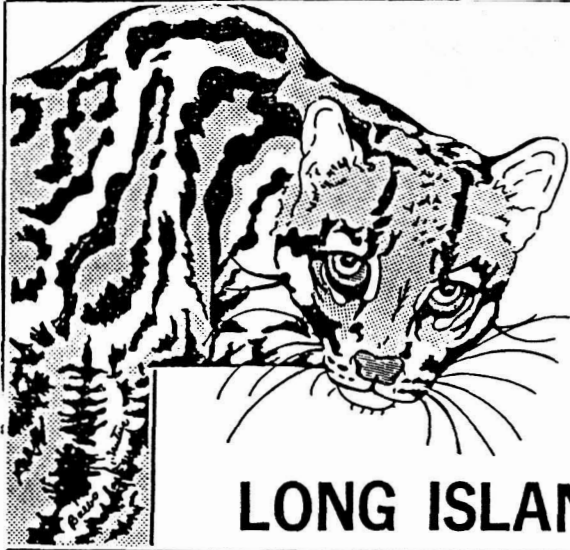


LIOC ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FEDERATION, INC.



NEWSLETTER

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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB
1454 Fleetwood Dr. East
Mobile, Alabama 36605

July - August, 1984
Volume 28 - Number 4

LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



Gloria and Stan Capon, Vancouver, Washington, display oil painting of South American Cougar. This original, painted by Stan, has been donated for the Convention, '84 raffle with ALL proceeds going to the LIOC general fund. The Capons paint the exotics from observation of the Club's family of exotic felines. More of their work will be on display at Convention.



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

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

Help Wanted

REPORTERS

LIOC 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 exotic ownership

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.

WILD MYSTERY

The path takes you through dense forests of teak, the trees are choked by jungle vines. You think about tigers, especially the man-eaters. A few days ago, a tiger killed a man in the woods very near this spot.

Suddenly, up in the treetops, two gray monkeys begin to shriek. What has frightened them? Is it a tiger? One of the 70 or so that are known to prowl this north Indian forest?

On the muddy path ahead you come upon a tiger's paw marks, the paw prints that are as individual in pattern as a snowflake.

"That's Tara's mark," says the guide, "It's quite fresh, she must have come through an hour ago."

You nod, and you wonder, because Tara, you see has been dead for 5 years - or so the top Indian authorities say. Tara is a tigress, an enigma, a phantom, a legend, possibly a mother and definitely a mystery. She is also the focus of one of the most bitter wildlife controversies in the world.

Born in an English zoo, Tara was brought to India in 1976, as a 4 month old cub, the subject of a unique experiment. She would be hand raised by humans and then released in the Indian jungle. No one had tried that before.

The man that brought Tara to India was Arjan, "Billy" Slingh, an Indian conservationist who earlier had raised leopard cubs and re-introduced them to the wild, not far from the India-Nepal border.

Slingh and other wildlife officials believed that, by reintroducing zoo-born tigers into the wild, they could combat the growing danger of inbreeding among India's wild tigers.

Numbering 50,000 at the turn of the century, India's tiger population dwindled to 2,000 by the early 1970's. According to some experts, this reduction has encouraged the genetic deterioration of the tigers who were forced to breed in a much smaller population.

So now, Tara, the carrier of fresh genes, would be sent back into the jungle of Dudhwa National Park where dozens of rundown tigers would be grateful for her coming, or so the theory went.

Today, most Indian tiger experts deplore the Tara experiment. Tara is probably long since dead they say. And the reintroduction of zoo-born carnivorous animals into the wild is probably a bad idea and should not be attempted again.

Here is the little that is known for certain. For 16 months Tara lived on Slingh's farm. She played with him, slept with him, nuzzled his dog, romped with a pet leopard. Then slowly, gradually, she learned how to hunt, to climb trees and to make longer and longer trips into the jungle.

In February, 1978, Tara went into the jungle for good. She was 20 months old, younger than Slingh had hoped she would be when she answered the call of the wild. Still, he was proud that his experiment seemingly had worked. But a month later Slingh's troubles began. There was a series of attacks on humans by tigers. The critics said it had been Tara.

The critics have two theories. One that Tara had failed to master the tricky business of hunting wild boar or deer, a tiger's natural prey. So starving, Tara had been forced to go after humans, an easily captured prey that is not normal food for tigers.

