

NEWSLETTER

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

November/December 1984
 Volume 28-Number 6

LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



AMBER, now 2 years old, is a fantastic subject and when she was small, followed me like a puppy through our 21 acre farm; climbing trees and having fun. Now she would kill any small animal, so I keep her in a run. The last time I let her run loose, she grabbed a Canada goose right out of the air-about 6 feet over her head.

More on Murray Killman and his cat on Page 3





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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

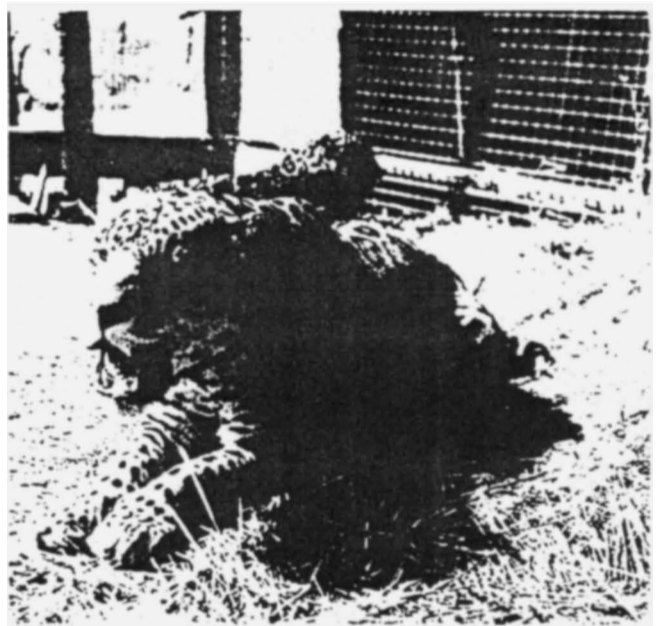
PREREQUISITES: Love of exotic cats

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.

IN THE WORLD OF ART



TEX, jaguar-the real thing and a pastel rendering of him. Tex is a mild tempered jaguar, but I handle him with great respect. He has his grumpy moments, especially when his mate "CANDY" is in heat. He loves ice cream, milk and cheese.

Artist, MURRAY KILLMAN and JOEY cougar. Joey weighs in at about 175 lbs.

Remember and wildlife artist Murray Killman is releasing the third in his "Native North American Wildlife" plate series. The subject as you can see, is ocelot. Murray writes: "With only 1,000 being produced, I'm not sure if any will be available in the U.S." The plate models are Jessie and Amber, kittens born at his Canadian compound.

About Amber, Murray relates: Early this summer, I decided to sell my mature, breeding pair of ocelots to the "Societe Zoologique De Granby Inc. of Quebec. This is a very fine zoo and may be the only other place in Canada that owns potential ocelot breeding stock. The adults were hostile and were acquired from a tiny Ontario zoo a few years back. No reproduction had been obtained from them prior to the year I acquired them.

I was able to raise two litters of one kitten each and have kept both kittens. Jessie, the male was born in 1981 and Amber the female, was born the following year. Both are healthy, tame and unaltered, having their claws and teeth. For this reason, I am completely at their mercy when I give them a hug. Although I have handled wild animals all of my life, I have never known any animals that were as sensitive as the ocelot. Nor have I known an animal that could soak up so much love and attention.

When Sheba was shipped to Quebec, I thought that it would be a good idea to move Amber from her cage to the larger cage that her mother had vacated. I picked her up in my arms and carried her over to the walk-in cage and run. It is a roomy open enclosure with beams to lay on and even patches of grass growing in it. Amber was not impressed and for three days, try as I might, she would not accept her new home. She wouldn't eat, and let me know that she just wasn't happy. When I carried her back to her old cage, it wasn't an hour before she began to relax and by the next day was back to her old self. Had I not seen the changes with my own eyes, I would not have believed that any creature could be so sensitive. The larger run was only a few feet away and it should have made her a better home.



* * * *

Although he usually works from live models-due to factors we are all aware of, this is no longer practical for Murray so he asks that LIOC members help with his work. He is looking for good photos of jaguarundi and margays to continue his series. If you can help send them to: Murray Killman
 88 St. Caladonia

The natural history of the major feline viral diseases

ROSALIND M. GASKELL

Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bristol, Langford House, Langford, Bristol BS18 7DU*

PART II - FELINE PANLEUCOPENIA (FP)

AGENT: Historically, perhaps, FP should be considered first as it is the first of these five major diseases which was shown to be viral in origin. This was shown as far back as 1928 by Verge & Cristoforoni, but it was not until 1964 that Johnson achieved the breakthrough of being able to grow the virus in tissue culture. Subsequently, it was shown to be a small single strand DNA virus, a member of the Parvoviridae and with only one serotype of the virus known, which is also indistinguishable serologically from mink enteritis virus. The recently emerged canine parvovirus (CPV) is also closely related, but minor differences do exist, both antigenically and in the viral DNA, which mean that the possible origin of CPV from FP virus can still only be speculative.

Parvoviruses are an interesting group of viruses one characteristic of which is an affinity and requirement of the virus for actively dividing cells. Thus the pathogenesis of FP is immediately understandable (Fig.1) if this is borne in mind: the virus shows a predilection for the rapidly dividing cells of the lymphoid tissue and the bone marrow, leading to panleucopenia; the crypt epithelium of the intestinal mucosa leading to enteritis; and finally the rapidly dividing cells of the neonate and the fetus leading to cerebellar hypoplasia and possibly early fetal deaths and resorption (Gillespie & Scott, 1973).

INFECTIVITY: FP is a highly infectious and ubiquitous disease and affects not only the domestic cat but also other members of felidae, the Mustellidae (mink & skunk), Procyonidae (coati mundi, racoon) and Viverridae (binturong.). It is unlikely that the presence of the disease in these other species has any significant impact on the life cycle of the virus in the domestic cat, because domestic cat is far more likely to be exposed to the virus from another domestic cat or its environment. The morbidity of FP in a susceptible population will rapidly approach 100 percent, because it is so highly infectious. Although cats of most ages may be affected, it is primarily a disease of young kittens who succumb when their maternal antibody has waned. In most cases, natural exposure results in a lifelong immunity to the disease. Not all affected cats however, will show severe clinical signs; in some the disease will only be mild or subclinical. In some areas, the disease appears to have more of a seasonal incidence, with peaks occurring in the summer and early autumn. These appear to coincide with appearance of large number of susceptible kittens as a result of a seasonal pattern to the birth rate.

SOURCE OF VIRUS: Virus is shed in large quantities in all the excretions of an infected cat; saliva, urine, faeces and vomitus. It is also present in the blood.

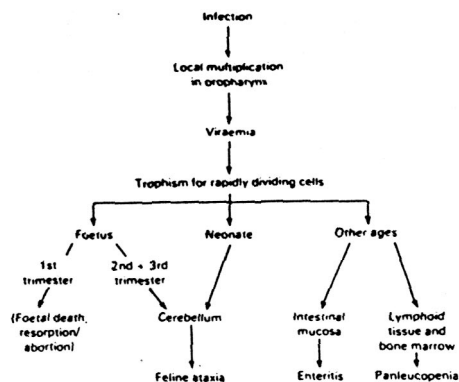


Fig. 1. Pathogenesis of feline panleucopenia.

