

NEWSLETTER

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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB
1454 Fleetwood Drive E.
Mobile, Alabama 36605

Volume 21 - Number 1
January/February 1977

LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



PRECIOUS, a six week old "Marlot" is shown here with owner Barbara Brock. Precious is a LIOC first - her sire is a domestic born margay and her mother is a domestic born ocelot. For the full story see page 3.



**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 time of their meeting reports due to the above deadline.

Please

I NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THE NEWSLETTER GREAT!

Send those cards & letters to:

Long Island Ocelot Club
 1454 Fleetwood Dr. E.
 Mobile, Alabama 36605

We'd love to hear from you.

Shirley

Moving?

To avoid any interruption of service and Newsletter delivery if you should move, send as soon as you know the details, your name, new address, old address and the date of the move to our Membership Secretary:

Shelly Starns
 P.O.Box 99542
 Tacoma, Wa. 98499

Please send all applications & membership renewals directly to Shelly for fast service.

Send all Newsletter and related material to the Editor.

IT'S A MARLOT



The cast of characters are as follows: Cha-Cha, the ocelot mother, Macho, the margay father and Precious the baby Marlot.

Between 6:00 and 6:30 AM on the morning of September 10th, Cha Cha presented us with her kitten...a darling surprisingly vocal little girl marlot. **She was only** a few ounces of movement in a slick spotted coat and the first kitten of a margay and ocelot mating.

We called Mr. Douglas about a month before the kitten was born and told him we thought ChaCha might be pregnant, but what signs should we look for? He told us the only outward sign we could find was the pinkness of her nipples. She kept her shape beautifully. We had discussed the possibility of a margay/ocelot mating with Mr. Douglas and Mr. Hatfield - both fantastic and well known cat breeders....and the Godparents to our marlot child. Anyway, Mr. Douglas said he had been trying to get them to crossbreed for years without any luck...I don't think he really thought there was any chance, but he was surprised when I called him about 6:31 AM and said "What do I do now?"

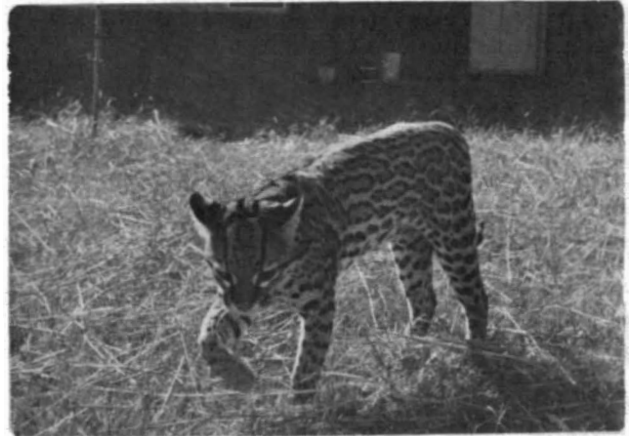
To be perfectly honest, we didn't do a thing to encourage this mating. We got our margay and ocelot when they were very young - only six weeks old and let them take up housekeeping together. They have however, never seen one of their own kind, only each other and they are very close in size as Macho is about 16 pounds and Cha Cha a very small ocelot at about 18 pounds. **We** feel that one of the conditions most conducive to this mating was the fact that we have a very large walled back yard and the cats can play in the yard and trees and spend a great deal of time outdoors. During the hot Georgia summer days, the back porch was kept open for them and they could go in and out at will, and if it was warm enough at night they were often left out to roam in the dark...not that they need to practice their tiger-in-the-grass act as our cats are fully equipped with a full set of instincts. Of course in the fall and winter they only get to be out during the warmth of the day and at night must return to their own room in the basement. **Our cats do not like extremes** of heat or cold.

Both are in excellent health and like their routines. They are fed a diet of Zupreme sprinkled liberally with Vionate and calcium and each get at least one chicken wing a day. Cha Cha thinks that happiness is a chicken wing...at least she did til the baby came along. She is the best of mothers and is so happy in her work. She walks around talking to her baby, licking her and that baby is the only one that would dare take a chicken wing away from Cha Cha and she does it with impunity.

Our baby, sickening as it sounds, is called Precious. She got her name because everyone that kept coming around kept saying "Isn't she precious?" and she is. Steve, our son, comes to the door of the basement when he comes home and calls her "Come Precious!" and the little thing is running up the stairs. She follows everyone around like a puppy and in the evening when we are with the cats she will crawl up on a lap and take a nap

while Cha Cha sits on the floor and snoozes with a watchful eye. That is something else; Cha Cha is a paper tiger...she would grown at anyone who came near her or the baby at first, but would allow members of the family to take the baby from the box and hold her.

Actually, Precious is as smart as can be...her mother too, as her mother paper trained her and weened her by the time she was 8 weeks old. We put food down for her, bits of chicken mixed with a gooey mixture of egg yolk, Zupreme and milk, at seven weeks and I guess she had already decided she was ready for solids as within a



Mother Cha-Cha

week she was already on chicken wings. She now comes into the kitchen and will stand by the refrigerator til she gets her wing.

Her eyes opened when she was 19 days old, they are large, But I still can't definately say she has margay eyes. She does resemble both of her parents. Her rosettes are darker like the margay and her coat is golden but she has the ever so ping nose of her ocelot mother and the ocelot tail.

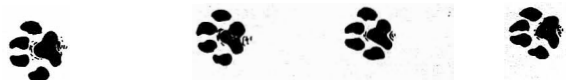
We are planning to sell our kitten when the right person comes along. I hope whoever takes her will attempt to breed her in the hopes of finding out more about the differences and likenesses of the two species. Besides that, we feel that we will have more marlots in the future as Macho has really got it and lives up to his name in every respect.

