

NEWSLETTER

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

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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



SUGAR, an ocelot kitten seems to be questioning the Great Pumpkin
Sugar now lives with Mr. & Mrs. Graham of Newbern Ore.



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Material for publication in the LIOC 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 meetings during the odd numbered months will ensure the earliest publication time of their meeting reports.

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Send all Newsletter related material to the Editor. THANKS.

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HAPPY TIMES
sad times
Helpful Hints
QUESTIONS
Answers **PHOTOS**
poetry **ART**
OR
JUST YOUR RANDOM
THOUGHTS
L.I.O.C. NEEDS
YOU!



CONVENTION 80

As usual, Convention 80 started Thursday with the early arrivals and the sounds of old friends greeting each other as well as that of new friends becoming acquainted.

The opening statements were made by President Ken Hatfield as he opened the doings with the General Membership Meeting Friday afternoon (See report elsewhere in this issue).

Our first speaker was Dr. Morton Wolf, DVM, who gave a very informative lecture on shock, what it is, how to recognize it and what to do about it.

Although Pat Warren had hoped to be able to attend, expected kittens prevented it and she forwarded her notes on evolution of the felines which was read by Ethel Hauser. This paper is printed in this issue.

Ken Hatfield then gave a very lengthy dissertation on the flea, complete with micron photos which plainly illustrated why this pest is so difficult to eradicate. A summary of his presentation is included in this issue.

Doings were adjourned for a couple of hours to allow folks a break. Then things started again with a delightful presentation by John Walsh. Mr. Walsh coordinated the project in South America which went in to rescue the wildlife displaced by the rising waters of a dam for electric power. He also briefly explained the aims and projects of his organization, the International Society for the Protection of Animals. ISPA puts out an informative newsletter for a membership fee of \$10. (Address: 29 Perkins St., Boston, Mass.) Unlike many organizations, ISPA is an action group, doing rather than talking. In the past they have rescued animals from dam flooding, animals detained at airports and have lobbied against whaling, in addition to doing extensive footwork to aid authorities in catching poachers, dog-fighters, etc. Included in their programs is education. Dr. Walsh explained that in many underdeveloped countries slaughter houses still use inhumane ways of killing the animals and ISPA will go in and show them easier and more human ways of slaughtering.

Of course Saturday for the most part was spent visiting by most with the Officers and Directors attending the Executive meeting. And the the gala banquet on Saturday evening. Jon Dyer of OEEFC presented our president, Ken Hatfield with over \$500 raised by the raffle of the video tape recorder. The recorder was won by Mr. Warwick Bonsal of South Carolina. The high-

point of the evening as always was the Lottie presentation. This year's recipient was Pat Quillen.

Then, to top things off, the raffle. Danny Treanor president of the Florida Chapter acted as auctioneer, eliciting laughs and doing a laudable job of getting folks of their assets (wallets) and into the spirit of things. For such a small crowd (only 75) over \$700 was raised - more than at any other convention. These funds went to Charles Douglas to help offset the cost of caring for Bill Engler's animals.

Sunday began with a sumptuous breakfast (missed by many????) at which Ken reported back to the membership on the doings of the Board.

Then we all met to board a bus to see Boston. This was combined with walking tours of the USS Constitution and the home church of the Christian Scientists, which is a magnificent structure noted for the "mapparium" and other stained glass. The mapparium is a room, which allows you to step into the world - totally round, it was constructed in 1932 of stained glass and is in fact a globe of the world. You walk through via a bridge.

A short stop was made for a sandwich in an area noted for its food and shopping areas in one section of old Boston. Those that were lucky enough to stay Sunday evening tramped back downtown for New England Seafood.

Nothing new, all had a great time and are looking forward to the same next year in Orlando, Florida.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - AUGUST 14, 15 & 16, 1981



EXECUTIVE MEETING

The 1980 Board or Directors meeting was called to order by President Ken Hatfield.

First on the agenda was the discussion of binding the Newsletters into book form. This process would be much too costly, so we voted to continue to sell back issues of the newsletter on a single issue basis. These are available for \$1 per issue from Shirley Treanor.

Ken elaborated on LIOC's non-profit status and applying for an IRS tax ID number. We discussed what would qualify as donations and deductions.

Ethel reported on the Lottie situation: she has made a mold of her lottie and taken casts from it. We now have enough ready-made Lotties for several years to come.

To promote LIOC registration of club felines, we will be enclosing a registration application and explanation of it in the Newsletter in an upcoming issue.

NECROLOGY

Under the LIOC by-laws, we had to remove LIOC Sanctuary status of the Starnes' Cougar Mountain Compound in Washington. Application for sanctuary status had been applied for by Virginia English and Ethel Hauser. Both families were approved for the smaller cats. We voted to provide all LIOC Sanctuaries with a certificate of LIOC's approval. Shirley will send a copy of minimum cage requirements to Ethel who will then review them and give a report back to the board on her recommendations.

The 1980-81 General Fund budget was given and approved as read.

The Florida Branch has offered to host the 1981 LIOC convention in Orlando. This will be the 10th annual convention. The bid was accepted and the date is set for mid August.