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION: Virus probably enters the body by contact with infectious discharges mainly through the nose or mouth. Biting and flying insects such as fleas, have also been suspected of mechanical transmitting FP, but it seems very unlikely that they play a major role in the epidemiology of the disease. Transplacental infection certainly occurs with FP virus, and, indeed, is not surprising in view of the affinity of the virus for actively dividing cells. As shown in Fig 1, it has been postulated that infection early on in pregnancy will result in early fetal death and resorption, whereas later on (from the middle third of gestation to immediately post-natally), it has been shown that it will result in the cerebellar hypoplasia/ataxia syndrome with in-coordination that may be seen in young kittens

VIRAL PERSISTENCE: FP virus is perpetuated in the cat population in three main ways. First, by contact spread from acutely infected clinical cases to susceptible cats, given that there are a sufficient number of susceptibles in the population and the recovered cat because of the existence of immune carriers. The recovered clinical case may harbor virus in its tissue for several months; indeed in the tissue of ataxic kittens and in the feces of mink, the virus has been shown to persist for up to a year. However, persistence of virus in these immune carriers is probably not particularly important—far more significant in the epidemiology of FP is the remarkable ability of the virus to survive in the environment. Most practitioners will be familiar with the difficulties of eradicating canine parvovirus from infected premises. FP is also extremely stable being resistant to heat and many disinfectants; it may persist in infected premises for up to a year. Scott (1980) reporting on 27 products tested at the manufacturer's recommended concentration found that only three solutions (Clorox, formaldehyde, and glutaraldehyde) had sufficient virucidal activity against FP virus.

IMMUNITY: FP virus is highly antigenic and immunity to the disease is high and long lived. Indeed, it has been shown that after vaccination with live attenuated virus, immunity will persist in cats kept in isolation for at least 4 years (O'Reilly & Hitchcock, 1976). In the natural situation, too, there is undoubtedly much natural boosting of immunity, except in isolated household pets. In kittens born to immune queens, there is a high correlation between antibody titers in the queens and acquired passive immunity levels in their kittens. Most kittens, except possibly those born to queens recently recovered from the natural disease, have lost their maternally-derived antibody by 12 weeks of age.

VACCINATION: Because of the high antigenicity of the virus, and the fact that there is only one serotype, vaccination against FP has been extremely successful where it has been carried out. Both modified live and inactivated systemic vaccines are available and have been reviewed by Povey (1973). Some outbreaks of disease do, however still occur, but usually in situations where vaccination has lapsed or has not been carried out, and also in the occasional animal that for various reasons may be immunologically incompetent. Kittens tend to become infected at the stage at which they lose their passive immunity. Unfortunately, once one clinical case has occurred, unless adequate disinfection is carried out, the environment will be heavily contaminated with infected discharge; and any cat or kitten with inadequate immunity is a likely target for infection.

Generally however, FP is a disease which man has been relatively successful in conquering, despite its highly infectious nature and despite the ability of the virus to persist for long periods in the environment, and, to a lesser extent, the cat.

Contributed by John Perry

Part II: Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis and Feline Caliciviral Disease in the next issue.



A Leopard Cat's Xmas

By Jean Townes

T'was the night before Christmas
and there was mis

By Jean Townes

T'was the night before Christmas
and there was mischief afoot.
A small furry being all covered
with soot....

He dashed from the fireplace
adn right up the tree, rocking
it dangerously, but pleased
as can be.

The lights all aglitter and
ornaments too - Oh, my, shall
we see, what else will he do?

He looks at the gifts, with
bright bows galore. With a pounce
and a tug, they're all over
the floor

A stocking was hung by the
chimney with care - Whoops, I'm
afraid it's no longer there.

What fun Christmas brings to our
four footed furry - but dawn is
near, so he'd better scurry.

Morning arises to a disheveled heap,
and under the tree he lays fast asleep.

Dreaming those dreams of stalking his
prey, to awaken this morning,
on a bright Christmas day.



Our last guest meeting of '84 was held the 28th of October at Ethel Hauser's. The Meeting was called to order by Ethel; minutes of the last business meeting was read by Nancy.

Some of our members read some interesting question and answers concerning care of pets from a vet's column.

Mary, Barb, Gail and Jenny gave a rundown of events from Conv ention for our guests.

Mary read a letter from Animal Control concerning the incident of animal negligence in Silctz, Ore. The letter indicates some legislation may be forthcoming due to recent events. All parties being interested, so as to have input, should the various Oregon facilities choose to legislate. Mary was to make contact and keep members informed as to meeting dates.

Jackie told us about Tom Wilder donating food for the animals.

It was decided to send Mr. Wilder a thank you note for his generous donation.

Lucille Beighley from Animal Control spoke to us a little about happenings there and our relationship with them.

Raffle for chainsaw art trees by Don Schole was won by Ethel. Ethel in turn presented the Tree to Lucille for her input and participation. Our regular raffle was held and then the cat & kitten show. Approximately 25 people shared a pot luck lunch prepared by members.

Submitted by Mary Parker

The Buisness meeting was held at Mary Parker's November 26. It was called to order by Ethel. Minutes of the last meeting were ready by Mary. Eleven of the members present decided to try a table for Christmas items at a weekend fleamarket type affair for a fund raising project. Saturday, December 1st was the date set. Members were to get together to make decorations and arranged things Thursday the 29th.

Nominations for next years officers were postponed until the next meeting.

From all the members of OEEFC we wish you a happy, peaceful and safe holiday season and a very prosperous New Year

Submitted by Mary Parker

WHERE?

Reprinted from WESTERN OUTDOORS
By Jim Rizzuto

No less likely place to find a wildcat than Kauai, as 3000 miles of water separate this central Pacific paradise on the island of Kauai from the nearest breeding stock of the big cats.

Over the years, however, sightings of a creature variously described as a black panther and a cougar have been reported to the State's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. Large cat tracks have added interest. The discovery of a fresh pig kill added corroboration; it was skinned with viscera eaten - the signs of a cat.

The clearest and most authoritative description though, was offered last May by a transplanted Alaskan hunter, Al Dunn, who spotted a cat of roughly 125 pounds with a tail as long as its body. The tail length is common to cougars, which Dunn claims to have seen on the mainland.

State wildlife biologist Tom Telfer said no cat could be there unless it had been smuggled in against strict Hawaii quarantine laws.

Contributed by Ethel Hauser

Answers to Your Questions About FeLV

Reprinted from Perspective On Cats
Cornell Feline Health Center

Editor's Note: Recently two members have reported deaths caused by Feline Leukemia. Because these cats had come in contact with others at meetings etc. we feel this a very timely article on a most serious subject.

* * * * *

Nearly half of the letters and phone calls from anxious cat owners to the Cornell Feline Health Center are about feline leukemia (FeLV). Little is known about the disease by most people until it strikes, and - for good reason - it is widely feared. Following are some of the most frequently asked questions, and answers prepared by specialists here.

1. WHAT IS FELINE LEUKEMIA?

FeLV is a highly contagious viral disease of cats which has many manifestations.

2. WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?

There are many possible signs of FeLV, because the disease can take many forms. Some signs caused by the virus itself are: jaundice; depression; weight loss; decreased appetite; diarrhea or constipation; blood in the stool; enlarged peripheral lymph nodes; respiratory distress; decreased stamina; excess drinking or urination; fetal resorption; abortion or infertility; "fading" kitten syndrome; and a syndrome resembling feline distemper. FeLV also interferes with the cat's natural ability to fight disease, so almost any severe, chronic illness may lead your veterinarian to suspect FeLV.

3. HOW IS THE DISEASE SPREAD?

FeLV is shed in the saliva and possibly the urine and feces of infected cats. Prolonged, extensive cat-to-cat contact is required for spread, because the virus is rapidly inactivated by drying.

4. IS THERE ANY CURE?

To date, there is no cure for FeLV. A variety of chemotherapy regimes have been used, and in some cases these will result in a temporary remission, depending on the condition of the cat and the type of leukemia that is present. These drug therapies may allow the cat to continue in a reasonably healthy state for a period of a few weeks to a few months. However, it must be realized that these are only remissions and not permanent, lifelong cures. Drugs that are used are very potent and must be monitored carefully so as not to overdose the cat.

