

# NEWSLETTER

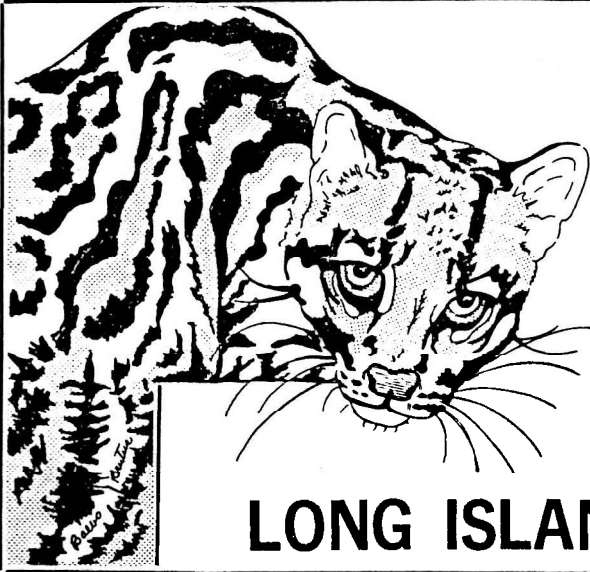


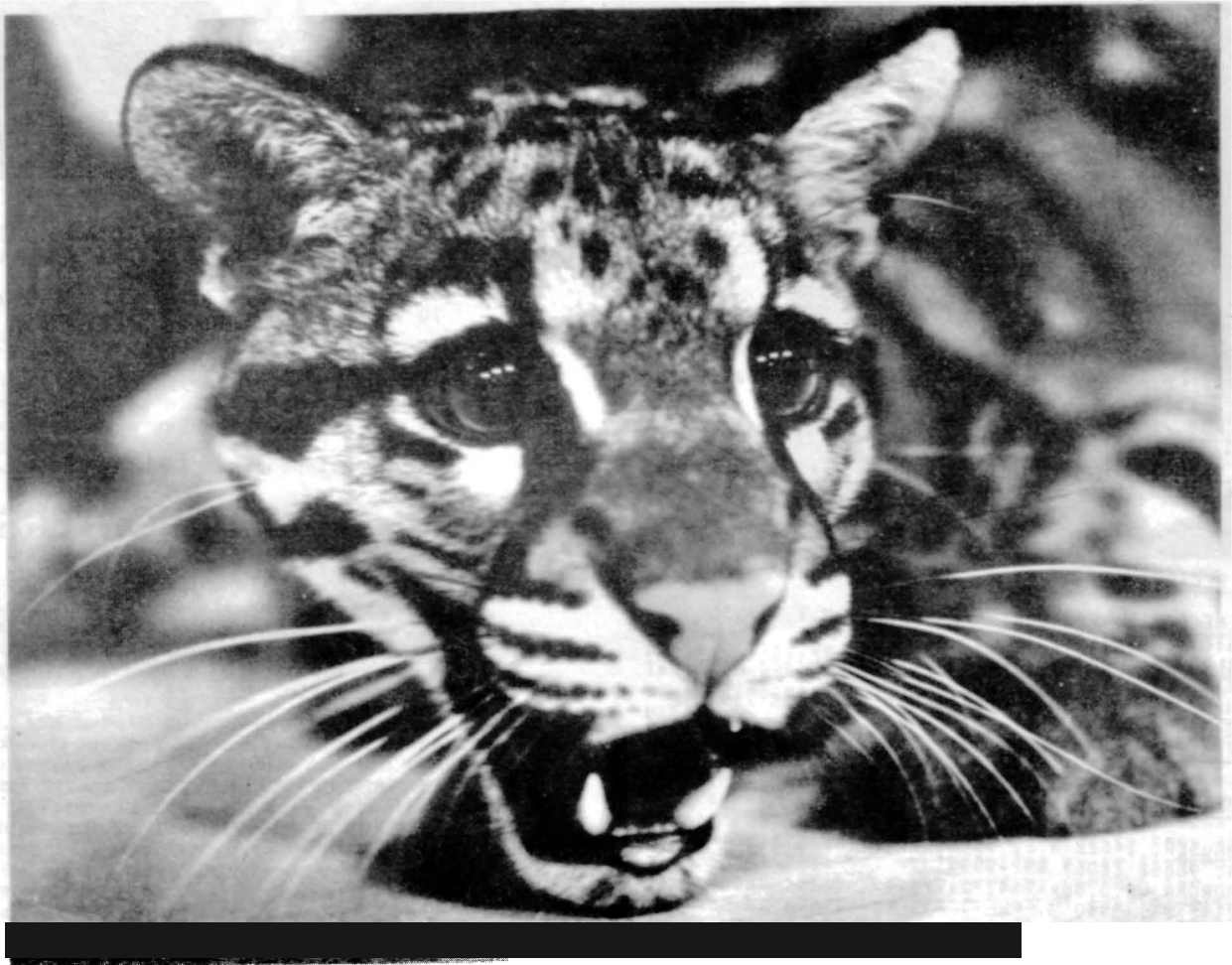
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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB  
 1454 Fleetwood Dr. E.  
 Mobile, Ala. 36605

Volume 30 - Number 2  
 March - April  
 1983

## LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



CLOUDED LEOPARD  
 Head Study by Ethel Hauser

KASI

Kasi, owned by Jackie Vanderwall, smiles in anticipation of her first babies - due any day. She is a regular at Convention but may not make it this year. We'll miss her.



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BARBARA WILTON  
L.I.O.C.  
P.O. Box 66040  
Portland, Or. 97266

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, happ  
sad or tragic, which are sent to us. This  
sharing is a part of the enjoyment of owning  
an exotic.