The book, ESPECIALLY OCELOTS, written by our Founder Catherine Cisin, is being updated and re-edited by Ken Hatfield. The book is totally out of print and is still in great demand.

We discussed the need for a Newsletter index. Volunteers are being solicited and hopefully one will be available soon.

The board Voted to subscribe to ISPA with their Newsletter going to our editor.

The 1980 Board meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Jackie Vanderwall
Secretary/Treasurer

GENERAL MEETING

Ken Hatfield, President, called the 1980 General Membership Meeting to order. Ken brought us up to date on our non-profit status. LIOC is now a non-profit organization and we have applied for our IRS tax ID number.

LIOC's legal fund has a balance of \$5,300 with \$655 owed to it by the general fund.

Registration of our cats with LIOC was discussed. Members are not registering their felines with LIOC. The benefits of registration will be reiterated shortly in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter.

Ethel Hauser spoke about reviving the branches in each area. If we all work together, we can get more people interested in LIOC and our work and really make the club grow. Danny Treanor spoke about motivation and club spirit.

The Registrar, Membership Secretary and Editor were reappointed without change.

There Being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Jackie Vanderwall

MEEWA came into my home as an unwanted and greatly misunderstood "minature" ocelot. She wasn't - she was an oncilla and the founder of the Treanor stable.

Throughout her twelve years with us she remained an indomitable spirit; affectionate, sleeping curled around my neck at nights; independent, making her wishes, likes and dislikes well known. A unique individual among my many cats, the Meewa was admired and loved by those who knew her and many did as she travelled extensively with me, never missing a SW meeting.

Meewa succumbed to malignant tumor that had spread throughout her system. She was first operated on for the removal of a tumor from her mouth seven years ago, then again two years ago when a breast was removed. She began failing rapidly and was obviously in pain so the painful decision was made to put her to sleep.

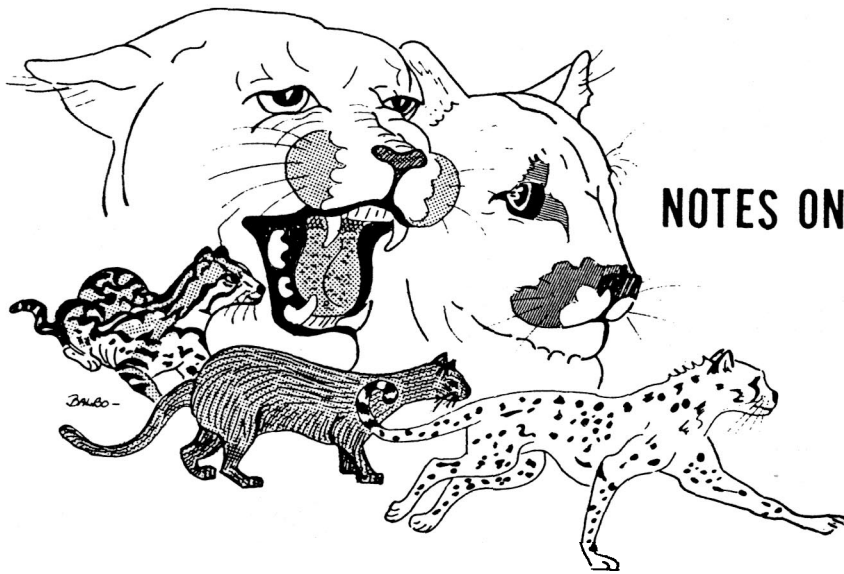


SCHEHERAZADE, clouded leopard belonging to Dennis and Jackie Vanderwall died recently at the age of 2 1/2.

Shari, as she was called, survived several critical illnesses when she died of a heart attack.

The patter of those huge feet will sure be missed.





NOTES ON THE EVOLUTION OF FELINES

The ever elusive kod kod is another example that is hard to get, for it appears that the only alleged kodkod in the U.S. might turn out to be a Geoffroy's Cat. And, in fact, taxonomists have argued for a long time that the kodkod may actually be a subspecies of *Leopardus geoffroyi*.

Most elusive of all is the Andean Mountain cat, currently known as *Oreailurus jacobita* that little wraith of the high Andes, above the snow line - South America's answer to the Snow Leopard of Asia.

This rare cat is known to science only from a few skins and skulls in a museum collection and few are the living individuals that might have been brought into captivity. Centerwall had the rare privilege of seeing one a few years back, in the zoo in Lima, Peru, but the cat died before it was karyotyped. One wonders if it, like so many other creatures of the Andes, has adapted so well to life at high altitude that it does not do well closer to sea level.

Centerwall told me that, based on his observations of this cat's phenotype (physical appearance) felt that it might well prove to be related to the ocelot and margay.

However, we do have 32 karyotypes in hand, and 28 of them have been formally published. An excellent roundup of karyotypes is available in *CARNIVORE* titled "Cytogenetics of the Felidae, written by the noted geneticist Roy Robinson and published in 1979". So far, the studies show a picture of genetic interrelationships among the cats that is somewhat different from that painstakingly worked out by the taxonomists over the last 200 years.

