

NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 22, Number 2
 March - April 1978

LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



SouthWest member, Walter Marshall with young jaguar, GINGER.
 Photo by Harriet Leake.



LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB NEWSLETTER

Published bi-monthly by Long Island Ocelot Club, 1454 Fleetwood Drive East, Mobile, Alabama 36605. The Long Island Ocelot Club is a non-profit, non-commercial club, international in membership, devoted to the welfare of ocelots and all other exotic felines. Reproduction of the material in this Newsletter may not be made without written permission of the authors and/or the copyright owner L.I.O.C.

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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.

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PLEASE SHARE

Happy times

Sad Times

Helpful hints

Questions

photos

POETRY ART

or just your

random

thoughts

MOVING?

To avoid missing any Newsletters if you should move, send your change of address as soon as you know the details to our Membership Secretary:

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

Please send all applications and membership renewals directly to Shelley for fast service.

Send all Newsletter and related material to the Editor. Thanks!

WHOSE COAT WAS IT?

By Jan Cumming

Early last fall, I was fortunate enough to be able to accompany my husband on a business trip to Central and South America. Since this was a business trip it meant 3 weeks of non-stop work and travel for him, but all pleasure for me, other than the 3:00 AM wake up calls to catch planes on time. Even though I had my usual excess baggage of books with me, I still found I had more than my share of spare time on my hands. I had fun exploring the different cities by myself even though I was handicapped by being unable to speak Spanish.

While we were in Buenos Aires, Argentina, we stayed at the new Sheraton Hotel and in the lower lobby there was a very large, very expensive shopping arcade. One morning after writing a stack of post cards, I went down to buy some stamps and decided to go "snooping" in the stores. There were all manner of elegant things to be found, everything from gold jewelry to expertly knit Alpaca sweaters.

As I headed back up to the main lobby, I went around a corner and spotted a fur shop. There in the window was (what I thought) an ocelot coat. I do not, in any way profess to be an expert on furs of any kind, except for the precious fur we own, which walks around on four paws, grumbling. We think he's beautiful, but he is far from a decoration and the only body his fur keeps warm is his own.

I had some very strong emotions looking at the shop, but I felt I just had to go in. I got into the shop and fumbled around with what very few words of Spanish I knew and tried to ask the lady shopkeeper some questions. All of a sudden she asked me, in almost perfect English, if I was from the United States. I was so pleased to know she spoke English that I didn't even answer her! I just started asking one question after another. We chatted away a few minutes and then I got brave and headed for one of the many racks of fur

coats. I picked out what I thought was (once) a beautiful leopard - now coat. "Oh" she said, "that is not leopard it is dyed deer." When I looked closer I could see it was obvious, but again, I'm no expert and I'm used to my "furs" having all four on the ground. I then pointed to an ocelot coat and asked the price but again she told me I was wrong, for it was dyed weasel. I really did learn a lot that day and I would like to share it all with you. Maybe you won't be surprised as I was, but read on and let's find out.

I know that most people are aware that you cannot legally bring any exotics or endangered animals into the U.S., whether it be in a cage, suitcase, or on your back, but the dyed skins of weasles,

skunks, deer, etc., made to look like the real thing is okay.

I asked the very cooperative lady if she had the "real thing", namely ocelot and she said yes, she did, but I could not return to the U.S. with it. Not that I could afford it or even wanted to. I told her I knew all that, but my husband and I owned a real, live, walking, growling ocelot and I would like to see the coat.

She took a key from around her neck and went to unlock a small box by her desk, which contained another key and with that key she went to the end of a long wall of mirrors and unlocked them and slid back a panel of the mirrored wall. There hung the real thing and believe me, there is a difference



I asked her if I could take pictures and she told me it was perfectly alright so I grabbed up my trusty pocket camera and she held up the real thing. She told me that she was sorry she only had a couple but she was waiting for more and had some on order for customer

THE "REAL" THING

As I told Jean Hatfield, when we got back to Miami to pick up our Chippy, whom she and Ken had been playing house parents for, the coat that I saw would have barely fit her, and it would have taken four more to go around me.