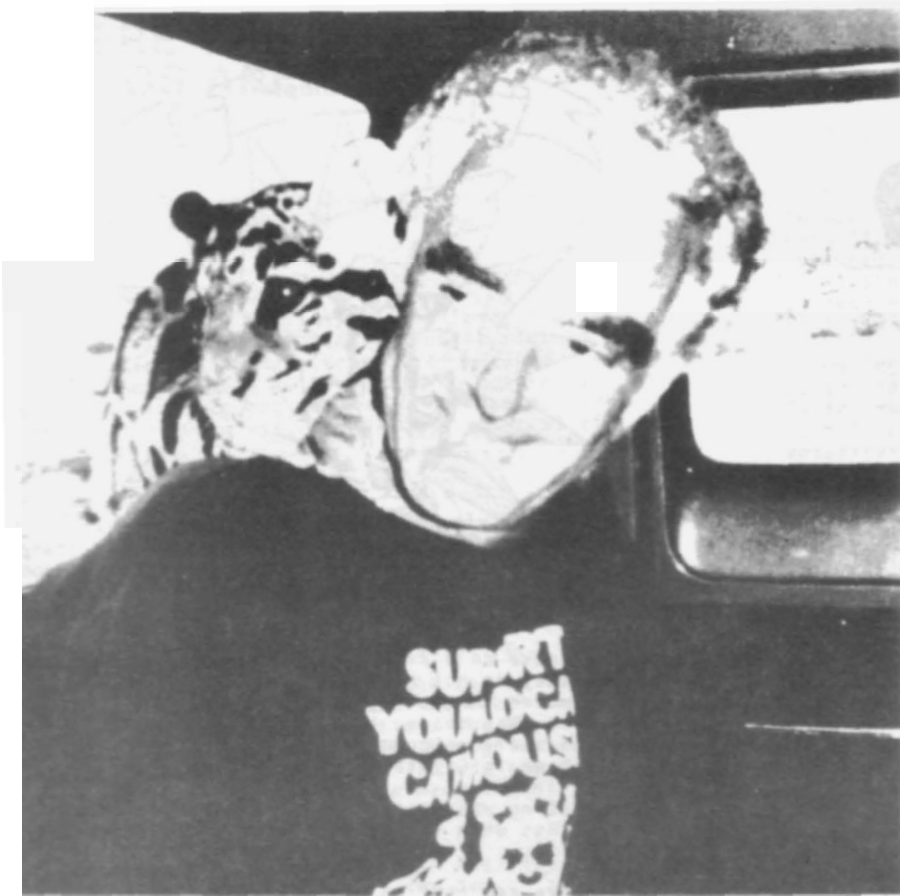
**WRITING EXPERIENCE:** None whatsoever

**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 exotic  
their owners: and the Newsletter

**STARTING TIME:** IMMEDIATELY!! The Newsle  
is waiting on You.



## GLAD TO BE BACK

By Bill Boyle

Always retaining my membership in LIOC since 1959, I became inactive with the demise of the Cascade Branch about 6 years ago; involving myself with other activities and content (?) with my original exotics Henry and Hazel ocelots.

Henry passed away about two years ago (age 12) and Hazel was sent to a friend in the country. For about a year, I tried to be content with Spike, a Chow-Chow dog, but something was always missing and whenever I visited with my longtime LIOC friend Liz Ghent and discussed her many cats, our past experiences and LIOC Conventions, and our almost insatiable discussions about exotics, I went home lonely and disquieted.

Finally, the bubble burst, when I agreed to host a "revival" meeting of the Cascade Branch at my home; arranged, of course, by dedicated members of the Oregon group, namely my good friends Herb and Barbara Wilton and Ethel Hauser. When they told me the "stars" of the show would be Jackie Vanderwall's two clouded leopards, I really became excited. For 12 or 13 years, ever since I visited with "Mr. & Mrs. Catfish", Lloyd Beebes clouded leopards in Sequim at the Olympic Farm, I wanted to be a clouded leopard owner. When the terrible anthrax epidemic hit the game farm and killed his only breeding female, "Mrs. Catfish", my dream faded into an occasional yearning.

Finally, the meeting took place at my home in the summer of 1982, and old friends like Richard and Evelyn Dyck from Vancouver, B.C.; Liz Ghent, the Oregon Group, Ed Smith and many more arrived. Jackie Vanderwall brought her "cloudeds" and the show was over:

Camille was born on August 25th, 1982 and I picked her up in September. Two delightful experiences resulted - first my meeting with BeeJay Lester, after 12 years of correspondance an

phone calls, we finally met. Then I met the lady who was hand raising my little girl - Gladys Lewis. She really loves and takes care of her babies.

Next scene - Christmas, 1982. Camille is now 4 months old and the nicest of any exotic I had raised. Completely toilet trained to newspaper, no cat odors, and a sweet but demanding disposition. I had planned for only one cat to keep as a personal pet, but by this time my selfish motives were beginning to be replaced by concern for captive born propagation of one of the rarest cats in the world. Cholo was born on February 5th, 1983 and soon became Camille's future mate. He is, at this writing, 3 months old and again one of the sweetest cats I have ever seen, thanks to my friend Diane, who has been with him night and day since his arrival.

Well folks, that's the story and my life is again complete. Hopefully the kids will grow up and produce kittens for cat lovers and for zoos and for future propagation.

GLAD TO BE BACK!

PS - See you at Convention "83"



## MEETING REPORT

March, 1983

The March meeting was held at Jackie Vanderwall's. Weather was raining - water and people! We were so happy to greet 37 guests plus two car-loads from the Cascade branch. Liz Ghent brought three guests including Evelyn Dyck from Canada and Bill Boyle brought two. With the rain and hail beating down outside, we counted 63 people - chin to chin. Cats on hand were: 2 ocelots, 1 chaus, 1 jaguar-undi, 2 cougars and 1 darling hybrid bengal along with 2 cougars, 1 serval, 1 bobcat, 1 African leopard. People took pictures, many with elbows, hands and noses from the two-legged variety included.

Glen Davis gave a report on ringworms and how to heal them. Kelly Jean Finell reported on the use of vitamin C and where to buy in bulk powder form. Herb Wilton gave a short report on planting fish eggs in streams and that it would be a good project for our club.

Gayle Schaecher reported on the meeting held with the Fish & Game Dept. This meeting was requested by Fish & Game to get our input set into the new regulations that the department is working on. The Commission was very receptive to our suggestions and we will hear more before the new laws are set. LIOC caging was accepted and they will probably be written into the new Oregon regulations. Our club was concerned that the new laws would not allow us to sell the domestic born young of the felines indigenous to the state. We submitted that we urged members to get USDA licenses and that the seller of domestic born young would notify the Fish & Game department of who buys the kittens. These people would then be given a free period to obtain their permits and get proper caging.

We sold several jars of Cha-parel Vitamins at \$2.50 a quart.

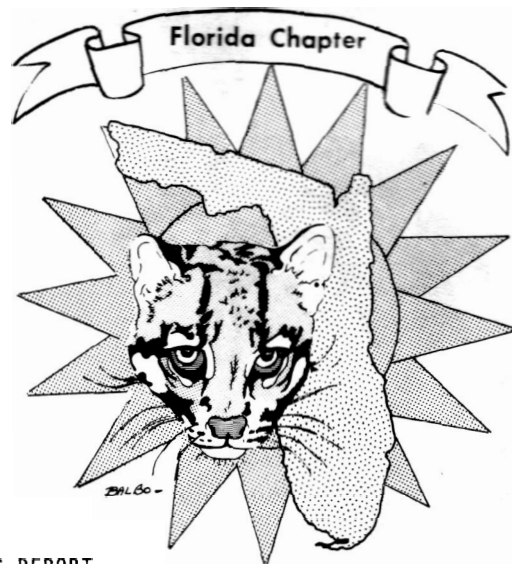
Much of the time was given to meeting new people and showing the cats. We placed the smaller cats on a card table and gave a brief "show & Tell" but there are always more questions.

The dollar pool was won by Dennis Vanderwall and the raffle took in enough to mail out another 160 invitations.

Submitted by  
Ethel Hauser

## GOOD NEWS

Many members report that that old stand-by VIONATE is no longer available. So here's the good news. Rich Health, Inc. has purchased the rights to Vionate from Squibb. Vionate has been the vitamin/mineral staple for many of us for more than 25 years. Rich reports they will continue to package in the 8 Oz., 2, 10 and 50 pound containers. Information is available from Rich Health, Inc., P.O.Box 18258 Irvine Ca 92713



## MEETING REPORT

Picture a house on a river where the bass feel so safe that they do not hide when someone walks up to the edge; where the foliage is thick and the trees provide more than shade, they make the air purer and more breathable - welcome to Art and Gertrude Freeman's home in Crystal River, Florida.