The second theory, is that Tara had never felt a tiger's natural fear of humans. Thus, once in the wild, she would react differently when approached by farmers or those who work in the forest. Instead of retreating like "normal" tigers, Tara, remembering the friendship of man would approach them. This would frighten the men into running and thus Tara might well pounce on them and kill.

Whatever the truth, the attacks on humans continued. Then, in 1980, the director of the park shot and killed a man-eater. He said it was Tara and many believed him. But, after looking over the tiger, Slingh insists the dead tiger was not Tara. Indian wildlife officials also agree with him.

But if the man-eater wasn't Tara, whatever became of her?



RED WOLF SANCTUARY

One of the nation's most endangered animals may find a home at Land Between the Lakes (LBL), according to a proposal now under consideration by State & Federal authorities.

The red wolf, a species which once roamed over much of the south, is now extinct in the wilds. Less than 75 of these animals are known to exist all in captivity.

According to a proposal now before the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Kentucky and Tennessee wildlife agencies would release 5 pairs in the LBL area hoping the animals will survive and reproduce.

Before this proposal is approved, hearings will be held to assess public reaction. Biologists will carefully monitor the animals via radio transmitters.

Even though the red wolf is an endangered species, these particular animals and their offspring will be given a special designation as "experimental and non-essential to the survival of the species", under provisions of the endangered species act. This will allow federal and state biologists greater leeway in managing these animals than if the wolves were classified as endangered. Any wolves that leave LBL would be managed under state regulations. This experimental and nonessential status would also mean that LBL would not be classed as "critical habitat" under endangered species law and that all normal activities, including hunting, on this area would continue.

Kentucky Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Resources
contributed by Daniel Twedt



BALOO

AND NOW DAISEY



By Ralph Ferrer

Some notes on how I came about to be the proud owner of a little bundle of mischief and love called DAISEY.

After over a year and a half after my 18 year old ocelot, Delilah's death, I finally decided to obtain a new cat - a little bobcat. My plans were for one born during the Spring of 83.

Unfortunately, my plans had to be postponed when my doctor found I had cardiac problems that would require hospitalization and open-heart surgery. This was arranged and performed in July, 1983. Fortunately, all went well and I was home mid-August recovering. My plans were to obtain a bobcat by Spring '84. I was in constant contact with a member who was trying to get some contacts and information on this for me. In the meantime, recuperating was slow but successfully progressing.

By the end of September, my friend called to inform me of a late birth in the Hatfield compound, and the availability of a female bobcat kitten. Needless to say, I was thrilled at this and promptly acted to secure the kitten. After calls and arrangements were made, delivery of the kitten came to be October 15th. I picked up the little darling at the airport without any problems. She was very charming and lovely to behold!

She took to the apartment quite readily though not so readily to her other tasks. Though she immediately started to use her litter box to urinate, she would not do her other toilet duties there, using first a chair (I found orange peels helped keep her away) the top of some records, a corner by the radiator (had to place a box there) and finally, a long plant container in the living room window (with consequent plant dismissal).

Because of her constant play, and in order to be able to handle her better, declawing was a necessity. This was done after some exasperation (inability to obtain a vet that would perform on a "wild" animal). I left her overnight in the hospital and upon getting her home she behaved quite well and showed little pain or discomfort - which was very reassuring.

She has proven to be very friendly, playing with all my guests as if she had grown with them throughout! Someone even remarked "She goes to yone".

She had been used to a diet of cut-up chicken necks, which I continued, supplementing it with vitamins in gel form. Upon the vet's instructions, I started to include cat food as well. This took some time to work out since she's turned out to be

quite finicky (as opposed to Delilah who ate almost everything from the beginning.) She now finally enjoys her cat food (Bright Eyes) and a portion of chicken necks in the morning, and a full large can of cat food in the evening. She is very particular about other "cat foods" such as cheese, tid-bits and even pieces of ham, preferring to rub herself on these rather than eat them.

Needless to say she has forced some redecoration in the apartment. She decided that plants in window sills are not needed; that any stuffed toys and/or similar items were to be used as her toys exclusively and that any breakable items were to be put away until such time as she decided not to play

By removing the planter she used as a toilet



and placing it next to her litter box, I was finally able to get her to use her box completely. My relief was great.