Thank all of you for your interest, that's all from Atlanta

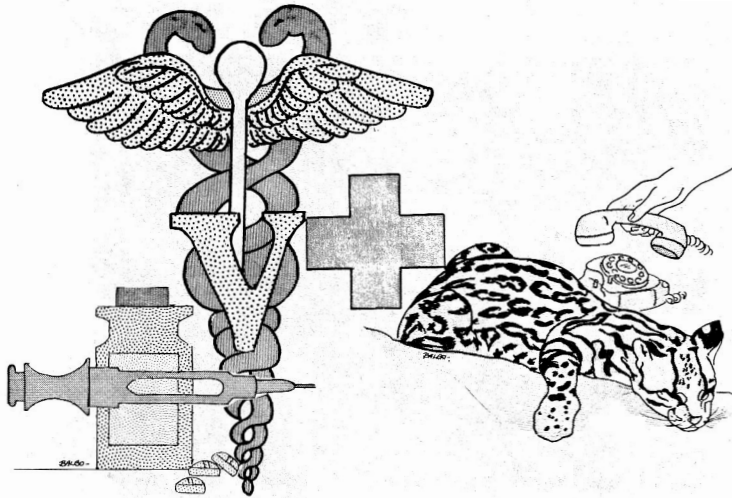
Barbara Brock
2235 Forest Glade Dr.
Stone Mountain, Ga. 30087



Papa Macho



EMERGENCY & FIRST AID PROCEDURES



This is a reprint of a Series of 6 articles first run in the 1968 Newsletters. At that time credit was given to Dr. F.L. Frye, D.V.M., the late Shirley Nelson, Lorelee Vigne, Catherine Cisin and John Eveland, by the authors James E. and Bonnie L. Maloney. We have had many requests for a repeat of this series. Since it was first printed additional information has been obtained. This information, not contained in the original text is included, but marked by an astrick (*). Some portions, no longer applicable have been deleted. However it is valuable knowledge that all who own exotics should have on hand as part of their working information on exotic cat care.

INTRODUCTION

An exotic cat owner may face an illness or injury to his cat at any time. Adverse situations can be accentuated due to ignorance, panic or a lack of preparation on the owner's part. These notes are intended to prevent such accentuation by providing a reservoir of basic information applicable in time of trouble.

Every attempt has been made to make this material accurate but errors of omission or commission are always possible and the written word is subject to interpretation. For these reasons, no person or organization connected with the writing or preparation of this material assumes any responsibility in connection with the use of information contained herein. In particular, nothing in these notes suggests or implies medical treatment by a pet owner. Medical treatment of an animal is a province rightfully reserved to a qualified veterinarian.

The theme of adequate preparation will recur throughout this presentation. The minutes saved by having the necessary equipment on hand, a veterinarian available and an emergency procedure thought out before the event are extremely valuable. Preparation which leads to early recognition of symptoms and which provides a comprehensive, accurate and relevant list of information for your veterinarian is the most important contribution you can make to the well-being of your animal.

BASIC GENERAL TECHNIQUES

You should have a set of general techniques to deal with the adverse aspects of cat ownership. In this section we present suggestions on a variety of situations with which you may be faced.

Lifting and Handling the Cat

Always wear a heavy jacket and heavy duty, flexible gloves when handling an ill cat. With these on, a single technique can be used with all cats up to

about sixty pounds. Have a dishtowel or cloth of similar size available. Back the cat into a corner as gently as possible and, by "boxing" with the cat, get him either to sit up or lie on his back. Then grasp him firmly around the rib cage as far up under this front legs as possible. (CAUTION - do not lift him by his front legs) Point your thumbs toward his head and quickly lift him clear of the floor with his hind-quarters dangling. Simultaneously, a second person flips the rolled dish towel around the cat's stomach and keeps him from jackknifing. The cat cannot use his claws or teeth effectively when in this position, but he is not immobile and cannot injure himself. However, he can be examined and treated. Obviously, this technique should not be used with a cat which has possible internal injuries.

Stretchers and Stretcher Lift

Situations requiring the use of a stretcher as a cat carrier usually also require that the animal's body be kept as motionless and as near its original position as possible. For this reason, use of a blanket or other non-rigid material for a stretcher is not recommended. If a conventional, collapsible stretcher is not available, a wide board, ironing board, table top or other rigid surface is best.

To lift the cat onto the stretcher, have one person kneel on either side of the animal. Both persons carefully slide their hands under the cat, spreading their fingers as widely as possible, alternating hand positions. A third person can hold the cat's head level during the lift. One person counts and on an agreed number, all persons lift while keeping the cat's body level and motionless. Lift the cat only high enough to clear the stretcher which is slipped under the cat. DO NOT carry the cat to the stretcher; instead, bring the stretcher to the cat. DO NOT try to straighten the cat out or to make him more comfortable. For larger cats of course, use more people.

External Heart Massage

Place the cat on his right side on a table or other firm surface. Tilt his body up about 45 degrees by placing a pad of rolled cloth under his rib cage, leaving his backbone resting on the table. Apply pressure directly over the heart with the heel of one hand in a firm, downward motion. Release the pressure with a sharp upward snap which lifts your hand off the chest. Repeat the cycle 60 to 80 times per minute. Be careful not to press hard enough to break ribs and watch for simultaneous respiratory failure. Further discussion of this technique is presented on page 121 of ESPECIALLY OCELOTS

Artificial Respiration

The mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration system is essentially the same for cats and humans. Place the cat on his back on a table with his head hanging over the edge. Open his mouth and clear it of any mucus or debris, flatten his tongue and pull it forward and out of his throat. Place one hand on the cat's rib cage between his forelegs and pull the cat's head down and back until resistance is felt with the other. This latter step is intended to open the air passage into the cat's lungs. Place your mouth over the cat's muzzle, covering his nose, and exhale into his mouth. You should feel his chest expand as you do so. If no chest expansion occurs, check again for obstructions, make sure the tongue is out of the way and pull the head back a little further. You can get an idea of the correct head posture by lifting your chin as high as possible while tilting your head back as far as you can.

When you feel chest expansion, remove your mouth and push gently down on the cat's rib cage, thus causing him to exhale. Continue the cycle at your own breathing rate until the cat recovers and/or bites your nose.

Control of Bleeding

Heavy bleeding ranks second only to heart stoppage in seriousness. Arterial bleeding is characterized by sprouting, bright red blood, while venous bleeding is steady in flow and darker in color. Both types of bleeding must be controlled as rapidly as possible.



The methods of controlling bleeding are: Direct pressure, restricting bands and as emergency means, tourniquets and direct closure of blood vessel. **Direct pressure** is just what the name implies -- a compress (gauze, under-shirt, towel, etc) is applied directly over the wound and firm pressure is applied with fingers. **The object** is to slow the blood flow and allow coagulation.

A restricting band is a wide band of cloth, rubber tubing belt or similar material wrapped tightly around the injured member between the wound and the heart. The objective is the same as that for direct pressure.

Tourniquets and direct closure are extreme measures to be used in extreme circumstances. A **Tourniquet** is a wide band of material with a square knot tied in the middle (the constricting knot). Place this constricting knot directly over a pressure point on the injured member. Exact pressure point locations can be obtained from your Veterinarian. In general, these are located between muscles on the inside of each leg near the animal's body.

Holding the constricting knot in place, bring the ends of the band around the injured member and tie them off snugly with a square knot directly opposite the constricting knot. Insert a flat protective pad under this second knot

Next, tie a second square knot about half an inch above the tie-off knot. Separate the two tourniquet strands between the knots and insert a stick, knife or other lever. Using this as a handle, twist the tourniquet tighter until the bleeding stops. **Hold the tourniquet** at that pressure until you reach the Veterinarian's.

