

NEWSLETTER

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JUNGLE CAT



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ALL NEWSLETTER RELATED MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT
TO THE EDITOR, SHIRLEY TREANOR.

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.

JUNGLE CAT

Caus

A larger cat than the African Wild Cat with long legs, a short tail and pointed ears, its general color is a grizzled fawn, reddish along the spine with the underparts and face a paler buff and the tail more gray. The ears are reddish brown and have long black hair at their tips, but are not so tufted as the Lynx and Caracal. The body is indistinctly spotted, the legs have black bands and the tail has two black bands close to its black tip.

This species ranges across Asia from the Caucasus to India and Vietnam. It also lives in north-east Africa in the Nile delta and the lower part of the Nile Valley. It likes low, marshy ground, with reeds, sugar cane or bamboo to give cover, and it is also known as the Swamp Cat. It is a nocturnal hunter and will attack all kinds of small game.

(from The Beauty of Big Cats)

Ethel Hausers Caus, Poo Chow, is used by OSEPC in their educational program. To enhance his rather drab appearance - in comparison to the Ocelot, etc. - Poo Chow is described as a conglomerate of several animals. His tufted ears and jowls put him in the Lynx-Bobcat family but his face strongly resembles a small cougar. The coat is compared to that of a deer (texture, color, etc.). Next we go to the feet and they are recognized as similar to a jack rabbit so the children remember he is a good jumper. They invariably call out "raccoon" when we call attention to his tail, but they have yet to guess a "chicken" when we ask for the next animal. The voice of a Caus sounds like a chicken squawk. They are a very vocal cat.

Learning to Be a Lion

Reprinted from Time-Life CATS

One day, three and one half months after she conceives, a lioness leaves the pride, seeks out a sheltered, grassy, isolated area, and gives birth to her litter of cubs. From the moment they are born until they near adulthood, some two years later, the babies are stalked by danger.

They enter the world blind and helpless, totally dependent on their mother. During this time a lioness must sometimes spend up to an entire day away from her cubs while she hunts for food, leaving them unprotected from hungry predators.

The lioness herself may be injured or killed while looking for food and leave her family without a provider. Finally, there are some females who are just bad mothers. They may abandon or even eat their cubs. So great are the hazards of infancy that only 50 percent of all cubs survive.

Once the cubs are introduced to the pride at the age of about 2 months, however, life becomes easier. Hunting as part of a team again, the lioness can find food easily and quickly and has more time to spend with her cubs, and if their mother is away, the youngsters have a good chance of finding another nursing female to feed them. Cubs nurse from the time they are born until they are about 6 months old.

Lionesses genuinely like the company of cubs and will stand for an incredible amount of climbing, tugging and biting from them but see that they don't stray from the path of acceptable behavior.

After joining the pride, not only are the cubs life - it is more fun for there are all those fascinating tail tufts to play with. And affectionate lions and lionesses of all ages and sizes from whom the cubs learn coordination, stealth and the finer points of cooperative living and hunting. Even the powerful males of the pride usually show great patience and warmth toward the youngsters and take an active part in their grooming and rearing.



Camera tips

put photos into focus

The holidays are over, and you settle back into your favorite chair to take a look at the photos just back from the developer - but can these be the same pictures? The cat seems to have lost her head, quite literally! There's a pine tree growing out of Mom's head, and everyone's eyes are glowing red? You can't remember those things in the viewfinder!

The following tips may help you take better pictures.

1. Get closer and fill your picture frame with your main subject.
2. Avoid poses. Try to have your subject in as natural setting as possible.
3. Use "Fast" (ASA 400) film. It's more sensitive to light and will let you shoot without flash in all but the dimmest light.
4. If you must use flash, see if your camera will accept an electronic flash with a swivel top on it. If it will, use this type (you can aim it at the ceiling and get good light without flashing directly into faces).
5. Placing the flash farther from the lens will help you avoid "red-eye". Catch your cat looking away from the lens, not into it.
6. Be aware of your background. Avoid photographing trees, flag-poles, etc. that appear to be growing out of the subjects head.
7. Do not "cut" your pictures in half. If you include the horizon, place it below or above the center of your frame. Divide your pictures into segments and do not place your subject exactly in the center.
8. If you cannot control your subject, change your position so that the composition is the way you want it. For example: Move to the side, get higher, or lower (even lie on the ground if it'll help).
9. If in doubt between two or three compositions, shoot all possibilities then decide when the pictures are processed.
10. Be alert and inventive. Without fail, the best shots appear unexpectedly. An alert and imaginative eye and a loaded camera will capture the moment.
11. Most important - experiment! We learn a lot from our mistakes. Therefore, don't be afraid to make them.

GIANT GARAGE SALE

by Gary Casper

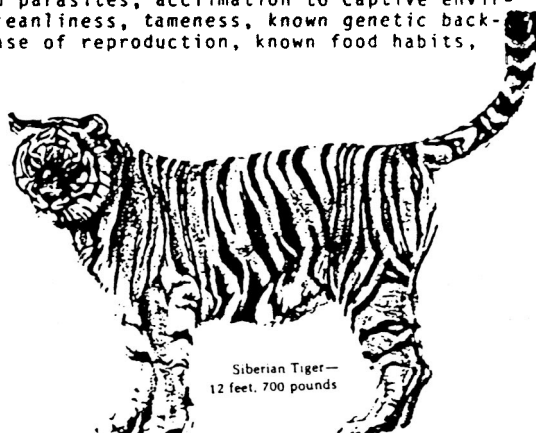
Like to by some python shoes? An alligator handbag? How about a leopard-skin coat or an elephant-foot ice bucket? You can now purchase these and other high fashion items from your friendly Fish & Wildlife Service. Yes sir, the "feds" are now selling vanity products made from our rare and vanishing wildlife. The Department of the Interior announced early in September their intent to auction off to the highest bidder thousands of contraband wildlife products. The sale will be held in Brooklyn, New York on 9/29/82. So hurry on down to get your powdered rhino horn pills, barbecued whale meat and elephant ivory. No part of an endangered species will be offered.

It seems Interior Secretary James Watt has conceived a grand plan to raise funds: sell all the material the Fish & Wildlife Service has confiscated over the years which has since piled up in warehouses. A recent internal audit criticized the Service for weak inventory control and security procedures, noting that 2,400 items were unaccounted for in one warehouse alone. Apparently unwilling to diverge from Watt "conservation" strategy, Fish & Wildlife agreed to the sale, politely forgetting their decade long war against the sale, trade, or transport of any protected wildlife or parts thereof. As all wildlife breeders know, the "feds" have for years carried this war to an extreme by denying permits to trade, transport or market captive born live stock, on the grounds that such trade will somehow stimulate poaching of wild animals; and by generally making it a difficult as possible to obtain permits through mountains of red tap, delays and fees.

Now, after years of listening to the Fish & Wildlife service tell us that we can't trade our captive born Indigo snakes, ocelots, rare birds, etc, because to do so would encourage the "black market"; we notice the Fish & Wildlife itself, in an act of unparalleled hypocrisy, is actually selling vanity products from these rare and vanishing wildlife! Unlike trade in live, captive-produced animals, which can disperse individuals and enhance breeding populations, Fish & Wildlife Service's sale items were obviously produced by killing wildlife, which decreases populations.

Captive born animals possess biological and economical advantages that can eliminate the "black market" trade through a free market situation. In contrast, animal products such as the Fish & Wildlife Service is selling generally lack these advantages, and thus are highly likely to encourage a new "black market" when sold in quantity to a public long denied them. Indeed, flooding the streets with 1400 pairs of python shoes, (to name one item on the list) is a very good way to bring those "classy" shoes back in vogue. Unlike animal product farms, which can regularly supply a demand for an item, Fish & Wildlife one-time sale will not supply the future demand for these items.

For those unfamiliar with the advantages captive born animals can boast, they include: freedom from disease and parasites, acclimation to captive environments, cleanliness, tameness, known genetic backgrounds, ease of reproduction, known food habits, etc.



Siberian Tiger—
12 feet, 700 pounds

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL Monday, August 30, 1982



—By Journal Artist Luis Mechano

Hey, skin-flints! US to unload its white elephants

Washington, D.C. —AP— Want to buy an elephant-foot ice bucket or an opossum-fur coat? How about 1,400 pairs of python-skin shoes?

The government is holding a giant garage sale to unload these and thousands of other wildlife products seized after they were brought into the country illegally.

Anyone is eligible to submit bids, but officials expect most of the interest will come from commercial dealers.