The May meeting was hosted by Art & Gertrude and like other meetings when the weather warms, was sparsely attended.

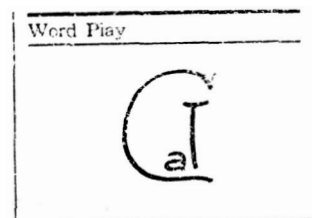
It is nice to say that no major business faced the club at this time so the allure of summer sometimes calls louder than a gathering of friends. It is still hard to justify travel since the big increase in gas.

Our newlyweds, John & Tammy Pickard attended but without their new baby Khan - he's a lovely boy cougar. A battle with fleas caused John to suffer his most personal loss of Apollo. Taking no chances with Khan, John is keeping him in.

Also attending was Dennis & Barbara Grimes and who should show up with a Geoffroy baby as well as a margay baby, but Jean Hatfield (the first kitten to tempt the Grimes and the second to tempt me). Dennis and I each did our best wheeling and dealing but Jean's seen it all and stood her ground. Dennis and I do not have new kittens. I even thought it might make a good anniversary present, but didn't do a good enough job of dicing.

An old member, Sandy Dean came by to visit and enjoy the kittens. Hope we see her again soon. Since the next meeting will precede the convention we thought it best to hold the next meeting in Central Florida and ask folks to bring their suggestions or complaints to the meeting to be passed on the board of directors. So y'all come and be prepared.

Submitted by:  
Danny Treanor  
Fla.Chapter President



**PRINTRIGHT**

Printing By

Mail 205

## WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

On vacation or, if your driving, to Convention, you might want to stop by one of the following zoos:

### BRONX ZOO, NEW YORK

This 252 acre facility is the largest urban zoo in the U.S. Its slogan is "People ride in cages while the animals roam free" because visitors tour the Wild Asia exhibit in monorail. Nocturnal animals are active during the day in The World of Darkness, thanks to a reversal of light cycles.

### CINCINNATI ZOO, OHIO

Insect World, devoted exclusively to invertebrates is popular with zoo-goers. In the new outdoor gorilla exhibit a gorilla family lives and plays in a setting complete with waterfalls, bamboo and grassy lawns.

### NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The giant pandas given to the zoo by the People's Republic of China are the zoo's trademark and its biggest celebrities. The Bird House includes a lushly planted walk-through aviary and outdoor cages. Newer exhibits include the Great Ape House and a North American Mammal exhibit.

### PHILADELPHIA ZOO, PENNSYLVANIA

Bear Country, a sculpted rock facility housing three rare species is the newest exhibit in America's first zoo. Visitors can watch polar bears underwater through windows in their tanks and view the bear's cubbing dens on closed circuit television. Other major exhibits include the African Plains, Rare Mammal house, and a special hummingbird house.

### SAN DIEGO ZOO, CALIFORNIA

San Diego's mild climate gives this zoo a distinct advantage for housing exotic animals. Almost every animal is afforded a spacious outdoor habitat.

### SAN DIEGO WILD ANIMAL PARK

This 1,800 acre facility is "safari style" and is probably America's most elaborate wildlife preserve. Visitors become safari travelers through the park's geographical sections of northern, southern and eastern Africa and Asia.

### ST. LOUIS ZOO, MISSOURI

Big Cat Country is a 3½ acre outdoor exhibit for lions, tigers, pumas, jaguars and leopards. An improved herpetarium contains four distinct climatic zones for reptiles and amphibians.

### WOODLAND PARK ZOO, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

This zoo has initiated a long-range plan to exhibit animals in ten distinct "bioclimatic" habitats rather than lumping all similar animals in a single building.

Contributed by Ethel Hauser  
From "Science Magazine"



"WHAT IS MAN WITHOUT THE BEASTS? IF ALL THE GREAT BEASTS WERE GONE, MEN WOULD DIE FROM A GREAT LONELINESS OF SPIRIT. FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS TO THE BEASTS HAPPENS TO MAN. ALL THINGS ARE CONNECTED"

Chief Seattle, 1854

## Broadway's "CATS" benefit CFHC

The hottest new show on Broadway is a tribute to our favorite creatures - "CATS". In case you haven't heard, CATS is a delightful musical, featuring some very convincing feline impersonators singing, dancing and cavorting their way through episodes from "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats," poetry of T.S. Eliot.

During March a benefit performance was given at the cost of \$100 per seat for the Cornell Feline Health Center. Proceeds are to be used to help endow a new service for cat owners and veterinarians alike, unrivaled by any other institution: the Dr. Louis J. Camuti Memorial Feline Consultation and Diagnostic Service.

A great friend and charter member of the Cornell Feline Advisory Council, Dr. Camuti was the nation's first feline practitioner. Early in his 60 year career he converted to a "house calls only" practice, which he continued for over 50 years in the Greater New York City area. He served the rich, the famous and the humble with equal dedication and was dearly loved.

After his death in 1981, Dr. Camuti's friends, family & admirers chose to establish the consultation and diagnostic service in his memory. Once the necessary funds are obtained, a full-time feline specialist will be available for telephone consultation, new feline diagnostic systems can be developed and standardized testing procedures will be supplied to laboratories throughout the country. Thus the memorial will continue and expand Dr. Camuti's tradition of exemplary service to cats and their owners.

Contributions may be sent to Cornell Feline Health Center - Dr. Camuti Memorial, NYS College of Veterinary Medicine, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853



### Trainer Threatens Suit

By Rollin Mosely,  
Reprinted from Pet Business

Animal trainer Charles Dasher says animals taken from his barn are suffering without him and promises to sue the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to get them back.

The animals - including a lynx, two tigers, two cougars, and seven Alaskan timber wolves, were confiscated from a barn Dasher rents near Bowden, Georgia, and transferred to Atlanta animal shelter after he brought them into the state without a permit. Dasher, a 31-year-old South Carolina man, was charged with keeping wild animals without a permit. Dasher, a professional animal trainer, said the animals are movie and television stars.

