

NEWSLETTER

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

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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



RECIPIENTS OF THE 1981 LOTTI - BARBARA AND HERB WILTON, PORTLAND, OREGON



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PLEASE SEND ALL APPLICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP
RENEWALS DIRECTLY TO BARBARA FOR FAST SERVICE.

ALL NEWSLETTER RELATED MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT
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Help Wanted

REPORTERS

The Long Island Ocelot Club urgently needs
material for its Newsletter publication. We
can only share those experiences, funny, happy,
sad or tragic, which are sent to us. This
sharing is a part of the enjoyment of owning
an exotic.

WRITING EXPERIENCE: None whatsoever

PREREQUISITES: Love of exotic cats

TYPE OF MATERIAL Articles of happy and
sad experiences;
technical articles; opinions of any and all
exotic cat related subjects (including LIOC)
all short and long items - also day to day
experiences; announcements of: adoptions,
pregnancies, births, deaths (with autopsy
report if one was done) all subjects of
interest; all questions - give other members
a chance to help.

SALARY: The love and gratitude of all exotics,
their owners; and the Newsletter Editor

STARTING TIME: IMMEDIATELY!! The Newsletter
is waiting on You.



CONVENTION

The scene for LIOC's 1981 convention was the International Inn in Orlando, Florida.

With all there is to do in the Orlando area, the Florida Chapter graciously left most of the days free to visit the many area attractions, recognizing that most members use vacation time to attend.

Friday found most folks in and out of the Hospitality Room, finding old friends and making new ones. Pat Quillen, as always had kittens in attendance, an oncilla that went home to Alabama with Shirley Treanor and a leopard cat that just needed to be with Mom. A pair of margays and a kit came with Fred Boyajian, The Vanderwall's from Portland, made it all the way with their clouded leopard.

Friday evening the general membership meeting was held and then we were addressed by Robert Baudy and Gladys Lewis on Mr. Baudy's compound in Centerhill Florida. Accompanying them were numerous kits, tiger, spotted leopard, black leopard and even a little fox.

The trainer of the Killer whales from Sea World showed us slides and spoke on the most effective means of training our animals.

Saturday the Executive board met while others played tourist. And of course the evening was filled with the auction which raised over \$700 dollars. The drawing for the afghan that Catherine Cisin had crocheted was made by our congenial barkeep and Ethel Hauser came up with the winning number. This raffle raised \$300 for the maintenance of Bill Engler's cats which are being kept by the Douglasses. Some years ago the Portland branch made a beautiful quilt which has the various branch logos embroidered on it. It was won by Gertrude Freeman at the Houston convention.

In order to provide everyone with the opportunity to enjoy this work of art, Gertrude raffled it off on the condition that this would be done each year, the quilt passing from winner to winner. June Shatto was this year's lucky one. June, then passed the quilt on to BeeJay Lester in recognition for the help she has been and the work she has done in the Florida area.

The biggest prize of the evening, the LIOC Lottie was presented to Herb and Barbara Wilton of OEEFC, for their continuing efforts in promoting the club and help they have given to all in the past many years. Congratulations

Sunday a beautiful buffet breakfast was held and Ken Hatfield reported back to the membership on the actions of the Executive meeting, the previous day. A group then left for a trek to Robert Baudy's compound and goodbyes were tearfully said with promises to "See you next year"!

Executive Meeting

Minutes - August 15, 1981

The Board of Directors met Saturday morning. Shirley Treanor was once again appointed Editor of the Newsletter. Barbara Wilton was appointed Membership Secretary and Rebecca Morgan will serve again as Registrar.

Jackie Vanderwall will change the bank account and club forms to read "Long Island Ocelot Club, subsidiary of LIOC Endangered Species conservation Federation, Inc." She will issue receipts for all donations. This was necessitated by our newly acquired non-profit status. (A new name was needed due to technical reasons).

There were no changes in LIOC Sanctuaries.

Ken Hatfield will write up recommended guidelines for caging and care of different species. This will be published in the Newsletter. Extra copies of this issue will be printed to be used as needed.