Those buying will have a lot to choose from — bracelets and other ivory jewelry made from the tusks of African elephants; shoes, purses, and briefcases from alligator, python and other reptile hides; and hundreds of trinkets and knickknacks from the hides, horns, bones, feet and teeth of exotic animals.

The items are being assembled in a warehouse in Brooklyn, N.Y., where they will be sold by sealed bid Sept. 29.

The sale represents a housecleaning for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which has been storing thousands of wildlife products for more than 10 years in government warehouses around the country.

Turn to Auction, Page 12

Auction

Uncle Sam has a bargain

From Page 1

Last year, an internal audit criticized the service for weak inventory and security procedures, contending that more than 2,400 items could not be accounted for at the New York warehouse alone.

Alan Levitt, spokesman for the Wildlife Service, said the accumulation resulted from wildlife protection laws passed by Congress in the 1970s, which clamped tighter restrictions on animal products that could be imported.

"At the time, no one imagined how much stuff would pile up or what the government would eventually do with it," he said.

Over the years, the seizures have included such things as leopard-fur coats valued at \$10,000 to \$20,000 each, cases of barbecued whale meat and powdered-rhinoceros-horn pills sold as sexual stimulants.

After the audit, Interior Secretary James Watt ordered the department to sell as many items as possible. Officials spent a year developing sale procedures and selecting items that could be sold without violating US law. No product made from an endangered species will be offered for sale.

Selling by lots

While the sale will cover less than 30% of the estimated \$5 million in goods seized over 10 years, that still will amount to thousands of items.

Officials have divided the products into 380 lots and will require bids on an entire lot. The lots range in size from 6,000 ivory trinkets to carved ivory art work sold separately.

While dealers are expected to bid on the multi-lot items, about 25% of the lots will be of interest to individuals, the service said.

Because this is the first sale they have ever held, wildlife officials have no idea how much money it will bring in.

"We are optimistic. We've had a lot of inquiries from people wanting to know how to buy these products," said A. Eugene Hester, the wildlife service official supervising the sale. "Some of the ivory art is the most beautiful you could hope to see."

The Wildlife Service is publishing a catalog describing sale items and will open the warehouse for inspections for four days in September. Officials said bids must be received by Sept. 29.

While most of the items seized each year at customs stations are commercial shipments, many illegal items are brought in by tourists who unknowingly buy items on endangered species lists.

"Our guide is: When in doubt, don't buy," Levitt said.

ATTENTION

THE
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

IS PLANNING A SALE OF ABANDONED AND FORFEITED
PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH ENFORCEMENT OF
VARIOUS WILDLIFE CONSERVATION LAWS. THE SALE
WILL CONSIST OF SUCH ITEMS AS:

**FUR COATS JEWELRY IVORY ART
VARIOUS ANIMAL SKINS
BELTS, HANDBAGS, SHOES, WALLETS**
(made from animal skins)

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SALE,
COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, DETACH, AND DEPOSIT IT
IN THE NEAREST MAILBOX. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY
MAIL OF THE DATE AND LOCATION OF THE SALE.

COMPLETE AND MAIL
NO POSTAGE NECESSARY



A talkative cat from Cadiz,
Wasn't quite perfect, (who iz?)
In spite of his flaws,
He drew rounds of applause,
Rhetorically speaking, that iz.



Reprinted from "Notes from NOAH" Newsletter of the
Northern Ohio Assoc. of Herpetologists.

One wonders what the FWS is really up to. On the one hand their permit -non-issuance policy for captive born animals, combined with unreasonable delays, fees, and excessive red tape has forced most breeders of rare wildlife out of business and pulled their animals out of production. This is eliminating critically needed captive propagation programs at a time when wild populations are declining at alarming rates. For example, a rare cat breeder estimates a 90% reduction in births; while the endangered Indian python is now being crossbred with the Burmese python to avoid trade restrictions.

On the other hand, the FWS is now selling contraband products which it has been confiscating in an attempt to stop trade in for years (rightfully so). Indeed, this sale seems to violate an international treaty: The convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. This treaty, through cooperation among member nations (including the U.S.) seeks to conserve protected species by strictly regulating sale in wildlife products and rigidly enforcing wildlife protection laws. This treaty has in many cases made poaching very difficult, yet now at the same time that African nations must post armed guards to protect the herds that remain, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is selling contraband ivory. A.E. Hester the wildlife official supervising the sale describes it as "some of the ivory art is the most beautiful you could hope to see."

Is something fishy going on? How can they justify these contradictory stands?

If the USFWS were truly concerned about wildlife survival they would encourage, rather than suppress captive propagation and discourage, rather than contribute to the slaughter of animals for vanity items such as shoes and coats. One wonders if the Service is only concerned with making a buck, rather than protecting wildlife. Or could it be that they need funds with which to launch another "snakescam"?



PACHYDERM NOTES

The 2 elephant species of today - African and Asian or Indian - are all that remain of more than 600 different kinds of elephants that once lived on earth.

The 1st of all elephants was a hippo-like animal. It was only about 2 feet high and had no trunk - it lived in Egypt about 45 million years ago. The closest relatives of today's elephant were the woolly mammoths which died out about 10,000 years ago.

There are 40,000 muscles and tendons in an elephant's trunk. Its tail weighs about 22 lbs. The ears of the African elephant weigh about 110 lbs each.

Elephants have 6 sets of teeth during their lifetime as the food they eat is very coarse. By 60 years of age, the last set of teeth is usually worn down, it can no longer chew food and so dies. The heaviest pair of tusks on record weighed 440½ lbs. Contrary to popular opinion, elephants are not afraid of mice. Scientists at an American zoo put rats and mice into an elephant enclosure, but the pachyderms took no notice.



A ST

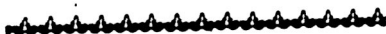
For the 1st time ever, two injured manatees were successfully released to the wild in Florida after being rehabilitated in captivity. One of the large, docile "sea cows" was injured when she became trapped in a crab trap line, which wrapped around her flippers. She was treated at Seaworld and released with her calf which was uninjured but had remained with its mother. Another female had apparently been struck by a boat and was rehabilitated by two other private groups, Marineland and Homassassa Springs.

SEA TURTLES HELPED IN MOVE

About 2,000 endangered Kemp's Ridley sea turtle eggs were moved by the Fish & Wildlife Service and the Mexican Fisheries Dept. from a Mexican nesting beach to a protected beach in south Texas, where biologists are trying to establish a second nesting beach. In order for the little turtles to be "imprinted" in Texas they will be allowed to hatch and make their way to the ocean where they will be captured and transported to a National Marine Fisheries Service hatchery until they are about 1 year old. At that time they will be large enough to stand a good chance of survival and will be released into Gulf waters - hopefully to return to the Texas beaches to breed.

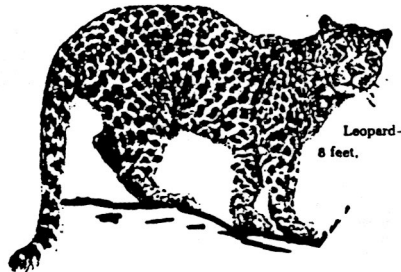
ALEUTIAN GESE ON THE INCREASE

Scores of Aleutian Canada Geese that were raised in captivity were transplanted to Alaska's Aleutian Islands and are now migrating successfully with wild birds to wintering grounds in California. In all, more than 2,600 geese have been counted at the wintering grounds - up from a low of 800 in 1975.



"LOOK AT THE BENGAL TIGER - THE IDEAL OF GRACE, PHYSICAL PERFECTION AND MAJESTY. THINK OF THE LION AND THE LEOPARD, AND THEN OF MAN - THAT POOR THING! THE ANIMAL OF WIG, THE EYE GLASS, THE PORCELAIN TEETH, THE WOODEN LEG.....A CREATURE THAT IS MENDED AND PATCHED ALL OVER FROM TOP TO BOTTOM." Mark Twain

KILL A FEW - SAVE A BUNCH REVERSE PSYCHOLOGY?



The Office of Endangered Species in the Department of the Interior has changed the status of the leopard in 18 African countries from "endangered" to "threatened". That means that American sportsmen can now legally hunt leopards and the Fish & Wildlife service hopes they will do just that.

As a spokesman for the agency explained, leopards are of no value in Africa because the U.S. bans the import of leopard skin products. But if hunters begin bagging them, Africans will see the animals as a "potential business and take better care of them".

From Virginia Wildlife

NOTE: It seems a few years ago "over exploitation" of the leopard population for the pelt was exactly the thing the Endangered Species Act was meant to prevent. I guess it's one of those things I'll have to add to my "I don't Understand" list?????

