spite of them I

ended up with some very nasty bruises

All during March, April, and May we worked with him, trying to convince him that we would not hurt him - that he had a home with people who loved him. It was during this time we started calling him "Spotsy". Somehow Iago just didn't fit.

Eventually we got to the point of being able to touch his head, first with the leather gloves on and later without them. I think he finally realized we were not going to hurt him and so he tolerated our petting and touching.

In June, we had a LIOC meeting at our house and Spotsy met some other people for the first time. At one point Jim was holding his leash while I went into the house. When I came out again Spotsy came to me and sat on my lap. That was the first time he ever showed anything in the line of love or trust or need for us.

Since then he has become my baby. Jim can't touch him any more but with me he has become quite gentle and quite a little imp. There are times that I still get chomped, but mostly that is because he forgets just how strong he is. We play games of his invention. His favorite is "Jump on Mommy's Head." This is played while I try to scrub his room or clean out his litter box. Have you ever seen a spotted hat with paws that hang down over one eye and around the neck?

Spotsy will never be a large cat - he weighs about twenty-five pounds, but what he lacks in size he makes up in beauty. Ray, who had not seen him in a while, couldn't believe the difference in the way he looks. The dark undistinguished coat has become lighter and the markings well defined. He's simply beautiful.

Of course there are hold-overs from the times before we got him. He is a good traveler except when we go into a tunnel. Then he dives for his carrying case and refuses to come out. I think the shadowy world of the half-blind still is a very real terror for him. He does not stop shaking until we are out in the sunlight again.

And once we were playing and I grabbed his rug and started to wrap him in it. I have never seen an animal get so frightened. It took me close to half an hour to calm him down.

All in all, Spotsy is a lively and lovely pet, but I cannot help thinking what an unbelievably gentle and loving animal he would have been had I gotten him when he was much younger and had not been so badly mistreated.



"SPOTSY"

Mid-Atlantic States



At a recent Mid-Atlantic States Branch are from left to right: Terri Largmann, Henrietta Largmann, Susan Sciscoski, Bob Largmann, Ray McPeck, Ellen Bendl (in front), Jim Nolan, Carol(ine) Nolan, Caroline Nolan. Cats from left to right: 2 Geoffrey Cats owned by Bob Largmann, 1 Leopard Cat owned by Ray McPeck, 1 Ocelot owned by Ellen Bendl, and 1 huge black Domestic owned by Jim Nolan.

MID-ATLANTIC STATES BRANCH

MEETING REPORT

September 10, 1972

Mid-Atlantic Branch had a swim party and Italian Dinner on Sunday September 10, at Bob Largmann's home in Wayne, New Jersey. About 38 people attended - one of our largest meetings so far.

It was a lovely day and we held our meeting in the yard next to the pool. We had received a letter from Wally Beattie in western Pennsylvania who had offered his home for a meeting. It was suggested that a combination meeting between Mid-Atlantic and Mid-West Branches be held some time in the spring. That way those living in that area and unable to attend either branch's meetings could come. We will be getting in touch with the Mid-West Branch to set things up.

We also received a letter from Bob and Carol Roth, former Mid-Atlantic members, who now live in Florida. They have set up a breeding farm and are able to take care of any homeless cats.

Several members asked about Christmas cards. Since we have heard nothing from Jan Thomas as to whether or not the cards are available, we will write to her and find out.

Dee and Erik Stevenson are soon to be the proud parents of a little girl ocelot they have named "Mala". She is the daughter of Jean Hatfields's Heidi and Chris. Mala is due to arrive in Jersey on October 2nd and Dee is anxiously counting the days.

Our next meeting is going to be held on November 12th at Ray McPeck's home in Newton, New Jersey. Ray's phone number is (201) 383-2033. More information on this meeting as the time gets closer.

After the meeting Bob and Henrietta fed us all on

ziti, lasagne, sausage sandwiches, salad, and delicious Italian pastries. More than one guest was heard moaning about forgotten diets and gained weight. (NOBODY paid any attention to diets with all that scrumptious food around.) Our thanks to the Largmanns for everything.

We hope that everyone who was able to attend this meeting and all of those not there will join us in November.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Bendl and Jim Nolan

(Ed. Note: This report should have been published in the last issue of the Newsletter. Because of our poor filing at the time it was not. Our apologies to Ellen and Jim and all of Mid-Atlantic.)

MID-ATLANTIC BRANCH

MEETING REPORT

November 12, 1972

Sunday, November 12, 1972, Mid-Atlantic States Branch held another meeting. We're happy to say most of our "regular" members attended and we added two new personalities to our group.

Bob and Henrietta Largmann brought one of the new "members" with them. Her name is Tasha and she is a lovely little girl ocelot that they got from Jean Hatfield. Our other new member is Mala, Dee and Erik Stevenson's girl ocelot also from the Hatfields. (Hey, Dee, tell Mala to grow up fast; Spotsy is waiting for his bride!)

We had gotten the list of available prints from Pepper House and so the pictures were passed around for anyone to order. (The order was sent to Jan Thomas on Tuesday, November 14.)

(Cont. on Pg. 15)



PACIFIC NORTHWEST BRANCH
MEETING REPORT
November 19, 1972

Our November meeting was held in the home of our President, Linda Morse. This meeting was held to elect new officers. The new president is Gil Meyer; Secretary/treasurer is Barbara Wilton; public relations officers are still Larry Palmer and Herb Wilton; Ethel Hauser is still in charge of our photo album and is doing a beautiful job. We created a new office which we think all clubs should have. It is a membership committee which Diane Spreen now directs. I will be a silent coordinator in order to help Gil if he needs it.

With the elections out of the way, we discussed inviting Vern Cook, a lawyer to our next meeting. He is a friend of our new president, so Gil will ask him.

All of us would like to have club jackets. We decided on the flocked lettering and cotton wind breakers. The color hasn't been discussed yet.

Gil Meyer warned all of us about constantly checking the chains or collars on our cats, especially on a younger cat who is growing fast. His cougar, Yogi, had his chain wearing holes into his neck before Gil discovered it. My own cougar Teddy Bear has had to have his chain loosened twice in the last two and a half months. I couldn't get my fingers under the chain. We've discovered the larger cats grow very quickly and we don't notice it. We hope this hasn't happened to other members and their cats.

We discussed our party for raising money for our branch on the following weekend. We are charging \$3.00 per couple and the food is potluck. It will be - bring your own bottle. We'll have a keg of beer.

We are very happy to report that our party was a success. We had a huge turnout with more than enough food ranging from salmon to Swedish "moose" balls and beef roast. All the relishes and munchies to make a party a success, and we all found out how much fun Bingo really is. Our party made us a whopping \$100. We're planning another one for this summer.

Our new secretary Barbara now has enough money to start a bank account for our branch.

We had a good turnout of members for our meeting and the weather was sunny but a little cold. Cats present were Linda and Larry's Teddy Bear, cougar; Suzy Bobcat; Lisa, three month old lion owned by George Kirkpatrick; Ethel Hauser's ocelot, Suki; Gail Shecker

with her ocelot, Taj; Ginger and Wally Bordwell with their borrowed margay, Toby who has since passed away. We're all very sorry to hear about their cat. I do want to thank Ginger for bringing "Suzy Bobcat" a companion, a white manx kitty. Suzy plays with her all day and sleeps with her with our daughter. She needed to have a playmate her size, as Teddy Bear has our Dobe, Arrow.

Our meeting was adjourned to eat. Later we saw more of Ed Smith's movies. George's little Lisa stole the whole show. While we were watching the film, Lisa was pouncing on all of us. We can't wait to see her at the next meeting in January at Gail Sheckers'.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Morse
Co-coordinator

COLOR CLUB POSTCARDS

* * * * *

Two color postcards are currently available at \$1 per lot of 40 cards, either version or mixed. Card No. 1 shows AKU (Nasman) on the beach and Card No. 2 shows TERCERA (Cisin) in her kitchen.

Please send request and remittance to LIOC, 24 Partridge Ave., Somerville, Mass. 02145, adding 12¢ for postage.