Timely production of the Newsletter has become a problem as Shirley lacks material. Art Human was appointed "Supervising Reporter". He will solicit the aid of LIOC members and recruit regional reporters to submit and compile articles for the Newsletter. We will also have a photo and story contest to promote more interest.

Registration of our felines will be promoted

The 1982 Convention will be hosted by the South-Western Branch, probably in the Houston area.

The Legal Fund monies will be invested in a money market account in order that interest earned can be loaned to members encountering legal problems. The funds principal will not be touched.

Attending this meeting were: Ken Hatfield, President; Ethel Hauser, V.P., Sec/Treas. Jackie Vanderwall, Term Directors Shirley Treanor, Elmer Morgan, Barbara Wilton, Rebecca Morgan. Branch Reps Art Human, Greater N.Y. and Dennis Vanderwall, OEEFC also attended.

Submitted by
Jackie Vanderwall
Secretary/Treasurer

1982 DALLAS, TEX

Oct 22-24

From the Founder who wasn't there

Having just completed a week long total physical examination, including laboratory tests, your Founder emerged with the feeling that her body was not her own. Having dropped to 120 weak pounds, rebuilding her 5'7½" frame was indicated.

And so it was I cancelled my arrangements with the East Hampton Travel Agency, notified Convention Host, Danny Treanor and other Floridian friends who had attended Convention 9 in Randolph, Mass with me last year, that I was not to be expected in Florida, for convention 10. But let's look forward to Convention 11 next year in Texas.

The predecessors of the annual convention have to have been the Amagansett picnics held each year from 1953 on, where members from literally all parts of the country brought their friends, two and four leggers, for feasting and exchanging information.

The old-timers, by nature gradually reducing their number, must give way to the present. The new-timers must share their experiences with all who are now "learning" their exotic felines either by word of mouth or by communication through the Long Island Ocelot Club Newsletter. Progress must never be impeded!

The NEWSLETTER is our lifeline. In the interest of prolonging the Long Island Ocelot Club, we must stay with it for the sake of our own exotics and for the sake of felines everywhere.

Catherine Cisin



a note of thanks

Dear LIOC Friends:

A big "THANK YOU" to the Jon Dyer Fund for its help during the illness of my male margay, Gigolo, this past autumn.

He has a history of G.I. problems, but this siege was accompanied by diarrhea. He also has infected lower canines which were broken off at the tip during various cat-spats over the years. I had one of them packed but the job wasn't done correctly. Removal is a major operation and at age 12 I hesitate to put him through the ordeal and its stress.

During his illness I used every favorite thing he loves to eat to stimulate his appetite. He refused everything for 5 days except he did try to lap honey off my finger. He was catatonic - not moving except to defecate. I panicked and knew I was going to lose him. But somehow with lots of antibiotics and ringers, he pulled through. I kept telling him how much I loved him. Wonder if that helped?

Finally, he ate a little baby food (turkey) and regained his appetite. I cooked chicken and cut meat in little pieces. Now he's on a bland diet still - he cannot tolerate the chicken necks and vomits them up everytime. Gigolo is "hooked" on baby food which he gets daily.

I mix dry baby cereal with Vionate with it and he laps it all eagerly. His bowel movements have improved and are fairly regular.

His regular tastes range from honey to oatmeal to persimmons and he'll do anything for a fresh fig. He also likes avocado and banana peels. It's my conjecture that these cats must eat fruit and vegetation in the wild, along with their protein prey. Or, perhaps, the lack of natural prey creates a need for the fruit and vegetation.

Even though I continue to write about this fanatastic feline, words cannot express how marvelous he is. Affectionate, mischievous and aloof, but never a bore. He's the "bad and the beautiful" packaged in 12 pounds of pleasure.

One of the girls with whom I work knows how much I adore Gigolo. She left this on my desk one day while I was at lunch.

I though you might appreciate it too. I just Howled.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE HELP OF THE JON DYER FUND.



Sincerely,
BeeJay Lester



LOTTIE

The "Lottie" is a little plaster bust of Brenda Duprey's ocelot. Over the years it has been presented to those among us who have given exceptional service to the cats or the club. Past recipients are asked for their nominations and then their vote.