Shirley



A RARE DISPLAY

The worldwide problem of illegal trafficking in endangered species is dramatized in **CONFISCATED!** the traveling exhibit of the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

The exhibition of contraband confiscated by U.S. Customs agents is on display from August 1 through November 30, 1982. Among the hundreds of banned items to be shown are ivory carvings and jewelry crafted from the tusks of marine mammals and East Africa elephants, coats and other apparel fashioned from the furs of such threatened cats as the jaguar, ocelot and margay, thousands of dollars worth of shoes, belts, purses and assorted luxury items made from the skins of imperiled lizards, caimans, crocodiles and marine turtles from around the world.

After it's engagement in New York, the exhibit goes to the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia and the Grand Rapids Public Museum in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Reprinted from Odessa

CAN YOU MATCH THIS ?

Match the Latin names on the left with the common names shown to the right.

1 Felis silvestris	a Geoffroy's cat
2 Felis libyca	b Pampas cat
3 Felis margarita	c tiger
4 Felis bieti	d lynx
5 Felis nigripes	e Fishing cat
6 Felis chaus	f House cat
7 Felis catus	g Marbled cat
8 Felis manul	h Blackfooted cat
9 Felis lynx	i African wildcat
10 Felis rufus	j Chinese desert cat
11 Felis caracal	k Lion
12 Felis serval	l Rusty spotted cat
13 Felis marmorata	m Bobcat
14 Felis aurata	n Flat-headed cat
15 Felis temminckii	o Serval
16 Felis bengalensis	p Jaguar
17 Felis rubiginosa	q Margay
18 Felis viverrina	r Caracal
19 Felis planiceps	s Bornean cat
20 Felis badia	t Snow leopard
21 Felis geoffroyi	u Sand cat
22 Felis guigna	v Cheetah
23 Felis tigrina	w Jungle Cat
24 Felis wiedi	x Leopard
25 Felis paradalis	y Ocelot
26 Felis colocolo	z Pallas cat
27 Felis jacobita	aa Golden Cat
28 Felis concolor	bb Kodkod
29 Felis yagouaroundi	cc cougar
30 Felis nebulos	dd Leopard cat
31 Panthera uncia	ee Temminck cat
32 Panthera leo	ff Oncilla
33 Panthera tigris	gg Clouded leopard
34 Panthera onca	hh Andean cat
35 Panthera pardus	ii Jaguarundi
Acinonyx jubatus	jj European wild cat

SWERS

34-p, 35-x, 36-v
28-c, 29-f, 30-g, 31-t, 32-k, 33-c
22-b, 23-f, 24-q, 25-y, 26-b, 27-h
16-d, 17-l, 18-e, 19-n, 20-s, 21-a
9-d, 10-m, 11-r, 12-o, 13-g, 14-a, 15-e
1-j, 2-i, 3-u, 4-j, 5-h, 6-w, 7-f, 8-z



HEY!

RECYCLING OLD NEWSPAPERS

Don't know what to do with old newspapers? Check with your local humane society or animal shelter to see if they can use the papers to line the kennels for pups & kittens. Anyone who has raised a young animal knows how much paper you can use up in a hurry.

NO HONEY

Many of us use a sweet substance to supplement a kitten formula, soften stools, etc. Do not use honey for this. Research on human infants show that honey contains a strain of botulism that processing temperatures are not enough to kill. Doctors hypothesize that infants have the immunological ability to fight this particular strain and can succumb to botulism poisoning. Symptoms of such illness include lethargy, difficulty swallowing, restlessness and constipation. Human research has shown that about a third of infant botulism cases are directly related to the use of honey in the formula.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

ANIMAL FEEDING AT THE ZOO, written by SALLY TONGREN

This book features the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. and is sure to be of great interest to any zoo fan. The chapters cover the different animal diets, and there is lots of information about the animals themselves.

For Example: Ruddy ducks get dry cat food; Flamingos receive a mixture that resembles spaghetti sauce, made of flamingo meal, dried shrimp and rotenoid pigments to keep their color; Atlas lions, a subspecies once found in North Africa, are extinct in the wild but the zoo hopes to breed their specimens with others in captivity; the porcupine in the National Zoo throws a temper tantrum if his favorite trainer doesn't feed him.

There are lists of the fresh and prepared foods used by the zoo each month and the cost of feeding various animals.

There are interesting chapters on ways to get animals to take medicine, "free lunchers" - that wildlife on the "outside" that help themselves to the zoo animal's food and the "givers of free lunches" - visitors who can't control the urge to throw unauthorized food to the zoo's inhabitants.

Included are many beautiful black and white photos of the animals that live at the National Zoo.

This is a soft-cover book and can be obtained from GMG Publishing, 25 W. 43rd St. N.Y., N.Y. 10036



Small Florida zoo offers to take 4 tigers from Detroit

A small north Florida zoo has offered to take in four aging tigers the Detroit Zoo wants to put to sleep. If the Detroit Zoo will pay for shipping, the Wild Animal Retirement Village will take care of their tigers in their facility near Gainesville co-owner Gene Schuler said.

But Detroit Zoo director Steve Graham said the animals should be disposed of, addint, "I would under no circumstances move these animals to a facility less equipped to care for them." Graham went on to say "It would not be appropriate. We have a facility with 122 acres, a \$5.5 million budget and two full-time vets on the staff." Three of the tigers have arthritis and the fourth is a "behavioral problem."

But Schuler maintains it's not up to zookeepers to decide whether wild animals should live or die.

"We have got to the point as human beings that we have raised ourselves far above everything else, that we have to take a good, long look at ourselves in the mirror and quit saying who's to live and who's to die," Schuler told the Gainesville Sun.

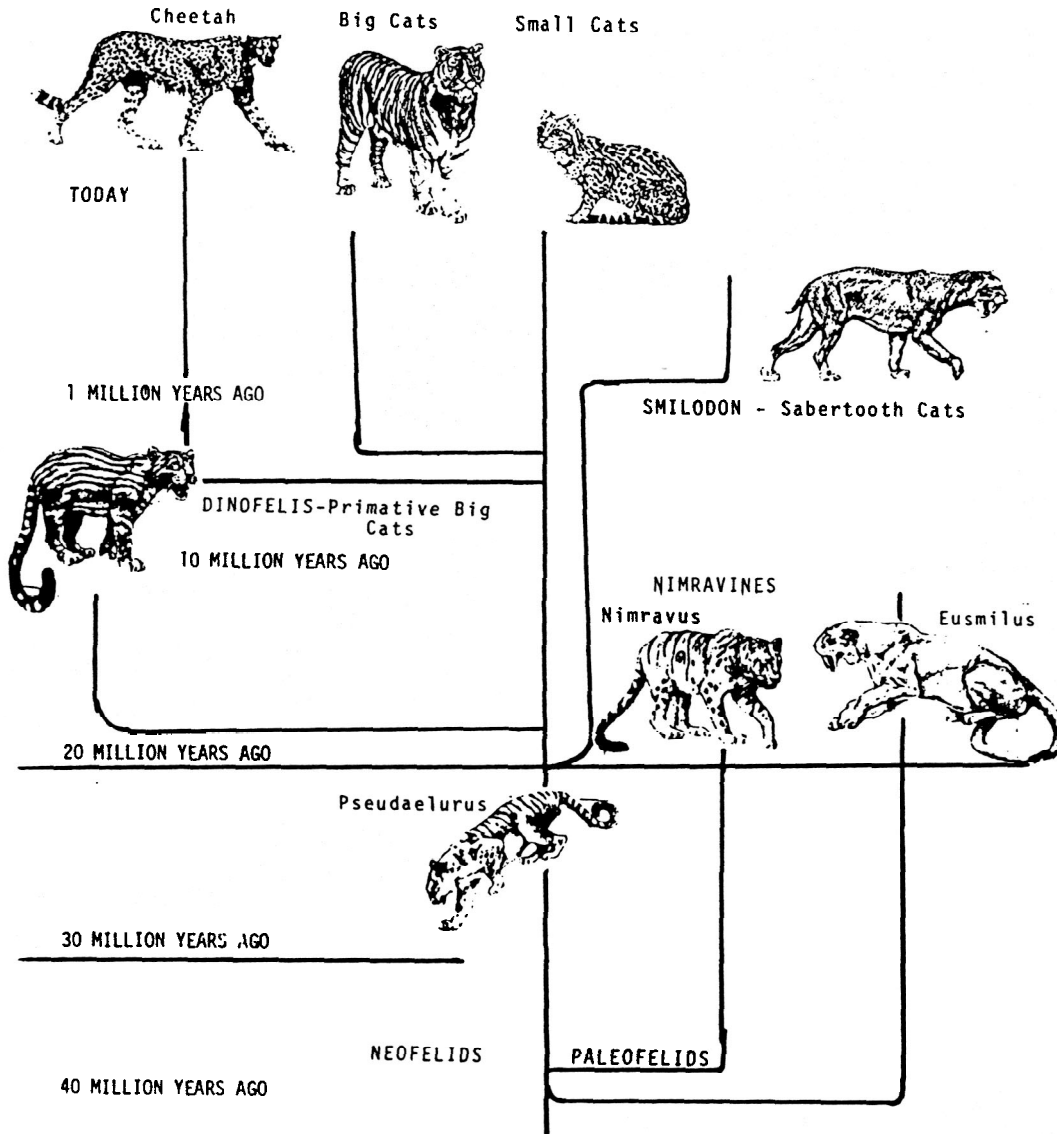
A former circus animal trainer, Schuler, 51, keeps a variety of animals at his zoo. He cares for 4 tigers, 3 lions, and another wild cat. Also living at the compound are turtles, skunks, raccoons, a variety of birds and a female baboon named "Boonie".