(Conservation Cont. from Pg. 11)

cats. Even in the most social animals, you see, when one of the males encounters the youngster its something to eat, that's all it is, it's just prey.

BOB: The figures we have show 37 ocelots born in the club as far as the club records are concerned (1967, 1968, 1969, 1970), during the past four years. Those are the total number of kittens born and do not reflect the ones that died. I have two in there, one lived and one didn't. Most of you who receive the Newsletter saw that last year some kittens were born in the Bay Area and the kittens were devoured. That's too bad, but as Art says the male should have probably been taken away from the female or something, we don't know for sure but we would like to find out what it takes to do it. Art has raised a lot of kittens. I was fortunate for a while. I don't have the answers either and would like to set up a compound and do some research to find out what the answers are.

QUESTION: In Oregon and Washington areas, they are using pregnant mare hormones. I would like to have either of the two gentlemen comment. They are having success with breeding, but will this have any aftereffects.

RANDY: I don't think anyone knows about the after-effects. If you want to breed these animals properly, that means not just getting the animal fertilized, but having at least with breeding animals the mother raising her own young. The best breeders will be the ones raised by their mothers, not the ones that are raised by hand. This is common throughout the animal kingdom.

(The rest of the discussion is omitted as essentially redundant or a side issue not pertinent to the discussion of breeding. John Jackson)

NOTE: Readers' comments and suggestions concerning the domestic breeding of exotics are welcomed and needed. Ed.



Leopard and Cheetah Owners

On the first of December, 1972, I received the letter reproduced below from Norman Myers of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (I.U.C.N.) requesting our aid in estimating how many leopards and cheetahs are being kept as pets by members of LIOC.

As is evident from the letter and project announcement below, this scientific investigation is essential for the proper conservation of these species.

I ask all the leopard and cheetah owners in LIOC or known of by LIOC members to send the number of each species (leopard or cheetah - kindly specify which) to me. No names or addresses are needed. Please send this information to: Robert Peraner, LIOC, 24 Partridge Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts 02145.

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

SURVEY ON LEOPARD AND CHEETAH IN AFRICA SOUTH OF THE SAHARA

Following allegations about the declining status of leopard and cheetah in Africa, the fur industry in Europe and North America has agreed to a three-year moratorium, from late 1971, while an investigation is carried out. This survey, under the auspices of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, will aim at recommendations for the better conservation of these spotted cats, together with an appraisal of eventual exploitation again provided an abuse-free system can be devised for the regulated harvesting of this high-value resource.

The survey will cover two main lines of investigation:

1. Biological -- the current distribution and density of leopard and cheetah; how far they have been depleted over recent years through undue exploitation and/or accelerating development of their environment; how far their population dynamics allow them to deploy sufficient response in the face of progressive predation pressures by man; whatever else of their ecology and ethology is pertinent to ensuring them a proper prospect for survival in emergent Africa.
2. Commercial -- the major channels for bringing these pelts to market, viz. the chain from hunter on the ground to retailer overseas, together with some assessment of how revenues along the line are distributed; whether price instability reflects a decline in supply or an increase in demand, or both; how far the trade may be regulated through legal sanctions; whatever else acts as a constraint to the efficient utilization of this resource, supposing the fashion persists in sufficient measure.

Under both these headings, there will be aspects where much relevant information is available and others where inconclusive evidence leads to only a preliminary assessment at this stage. All the more, then, the best knowledge and the widest experience is needed to achieve any authoritative appraisal. The survey is heavily dependent on a broad spectrum of recognised opinion in Africa; all contributions will be most appreciated.

Norman Myers
P.O. Box 48197
Nairobi, Kenya

HOW WE CAN HELP

Dear Sir,

I write to you with regard to a survey I am conducting for I.U.C.N. (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) into the status of leopard and cheetah in Africa south of the Sahara. The project survey (Given in the left column.) sets out in detail the general scope of this survey.

Having discussed particular aspects of the trade in live cheetah with colleagues in Somalia, S.W. Africa, and various parts of Europe and North America, I am trying to establish figures for the number of cheetah kept in the United States as pets. It is obviously impossible to evaluate the present position of cheetah in Africa without some idea of how many have been removed from the wild during the past decade or so; with these figures, it is then possible to make predictions of how many cheetah could be taken for this purpose in the future, from different parts of Africa, together with an indication of what sort of monetary value this would represent to Africans on the ground (and an animal has a much better chance of surviving as a species until the end of the century if -- if -- it can be shown to represent some economic asset, to be exploited on a perpetual basis, to the local African; regrettable as it may be to view wildlife in this way, that sort of factor is the backbone to conservation in Africa). Are you in a position to indicate please how many of your members have purchased cheetah during the last few years. And do you find cheetah become amenable as pets only if they are procured as cubs, or can you accept a semi-adult for training as a household pet? It is obvious what a singularly elegant pet this creature makes!

Anything you can contribute along these lines will be of singular significance to the survey. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,
Norman Myers

All information received at LIOC headquarters will be immediately forwarded to Norman Myers in Africa. Ed.



"...YEAH FINE, AN' I TAUGHT HIM A NEW TRICK TODAY!"

Conservation and Breeding of the Ocelot

Excerpts from a 1971 meeting of A.C.E.C., its members and guests, which convened at Lion Country Safari, Inc., Laguna Hills, California.

Transcribed and edited by John M. Jackson, A.C.E.C.

by Randall L. Eaton
President
Institute for the Study and
Conservation of Endangered
Species
P.O. Box 731
Athens, Georgia 30601

PREFACE

Dear Sir,

The enclosed transcribed manuscripts were to be submitted to the Long Island Ocelot Club Newsletter some months back. I believe they are still worthy of publication. I called this meeting with the help of Bob Smith and the assistance of Lion Country Safari.

I should add that my predictions came true--the ocelot and margay are on the United States endangered species list, and we have initiated a field study of all South American cats. By we I mean ISCES (Institute for the Study and Conservation of Endangered Species), via financial support of Mzuri Safari Club Foundation and World Wildlife Safari. The Smithsonian Institution and several universities are also cooperating. The study is now underway in Paraguay where it will continue for three years.

This project holds most of the keys to unlocking the problems of breeding smaller South American felids; however, additional funds will soon be required. Any donations to ISCES by Long Island Ocelot Club members will be eartagged for the South American cat study.

Sincerely,
Randall L. Eaton
ISCES

First, I should like to say that I am not an expert on the ocelot, in fact, no one is. A few people have done a little research here and there. For instance, on fighting and threatening behavior. Someone else has done work on chromosomes, that sort of thing. There has never been a really good ecological study about what ocelots do every day in the wilds, how they lead their lives, what their requirements are in terms of space, types of sex ratio, general behavior, and so on. This information, however is on the horizon. There will be studies shortly and these studies in the long run will be critical in terms of conservation of the ocelot in the wilds and effective breeding of them in captivity. However, we cannot afford to merely stand by and wait for this to happen. We have to do something right away. I will tell you why.

First of all, in order to become owners of an exotic pet you have to be able to get the animal. It either comes from the wilds or is born in captivity. The few that are, you can simply count off, because they play no part in replacing the animals that are removed from the wilds.

Now why, you may ask, should we be concerned about the number of animals that are taken from the wilds. Well, there is a good reason to be concerned. Recent figures show that over the past three years there have been more than 100,000 ocelot skins enter this country alone each year. (1968, 1969, 1970) These are pretty remarkable figures, and if anything, they are underestimates, because some skins make their way into the country illegally.

We don't know for certain whether hunting and poaching is so high that it is having a permanent

effect on the wild ocelot population. However, Norman Meyers of the University of California did a short-term study just last year, and all evidence seems to point to the fact that the ocelot is indeed declining in the wilds. Norman spoke here last week

during the symposium on the world's cats. His subject, the jaguar and ocelot, their status and the extent of the fur trade threat, was researched by him through interviews with game experts in several South American countries and by examination of their records. He checked their export figures on jaguar, ocelot and margay skins. He also talked to many of the people who actually go into the field and make their livelihood by hunting and trapping spotted cats.