This year twin Lotties were presented to Barbara and Herb Wilton.

Both have served the Oregon branch as Co-coordinators. Barbara has served as Secretary/Treasurer of her branch for 5 years. These dedicated folks have never missed a "Speak-out" or a work party. Singlehandedly they pick up the chicken weekly for the entire Branch. Barbara is responsible for the inception of the youth club.

Two conventions have been held in Portland and Herb hosted both. Many of you have seen the "Safari Jackets" the Oregon group wears - they were all sewn by Barbara.

The list of things Herb and Barbara have done for the club and others is endless. Suffice it to say that they love the cats and are a help to everyone.

THANK YOU HERB AND BARBARA

A Look at Ranching

CITES proposed a number of ideas. Ranching is one method of producing controls and animals for sale.

by Lee Edwards

The management of wild animals has long been a very complex project involving a variety of choices from occasional spot controls on predation to limits on a diminishing habitat to controls on commercial trade.

CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, is primarily concerned with the controlling or preventing trade in species considered endangered or threatened, essentially management by force. Now, CITES is considering a new approach, ranching, as a method of increasing certain animal populations and as a way of filtering selected numbers into the commercial market. Currently, the concept is both vague and controversial, but in the years ahead it could offer some promise for the pet trade.

An Explanation

Ranching is not precisely as it sounds. It does not involve a ranch but instead is a two-phase concept of managing wild animals.

"The surplus" the committee added, "would be available for exploitation by trade."

Over a span of time the idea could become important to the pet trade, but most wholesalers say it will have little benefit in the shorter term.

Captive bred

The term 'captive bred' is often confused with ranching but captive breeding is defined by CITES as "the exploitation of animals produced under a system in which the entire life cycle takes place in a controlled environment".

In the shorter view, captive breeding promises quicker results.

Some problems

No one has defined ranching. Are the young conceived in the wild and completely raised in captivity? Can they be conceived in captivity, then returned to the wild? Or are they conceived in captivity, partially raised in captivity, then returned to the wild? The answer could be any, or all of the above. Critics are correct when they say CITES needs a sharper picture of what ranching is to be.

"Ranching", the CITES committee admitted, "Could have been defined to include a broader spectrum of possibilities."

However poorly defined the beneficial objectives are numerous: to allow more animals to reach maturity; to utilize some animals for reproduction; to utilize others (i.e. surplus numbers) for commercial trade; to reduce the pressures of poaching, illegal capture and smuggling; finally to guarantee animals a certain safe population base, free from all pressures, poaching, habitat losses and more.

Not all nations agree with the idea and critics cite a list of possible problems. Some say ranching is impossible to enforce or monitor. They feel it would be difficult if not impossible, to document animals raised by ranching from those captured illegally. Ranching, such critics say, would be a green light for further depredation.

Before anything, these critics insist, any animal to be traded must be transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II (which moves them from endangered to threatened). That procedure is long, difficult and loaded with political pitfalls.

Fears

Some fear ranching would loosen restrictions: others insist it would tighten restrictions, further limiting trade. Still others insist ranching would pollute the genetic pool of pure stocks, resulting in mutations and hybrids. In the pet industry a large number feel captive programs, that is populations kept completely in confines, are a better immediate solution.

Despite critics, despite real and imagined problems, the long-range advantages are obvious. Species which are endangered could be rebuilt to

larger, safer numbers. Most all pressures could be reduced or eliminated. CITES itself would have a better fix on the real numbers of individual species.

Several experts favoring ranching have said the listings should remain unchanged, ranching should be tested and if surplus stocks develop, these should be handled by exclusions - long before the grueling slow procedural changes are attempted.

A number of nations favor the idea and several projects are being considered. In Papua, New Guinea, one salt water crocodile, *Crocodylus porosus*, is a prime possibility. In Nepal, a musk deer *Moschus moschiferus*, is being prepared. CITES say possibilities include crocodiles, turtles, some snakes, lizards, amphibians, fish and insects.

Currently there is no resolution to the furor and controversy over ranching. There is no clear definition and no agreement on what ranching really is, how it could work or how populations and surplus stock could be controlled or sold.