The Florida zoo became involved after a Detroit woman went to the Wayne County circuit court to try to save the tigers. The New York based Fund for Animals joined the cause.

The Court issued an injunction preventing the zoo from disposing of the animals until two veterinarians and a third party chosen by the animal fund have examined the tigers and determined whether they should live or die.

From an Associated Press release

THE EVOLUTION OF THE CATS



Condensed from TimeLife CATS

In thinking about the how and why of cats, the first question one is likely to stumble over is: Where did they come from, for not so very long ago there were no cats anywhere on earth. Like all other existing animals they have evolved from older forms.

You only have to go back a mere 190 million years and look at a group of small, long-extinct insect-eating warm-blooded creatures that were the ancestors of all mammals: men, horses, porcupines, mice - and cats.

One such line starts with a small group that had graduated from insect-eating to meat-eating. These were the miacids, the ancestors of all living carnivores. Like their insect-eating forebear, they were generally small, long-bodied, short-legged and had long narrow snouts. But their skulls were larger, and it is believed that their brains were considerably more complex.

By 20 million years ago the miacids, in turn had evolved into other things, specifically into the ten present-day families of carnivores. Three of these families - the seals, sea lions and walrus - went back to the sea, undergoing drastic changes to their physical equipment. Of the seven families that stayed on land, the raccoons, bears, dogs, weasels, genets, hyenas and cats, none took the bizarre forms of their sea-going cousins. There was no need to. The original miacids were general, utility-model carnivores, and their descendants simply improved on the original model.

All carnivores have large, well-developed canines and incisors for fighting, killing and tearing hunks of meat from a carcass. Other teeth, called carnassials, have a shearing effect when lower jaw meets upper. It is in the molars farther back in the jaw that wolves and other meat-eaters are better endowed. Somewhere during evolution, the cat's ancestors lost some of these teeth, which is not surprising, because a molar is for grinding, and a cat does not grind its food. Cats chew scarcely at all. As soon as they succeed in getting a manageable piece of meat into the mouth they swallow it. They are unable to grind up large bones. A cat's jaw works only in two directions: up & down. To grind large bones, one must also be able to move the jaw sideways, as dogs and humans do.

Because a cat has fewer teeth than a dog, its muzzle is shorter, its face flatter. Another reason for this facial configuration is that a cat depends on its eyes more than a dog does. However, both are hunting animals and must be able to judge distances of moving prey precisely. Therefore, their eyes face forward rather than to the side. This means that the field of view of each eye overlaps that of the other, providing what is known as binocular vision and thus giving extremely good depth perception. Herbivores do not need binocular vision; their food is standing still. What they do need is to be able to see potential enemies coming from any direction. Consequently their eyes are on the side of their heads. A rabbit can see forward, upward, backward and sideward, but in each of these directions with only

one eye. What the world looks like to a rabbit is impossible for humans to imagine because we have binocular vision like cats. A cat's eyes are placed right in front, wide and unblinking, on each side of their nose, like an owl's. Cats never look out of the corners of their eyes at things. They swivel their heads and stare directly at them. A dog, by contrast will lie on the floor, its chin outstretched, and if it wants to look at something, it will often roll its eyes upward without moving its head.

Another piece of equipment peculiar to a cat is its tongue. This is covered with small projections called papillae, which resemble the points on a wood rasp. Among housecats the papillae are small and give only a slightly rough feeling when one's hand is licked. But among the larger cats the papillae are formidable instruments. A few swipes from a lion's tongue could take the skin right off the back of a human hand. Although its primary function is a body-cleaning tool, the tongue is also an important part of the feeding equipment.

A cat's body is long & supple. Its bones, though not particularly large for the size of the animal, get their strength from the density of their material. Complementing these moderate sized but strong bones is a set of equally strong muscles and sinews on which the bones are rather loosely strung together. This loose structure gives a cat its surpassing grace and sinuosity of movement.

The legs of most cats are moderate in length and again characterized by great strength. Not only do they provide sudden power of springing, but they serve well in fighting - tipped as they are with the sharpest of claws of small carnivores.

In overall body proportions the cats are remarkably alike, although there are a few obvious exceptions. The cheetah is atypical in seeming to have legs that are too long and a head that is too small. The male lion seems to have too large a head and the serval ears, designed for a cat one size larger. All cats have long tails except for the lynx and bobcat and a few domestic varieties such as the Manx. Where the lynx, bobcat and Manx tails went - and why - no one knows.

This then is the architecture of cats. Considering the great differences in size (it takes about 50 average male housecats to equal the weight of one fully grown male lion) their distribution over all of the continents except Australia and Antarctica, and their adjustment to a wide variety of habitats - ranging from the snow-covered slopes and birch groves of the Himalayas to the sopping rain forests of Central America and the near-desert conditions of Equatorial Africa - cats are astonishingly alike. And it must be repeated that the reason for this similarity is that they are the nearest thing to a perfect stalking, hunting animal that the evolutionary process has yet produced.

The family trees of many types of animals are full of irritating gaps, and the branch that leads cats from the primitive macid carnivores is one such. There are very few catlike fossils lying about. Paleontologists have speculated that others may turn up in Asia, where all cats are believed to have originated. Despite the scarcity of fossils, this much is known: Cats of sufficient modernity to share the family Latin name of Felidae with today's species were certainly on the scene 5 million years ago and may have been in existence as long as 10 million years ago. But even at that remote date there were already two distinct types. One group includes the ancestors of the quick, lithe cats of today. The other includes a somewhat heavier, presumably slower and more powerful type adapted to prey on the large and slow herbivores of the time. This branch of the family is epitomized by one of the most famous fossil creatures known, the Ice Age saber-toothed "tiger" of Smilodon.

The puzzle of the sabertooth began with the first discovery of its fossils and centered on the enormous fangs development of the upper canines of this animal. In the largest sabertooths the fangs exceeded eight inches in length, forming a pair of daggers extending down from the upper jaw and, when the mouth was closed, some distance below the bottom of the lower jaw.

A question that was first asked about the sabertooth was how did it get its jaw open wide enough to eat? Some theorists believe that this extraordinary animal became extinct because its teeth had grown too large to be manageable and it starved to death. This, of course is ridiculous, for sabertooths of various kinds

managed to get along with, and undoubtedly depended on, those oversized fangs for a period of nearly 40 million years.

So the puzzle about the sabertooth is not how it managed despite its scimitar-like teeth but how it used them. It is almost universally agreed today that they were employed as stabbing weapons. Several sabertooths, the Smilodon of North America in particular, had enormously powerful necks and neck muscles, and the belief is that they killed with lethal downward thrusts of their giant canines. Other factors support this theory. For one thing, the lower jaw of the sabertooth was relatively weak and its ability to bite and tear somewhat limited. For another, the whole animal was large and heavily built, as if to give it the weight and leverage to make such an attack. The biggest sabertooths were larger than modern tigers and considerably heavier. Furthermore, there was an abundance of large prey animals prowling the earth in their heyday, of just the kind that a husky sabertooth might be able to handle. Many of these, like the young mammoths, mastodons and giant ground sloths, were large, slow, stolid animals, weighing a ton or more. Like the sabertooths they are now extinct and it is reasonable to believe that the predator followed them into oblivion.