The coat in the above picture was \$US 8,000.00 and as hard as it is to believe, neither the supply or demand is scarce. The shop was full of jaguar, leopard ocelot and who knows what else.....coats, pillows, blankets and others. Even a real ocelot pocketbook that cost more that I would ever have in cash to carry in it!

I ran out of flash cubes and went digging in my purse for more but only came up with my trusty, three dozen photos of Chippy. Someday I will have to get some of our kids too. Anyway, the lady shopkeeper took the photos, which of course I wanted her to, and she just went "bananas"! She started babbling in Spanish 60 miles and hour and then got the girl in the next shop and then another and for a minute I thought I was in a Spanish ocelot convention. She told me that I really did have the REAL thing and it made all in her shop seem like nothing. She was really impressed, just as if to have the attitude that "here are all these furs and yet no one ever thought of havin' the real thing, alive and breathing.

The whole sick thing is, that except in the deep forest of some Central and South American countries, there is not an over-abundance of our precious exotics, especially considering what surviving in the jungle is now compared to 50 years ago. They are not as endangered to extinction as they are to just man himself, yet they keep making these coats and they will as long as they can keep selling them at \$8,000.00 upwards each.

Without being too noticeable, I did not really like touching the fur in that state, I tried to see how they were made. The skins were matched beyond perfection and the lining did not let me see how they were put together. I did notice that the only lable was of the shop and I don't blame the maker, God forgive him, I could not put my name on what only God created so perfectly. She would not tell me where the coats came from, but I know that they were not from Argentina, there is no tropical jungle areas to speak of there.



DYED DEER

ESSA Rules Against Margay Import

While there, another American gentleman (I use word loosely.) came into the shop and nicely informed me he had gotten his wife one some months back and if I really wanted one I could fly to Canada* and drive across the U.S. border or smuggle it with no trouble and a few dollars under the palm of one's hand always makes such things very difficult for officials to see. I wish now that I had really blasted him, for whatever good it might have done, but it just proves that where there is a will there is a way. This is not so with us or we would not be fighting just to keep our own beautiful cat, that doesn't know how soft he has it or what we have been through for his sake. I do know that when I touch my "fur" it is nice and soft and most of all warm, even with the occasional flea. You must remember fleas mean your cat need a trip to the bath tub and not to the furriers!

I remember an advertising on TV concerning imports by tourists - they said it took 7-10 skins just for a small coat. That in my estimation is real "thought material".

I keep wondering if there is anything that we can do to stop this and if so WHAT? It breaks my heart to think of our cause here and then the cause there - one fills my heart with love and enjoyment and the other keeps someone's back decorated and warm. I am glad and thankful everyday to be feeding my fur and not wearing it. Although with our lazy kitty, he sometimes will flop on us and think we should wear us, at least long enough for a free ride up the stairs.

My point is, that if you want an exotic you can have one, but as long as it nips, plays and does all kinds of good and bad things, you are our friend no matter who or where you are.

The following letter was received by your Editor from the Endangered Species Scientific Authority in response to my answering a request for information on rulemaking by that department.

Dear Ms. Treanor:

On September 7, 1977 the U.S. Endangered Species Authority (ESSA) disapproved a permit application to import two margays from Nicaragua. As I felt this action would be of interest to LIOC, I thought I would take this opportunity to inform you of our recent activities involving wild cats.

The permit application referred to above was submitted by a zoo in the United States. The margays were purchased by an American couple at a market in Nicaragua. The couple were apparently concerned for the welfare of the cats, and tried to give the cats to a zoo to ensure that they would have a suitable home. The ESSA disapproved the application because the approval would be inconsistent with the ESSA's policy on imports of specimens of animals and plants included in Appendix I of the Convention. The ESSA has established a policy that it is generally will not approve imports of specimens on Appendix I unless such imports are for essential scientific use not detrimental to the survival of the species, or to enhance the propagation or survival of the species. The disapproval by the ESSA is the first test of its policy as applied to import of pet Appendix I animals.