At the end of the CITES meeting in New Delhi last year, the U.S. said it believed in the concept but felt the proposal was "premature and inappropriate TRAFFIC, one of the staunchest critics of the idea said, "Trade in Appendix I species (via ranching) is still not acceptable. Ranching populations still need to be delisted (to Appendix II) prior to trade. The delisting can occur only after the nations provide sufficient proof that the wild population will not be depleted and that ranching products will be marketed or identified so as not to be confused with equivalent wild animal products."

PIJAC is watching the development of ranching with considerable interest but, according to General Counsel, Marshall Meyers, PIJAC realizes the actual benefits will be "a long way down the road."

Captive breeding, Meyers added, "will offer more immediate results."

"Ranching could prove beneficial in the long term," he said, "but most importantly with ground and water based animals. Controls for bird population would be more complex but research, in the works and yet to come, should solve even those problems."

Reprinted from PET BUSINESS, Vol 7 No.11

GROWING UP

Growing up, for an exotic cat -
Is the lengthening of first this then that.

The ears take off and look like wings.
Then the tail outgrows all other things.

The legs stretch out and just don't fit.
And paws resemble a catcher's mitt!

It's a miracle at that.....
To see the full grown cat!



by Joan Townes





Federal Funds Aid E. S. Research

From the Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, Sept. 1981
submitted by Daniel Twedt

Prior to 1976 when Congress first authorized Grant-in-Aid funds under section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, some States used federal aid in wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson or P-R) and Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson or D-J) matching funds for endangered species research and inventories. Both P-R and D-J are still being used by some states for endangered species, under a 3/4 Federal funding arrangement.

Funds for the P-R program come from a manufacturer's excise tax on sporting arms, ammunition, archer equipment and handguns and they may be used to benefit wild birds and mammals, and for hunter education. Funds for the D-J program come from a manufacturer's excise tax on certain sport fishing equipment. This program is more restrictive than the P-R in that only projects which involve potential sport fish species may be funded.

The table below lists the endangered species, the Federal funds planned to be spent in fiscal year 1981 and the States involved. Except where specified, all funds are from the P-R program

SPECIES	FEDERAL \$	STATE
Bats, Mariana Fruit	7,600	Guam
Bear, grizzly	24,225	Mont.
CATS(Ocelot, margay jaguar)	5,109	Tex.
Jaguar	750	Ariz.
Pronghorn, Sonoran	3,705	Ariz.
Hawaiian crow	12,450	Hawaii
Bobwhite, masked	750	Arizona
Crane, whooping	6,537	Texas
Doves	2,800	Guam
Eagle bald	4,350	Arizona
" "	1,500	Nevada
" "	4,716	Texas
Falcon peregrine	750	Calif.
" "	375	Nevada
" "	5,437	N.M.
" "	375	S.D.
" "	1,955	Texas
Forest Birds	5,850	Hawaii
Gallinule	2,000	Guam
Hawaiian Coot	2,000	Hawaii
Hawaiian Gallinule	2,000	"
Hawaiian Stilt	2,000	"
Koioa	2,000	"
Nene	18,450	"
Palila	1,725	"
Pelican, brown	46,416	P.R.
" "	3,144	Texas
" "	9,100	V.I.
Rail	2,400	Guam
Rail, Uma clapper	7,500	Ariz
Shearwater	2,100	Hawaii
Swiftlet	1,700	Guam
Woodpecker, red cockaded	2,751	Texas
Trout, Ariz.	750	Ariz.

A contract has been awarded for a one year study to determine the status of the ocelot (*Felis pardalis*) in Texas. The study should better define what steps need to be taken to effect the species recovery.

REGISTRATION IS IMPORTANT!



JERSEY'S BALD EAGLES STILL HAVE EMPTY NEST

New Jersey's last pair of bald eagles has failed to produce offspring for the fifth year in a row and state officials say they now suspect the two eagles will never reproduce.

Naturalists had hoped the state's last pair of nesting eagles would finally produce young this year. However, an inspection of the eagles' nest revealed only one broken egg which officials said was either infertile or had too thin a shell to support the mother's weight.