What did survive is the less specialized branch of the cat family. Its members descend from an extinct ancestor called Pseudaelurus, which put in an appearance in Eurasia about 20 million years ago. Pseudaelurus was fairly small, about the size of a bobcat or lynx. It cannot have cut much of a figure alongside the more dramatic sabertooth, but it was quick and strong for its size, with equipment almost identical to that of modern cats, and it could live on smaller animals that the sabertooth could not catch. Gradually it evolved into three main lines: the small cats, ranging in size and variation from housecats to pumas; the big cats, which include lions and tigers, leopards and jaguars, and cheetahs, which occupy that special branch on the feline family tree. In all, there are about 3 dozen species of cats that inhabit the earth today.



How about writing me
a KING SIZE letter!?

LIOC
1454 Fleetwood Dr. E.
Mobile, AL
36605



THE GREENPEACE PHILOSOPHY

ECOLOGY teaches us that humankind is not the center of life on the planet. Ecology has taught us that the whole earth is part of our "body" and that we must learn to respect it as we respect ourselves. As we feel for ourselves, we must feel for all forms of life - the whales, the seals, the forests, the seas. The tremendous beauty of ecological thought is that it shows us a pathway back to an understanding and an appreciation of life itself - an understanding and appreciation that is imperative to that very way of life.



HYBRID "PUNKIN" owned by
Mary Parker

Queen: F2 Hybrid
Sire: Leopard Cat

GUEST EDITORIAL

Currently many people who are in possession of an exotic are breeding or considering breeding their exotic to a domestic and seeing "what happens".

The arguments on this subject have been around any years and both sides have valid points.

Those against argue that concentration should be on the exotic and their continuation. Or that because of chromosomal differences such breedings produce only sterile offspring that will profit no one. And lastly that these are not a true breed but merely a "freak".

Those in favor can argue thousands of years of domestic breeding for behavior combined with the "wild" beauty of the exotic producing a "better feline". The most common combination has been the exotic sire with a domestic dam giving multiple litters and raising by a domestic. Will the kitten be more tractible?

The mention of money cares most exotic breeders because of federal laws prohibiting interstate commerce. But where does the "hybrid" fit into the law? Additionally, although the kitten might not bring as great a price as a pure domestic there are more of them per litter, and decreased costs as the mother is more likely to be allowed to raise the kittens. But wait, what happened to our goal of "preservation and propagation"?

Again we must decide which way the law, natural habitat, price support, etc bear on the exotic owner. It is not an appropriate time to take a stand perhaps, but eventually each exotic owner must come to grips with the question.

I for one have no trouble accepting the hybrid as this is how many of our now accepted domestic breeds came into being. In many cases the very fact that offspring are sterile will negate the creation of a "new breed" and the exotic will remain indispensable if the "hybrid" is to be produced at all. These days it is sometimes impossible to secure a mate for any exotic you may have - so why not let it mate with a domestic? If there were many unpaired exotics available it would be a slightly different matter. Of course, it also comes down to the matter of vanilla versus chocolate - individual preference. There is no substitute for the 100%, genuine exotic, but there are people who cannot for whatever reason handle the problems these demanding little cats pose. So why not a compromise?

Danny Treanor

Feline Heartworm Disease

Condensed from PIJAC News

Heartworm disease is not confined to dogs. Doctors at the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine report.

"The occurrence of dirofilariasis (heartworms) in cats appears to be increasing." Of seven cats that were reported to have heartworms, two were kept indoors, and 5 had access to outdoors. One of seven adult heartworms were found in each cat.

"Although dirofilariasis is uncommon in the cat, it should be considered in cats with respiratory signs, abnormal heart sounds, or eosinophilia (increased number of eosinophils, a certain type of white blood cell) Treatment appears to be feasible and efficacious in cats.

Pet Owners

A psychologist from the State University in Sacramento, California says dog owners are "substantially different" from everyone but cat owners?

Grooming Tips

- In grooming your cat, pay special attention to the spot between the shoulders, because cats have a hard time reaching that spot - just like humans.
- A worn-out bath mat makes a good mat to use when you groom.
- To remove gum, either loosen it with baby oil or harden it with ice, place a comb between the gum and the cats skin and snip away with blunt nosed scissors.
- Staple strips of "velcro" around a cat door so that when kitty pushes against it it'll pick up those loose hairs.
- If you have to bathe your cat, throw a towel over the side of the tub, giving your cat something other than you to hold onto - a towel under him, on the tub bottom will also make him feel more secure.
- If possible, clip your cat's nails before bathing.
- for longhaired cats, a capfull of vinegar in the bath water will help prevent tangling.



"Well, so much for the unicorns... But, from now on, all carnivores will be confined to 'C' deck."

LEGALITIES

APHIS MATTERS

Those of you holding USDI permits are familiar with APHIS - the Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service. The following notes are reprinted from their newsletter, Animal Care Matters.

A United States attorney recently reviewed an incident in his district where a licensed animal dealer confronted and obstructed two APHIS inspectors. He responded by issuing a strongly worded letter of reprimand.

The letter referred to the fact that a conviction for interfering with USDA inspectors on official business can lead to penalties ranging up to \$5,000 and imprisonment for up to 3 years; the Animal Welfare Act also provides penalties up to \$10,000 and 10 years if a deadly or dangerous weapon is used in intimidating inspectors.

The article left out any mention of what the licensee did that prompted the letter.

APHIS officials will file charges against licensees and registrants on the basis of convincing evidence from ANY source that the Animal Welfare Act has been violated. Prosecution can be successful even if APHIS has limited corroborating evidence from its own sources.

Such a case was brought last year against a registered airline accused of accepting a dog shipped inside a crate that was too small. The 5 count charge was based almost entirely on evidence collected by a humane society.

Rope Barriers Not Adequate

When a caged wild animal is on exhibit, neither the animal nor the public is adequately protected by a rope or rail fence around the cage. Instances keep occurring where people, especially children are hurt because they stick their fingers and arms inside the cage.

APHIS requires exhibitors to protect the public with a physical barrier, a safe distance, a trained guard, or a similar effective safety measure. Buildings housing animals not on exhibit should be locked and marked with a warning. The public should be kept out unless the exhibitor furnishes an escort.

UNQUALIFIED EXHIBITORS

By law, APHIS cannot require license holders to prove that they have the needed training, experience and education to handle wild animals. Licenses must be granted if Federal standards are met at the facilities of applicants, regardless of their personal qualifications for handling animals.

APHIS officials would like readers to express their opinions as to what standards may be needed to evaluate an exhibitor's expertise, how these standards should be developed, and how they should be enforced. One possibility would be to develop an industry code under an existing organization, such as the American Association of Zoological Parks & Aquariums.

Send your suggestions to Animal Care Staff, USDA, APHIS, VS, 770 Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD. 20782.

** Editors note, perhaps a written test would satisfy them. But again it sounds as if here come more regulations.

BUDGET CUTS EXPECTED

The 1983 budget for the USDA calls for cutting \$3.4 million from funds appropriated for animal welfare enforcement, as part of a \$50 million cut in all APHIS programs. The animal welfare program would be funded only for investigating complaints and prosecuting any violations that are found.

APHIS would no longer conduct compliance inspections on a regular basis, although licensees and registrants would still be bound by existing standards for humane care and handling of animals.

FILM AVAILABLE.

A 14 minute slide/tape presentation entitled "Who Speaks for the Animals?" is available from the animal care staff and all Veterinary Services field offices. It gives an overview of the laws that protect animals and discusses current issues, such as the use of laboratory animals for nonessential testing and the raising of farm animals under confinement.