Furthermore, the ESSA noted that the approval of such imports of pet animals would probably stimulate collectors to acquire more animals for pets. As I am sure you are aware, such activities deplete wild populations, and are often conducted without regard to the humane care of the individual animals concerned.

I expect that the ESSA's impact on the activities of LIOC will be minimal. The ESSA is primarily concerned with the international trade of wild animals and plants included in the Appendices of the Convention on trade in Endangered Species.

International trade in captive-bred specimens of Convention species is exempt from the provisions of the Convention and can be conducted under a certificate of exemption.

The Convention and ESSA recognize the importance of captive breeding to enhance the survival of species included in the Appendices of the Convention. However, as the taxonomy of wild cats is not well known, it is very important that breeding programs of these animals be rigidly maintained to ensure the genetic integrity of the species.

It would be most appropriate if pet animals be supplied by breeding existing captive stock. I would suggest that your organization may want to investigate having certain species of wild cats designated as Captive Self-sustaining. This designation simplifies interstate trade in such animals.

I would appreciate it if you would place ESSA on your regular mailing lists. If I can be of any further assistance to you or to other members of your organization please write or call me (202) 343-5687

Sincerely,
William Y. Brown
Executive Secretary



SKUNK & WEASLE

** EDITOR'S NOTE:

Both Argentina and Canada signed the International Treaty on Trade in Endangered Species - neither of these countries should allow the sale of any part of an endangered animal, and should be enforcing regulations prohibiting any import/export of such products.

KNOW
YOUR
VETERINARIAN'S
TELEPHONE NUMBER

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER



MEETING REPORT
June 11, 1978

Our meeting was held in a Park like setting at Matt & Karen Wipes- they have three beautiful woodsy acres in Orinda. We decided that this meeting would be one of relaxing and enjoying each other.

Cats in attendance were Karma, Lora Vigne's ocelot and my ocelot Tabitha who are twins. Ceasar, Matt & karen's 15 year old came out to say Hello but wanted to return to his quarters. The star of the show was Gary Butler's 350 pound tiger named Moses, who is now 1½ years old and probably has another 100 pounds to go! Moses went for a swim in the creek and moveies were taken of the whole gathering.

We had a brief meeting and Jean Martinson told us about the Wildlifē meeting she attended the day before. Charles Fullerton head of Fish & Game was there. People from the SPCA, Sierra Club and others seemed to be against the private ownership of exotic cats and Charles Fullerton informed the group that the Department of Fish & Game is planning to build a compound to hold all siezed cats.

We also found out that Henry Mello's bill to ban ownership has now passed the ways & means Committee.

Submitted by
Jacklyn Brittner

THE DINNER ROAST
IS ON THE FLOOR,
AND LEOPARD CAT
SCOOTS OUT THE DOOR.

SHE SOON RETURNS
TO HER FEASTING PLACE
AND PAUSES TO CHECK
MY FROWNING FACE.

SHE RACES AROUND
IN LEOPARD CAT STYLE,
AND LOOKS AGAIN
TO SEE ME SMILE.

Name Withheld
by request

THIS SPACE IS EMPTY DUE TO LACK OF MATERIAL.
Is there something you could have done???



OREGON-EDUCATIONAL-EXOTIC FELINE CLUB

MEETING REPORT

The meeting was called to order by President Wilton at 4:00 PM at Poor Richard's Restaurant, January 22, 1978 - 15 were present.

A discussion was held on setting an amount to pay Herb and Barbara Wilton towards their legal battle. The total bill was \$525.00. A motion was made by Dennis Vanderwall to pay half of the bill. Andy Bilderain seconded the motion - the motion was carried.

Our ex-coordinator Ethel Hauser thanked everyone for their help in the past year. Time was then taken for dinner.

Discussion was held on Dennis and Jackie Vanderwall's anticipated trip to Idaho to pick up cactus for the club to resell. A motion was made by Ethel Hauser and seconded by Debby Bilderbain to pay half of their gas bill. A motion was then made by Len Parker that if the club makes enough money on the resale of the cactus we will pay the whole gas bill. The Motion was seconded and carried.