Officials are considering replacing the eagles eggs with chicks hatched in captivity next season.

ARMADILLOS ARE ADORABLE?

Texans now find the slow-footed, dull-witted, uncuddly armadillos suddenly profitable. After years of relative obscurity, the armor-plated creatures are paying the price of the celebrity - crass publicity, commercial exploitation, and personal endangerment from their fans, according to The Wall Street Journal.

"It's almost a cult," says Stuart Stone, a merchandising executive at Federated Department Stores' Sanger-Harris unit in Dallas, which sells armadillo emblazoned dominoes, backgammon sets, and brass reproductions, along with armadillo stuffed toys, games and T-shirts.

The fad means profits for merchandisers; for armadillos, it's downright dangerous. Until recently, their most traumatic encounter with civilization was with speeding cars. Now they are growing in demand for armadillo races and stuffing by taxidermists. Their skins show up as hats, handbags, sewing baskets, and planters, and a variety of medical research projects that are often fatal to the armadillo. Armadillos are showing up in local TV commercials. They're even appearing in tiny chunks on Texans' dinner tables, most often in the form of chili.

Given a choice, armadillos would no doubt go back to the good old days when they were considered merely pests.

BABY GATORS HATCH

Seven babies, the first ever from artificially inseminated alligators, hatched at the Gatorland Zoo in Kissimmee, Fla. Of the 36 alligators that were inseminated last spring, only one, a 10 year old named Lisa became pregnant.

HUNT BRINGS PROTEST

A special hunt is under way to thin out starving deer in the Everglades. After several angry phone calls the area was closed to observers.

"Quite a few people wanted to know why we can't drop hay or corn over the area for them to eat" Lt. B.F. Lampton, an education officer with the Fish & Game dept. said.

"Well, a deer can't eat hay or corn. Their stomachs can't digest it." About 300 permits were issued for the hunt which was intended to help solve the overpopulation problem in the everglades.



Committees were established for planning the upcoming convention, which we, the Friendship Branch, will be hosting.

The meeting was concluded with our exciting raffle. The winning ticket was held by Bronco, Harriet & Roger. The meeting was formally adjourned with plans to meet in Dallas at the Morgans in February.

In attendance were: hosts, Walter & Lois Marshall, Rebecca Morgan, Carl & Jean Hamil, Dr. Roger & Faye Harmon and daughter Kay, Terry Davis & Harriet Leake, Dr. Orlando & Estelle Patino with their daughters Kendra & Monica, Elfriede Vickery. Bronco Peterson with cougar Amanda and our newest members Kathy Russell (that's me) and Mr. & Mrs. Houston McClain.

Submitted by: Kathy Russell
(in the absence of our Secretary)

MEETING REPORT

The summer meeting of the Southwestern Branch was held August 1st at the home of Alvin and Carol Snitker. The meeting convened at 2:30 pm.

The first order of business to be taken care of was the election of a new secretary since Jan Neal resigned. Carol Snitker was elected.

Plans for convention 1982 was discussed, such as speakers and raising money to cover the miscellaneous expenses.

Jean Hamil will be in charge of looking into these arrangements. Also discussed was having a raffle to make money at the convention. A picture of a leopard was raffled off and was won by Jean Hamil. The raffle netted \$21.

In attendance were: Alvin & Carol Snitker, Rebecca Morgan, Carl & Jean Hamil, new member Karen Hobbs with cougar and guests Don & Gina van from Ft. Worth.

Submitted by:
Carol Snitker

MEETING REPORT

Our fall meet was held at the home of Walter & Lois Marshall in West Columbia, Texas.

After the usual greetings to old and new friends, all conversation was subtly stolen by our furry friends - a pair of both jaguar and cougar babies. We could tell they were delighted to awaken to a houseful of already well-trained cat people, down on all fours just waiting to spoil babies.

After the babies were fed and coaxed into taking an afternoon nap, Walter & Lois served a lunch fit for a king! (Walter, the gumbo was delicious)

Rebecca Morgan, President called our meeting to order and then shared the details of the convention

Elections were held and our officers for the next year are:

Rebecca Morgan, President
Jean Hamil, Vice President
Carol Snitker, Sec/Treas.
Elmer Morgan, Historian
Kathy Russell, Branch Reporter

Branch Reporter is a new position.