According to Robinson, the 28 karyotypes fall into two groups and five subgroups. He has denoted them as Karyotypes 1 thru 5. Karyotypes 1, 2 & 3 have a haploid count of 19 chromosomes, with a full complement - or diploid count of 38. Karyotypes 4 and 5 have a haploid count of 18, and a diploid count of 36.

By far the biggest subgroup is Karyotype 1, which is comprised of wildcats both big and small, scattered over all of Eurasia and the Americas. It includes all members of the genus *Felis* karyotyped so far, as well as many of the big cats - lions, tigers, jaguars, etc. and the lynx family.

Robinson regards this as being either the oldest of the most successful karyotype, with all other karyotypes being evolutionary variations that occurred in new environments or geographic isolation, as cats spread over the earth.

Karyotype 2 is very interesting. It includes the cheetah, fishing cat, leopard cat and cougar. The sole possessor of Karyotype 3, at the moment, is known to be the jaguarundi.

Karyotypes 4 and 5 are the 18 chromosome cats, which are found only in Central and South America, though in times gone by, some ranged into North America as well. Karyotype 4 includes the margay, ocelot, while karyotype 5 includes the pampas cat, geoffroy's cat and oncilla.

The intriguing thing, according to Robinson, is that the differences among the five karyotypes are relatively minor. Much of the gross morphology is identical among all the species. The main evolutionary activity seems to have centered around a couple of small acrocentrics joined to form the 18-chromosome karyotype, thus resulting in the loss of an autosome but without any actual loss of genetic material. This is known to geneticists as "Robertsonian fusion".

By Pat Warren
Presented at the 1980 LIOC Convention

I am not a member who has worked directly with wildcats in captivity, as my experiences have been limited to looking over Reg Riedel's shoulder at his oncillas and Geoffroy's cats. So I didn't have much to contribute to the Convention agenda along that line. But, in the course of working with our Geoffroy's Cat hybrids, we have run across a variety of research on wildcats. If any one idea ties this research together, it is "evolution". So, I wanted to present a little roundup on this research, for LIOC members who may not have run across these articles themselves in the scientific journals.

Some of you might want to look up these sources for yourselves, as there is some exciting work being done on the felids right now. I have the impression that nowhere in the carnivores is such intense investigation being done as in the greatest of the carnivores - the cat.

First and foremost, probably, is the ongoing effort to get all 36 of the wildcat species karyotyped. To date, according to Bill Centerwall in a recent conversation, 32 cats have been karyotyped (a process where the chromosome chains are classified and compared) the most recent being the rusty-spotted cat. The only ones missing are the hardest to get; the Chinese Desert Cat, the Iriomote Cat and the kodkod as well as the Andean Cat.

Centerwall is making an all out push to gather these last four samples, which usually involve lightly tranquilizing the cat and snipping a bit of tissue from the edge of an ear or inside a leg. The tissue is cultured, and the cells are then examined and the chromosomes studied. When we spoke with him last, he was about to go to the Far East and was making inquiries as to any Iriomote cats that might be currently in captivity on the mainland of Japan. The new friendly relations with the People's Republic of China might now make it possible to obtain samples from the Chinese Desert Cat (*Felis bieti*) as well.

The intriguing Iriomote Cat is very endangered, as you may well realize, because only an estimated 40 or 50 individuals have been located on the tiny island of Iriomote, around 125 miles off the coast of Taiwan. The natives eat them and consider them to be a chicken-killing pest, so it has made it hard for the Japanese government to protect them. Many of you may have seen the article on the Iriomote cat which appeared a couple of years ago in *INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE*. This - aside from Imaizumi's article following the cat's discovery - is about all that has been published on this cat.

A¹ the cats exhibit a distinct acrocentric that resembles 11 letter "i" with two dots. This chromosome is also in all carnivore types - dogs, bears, etc. and has to be known as the "carnivore chromosome".

These karyotypes appear to provide us with new information on how the cats evolved and what the genetic inter-relationships among the different species are. According to Robinson, they also mean that taxonomists may not be justified in constantly splitting cats up into new genera.

In other words, the new cytogenetic information may create a whole new uproar in the science of how to classify the different cats, and how to determine scientific names. What, for instance, do we now do with the pampas cat? It has been known as *Lynx baileyi*. Should it now be moved to the genus *Leopardus*, where all the other 18 chromosome cats are currently pigeonholed? Such questions may seem academic - but some people will feel strongly about them. Centerwall has a hunch that the Andean cat, when karyotyped will turn out to be another 18 chromosome cat.

Also intriguing is Karyotype 2, which includes the cheetah, the most highly specialized of the felines.

The cheetah was already present on earth is something like its present form during the Pleistocene era, but in a giant form - one of the "mega-mammals" that abounded the earth during the glaciations. Attaining greater size was an evolutionary means that many mammals adopted to deal with the ever-increasing cold, as the great size made it easier to conserve body heat.