Ethel then held a discussion on Speakouts - she has one scheduled for OMSI and for the Shriners' It was decided that we will try to schedule as many of the speakouts as possible for evenings and weekends.

MEETING REPORT

The meeting was called to order by Coordinator Wilton at 2:15, February 19, 1978 at Don Schole's Chain Saw Art shop.

One of our guests was Shelley Starns who had her baby African leopard and her baby cougar with her. KaSandra leopard is now 8 months old and baby cougar 6 months old. She was asked to bring them to OMSI for our March 3rd show.

Ethel held a discussion on speakouts. She said the Shriners speakout was extra good and there were about 50 men and their wives there.

Barbara discussed the exotic cat show we are planning for this summer in their pasture. It will be open to everyone and we hope to set up different types booths.

A question was asked by one of our guests - "How can I get a cat?" President Wilton told them that we would like to see them belong to the club for a while and see the different cats. Also, it would be a good idea to visit the homes of the cats and see how they act with their owners.

Barbara sold copies of her new publication FELIDAE. This gives tips on care and feeding of the different cats, has articles on the different cats and gives information on new breakthroughs and upcoming breakthroughs on prevention and treatment of different diseases. The drawings were then held and the meeting adjourned.

MEETING REPORT

The March Business Meeting was held at Pat Parker's home on March 19th, 1978. The meeting was called to order by Coordinator Wilton. The minutes of the February 19th meeting and the Treasurer's report were read and accepted.

We had four applications for new members. They are: Kathleen A. Tesdal, Jean M. Morton, Helen Kusky and Anne Rice. A motion was made and carried to accept all new members.

A lengthy discussion was held on our televised speakout at OMSI. Cindi Church is to write a letter to Channel 8, not as a member, but as a television viewer. Connie Schole read the letter she had sent Channel 8 in behalf of OEEFC.

Our next speakout is scheduled for March 21st for Boy Scout Troup 415. We also have one scheduled for May 7th at Raleigh Care Center.

We had 2 guests who just moved here from California in order to be able to raise monkeys. We had a very interesting discussion with them on laws.

The Convention dates were announced. We are to have a meeting at Jackie and Dennis Vanderwall's to discuss our trip plans. Donations for the convention were discussed and it was decided that this year we would donate several smaller items.

Jackie Vanderwall asked about giving shows at other malls than just Beaverton. Patty Hamel is to check Washington Square.

MEETING REPORT

The meeting report was called to order by Coordinator Wilton at 2:00 PM, April 16, 1978

The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

A letter was read from Boy Scout Troup 415 thanking us for our speakout and sending a check for \$10.00. Connie is to write a thank you note for the money.

A discussion was held on the letter and post cards received from clubs in California. They want us to sign these cards and/or write letters to stop the proposed law to outlaw all exotics. Barbara is going to write to California and see if we will be doing any good by doing this and if so they can mail us some more cards and we will gladly sign them.

Barbara announced that she will be picking up chicken necks on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Announcement was made of our plans to help LIOG by having a raffle. This will give them extra money they need to print and mail the newsletter. Barbara sent an announcement for the Newsletter. Club members are asked to think up ideas and give donations for the raffle.

A date has not yet been set for the summer cat show, but Barbara said the next business meeting will be held at their place so we can see the field and plan what we are going to do.





MEETING REPORT

The summer meeting of the Southwest Branch was held in Dallas, Texas, at the home of Dr. John and Glenda Davis.

In spite of the hot weather, we had a good turnout with 26 humans, 5 cats and 1 dog attending. While the human members tried to stay cool, the cats took turns playing in the water.

The meeting was called to order by our President Rebecca Morgan who welcomed our many regulars, new members and guests.

We talked more about the new Dallas ordinance regarding exotics and were sorry to hear that the Dallas Animal Control Director could not be present to discuss this law as planned. Then after the discussion of the upcoming convention at which Rebecca Morgan will be our Representative, we had our raffle, and adjourned to more cat talk with plans to meet next in the Houston area shortly after Convention.