If tourniquet or restricting band is precluded by the location of the wound and direct pressure fails, look for the severed vessel ends and, if you can reach them, pinch them shut with your fingers. Continue pinching the ends shut until you reach the Vet.

Giving Medicine

Giving medicine to a cat can be a trying experience for all concerned. Cats seem to instinctively know how to make things as difficult as possible and many owners develop a particularly severe case of butterthumbs (5 per hand) at the critical moment.

Pills are usually inserted in the cat's favorite food or placed directly on the back of his tongue with his mouth held closed until he swallows (tilting the head back and rubbing the throat will encourage swallowing) Dipping the pill in water, butter, or vegetable oil will help but grinding the pill into a powder and sprinkling it over the food will not work if the pill is bitter (most capsules contain bitter substances - it won't hurt you to taste it first).

* Today, many veterinarians use pediatric drugs which have little or fruit-flavored tastes. Some liquid solutions can be injected via syringe directly into meat if they are not too objectionable. Those dealing with hand raised cats can try mixing medicines in baby food which the cat ate as a kitten.

A 2cc disposable plastic syringe with the needle removed can be used to give small quantities of liquid medicine (or water soluble pills) because of the precision of measurement and the force of the ejected stream. Insert the tip of the syringe in the side of the cat's mouth in the gap between the teeth and shoot the stream at the roof of the cat's mouth in back. **DO NOT** shoot liquids directly down the cat's throat. This may result in the liquid going into the lungs which can be extremely harmful. The tip edges of the syringe can be founded with a nail file and will not cut the cat's mouth. For large amounts of liquids, use a turkey baster instead of the syringe.

Powdered medicines are either put into empty gelatin capsules and handled as pills or put into solution and handled as liquids. Gelatin capsules are available in various sizes from drug stores or your vet.

Concentrated food Supplements

At times a concentrated food supplement may be desirable, especially when your cat is weakened, suffering from intestinal blockage or irritation, or

under postoperative care. Commercial preparations are available through your Veterinarian (Nutri-Cal) We use a home brew called "supergoop" and prepare it as needed. The recipe is:

Yolks of 4 raw eggs (no whites)
4 tablespoons polyunsaturated vegetable oil
4 tablespoons canned, concentrated milk
Vitamines

Put ingredients in a blender and blend until emulsified. Between three and four tablespoons per day provide sufficient nourishment for a 30 pound cat for a short (3 day maximum) period.

Tube feeding*

Totally weakened animals may require tube feeding. This is recommended only as a last resort as it is a drastic measure. Your vet can demonstrate the proper procedure to you should it be necessary to use tube feeding. To insure the tube has been inserted into the stomach and not into the lungs, measure it from the nose of the cat to three-fourths (3/4) of the distance to the last rib. **Mark that distance on the tube. If when inserting the tube it does not come up to this mark it is not in the stomach and should be withdrawn and reinserted.** (An article with diagrams is in the Newsletter Volume 19, Number 4)

Either "supergoop" or the following recipe can be used in tube feedings.

1 part corn oil
4 parts Hill's i/d (available from your Vet)
10 parts water

The above mixture should be fed in quantities of 475cc per 10 pounds preferably into no less than two meals daily. **Prepared food can be stored in the refrigerator** but should be warmed (room temperature) before feeding.

With any of the above diets you will expect and receive a loose stool.

Getting your Cat to Eat

Since predatory animals tend to have cyclical eating habits, loss of appetite for a day is seldom cause to worry. Extended appetite loss is serious and indicates a veterinarian's attention is necessary. However, cases arise in which cats lose appetite for psychological reasons and in which force feeding would only aggravate the condition. Often this involves a cat recently moved, or some other upset in the normal routine of the animal such as a new arrival in the house, visitors, etc.

Assuming favorite foods and special inducements have failed, a simple trick will often start the cat eating again. Obtain a hungry cat (be certain it is healthy and has had its shots) and place him in the exotics room - separated of course and protected by a cage or carrier. Feed the exotic's favorite food to this cat allowing the exotic to watch. Be certain the exotic can smell and see the food in the dish. **Repeat this several times.**

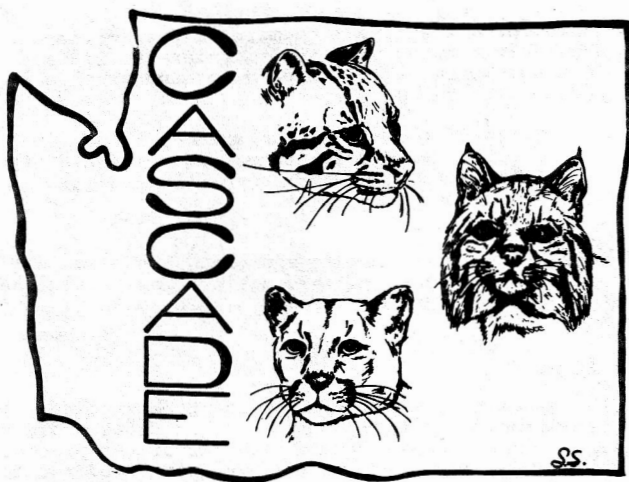
Then, put a fresh food dish in the cage and remove the visitor, (and yourself) leaving the cage open and the dish unguarded. Most exotics will then "steal" the food in the cage. Once started the exotic will most often continue to eat.

*A more drastic measure endorsed by some vets is the feeding of live food, i.e. baby chicks, as a means of getting the cat to eat. **For most however, this is a very undesirable practice - but when all else fails.....**

Other feeding methods can be used. A liquid or paste food supplement can be smeared on the cat's nose, paws, and side (where they can reach to clean). When the cat cleans this mess from himself, he's feeding himself. Alternatively, dip your gloved hand in concentrated food supplement and allow the cat to lick or bite them. A food supplement should be used rather than plain milk to take advantage of the concentration factor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6





MEETING REPORT December, 1976

Our December meeting (combination Christmas get together) was on December 5th in the meeting room at Point Defiance Park in Tacoma.

We kept our business to a minimum since we were all anxious to get to the pot luck and open our gifts.

We briefly discussed the on-going action of the State Department of Game in regard to our cats. It was hoped that a decision would be reached prior to our January meeting with the Game Commission.

Members were asked for their input regarding speakers at our meetings. Quite a few good suggestions were given and we will attempt to have a good educational program at each meeting.

Final bit of business was a review of branch finances and election of officers for 1977. It was unanimously decided that dues would be raised a bit - the are now \$5.00 yearly for single members and \$10.00 yearly for families.