A recent article in *Science* magazine, entitled "Cheetahs, Natives of North America" states the opinion that the cheetah may have evolved here in the Americas and that it is related to the cougar - not the jaguarundi, as some have supposed. The author does a bone-by-bone comparison between the cougar fossils and the fossil of a very early cheetah species which was found recently in Colorado.

Cougar and the cheetah share an identical karyotype, as the author points out and this is indicative of a close evolutionary relationship.

The author also discusses the evolution of the specialized leg bones of the cheetah vis-a-vis the development of the non-retractable claws. It is interesting to note that the fishing cat, also belonging to karyotype 2, has claws that are partially non-retractable, according to Centerwall.

The Iriomote cat, yet another living fossil who closely resembles the now-extinct felid *Pseudalurus*, is not yet karyotyped. But it will not be too surprising if this cat turns out to be a Karyotype 2 cat, for its claws are at least partially non-retractable - its tracts as observed on its native island, always show claw marks. And phenotypically the Iriomote cat is said by various experts to resemble the leopard cat, which belongs to Karyotype 2 even tho it has retractable claws.

The author of the *Science* article bases his opinion that cheetahs evolved in North America on the comparison of this very early Western cheetah fossil with other cheetah fossils found elsewhere.

And that, in fact, is where much of the current controversy lies. Where did the felids first evolve? Did they first appear in Eurasia and Africa, and then migrate across the now submerged Bering land bridge to North America, thus following the migration pattern of the first humans to reach the Americas? Or did they move in the opposite direction, like the horses, who first evolved in North America and then filtered across the Bering land bridge to Asia?

Bill Centerwall tells me that, in his opinion, the felines may have evolved in the Americas, but that they may have had two different evolutionary directions - the 18 chromosome cats in North America and the 18 chromosome cats in South America. Other experts hold fast to the old idea that the felids originated somewhere in Eurasia.

When the Iriomote cat was first discovered, in the early 1960's, the noted Japanese scientist Imaizumi published an opinion that the Iriomote cat closely resembled some of the South American species, particularly the kodkod, and he posited a genetic link dating back to when the continents were splitting apart. He baptized this cat as *Mayailurus iriomotensis*, the "Maya" being in honor of its alleged South American link. But, his position has been hotly attacked and other authorities accept the classification of the cat in the genus *Prionailurus*, along with the Leopard Cat, fishing cat, rusty spotted cat, et.al.

It is interesting to examine the religions and folklore of the peoples of Oceania. This is one of the few areas in the world where cats were not included in the pantheon of deities. It indicates that in their own west-to-east migratory history, during which they island-hopped across the south pacific as far as Easter Island, possibly even to South America, that they met no cats along the way.

The fact that the domestic cat, the lion and the lynx all have an identical karyotype is a little mind-bending. "Here" says Bennett Blumenberg of the Carnivore Genetics Research Center, "we get into some very heavy genetics, such as questions of existence of regulator genes" Those would determine that a particular animal will develop into lion or lynx. The chromosomes in each karyotype may possibly be only building blocks, distinguished from one another by their size and shape and the number of arms they have - but in reality carrying encoded information on the DNA that can cause a cat to develop into a lion or lynx or other cat of Karyotype 1, for instance.

Roy Robinson is currently very interested in the color genetics of wildcats, and recently published a paper in *Carnivore* mentioning the possibly homologous nature of the color black in wildcats and domestic cats. Is the melanistic (black) wildcat really just a wildcat version of the black domestic? Domestic "black" is formally termed *nonagouti*, a mutant in which the *agouti* (patterned) portions of the coat that produce a tabby pattern have disappeared. Like melanistic wildcats, some *nonagouti* domestic cats also show a ghost pattern in the dark fur.

Currently, Robinson is very interested in collecting hair samples of wildcats. If any LIOC members care to contribute hair samples for Robinson's research, send them to me, in a labelled envelope at Harmony Hill Road, Pawling, N.Y. 12564, and I will forward them to him. It is very important for him to be able to collect as many samples as possible. Be sure to note on the envelope which part of the body the samples are from. If there is pattern on your cat, take two samples - one from the patterned area and one from the non-patterned - if you can do this without your cat clouting you in the chops. It is best to take the samples from your cat's sides.

More intriguing new information may come out of some enzyme studies of the wildcats, which have been initiated by several investigators, among them Jeffrey Nakamura. He is investigating a specific enzyme at a certain locus, and has found that, while various wildcats of Karyotype 1 and 2 have identical enzymes at this locus, the Geoffroy's cat has a different enzyme at the same locus. Moreover, the inheritance of this enzyme is sex-linked.

Nakamura has not published his investigations yet, so I can't give you more detail - he simply relayed the above findings personally to us. It will be interesting to see if further enzyme assays of all the wildcats reveal any interesting patterns of a genetic inter-relationship between the 18 and the enzymes that typify them.

On the archeological front, there is interesting new information on the antiquity of the jaguar cult in Central and South America.