In addition to this, I.U.C.N., the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the leading organization on a worldwide basis screening and evaluating conservation schemes and deciding what kinds of projects are needed and what studies might be done, has recommended that a study of ocelots be carried out as soon as possible. The fact that they have made this recommendation is indicative of their firm belief that the ocelot is indeed declining in terms of prevalence in the wilds.

Now it is a fact, which I am sure all of you recognize, that for every ocelot, margay or other small South American cat, that comes to the hands of just the people in this room many, many more animals die along the way. From the time the hunters and trappers start catching them, others transport and hold them at different points, until you finally receive them, one out of eight actually makes it into captivity alive. Once the ocelot reaches captivity, its average life expectancy is less than one year. That is pretty dismal, isn't it!

As ocelot owners, I would think that you have to be concerned about these figures, if you are really concerned about the ocelot itself. And you also have to be concerned about the impact of these figures on others who are not ocelot owners. Conservation legislation is very much on the increase. The restrictions on getting these animals are becoming greater all the time. Therefore, from the ocelot or exotic cat owner's point of view, all of these things point to one conclusion, that we have to breed the hell out of them in captivity. So how are we going to do this, you may ask. That indeed is the question, I should think, which is primary to our discussion here today.

I cannot tell you exactly how to do it, the exact formula, but I can tell you how to find out the formula. It doesn't matter whether your group or some other group does the spade work, but someone has to set up an area which constitutes a breeding compound and the site for a breeding study. The research involved and the actual breeding are really all the same project.

There has to be a site selected, money obtained and invested, so that we can find out how to breed these animals. They obviously breed well in the wilds, they don't breed well in captivity. These are two basic facts. I have no reason to believe that ocelots should not breed well in captivity, if the breeder goes about it properly, and the only way we are going to find out how to do it properly is to conduct an intensive study, with some qualified people on hand around the clock to make observations and keep records.

If we have the cats in different combinations of sex ratios, two males and one female, three females and a male, one to one, or keep a female alone until she comes into heat, then introduce the male, while in another enclosure the male and female are together all the time, this kind of thing alone will accomplish what it might take years of field observation to ascertain. We would also have to keep accurate records of the animal's behavior, the results of fertilization, numbers of kittens born, varying nutritional requirements, and so on. We would have to see whether allowing the animals to catch, kill and eat their own kill had any effect on their breeding. With some animals, hormones

Readers Write

PET MOTELS

Dear Sir,

We just received our current issue of the Newsletter and want to express our appreciation for the beautiful writeup you gave American Pet Motels.

I wish I could confirm that we were ready to open this month. Unfortunately, we started construction only to have the County close us down. It appears that they erroneously granted the previous owner a building permit to build on our property (and he constructed a new home on the two acres he still owned). Since the zoning law requires a minimum of five acres to build on, the County thought we ought to give our property back to the farmer.

Although the problem was the County's negligence and that of the previous owner, we had to suffer by being prohibited to build until our attorneys forced the issue. Regretably, we are only now pouring foundations and our opening is now projected for April or May.

Sincerely,
Robert Leeds
President
American Pet Motels
106 Stonegate
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60090

NECROLOGY

Dear Sir,

Boris, my four year old margay is dead. He died May 29, 1972. His death was quite sudden and completely unexpected. He showed absolutely no signs of illness. The evening of May 28, 1972, I fed him (he had his usually good appetite) and then before retiring for the night (as was our usual custom) we played and talked.

The next morning I went to his room and simply found him laying on the floor dead.

To my sorrow now, because I will never know what happened, I was so shocked and filled with disbelief and grief I did not have an autopsy performed but simply arranged to have him buried.

I miss him terribly, my home is not quite the same without him; but as for having another one.....

Sincerely,
Betty Inzerillo
Antioch, California

AVOIDING ESCAPE! (Correction to the article appearing in the previous - 16-6 - Newsletter)

Dear Sir,

Just received the Newsletter and particularly liked the article "Traveling Precautions". This is the kind of useful information I would like to see much more of!

I liked the title (Avoiding Escape) you picked for my article, and in general approve of the minor changes that were made. However, along with the usual collection of trivial typographical errors, there were two major accidental omissions which radically altered the meaning of what I was saying at that point.

On page 16-6-14, second column, 5-3/4 inches down from the first line of print, it reads, "Although your inert weight would not provide a useful and effective degree of restraint." It should have read, "Although your inert weight will not provide an immovable anchorage, it would still provide a useful and effective degree of restraint."

Also on page 16-6-14, second column, 6-7/8 inches from the first line: "A runner cable is a strong - usually at least twice as strong as the rest of the equipment - cable with one end anchored at wherever he is to be taken to." It should have been, "A runner-cable is a strong (usually at least twice as

strong as the rest of the equipment) cable with one end anchored at wherever the cat is to be taken from and the other end anchored at wherever he is to be taken to."

As you can see, this is quite a change in meaning!

From reading my articles, one might get the impression that my attitude toward "security" is more than a little paranoid, and all my days are spent in a running battle to keep my cats from departing for parts unknown. Such is not the case. It is quite rare for one's "security system" to be put to the test, but it does happen now and then and when it does your security had better be there and functioning 'cause it's all over in a split second!

It's happened only once with each of my two pumas in the 5-1/2 years I've had them. My "system" withstood the test in both cases, and what could easily have been a major disaster was instead only a minor and almost unnoticeable incident. I'll tell you one thing, though - If "Brinkley's" leash hadn't been fastened to my (nylon webbing) belt, I'd have had a badly agitated mountain lion loose in the middle of downtown San Francisco - his chances for survival would have been just about zero!

There have been thirteen escape-type incidents reported in the Newsletters since March-April, 1971, and most of those were apparently through gross negligence on the parts of the owners - the cats apparently were not exerting anywhere near maximum effort. Several of these escapes were due to the use of inappropriate equipment, in some cases going contrary to information long available in the Newsletter and in Especialty Ocelots, written by Catherine Cisin, the Founder of LIOG.

Those who love their cats should take note of the fact that in at least two of these escapes, THE CATS WERE KILLED!

In only two of these incidents did there appear to be any major force exerted on the equipment. In one of these incidents, the force was generated by an auto accident. The ocelot was thrown out, a nylon lease holding and a chain choke collar breaking, apparently without doing serious harm to the cat. (The human-type occupants of the car didn't fare as well, unfortunately.)

This proves two points: 1. The cats can withstand enormous forces compared to their size and weight. 2. The end-welded chain out of which dog collars and leashes are commonly made is WEAK and UNRELIABLE. In this isolated and freakish incident it was probably all to the good however - if the collar had been up to specifications, the cat would probably have gotten a broken neck out of it. (Does this suggest the desirability for a carrier for traveling?)

In the other (and by far the more serious) incident, a cheetah charged after a child and broke his leash, injuring a woman who attempted to rescue the child (who was not hurt). Although cheetahs are generally considered to be the "safest" of all exotic cats, this incident clearly and forcefully demonstrates one of the cold hard facts of life with an "exotic" cat: SECURITY CANNOT BE BASED ON HOW THE CAT WILL NORMALLY RESPOND TO A SITUATION, BUT MUST INSTEAD BE BASED ON THE MAXIMUM PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES OF THE CAT. In a split second, the cheetah's security system was put to the test. It failed!

Sincerely,
Dan Meier
Richmond, California

LET'S GET OUR ATTITUDES STRAIGHT! A COMMENTARY

Dear Friends,

I would like to comment on attitudes expressed by many obviously unenlightened owners of exotics. It seems unbelievable that any intelligent person would ever consider a wild animal to be a tame tabby cat, regardless of its personality. It really is an injustice to the animal and its welfare to regard it as such, for a proper understanding of a wild creature's habits and needs is the only way to maintain it as a desirable pet. Of course there are those who will say, "Why, my ocelot would not hurt a flea." However, one should realize that a wild animal never fully loses its natural instinct for survival. Consequently, even a small accident can turn into a major disaster, often with fatal results for the animal.

True love for any creature is to accept it for what it is and to adjust to its natural ways and needs rather than making it conform to our needs or comforts.