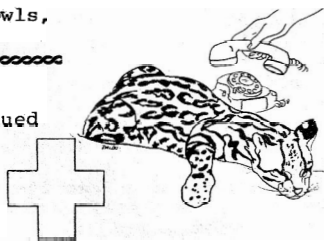
Election results were as follows: **Coordinator** - Terry Starns; **Secretary/Treasurer** - Shelley Starns, H.E.L.P. Committee - Richard Dyck, Henry Sauer, Sandy Bauer and Ed Smith.

Members joining in the holiday mood were: Richard & Evelyn Dyck, Ed Smith, Sandy & Joe Bauer, Henry & Judy Sauer, Liz Ghent and guest Mary Hilleck, and Terry and I.

Our January meeting was scheduled for Liz Ghent's in Seattle.

Amidst Holiday Purrs and Growls,
Shelley Starns, Secretary

EMERGENCY & FIRST AID Continued



Directed

Fright is a major factor in dealing with any ill or injured animal. There is no point to increasing the cat's fear by introducing strange equipment or motions in a difficult situation. For this reason, it is desirable to turn emergency situation equipment into toys through play. For example, cages make delightful hiding places and gloves are fine for chewing. Duplicate motions used for handling or examining the cat during play sessions and always scratch and play with the cat after giving medicines or force feedings. Try to make the total experience as pleasant as possible.

NOTE: This is the first installment of "Emergency Procedures and First Aid for Exotic Cats". There will be five subsequent installments. Part 2 will relate to "Your Relationship to a Veterinarian". Please READ, ABSORB, AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.



Nominations Sought

In accordance with our Constitution, its time to start election of National Officers of LIOC. Those presently holding office are automatically nominated unless they decline the nomination in writing.

Nominations for National office are solicited from the membership. In order to be valid a nomination must bear the signatures of two. (2) Long Island Ocelot Club members and a statement of acceptance from the nominee. Such nominations must be received by the President of the club no later than March 20th.

Mail your nominations to: Ken Hatfield
1991 S.W. 136 Ave
Davie, Fla. 33325



Those offices to be filled are: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and the four (4) Term Directors.

These nominations are for the 1978-1979 term of office.



TRAGEDY IN ST. CROIX

The following is an account of the tragic and needless death of Puyo who lived with owner Robert Trafton in the Virgin Islands. Robert has asked that anyone who might be able to advise him with regards to taking legal action against the authorities contact him as soon as possible.

When the "turkey shoot" was over a rare and extremely beautiful 6½ pound South American margay had been summarily executed by the Department of Public Safety. The cat, usually kept at the owner's home, had wandered a half a block from its owners house near Gallows bay where it was said to have been harrasing chickens... chickens are illegal within the town limits of Christiansted.

The Department of Public Safety was informed by Dr. Crago a veterinarian, that the cat belonged to a local resident and that it was well known to him. The cat was also known to practically every child in the neighborhood because of its visable living quarters in a large cage on the front porthof the owner's home. Not too much investigation could have taken place, not was the Humane Society informed as they surely would have made the effort to rescue her.

Dr. Crago told me that Barel Groves of the Department of Public Safety had asked him "to save them any further trouble" by instructing the Chief of Police to let them shoot the cat immediately. Dr. Crago of course refused to condone such action or give such advise. However, with or without the Chief's instructions that is what they did.

The five officers kept the cat sitting in a tree for some 45 minutes before they, judge and jury, executed this wonderful animal. Puyo had been a pet for six years - surely our animals have a right to expect better treatment from "public servant".

Robert Trafton
Box 3066
Christiansted
St Croix, USVI 00820



MEETING REPORT
October 10, 1976

A social meeting was held at the home of John & Robin Perry in Stratford, Connecticut. Since Stratford is in central Connecticut, notices were sent with maps to known New England members in addition to those of the Greater New York group.

A total of about 25 members and guests were present. The exotics included Geoffroy cats, Margays from kitten to adult, two young bobcats and a pair of very tame and friendly hybrid wolves. The family domestic cat investigated several of the smaller exotics but wasn't seen for the rest of the meeting after the wolves arrived.

Seven domestic births of margays have occurred in New England this year, with three surviving. Hopefully there is a learning process underway with the non-member who owns them and the survival rate will improve. Willing breeders that are not disturbed by either the public or the neighboring larger cats seems to more than make up for the cooler climate that southern members said would preclude domestic births.

Copies of the State laws and some local ordinances were given out to those who needed them. The meeting notice said that legal exotics were welcome and the Northeast area doesn't need any more confiscations or court cases.

The smaller exotics got along well with each other and the members but, they too were cautious about the wolves, even though the wolves never entered the house.

The Wildmans attended without their ocelot which is still being kept for them. There are no charges against them and a year after confiscation they don't even know where it is. Their legal fees to date must make theirs the most expensive ocelot ever.

Danny Treanor once wrote of his herd of oncillas; Perrys say two geoffroys and one domestic constitute a herd in their stampeding around the house. The mini-exotics seem very adept at properly training their owners.

This first meeting in many years North of New York City brought out many new faces, most from New England. Socializing and discussions together with food provided by our hosts kept the group together until after ten o'clock.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for late winter at Demarest's "Highbank Game Farm". This is even further north, but worth the trip from New York and may bring out more of the old-timers from New England who didn't show this time.

Submitted by:
Arthur Human



home, and promised to attend our future meetings. We all learned a little from each other and we all certainly could not help but enjoy his wit and English humor. A very memorable speaker who may still be in this country when we have our convention. If so look forward to a treat. He is teaching in this country at Cabrillo College and is also doing research on the mountain lion in California.....the series Daktari was based on his compound.

The evening was over all too soon and we left wishing each other a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our next meeting will be sometime in 1977 - attend when notified.

Felinely,
Lora Vigne



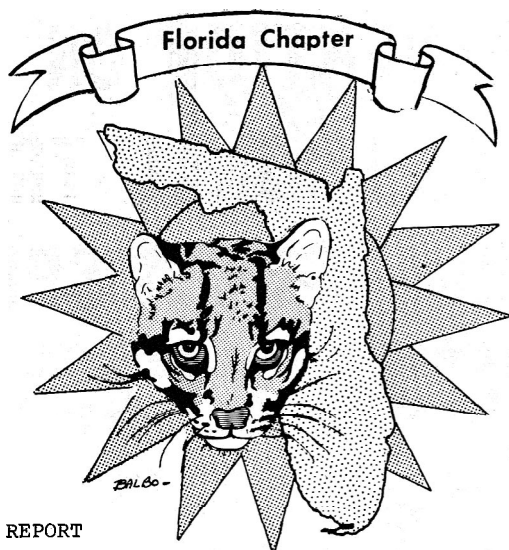
LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

MEETING REPORT
December 4, 1976

The Cafe de Nord on Market Street in San Francisco is an old world restaurant and the scene of our dinner meeting. We started by lingering up at the antique bar until we swelled in numbers and began to gather in the dining hall. Each place was set with a festively wrapped gift which turned out to be an enameled keychain with an ocelot and the initials LIOC on it. A large sculptured leopard sat at a nearby table waiting to be auctioned off and definitely created the proper feeling for our cat club. One after the other the dishes came and were consumed amidst much conversation until the finale of creme caramel ended the gastronomic part of our affair.