5. CAN MASSIVE DOSES OF VITAMIN C CURE FeLV?

To date, no one has done a controlled study to prove efficacy of the Vitamin C in curing cats of leukemia. Controlled studies against feline viral rhinotracheitis infections have failed to show efficacy of high doses of Vitamin C. Of course, a multivitamin supplement and a mineral supplement might be helpful to any sick animal in order to help that animal ward off the infection it is suffering. However, there is little evidence to support the cure of any of these conditions with these vitamins. Other than providing general support to the animal's health, vitamin supplements will not be effective in preventing the spread of this virus within a cattery and certainly will not cure individual cats.

6. IF THERE IS NO CURE, WHY DID MY VETERINARIAN PRESCRIBE STEROID TREATMENT?

Treatment with a steroid, such as prednisolone, is "immunosuppressive"; that is, it tends to decrease the number of circulating white blood cells (lymphocytes). A cat with leukemia may have an increased number of abnormal lymphocytes circulating in its bloodstream; therefore steroid treatment may help to combat the disease. Prednisolone may also act directly against the cells of solid white blood cell

tumors (lymphosarcoma) that can be caused by FeLV. The steroid inhibits the reticuloendothelial system which destroys old red blood cells, and this effect may help combat the anemia and excessive red blood cell destruction that so often accompany FeLV. However, because these drugs can only act against lymphocytes that have matured, and not against the infected, immature white blood cells in the bone marrow, the disease eventually overcomes the benefits of steroid therapy. It is important also to remember that, because both steroids and FeLV suppress the immune system, the cat under prednisolone treatment is especially vulnerable to other infections.

7. WHEN WILL THERE BE A VACCINE?

Extensive research on this disease has led to the development of at least two experimental vaccines which are currently being field tested. It will be a while, perhaps several years, before the testing program is complete and approval is granted by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

8. WHAT DO THE FeLV TEST RESULTS MEAN?

Two FeLV blood tests are in common use, and interpretation of a positive (or negative) test depends on which test your veterinarian has administered. Both the ELISA test (Leukassay-F, or kit test) and the Immunofluorescent test (Hardy, IFA or slide test) detect one component (antigen or protein) of the virus particles as it circulates in the blood, either alone or in serum (ELISA) or attached to white blood cells (IFA). However the virus circulates in the blood (a condition known as viremia) at two different stages in the disease. The ELISA test can detect the primary viremia - the stage before the bone marrow has become infected, when the cat's natural defenses still have a chance to control the virus, though they can't eliminate it. The ELISA test can also detect the virus in the secondary viremia stage - when the virus is in the bone marrow and thus has established a "firm foothold" within the cat. In contrast, the IFA test can first detect circulating virus at the secondary stage; if the disease process has gone this far, it has passed the stage where the body can hope to control it. All cats that test positive by the IFA tests, as well as most of those that are ELISA positive, are secreting virus in the saliva and are infectious to other cats.

A negative test does not imply immunity to FeLV, and it does not tell whether or not the cat was once exposed to and infected by the virus. A negative test will be found in a cat that (1) has never been exposed to FeLV (which is what we all hope for), (2) is incubating the virus at an earlier stage than either test can detect (this cat might later test positive), (3) has contained the virus and has not become persistently viremic, and (4) was infected previously and developed solid tumors but no longer has the virus in the blood.

9. I GOT TWO DIFFERENT TEST RESULTS, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

This is an all-too-common problem. As explained above, both the IFA and the ELISA tests determine the presence of leukemia virus in the blood, but at different stages in the disease. If the cat is positive by ELISA and negative by IFA at the same time, it may merely be that the virus is at the primary viremia stage which ELISA can detect and IFA cannot. A cat might also test differently at two different times with the same test; a reversal of a positive test to negative eight weeks later is especially common for the ELISA test. This indicates that the cat has successfully contained the early spread of the virus, so that it never reaches the secondary stage.

It is also possible for a cat in the early stages of the disease to test IFA negative and become positive later on. Once a cat has become IFA positive, it is usually positive for life. Wherever there is a discrepancy, one must repeat the tests to be sure that consistent results are obtained.

Finally, when two tests fail to agree, there is a slim possibility that one of them was wrong. This is

not something to base all your hopes on, but it is true that the tests are not 100% accurate, and once in a great while you might get an incorrect result.

10. SHOULD ALL FeLV-POSITIVE CATS BE EUTHANIZED?

Euthanasia is the only effective method for virus control because FeLV-positive cats are usually shedding the virus in their saliva. In some cases, healthy cats may repeatedly test ELISA positive and IFA-negative, and these do not appear to shed virus; however there is no guarantee that some later stressful situation will not cause them to start shedding virus, or that they will not someday become ill. If you own only one FeLV positive cat, euthanasia is not necessary from the standpoint of control of the disease transmission, as long as you keep the cat away from all other; but remember that in time the cat may become so uncomfortable that euthanasia becomes the only humane solution.

11. MY CAT HAD A POSITIVE FeLV TEST, BUT SHE SEEMS COMPLETELY HEALTHY. WILL SHE BECOME SICK AND DIE?

Even if two or more successive tests reveal your cat to be truly positive, she will not necessarily die. An FeLV positive, healthy cat may live for months or years; it is impossible to predict. However, over 60% of "healthy" FeLV positive cats die within two years of leukemia or a related disease. Your cat is probably shedding virus that could infect other cats and you should take precautions to reduce the chance of disease spread. In addition, the body's reaction to the virus may protect her from the primary leukemia/lymphosarcoma problems but not from the immune suppression that the virus also causes. She will thus be more susceptible to other contagious diseases and will require careful watching and immediate treatment if she should become ill.

12. HOW LONG CAN A CAT SURVIVE WITH FeLV?

A cat with FeLV disease, given the best available chemotherapy and steroid treatment, may live for several weeks or several months, depending on how advanced the disease was at the time of diagnosis. However, it is impossible to tell how long any particular cat can be kept in remission.

13. CAN A CAT BECOME IMMUNE TO FeLV?

A very high percentage of adult cats that are exposed to the virus will develop immunity to the primary viral disease and will not be persistently viremic. Usually these cats live out a normal life span. However, the virus is still sequestered somewhere in the body and could possibly break out and cause the disease at a later date when the cat is stressed.

14. CAN I OR MY CHILDREN BECOME INFECTED WITH FeLV IF OUR CAT HAS IT? WHAT ABOUT MY DOG?

There is no documented evidence that feline leukemia virus can be transmitted to humans. True, FeLV can be grown in human culture cells; the same is true of many other things that don't cause disease in man. Although cat-to-human transmission cannot be ruled out 100%, there is certainly no evidence that it does occur, despite extensive research. There is similarly no evidence that FeLV virus is carried by or causes any illness in dogs.

15. ONE OF MY CATS WAS JUST DIAGNOSED AS HAVING FeLV. HOW CAN I PROTECT MY OTHERS FROM GETTING THE DISEASE?

In either a cattery or a multicat household, the most effective procedure is to test by IFA and remove ALL FeLV positive cats. The premises should be thoroughly scrubbed with detergent or disinfectant and wiped down with a solution of 4 oz clorox per gallon of water; this is an excellent disinfectant for viruses and other infectious agents. Scrub and disinfect all food bowls, water bowls, bedding material and litter pans. Better yet, replace them with new ones. The remaining cats should be retested every 3 months or so for the next year, and any that become infected should be euthanized. The household cannot be considered "free" of infectious FeLV until all cats negative in two tests at least 3 weeks apart. No new cats should be brought into the household until all cats already there test negative repeatedly and only new cats that themselves test negative should be introduced. In addition, the new cats should be isolated for three to five months and retested negative once or twice before they are allowed to mingle with the others.