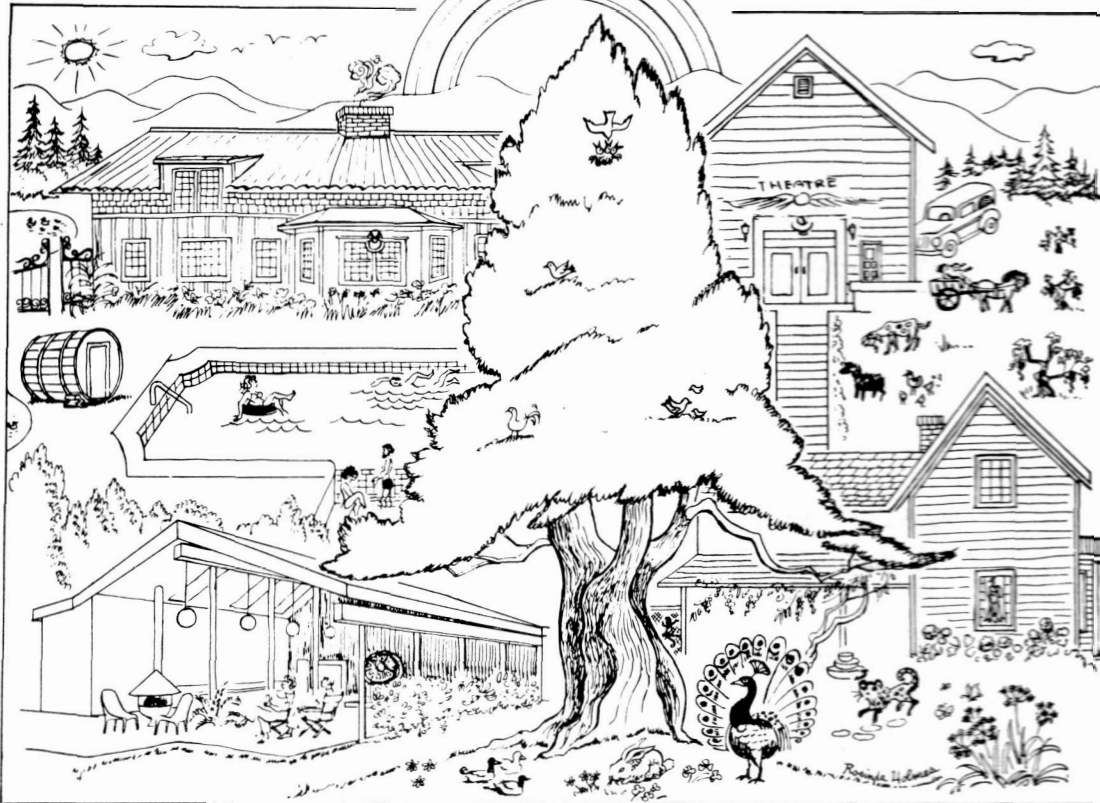
Complaints from neighbors led Fish & Game officers to the long, wooden barn near the community of Bowdon, where they discovered the menagerie.

The officers charged Dasher, in addition to the permit violation, with illegally transporting wild animals into the state. Released under \$1,000 bond, Dasher faces a possible maximum sentence of one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine if convicted.

BED & BREAKFAST

# Isis Oasis

DINNER-THEATRE



LODGE AND CULTURAL CENTER  
707-857-3524

20889 GEYSERVILLE AVE.  
GEYSERVILLE, CALIF. 95441

## ISIS OASIS AWAITS YOU

In Geyserville, Heart of Sonoma County's Russian River Wine Country, hidden from the road, you will find four historic buildings artfully placed on 8½ acres of beautifully landscaped grounds.

The country farmhouse, built by a Bavarian Winemaker before the turn of the century, is now the home of Artist-Innkeeper Lora Vigne, who may greet you within its redwood walls.

From here you will venture past a Mini-Zoo stocked with Birds of colorful plumage, Ocelots, Pygmy Goats, a Black Sheep, Rabbits and a Pony all living in harmony.

Ascend a flight of stairs and you will find the Theatre-Hall constructed after the land was deeded to the Bahai, a faith believing in a One World Philosophy. The Vineyard was transformed into a school to study and advance this concept, but after seventy years Highway 101 cut through the property and the land was sold, leaving the choice site now called Isis Oasis intact.

A noted designer of Decorative Arts, Lora has enhanced the property with an abundance of stained glass, enamel raft and exotic Egyptian Motifs that delight the eye.

The classic Chalet style lodge contains a dozen comfortable sleeping rooms, a large lounge with fireplace and bay windows overlooking a pool, spa, and sauna within a secluded garden. The view takes in Geysers Peak where steamy clouds create a mystical aura.

A rustic bridge over a Duck Pond leads you to a wilderness area where you will discover alternative style shelters.

The Pavillion is the central point for those attending Dinner Theatre which occurs most weekends. Dining in this magical setting surrounded by lush green lawns, and a towering ancient meditation tree, is always an enjoyable experience.

Isis Oasis is an ideal facility for groups seeking comfort, convenience and beauty. Arrangements are handled individually with caring and concern. Rates vary accordingly with every attempt to accommodate the needs of each group.

A professional kitchen with walk-in refrigerator make it easy to handle volume cooking. A dormitory area has been set aside in the loft of the lodge, allowing for economy rates.

Guests are welcome by reservation only. \$35 Single \$47 Double include complimentary wine upon arrival plus a bountiful country breakfast.

The blending of wineries with the flowing river create unsurpassed visual imagery throughout the seasons. Canoeing and bicycling are popular sports of the area. Isis Oasis provides a ping pong and pool table, games or a good book from an extensive library. Visit soon and get in tune with the goodness of nature at Isis Oasis.

Convenient transportation is available by Greyhound. Good Restaurants in close proximity. Call 707-857-3524 Your hosts Lora Vigne and Paul Ramses will be happy to arrange your stay.





## "A Stay With A Difference"

Welcome to Sonoma County! Just an hour's drive north of San Francisco, "Sonoma County always entrances visitors with its quiet, uncommon beauty: the rolling hills—green in winter, caramel-covered in summer—dotted with dairy cattle and white-washed farmhouses; the orchards and vineyards climbing up and down hills; the Russian River winding through redwood forests; the foggy coast, with jagged cliffs and hidden beaches."

A trip to Sonoma County during any season is an enjoyable adventure.

To enhance your visit, whether it is for a day, weekend, or longer, the Innkeepers of **Wine Country Inns of Sonoma County**, invite you to enjoy the warm hospitality and personal attention offered by anyone of the member inns. You will discover each bed and breakfast inn has its own charm and appeal. Some inns are restored farmhouses; others turn-of-the-century hotels or elegant Victorian mansions. The rooms in the inns are just as varied as the architectural styles of the buildings which house them. Room decor is designed to capture the nostalgic flavor of a bygone era, without forfeiting the comfort of the guest. Many rooms are furnished in antiques; some rooms have fireplaces; others afford fabulous views of countryside. Bed and Breakfast inns offer both shared and private baths.

As innkeepers we hope to transform a routine visit into a memorable experience—a momentary escape where you will enjoy a touch of yesterday's charm with today's amenities—truly a "stay with a difference."