We are all familiar with the jaguar in the art of later Mesoamerican urban civilizations; the Aztec, Maya, Olmec. But new discoveries in South America in the Amazon lowlands, and in the highlands of Ecuador and other neighboring countries show that man has been active in the Americas for much longer than we previously suspected. There are now some more reliable means of dating archeological remains, among them amino-acid racemization, a revised radiocarbon 14 dating system, and potassium-argon

In south America, new finds have already rolled back the horizon of the Stone age indian man to around 30,000 years. In the same areas new finds also associate early man with mastadons, indicating that these megamammals were pushed as far south as the Amazon basin by the ice sheets. The Amazon may have had a more temperate climate during that period and was not the hot, tropical rain forest that it is today.

The earliest stone age carved objects of man appear to come out of the Amazon, and the jaguar is portrayed as a sacred animal on these earliest pieces of art. Themes that become very familiar in the later highly civilized styles of Mesoamerica - such as the jaguar mask and the man-jaguar or werejaguar - are already found in their most primitive form in this South American stone age. These jaguar themes continue into pottery making and metal working, as these arts were developed. It appears that, when the glaciers receded, man and other animals gradually moved out of the Amazon lowlands into the highlands of neighboring areas, following a number of natural passes through the Andes. From there, the frontier of civilization rolled north into Central America and Mexico - taking the jaguar cult with it everywhere it went.

It can now safely be said that the cult of the jaguar is one of the most widespread cat cults of ancient times, and one of the most potent as well.

Kings, priests and shamans of the Americas regarded their power as coming from the jaguar. A bench covered with jaguar skin was regarded as the seat of power, much like African kings regarded their power as coming from lions and leopards. After all, any man who could kill a jaguar, especially the mega-jaguars of the stone age, had to be a mighty man indeed.

The jaguar cult was full of male chauvinism, with early myths relating that heroes were born of the rape of a maiden by a jaguar. Some early sculptures from the San Agustin culture show jaguars copulating with women. The "jaguar children" so familiar in Olmec art - babies with feline features - may well represent the offspring of such incredible and genetically impossible hybrids.

In contrast, the great cat cults of the Middle East were strongly feminine. The leopard was connected to the neolithic mother-goddess of Asia Minor, recently found at the site of Catal Huyuk and to Cybele and Isis. The goddess Freya in the north, had the lynx as her sacred animal.

The jaguar mask, with its tongue hanging out, represents the magical utterances of the shaman that wore it. Shamans were thought to have the power to turn into jaguars during life and they could roam the earth after death, vampire-fashion, as a were-jaguar.

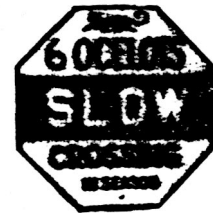
Curiously, the jaguar appears to be poorly represented in the early art of the North American Indians. Perhaps this is because the jaguar was no longer ranging in North America when these tribes finally established themselves there. While fossils of giant jaguars are found as far north as Alaska, the cat may have been forced south by the advancing glaciers and never moved back into its northern ranges after the glaciers retreated. Representations of cats are found among the sacred animals of the North American Indians, but they are mostly cougars.

Well, this finishes my musings on the subject of evolution and wildcats. Archeologically, genetically and otherwise, a lot of attention is being paid right now to these beautiful creatures that we love. They have survived the ice age and thousand of years of competition with man, another master predator.

But now, judging by the Endangered Species list, their time may be running out.

Those of the IIOC who are actively committed to breeding endangered species in captivity all hope that we can turn back the clock for the cat. We would like to ensure that for centuries to come these enthralling predators - both large and small - will boldly stalk the earth as they did when puny man first stood upright, millions of years ago.

IS THIS SPACE EMPTY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T
CONTRIBUTE?



In south America, new finds have already rolled back the horizon of the Stone age indian man to around 30,000 years. In the same areas new finds also associate early man with mastadons, indicating that these megamammals were pushed as far south as the Amazon basin by the ice sheets. The Amazon may have had a more temperate climate during that period and was not the hot, tropical rain forest that it is today.

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In contrast, the great cat cults of the Middle East were strongly feminine. The leopard was connected to the neolithic mother-goddess of Asia Minor, recently found at the site of Catal Huyuk and to Cybele and Isis. The goddess Freya in the north, had the lynx as her sacred animal.

The jaguar mask, with its tongue hanging out, represents the magical utterances of the shaman that wore it. Shamans were thought to have the power to turn into jaguars during life and they could roam the earth after death, vampire-fashion, as a were-jaguar.

Curiously, the jaguar appears to be poorly represented in the early art of the North American Indians. Perhaps this is because the jaguar was no longer ranging in North America when these tribes finally established themselves there. While fossils of giant jaguars are found as far north as Alaska, the cat may have been forced south by the advancing glaciers and never moved back into its northern ranges after the glaciers retreated. Representations of cats are found among the sacred animals of the North American Indians, but they are mostly cougars.

Well, this finishes my musings on the subject of evolution and wildcats. Archeologically, genetically and otherwise, a lot of attention is being paid right now to these beautiful creatures that we love. They have survived the ice age and thousand of years of competition with man, another master predator.

But now, judging by the Endangered Species list, their time may be running out.