If you have only a few cats and are reluctant to euthanize a positive one, particularly if it is apparently healthy, a strict quarantine program may permit you to protect your other cats from the disease. The FeLV-positive cats should be given the old food and water dishes and new dishes and litter pans should be purchased for the FeLV-negative cats. All positive cats should be prevented from having any contact with the negative ones. Cats with FeLV should also be kept indoors, both to reduce the danger that they will be exposed to other diseases their weakened bodies will not be able to resist, and to reduce the danger of infecting neighborhood cats.

16. MY ONE AND ONLY CAT JUST DIED FROM FeLV. IS IT SAFE TO BRING A NEW PET INTO MY HOME?

Feline leukemia virus is relatively unstable and will not survive outside an infected cat for any appreciable length of time. The Cornell Feline Health Center recommends a period of at least 30 days (and even up to 90 days) following the removal of an infected cat from a household before a new cat is introduced. The other precautions that should be taken are identical to those described above to protect healthy cats; floors that are covered with tile or other hard surfaces should be cleaned and then disinfected with the clorox solution. Thorough vacuuming of rugs, plus the one month quarantine should be sufficient to eliminate the virus from carpeting and in the house.

17. A FAVORITE BREEDING QUEEN (NOW PREGNANT) HAS TESTED POSITIVE. MUST SHE BE EUTHANIZED? IF SO, CAN I WAIT UNTIL AFTER HER KITTENS ARE BORN?

FeLV is transmitted from carrier queens to their kittens either in utero or after birth. A very high percentage of kittens born to infected queens will succumb to FeLV or related diseases. It is absolutely essential that you establish a test-and-removal program so that all persistently infected animals (those that remain FeLV positive for more than 3-4 weeks) are removed from the cattery. To continue to breed FeLV positive queens is merely expanding the problems and in essence signing the death warrant of kittens born to those queens.

18. WHAT IS THE CORNELL FELINE HEALTH CENTER DOING TO FIGHT FeLV?

Our research on feline leukemia has involved basic studies on the virus itself, attempts to develop vaccines to prevent the disease, and attempts to develop methods of immunotherapy. Research continues in each of these three key areas in the hope that definitive answers will be found, eliminating forever the threat of this fatal disease.



ANIMAL PEOPLE, by Gale Cooper

Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Mass.
\$15.95

Featuring many of the World Pet Society's members, **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, takes an important and intimate look at one of the least understood relationships on earth - that between humans and animals which share their homes.

ANIMAL PEOPLE are not just pet-keepers, they are people who refuse to be awed by the superficial differences between humans and other species and concentrate instead on making connections.

it's a miracle

ot my first ocelot in 1966, she was about 5 months old and cost \$175. Some price huh? She was my first tic and as with Tara and Barbara it was trial and or. We learned from each other. We had a good life together - she died at 18 years of age in 1983. A sad loss.

Then I got Sassi Bobcat - at 10 months old. She was going to be put to sleep because her owners didn't want her - I did and although she wasn't the best tempered cat we've gotten along well enough - she's eleven years old now.

Then I got Scharizade - Sherri, a cougar at 3 months old. She was a great cat. Minded like a dog, but at 10 years of age we lost her to female problems. We had another ocelot, adopted from another LIOC member which we re-named Stoni (previously called Tiddy-pom?) She was fourteen when I adopted her and lived with us for two more years before her kidneys gave out.

Then Shannon the cougar joined us in 1978. He was 9 weeks old. Shannon swam with us in the river. He even swam underwater!...with eyes open. If you went under he was right with you. It was a sight to see, him underwater, eyes open with that silly grin on his face.

During this time (from 1974 until 1973) we also had a German Shepherd named Sly. He was raised by Bobcat Sass and really thought he was a cat. He even trained my other cats. Sly stalked things, people, other animals whatever.

But now to the present and the hurricane

Living on the San Jacinto River for almost 20 years, we've seen a lot of high water, and are used to it - sort of. Spring of 1983 brought a bad flood and we lost the house when the river took it. After that, Carl, my husband, bought a R.V. and parked it on the back of the property furthest from the river, and built another cage for Shannon - got things fixed up pretty nice.

And then on August 18, 1983 Alicia hit - and she hit hard.

I begged Carl to put Shannon in the RV and drive it to our other place inland, where I was with the other animals, but he said - it's ok, just a little high water.

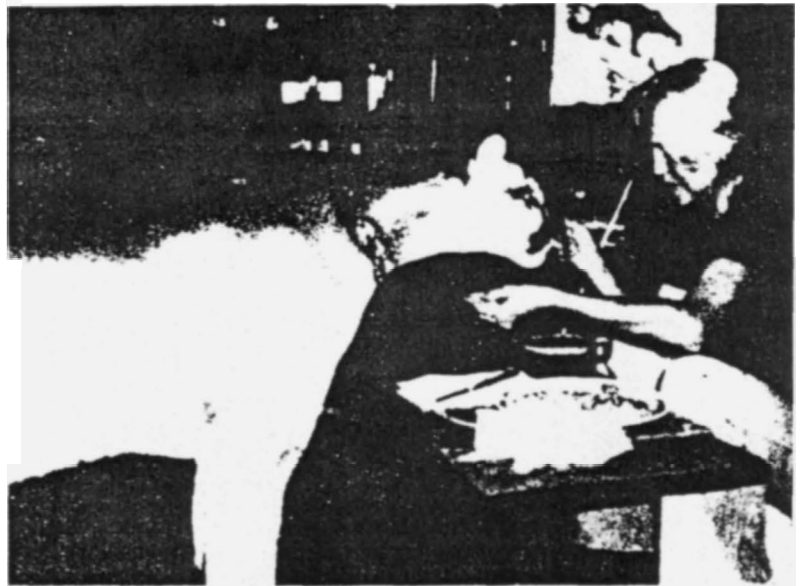
As he tells it, he was in the RV and the water started coming up fast. By 11 PM there was 11 feet of water and 105 mile per hour winds. Needless to say that took care of the R.V.

Carl was by this time on top of Shannon's cage (the highest thing standing) and saw Shannon swimming for his life...with barely enough headroom to survive. Carl swam to the pump house and having no tools had to rip the aluminum top off with his hands to get to a leash. He found it and got Shannon out of the cage and up on top. About this time our "john boat" floated by. The plug was out, and it was full of water, but even then they float. Carl grabbed it, losing one of the leashes - the short one thank goodness. They lashed the boat to a tree and settled in to wait. By this time they were in water 15 feet deep. Carl was clothed only in cutoffs and it was pretty chilly in the water in the boat. Carl said Shannon was great, giving his silly grin and the wind howled around them.

The wind became so strong it tore the transom out of the boat and away they went. The force of the wind and water just kept pushing them around. Startled, Shannon kept jumping out of the boat, Carl would grab him and pull him back in.

There's a road and a subdivision about a mile or so away and they wound up there. Shannon was tied in the boat again. It took until 9AM for them to get to water shallow enough to get out of the boat.

By 8AM I was frantically trying to call Carl. I reached some friends of his and we headed out in my van. When we reached the road leading to our prop-



there's a dip in the road and you go down a hill about 50 feet...water was covering it. Having no other alternative we decided to try it - the water was about 5 feet deep but we made it. But, a couple of blocks down the road trees were down and we had to abandon the van and swim over and under the debris. Finally we got into about 3 feet of water and I spotted Shannon. I couldn't see the cable Carl had used for his leash (or Carl for that matter) and I thought Shannon was loose! As we got closer Shannon spotted us and gave his call - a scream really. Then I saw Carl sitting in a tree - he looked terrible. He had cuts, scratches and bruises all over his body. Carl said the worst part was trying to keep up with Shannon and being afraid he'd lose him.

Now of course we had to backtrack and swim out - Shannon managed beautifully. It's a good thing he had learned to swim with us. There were several folks at the top of the hill. But Shannon jumped in the van with no problem and we were off to the other house and dry clothes. It was quite an experience.