It was decided that S.W. would donate \$50 to the Jon Dyer fund.



LIOC TERM DIRECTOR JON DYER, DIED IN A PLANE CRASH MARCH, 1981.

AT THE REQUEST OF HIS PARENTS, KEITH & GLADYS DYER, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED A MEMORIAL FUND FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL FUNDS FOR CLUB MEMBERS AND THEIR FELINES

MONIES ARE LENT FOR MEDICAL EXPENSES ONLY AND MUST BE REPAYED WITHIN A YEAR AT A LOW RATE OF INTEREST.

DETAILS ON BORROWING AND REPAYMENT SCHEDULES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM JACKIE VANDERWALL, 17824 S.E. MORRISON PORTLAND, ORE. 97233. ALL INFORMATION IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

WE HOPE TO PERPETUATE THE JON DYER MEMORIAL FUND THROUGH DONATIONS AND FUND RAISINGS. SINCE ITS INCEPTION, SEVERAL MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED HELP IN JON'S NAME.



COPING WITH DEATH

The death of a pet can sometimes be as traumatic as the loss of a human family member. For some people, their pets are their family. Here are some suggestions that may help you to cope with the death of your pet.

- Do not attempt to replace the pet too soon. You can never replace a loved one. Wait until you are ready to love another pet.
- Burial ceremonies can be the final act that helps family members (especially children) accept the loss of the pet.
- Do not be afraid to cry. Only you know how deeply your life was touched by that animal. Feel free to express your emotions.
- Do not blame yourself for the loss of the pet. Remember the good times. Remembrance is the highest compliment you can give to any living thing.
- When you decide to share your life with a pet, bear in mind from the beginning the fact that this animal's life expectancy is much shorter than yours.





Registration has been very slow lately. In fact, we haven't had any cats registered so far this year.

Registration has been a tremendous help to some of LIOC's members. Just last month I received a call from a member in New York, who said that CFA was now accepting registration of Geoffroy hybrids. However, in filling out the forms, they needed proof of domestic birth and to help prove this, CFA was accepting the LIOC registration of the parents.

This is just one way that registration has helped. In the future it may prove more important. Laws have recently been passed which allow domestic born endangered species to be sold across state lines from permit holder to permit holder. This way kittens can be moved but again the key is Domestic Born - and proof of domestic birth is required.

In fact, the Officers of LIOC feel this is so important that the normal fee of \$3 has been reduced to \$1 until January 1st, 1983.

So, take advantage of this special rate because even if you are not planning to breed and sell kittens, one day you may just have to prove where your cat came from and that it is domestic born. Uncle Sam may not take your word for it and may require written proof.

Rebecca Morgan
Registrar

BOOSTER TIME?



Tamer told to silence five lions

Lion tamer Martin Lacey of Margate, England has been hit with a noise abatement order after his neighbors in this Kent county seaside resort complained that the roaring of his five circus lions was keeping them awake at night.

Lacey, 38, said his lions only make noise when they are moved or want to mate. "It's just not practical to ask them to shut up" he said, "but the residents are welcome to come and try."

New Wildlife Research Planned

The National Wildlife Federation, the nation's largest conservation organization, has established a new wildlife research unit which will increase its studies on rare, threatened and endangered species.

With the help of grants from Exxon Company, USA, the Union Oil Company of California, and the Robert J. Kleberg Jr., & Helen C. Kleberg Foundation, the Institute for Wildlife Research will be the Federation's chief information gathering and research body for the study of wildlife in its natural habitat.

Scheduled to open at the NWF's Laurel Ridge Conservation Education Center in Vienna, Va, soon, the institute will be headed by Dr. S. Douglas Miller of Amherst, Mass. Miller is a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Miller will also head the NWF institute for Wildlife Research's Center for Feline Species, which will collect and analyze data on the nation's shrinking population of wildcats, emphasizing research on the often controversial bobcat.