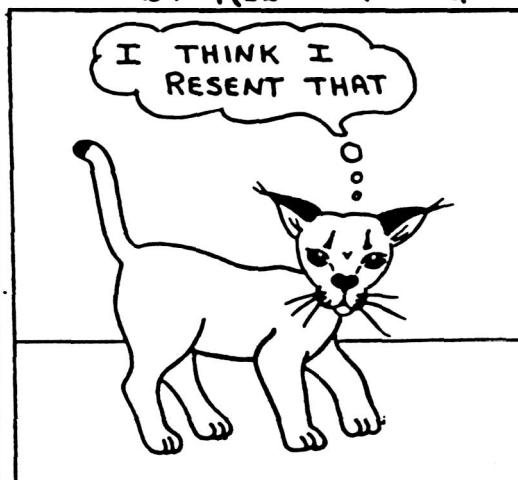
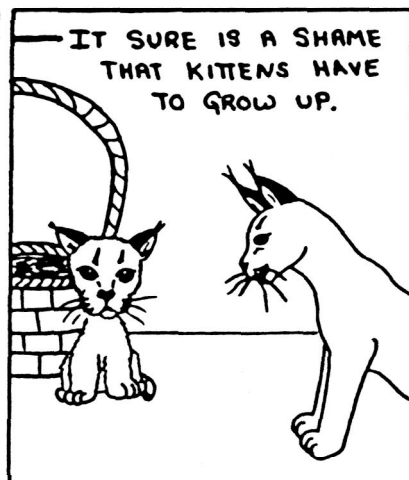
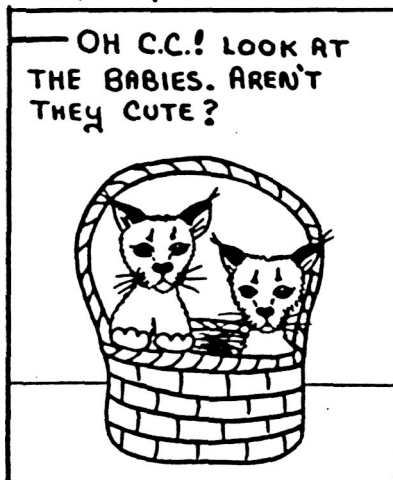


Weighing In

To get an accurate weight on the big cats, such as a lion, jaguar or tiger. First take your car to a nearby truck scale (Junk yards often have one) and weigh it. Then, return with the cat in your car and weigh it again. Deduct the first weight from the second and you will have the cat's weight. You may cause quite a stir at the scale but you will get your cat's weight.

Reprinted from EXOTICS UNLTD.

CRAZY CARACAL



BY REBECCA MORGAN

The Bureau of Land Management has published a color booklet describing the diverse wildlife habitat on the 327 million acres of public lands administered by that agency.

The 26 page publication graphically portrays wildlife and habitat in the West which is available for free public use. These lands and animals are the ones that conservationists fear may be primary targets in the Administrations alleged program to sell \$17 billion in public lands over the next 5 years.

Copies of "Wildlife on the Public Lands" are available for \$3.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402

LEGALITIES

Condensed from PIJAC NEWS

For reasons not yet fully understood, the New Jersey legislature seems bent on passing a number of questionable regulations which would create new problems for the pet industry in that state.

BILL #1203 would increase the enforcement powers of "Humane Societies".

This bill, introduced by Sen. C.A. Orechio, would allow any humane society or similar organization which had been in existence for 5 years to establish a "law enforcement department". Its members could be deputized as peace officers to "enforce all laws and ordinances enacted for the protection of animals from cruelty".

BILLS #982 and 1145 - regulation of exhibition of animals.

Both bills seem to have a sincere motive - the protection of animals that could be harmful to humans - but both suffer from wording that is too broad. As written, both could prevent pet shops from stocking anything but dogs & cats. "Wildlife" is not defined and "exhibition" is not explained.

BILL #1249- custody of animals subjected to 'cruelty'

This bill says that within 24 hours of an "alleged" complaint, humane societies are empowered to seize an animal, to keep it at a shelter and to charge for its safe keeping.

In addition a society could go to court, still on an "alleged" violation, to prevent anyone so charged from keeping an animal in the future.

Obviously, the major problem lies with the term "alleged" and a lack of redress if an "alleged" victim is found innocent.

AND IN ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, Mo. County Council is considering two bills which would enact a NONDOMESTIC ANIMAL CODE to regulate the importation, purchase, sale or possession of any animals except dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs and fish.

If these become law, any person dealing in or possessing "restricted" wildlife will be required to:

- 1) Obtain a license
- 2) Obtain a state permit
- 3) Submit proof of rabies vaccination for all warm-blooded animals
- 4) Demonstrate that their facilities meet zoo standards and USDA Animal Wildlife act standards
- 5) Pay fines as high as \$1,000 and serve up to 1 year in jail if convicted
 - 1) Experience a 90-day license suspension with animals taken with no right of immediate appeal.

Although many of the 'covered' animals do require more than normal precautions to prevent their being a hazard to public well-being, this bill would also cover such "harmless" creatures as gerbils, mice, non-venomous snakes, parrots, etc.

Oregon Bobcat

Sustained harvest of annual surpluses is the major objective of all wildlife management. This objective is also foremost with furbearers, but in addition, the harvest must take place during the period when pelts are in prime condition so that full value can be realized.

Most furbearers are prolific producers of young with an annual recruitment usually exceeding 4 young per year, with some species producing as high as 12 per year. To maintain healthy populations, seasons are generally 4 months long with unrestricted bag limits.

The one major exception is the bobcat with seasons 2 months long in western Oregon and one month in eastern Oregon with a three cat limit in eastern Ore.

Harvest varies each year due mainly to prices, weather conditions and participation. Reports are required so that an accurate measure of the harvest is available to provide comparative data through the years.

Contributed by Ethel Hauser



Thats How It Goes

A great satire was printed by Herb Caen in the San Francisco Chronicle announcing the discovery of a "new fire fighting agent known as WATER (Wonderful and Total Extinguishing Resource.) It is suitable for dealing with fires and is cheap to produce."

However, "WATER" is already encountering opposition from safety and environmental groups. One member has pointed out that if anyone immersed his head in a bucket of WATER it would prove fatal in as little as three minutes.....it has also been proven that WATER is a constituent of beer. Does this mean that firemen could become intoxicated from the fumes when they use it to put out a fire? The "Friends of the World" say they obtained a sample of WATER and found it made clothes shrink. It shrank cotton, so what will it do to people?

Here is a problem requiring further study - Meanwhile use WATER sparingly if at all.

MOUNTAIN LION

Climbing through the January snow, into the Lobo canyon, dark grow the spruce trees, blue is the balsam, water sounds still unfrozen and the trail is still evident.

MEN!
TWO MEN!
MEN! The only animal in the world to fear!

They hesitate.
We hesitate.
They have a gun.
We have no gun.

Then we all advance, to meet.

Two Mexicans, strangers, emerging out of the dark and snow and inwardness of the Lobo Valley.
What are they doing here on this vanishing trail?

What is he carrying?
Something yellow.
A deer?

"Que tiene, amigo?"

"Leon"

He smiles, foolishly, as if he thought he were caught doing wrong.
And we smile, foolishly, as if we didn't know.

He is quite gentle and dark faced.
It is a mountain lion,
a long, slim cat, yellow like a lioness.
Dead.

rapped her this morning he says,
tling foolishly.

Lift up her face,
her round fine-fashioned head, with two dead ears;
And stripes in the brilliant frost of her face,
sharp, fine, dark rays.
Dark, keen, fine rays in the brilliant frost of her face.
Beautiful dead eyes.

"Hermoso es!"

They go out towards the open;
We go on into the gloom of Lobo

And above the trees I found her lair,
A hold in the blood-orange brilliant rocks that stick up, a little cave.

And bones, and twigs, and a perilous ascent.
So, she will never leap up that way again,
with the yellow flash of a mountain lion's long shoot.
And her bright striped frost face will never watch any more, out of the shadow of the cave in the blood-orange rock,
above the trees of the Lobo dark valley mouth!

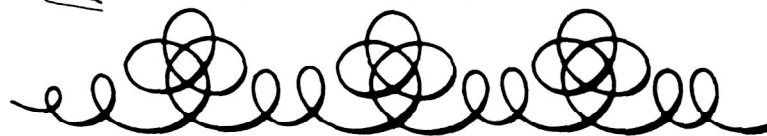
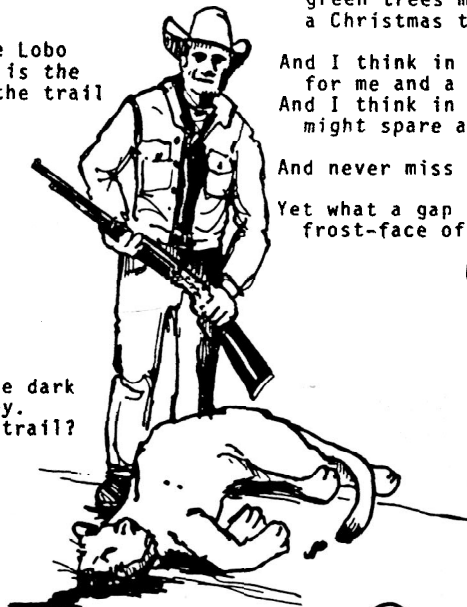
Instead, a look out.
And out to the rim of the desert, like a dream,
never real;
To the snow of the Sangre de Cristo mountains,
the ice of the mountains of Picoris,
And near across at the opposite steep of snow,
green trees motionless standing in snow, like a Christmas toy.