I'd like to say that everyone lived happily ever after but we lost Shannon the following spring. It really got to Carl, as Shannon was mostly his cat and after all they'd been through together.

Jean Hamil



C.I.T.E.S. Notes

UPDATE: Texas

RELATIONSHIP OF TRADE CONTROLS TO ENDANGERED SPECIES PROPAGATION.

The purpose of the Convention on International Trade of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is to prevent the over-exploitation of wild animals and plants through international trade. Practical benefits to the species as a result of international trade controls are not always apparent. However, such controls have had a perceptible influence on the propagation of endangered species in captivity.

Appendix I of CITES is a list of species deemed to be threatened with extinction. International trade in such species is to be strictly controlled through export and import permits. Before an import permit is issued for live animals or plants on Appendix I, the Service's Office of Scientific Authority (OSA) must determine whether the importer is suitably equipped to house and care for specimens and whether the import is for a purpose not detrimental to the survival of the species.

OSA has adopted a policy for the import of Appendix I specimens in accordance with CITES. Under this policy approval is given only when the import meets one of the following conditions.

1. any activity likely to enhance the survival of the species in its native ecosystem.
2. Any activity likely to enhance the survival of the species in captivity when the ultimate effect is intended and likely to be enhancement of the species survival in its native ecosystem'
3. Any activity likely to enhance the survival of a species in captivity when enhancement of survival in native ecosystems is not feasible, and

use of specimens when available evidence clearly shows that a) the possibility of import neither directly nor indirectly contributed to the specimen's death or removal from the wild, b) allowing the import will in no way contribute to the death or removal of any additional specimens from the wild, and c) there are no reasonable alternative uses of the specimens that are more likely to contribute to the conservation of the species.

A recent example shows how the use of this policy can influence captive propagation programs:

There is a large but poorly reproducing population of cheetahs in U.S. zoos. In 1982, a major zoo was offered 40 cheetahs accumulated by a wildlife dealer in Namibia. The Service denied import permission because the zoo gave no adequate justification for adding these animals to the existing captive population and because the Service had concerns for the effect of this trade on the wild population. Subsequently, in part because of OSA's decision, a North American regional studbook was compiled and a propagation group was formed by the American Assoc. of Zoological Parks & Aquariums to make management decisions for cheetahs under the Species Survival Plan. These developments are expected to improve the management of captive cheetahs and will provide a good basis for deciding the need for future imports.

Contributed by Dan Twedt
From a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Bulletin

One of the adult male ocelots radio-collared in southeastern Texas was found dead just south of Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge (see Volume 27 Number 3) on January 30th, 1984. It appeared to have been dead about 4 days when found.

An autopsy performed by the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory revealed that the animal probably died of distemper or acute pneumonia. Distemper is known to be present in south Texas environment; however weather conditions for January would have been more conducive to development of pneumonia.

A nearby radio-collared male immediately moved into the dead animal's former territory. Nine radio-collared ocelot, three males and six females are still followed on the refuge, while two males have been collared on private lands.

Contributed by Dan Twedt
From "Endangered Species Technical Bulletin"



John Perry offers the following analysis he had done of ground turkey necks (skin removed).

Moisture	72.5%
Protien	18.0%
Fat	5.0%
Ash	3.5%



This is a picture of an oil painting my husband had painted of our cat Spooky. The artist painted it in oil from a photo we took one night while we were walking Spooky in the yard and she decided to go tree-climbing. The artist left the leash out of the painting.



If anyone is interested in having an oil done of their cat they can contact us and we will have the artist get in touch with them. Our painting is approximately 20x28 and cost us \$300.

Tom & Donna Hartung
P.O.Box 3864
Shawnee, Kansas 66203





SABRA

By way of introduction my name is Sabra. I was born in Texas but moved to Massachusetts at an early age. The weather is cooler here and my adopted parents make it a nice place to live.

As you can see one of my favorite desserts is whipped cream.

I have a Tonkanese cat and a black and white house cat as friends, now that I've grown some, I can sit on them and play. There's also a dog here but we just tolerate each other.

Being a well-trained cat I use the toilet, but still haven't figured out how to flush the thing. Having just celebrated my first birthday I'm starting to think of boys...my first heat was great, all I wanted to do was purr and be petted.

I have run of the house and although I really am not too bad can get into mischief. The top shelf of the closet is one of my favorite places, if only I could keep the humans from putting things up there - I constantly have to empty that shelf to make room for me. Occasionally I like a bit of dog food - made a bit of a mess tho!

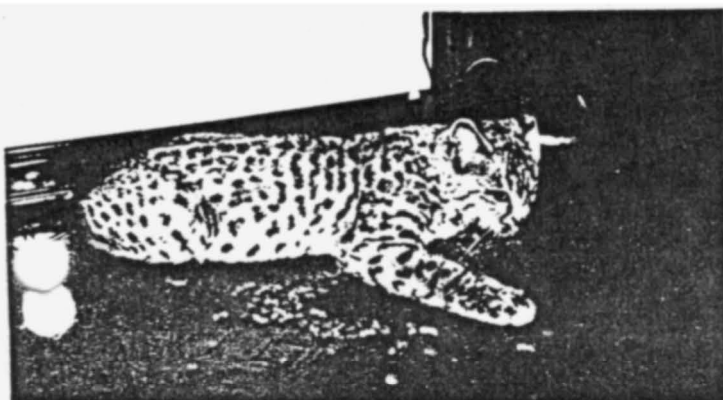
One great game is to get under the covers on the bed, of course my folks then have to re-make it. But then what are humans for?

Dad got a little upset the day I discovered a stuffed pheasant in his den....boy was that fun. I guess he'll get over it someday...anyway I was just playing.

Am planning on marrying someday - perhaps when I'm older - but don't have a boyfriend at the moment.

Well, got to go and defrost some chicken necks for lunch. Talk to you soon.

Sabra,
sent in by
Albert Porges



Poaching investigation leads to arrest of 34

An undercover operation in Colorado culminated in gaming law violations against 34 persons in 14 states according to an Associated Press release. During seizures in the 14 states, Agents seized stuffed cheetahs, stuffed Siberian Tigers, the skins of jaguars, ocelots, Bengal tigers, crocodiles, a leopard, and a pair of rhino horns said officials at news conferences held in Colorado and Montana.

Many of the defendants were identified by undercover agents who operated Rocky Mountain Game Processing in Ft. Collins, Colo. which purchased the skins of endangered wildlife during the inquiry, U.S. Attorney Robert Miller said.

In Montana, U.S. Attorney Bryan Dunbar said agents discovered big horn sheep skulls might sell for as much as \$5,000; finished and tanned tiger and jaguar skins can sell for \$3-4,000. Arrests were made and searches conducted in Colorado, Montana, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Alaska, Arizona, Oklahoma, Texas, Oregon and California.

Those charged in Denver were accused of illegally smuggling the skins of trophy animals from Mexico and Africa into the U.S. and with the commercial sale of wildlife illegally taken in this country. The domestic game trophies included black bears and mountain lions. The gall bladder of a bear, properly ground, can bring up to \$3,000 per pound in the Far East where it is prized as an aphrodisiac.

The alleged violations occurred between January 1983 and October 1984. Penalties could range up to 11 years in prison and \$40,000 fines.

Contributed by Bob Hammonds



A Matter of Degree?

Dr. William Grene, in charge of the Veterinary Services area office in Florida, recently wrote to the Endangered Species Educational Exhibition, a USDA licensed exhibitor in Florida about public contact with wild animals.

"USDA had information that members of the public were allowed to have their picture taken with your animals. This does not provide a safe distance between members of the public and the animals. I am concerned because situations have occurred where exhibit animals have attacked people."

Roxy Engresser of the Exhibition answers: "Yes, we do take photos letting people hold baby cubs. There is no way anyone could be harmed. We have been doing this for about 10 years and we have had only one problem case - a gentleman was urinated on."