Those of the IIOC who are actively committed to breeding endangered species in captivity all hope that we can turn back the clock for the cat. We would like to ensure that for centuries to come these enthralling predators - both large and small - will boldly stalk the earth as they did when puny man first stood upright, millions of years ago.

IS THIS SPACE EMPTY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T
CONTRIBUTE?





The June Guest Meeting was held at the Hauser's in Vancouver Wash. Jon Dyer called the meeting to order; Introductions were made and the minutes and Treasurer's report were read and approved.

Jon showed flyers and tickets on the Video Cassette which will be given away at the convention.

Ethel announced there were no more scheduled speak-outs for the school year. She wanted input on next year's schedule: should we take one day a month and do two or three speak-outs in one area? Chuck & Ginger Petersen are taking their cats to their area schools and talking to smaller groups on a 1 to 1 basis.

showed a "Support Watchable Wildlife" poster. It is a ad to support small wildlife such as birds, squirrels, etc

Parker, Mays & Means Chairman, wants ideas for fund raising.

The TV coverage scheduled had an emergency and could not attend. They missed an excellent speaker - Dr. John Kovsky. He told us first the precautions we should take with our cats because of ash from Mt. St. Helens.

- 1) put "artificial tears" in their eyes
- 2) Wash their feet
- 3) Give Kaopectate to settle stomachs
- 4) wipe cats with damp cloth
- 5) Keep outdoor cages hosed down
- 6) Cover ash with cedar shavings & keep them dampened down
- 7) Their sneezing is a defense mechanism and no cause for alarm.

The main topic of his lecture was parasites.

Ticks-paint them with fingernail polish - they breathe thru their body and by painting them they will die and will fall off. If you pull them off, you could leave the head wick will cause an abscess. You can use food coloring to mark the spot and watch for abscesses.

Mites-prefer certain locations where there is no hair or only light hair covering. They can also live on man and re-infect the cat. Wash with a gentle soap. Use lime sulphur to treat. It stinks, but is cheap and safe.

Insects are attracted by odor and color. One cat in a compound may be affected and not others. Some people are more sensitive than others. To treat your cat get Miller's Lime Sulphur (liquid) or Lilys and mix 4-1 ratio. These are available at garden stores. Keep them out of the pets eyes.

Scabies comes from contaminated soil or on contact. Cannot be seen by the naked eye as it burrows under the skin.

Ectoparasite is any parasite that lives on the exterior of the host such as ringworm which also affects humans.

If you have had to treat your cat for a skin condition you should see a good dermatologist yourself. Be sure to tell

him about your cat's condition and treatment. You could be acting as a carrier without having the condition.

Earmites are as common as fleas. 80% of the domestics have them. Check for black or gray wax in their ears, scratching the ears or abscesses under the ears as well as hair loss. Earmites damage the cat's eardrums and any abscesses must be treated and opened. Earmites must be treated every 3 days with lime sulphur or mineral oil until all eggs and adults are killed.

Lice are different. They lay eggs attached to the hair itself. They have a 2-3 week life cycle and affect humans as well as cats.

Fleas live mostly on the neck and back area. They can "blood drain" the cat and cause anemia. Tape worms can come from fleas. It is extremely difficult to get rid of the heads of tape worms and you must also get rid of the fleas. You need a good, continuing program. You can treat the animal by giving them repellants

- 1) B complex vitamins
- 2) Brewers yeast (however this will cause gas and diarrhea as well as increased appetite.

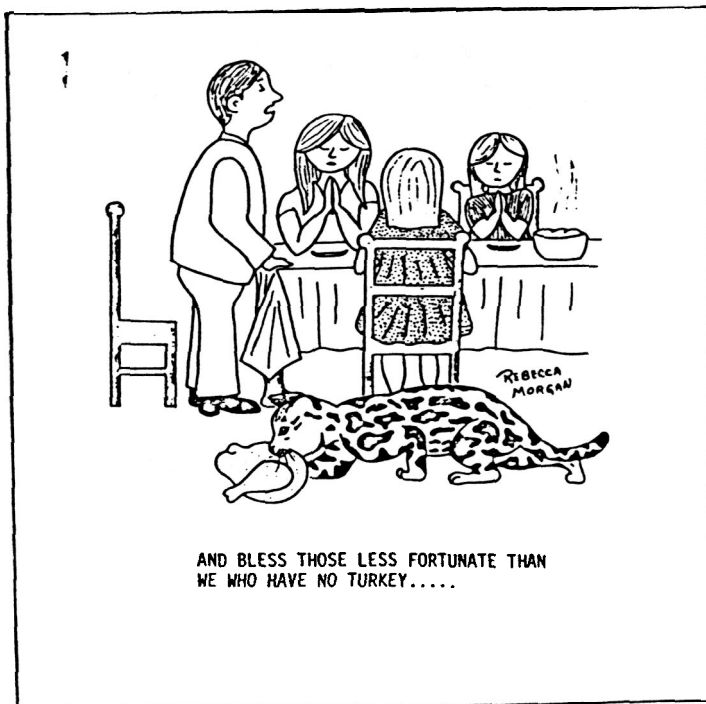
Use pesticides but make sure you include the premises the cat lives in. Make sure you clean the entire area including the yard and keep at it! It does no good to doctor the animal over and over and have it reinfected by putting it back into an infested situation. Your carpets, etc. must also be kept free of flea eggs or they continue to hatch and perpetuate the cycle.