And I think in this empty world there was room for me and a mountain lion.
And I think in the world beyond, how easily we might spare a million or two of humans.

And never miss them.

Yet what a gap in the world, the missing white, frost-face of that slim, yellow mountain lion!

by D.H. Lawrence.



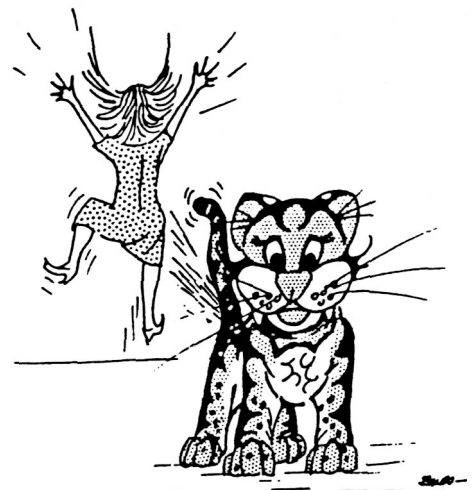
JUST DON'T TILT HIM

Politicians often held and kiss babies at election time, and Governor Frank White of Arkansas was happy to oblige with the former, according to an AP release.

But seeing as the baby was a 4-week old bobcat, White demurred on the latter.

White picked up the little cat as he declared Zoo Week in Arkansas. Zoo director Bob Cooper handed White the tiny bobcat and said "Just don't tilt him. He tends to to to the bathroom when you tilt him."

Contributed by Ethel Hauser



THE CAT AS A HUNTER

Jamin L. Hart, DVM, PhD
Quoted from FELINE PRACTICE

A prominent aspect of feline behavior is predatory behavior. One cannot own a cat for any length of time without being aware of the fact that evolutionary forces, which have acted upon the cat's musculoskeletal system to make it a superb hunter, have acted as well upon the cat's brain to make various aspects of predatory behavior almost automatic. I am devoting this column to some insights into this side of feline behavior. Some of what I have to say is distilled from Paul Leyhausen's book, Cat Behavior: the Predator and Social Behavior of Domestic and Wild Cats, initially published in German in 1956, and recently published with some revisions in English (Garland STPM Press, New York). Leyhausen is the world's leading expert on predatory behavior of small felines, and although much of his work is primarily of interest to other investigators, there are some observations that are of interest to cat owners and feline practitioners.

Rats, mice and similar small mammals are the cat's natural prey. The wild ancestors of domestic cats were loners and the rats & mice can be successfully hunted by a lone cat whereas large prey can be hunted only with the cooperation of two or more predators. In the domestic environment cats have been known to kill and eat a range of prey extending from small insects to chickens and rabbits.

Often the prey has a fighting chance, especially if taken by surprise. In fact Leyhausen estimates that a cat makes about three attempts before it catches one mouse. If a rat is cornered but notices the cat first, the rat jumps defensively at it, and most cats will back off. According to Leyhausen, few domestic cats will undertake fighting with an attacking adult Norway rat. What often happens, is that the cat sits back a little and strikes at the rat with its forepaws. Such a cat, coming in rapid succession, cannot be tolerated long and the rat, suffering from exhaustion or disorientation (from having its semi-circular canals battered around) tries to escape. In the instant that the rat turns around the cat is upon it and may have it by the nape of the neck.

An experienced feline hunter is capable of killing its prey immediately and this is usually done when it bites its victims in the nape of the neck. Leyhausen explains that the cat's canine teeth are well adapted to piercing the tendons and ligaments of the neck and penetrating the joints between neck vertebrae. In a neck bite there is a high probability that one of the four canine teeth will be inserted into an intervertebral space like a wedge, forcing the vertebrae apart and severing the spinal cord.

The other teeth are specialized for processing prey into pieces that can be swallowed. For example, the carnassial teeth act as shears for cutting flesh into pieces or strips that can be swallowed. This is almost always done with the head tilted which allows the cat to chew nearer the ground. The incisors are used to pull off scraps of flesh clinging to the bone. The rough tongue allows the cat to remove the smallest bits of flesh from the bones.

There has naturally been an interest in the degree to which hunger affects a cat's tendency to go hunting. Will cats which have just eaten a large meal go after prey? Numerous observations have revealed that cats will often kill prey without immediately eating it or they may kill more at one time than they can possibly consume. In one experiment hungry cats were allowed to eat a preferred food and then a rat was released into their chamber. The cats stopped eating, and traveled 4 feet to attack the rat and then brought the rat back to their food dish and resumed eating. The functional effect of the tendency to kill without necessarily eating the prey is that cats can maintain better food supply by multiple kills if the opportunity arises.

One of the most puzzling aspects of feline predatory behavior is the tendency of cats to play with their prey before eating it. Sometimes a cat even delays delivering a killing bite as if knowingly prolonging their opportunity to play with a small rodent. The play may take the form of tossing the prey into the air and batting it around with the paws, rolling over the prey or clapping it and kicking it in the stomach with its hind claws. Some behaviorists, including Leyhausen, attribute this play to the release of pent up energies associated with different aspects of predatory behavior. The explanation put forth is that the behavioral elements of predation such as lying, in wait, crouching, stalking, pouncing and seizing are performed independently, and once a neural system for one of these behavioral acts is aroused, there is a tendency for the neural system, and the behavior to remain activated. This is not the same as saying a cat "enjoys" catching a rat so much it wants to repeat it over and over. Leyhausen notes that cats are afraid of their prey, enough so that the initial capture is not pleasurable. Once prey is wounded or stunned, the exercise of the neural systems associated with different elements of predation might be enjoyable, much as play predatory behavior appears to be enjoyable to kittens.

A paper by R.W. Yerkes and D. Bloomfield entitled "Do Kittens Instinctively Kill Mice?" published in 1910 attracted attention when the authors claimed that cats needed no prior experience with prey to efficiently dispatch mice when older. Later it was shown that this was true only for some cats; others need experience with prey as kittens to kill mice later.

A recent work of T.M. Caro, indicates that cats exposed to mice or birds as kittens showed improved predatory efficiency with the familiar prey as adults. However, there was little carry-over of the experience to other prey species. Experience with canaries did not improve a cat's predation on mice or fish for example. Playing with inanimate objects as kittens had little effect on a cat's hunting tendencies or abilities as adults.

Laboratory studies show that the presence of mothers, when kittens are exposed to prey, is important in improving the young cat's prey-catching behavior. Characteristically, mother cats first bring dead prey to kittens and eat it in front of them. Later they bring prey and do not eat it but attempt to interest the kittens in the prey. Next, mothers bring live prey and allow their kittens to play with it, although they recapture the prey that gets away. These early lessons in predatory behavior are eventually phased into the mother playing a supervisory role while the kittens dispatch their own prey.

There have been many studies of feline hunting behavior between the turn of the century and today. As time goes on this topic will command attention as this action continues to fascinate cat owners and behavioral scientists as well.

Placement Service

BECAUSE OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, WHICH MAKES IT ILLEGAL TO BUY OR SELL ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND THE LACEY ACT WHICH MAKES IT ILLEGAL TO TRANSPORT FOR SALE ANY WILD ANIMAL, THERE WILL BE NO LISTING OF AVAILABLE ANIMALS.

IF YOU HAVE A CAT IN NEED OF A NEW HOME OR ARE WILLING TO DONATE YOUR HOME TO A NEEDY CAT, PLEASE CONTACT THE PLACEMENT SERVICE AT:

1454 Fleetwood Drive East
Mobile, Alabama 36605
Phone (205) 478-8962

A LEOPARD CAT

Reprinted from LCS Newsletter

....with a warm smile and a kind heart which embraces the world and all it's creatures"

The author of the following poem is a lady who fills that description. Her sensitivity, humor, and selfless attitude may be clearly witnessed through her writings. This is particularly true in this case since she wrote these especially for LCS and the pleasure of its members although she has never actually met a leopard cat. Her inspiration comes through occasional photographs and periodic progress reports on the Quillen cats and she often participates in the laborious task of grinding the whole chickens to feed those cats.