In attendance were: our hosts John & Glenda Davis; Roger, Faye & Kay Harmon from Marshall, Texas, Elmer & Rebecca Morgan of Dallas, Walter & Lois Marshall with baby jaguar, Ginger; Jerry & Janet Neal; Jack Joy; Bronco Peterson with African Lion, Joshua; John & Gale Duke from Rowlett; Jean Hamil with cougar Shannon and exotic dog Sly; Ben, Javis, & Tammy Schiller of Deer Park; John Liles; Harriet Leake from Louisiana; Shirley Treanor all the way from Mobile, Alabama with Oncilla, Meewa; and new members Ron and Shannon Carle with Cougar kitten and Sue and Dennis Northrup of Dallas.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Morgan, President



OEEFC CONTINUED

Barbara announced that on May 6th at 2:00 PM she is going to start an educational club for kids in her home. They will have their own officers, and will make and raise their own money. They will not, however handle cats.

May 7, 1978 at Raleigh Hills Day care Center is the date of our next speakout.

Out guest Bob Maven from the Oregon Department of Fish & Game was then introduced. He told us the bobcat is now being protected in the state of Oregon and has been since October, 1977. The pelts had been going for as much as \$100-300. and now will be worth even more since a limited number of them will be taken.

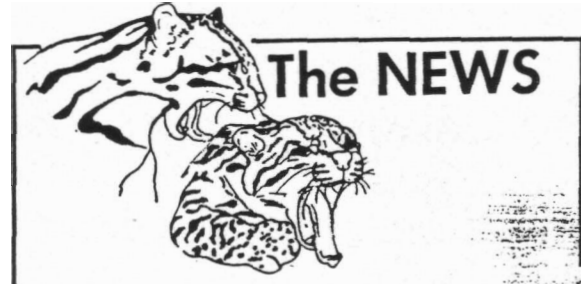
THE BIRTHS



Triplets have struck again! John Perry reports the triple birth of Geoffroys to his black female, sired by Coffee, a domestic born spotted male. The Kits, 2 boys and a girl are in need of homes and are not covered by the Endangered Species Act.

The Hatfields are also having a Geoffroys population explosion. Also due in the near future are cougars and there's already a ocelot kit, sex unknown as of this writing.

April 22nd brought the birth of very unusual white cougar cub at the Egán's. This cub is from Momma "Cougar" and "Toby" belonging to Tony Apodacas.



CEYLONESE LEOPARD ADDED TO STUDBOOK PROGRAM

The AAZPA (American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums) studbook program has been expanded to include the Ceylonese Leopard, (*Panthera pardus kotiya*) of Sri Lanka. Registration of this subspecies has been approved by the Editor, International Zoo Yearbook, and registration will be handled as are those for existing studbooks.