Making The Most of Sonoma, A California Guide, by Don Edwards, VII, 1982



Tickets for all shows: \$6  
Dinner and Show Ticket: \$14

Neil Simon's  
**THE GINGERBREAD LADY**

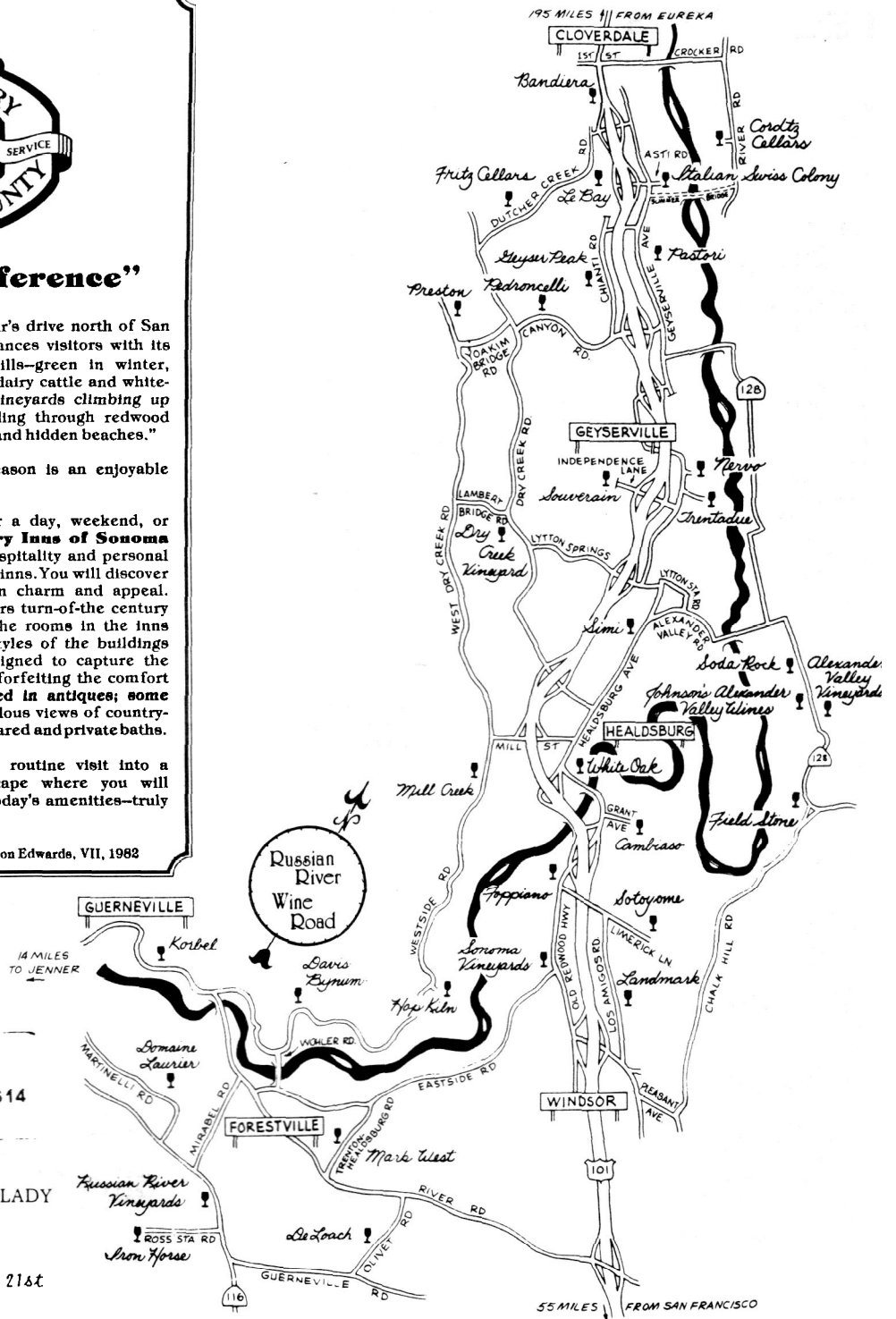
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### ALTERNATE

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L & M MOTEL  
70 HEALDSBURG AVE.  
HEALDSBURG, CALIF.  
95448  
(707) 433-6528

# LEGALITIES

## U.S.D.A. LICENSE REVOKED

John Aynes, who previously operated Animal Actors of Oklahoma, has agreed to have his Federal animal exhibitor's permit revoked to settle a charge by the U.S.D.A. that he violated the Federal Animal Welfare Act.

According to Dr. L.D. Konyha, veterinarian in charge of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in Oklahoma, Aynes was charged last year with buying and selling a variety of wild animals without obtaining the required exhibitor's license. However, he did secure this license in May of 1981.

Aynes was also charged with maintaining sub-standard facilities for lions, tigers and a jaguar. Konyha said Aynes also neglected to provide adequate shelter, space, sanitation or veterinary care for the animals.

Further he said, on three occasions, Aynes failed to exercise necessary safety precautions which resulted in life threatening situations. A 2 year old girl was bitten by a tiger during a photo taking session; a jaguar escaped from its holding facility; and a zebra died after it developed pneumonia from exposure to inclement weather.

Aynes who presently resides in Hawaii, consented to a penalty in lieu of a formal hearing, without admitting or denying the charge. The license revocation was imposed by a Federal Judge in March. The judge also imposed a permanent order to cease and desist from further business Aynes may operate involving animals regulated by the act. Aynes is not re-eligible to apply for a license until March, 1987.

Reprinted from WPS News

## JURY AWARDS \$100,000 - UPDATE

A jury has awarded \$100,600 in damages to the owners of Wildlife Wilderness Safari in Arkansas, because polluted water allegedly caused the deaths of 143 exotic animals.

The jury found the defendants, David A Calkain and Campbell Soup Company of Fayetteville, Ark. were negligent in 1974 and 1975 by allowing decomposed turkeys to wash into a creek that formed a lake where the animals got their water.

## LEGHOLD TRAPS A THING OF THE PAST?

S.2239, a bill to ban interstate shipment and foreign commerce of pelts from states and nations which have not passed bills to outlaw the use of steel-jaw leghold traps. This bill would force states to discontinue the use of this type of trap has been referred to subcommittee on Environmental Pollution, Sen. John Chaffe, Chairman.

# ZOO NEWS

Seventeen apes will lose their homes at the Detroit Zoo when the city closes the James Holden Great Ape House on July 1st in an economy move according to an AP release.

Zoo Director Steve Graham said the apes, including two gorillas, seven chimpanzees three orangutans and five gibbons, will be dispersed to zoos around the nation.

Closing the Ape house and an unused amphitheater will save about \$400,000 in an annual budget of \$5.9 million, Graham said. It would cost about \$5 million to replace the shabby, cramped facility according to Graham. "Most of the complaints we hear from the public about the zoo concern the conditions under which the apes live."



## CONDOR CHICK SEXED

The sex of a young condor has been determined by the same blood test that settles human paternity suits and the wildlife authorities in San Diego say it's a boy.

The six month old chick is only one of two in captivity and one of only 20 in existence.

Biologists had hoped the baby would be a girl "because they think there are more males than females in the wild", but say that now they will launch an expedition to capture a mate.

The birds inhabit a mountainous area near Ventura, Calif. and seem to be dying at a rate of 3 a year. The two in captivity plus those in the wild are hoped to be the basis for a breeding program that could bring the birds back from the brink of extinction.

Reprinted from PIJAC News

## FERRETS NOT EXTINCT!

The blackfooted ferret - missing and presumed extinct has been found alive - in Wyoming.

Due to eradication efforts aimed at the prairie dog, the ferret's main meal and habitat was destroyed. The only ferret population known today is thought to contain about 60 animals.