Such things as letting an exotic run through the house, unrestrained, may seem like being kind, but consider the many ways that harm can come to it. After all, one cannot spend sixty seconds every minute watching out for it. How many times exotics (or even domestics) have slipped out of the house, when little Johnny went out to play, never to return alive! Or how many times an exotic got into a forbidden cupboard and ate roach tablets or a rubber gadget or got cut by a broken dish! No number of latches will help when Mommy or Daddy forget to latch them. Have you ever heard of an ocelot jumping at a fly on the screen - and going on through? What if no one was there when it happened? SCRATCH ONE OCELOT!!

I have heard it mentioned several times that a metal garbage can makes a good litter box if a hole is cut in the side. But never have I heard anything about the dangers of sharp metal edges or how to take care of this. It really distresses me to think that anyone would advocate such things without considering the possibilities for danger.

How about the habit many owners have of walking their animals on city sidewalks or on public beaches. Do they really do this for the animals benefit, or is it an unconscious desire to exhibit the animal? Is it a worthwhile habit when you consider the bad publicity that can come from this practice, not only for the individual cat but for every exotic in the area?

Let's face it! Not everyone likes a wild animal. Some people are afraid - some are jealous. Either way it may mean trouble. Sure, you may be able to pay the fine, but what if the law takes the animal away? Some people have even been known to shoot a pet exotic either out of fear or jealousy. Is it worth the risk?

One other thing is this idea that a wild creature can always successfully survive on the cooked out, slopped-up messes that come in canned cat or dog foods. I just don't understand who cooks their food when they are in the wilds. The fact is that wild creatures (if completely free of man's interference) maintain a degree of health that man has never or ever will attain on his unnatural diet of cooked and chemicalized food. How do I know this? Thirty-one years in the field of natural nutrition could have helped teach me a little.

Yes, it really worries me when I see articles in any publication which by their context could cause great suffering or even death for those creatures of nature which I so dearly love and pray for daily.

I firmly believe that any pet exotic would be delighted to have his own room or area which he could call his own. And how much more we would be showing our love and concern for his well being.

I hope everyone read the article "Avoiding Escape" by Daniel F. Meier on page 16-6-5 of the November Newsletter. This was very well thought out and presented. It expresses many of the things mentioned in this letter

I'm sorry if I treaded on anyone's toes, but the animals' welfares are more important to me than "treaded toes".

Sincerely,
Richard Ware
General Manager
International Cooperative
Wildlife Sanctuaries
Rt. 3, Box 751
DeLand, Fla. 32720

EDITOR'S NOTE

All opinions and responses to the articles and Readers Write letters are welcomed and needed. If you would prefer not to have your name printed, we will be glad to withhold it on request.

However, all letters, to have their writers' names printed or withheld, must be signed. We have at present two letters meant for this column but which have no signatures. If the writers would contact me, identifying themselves, we will be happy to publish the letters.



Available Exotics

To register an exotic on LIOC's Available List, please send the following information to Shirley Treanor, 1454 Fleetwood Drive East, Mobile, Alabama 36605: Species, sex, age, weight, alterations (declawed or defanged), whole or neutered, disposition, domestic or wild born, preferences, price, owner's name, address and telephone number.

Please send in the above information prior to each issue in which you want the available listed. The listings are not repeated automatically.

Members searching for an exotic need not wait until Newsletter publication for the listing. A call or letter at any time to Shirley Treanor, indicating the type of cat you hope to find will bring quick response.

The Long Island Ocelot Club itself takes no part in the transactions between buyers and sellers of the available exotics, but only relates the information received to interested parties.

LEOPARD CATS:

Four males - domestic born October 23rd, \$200 ea.

One male - domestic born, 5 months old, whole, \$300.

MARGAYS:

Male - nine months old, whole, \$350.

As a pair - male and female, apprx. 3 years old, both declawed/defanged, good to fair disposition, \$750.

As a pair - male and female, 3-1/2 years old, \$600, both whole.

OCELOTS:

Female - whole, 3 years old, \$1000.

Female - domestic born, 10 weeks old, \$600.

Female - 2 years old, 30 pounds, good disposition, \$300.

PUMAS:

Two males/two females - domestic born, 15 weeks old.

(Conservation Continued)

important to reproduction, apparently are induced when they are fed live animals.

Now all of these things have to be tried. We can't just have someone doing a little bit of observation over there and someone else doing a little bit of breeding over here, as it has been done in the past. That is not going to work. It has to be a big, grand effort. And until someone does it, my guess is that you won't have any real success with ocelot breeding. Furthermore, if people are going to go on owning pet ocelots, I think they will have to do this. That, I guess, is my ultimate statement, my basic presentation.

I have left out a lot of things I could have said, but I am going to let Bill York talk to you now, and then we can have a sort of open, free-for-all discussion, and maybe answer some specific questions.

The following are excerpts from Bill York's speech as transcribed by John Jackson, A.C.E.C.

1. Randy has already said many of the things I was intending in reference to the study of the animals in a wild state. I'd even like to take it a stage farther. I think basically one ought to disapprove of keeping all wild animals, particularly small felines as pets.
2. While wild cats are not meant to be kept at the whim of mankind as an adjunct to somebody's household, I believe that unless someone is perfectly capable and competent of understanding the animal and keeping it well, no one should be allowed to have one.
3. [The exhibit of a wretched looking pet margay at this point and Bill's explanatory remarks cannot be adequately represented in this media and since no photographs exist which could satisfactorily convey the condition of the animal, this whole section has been omitted. It seems enough to say that seeing the animal and listening to Bill's commentary produced the intended emotional impact. The cat was an extreme example of the miserable treatment many animals receive at the hands of pet shop owners and pet owners completely devoid of the requisite knowledge which should accompany every purchase of a live animal.]
4. There is no such thing as a good pet ocelot or margay, the rightful place for that pet animal is running around in the jungles of South America. However, we must face certain facts, people, you yourselves, keep wild felines as pets. And this is something which obviously is going to continue while there are such animals obtainable; however, as Randy pointed out, that may not be for very much longer. One day there might be no spotted cats left in South America to import, so if I can support Randy's views, it will be very necessary to establish some sort of breeding area in America which is designed so as to produce spotted cats for pet owners and possibly even zoos, because zoos today have not been very successful in producing these animals either.
5. One of the main causes of death, mortality, in these cats and the horrible deformity you see in that particular animal is a total lack of knowledge of dietary requirements or health requirements of any of these wild animals. How many of you people have large veterinary bills? How many of you know your veterinarian altogether too well? That last veterinarian bill for that margay was \$77.00 and that was just one of several. I guess a lot of you would not like to think of the veterinary bills you pay. I can tell you now that 90% of veterinary bills are caused through bad diet right from when the animal is placed in the home. There seems to be a kind of hang-up on small cats. It's believed that they can only live on pieces of fresh liver or little bits of red beef or bits of red horse meat or chicken parts. In fact, some people a little bit more enlightened actually buy prepared pet food. Now these are an advance upon red meat and chicken parts, but even so they are not totally adequate. Many things are required other than a plain good diet. You

can feed the most magnificent diet to an animal, but unless you fulfill some of his other requirements for space and sunshine and fresh air and light, then that good diet cannot be utilized.

6. How many of you have adequate outside compounds for animals? I'm not just saying you people personally. I am talking about pet owners now as a whole. You are representative of pet owners. There are many people in the Los Angeles area who keep them in apartment houses, their animal simply never see the light of day. They end up going for a run on Sunday afternoon perched on the back seat of the motor car, looking through the smog laden air the same as we do.
7. How many of you have ever taken your animals round to the veterinarian to have a blood test done on them to find out what their blood chemistry is, to find out if they are deficient in something which he can replace.
8. To get back to the point of breeding in captivity, it will be very necessary to realize that good-will is not enough, sentiment is not enough, expertise is enough, that will do it; but you have to get it and there are very few people who are able to do it, because there is simply not enough evidence available. So I do believe that it's incumbent on all of you, everybody in the world that keeps ocelots and margays somehow or other to contribute towards research to not only determine the behavior of these animals in the wild state, their habits and what they require in the wilds, but research into what their nutritional requirements are in captivity to a point which will enable them to breed and lack of breeding is most times inadequate diet, inadequate accommodations and inadequate social life. That is about all I wanted to say.