She is now close to 8 months old. Still growing some. She is extremely active and full of play. Comparisons with Delilah are obviously done daily but not

in a derogatory manner. She is, indeed, quite different. For one thing, she is more aggressive when scolded and keeps a grudge. Her playfulness is much more enthusiastic also. She chirps and sometimes behaves more like a dog than a cat. Her long legs and short tail naturally sets her apart from ocelots readily.

After Delilah's loss and my health problems, I guess she was really what I needed to keep my mind of difficulties and to put my heart into something new and bright. A real ray of sunshine and a constant source of joy.

KIDS' KORNER

TIGER HEAD

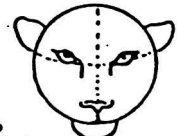
by Virginia Vogel

TIGERS ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL CATS AND DRAWING THEM CAN BE A VERY EXCITING DRAWING EXPERIENCE

1. LETS START WITH TWO ROUND SHAPES. A LINE TO PLACE THE EYES AND NOSE WILL HELP.



2. NOW PLACE EYES, EARS, NOSE AND MOUTH. TIGER EYES ARE RATHER LARGE.



3 NOW PLACE STRIPES AND FUR AROUND FACE. ADD A FEW WHISKERS.



EACH TIGER HAS ITS OWN STRIPE PATTERN NO TWO ALIKE!



MEETING REPORT

Our first meeting of 1984 was held at Ethel Hauser's place. We enjoyed a good turnout. We had approximately 40 people. Our friends from the Cascade Branch joined us. We were unable to get a guest speaker for the day so our member Jerry Boyle acquired material from Dr. Perry and presented it to all on "Feline Infectious Peritonitis. We will be having more material on this subject gathered as more is known. Much research is now going on and many dollars are needed for the research to develop a cure for our favorite furry friends. Each member was encouraged to bring money making ideas to our business meeting in March. Much time and many dollars must be raised for the Convention...garage sales, craft sales are possible as we get organized.

Gayle reported on the banquet held in January.

Don Schole donated one of his specialties for the special raffle table. Regular raffle was held and the dollar pool drawn.

We had a quick show of indoor cats, then guests were invited to tour the facility to see the cat population present.

A spaghetti lunch put together by members followed and was enjoyed by all present.

Respectfully,
Mary Parker

MEETING REPORT

Our first business meeting of the year was held at Pat Parker's. As members arrived, Gayle was marketing cat toys she had made from sheepskin pieces...sale was a success it was a sellout. Gayle donated funds to the convention fund.

Twelve members arrived, the meeting was called to order by Pat in Ethel's absence. Minutes of the last meeting were read and the treasurer's report was given by Mary.

Members were encouraged to wear the club vests at the guest meeting so new members and guests would more readily know which were members and make getting acquainted a little easier. It is the intent to accept all who are interested in preservation of wildlife and the right of responsible owners regardless if they are currently owners of these special pets.

The next order of business was the big one - fund raising. We scheduled a couple of garage sales for May. In Vancouver, everyone was encouraged to donate saleable items for this sale and to ask friends to donate also. A bake sale will be included on one of the tables, so we need to round up some good cooks.

Next the bumper sticker suggestion was discussed. Barb was going to send for more information as to determine cost vs dollars generated. Jerry was going to check another source for same.

Glen was going to check with the forestry dept. to find out about seedling firs to be used as mementos of convention

Pat presented manicure sets that may be sold for a profit either by the piece or at the sale table. We then decided to wait and see if we generated our first million at the upcoming garage sale.

A very generous donation of \$150. was received from the Treanors in Florida towards our mailing costs and convention - a great big "thank you" to them.

Funds from our annual Jafco inventory was presented - about \$180.

We then discussed job appointments for convention. Glen and Jerry volunteered for bartending - Ethel volunteered for decorations (even tho she wasn't present)

More help will be needed - so more will be discussed later.

Respectfully
Mary Parker

MEETING REPORT

Ethel called the meeting to order, welcoming all members from the OEEFC group - who drove north to have a joint meeting with Cascade. Bill Boyle hosted the afternoon.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Mary.

Gayle announced that the western foods would supply food for visiting felines during the convention. Gayle also let those present know about her natural toys made of undyed and untreated sheepskin. She will have them available for all who wish them. The cats love them so much they usually need new ones by the next meeting.