## HERON COLONY DESTROYED

Canada's largest great blue heron colony, consisting of 450 nests, was destroyed with the approval of the federal Canadian Wildlife Service. A resident property owner claimed that the herons were killing valuable oak trees which he planned to harvest.

Over the past 2 years the provincial Niagara and Region Conservation Authority tried to work out a compensation plan to the owner allowing the birds to remain, but those negotiations broke down last winter. When the owner planned to cut some of the trees, the government threatened him under federal and provincial game laws. However the property owner discovered a bureaucratic loophole; a section in the Migratory Birds Treaty Convention Act entitles anyone experiencing financial losses, such as crop damage to chase or even kill the otherwise protected birds.

Meanwhile, the Federation of Ontario Naturalists offered the owner \$10,000 plus annual payments to buy the herons' nesting sites. The owner refused. The Federation of Ontario Naturalists and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources apparently believed that the Canadian Wildlife Service would protect the colony until something was worked out; unfortunately, the Service not only failed to halt the destruction, but actually approved it. Worse, the owner claims that 50-60 of the nesting birds have returned and that something still has to be done about it.

## YOUR MONEY'S WORTH

Two things we can pay too much for and still get our money's worth are research and conservation - and often you have to have the first to get the second. Conservation without research can make an advocate about as silly as anyone I know of.

Reub Long  
The Oregon Desert



# TROUBLE WITH BABY

by Danny Treanor

Baby is a margay who belongs to BeeJay Lester of Jacksonville, Florida. We think she is about eight years old. She's here on breeding loan to bitter margay.

During March of 1983, Florida experienced a prolonged cold spell and even though Baby is in a cage with a heater to provide some heat, she suffers from any extreme in temperature. She prefers a nice, controlled surrounding.

The first signs were lack of appetite, which I dismissed as Baby beginning to cycle. Since I do not do the feeding, I had no direct knowledge of her being "off her feed". My wife, Ellen, informed me of the fact, which I chose to half-hear.

I went out of town on business and Baby was two or three days off her feed. During my absence, Ellen became worried about Baby as she now had a swollen face, matted eyes and no appetite. After we had talked on the phone, she decided to go to the vet, but without Baby, since it really takes both of us to handle her while being examined or treated. The vet prescribed Keflex which was hard to find in the dosage needed, but once obtained Ellen could only use food to try to give Baby her medicine. Still Baby would not eat. Ellen confined her away from the other cats and used a vaporizer to relieve some of the congestion.

By this time I had returned to Orlando Baby had gone six days without food. Off to the vet's we went Baby's temperature was 106°. She was still congested with runny eyes. The vet administered a shot to bring down the fever, an antihistamine and a 'B' complex shot to stimulate her appetite and an antibiotic. At home, we gave the Keflex twice daily and improvised a bit. I usually use a syringe minus the needle to get medicine into the mouth of the cat without endangering a finger. We were evidently fighting a virus and there is no medicine for a virus, just time and Baby's own defense mechanisms.

By moving Baby into the house, we assured she was in a temperature controlled environment, with the vaporizer to help. The Keflex helped prevent any secondary bacterial infections. But no food intake meant that Baby had not the caloric or nutritional needs of her body. We used Nutri-Cal which was hard to get through the syringe in its paste form. But we got it in! Also, we used baby-food of chicken, turkey and beef with calcium added. There was no immediate change except her eyes quit running and the congestion seemed to be relieved. But still she would not eat.

So, twice a day, we got her into the scoop net, and using gloves, and towels got her into a position where we could force feed her. During this time she never stopped drinking water. Ken Hatfield suggested that she might not be eating due to a loss of smell and/or taste or even a sore throat. Ken suggested B-12 shots to stimulate appetite and this Ellen and I did ourselves, sub-Q.

Baby's eyes continued to clear and her swelling went down. Force-feeding her was getting more and more difficult as she was getting stronger. We constantly had to resort to new tricks to get her in a position to be netted.

After 10 days of treatment, Ken suggested changing the antibiotic to ampicillin and adding lactobacillus to her food. Baby was beginning to look better so I asked Ken about steroids. He said to check with the vet to make sure they would not interfere with the ampicillin. We combined the steroids with the B-12 with no immediate results.

By day 12, we were leaving food with Baby - a little of everything and she ate a chicken liver on her own - now we're cooking!

We continued the shots, about 7 B-12 shots and 4 steroid shots and tried to use food as the vehicle for medication. Not much luck on the sneaky food trick. But still food was disappearing and progress continued.

Baby is happy now. She's back in her own cage and she's eating well. The stress of it all caused her to pull fur from her tail, but it didn't stop her from coming into heat a week after she started eating.

She is now out of heat, grumpy and hates me, tolerates Ellen and just wants to be left alone. And don't you dare bring that net or gloves near her! Oh, by the way, Baby has all her equipment.



## VALUABLE RESEARCH AT AUBURN

Reprinted from Pet Business

The treatment of tropical birds, zoo animals and snakes is usually a difficult problem for veterinarians. Ordinary veterinarians are trained to treat dogs and cats, cows and chickens that need medical attention, and the treatment is made easier because administering of drugs to all domesticated animals has been standardized.

However, the treating of a sick cobra or kangaroo is much more difficult, because proper drug dosages to treat such animals and birds have never been established, according to Carl Clark, head of the Physiology and Pharmacology Department at Auburn University's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Clark and James Milton, associate professor of small animal surgery and medicine, are working at the East Alabama University to facilitate the treatment of sick zoo animals by developing a standardized chart of proper drug dosages and intervals.

"There's been almost no work whatsoever on proper dosages in zoo animals" Clark said.

In treating zoo animals, veterinarians usually estimate drug dosages and dosage intervals by looking at proper medication for similar domesticated animals, Clark explained. "If you're treating a deer, for example, you need to estimate from a cow. But for a lot of animals, like snakes, there's no way to estimate."

If you give them too little, the drug will not fight the bacteria" he said. "If you give too much, the drug itself can be toxic. You have to have the proper dose to get the proper result. Clark said procedures used in the Auburn study are "very minor".

When sick animals are moved to the school's clinic, microbiotics specialists analyze the germs. Antibiotics are administered to the animals, after which the blood levels are analyzed to see how much of the drugs are present.

"We use extremely minute amounts of blood, just a few drops. It's very important because you don't want the procedure itself to mess up the results."

During the first year of investigation, Clark said he has found that "some animals closely related get rid of drugs quickly, others don't". A single dose of antibiotic lasts 72 hours for a watersnake, but less than 24 for an indigo snake. "In snakes it varies drastically" he emphasized. A sick pigeon requires doses of medicine four times in 12 hours while an eagle needs only one dose in that same time.

Clark said he is beginning to study the wallabies in a nearby zoo and plans to travel to North Carolina to study a group of 25 tigers. He says he needs at least two years to gather results on zoo animals.

# Feline Toxoplasmosis: The Disease and its Public Health Significance

Reprinted from "Perspectives on Cats"  
Cornell Feline Health Center Newsletter

By: Sandy Baldwin, DVM, M.S.