Most insects can build up an immunity to any insecticide over a length of time so it may be wise to switch remedies.

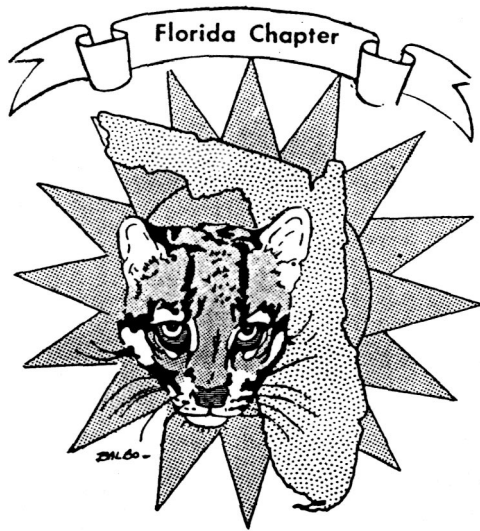
Grubs or maggots are caused by flies laying eggs. In treating remember that exotics are susceptible to some powders, collars, etc. If you have a problem take the container to the vet with you so he will know what to use to counter act it.

Shirley Molar had a one woman art show set up in the living room so we all went in to have a look. She does beautiful work.

We had the dollar pool and raffle and the meeting was adjourned.



AND BLESS THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN WE WHO HAVE NO TURKEY.....



Proper Security Prevents Tragedy

Reprinted from Exotic Unlimited Newsletter

It was a nice day, sunny and warm. A member who has a bobcat that usually resides in the house, decided to chain him out under a tree so he could enjoy the good weather. A sturdy leather collar was put on the cat, the collar was recently purchased from a local pet shop, then a chain was attached to the collar which was then fastened to a tree. It was made sure that the tree was one that had no low branches, nothing that Mr. Bobcat could get caught on or go over was near, so he could not hang himself. After checking all possibilities for his safety, the owner aware of other tragedies having happened, went into the house to write a letter.

Upon completing her correspondence, she decided to take the letter to the mailbox and started up the driveway. About three quarters of the way there, she spotted a strange object perched atop the mailbox! Closer scrutiny revealed that it was Mr. Bobcat (who was supposed to be securely chained to the tree) The owner, very much surprised, and a bit panicky, snatched up said bobcat and marched him back to the house. Then, went out to see how on earth he had gotten loose. There, beside the tree, lay the chain intact and still attached to a leather collar that was snapped in half.

Luckily, this story had a happy ending with Mr. Bobcat munching on a good sized piece of roast beef in the comfort of his home. BUT, it could have ended in tragedy. The cat could have been picked up, have been shot, the authorities called or he could have been hit by a car or run off and never heard from again. So PLEASE. Do not use leather collars or harnesses to secure your animals. It may be just purchased, but you have no way of knowing how long it has sat on the pet store shelf. The safest thing is a chain that is padlocked on your pet.

A 200 pound mountain lion prowling Grossmont College campus east of San Diego, Ca. died shortly after county animal control officers attempted to subdue it with a tranquilizer.

The puma, which control officers suspect was a pet that worked its way loose from a nearby residence, had been stalking the campus for about seven hours before it was killed. Animal control officers tried to capture the cat using a tranquilizer dart. Officers stated they used no more than necessary to subdue a "large dog". The cat was rushed to El Cajon Valley veterinary clinic with in 15 minutes of being tranquilized but it was already dead.

A reminder that protection cannot be over-rated.

Keeping cats out of sight pays off...from those who would be afraid of the animal, the ignorant who might be tempted to give the cat its freedom, the malicious who would try to do damage the curious who could inadvertently endanger the animal.

Good sturdy quarters, with a lock, screening and privacy contribute to protecting the animal, its the least we can do to those we take into our care.

One For The Book

As most exotic cat owners are aware, exotic cats will sometimes suck on their own tails, a pacifier of sorts. We've also heard of those who suck on a paw; but Sassy, a 3 month old female bobcat belong to Penny and Bill Andrews is every innovative, she sucks on one of her own nipples!

The September meeting of the Florida Chapter was held at the home of Diane and Keith Firestone in Ft. Lauderdale. If you like bar-b-q ribs, this was the meeting to attend.

The meeting was conducted by yours truly, President who reported back to the membership on the Convention in Boston. However the main purpose of the meeting was to announce that Convention 10 will be held in Florida-Orlando to be precise. Dates chosen are August 14, 15 & 16 so those of you who need to put in your vacation requests can do so NOW.

Further discussion centered on themes, speakers and fund raising. It was decided that LIOC members should be encouraged to use this time as a REAL VACATION. So we're not planning on many speakers giving folks more time to visit the local attractions including Disney World, Sea World, Circus World and the many others in the area. Hopefully, discounts rated can be obtained for those who wish to take advantage of the local sites. Although details aren't firm yet, one member has suggested a raffle prize that no one and I mean NO ONE could resist. But - details later.