Liz added some warning for all who might wish to make their own. Be sure you know your source of material. Be sure the sheepskin is not treated with unknown chemicals...even though it is called "natural".

Ethel announced a speakout on June 30th at Tualatin. A donation of \$25 was sent in thanks for the last speakout.

Jerry had another donation for the convention fund from drycleaning.

Ethel announced vitamins are again available for \$2.75 a quart.

Glen announced the trees for mementos are available to us.

Ethel suggested the club subscribe to animal find

Bill let us know that bobcat and chaus kittens would be available soon.

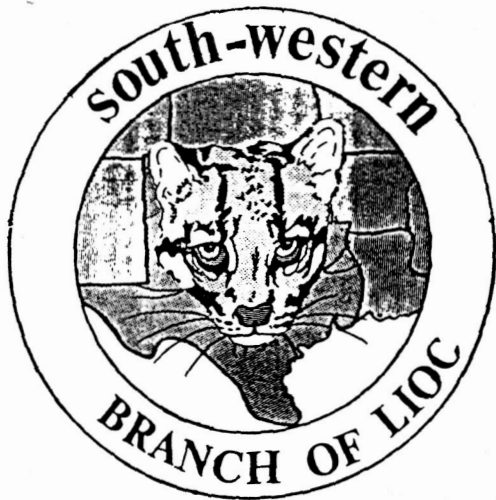
Suggestion was made to support our Northwest breeders first.

Jackie told us about adding enzyme to cats diets to help absorb food and nourishment, for aging and very thin cats. After tests show nothing is wrong with the cat, you might think about adding VIOCASE it is available from the vet.

Jackie reminded all that want to make a donation to convention that she would be able to furnish a receipt. Drawings were held, the dollar pool winner returned his winnings back to the club.

Don donated one of his special trees - I finally won one!

A picnic lunch was enjoyed by all as pictures were taken and friends visited.



MEETING REPORT

Although the gathering was small, and weather was dismal, those that attended the May meet of the SouthWest Branch at Roger Harmon's Hill-o-Pines in Marshall, Texas were bright and warm spirited.

Visiting over a lunch prepared by Shirley Treanor, Harriet Leake and Donnie Wagner and hauled all the way from Alabama, we dined on seafood gumbo, West Indies salad and boiled shrimp, in addition, for those who don't relish those offerings were ham, cole slaw and pea salad. Since great quantities were prepared and weather hampered many from attending, many took home these imported goodies, as well as having "seconds" later in the day.

While we ate, the tape from Convention in San Francisco replayed for those who missed the last meeting.

On the business side, we discussed a fund-raiser to purchase a new typewriter for the Editor and S.W. member Shirley, to facilitate getting out the Newsletter. This would be property of LIOC national of course.

Upcoming meets were discussed and the possibility of renting a beach house for a future meeting. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September in West Columbia Texas at the Marshall's.

Nominations for the upcoming election were discussed as well as the petition said to be circulating regarding the advertising of cats in the Newsletter. A vote was taken on that issue and passed against such a practice.

We then trekked to the Marshall's to see the two caracal lynx kittens, the serval kittens and the benaroon??? they had brought with them to the meeting. Needless to say, their antics kept cameras busy for awhile.

Present were: Ron Barker, Roger & Faye Harmon, Carl & Jean Hamil, Harriett Leake, Walter & Lois Marshall, Joe Hughey, Donnie Wagner, Jerry Neal and guest, and Guests Brad Barker & Laurie Matthews.

Raffles were won by Dr. Harmon, Faye Harmon, Joe Hughey and Lois Marshall.

Submitted by,
Shirley Treanor

KNOW YOUR VET'S TELEPHONE NUMBER



Update



FLORIDA PANTHER

Wildlife biologists working of the Florida Panther research project report six known panther deaths during 1983. The majority were killed by vehicles along major highways in south Florida; however one individual (which has subsequently been identified as a subspecies other than *Felis concolor coryi*) was shot in Palm Beach County. Another individual (identified as *FC Coryi*) was illegally killed by the Chairman of a Florida Indian tribe, allegedly for religious purposes. Charges have been filed in both cases.

Walt McCowan was hired as a wildlife biologist for the project. Walt will be investigating the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area deer herd and its relationship to the survival of the Florida panther. He graduated from Columbus College with a B.S. in Wildlife Ecology and from Auburn University with a M.S. in Wildlife Ecology.