Then came the dinner meeting. We started by discussing our need for everyone to help get our convention hosting responsibilities off to a good start. A brief but lively auction ensued with Chris Dalri presiding and soon gave our a nice \$100. Some folks renewed early and others gave some donations making our end of the year treasury \$310.00. Next meeting we will be expecting the rest of you to renew. Altogether we should have no trouble affording some frills for our Labor Day convention. The Dates of September 1st thru 4th are scheduled for the convention at the International Inn in Sough San Francisco. This place will be a good one for bringing animals. The folks that run it are very receptive and it should be put on everyone's list to attend. Details will be sent soon for early sign up.

A sad note: our newly elected secretary could not show up as she was recovering from an operation and was incarcerated in the hospital. A happy note was that the Robinsons who recently were involved in a fiasco when their pet lion escaped got their cat back without too much of a problem. The story is one of an innocent cat being held at an animal shelter just for getting out and being a little confused. Nothing took place after the lion found his way through the garage door which opened and closed automatically behind him leaving him exposed to the rather hostile outside world. He went right back home without much prompting but the Fish & Game decided to confiscate him anyway. Still after a trial the cat was happily returned to the Robinsons' thankful home. During their time of need the publicity captured the interest of a wonderfully fascinating fellow...Paul Lyons by name and who accompanied the Robinsons to our dinner meeting. We scheduled him to speak and he graciously accepted and held us spellbound for awhile with tales of Africa from whence he comes, and where he has lived and studied animals since he was seven. He has owned not only cheetahs but lions and other creatures of the bush who roam freely around his acreage wandering in and out of his home which has no doors or windows. He advocates keeping our animals totally whole. A discussion pro and con erupted to be continued at one of our following meetings. Dr. Lyons main thrust however is that although he does not approve of people having exotic pets he qualifies his stand by noting that some people do have a beautiful rapport with their animals and if they spend time and really get into the animal's world then perhaps it can be a good situation. He praised the Robinsons for their care of the pet lion that they give a place in their



MEETING REPORT

The following are brief reports of the Florida Chapter's May and July meetings, by myself, Jean Hatfield. Our elected Secretary dropped out of the Club and no one has yet volunteered.

The May meeting was held Sunday, May 9th at the home of Laura Cox in Paisley. We had a small gathering but a pleasant afternoon. We (Hatfields) arrived about noon or so - and when Laura said to follow directions exactly, that's what she meant. One wrong turn and you were completely lost! However we all made it ok.

We all played with Chip Cumming the young ocelot who is a beautiful cat, if I do say so myself. Even Jeffy the baby Geoffroy cat wanted to play with him, but I didn't think that was such a good idea so Jeffy had to stay in his carrier quite a bit. Every so often our two week old cougar would start chirping and Sadie Douglas would have an excuse to pick him up. She wanted to take him home of course; she always wants to take them home! It's a good thing Charles doesn't let her take a baby each time she wants one - no telling how many cats they would have to feed.

Besides playing with cats & kittens, we discussed a few things, such as the upcoming Convention and the old bug-a-boo fleas, what can and cannot be done about them. I always thought flea epidemics are only supposed to last for a year, but it's been long enough already. We all, of course, ruled out flea collars; one never knows whether or not one's cat is allergic to them and it can be fatal. Elmer & Rebecca in Texas recently had a scare. Two ocelots housed together - one had a severe reaction and the other never a bit of trouble. Fortunately Elmer removed the collars just as a precaution and the cat recovered in a couple of days. Another product was discussed - Sevin dust (5%). It can be used safely on cats, ground, even the rugs. I used weekly then vacuumed it up for a month or two and eventually got things under control. Meanwhile, of course, flea powdering the cat weekly is easier said than done!

Somewhere in the midst of all the talk, Laura served the lunch she has prepared, including a delicious and therefore no doubt fattening cake. Then in midafternoon we were joined by Mr. & Mrs. Byrne. She is in charge of the felines at the new Central Florida Zoo (formerly the Sanford Zoo). She was very interested in the members various experiences with their cats, breeding attempts and successes and the medical problems we have all encountered. We also discussed some of the items on B.J. Lester's Exotic Cat Quiz.

Then, about 5 pm or so, we all started to drift homeward as many of us had a long way to go.



SEE PAGE 6

MEETING REPORT July 1976

The July meeting was held at the home of Larry Redelin in Ft. Lauderdale on the 11th. It was hot as only July in Florida can be hot. However, Larry's airconditioning had been installed just in time so we were all comfortable. We started gathering about noontime and those attending were: Suzie Kindt, Don Piechocki, Cubbedge & Mary Nell Phillips, Barbara Bond, Delores Tiktin, Sandy Rolando, David & Linda Famlegetti with lioness, Rockie; David Baskin, Ken & Jean Hatfield with a baby cougar and Geoffroy cat babies and our host Larry.

We were joined by some guests, one being Joy Jurriett a member of domestic cat clubs and Dr. & Mrs. Charney a local Veterinarian with a personal interest in exotics. Cat-wise it was rather interesting as we had from one extreme to the other - a lion and a Geoffroy cat. With an ocelot and cougar to round things out.

We started off with our favorite occupation, which of course is greeting old friends and new, talking about our cats. Suzie Kindt told us she had a new ocelot baby and a new golden cat baby. Unfortunately, our benevolent bureaucracy in its infinite wisdom has seen fit to put Golden's on the "list" now, and the jaguarundi too for heaven's sake! How they decide a species is endangered I can't imagine; it certainly has no basis in reality. Anyway, it was nice to see Barbara Bond again; her 16 year old ocelot Buddy is staying with us now and bossing the other 3 cats around. I might add we were also very glad to see Delores Tiktin even if she didn't bring Shawna her beautiful cheetah. Shawna is nine years old now and doing fine but as is the case with most our feline families, she doesn't like to leave home.