Though the parasitic disease toxoplasmosis is most often mentioned in connection with cats, in reality it is found in virtually all species of warm blooded animals throughout the world. Statistics show that anywhere from 20% to 80% of all domestic animals in the U.S. have been infected at one time or another. It has also been estimated that about half of all people in this country harbor the organism without showing any signs of disease. The causative agent is an intestinal protozoan, Toxoplasma gondii.

Cats usually become infected in one of two ways:

- 1) via ingestion of meat contaminated with the parasite (either animals caught in the wild or commercially purchased meats); or
- 2) via ingestion of the encysted organisms after they have been passed in the feces of another cat.

There has been a recent report of possible trans-placental transmission in cats. To understand the differences in the two usual mode of infection the life cycle of the parasite will be discussed briefly.

## LIFE CYCLE

There are essentially two phases of the parasite: the intestinal (entero-epithelial) and the systemic phases. To date, only the feline species has been recognized as a definitive host for Toxoplasma; in other words, only within the cat can the organism undergo both phases; thus, cysts are produced only in the cat and serve as a source of infection for other animals including man.

In the intestinal stage of infection, the cat swallows the infective organism, either from contaminated meat or from encysted organisms previously passed in feces. These oocysts then release their organisms and infect the epithelial cells of the intestine. Following reproduction, oocysts (encysted organisms which are then passed in the feces) are formed. Depending on the source of the infection, oocysts can be detected in the cat's feces in 5 to 21 days. The oocysts will be passed daily for approximately 2 weeks and there is the potential for passing millions of oocysts in each bowel movement. After this 2 week period, oocyst shedding stops, generally due to the development of immunity to the Toxoplasma organism by the host.

The second, or systemic phase, occurs at the same time as the intestinal stage. In this phase, organisms ingested by susceptible mammals (including humans) can localize in the intestinal epithelium or spread rapidly throughout the body, causing acute disease. As antibodies form, the Toxoplasma enters a resting stage and becomes encysted, that is, it becomes enclosed in a protective sac.

This encystment is particularly apparent in the brain, heart and muscles. These tissue cysts are long-lived organisms and are highly infective if the tissue is consumed by another animal. Probably the major source of infection in cats is raw meat infected with cysts; this may be from captured prey, (rodents & birds) or raw meat fed by the owner. Cats fed homemade diets that include raw meat, such as liver, may easily become infected. In man, the main source of infection is also most likely ingestion of raw or undercooked meat, not contact with cats.

## CLINICAL DISEASE & IMMUNITY IN CATS

In general, a vast majority of cats that become infected with Toxoplasma gondii never show any signs of disease. The only indication that infection has occurred might be the demonstration of oocysts on a routine fecal examination and perhaps a slight rise in antibody formation in the blood serum. Very rarely there might be mucoid or bloody diarrhea if a significant portion of the intestine becomes infected. This would probably have to follow the ingestion of a massive number of oocysts or cysts in infected meats. When seen, clinical disease is often in the young, and can be severe to fatal.

If acute disease does occur, pneumonia is the most consistent sign. Fever, labored breathing, hepatitis, upper respiratory infection, muscle inflammation (including the heart) are other reported signs. Usually these resolve, and a strong immunity develops. In old cats, whose general immunity is not strong, small nodules may occur in the intestine and lead to intestinal obstruction.

Very rarely, chronic disease can be seen. It is usually manifested by 1) ocular disease, involving any or all parts of the eye, 2) anemia, and 3) encephalitis. Due to the nature and duration of chronic disease, oocysts have long ceased to shed in the stool. An unusual complication occurs if, for some unknown reason, one of the tissue cysts ruptures, releasing the organism, rapidly eliciting a severe allergic response. This most commonly occurs in the areas mentioned before for encystment, namely the brain, heart and muscle. The local tissue death that occurs will produce a myriad of signs which vary with the site and in the amount of tissue destruction.

As mentioned already, the production of antibodies correlates well with cessation of oocyst shedding in the feces. There may be numerous reinfections, but rarely is disease manifested after the first infection, due to protective immunity. However, feline leukemia virus is known to suppress the cat's ability to form antibodies and if a cat has this virus, the possibility of severely acute toxoplasmosis or resurgence of chronic infection is something always considered by your veterinarian.

## DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT

If the cat is newly infected and passing oocysts, diagnosis is usually straightforward. The oocysts are easily seen on fecal examination by your veterinarian. The problem occurs if the cat is examined after the time the fecal oocyst shedding has stopped. Blood tests will tell whether or not the cat has been infected previously. Because antibody levels to Toxoplasma rise slowly, however, it is possible although unlikely that no antibody will be detected in an early infection. Once a diagnosis is made, treatment is available which precludes replication of the Toxoplasma organism. With proper precautions, treatment is usually very straightforward.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

In adult humans, toxoplasmosis is usually a mild disease resembling the flu, with a slight fever, fatigue, swollen glands in the neck and armpits, rashes, headache and sore throat. It has been misdiagnosed as mononucleosis upon occasion. Acute cases may occur very infrequently, with damage to the central nervous system, blindness, heart attacks and death.

The main reason for public concern about toxoplasmosis is the serious consequence of infection in pregnant women. The organisms have been shown to cross the placenta and infect the developing child, resulting in an estimated 3,000 congenitally-infected infants per year. The most common defects are blindness and brain cysts; however stillbirths and miscarriages also occur.

As mentioned, approximately 50% of the people in the U.S. harbor the parasite without exhibiting the disease. 25% to 45% of women of child-bearing age (20-39 years of age) fall into this category and are immune to reinfection. These women, should they be exposed to the parasite during pregnancy, will not deliver infected babies.

The major problem arises in women who have no previous exposure to toxoplasmosis, who become infected either at the time of, or shortly after conception. One third to 1/8 of the babies born of these newly infected women will be delivered with congenital toxoplasmosis. These children can have many severe neurological problems, including blindness. It is also possible that they may show no signs whatsoever.

If a woman becomes infected late in pregnancy, she will most likely not transmit disease to her child.

#### GUIDELINE FOR PREVENTION

To prevent contracting toxoplasmosis, several guidelines can be offered:

1. First, cook all meats a minimum of internal temperature of 151°F. This is the only definite way to kill the organism in meat. Freezing for prolonged periods reportedly will kill the organisms, but dependence on freezing as a method of prevention is at best, very foolhardy due to variations in temperature and durations. A special note of caution should be directed to hunters, particularly those who field dress game. Washing hands and utensils after dressing is an obvious precaution. This should also be done after handling meat and preparing non-game meats.
2. Cats should be tested for the presence of antibodies, especially if testing can be done prior to the owner's pregnancy. If there is a significant titer rise then immunity is probably effective and organisms will not likely be shed. If the titer is negative, the cat is a potential candidate for disease and production of oocysts.
3. Litter boxes should be emptied of feces daily. Toxoplasma oocysts do not become infectious until one to 5 days after being passed in the feces, and they can survive for long periods. The use of dry cat litter is also indicated since oocysts mature slower if the area is dry. If the litter is changed daily and is disposed of properly prior to maturation of the sporulating oocysts, no infection can occur. Also, the addition of boiling water to the litter pan daily as a means of sterilization is also an excellent method of killing the organism.
4. Pregnant women should not clean the litter box, perhaps even if the cat possesses antibodies and is not shedding the organism, since recurrence of toxoplasmosis due to other immunodeficient diseases is possible.
5. To completely protect cats, it is necessary to prevent hunting of animals or birds and to feed commercially prepared foods, avoiding raw or undercooked meats.
6. Good personal hygiene after any animal contact is important. Care should especially be taken with stray animals.
7. Pregnant women in particular should wear rubber gloves while gardening, especially in areas frequented by cats, and the skin should be washed thoroughly after gardening. Food grown in home gardens should be washed thoroughly prior to being eaten fresh. Oocysts may be present in the soil for a year or more.