We are not the only ones doing this type of thing. Many tourist attractions all over America put parrots, snakes, monkeys, etc., on people's arms for pictures. Almost every major zoo in the U.S. has a "petting zoo" where children can go right in among the animals. Other zoos have camel and elephant rides using adult animals. I hope this clears things up.:

Dr. Grene does not think the problem is cleared up at all. "Young cubs are fairly safe," he says, "But at what age do you draw the line? And furthermore, a child accustomed to playing with cubs may start to think that all wild animals are safe to cuddle."

Dr. William Steward, who heads the animals care staff, reviewed the issue and said: "This is a difficult question because our powers under the Animal Welfare Act are to protect animals, not principally to insure public safety. If animals are handled in line with the regulations, such as proper rest periods for the animals in contact with the public, there is little more we can require."

Reprinted from World Pet Society Newsletter



Long Live the King!

According to an article in "Animal Kingdom" magazine, there are now three "king" cheetahs at the DeWildt Cheetah Breeding Research Station near Pretoria, South Africa. The reserve has announced the birth of a female cub with very distinctive markings - a striking pattern of bold, lengthwise stripes down the back and dark blotches in place of the species' normal small spots.

King cheetahs once were thought to be a separate species; infrequent sightings in the wild built up an almost legendary reputation for these unique felines. The only tangible evidence of their existence was a few pelts and one mounted specimen.

Scientists now know that the fur pattern is caused by a recessive gene, which produces a king cheetah only when two carriers mate. The DeWildt Station has three kings as well as four "garden-variety" cheetahs who are known carriers.

Reserve operators, Ann and Godfrey Van Dyk have earned international recognition for breeding cheetahs long considered a difficult species to propagate in captivity. Some of the offspring have been released into nature. In addition to the cheetahs, the station is trying to preserve other threatened African species such as the Cape hunting dog and brown hyena.

Contributed by Anne Gordon



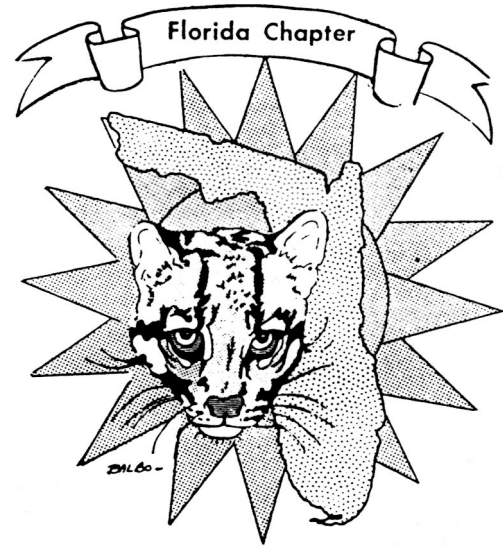
HOW TALL IS TALL?

Perimeter fences eight feet tall have become a fairly common standard in zoos and animal exhibits. Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has been asked whether the 8-foot fence would satisfy the federal requirement that zoo exhibits be enclosed. Dr. Richard Crawford, national staff coordinator for exhibit animals answers:

"Basically, the 8-foot fence can reasonably be expected to contain most dangerous animals, such as bears, large cats and hyenas."

"All exhibits may not need to have a fence this tall, however" Dr. Crawford says. "Those in rural areas with only smaller animals could possibly have lower fences, even though the animals could hurdle through if alarmed. Hooved stock kept in fields of several acres could be kept behind 6-foot fences. Given enough room, they will just run to another part of the field. But I would insist on tight-mesh chain link fences, not so much to keep exhibit animals in, but to keep predators, like dogs, out. Even four-strand barbed wire would not be adequate."

"On the other hand, an 8-foot fence may not be enough for other locations, especially zoos located in densely populated areas with a large risk of vandalism. And even taller vertical fencing alone isn't sufficient if it contains monkeys and other non-human primates. In the end, proper perimeter fencing remains a judgement call, although more specific Federal guidelines might help. We're working now to see if we can come up with such guidelines."



Branch Report

November in Florida is a very interesting time. It's our driest month, but occasionally a touch of Fall manages to sneak in with a touch of cooler weather.

For our November meeting, it was in the eighties, sunny and pleasant. Barbara and Dennis Grimes hosted the meeting in Lakeland, Florida, and invited a speaker from the Fish and Game Commission.

Dennis David specializes in alligators and even brought one along to the meeting. He spoke on the changing status of the gator, once endangered, and now hunted for the skin and the eatable tail. The biggest problem nowadays, seems to be the rising number of encounters between man and gator. The good things the gator contributes to the survival of the Everglades.

After the alligator was passed around, we took care of branch business, including a report on Convention which was delayed a meeting as I did not make the September meet for fear of spreading Feline Leukemia.

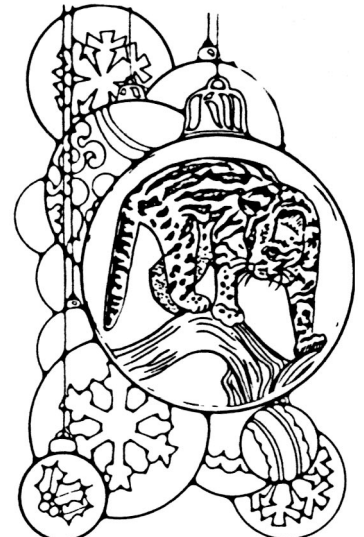
It was great to see John & Tammy Pinkard. Tammy was only 3 weeks away from giving birth to their first child. Gertrude and Art Freeman filled us in on the cruise they took to Alaska after Convention. Dr. Orlando Patino and daughter Monica were very welcome guests. Connie Hatfield drove down from Ocala and met Mom, Jean Hatfield who drove up from Ft. Lauderdale. Ellen and Danny Treanor were excited about possibly obtaining some new margays on breeding loan. Gladys Lewis brought a 3 month old derval who though we were loud and weird. Special visitors included Jacky Herrington, Jerry & Patricia Hasbrouck, Mark & Lauri Herrington, Lisa Grimes and friend Jamie and a special thanks to Dennis David's wife Vicki for allowing us to take up her husband's Sunday.

Next meeting is the second Sunday in January (unless its Super Bowl Sunday) and the second Sunday in March.

Hope the holidays are the best ever - from all your friends in the Florida Branch.

Submitted by Danny Treanor
Florida Branch President

May You
Possess that Peace
Hope and Love
which is
Christmas



Killing of radio-collared cougar sets state, federal officials at odds

inted from the Kasnsas City Times

The killings of a radio-collared cougar and two cubs that were part of a National Park Service research project have angered environmentalists and heightened tensions between federal and state wildlife officials in New Mexiso.

Milford Fletcher, chief of natural resources for the National Park Service in Santa Fe, and others said the killings were accomplished with the aid of a radio receiver tuned to the collar the cat was wearing for a behavioral study. One kitten was also wearing a radio collar.

According to Mr. Fletcher, the cougar and her kittens apparently had destroyed some sheep on a ranch adjoining the Guadalupe Mountains National park in southeastern New Mexico. The state Game Management Division authorized using the radio signal to hunt and kill the animals and a hunter employed by the New Mexico Game & Fish Department carried out the task. Mr. Fletcher described the State's action as unethical.

Both federal and state officials cite studies that show that killing cougars expands the cougar population and increases the predatory habits of the animals. But sheep ranchers believe that they can reduce the threat to their flocks by killing the cougars. This incident dramatizes the particularly bitter struggle between cougars and ranchers in the area that has intensified over the last three years.

Cougars are not endangered - in New Mexico they are a game animal hunted under license. According to Milton Hughes, son of the rancher whose sheep were killed, the biggest problem facing ranchers in his area is the national park.