EDITED SUCCEEDING DISCUSSION

QUESTION: Is this Lion Country Safari as close to natural as you can get or would the ocelots, etc., be adverse to breeding in this area just as they would in somebody's backyard?

BILL: I've never tried breeding ocelots as such. I am unable to tell you.

QUESTION: In other words, if you duplicate here their natural habitat, would they breed?

BILL: I believe they would.

RANDY: I think once we've duplicated what we know of their natural habitat, they would breed quite well, there would be no problem.

BILL: It would be necessary, of course, to get correct sex and age ratios.

RANDY: One function of this proposed breeding project would be to determine how they respond to densities of other ocelots and margays. And whether or not for instance the female must be away from the male until she comes into heat.

QUESTION: It was previously mentioned that dietary requirements are a necessary and critical first step in survival. You know in all the literature we've plowed through there isn't anything which is finally conclusive or agrees with itself, let alone agreeing with other writers on the subject. Where would you suggest that this information might be gotten?

BILL: I believe that if you are going to wait for information to appear in any publication you are going to wait a long time. The only way you can do it is for each of you to contribute to some sort of research of your own. However, there are certain basic things that are known about other felines which would be a good starting point for ocelots and margays and so on. In fact, I could keep margays very happily. I am sure that my diet would be adequate, but they probably have some requirements I'm not aware of. I think you'd have to find that out for yourselves.

QUESTION: I'd like to know why they don't keep ocelots and margays generally in zoos and how large a compound does it take for an ocelot or a margay to be happy and adjusted in his environment.

RANDY: Well, again we don't really know. And there are two ways of answering those questions: field studies which will soon begin and a breeding project. Now sometimes you may get the feeling from sitting out in the wilds that you have to have all these requirements to breed in captivity, this may not always be the case, that's why both are required. But, by starting a breeding project and applying what knowledge we have from the wilds, then we can make the manipulations, vary the area sizes and find out what is the least we can get by with, but still works.

QUESTION: Can't an ocelot in an apartment or a house be happy?

RANDY: My guess would be that is a decision which you as an individual owner would have to make. My guess is that in the long run the compromise is you will have to have animals which are kept as breeders and breeders only and these will supply those which are used as pets. The problem is that once you make the animal a pet and keep it as a pet, you can't expect to put it in a good breeding situation where it will very quickly revert to wildness and where you can't handle it and then after it breeds take it back out of there and expect it to adjust quickly to your apartment. So my guess is that the final compromise, although we can't predict for sure, will be: we'll have a group of animals which form a breeding nucleus, and these provide then the animals which we keep as pets. From the pet owner's point of view it seems to me that is the final solution.

QUESTION: What is the effect-of noise pollution on the animals, i.e. low flying military aircraft.

BILL: The animals are adjusting and in many areas are completely adjusted to the noise. (Bill later related to John Jackson that many animals including the cats come out and lie on the landing strips at the Nairobi Airport and do not seem the least bit disturbed by the approach of incoming aircraft.)

QUESTION: I have a 2-1/2 year old African lioness who thinks she is people. How would she adjust, or could she, to life in an animal compound.

BILL: We encounter this problem frequently. We often have to take animals off the hands of people who have kept them and they've become more of a nuisance than a blessing. We have difficulty integrating them into a certain pride.

QUESTION: Eventually do they get acquainted?

RANDY: That was part of my research for a year at the Florida Lion Country following some of the animals, for instance the ones Jack Paar brought over. You've probably heard about those and although they did eventually integrate, it took a very, very long time. It was very tedious for them, because as you pointed out, they didn't know they were lions. And they were outcasts for a long time, only when they finally came into heat and were pursued by males did they start adjusting and being accepted by the pride, but even then it was rather difficult. And with males it is even more difficult, apparently. They are the ones that become the most dangerous, because they don't have the inhibitions towards people and once they get turned with the lions they become very nervous, under stress and they're very dangerous customers.

RANDY: How many people here believe they should be active as part of this group initiating a breeding program for ocelots and margays? Is there anyone who doesn't think this group should be involved in that? (All agreed that they should be involved.)

BOB: We have one member here who has probably had more success in ocelot breeding than anyone else in the country, Art Matthews.

ART: It is a long process, over a period of about 17 years. And we had a compatible male and female. The male came from Ecuador, at about 6 weeks old and

when it was about a year and a half old we got in touch with this Artol, you probably have seen him on TV. He told me he had a female in his compound in Louisiana and we imported her and brought her home. It was love at first sight. I think it was a year and a half later, we went out to the ocelot house in our backyard, we heard a funny sound there. The female ocelot tried to get our dog's puppies in the house there to nurse them or something. We went in and there was a baby ocelot. I called my vet and he said, "For God's sake, get it out of there! Hurry!" The male was in there too. By the time I had gotten out to the house again he had killed it and eaten it. So I figured, boy, that's the end of the road. I separated them and about an hour later she gave birth to another one, a female. This was the beginning of 16 ocelots, we had over a period of 12 years. And we moved from Anaheim, to Crestline, Riverside, back to Orange, but I think the secret of the whole thing: we kept their same house, we didn't try to keep it clean, we didn't destroy the scent that was in there. They had their same location, the same people took care of them at all times and the kittens when they are tiny. When you picked them up in your hands, they would hiss at you. The mother never objected; she was tame at all times. We found that we had to keep the male away for about six weeks and after they were six weeks old, the male would baby-sit, wash them and care for them.

RANDY: Could I comment on your observations? First of all I would like to say that you and everyone else that's ever had any kind of success, even if you've only had one born, you should keep very accurate personal notes on everything you saw at the time, so that these things can be pooled in time and someone can start seeing the special ingredients in the successful cases that were in common. Secondly, I would also say that he may be doing just the right things and if it will work for everybody, we don't know. On the other hand, I wouldn't be too hopeful that if you duplicate everything he does you are going to have success. I'll tell you why. Take cheetahs for example. There is one pair of cheetahs kept in a zoo, the Whipsnade Zoo in England, which has been breeding very well. Now that pair is an exceptional pair, most likely. As far as we are told, it is not some special diet or special space or anything else. They just happen to be an exception. All the other cheetahs that have been bred in captivity and there are very, very few, have not really bred successfully. The mother abandoned the young, she killed them, or something like that happened. So what I am saying is that out of thousands of cheetahs which have been kept, one pair is very compatible - she gets fertilized and every time she gives birth to the cubs, she takes good care of them. That doesn't necessarily mean that if we do everything the Whipsnade Zoo does we'll have success. We have to find the kind of requirements which the majority of the animals will respond to optimally.

ART: I think I was very fortunate in having a compatible pair.

RANDY: Well I think you are doing the right thing, by keeping them in the same house, not destroying the scent. I think those are all basic sorts of things, the kind you would expect would work. I think you are on the right track.

ART: Three or four days before the female had her kittens we kept close records of the gestation period - she becomes very aggressive, she drive the male away. Apparently in the jungle she drive him away for about six weeks. And another peculiar thing we found, the reason the male wants to kill the cubs - that throws the female back in season (when she loses her cubs) right away. This is a rather selfish attitude.

RANDY: It does throw the female back in season, but you have to realize this is true of almost any species. Even the female lion who raises her cubs in the pride, for the first six weeks to two months she has them they are completely away from the other

(Concluded on Pg. 5)

Tippy Two Toes - A Conclusion



by Jane Saglinbene
Maryland

In the September Newsletter, I wrote a story about my ocelot kitten, Tippy Two Toes, and about his cortical blindness. Cortical blindness brought many problems for Tippy, which I had hoped through time and love he could overcome. It has taken me much time and a lot of thought to be able to sit down and write Tippy's last few months with me; but I had promised the editor and club, I would keep them posted on Tippy's progress.

Tippy's cortical blindness seemed to be more and more easy for Tippy to adjust to as long as he had his security, my finger to suck on and my voice to comfort him. I decided to take Tippy to the September Florida Chapter Meeting. I took a large compartment on the train for him to be with me and room for him to play. I got on the train at 12:30 in the afternoon and carried Tippy in a large cage to which he had gotten used to the week before. In fact, at home, he played in the cage so much he didn't always want to get out of it. So, the cage was no strange thing to him - he loved it.