8. To prevent infection in young children, sandboxes should be covered when not in use.

9. Always check with your physician for further guidelines, precautions and recommendation.

It is hoped that this article will aid in an understanding of toxoplasmosis and the role of cats and infected meats in human infection. It is also hoped that, because of this information, fewer cats will be euthanized due to ignorance of the disease process. By following simple precautions to prevent exposure, by identifying susceptible women with the use of antibody tests, and by the rational interpretation of serum titers, much of the fear of Toxoplasma gondii infection can be abated.

Charles A. "Sandy" Baldwin earned his D.V.M. in 1973 and his M.S. in 1982, both at Cornell. He is currently at work on his Ph.D. in Veterinary Virology, specializing in intestinal diseases of cats.



KIT 'N' CARLYLE™

by Larry Wright

CARLYLE'S LITTLE KNOWN  
**CAT FACTS** THE VACUUM CLEANER WAS INVENTED IN THE FIFTH CENTURY BY ONE OF ATILA THE HUNN'S GENERALS TO DRIVE OFF THE BIG CATS THAT WERE TERRORIZING HIS SOLDIERS. IN THE EARLY 1900'S, IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE MACHINES ALSO WERE USEFUL FOR CLEANING FLOORS.



## TRAGEDY STRIKES

A policeman shot and killed a pet mountain lion owned by Tony Mendes of Visalia, California. The animal, which was declawed, slipped from its collar and escaped. While police waited for a humane officer to arrive, the animal began to advance and was killed when a policeman fired four shotgun blasts into the 50 pound cat.

Reprinted from WPS Newsletter

#### ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT REAUTHORIZATION

A bill to reauthorize the Endangered Species Act for 1983, 1984 and 1985 passed unanimously last fall in both House and Senate. All provisions of the act were left virtually untouched except for a few minor changes.

# A DAY WITH A JAGUAR



GINA USHLER makes friends with MIGUEL de los AMERICAS - a 5 month old jaguar belonging to ELIZABETH GHENT

By Gina Ushler

Meeting Miguel will always be a highpoint of my life. On that first occasion we quietly and mentally sized each other up. How handsome he is I thought. Such beautiful eyes, his manner so sleek and controlled.

Although I outweighed him by 83 pounds and he was 26 years younger than I, it was obvious that he would be the stronger one. What he was thinking I wasn't sure.

When he finally came over and climbed onto my lap I knew he had decided to tolerate me and allow me to be his friend. I know that no wild animal such as this five month-old jaguar can ever be totally tame and never really accepts a human as equal.

Miguel's owner, Elizabeth Ghent, had invited me along on their weekly walk in the outskirts of the city. Before we got started, we were going to check on her other exotic cats, so Elizabeth got Miguel settled inside the van. As we started up the steps to the house, we heard a noise and turned to see a very surprised Miguel, with his paws on the steering wheel, peeking over the dash of the van which was slowly rolling backwards. Somehow he had released the brake. Fortunately, the wheels had been turned and the drive was flat so no harm was done. It could have been very awkward filing a claim with the insurance company for damages to my car caused by a van driven by a jaguar.

After checking on Elizabeth's cougar, servals and golden cat, we were ready to head out. Although Miguel is leashed to the backseat to keep him from taking over the driver's seat, he has plenty of room to roam. As he was teething, he seemed to prefer the softness of my hands, arms and legs over the plastic bottles and old shoe that normally keep him occupied. He was so gentle in his playing that I could not help but enjoy it.

We stopped for a bite to eat before setting out on our walk, this time placing rocks behind the wheels to prevent another mishap and Miguel was quite content to nap until we were ready.

Once Miguel was out of the van, I noticed how alert he was to his surroundings. As we headed down the road, each time a car approached, he would pause as it passed by to make sure there was no danger. After getting away from the road, Miguel decided a run would be better exercise. We were able to keep pace with each other although I had to do a bit of fancy footwork at times when he decided to zig-zag between my feet. I also had to clear a three-foot bush at one point in order to avoid a parked car on one side and a brick wall on the other.

When passing a fire hydrant, Miguel's natural instincts told him there was water nearby. Seeing he was thirsty and we were coming to a local firestation, we decided to stop in for a drink. While a cup of water was being found, Miguel was content to roam around the lobby and visit with the staff, all of whom put in an appearance to see this beautiful animal.

Not all people are as willing to come face to face with such an exotic animal, as I was soon to find out. We headed down the road and came to a recycling booth attended by a young man. As he opened the door to step out, Miguel's curiosity was aroused and he started forward to check things out. I have never seen such a retreat and a door close so fast as when the attendant saw us approaching.

Walking through a field of overgrown weeds and grass, Miguel seemed to be at home. This was more apparent when, all of a sudden, I felt myself being yanked into the tall grass and Miguel crouched down and stared out at the road. I soon discovered the reason for our sudden flight for cover - a group of bicyclists were whizzing by and the unusual sight and sound apparently triggered natural instincts and told him to seek cover.

Our last unplanned stop on the way back to the van was a real estate agency. For, as we passed by the street level windows, the agents inside appeared quite surprised to see such a sight as Miguel walking by. They all dashed outside to confirm they were not seeing things. Questions came from all directions - Is it a leopard? An Ocelot? Is it tame? How big will it get? It's amazing how little people know about exotic animals. By the time we left, Elizabeth had given them quite an education.

As we headed home, I couldn't help but think how my respect for this intelligent animal had grown. Miguel and Elizabeth had both taught me a lot about jaguar and the other cats and I hope they will teach me more.

It was a beautiful day, one that I will always remember, as it is a great honor to have such an animal allow you to be his friend.

## AGENDA BEING SET

EACH YEAR AT CONVENTION THOSE PRESENT MEET TO DISCUSS VARIOUS TOPICS PERTAINING TO THE CLUB'S OPERATION. THIS IS THE MEMBERS' CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN HOW LIOC IS RUN. IT IS, AFTER ALL, YOUR CLUB.

AFTER DISCUSSION BY THE MEMBERS, A TOPIC MAY BE REFERRED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION FOR ACTION.

IF YOU HAVE A TOPIC YOU WISH TO BE DISCUSSED PLEASE SEND IT TO OUR PRESIDENT, KEN HATFIELD TO BE PLACED ON THE MEETING AGENDA.

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