A LEOPARD CAT

What is a leopard cat? Why I suppose its a cute little kitty with an ity bity nose.
It has long, sharp claws, and teeth that bite, a tail that's explosive - like dynamite.
It has rings and things all over its back, purrs like a kitten with a heart attack!
It slinks through the jungle like a real cool cat, snarling at this, purring at that
It's a real gormand, and it samples free, eats its meals on the branch of a tree.
It leaps through the air with the greatest of ease, out does the girl on the flying trapeze.
It runs right along with the graceful gazelle and gallavants around with a Jezebel.
Its tawny coat with its marks so rare was enhanced by the artist who put spots there.
Its amber eyes that glow in the night, remind me of witchcraft of cunning and might.
And I am astounded by the beauty I see, that sits before me, with its head on my knee.

By Melanie Holm



A review of FEEDING BEHAVIOR OF THE CARACAL (*Felis Caracal*) IN THE MOUNTAIN ZEBRA NATIONAL PARK, by J.G. Grobler, 1981 from The South African Journal of Zoology 16(4):259-262

By Daniel Twedt

J.H. Grobler examines the feeding habits of Caracals, (*Felis caracal*) in the Mountain Zebra National Park of South Africa by three methods: (1) by examining fresh kills, (2) determining contents of scats, and (3) observing prey consumed by a free-ranging "tame" caracal. Fifteen of 21 kills recorded were mountain reedbuck, *Redunca fulvorufula*, a small antelope weighing about 55 pounds. Five of the other six kills were of small, antelope-like species. These relatively larger animals are reported to be killed by suffocation with a throat bite.

A total of 200 scats were examined for prey species content. Of these scats, 120 contained the remains of cape dassies, *Procavia capensis*, a small mammal weighing about 6 pounds which superficially resembles a plump ground squirrel. Additionally, 44 scats contained mountain reedbuck remains and 35 scats contained evidence of various rodents or hares. Mammals represented 94% of prey. Domestic livestock remains were not detected in any scats even though sheep and goat ranches surround the park.

An eight-month old "tame" caracal was offered various prey items and was determined to consume about 1-3/4 pounds of meat daily. Based on this consumption, Grobler projected the caracal population of the Mountain Zebra National Park (about 25 individuals) would consume about 16,000 pounds of meat per year. Combined with the food habits obtained from scat analysis, this consumption represents nearly 3,000 cape dassies and 200 mountain reedbucks, although this is a rough estimate.

Grobler has presented an excellent summary of the feeding behavior of caracals. He shows particular resourcefulness in his use of a free-ranging "tame" caracal in gathering this information.

REVIEWER'S COMMENTS

The caracal is found throughout much of sub-Saharan Africa. Likewise, dassies are widely distributed. However, mountain reedbucks have a restricted range within the highlands of Southern Africa and Ethiopia. Therefore, the diet of caracals elsewhere in Africa can be expected to vary with locally abundant prey species.

GAME AND DOMESTIC MEAT COMPOSITION, 100 GRAM EDIBLE PORTION

Food and Description	Water Percent	Food Energy calories	Protein grams	Fat grams
Beef: choice grade, trimmed, raw	56.7	301	17.4	25.1
Pork: composite of trimmed lean meat, medium fat class, raw	56.3	308	15.7	26.7
Lamb: choice grade, trimmed raw	61.0	263	16.5	21.3
Beaver: cooked, roasted	56.2	248	29.2	13.7
Rabbit: raw	73.0	135	21.0	5.0
Raccoon: cooked, roasted	54.8	255	29.2	14.5
Muskrat: cooked, roasted	67.3	153	27.2	4.1
Opossum: cooked, roasted	57.3	221	30.2	10.2
Venison: lean meat, raw	74.0	126	21.0	4.0
Chicken: fryers total edible, raw	75.7	124	18.6	4.9
Duck, domestic: total edible, raw	54.3	326	16.0	28.6
Duck, wild: total edible, raw	61.1	233	21.1	15.8
Pheasant: total edible, raw	69.2	151	24.3	5.2
Quail: total edible, raw	56.9	168	25.0	6.8
atfish: raw	78.0	103	17.6	3.1
vgemouth bass: raw	77.3	104	18.9	2.6
g legs	81.9	73	16.4	.3
ayfish	82.5	72	14.6	.5

— From Tennessee Wildlife

WHY ANIMALS KILL THEIR YOUNG

Infanticide - the killing of newborns - is a widespread phenomenon in the animal kingdom. Now researchers are looking into the possible connections between animal infanticide and child abuse in humans.

Cornell behavioral biologist, Glenn Hausfater, who recently organized an international conference on the subject, says in many cultures, including the 19th century Europe, infanticide was done to increase spacing between children. A baby was sent off to a wet nurse with the implication that it was not to return.

Similarly, in the animal kingdom, some species kill the young to decrease competition for resources. For instance, some female spiders eat the eggs of other spiders. With lions and certain monkeys, an outside male enters the group and kills unrelated young. This could be to increase his own chances of reproduction, since a female won't breed if she is nursing.

Hausfater says researchers are studying this pattern of unrelated males killing newborns to learn if the "absence of kinship" factor can help explain the high rate of child abuse in human stepfamilies.

From "What in the World" by Elliot Kaplan
contributed by Ethel Hauser

BOBCAT AS FURBEARER IN OREGON

Condensed from OREGON WILDLIFE

Oregon has a greater variety of furbearing mammals than nearly any other state in the nation, 20 in all. Three categories or classifications divide the furbearers of the state. First are those classed by Administrative rule as protected, non-game species. Second are those classified by the legislature as furbearers and last are those that are not protected, which have fur value.

The list of those mammals classified as furbearers continues to grow. Within the past ten years, the bobcat, gray fox, red fox and raccoon have been moved from the non-protected list and given status as furbearers by the legislature. This classification provides the protection of seasons and bag limits to these species. Those non-protected furbearing animals include the badger, coyote, nutria, opossum, spotted skunk, striped skunk and weasel.

During the years, furbearer management has taken a backseat compared to big game. An aggressive program of live-trapping and transplanting beaver in the 40's and 50's resulted in the reestablishment of this species. The high demand for this fur in the 40's & 50's resulted in 2,500 licences on the average being issued in those years. During the 1960-72 period, participation dropped to a consistent 700-800 license holders per year. Until the early 70's only 5 species were listed as furbearers four as totally protected and one as nonprotected.

Fur values began to increase in the early 70's. Demand for fur by the garment industry, especially in Europe began to have its impact and created a dramatic increase in the number of harvesters.

Harvest pressure created on species such as bobcat, raccoon and fox caused legislature reclassification so that those species were offered protection most of the year. Even so, the 1981-82 harvest was 2,699 bobcat.

Additional studies were initiated that apply to the wide range of habitats in Oregon. Those species of greatest concern were chosen. With high pelt prices on bobcat, and its listing under the Convention for International Trade in Endangered Species, this species was chosen a priority one. It should be emphasized that the bobcat in Oregon is not endangered, but because it is similar in appearance to other cat species that are endangered, international trade of its pelts is controlled.

Three bobcat density studies were initiated to determine animal numbers in different habitat types. With the cooperation of the harvesters, a statewide age class study is taking place. By extracting and sectioning a lower canine tooth, the annual growth rings can be identified allowing us to determine the annual replacement of young into the population. With this information, at a cost of approximately \$50,000 annually for three years, we will be able to determine annual population numbers and safe harvest levels.

2 ARE BETTER THAN 1

It's better to have two pets than one, says a top veterinarian.

"While it's true some pets do quite well alone, most animals need the companionship of their own kind to flourish" said animal psychologist Michael Fox.

"No matter how you try, it's simply impossible to 'play cat' - stalk, chase, ambush and wrestle with a cat. Eventually, a lone cat may cease playing altogether while two cats raised together may continue to play until a ripe old age.

Fox told McCall's Magazine that the ideal situation is to have two pets of the same age and opposite sexes.



BUYER BEWARE

By Ethel Hauser

I usually don't write articles as it's not my talent. However, I've received several phone calls regarding "ultrasound generators" to remove pests from your home or pets quarters.

Are they effective? Do they really work? How much do they cost? So, I wrote one company and received a vague answer scratched over the face of my letter. I then called on several Veterinarians. All smiled and chuckled - said the devices have a principle but are not effective.

Cats and dogs can hear the sound as well as the skunks, weasels and raccoons they are meant to repel. Would you want to be penned up and forced to listen to that?

The TV program 20/20 did a terrific job researching the "Pest Free" firm's electronic device and they said it does not work to the extent claimed.

In fact, one brochure advocated using an exterminator to quickly rid you of roaches and the ultrasound device to "keep them out". It further advised that vacuuming carpets was necessary to help prevent fleas as they could live a long time without food and although disoriented by the sound, new ones would constantly be brought in by your animal.

SAVE YOUR MONEY.