Condensed from Pet Business

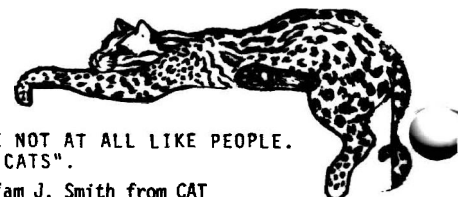
State Report: Arkansas Studies State Species of Concern

Contributed by Daniel Twedt from the Endangered species
Technical Bulletin

In recent years an increasing number of panther (Felis concolor) reports have been made to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, giving new hope that this species still remains in small numbers in the more remote areas of the state. The last actual panther kill report, however dates back to 1975.

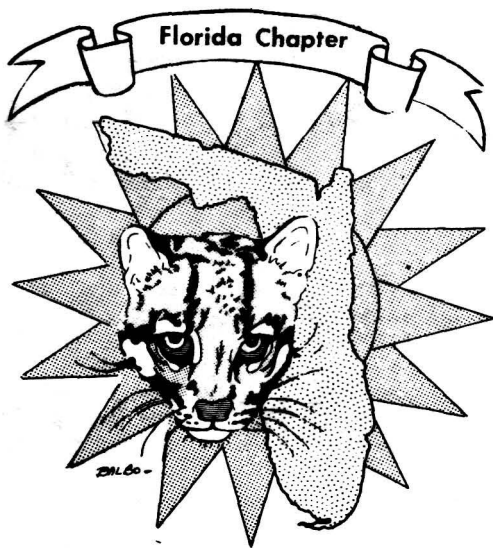
As sighting reports are made, they are "checked out" by Commission biologists and ranked on a scale of one to four according to degree of validity. In 1978 both scat and track (level 1) indications of the species were found. Since that time, five separate sightings have been made by State and Federal employees (level 2). All of the sightings were made within the areas traditionally recognized as panther habitat; however, no observations were reported in close proximity to the White River National Wildlife Refuge where they are also thought to be.

The panther historically found in Arkansas is listed as Endangered under the Endangered Species act of 1973, and is one of the species being studied by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission under its cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Matching funds from this agreement have helped support the surveys to determine the incidence and location of the species in Arkansas. The funds have also assisted the state with public education projects which emphasized the species need for protected habitat and isolation. Preliminary considerations have been given to establishing the critical habitat of the species.



"CATS ARE NOT AT ALL LIKE PEOPLE.
CATS ARE CATS".

William J. Smith from CAT



Readers Write

Editor:

Nov-Dec, 1980 Newsletter, page 7: "Although westerners aren't usually welcome to this communist country, a big-game hunter with \$50,000 is welcome with a red carpet," also, "Mongolia's communist government will guarantee that you bag one" (a snow leopard).

What is the basis for these accusations - information from two anonymous "American Hunters"?

Your item on snow leopards was incorrect on several counts:

1. Westerners are welcome to visit Mongolia. Sightseeing tours are regularly offered by such large organizations as Club Universe, Los Angeles, And General Tours, N.Y.
2. You imply that the Mongolian government would receive the entire cost of the trip - including airfare, American guide fees, hotel accommodations, meals and all the rest.
3. It is illegal to hunt snow leopards in Mongolia.

The Los Angeles Times, in its Travel Section, on August 9, 1981 carried an article by its staff writer Michael Parks.

"...for a time the game list included the snow leopard, an endangered species in most countries, but it was taken off the game list several years ago, according to Mongolian officials, when the snow leopard population here also began to drop."

You may not be aware that your bias is rather glaring. You express hostility against a "communist government" but are non-judgmental toward "two American Hunters" who promise their clients not only a bag of a dead snow leopard, which according to the Times would not be allowed, but also to bring the "trophy" into the U.S. despite the U.S. Ban, which would be illegal.

I think you owe LIOC Newsletter readers a retraction and a correction.

Promoting international enmity does not help endangered species of cats nor does it offer improved safety (survival chances) for domestic cats and their owners.

Yours very truly,
Frank Gotlieb

Unfortunately, I did not keep a copy of the article from which the original story originated. However, impressions of various reporters may vary widely. I cannot see how you could construe that this story, as originally published "promotes international enmity".