However, Rockie the lioness is still young and she thoroughly enjoys the meetings; she is not at all particular about who she jumps on. She is getting bigger and bigger as lions have a way of doing. David hopes to be in his new house soon and I imagine his landlord hopes so too. He was supposed to be moved in by now, but construction of a house always seems to take longer than everyone predicts. The Florida Game Commissioner Officer, Sgt. McIntosh, of course couldn't issue a permit for a lion in an apartment, but as the house and lion facilities are under construction, has held any action in abeyance for now.

Somewhere in the middle of our conversations, Larry brought out food and we had lunch; but that didn't stop us of course. Then, we had a short meeting to discuss that the members wanted brought up at convention. Chuck Kindt (who wasn't there) was voted to be the Florida representative in Texas. Incidentally, when informed of this in Texas...he said.....well, never mind. Members present discussed what male cats were available for collecting semen in Case Ken got by Baylor to talk with Dr. Seager & Dr. Demarest regarding artificial insemination. We were disappointed to learn that as yet insemination has not resulted in successful pregnancy in exotic felines, however everyone keeps trying.

After the meeting, we went back to visiting and comparing notes on problems and the solutions we've each found. Soon it was going on 5 pm and every one got on the road home.

Reported by
Jean Hatfield



WHAT Convention 1977

WHY Fun! Friends! & Information!

WHERE San Francisco
Travelodge International
326 Airport Blvd. S.
San Francisco, CA 94080
Singles \$18 Doubles \$24

WHEN September 2, 3 & 4, 1977
(Friday, Saturday & Sunday)



CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES



On July 1, 1975, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) went into effect. The convention was signed by 57 nations following its preparation in 1973, but needed the ratification of ten of those signatory governments to come into force. To date, 33 countries have ratified the convention - the U.S. being the first to do so.

The Convention is designed to protect certain rare and endangered species from over-exploitation through international trade. In the past, the ease of poaching and subsequent smuggling of protected animals has made the protective efforts of individual countries virtually ineffective. First, most nations simply do not have the manpower to effectively patrol large land areas in order to prevent poaching. Second, animals, dead or alive, can too easily be smuggled out of a country in which they are legally protected into a country that has no such restrictions and there be sold legally. Clearly, cooperation between nations has been needed to destroy the incentive for this illegal trade. Unfortunately, many of the European countries still have not ratified the convention leaving open marketplaces for pelts, and other by-products of endangered species. Also, many countries of origin have failed to enact the needed legislation to protect these animals from people in those countries who consider them a threat to domestic animals or a source of profit.

Under the provisions of the Convention, participating nations - those who have signed and ratified the treaty each agree to establish a Management Authority and a Scientific Authority responsible for the evaluation, monitoring and approval or disapproval of trade for species listed in the convention. Those species are divided into three categories, corresponding to different degrees of protection and control for export, import and/or re-export across international borders. This to is a soft spot of reasoning. As we all know, a species can all but be extinct before the country of origin takes note of it. Or what may be marked as "endangered" in one country may still be openly taken in another.

Appendix I of the treaty includes those species threatened with extinction and totals more than 400 different mammals, birds and reptiles (recently plants were added). Trade in the animals of this category will only be authorized in exceptional circumstances and requires a prior-approved permit from both the exporting and importing countries. Such a permit will not be granted unless: 1) the specimen (the animal alive or dead, or any recognizable parts or derivatives of the animal) is not to be used primarily for commercial purposes; 2) the trade will not be detrimental to the survival of the species; 3) the specimen was not obtained illegally; 4) any living specimen will be shipped with a minimum risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment; 5) the proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it.

Appendix II of the treaty includes all species not presently threatened with extinction but which may become so unless trade is regulated; this list names over 200 mammals birds and reptiles. Trade in these animals requires a prior approved permit from the country of export which will not be granted unless the same conditions which apply to Appendix I animals are met.

Further, the Scientific Authority of the country of export is to monitor such trade and advise the Management Authority as to if and when such trade should be limited in order to maintain any Appendix II species "throughout its range at a level consistent with its role in the ecosystems in which it occurs and well above the level at which it might become eligible for inclusion in Appendix I.

Appendix III of the treaty includes all species which do not actually qualify for inclusion in either Appendix I or Appendix II but which a country wishes to protect within its own borders and for which it asks the cooperation of other countries in preventing its exploitation. Trade in these species requires a prior-approved permit from the country of export which again will not be granted if the specimen was taken illegally or if it cannot be properly shipped. Also, the import of any Appendix III species requires the prior presentation of a "Certificate of Origin" to determine if the animal is from any country that has asked for the protection afforded by the Convention.

One important element of the treaty is the definition of "species". For use in the provisions of the Convention, a species is defined as "a species, subspecies or geographically separate population segment." This eliminates the previously applied concept that an animal must be considered rare or endangered worldwide in order to gain protective listing. Isolated populations of certain animals can be included in the appropriate Appendices if they are considered rare or endangered ANYWHERE within their range; even though the species may be plentiful elsewhere in the world.

As noted before, the use of the word "specimen" as defined by the Convention, insures the regulation or control of trade not only for the animals, dead or alive, but for any part or derivative of any animals such as pelts, oils hides, etc. Additionally, each of the appendices includes controls for animals taken in the open sea, that is the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any country. In these cases, the responsibility of monitoring such trade rests with the Scientific and Management Authorities of the country of import.

As written, the Convention will provide a great deal of help for beleaguered wildlife in the native state. However it is not without flaws and its strength and ultimate success depend on the individual countries to 1) penalize trade in or possession of prohibited specimens, and 2) provide for the confiscation or return to the country of

export of any prohibited specimens. Of course the stronger the individual enforcement measures, the stronger and more effective the treaty. The Convention is, in essence a "gentleman's agreement" and any nation can "reserve" or refuse to agree with respect to any or all of the listed species. However, in order to do this a nation must present a formal objection and while the Convention itself lacks clout in this area, the countries will be subject to pressure of international opinion. Of course we have all witnessed the over-zealousness of The United States in this matter. While attempting to set an example for the rest of the world, it has seriously hampered captive breeding efforts by its restrictiveness of cats held in captivity prior to the enactment of the Convention.

We can only hope that over the past few years it has become evident that these restrictions are counter productive to the main object - insuring survival of these threatened and endangered species - and that proper adjustments to the present laws will soon come about.

Finally, while the treaty does make provisions for dealing with non-member nations, its effectiveness will, understandably, increase as more countries sign and ratify to become official participants. This is especially true of countries where poaching and smuggling is more prominent, such as the South American and African nations, and in the developed countries of Europe where the international trade flourishes.