As soon as I got on the train, I took him out and he ran, ate, and played with me all day. Although when the porters brought my dinner to me, he let them know he, too, was hungry. They wasted no time in leaving. He was only six and one-half months old weighing sixteen pounds; but the porters kept saying "What kind of tiger or leopard is that?" I just chuckled to myself, and told them he was an ocelot and a very lovable cat. I fed Tippy his chicken necks, Zu/Preem, and part of my dinner. Then he finally settled down on the bed with me and fell asleep sucking my finger and purring. I decided to put him back in his cage while he was sleeping, because I knew if he fell off of the bed during the night, it might startle him. This would result in his entering one of his panic fits. He slept quietly for two hours, when I was awakened by a loud banging noise coming from inside his cage. Tippy had been set off in another seige. He was jumping, hissing, a deep throaty growl, diarrhea, and was cutting himself all over the cage. He was a pitiful raging mess. **I knew I could not take him out of the cage;** as I would never get him back into it, so I talked to him for three hours. But he was beyond reach - he just didn't know me. I was sick with worry, as he would settle down for three or four minutes and start up again into another fit that would look to any unknowing person like a rabid animal. The panic seiges lasted from 2:00 A.M. until 1:30 P.M. when I arrived in Ft. Lauderdale. I sat up with him all night, praying for a God send miracle, hoping he would fall asleep from

exhaustion. He never let up for more than five minutes at a time - and the fits lasted all night. The little thing had nerves of steel; he was still fighting when I walked off of the train in Ft. Lauderdale.

I ran to a phone booth and called Tippy's vet in Ft. Lauderdale, Dr. Swiezy, and was in his office in fifteen minutes with all my suitcases. I hadn't had a minutes sleep and had cried what I thought the longest cry in history. Even then I walked into Dr. Swiezy's office with swollen eyes still full of tears. Dr. Swiezy and his assistants could not hold Tippy down to take his temperature, so we let him loose on the floor while I tried to talk to him; but he was still beyond reach and reality. He would start to come to me when I talked, but one little noise, like someone coughing, would set him off into another fit. I know any normal person not knowing Tippy's condition would have at first sight tried to kill him or have him put to sleep, thinking he was rabid or turning wild or some such story. I knew then, it had to be something involving the brain, and felt it was getting worse.

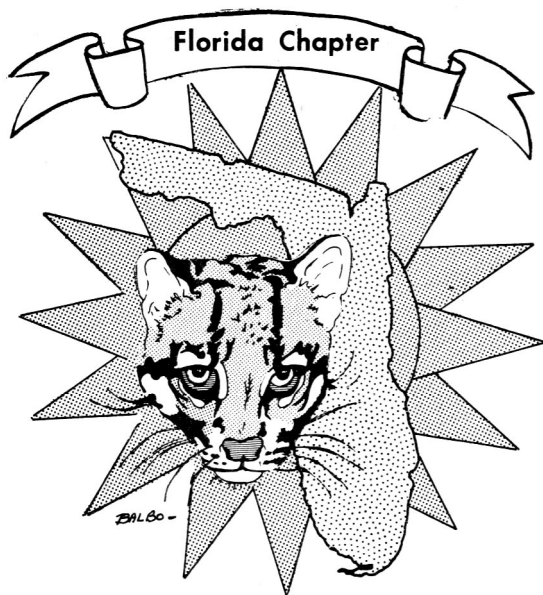
Tippy was finally given a tranquilizer and I was able to bring him home five hours later.

Although he was shaky, I was hoping that all this was brought on from strange noises, places, etc., on the train and was looking forward to having my baby home again. I came back to my house in Ft. Lauderdale, where Tippy had played for many weeks in May before I returned to Maryland June 1, 1972, with him. He even seemed to remember the house by the way he missed the corners of the walls, went straight to his room, and the like. The next two days he seemed to get better and followed me around the house like a shadow. He even got mad because I was mopping one of the bedroom floors and the wind blew the door shut, separating him from me. He walked all over the house calling me and then just stood at the door calling and fussing until I opened the door and picked him up, letting him know his security was right there.

The third day things did not look good. Tippy was playing in the livingroom and the click of the bathroom door startled him when I came out. He was having another seige. I layed on my stomach for one-half hour talking to him - but it was like a click in his head - and he was beyond reach again. Rather than let him hurt himself or get any worse, I had a friend help me throw a bedspread over him and slid him into his room. The seizures continued through the night and I was ready for a nervous breakdown. He was so pitiful when he had the fits, and I couldn't help him.

It got to the point where Tippy had to be kept in one bedroom alone all the time. I would go in, feed, water and try to play with him. **When I walked in, he would come running to me and sit in my lap and start eating. Out of nowhere he would rear back and start growling, hissing and go into another seizure.** I couldn't even play with him anymore. So I finally decided it was beyond my control and took Tippy back to Dr. Swiezy's office for x-rays, tests, and observation. For three weeks Dr. Swiezy did everything possible for Tippy Two Toes. I left Tippy at his office for three weeks, as I had to return to Maryland to make arrangements concerning my job and college. I called Dr. Swiezy everyday from Maryland to find out all test results.

The first few days Tippy continued to have fits; then Dr. Swiezy put him on epileptic pills (listed in the drug list) for four days during which Tippy seemed to get better. **He didn't have one seige for four days on those pills.** I had my hopes up, thinking I could give Tippy two epileptic pills a day and no more fits. The fifth day Tippy had gone into more fits, which continued for a few days until he had one bad seizure that knocked him down both physically



MEETING REPORT Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter held its meeting on Sunday, November 12 at Robert Baudy's Rare Feline Breeding Compound at Center Hill, Florida. As usual there was a large gathering of members and guests, numbering close to 115 people.

Susie Kindt met each person that arrived to make sure they had signed the release forms before entering the Compound. All releases will be kept on file by the secretary for future meetings.

Robert's Compound is beautiful, with large oak trees and lots of animals. When we arrived there was already a large crowd, mostly around the young babies on display; 2 baby ocelots - leopards (different ages) and a pair of beautiful jaguars only 5 days old. All are being hand raised. There was also one baby Barbary ape that objected to the crowd with a very big noise, and several more young cats in cages close by.

Members and guests gathered in small groups visiting and wandering around looking at all the animals. Robert was the perfect host, trying to answer everyone's questions (there were millions), supervise the Bar-B-Q dinner, and welcoming each person that arrived. Ken decided to dispense with a business meeting this time as it was impossible to get everyone to remain in one place.

Around 2:30 dinner was served - delicious Bar-B-Q - baked beans - potato salad - and lots of cakes coffee and cold drinks. There were plenty of tables scattered under the large oaks, and everyone enjoyed the lunch and just talking cats. Jean had a table set up displaying Pepper Notes, decals and Christmas Cards, but she was so busy collecting for the dinner she left an envelope for members to put their money in if they decided to buy anything (the honor system) - worked out ok too!

After lunch Robert called everyone together for a guided tour around the compound. He gave a nice talk at each area about the different species and answered more questions from everyone. It was really interesting, and although I tried, I didn't write down all he said. Just a few highlights: Tortoise - weight 550 lbs several mates but no babies as yet. He's fencing off an acre of land in hopes they will produce young as they have done in Hawaii.

S. Lynx: Known as man killers, usually attacking the face and throat. Although spotted, in the Northern States they will turn snow white in Winter. In Fla. will molt but not change color. The young, if hand raised make good pets, but the ones raised by the mother are very wild.

Colombian Jaguars: Born at the compound, very light in color. They were born snow white with spots, but turned spotted at 3 months. They carry black genes, their mother was black, father spotted. (Beautiful)

2 Baby Bengal Tigers

1 Young leopard - also carries black genes.

S. Tiger: only 240 in the world - only 20 left in the wilds of Siberia. This is the largest cat on earth. We will probably see the disappearance of this species in our life time (next 40 years). The true S. tiger breeds once a year. 47 cubs were born at the compound. In the wild 15% of their diet is wild pigs. They require lost of fat in their diet when kept in captivity.