Furthermore, because an act is illegal does not prevent its happening. I have had conversations with several hunters who know, first hand, of South American countries that condone hunting of endangered species, even though they are participants to the CITES treaty. They further maintain that getting a trophy into the U.S. presents very little problem.

Shirley

MEETING REPORT

The July meeting of the Florida Chapter was the last meeting to be held before we undertook the reality of Convention X.

Unless you have ever hosted one of our conventions, you will not understand the last minute panic that sets in. It's not that plans have not been made, but it's the little, last minute details, that can drive you crazy. But forget the details because this will appear long after the convention is over. Let it suffice to say that you worry about how many will come, how many rooms to guarantee, how many permits to get and will there be enough items for the auction. Got the idea?

The turnout for our July meeting was great! Twenty-one members. It must be the food - at least it all seems to disappear.

To our delight there were several newcomers and during the afternoon everyone had a great time just visiting. You couldn't have stopped the story swapping if you had tried. By the way of business, we decided that 20% of the net receipts of this years convention will go towards the fund that carries the name of a good friend - Jon Dyer. The remainder will be split between the National and Florida treasuries.

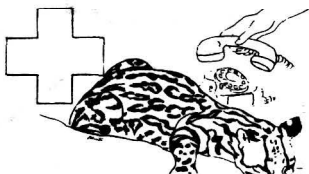
We hope we did a good job for our expected visitors and will inspire them to return again.

Those attending this meeting at the Treanor mansion were: Marian Allen, Laura Cox, Gertrude & Art Freeman, Jean Hatfield, Bonnie Hadley, Sadie Douglas, Don Hadley, The Grimes - Dennis, Barb & Lisa; John Pickard & Tammie Sheats, Gladys Lewis (one of the convention speakers) James Wheatly with uncle & aunt, James & B.J. Scott, Barbara Bond and Delores Newman.

My personal thanks to all those Florida Members who attended this meeting and to all those who have made the effort to attend convention.

Respectfully,
Danny Treanor
President,

KNOW YOUR VET'S TELEPHONE NUMBER





OREGON-EDUCATIONAL-EXOTIC FELINE CLUB

MEETING REPORT

Another great day was enjoyed by OEEFC members on August 29th as 19 cats lined the open pasture at the Wilton's second annual exotic cat show. Large lawn umbrellas in various colors were used to provide shade and atmosphere. Cats shown were puma, ocelot, margay, leopard cat, clouded leopard, serval, jaguarundi, Geoffroy's cat, bobcat and hybrids.

Everyone was on their best behavior and the viewers were amazed. "Will they revert?" was asked as usual and when they discovered Herb Wilton's ocelot, Cilli, was 14 years old and Zonya puma was 15, they began to understand what we were saying about diet, environment and LOVE.

The free show was open from 11am until 4pm. Much literature was distributed about LIOC and OEEFC and Mr. Dan Kahl, a one-time LIOC member whom we hope will join our ranks again sends remembrances to Catherin Cisin, Barbara Bond and Roger Harmon.

We had visitors from as far away as New Mexico, but near or far, all enjoyed the show. One of our new features this year was a "petting booth". They were allowed to pet hides from an ocelot, margay, leopard cat and Geoffroy's as well as a North and South American cougar. This gave them the opportunity to feel the velvet and compare sizes and colorations without any danger.

OEEFC was well pleased with the show. This is our one "Fraebee" a year where parents can bring children who are not allowed at the meetings.

DON'T MISS IT!

I'm desperate folks - to show you exactly how desperate I am, we're having a

CONTEST!

That's right - the Board of Directors have agreed to prizes and everything - just to get you to participate in the Newsletter again.

HOW?

Each issue of the Newsletter will feature an article and a photo submitted by - guess who?

That's right -

YOU

Each year these winners will be posted at the convention and those attending will be asked to vote on the best.

Articles submitted may either be sent in from another source (if so, please identify the source) or written by you.

Of course the photos must have a cat in them - but can include humans.

DON'T MISS THE FUN - PARTICPATE!!!

CRAZY CARACAL



BY REBECCA MORGAN