Participants of the Convention will meet at least every two years to review the lists of species and consider amendments to the treaty. It should be noted that the Convention does not make any provisions which would prevent the killing of rare or endangered species but will, by restricting trade, serve that purpose, in a round-about manner by eliminating the market resulting from some men's greed.



The first conference of CITES was held this past November in Berne, Switzerland with 24 of the 33 participating nations in attendance along with other interested parties including Friends of the Earth (London), The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the World Pheasant Association, The Smithsonian Institute, Safari Club International, Society for Animal Protective Legislation, Fauna Preservation Society, IUCN, and the U.N. Environmental Programme. The AAZPA and IUDZG were also represented informally by members of the United States and Swiss delegations.

Some 614 requested changes were to be considered during the 5 day meeting, many involving legal interpretations of certain sections. Most changes involved adding full species to Appendix I and Appendix II and removing the various subspecies. This resulted in the listing becoming smaller while covering more species. For example, four subspecies of wolf were removed from the list while Wolf (*Canis lupus*) was added. This will make the enforcement of CITES simpler as officials usually are unable to distinguish between subspecies especially when involved in pelts.

Additionally, except for those species already listed in Appendix I, the order Primates, the family Felidae, and the subfamily Lutrinae were added to Appendix II in recognition of the need to monitor trade in those animals.

These changes in the Appendices will not affect U.S. imports until after they have been announced in the Federal Register. After that however, all cats will in effect be treated as "threatened".

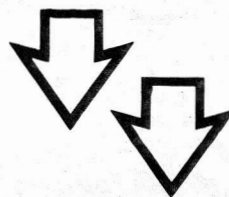
The parties passed a resolution calling upon natural history museums and herbaria to inventory their present holdings in these areas and make this information available in an effort to assist the Management Authorities in screening permit requests.

The following recommendation was also passed:

"Many species of animals which are popular to the pet trade are becoming rare and even endangered due to both overexploitation and diminishing habitats. Mortality in trade and captivity is high. This conference urges exporting countries to endeavor to restrict gradually the collection of wild animals for the pet trade and that all contracting Parties encourage the breeding of animals for this purpose, with the objective being eventually limiting the keeping of pets to those species which can be bred in captivity."

A technical meeting of the ratifying nations is scheduled for Spring 1977 to discuss practical aids to implementation of the Convention such as identification of wild species and products, standards for shipment, etc. All such recommendations would have to be approved by the ratifying nations.

The United States' delegation to the CITES included E.U. Curtis Bohlen, Lynn Greenwalt, Clark Bavin, Harold O'Connor and Richard Parsons from the USDI; Prudence Fox from the Department of Commerce; Gerald Bertrand from the President's Council on Environmental Quality; Cameron Sanders and Eli Bizic from the State Department; John Gottschalk from the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Committee; F. Wayne King from the New York Zoological Society; and six consultants from the USDI, NMFS, and the Smithsonian Institution.



The Director of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service issued notice of informal public hearings to be held February 16, 1977, 9:30 am at 1717 H st. Room 430.

The purpose of the hearing is to solicit information and public comment on guidelines for the proper and humane shipment of live plants and animals in international commerce. This information will aid the Department in adopting such guidelines to meet the requirements of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Because of probable delays in implementing international guidelines, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service believes it is desirable for the U.S. to establish its own set of standards and guidelines at this time as the Convention requires the Fish & Wildlife Service, as U.S. Management Authority, be satisfied that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or ill treatment. A special international committee has been appointed to develop uniform international guidelines for presentation at future conferences of the signees to the Convention on Endangered Species.

The records will remain open until February 23, 1977 for the submission of written comments which may be submitted to the Director (FWS/WPO) U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240

Poor Willie

By Heidi Marie Farenholz

I bought Willie in December. As his owner lived far from me and road conditions were very bad at that time of the year, I arranged to have him sent by train, something I had never done before and will never do again. It was freezing cold when I got to the railway station to fetch him and when I opened the wooden box there was just Willie; no bedding, not even hay, straw or anything else to help him keep warm. Willie was in terrible condition; he was so thin it is a miracle he arrived alive. How cold he must have been with not even a bit of fat on his bones to help him keep warm. If only I had known, I would have driven there whatever the circumstances. But then Willie was just an ad in the paper - "Male margay for sale," that was all, no telephone number, just a post office box.

Needless to say he has been pampered and spoiled since he arrived. He got the best pieces of everything; rabbit, chicken, mice beef, beef heart, egg yolks, cream and as he was one of those who like prawns (shrimp) he also got those whenever we had them.

Suprisingly, Willie was very tame when I received him but astonishingly aggressive with other cats, in particular with other margays and I soon gave up trying to put him together with the others for company. He liked it better on his own, I later found why.

With all the extra love and care he received he did put on some weight but his coat remained dull, there was no shine and lustre as on those of my other cats. No vitamins and no food would improve the condition of his coat. I tried to find out more about the people I bought him from and finally succeeded in getting their address. It was a small private zoo open to the public with a stock of very neglected animals. I managed to close this zoo, it no longer exists. Willie had lived there for two years together with three other margays. His roommates were fully armed with their claws - Willie had none! Someone had declawed him front and rear. I have talked to many people and scientists about Willie in the meantime and all agreed that he must have had a rough time with all those male margays and no way to defend himself so it is understandable, even normal, that he had developed a tendency to bite, knowing that the first weapon cats usually use when fighting, their claws, were gone.

I traced Willie's way back through previous homes and found five in all, but not one who first bought him as a kitten. Those who had him declawed were lucky they did not admit it to me. I would like to say once more that in my opinion declawing any cat, but particularly a margay with it's natural monkey-like climbing skills is cruel and unnecessary. Those who cannot live with a cat that has his claws and can scratch and destroy furniture, no matter how valuable this furniture is, should not have an exotic.

When it comes to medical treatment I know every vet is better off with an adequate squeeze cage than with a clawless paw. I am not trying to be sentimental, but my Willie did have a hard life behind him, and seeing him move unnaturally careful for a margay when it comes to climbing a tree or jumping up and down from a shelf, comparing him to my other margays who love it to hang from branches head down, and dash up and down trees, it makes me very sad. In winter when we have snow and ice here, which he likes, he has no handhold whatsoever and slips on every piece of ice. Climbing icy branches is simply impossible for him, having lost his natural "spikes".