Tropical tigers: Breed year round and need a lean diet.

8 African Lions: Being trained for act (young).

Black Jaguars: Probably the rarest sub-species of all large cates. Number only 13 specimens in world collection. Robert's compound owns 5 black jaguars and is one of the only 2 known world breeding sources of the species!

Serval: A very pretty cat - comes from the same area as the cheetah, makes very good pet if hand raised - makes no noise.

Ocelots: (12) nice breeding pens.

Clouded Leopards

Red Throated Lemurs

Diana Monkey: Comes from Africa

Pumas (4) very pretty, young

Hyena: Saw one young one. Robert also has a breeding pair, but we couldn't see them as they are very shy animals and become upset when strangers approach. They could injure themselves by running into their enclosure. (I personally think they are quite beautiful)

Snow Leopard: There are 4 or 5 breeding pairs in captivity. They are found in Russia and China. They live in a germ free environment at temperatures 35 to 95 degrees below zero. They breed once a year the female being in season only 7 days. Gestation is 95 days and the cubs are born in February. When hand-raised the cubs require a thicker formula than other cats. They are too beautiful for words.

After the tour there was more visiting and questions, and as it was getting quite late, most people started leaving for home.

Our thanks to Robert for a wonderful afternoon and the wealth of information we received. Next meeting is January. Members will be notified.

Best Wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring each and everyone good health and lots of happiness.

Sadie Douglas
Corr. Sec.



MEETING REPORT

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH
(Friendship)

November, 1972

The November meeting of the Friendship Branch was held at Angleton, Texas with Walter and Lois Marshall as hosts. Of course, it must be pointed out that Ronnie, the true host gave his permission for everyone to visit him.

After it seemed that everyone was present that was going to make it, the meeting was called to order by Walter Marshall. With the usual warm welcome to old members and new friends, it was time to get down to business.

One of the top priorities in any club is naturally money. Dues were collected from all members, prorated back to the last time paid. This way, it is easier to keep track as all members now pay at the same time. Of course, there were some members not present at this meeting, so all of you will receive a notice stating how much your dues will be.

We received the thanks of the National Club for the fine job done at the first convention in Dallas. Everyone worked hard to make it a success and should justly be proud.

The raffle that has become one of the high points of our meetings was then held. Two very nice gifts were made available and the response can only be termed as "great." All monies received go into our branch treasury which has grown considerably since the raffles were started.

The site of the meeting was at a private park, (beautiful too), a few miles from the Marshall residence. A magnificent bar-b-que was spread before us with Walter and family doing the honors. We must not forget Lois Story and her great baked beans. They hit the spot with all that good meat. I know everyone gained more pounds than they would like to admit.

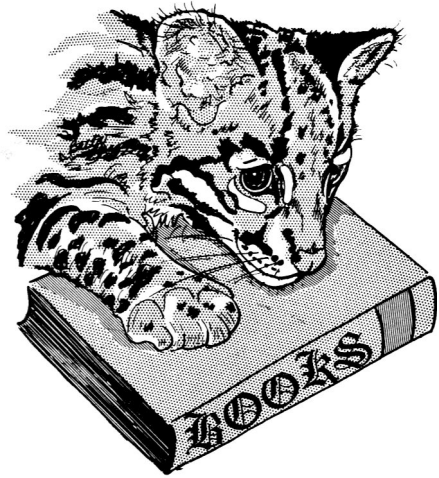
After much visiting and catching up on all the latest news, we all started our respective ways. We left with the feeling that we were just a little more able to care for the animals we love so much.

Respectfully submitted,

C.M. Leake
Louisiana

DUES

Because of the increased costs involved in the printing and distribution of the Newsletters and the origination of new Long Island Ocelot Club sponsored programs, examples - Frequent updated Veterinarian Lists, Placement Program, Domestic Breeding and Certification Programs (now in formation stage), an increase in dues was voted by the membership at the National Convention, August 12, 1972. The new annual membership dues of \$10 will become effective Jan. 1, 1973.



PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

THE WORLD'S CATS, VOL. I
ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

The proceedings of the First International Symposium on Ecology, Behavior and Conservation of the World's Cats, held March 15-17, 1971, and sponsored by World Wildlife Fund, Lion Country Safari and National Parks and Conservation Association.

400pp., illus.

Randall L. Eaton, Editor
Publisher: World Wildlife Safari, Winston, Oregon,
and The Institute for the Study and Conservation
of Endangered Species (ISCES), Athens, Georgia.

Cost: \$7.00 (U.S.), plus \$0.25 for postage and handling. Check or money order must accompany order. Proceeds to be donated to ISCES for research in the biology and conservation of wild felids.

Orders: To: World Wildlife Safari
P.O. Box 600
Winston, OR 97496

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I. North American Cats

- Ecology of the Lynx in Interior Alaska
by Peter M. Berrie
- Population Dynamics and Behavior of the Bobcat
by E. E. Provost, et al.
- Status, Conservation and Management of the Cougar
in the United States
by R.L. Eaton

II. Big Cats of Africa and Asia

- Spacing and Predation in the Ceylon Leopard
by N. Muckenhirn and
J. F. Eisenberg
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by F. Eloff
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III. Smaller Cats

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- Reproductive Biology, Mating Behavior and
Captive Management of Cheetahs
by R. L. Eaton and
S. Craig

- 17-1-14 V. Conservation Priorities
Spotted Cats and the Fur Trade
by N. Myers

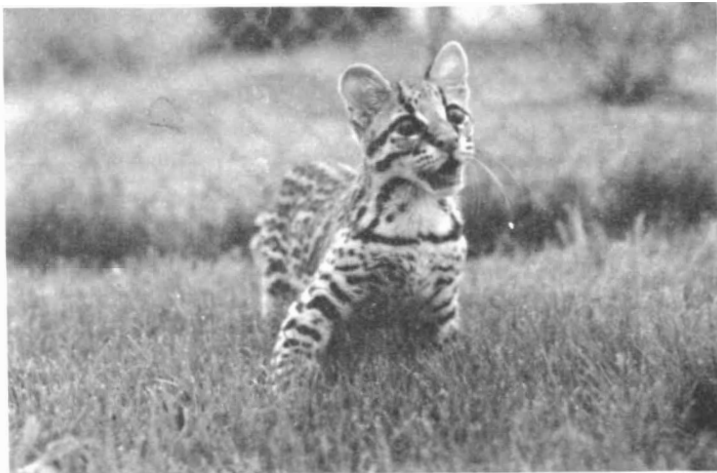
(Tippy Two Toes)

and mentally. He went into a semi-coma, being fed intravenously. Finally, he went into a coma, paralyzed and developed a respiratory infection in which pneumonia was approaching.

All hope was lost and I could not put Tippy through any more suffering. Dr. Swiezy and his assistants said there was no hope - so I returned to Florida and had Tippy Two Toes put to sleep.

The results from Dr. Swiezy's tests at first seemed very promising until a later x-ray showed a gray spot on his skull. Dr. Swiezy explained to me that the brain is supposed to be floating in a fluid. The gray spot on the x-ray was a part of Tippy's brain that was stuck to his skull - result, brain damage. It was in the progressive state, so it would only get worse. I suppose that is why Tippy's seizures became increasingly frequent. Dr. Swiezy said Tippy's brain was formed that way while he was still inside his mother's body.

The results of Tippy's tests were: 1. Urine - normal except for a trace of protein, 2. White blood count - 13,500, 3. Packed cell volume - 40%, 4. Blood urea nitrogen - 23mg. Drugs used: B Complex, Dilantin, Phenobarbital, Valium, Robaxin, Lactated Ringer's Solution, Regime.



On October 8, 1972, Tippy Two Toes was put to sleep. I felt as well as Dr. Swiezy and his assistants that everything possible has been done to help him and to find the cause for these, once mild, panic fits that became more progressive and terrifying for the little baby. At least I knew the cause, and was glad I had him the short period of time I did. The five months we were together were the happiest five months of my life. **Had he been in his natural jungle surroundings,** could never have survived at all. This is one case where "the strong survive and the weak die" did not apply. **Tippy survived seven and one-half months,** despite brain damage and blindness.