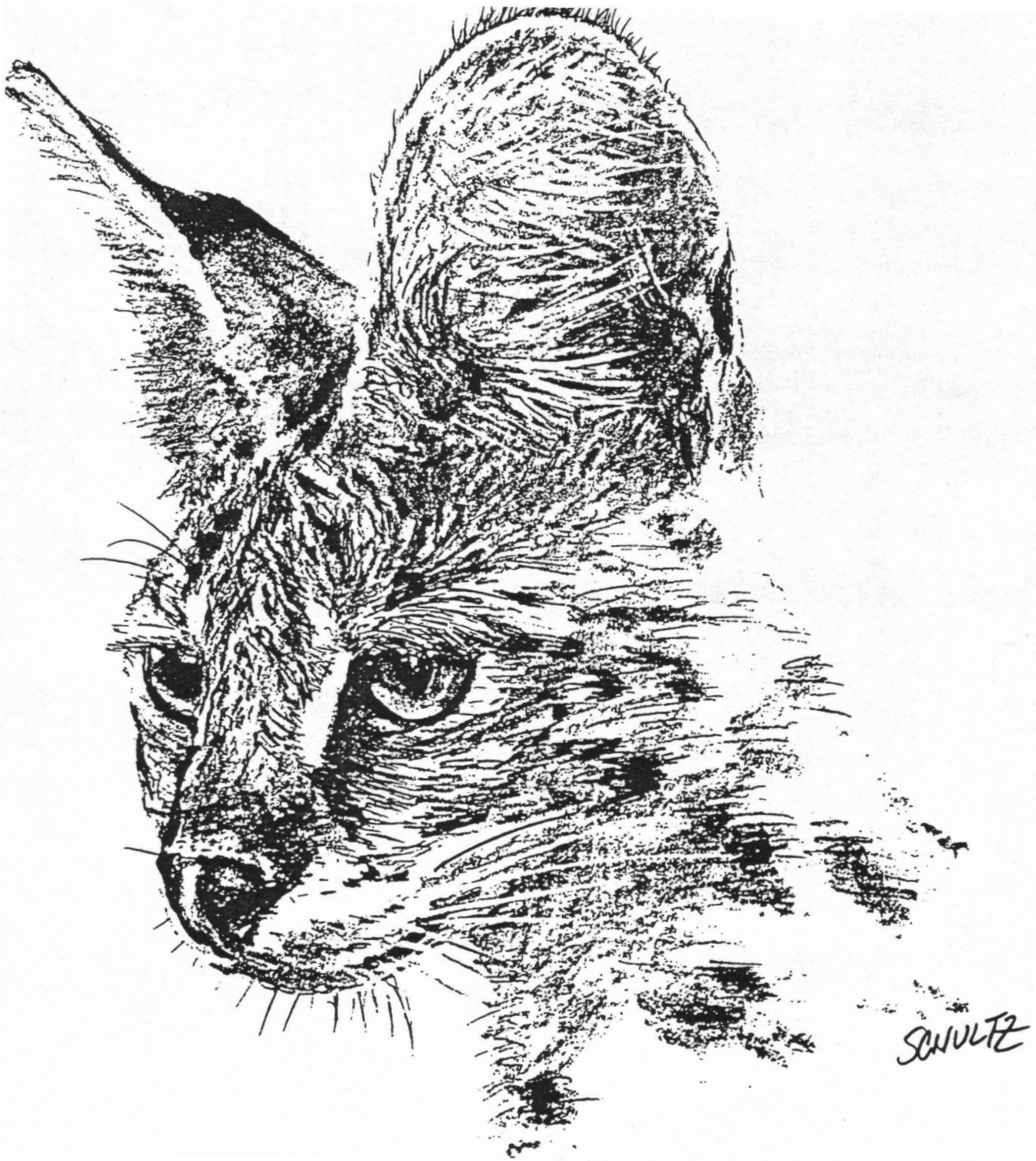
The race was added to the international studbook system because of its increasing rarity in the wild, and continued loss of habitat and prey species. A rather recently described form, as opposed to the more commonly exhibited and better known Indian leopard, it is distinguished by its smaller size, very long tail, smaller rosettes and darker color. Melanistic individuals have occasionally been reported.

Any collections possessing this race are asked and encouraged to submit data on the animals origin, vital dates, offspring produced, etc., to: Alan H. Shoemaker, Riverbanks Zoological Park, P.O.Box 1143, Columbia, S.C. 29202.

HE LIKES ANIMALS

Irving Goldman of Miami, Florida is a prosthetist who make artificial limbs for humans. But Mr. Goldman, 74 years of age is also an animal lover. "I would rather work on animals than anything else," says Dr. Goldman "They don't show it but they're grateful."

In his career Dr. Goldman has made dentures for a cow after a farmer complained the animal wouldn't chew her cud. Goldman has also fitted a dog for an artificial leg and a horse for a hoof, as well as a plastic beak for a parrot.



LIMITED EDITION SERVAL PRINT AVAILABLE

A limited edition of 100 of the above print of a female serval by LIOC member Steve Schultz are available for a cost of \$6.00 each. \$1.00 of this amount will be contributed to LIOC's treasury.

To order, send check or money order for \$6.00 to Steve Schultz
816 West Granger St., Arcadia, Florida 33821