Contributed by Daniel Twedt



IRIOMOTE WILDCAT

Reprinted from an Article in Audubon Magazine by Roxanna Sayre

The Iriomote Wildcat has been known to scientists for less than two decades. It lives only on the small, rainforested island of Iriomote at the southern end of the remote Ryukyu Islands in Japan. Closely related to other forest-dwellers such as the leopard cat, the Iriomote is a primitive, long-bodied low-slung short tailed feline.

When first discovered in 1965, the cat's numbers were estimated at 300 and even that may have been optimistic. Now, fewer than 50 remain and these are subject to increasing threats, according to Tom Milliken, Director of TRAFFIC-Japan, which monitors the wildlife and plant trade.

Part of the island has been a national park since 1973, but this hasn't stopped hunting of one of the cat's prey animals, another disappearing endemic species of dwarf hog. This has brought into question the adequacy of the cats' food supply, so some years back the Japanese government started a supplementary program, putting out dead chickens for the cats. But this gave the cats a taste for barnyard fowl, and they are now being accused of raiding local chicken coops.

Another threat is a road that goes through the park - a cat was killed by a vehicle a couple of years ago. The newest problem is an eye disease - its cause as yet unknown.

The World Wildlife Fund-Japan, with which TRAFFIC is allied, stepped into this scene in 1982. Its scientists, Milliken says, are completing a conservation plan. It includes not only better protection for the Iriomote wildcat and its prey, but preserving the entire ecosystem of Iriomote and other small islands in the area.

Contributed by Daniel Twedt

- Emergency Care for Burns

Condensed from Prospective on Cats, Cornell Feline Health Center

By Joyce Tumbelston

Burns are classified as either major or minor, superficial or deep. Major burns cover more than 5% of the body surface. A superficial burn affects only the surface cells, but a deep burn damages and destroys the deeper layers of skin and possibly also the underlying tissues. A deep burn may destroy the hair follicles, so that scar tissue will form and the fur will be permanently gone.

Secondary effects of burns can be very destructive, even fatal. These include shock, infection (because the wound is open to bacterial invasion) and toxemia (from the absorption of poisons produced by the damaged cells or bacteria).

Intensive, prolonged care is necessary for a cat that has been deeply burned. Recovery from deep burns is usually possible with proper therapy if 15% or less of the body surface is affected.

THERMAL BURNS

Household accidents are the most common cause of thermal burns, a large portion of which occur in the kitchen. The pet may be spattered by hot grease from a frying pan or scalded by boiling water, or the footpads may be burned by walking on a hot stove. Many times these accidents are the result of carelessness by the owner, and could be avoided if dangerous items were kept out of the pet's reach.

When the skin is burned, the small blood vessels dilate, allowing fluid to escape and accumulate in the surrounding tissues, causing localized swelling. Some fluid comes to the surface, making the burned area moist and red. If the burns are massive and the protective layer of skin is completely absent, the rapid loss of fluid may throw the cat into severe shock.

When a cat has been scalded by hot liquid or steam, the hair and skin are still in place; in this case you can determine the size of the burn by the red appearance and by the fact that it will feel hot to the touch. Fluid released by the blood vessels after a scald may mat the hair over the wound, hiding the damage. This can give bacteria time to multiply. An infection and accumulation of pus may be hidden for some time until the cat shows signs of illness.

An injured cat characteristically becomes very defensive, and may resist your attempts to help it, because of fear and pain. Be prepared to restrain the cat in order to treat the burn. Your priorities are to relieve the pain, prevent or treat shock, prevent infection, and stimulate healing.

TREATMENT OF SUPERFICIAL BURNS

To relieve the pain of a superficial burn, apply ice packs or immerse the affected area in cold water. Dry gently. If possible, remove the hair from around the wound to minimize chances of infection.

DO NOT apply butter or any oil-based ointment; these may intensify the burning sensation. Also do not apply any human medication; these may be toxic if licked by the cat.

Instead, apply a thin film of an antibiotic such as a topical ophthalmic (eye) ointment or one of the following home remedies: some "jelly" from the inside of an aloe vera (burn) plant; or a wet dressing of Burrow's solution (this is made with water and Domebro tablets or powder, available at most pharmacies). Either of these home remedies will reduce pain and inflammation when applied repeatedly to keep the injured area moist.