Keith & Diane Firestone, longtime members have been into cougars for some time, but imagine our surprise to see the new hurricane proof cages.

Cats in attendance were Baby, MaRiot, Malaika ocelot, and two baby cougars as yet unnamed. People in attendance included our hosts, Dorothy Firestone, Jean Hatfield, Siggy & Sally Nied, Ricky Welsher, Scott Bortz, Robert Goldberg, James Wheatley, James & Lyn Craft, Edith Von Dort, Betty Walters, Ronald & Betty Bevier, Troy & Tina Hancock, Gene Erskine, Marc Pearlman and Danny Treanor with guest Ellen Bartlett.

A notice to all members: annual dues were voted in at \$5.00 a year to cover the expense of mailing notices, etc. Those not paying will be dropped from the mailing list. The next meeting will be at Art and Gertrude Freeman's in Crystal River in November - it will be a picnic so plan on attending.

There has been no meeting reports from us in quite a while due to changes in the staff and the fact that Jean Hatfield has had her hands full while Ken has been in Oregon. In summary, we have had some great get-togethers at Jim & DeeDee Barnes hosted by a tiger and a puma. And another at Robert Baudy's, who generously admitted all members free of charge.

Submitted by
Danny Treanor

PAT QUILLEN RECEIVES 1980 LOTTIE



The Lottie is a small bust of an ocelot's head created 15 years ago by Brenda Duprey. Each year it is given to someone who has given of themselves in the furtherance of the club, its cats or its members.

Past recipients are asked for nominations and then are asked to vote on the nominations received. An interesting point is that most of the time, there is one name that pops up more frequently than others the vote for most part surprisingly enough, when one considers the wide range of past recipients, is unanimous.

This years recipient is a very quiet lady, many of you probably don't know her or maybe haven't even heard of her - unless you happen to have a leopard cat and then it's almost inconceivable that you haven't. She is Pat Quillen.

I first got to know Pat at an LIOC Convention and then much, much better when we started experiencing problems in keeping our oncilla kittens alive. Those who haven't spent many sleepless nites with newborn kits only to lose them for apparently no reason cannot imagine the utter despair one experiences. I had given up hope, after consulting with all and I do mean all the "experts" when this quiet lady offered help. "Please don't quit breeding, try again and let me see what I can do" she offered.



Pat seems to have an affinity for the little ones - they respond for her when it would seem impossible. Pat also has been the Leopard Cat's biggest booster, changing the image of this shy, misunderstood creature, from that of an untamable spitfire to a loving if reclusive, personal pet. Since her first convention, Pat has always managed to be accompanied by at least one new face - bringing new blood constantly into the club. Locally she has done much to improve the image of the 'exotic owner' with San Diego authorities and now chairs the Animal Control Board for that city. She is the founder and sustaining force behind the Leopard Cat Society. And in her seemingly endless energy has established the Society of Scientific Care; a non-profit organization for research on the small felines. She has had papers accepted for publication in scientific journals and ever so quietly is making her mark with respected scientists the world over. Showing them that all exotic owners aren't weird, but can be invaluable in their knowledge of their charges.

It's quite obvious that Pat Quillen is a very special person, a extraordinarily loving person that has made all exotic cats' existence better for her presence. Thank you Pat.

SANCTUARY STATUS APPROVED

At the Board Meeting of the Officers & Directors two new applications were looked into and approved for LIOC Sanctuary status.

LIOC sanctuaries are places that have all necessary local permits to keep exotics and that the Board feels can be recommended as safe places for displaced cats. Sanctuary owners and those wishing to place their cats must work out all the details - LIOC does not enter into that - but merely states it has looked into the facilities provided and finds them satisfactory.

Ethel Hauser, Vancouver, Washington, was granted status for keeping small to medium sized cats, while Virginia English, Hollywood, California was granted status for small cats.

Cougar Mountain Sactuary - operated by Shelley Starnes was discontinued as an approved LIOC Sanctuary as the Starnes are no longer LIOC members.

A True Tiger "Tail"

A tiger may appear nonchalant with its handlers thus making tiger handling look easy. So goes the "tail" of a volunteer who insisted that taking a tiger for a stroll was as easy as it looks.

Having only experienced tiger strolling under calm conditions she forgot (or never dreamed) that there may come a moment when things could suddenly become difficult.

The moment, unexpected as it was, did come abruptly - it seems a goose decided to practice flight maneuvers without first checking or he would have known that a tiger was taxing down his runway with a volunteer. The three met and the tiger was airborne in pursuit of the goose, taking the volunteer with her.

To put this "tail" at its proper end quickly, the goose is okay. He unruffled his feathers and went on his way. The tiger is fine too, but the volunteer is black and blue from the pole she hit when the tiger walked her a bit!

MORAL TO THE STORY: Never judge a tiger by how nicely it walks. Judge it by its strength if it suddenly jets or balks.

By Betty Eagan, Jungle School Safari
as told to Gail Adama, Exotics Unltd