"It's just a refuge for the lions, he said, "They've wiped out the deer population. Now they're killing our sheep."

Wain Evans assistant director of the New Mexico & Fish Dept. reported at a meeting of the Sierra that the investigation into the killings of the jars had not been completed.

The hunter for the state got permission to use the radio receiver from the state game & fish agency which did not tell the National Park Service about the action according to Mr. Evans.

Mr. Evans said that killing a cougar is not a problem. "The fuss is over the use of the radio reciver," he said.

Mr. Evans said the cougar's kittens were big enough to take sheep. It is common practice to destroy the kittens with the predatory adult because the cubs learn to kill from the mother.

One question Mr. Evans has not been able to answer is who gave the hunter the frequency for the radio collar. Each cougar is assigned its own frequency and that information is restricted to only a few state & federal workers. The purpose of the Park Service study is to examine the ecology, home range, territory and food habits of cougar in the Chihuahuan desert area.

Contributed by Bob Hammons

now there is strong evidence that there are two large jungle cats out there.

"In the back of my mind, there's a size discrepancy that's bothering me; I'm having doubts that it's the same cat," Don Burger, a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Officer working on the case said last week.

Burger saw the Manchester animal through a night scope. He said he thinks its a black leopard, probably weighing no more than 100 pounds, probably a female.

Weight estimates on the Wixom panther have reached 160 pounds, which is how much Ken St Jean guesses he saw running through the grounds of a paving company west of Wixom.

The cat loped past, made an easy leap over a fence that is nearly 8 feet high and moved into the woods.

It was enough to make a believer out of St. Jean, one of more than two dozen people including police officers from two departments, a sheriff's deputy a federal wildlife officer who have seen the cat in the past two months.

A leopard could have easily made its way from the woods around Manchester to the woods around Wixom. But besides the size discrepancy, there is the matter of two sightings reported one in Manchester and one in Wixom on the same date.

Officials remain committed to non-lethal methods of capture and are coordinating to find a pattern in the cat's movements so federal wildlife agents can move in with snares and tranquilizer guns.

Contributed by Vince Enriquez



two panthers prowling two towns

Reprinted from Detroit Free Press
by: Tom Ferguson

First, in late May, it was the Manchester other. Then, a month later, it was the Wixom ther, and an assumption that the big black -apparently abandoned by someone who owned .. illegally, had meandered 50 miles northeast to stake out new territory.

Printing By **PRINTRIGHT** Mall 205

Transfusion Therapy

In my practice of exotic animal medicine in South Florida, I see many different species of cats. They have one thing in common: Fleas. Some animals have only one or two "diners" on their body when presented, others, may have thousands. In order to understand the danger to your cat, it is important that you know some basic facts:

- The adult flea only spends one-third of its life on the animal, feeding by sucking blood.
- For every adult flea on the animal, there are likely 10 to 100 others in the animal's environment.
- Ten fleas in their lifetime of one to two years, may consume up to 3 pints of blood.
- The flea can survive up to 2 years without a meal.

Getting a bit paranoid? You should! Two of my exotic cat clients got more than a bit upset when they were told their beloved pets were dying from anemia caused by fleas.

The two cases below, illustrate how rapid a life threatening condition can develop. It can happen to any exotic cat, from cougars to Geoffroys. The clinical manifestations, once present, usually are fatal.

CASE #1

A 4 month old serval (*Felis sevalis*) was presented at 2 AM on an emergency call. A history of acute weakness and depression on the part of the cat, was given by the owners. The cat had acted normally up until the onset.

On physical exam, the cat was weak, with pale mucus membranes and a rapid, weak pulse. The cat's rectal temperature was 98° (normal is 101.5°). The animal's fur was full of dark "flea dirt" upon combing.

The owners were informed that the tentative diagnosis was flea anemia. Both husband and wife refused to accept this. How could this happen to a cat confined to the house?

The cat was hospitalized and bathed. The water in the bath turned red from the large amount of "flea dirt" present. The bath was repeated 3 times until the water was clear. While drying the weakened cat, over one thousand fleas were combed off. The animal was then sprayed and dried.

At that time, a small amount of blood was drawn to determine the extent of the anemia. The cat's packed cell volume (PCV) was 7mg/% (normal PCV is 34mg/%) A transfusion was indicated. (A PCV of less than 10mg/% indicates the animal should receive whole blood.)

An ocelot donor (my pet cat) was readily available. 150 ml of whole blood was collected and given to the serval. Antibiotics were started to guard against an opportunistic bacterial infection. Steroids were also administered to combat shock. An IV drip of Lactated Ringers was started and maintained for 24 hours post transfusion.

Within 12 hours after the transfusion, the cat was able to lift its head to drink. At 48 hours, the cat could chew solid food. The serval was kept for 10 days and serial blood samples were drawn to monitor the progress of regeneration of red blood cells. An iron and B12 complex injection was given every other day as well as oral vitamin supplement.

The cat was sent home on antibiotics for two additional weeks. At this writing, the cat is doing well and comes in every 2-3 months for re-examination.

CASE #2

A 3 year old female Geoffroy cat (*Felis geofferi*) was presented on an emergency. The owner complained the cat was not eating well and seemed very weak. The cat was also climbing up on the owner's lap to sleep an act that was not characteristic. The duration of signs were approximately 24 hours.

On physical exam, the cat's mucus membranes were pale. The pulse was rapid and a systolic murmur could be auscultated. The cat's rectal temperature was 100°F. The coat of the animal contained many live fleas as well as flea dirt. The cat was hospitalized and bathed several times. The cat was sprayed to kill remaining fleas.

Blood was drawn for a PCV - it was 4mg/%. One of the domestic clinic cats was used for a whole blood transfusion of 100 ml. The Geoffroy's IV was maintain-

ed after the transfusion and intravenous prednisolone (a steroid) and antibiotics were given. Within 8 hours post-transfusion, the cat was becoming active and aware of its environment. Within 16 hours, the cat had pulled out its IV catheter. Blood was drawn 30 hours after transfusion and the PCV had risen to 30mg/%

Due to the refractive nature of the adult cat, the animal was discharged to the owner after 5 days. A nutritional supplement (BVMO) and antibiotics were sent home with the animal. After seven days the cat was presented for re-examination. The PCV was 34mg/% and the animal was free of fleas.

These two cases illustrate the rapidity and seriousness of flea induced anemia. Please remember the smaller the cat, the fewer the fleas it takes to make it anemic!

Both owners could not understand how and where their cats were introduced to this parasite. When questioned about their environment, neither noticed the fleas on themselves or in their carpets. The owners felt that the anemia was acute in nature. The PCV showed this not to be the case. For the blood to be that low, the loss had to have been very slow and insidious. If the animal lost that amount of blood acutely, the cat would go into shock and die.

Once the cat is diagnosed as anemic, it is very important for your veterinarian to determine if a transfusion is necessary. Yes, it would be ideal to use a cat of the same species if a transfusion is indicated, however, in exotic cat medicine, this poses a problem! Let your veterinarian know that other species of feline can be used if it comes down to your cat's life versus an intra-species transfusion.

After an anemic episode, it takes months for your cat's blood marrow to produce enough red cells to bring its system back to health. During this time, it is crucial that your supply the cat with enough building blocks for that red cell production. This means supplementation with iron, B vitamins, Vitamin C, as well as vitamin K and calcium. All of this boils down to one simple message PREVENTION!

Check your cat daily for signs of fleas, such as "flea dirt" found in their coat and bedding. If your cat has a very thick coat you must really look for these signs. A flea comb is always a good diagnostic tool. The following do's and don'ts on flea products may be helpful for you as well as your veterinarian.

DO use pyrethrin products that are safe for use in cats e.g. Sevin flea powder, Vet Kem, Mycodex, etc.