Except for his coat, Willie never appeared ill to me until this past summer. He developed a very large (half the size of his head) swelling on his left cheek. I thought at first it could be a sting of a wasp, as we have had that problem before due to the neighbor's plum trees, but the swelling was too big for that. When it finally broke, water and a little blood came out of the wound. I was relieved and thought that was it as the wound now seemed to heal. But, two weeks later it began swelling again, even larger and when it broke the discharge was very dark. This time it did not heal. I took him to several vets and most of them said it was

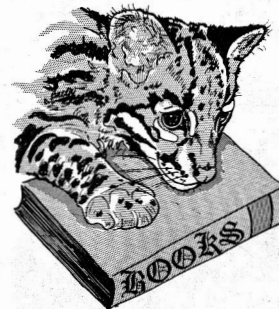
a cancer. I could not beleive this and would rather listen to my father, who is a dentist, when he said it was his opinion that it was a cyst that refills repeatedly until it is removed.

I drove to a specialist who agreed with this and looking at willie's coat also took blood for examination. His conclusion is that Willie has severe diabetes. No matter how much he eats (he does not drink excessively) he remained thin, and of course it was why his wound would not heal. The vet told me that diabetes cannot be cured or put under control as it had gotten too bad. He should have an insulin shot every second day and blood twice a week. Of course that would mean anaesthesia twice a week. The vet's oppinion was that this would kill him quicker than the disease because of the stress involved...he refused to operate on the cyst as it would not heal in his oppinion, and suggested I put Willie to sleep. Death by diabetes is very gentle and not painful so I could not bring myself to have him destroyed. The wound on his cheek at the moment is small but the syst can fill every day and open again. I have to be very careful that no infection develops when he cleans his face with his paws and he receives medication regularly.

Willie must have had the diabetes for years due to malnutrition. With my diet he would have had a chance to live for some time if he had not developed the cyst. I am trying to persuade the vet to operate and then I will try very hard to get the incision to heal and save him - I don't want Willie to lose again.

If anyone can offer any suggestions, please write me

Heidi Marie Fahrenholz
7251 Flacht
Rinweg 10, Germany



Enclosed with this Newsletter you will find a questionnaire on you and your exotic pet.

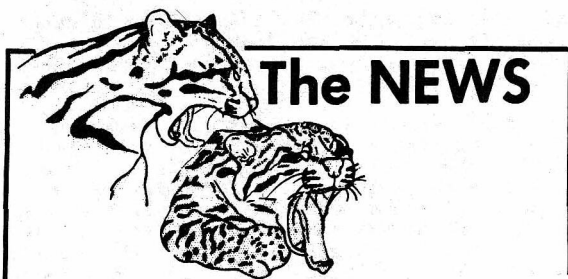
The answers to these questions will help long time LIOC member Virginia English compile a book on the various species of exotic feline in captivity and as pets. The more information we receive, the better picture we will be able to portray to novices in search of their first exotic and to others. Please take the time to answer the questions completely and thoughtfully. If there is additional information you feel should be included, just jot it on the back of the questionnaire.

Should you wish credit it will be given. But in case you wish anonymity do not sign the questionnaire and by returning it to the Newsletter offices the Editor will not even know where in the country you live, as it will then be forwarded from here to Virginia in California without a return address or postmark.

Since we hope to have this book ready for Christmas, please return your questionnaire as quickly as possible.

LIOC will receive full credits in this book & and with a little luck will benefit financially should we find a market for it nationally.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!!



VET LIST AVAILABLE

LIOC's list of Veterinarians willing to treat exotic felines has been updated and is currently available to our members.

This list is extremely important when travelling with a cat. We would hope to keep this list current and expand it to its fullest.

For a copy of the current listings, please drop me a note asking for it - at the same time, let us know who treats your cat, their address, and telephone number.

Shelley Starns
P.O.Box 99542
Tacoma, WA 98499

KARATE & COUGARS

LIOC member George Dillman will be featured on the Mike Douglas Television show as part of "Ripley's Believe it or Not!" As this show is syndicated it will be aired at different times across the nation so you should watch the week Bernadette Peters is Mike's Co-Host.

George made "Ripley's" by simultaneously breaking four blocks of ice with his elbow. The four blocks of ice weighed 1000 pounds!

George is thinking of relocating with Rougar Dougar, his cougar and asks those living in Texas, California, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Florida and Washington state to inform him of the local laws. Please write George Dillman, 126 North 5th Street, Reading, PA 19601

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS ONE FOLKS!

A member having access to "zoo circles" writes the July/August Issue of the Newsletter caused a bit of a stir in the zoo world. From the Cover photo they have deducted that we're taking our cats (after they die, of course) and making ties out of them. They actually know better than this, but it's good talk material. Seems we're not "safe" regardless of what we do.

MORE ART FROM FRAMEHOUSE

The rendering below of three ocelot kittens is the latest from Frame House Gallery. A large (18"x20) this limited edition print by Charles Frace' is selling for \$40.00 issue price.



EXOTIC "PRODUCTS" STILL AVAILABLE

Lynx-fur coats have been reported cropping up in the major department stores in the Northwest. The advertisements are for "Natural Bay Lynx full length coats" for only \$2,488; "Natural Canadian Lynx side chubbies" are listed for only \$388.

Recent tourists to Singapore and Hong Kong report seeing tiger skins for \$1,200. and stuffed baby tigers and dozens and dozens of stuffed leopard cats for \$13. Singapore, strangely enough, was represented at the recent Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Legislation

At the January meeting of the Washington State Game Commission a Washington Administrative Code (WAC) was adopted in regard to the keeping (for any reason) of cougar, bobcat and lynx.

These regulations appear to be quite liveable and the Department was actually willing to work with us: In short these regulations provide for:

1. Licensing those of us who already have game felines
2. Disposing of our offspring to other licensed or sanctioned game farms or zoos within our state.
3. Disposing of offspring out of state.
4. Keeping offspring.
5. Licensing of future game farm operations (the intent of this part of the Code is the only questionable matter which will be tested in due time).

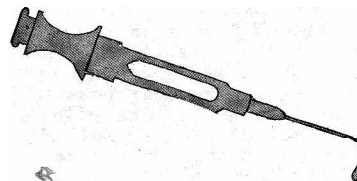
All in all, most people involved are pleased with the outcome and give a hearty thanks to the Washington State Game Department for their consideration towards our feline friends.

Shelley Starns

Necrology

Longtime member Anthony Simone has suffered the loss of Jocko her 13 year old male margay.

and Virginia English writes: "As I started this note to you, I set up the typewriter next to the cage where I had old Santmeyer. He has been sick, primarily from old age and another Leopard Cat who was bent on killing him and had inflicted several wounds. He developed a raging infection on the back of his leg and as old as he was his kidneys couldn't handle the poison in his system. As I started writing, he quietly curled up and died beside me despite intensive care. He's the last of my original bunch and was probably 15 or 16. I sure will miss him. No one who hasn't been there could understand the heart breaks we suffer with these cats. As much as I love my domestics, it's not the same when one of them goes."



**Booster
Time?**