Cover the area with a clean dressing held in place with a bandage. Take the cat to your veterinarian for further examination and treatment if you believe the burn is serious. Otherwise, check the bandage daily. If the burn becomes infected or doesn't begin to heal within several days, it is time to see the veterinarian.

TREATMENT OF DEEP BURNS

Extensive or deep burns need immediate veterinary attention. Call ahead to make sure a veterinarian will be ready and able to treat the cat as soon as you get there; this will save precious time.

Meanwhile, soak a clean cloth in cold water and apply it very gently to the burned area. Keep the patient warm and monitor for signs of shock.

Take the cat promptly to the veterinarian. Protect the wet dressing with thick, clean dry bandages or towels and keep the cat as calm as possible during the journey.

In cases of severe burns, the victim loses a tremendous amount of fluid. Your veterinarian may choose to establish an intravenous route of fluid therapy to counteract this loss.

If for some reason it is impossible to obtain veterinary treatment right away, you may have to clean visible debris or foreign matter out of the wound yourself. Normally, with a serious burn, you would not take the time to do this but would rush the cat to the veterinarian as soon as you have alleviated the immediate pain and signs of shock. If you are on your own, though, clean the debris from the wound with contact lens solution or a sterile salt (saline) solution. This can be made by adding one teaspoon of salt to one pint of boiled water and allowing it to become lukewarm. Sterile distilled water can take the place of boiled water and will be faster, if available. If the injury is dirty or greasy, first cleanse it gently with warm soap and water, then with the saline solution. It is preferable to leave this cleaning to a trained professional if possible.

ELECTRICAL BURNS

Electrical burns are perhaps the most dangerous kind and are often fatal. Usually seen around the corner of the mouth or on the tip of the tongue, electrical burns appear as red, sometimes blistered flesh that is painful to the touch. The burn itself (probably caused by chewing through a plugged-in appliance cord, coming into contact with an improperly insulated appliance, or lightning) is not nearly as life-threatening as the electric shock that accompanies it. Cats can actually be jolted into cardiac arrest and death.

A slower-developing, equally treacherous complication is pulmonary edema. This build-up of excessive fluid in the lungs can appear up to an hour after the electric shock occurs and, if untreated, can be fatal. For this reason, any animal that has suffered an electrical burn should be taken directly to the veterinarian, even if there are no apparent complications. An electrical burn is a true emergency; brain or nerve damage is a strong possibility and, in most cases, the cat will not survive without immediate veterinary attention.

Do not attempt to treat the actual burn at home. The other complications are far more serious and should be treated professionally as soon as possible.

Your first priority is to treat the animal for shock. It is highly possible that the cat will need cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. While you are occupied, have another person call and alert the veterinarian that you will be on your way soon.

Signs of shock may include respiratory distress, a pale or blue color to the lips, gums, and lining of the eyelids, stiffness in the limbs, a glassy stare, and perhaps total collapse. As the cat goes into shock, its temperature drops rapidly. It is imperative to keep the cat warm. Using a heating pad, hot water bottle or heavy blanket if necessary.

It is wise to decrease the possibility of electrical shocks by unplugging all appliances that are not in use. Young animals can be expected to gnaw on electrical cords and other items until about 18 months of age. Especially during these early months, they should not be left unattended near potential sources of electrical shock.

CHEMICAL BURNS

There are two general types of chemicals that cause burns: acids (e.g. turpentine, toilet bowl cleaners) and alkalis (e.g. lye, drain cleaners, caustic soda). A strange odor may be one of the

First telltale signs that a cat has come in contact with one of these. Either kind of chemical will cause painful redness of the skin and may soon eat away the skin if left on for an extended period of time. The suffering cat may further injure himself by licking at the noxious substance. It is important to wash the chemical from the skin quickly, soothe and protect the injury and obtain veterinary care.

You may want to wear rubber gloves to protect your hands as you cleanse the corrosive substance from the animal. Wash away acids with an alkaline solution, i.e., 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda dissolved in a pint of warm water. Wash away alkalis with an acidic solution, i.e., equal parts of vinegar and warm water. These opposing types of solutions will neutralize the chemical causing the burn. If you are unsure what type of chemical was involved, wash the area with plain water.

If you have the chemical container on hand, check to see if a specific antidote is listed and if so, apply it to the burned area. If this is not possible apply one of the home remedies mentioned for thermal burns to soothe pain.