I am writing this with the hope that perhaps someone may benefit from the information; but at the same time I hope no one in the club ever has to encounter this heartbreaking experience. I would like to thank Catherine, the editors, the Hatfields, Don Pieochie, and all of the many people that were involved with Tippy and the many people who became involved with Tippy Two Toes through my first story in the September Newsletter and that never got to meet the little fellow.

If anyone is interested in writing to me concerning Tippy or exotics I may be a little late in answering; but I promise to answer.

NEW BRANCH FORMING

Also, I plan to start a chapter of LIOC in the spring for Maryland and nearby states. For information please contact me at 2004 Oakwood Street, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland 20031 or 1317 N.E. 17th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33304.

(Mid-Atlantic Report Cont.)

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare **had** requested had requested LIOC's help with donations of tissue samples for study. The address and phone number to call was made available to our members and copies of these are being sent to our veterinarians.

I had received a bulletin from the "National Coalition Against Poisoning of Wildlife" and they requested that we write to the Department of the Interior and insist that the Clouded Leopard be placed on the Endangered Species list. At this point it is not and should be!

A motion was brought before the members present to hold Special Elections on several newly created posts. The following people and positions were incorporated into the branch administration.

Bob Largmann was elected Public Relations Officer to act as liaison between any official department or group and the individual cat owners in connection with problems in keeping our pets.

Aldo Alzapadie was elected Club Photographer

Henrietta Largmann was elected Publicity Officer to ensure that the branch is represented as a conservation-minded organization and always in a good light whenever the news media picks up our meetings, functions, etc.

Dee Stevenson requested that we find out where in the U.S. we can and cannot travel with our cats. It is known that several states require special certificates or other paper work. (A letter has since been drafted to be sent to each state government.)

We brought up the fact that Mid-Atlantic States Branch does not have a logo. Several ideas were presented to the membership and rough drafts should be available for examination shortly.

Several members had sent to A.C.E.C. for their Newsletter under the impression that it was to be published every two months. After the July issue they have not received any. No one knew why so a letter will be sent by the branch to find out when the next issue is due.

Rather than having a regular meeting in January it was decided to have a dinner instead. It is to be held on Sunday, January 7, 1973. Members will be notified by mail as to the exact time, place, and cost. **The dinner will be open** to members and guests. There will be entertainment. No children or cats, please.

Our next meeting for club business will be held on March 11. It will be again held at:

Dr. Ray McPeck's
Fredon Animal Hospital
Rt. 94
Fredon, New Jersey

Time will be noon and after. Fare will be pot luck.

Ray's telephone number is (201) 383-2033. Call him for directions **EVERYONE WELCOME---Bring your cats!!!**

Or if you need information give us a call at (201) 289-7524.

Respectively Submitted,

Ellen Bendl and Jim Nolan
Coordinators for Mid-Atlantic
States Branch

Updating the Veterinarian List

An asterisk (*) indicates the listing is new with this issue.

Please add the following veterinarians to the April, 1972 List.

CALIFORNIA

Charles Berger, D.V.M.
Campus Veterinary Clinic
1807 Grove Street
Berkeley, California 94709

*James Harris, D.V.M.
1961 Mountain Blvd.
Oakland, California 94611
(415) 339-8600

KANSAS

Galen Bird, D.V.M.
Metcalf South Animal Clinic
9639 Metcalf
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
(913) 381-9100

NEW YORK

Michael H. Milts, D.V.M.
133 East 39th Street
New York, New York 10016
(212) 889-7778

OHIO

*John E. Stoughton, D.V.M.
Westerville Veterinary Clinic
5965 Westerville Road
Westerville, Ohio 43081

OREGON

John Harpster, D.V.M.
Pacific Veterinary Hospital
9705 SW Barbur Blvd.
Portland, Oregon 97206
(503) 246-3373

TEXAS

Joe E. Cannon, D.V.M.
Parkway Animal Clinic
504 N. Carrier Parkway
Grand Prairie, Texas 75050
(214) 263-5011

WASHINGTON

James Foster, D.V.M.
5500 Phinney Avenue
North Seattle, Wash. 98103
(206) 633-1205
(For consulting purposes only)
Michael Phipps, D.V.M.
225 112th St. N.E.
Bellevue, Washington 98004
(206) 454-2303

OREGON

Ralph Perkins, D.V.M.
Nehalem Veterinary Clinic
Nehalem, Oregon 97131
(503) 368-5182

CANADA

Ross Major, D.V.M.
Anderson Animal Hospital
60 Marion Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Please delete the following veterinarians from the List.

CALIFORNIA

D.E. Didden, D.V.M.
Carroll Hare, D.V.M.
Lee Williams, D.V.M.
W.E. Mottram, D.V.M.
Robert R. Robinson, D.V.M.
R. C. Vierheller, D.V.M.

TEXAS

Dr. Reeves

WASHINGTON

James W. Foster, D.V.M.

New Members

1726-1172 Gail & James Benicaso, East Brunswick, New Jersey
1723-1172 Dr. & Mrs Jeffery H. Black, Shawnee, Oklahoma
1740-1172 Richard Bodhaine, Yucaipa, Cal.
1727-1172 Sandra Brown, Easton, Md.
1731-1172 Dave & Glenda Davis, Liberty, Texas
1743-1172 Kathleen S. DeSalvo, Seattle, Wash.
1738-1172 Chick & Lois Douthet, Abilene, Tex
1732-1172 Keith A. Evans, Burton, Ohio
1739-1172 Mr & Mrs Doug Fletcher, Delta, B.C. Canada
1742-1172 Glen Haven Farms, Leesburg, Fla.
1724-1172 Edward J. Goodwin, East Islip, N.Y.
1728-1172 Mr & Mrs Earl Hammond, Gillette, N.J.
1725-1172 Aldegundo Garza de Leon, Satalillo, Coahuila, Mexico
1722-1172 John C. Liles, Plano, Texas
1736-1172 Fred Mathews, Fairhaven, Mass
1729-1172 James & Louise Neary, East Hartford, Conn.
1734-1172 Mr & Mrs Pat Russell, Gretna, La.
1741-1172 Gayle Schaecker, Boring, Oregon
1737-1172 Peter Schweitzer, Cambridge, Mass.
1730-1172 Bob & Sheila Steele, Atlanta, Ga.
1733-1172 Randall W. Thomason, Seattle, Wash.
1735-1172 Ronald K. Tucker, Clermont, Fla.
1721-1172 Vivian Twigger, Portland, Oregon

AMONG THE NEWCOMERS

OCELOTS

TAJBA, a 57 pound boy living with Gayle Schaecker; SHEBA, a Canadian lady belonging to the Fletchers; SHEVA, another lady shares her home with Lois & Chick Douthet; EL TIGRE, an Equadorian male, living with Pat Russell & family and SOCRATES, a domestic born kit newly arrived at the Tuckers.

OTHERS

CASEY, a male leopard roaming Glen Haven Farms; CARINO, a male jaguar living South of the border with Aldegundo De Leon; a really good jaguarundi named STINKPOT (he had gas as a kitten), shares his home with Jeff Black & Family; FRECKLES, a lady bobcat belonging to John Liles; TOM TOM, a boy puma living with Bob & Sheila Steele; and PANDORA, a lady margay calling the Benicaso family hers.

Recent Arrivals

Pepper Perry, Memphis, Tennessee, announces that on October 12th, her margay Princess gave birth to a baby girl. Topaz, the newborn, may be the first female domestic born margay. We don't know of any others. If you do know of any other female domestic born margays please contact us.

Pepper also tells that her growing family has again increased with the addition of Jade, a domestic born ocelot. (Birth - October 18th) Jade was obtained from Charles and Sadie Douglas's breeding farm in Orlando, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Erik Stevenson's family has also grown larger with the addition of Mala, a domestic born girl ocelot. Mala, born August 1st, arrived from Ken and Jean Hatfield's breeding farm on September 29th.