If the face and eyes are burned, you will probably need another person to help hold the cat while you rinse the eyes. The cat will struggle furiously. For your own safety, restrain the cat's body in a thick blanket and apply a muzzle quickly, if you can. Hold the eyelids open and flush well, though gently with copious amounts of lukewarm water. Eyes are extremely fragile and must be treated as soon as possible. As soon as you are sure you have removed the caustic substance, take the cat to a veterinary hospital.



TIGER CENSUS

Dr. Okada, home of the Bengal tiger, will conduct a census this spring to gauge the success of its project to save the endangered species.

About 3,000 tigers were counted in the last survey in 1979, up from 1,827 in 1972.



Clouded Leopard, *Neofelis nebulosa*,

New Host for *Dirofilaria immitis*

CONDENSED FROM AN ARTICLE BY Ryoji Okada, Soichi Imai, and Toshio Ishii in the Journal of Veterinary Science.

At the postmortum of a clouded leopard, (*Neofelis nebulosa*) from the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo; a single nematode was found in the right ventricle of the heart. Upon examination it was found to be *Dirofilaria immitis*, a type of heart worm.

Since there was but one, it was surmised that the clouded leopard was not a congenial host.

To date, heart worms have been found in the following feline species:

Canadian Lynx	Ocelot	Bobcat
Leopard Cat	Cougar	Lion
Siamese Cat	Jaguar	
Domestic Cat	Jaguarundi	

Although common in southern climes in dogs, the heart worm which is spread by mosquitos, is found infrequently in cats.

Contributed by John Perry

TO NEW MEMBERS:



Dear Friends:

In my job as Membership Secretary for LIOC, I receive all the inquiries that come in from our advertising in the various cat fancier magazines. This ad does NOT state we have cats for sale, but is for INFORMATION ONLY regarding LIOC and exotic cat ownership. Many letters are basically orders for kittens - "I want a female ocelot; how old will it be?" How do you ship? What is the cost? Give me the name of a breeder...etc.

As you know LIOC does not sell cats nor will I divulge the names and/or addresses of breeders or owners to non-LIOC members other than officers listed in the Newsletter.

I would personally like to invite all LIOC members, especially you new ones, to come to Convention 1984 in Portland, Oregon. This is your opportunity to meet the officers of LIOC and breeders from across the country. Also, obtain some of the much needed information on Federal Laws regarding the sale and/or transportation of endangered species. There will also be many knowledgeable owners who can assist you on topics regarding breeding, security, diet, medication and adapting the new exotic to your lifestyle (or adapting YOU to the new exotic). Veterinarians will also be on hand.

Make this YOUR club and YOUR convention. We want to meet you new people as well as greet our old friends.

REMEMBER: "A stranger is just a friend we haven't met."

See you at convention.

Hopefully,

Barbara Wilton, Membership Secretary
LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Artificial hip lets leopard leap again

From Science News

The first feline to receive an artificial hip is no ordinary cat. It is a four foot long snow-leopard at Canada's Calgary Zoo. Last summer the 8-year old animal seemed to be in pain, crippled by severe arthritis in its left hindleg. Today the leopard is again leaping from 35-foot ledges, and is expected to breed.

The unique surgery was performed by a physician/veterinary team, experienced with hip replacement in humans and dogs. William Barger is the Chief of the Joint Replacement Service and Howard Paul is a veterinary surgeon at the Medical Center of the University of California-Davis.

To tailor the operation to the exotic cat, a member of an endangered species, the surgeons studied specimens of snow leopard bones loaned by the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. They decided that a commercial, stainless steel and plastic joint, developed for large dogs would fit best. Paul frequently performs hip replacement surgery on pet dogs, some weighing up to 60 pounds. During surgery on the leopard, as expected, adaptations had to be made for differences in the feline anatomy.

The operation was a dramatic success, even though the cat went into cardiac arrest at the outset of the operation and required closed-chest cardiac massage. The day after surgery, the 100 pound leopard was pacing its cage with no sign of its previous limp. The question remains how long the prosthetic will hold up in such an active animal. "We can't tell him to stop jumping" Paul says. But the surgeons hope the replacement will function throughout the animal's remaining lifetime, which is expected to be another 8-10 years.

Contributed by Daniel Twedt