DON'T use flea collars. The potent insecticide in a concentrated form may cause toxic side effects. Also the fleas tend to move to the rear of the cat not off!

DO treat the environment. Foggers and sprays help however a one time treatment is never effective. You may have to retreat your environment two or three times depending on the product and infestation.

DO check your cat's gum color daily. If its gums become pale, this could be a warning sign of anemia (not necessarily just fleas) See your veterinarian.

Dr. Terri

Dr. Theresa Y. Parrot, D.V.M.
Pembroke Park Animal Clinic
3050 Country Club Lane
Pembroke Park, Fla 33009
(305) 966-5333

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Terri is married to Dr. J.D. Parrot also a veterinarian, they have an ocelot and a Geoffroy's and will be willing to help if needed.





MEETING REPORT
October 14, 1984

An excellent day for traveling, the weather was not sunny, nor rainy, just a beautiful New England, fall day.

Jeanne & Anthony Zuckert welcomed all members and guests into their beautiful home, set in a majestic area off from

civilization. Around 30 people attended, of which 18 were members (its looking good up here-keep coming members! We'd love to meet everyone) Many exotic animals were there and very well behaved. Attending were 2 bobcats, one 4 months old and the other 6 weeks old, a 12 week old Geoffroy's (what a love!) owned by some folks who just made our acquaintance. Two gallant wolves and a gorgeous red fox. Also, one domestic type pussy invaded the area, but then it was his home! We had a wide variety of animals to talk about this day which kept us busy for hours.

Around 4:00 we started the formal meeting. Karen Jusseaume, our President called the meeting to order. She talked first of the 1984 Convention and mentioned that more members should make the effort to attend. (in other words, why weren't we there?-good point)

Our Vice President, Dave Baskin, is compiling a list of U.S.D.A. regulations for us, which will help us with insight into our goals.- Thanks, Dave. If we all join together we can get things done.

It was discussed about the members of our area attending our sister branch (Mid-Atlantic) next meeting which is to be October 27th. Also a spring meeting is being planned for Canada (Any volunteers?) If so contact Karen (address on page 2). Also, we're planning on an informal meeting at Dave Baskin's prior to spring. All are welcome-branch members will receive notices.

After the business was attended to, we all pigged out on all the delicious food everyone had prepared and brought.....thank you everyone. And, we all thank Jeanne & Anthony for welcoming us into their beautiful home.....Great meeting & good time.

Submitted by
Milly Payton
Secretary/Treasurer
(617) 961-3967

1st in Japan

At the NogeYama Zoo, Yokohama, Japan which acts in unison with the San Diego as its Sister City, three clouded leopards were born in April, 1983. It was the first success in Japan.

In order not to disturb the female and cubs, the zoo staff used an infrared-ray TV set-up for observation.

On the 30th day, the cubs went out into the open air. They were sexed as one male and 2 females. The average weight is 850g. Pasint one month, their mother started to teach them how to eat meat and four days thereafter, they could do it themselves. Unfortunately, on the 40th day one female died. The remaining pair are growing satisfactorily - by the 70th day their body patterns were clearly defined.

Their parents first bred on January 4, 1983. At the beginning of March a keeper noticed a change in the female's abdomen. The pregnancy was confirmed the middle of March. The male was separated from the female on April 2nd and a den box was introduced into the female's den area. Two days later the staff observed the newborns for the 1st time.

Reprinted from Animal Keepers' Forum
WPS Newsletter

Response

To Bob Hammonds inquiry on snow leopards:

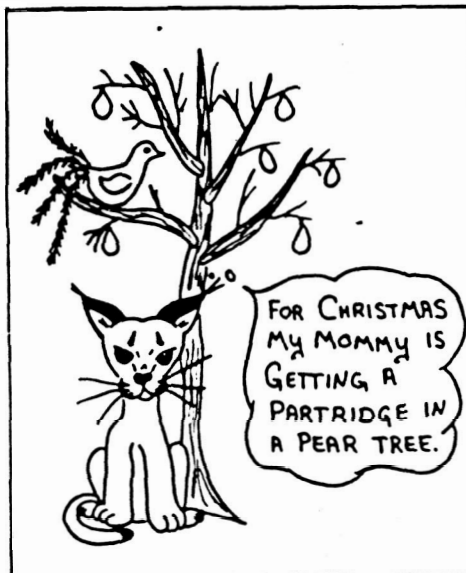
The first living specimen was brought to England by the Zoological Society in 1891 from Bhutan. It did not survive long after its arrival at Regent's Park. A second and older specimen was received at the beginning of 1894. During the voyage it became a favorite of the ship's cook, by whom it was taught to drink tea and milk, although its favorite food was mutton-broth. A third snow leopard was brought to Amsterdam during 1893. (1)

The Philadelphia Zoo recieved a snow leopard in 1918 and in 1924 the National Zoo had a snow leopard. A cub was born at the National Zoo on May 18, 1958 (2)

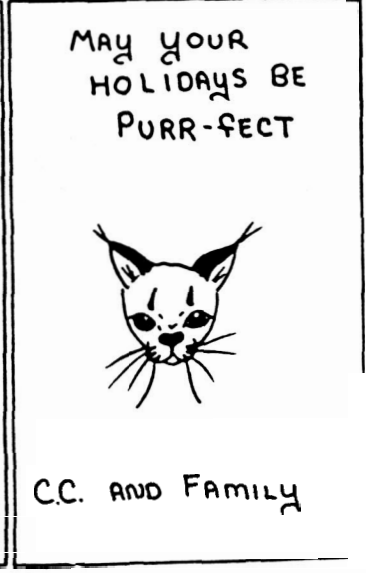
- (1) Lloyd's Natural History, Cats; 1896
- (2) Management of Wild Animals in Captivity, Crandall, 1964

Jeanne Maynard &
Buttons C.

CRAZY CARACAL



BY REBECCA MORGAN



Why Christmas Trees Are Not Perfect

Dick Schneider
inted from Woman's Day

They say that if you creep into an evergreen
at late at night you can hear the trees talking.
In the whisper of the wind you'll catch the older
pines explaining to the younger ones why they'll
never be perfectly shaped.

There will always be a bent branch here, a
gap there....

Long, long ago evergreens were perfect, with
each taking great pride in branches sloping evenly
from crown to symmetrical skirt.

This was particularly true in a small king-
dom deep in Europe beyond the Carpathian Mountains.

On the first Saturday of Advent the Queen's
woodsmen would search the royal forest for the
most perfect tree. It would then reign in honor
in the great castle hall, shimmering with silver
balls and gold angels that sparkled in the light
of thousands of candles. While a huge Yule log
chuckled and crackled, the royal family and
villagers together would dance and sing around
the tree in celebration.

Out in the hushed forest every evergreen
vied for this honor, each endeavoring to grow
its branches and needles to perfection. All
strained at the task, fully concentrating on
their form and appearance.

One cold night when a bright white moon
glittered on the crusty snow as if it were
strewn with millions of diamonds, a small
rabbit limped into a grove of evergreens, its
sides heaving in panic. Beyond the hill rose the
yelping of village dogs in the thrill of the
hunt.

The rabbit, eyes wide with fright, franti-
cally searched for cover but found nothing among
the dark trunks extending upward into branches
that were artfully lifted from the snow.

Faster and faster the cottontail circled
the excited yelping sounded louder and louder.
The trees looked askance at this interruption of
the evening (when growing was at its best).

And then a young pine shuddered. Of all
the young trees, it had the promise of being the
finest of the forest. Everything about it from
its deep, sea-green color to the curl of its
branches was perfect.

But now...its lower branches began to dip
down, down to the ground. And in that instant
before the slaving dogs broke into the clearing
the rabbit found safety within the evergreen
screen. In the morning the bunny found its
burrow. But the little pine could not quite lift
its branches. But no matter, perhaps a little
irregularity in a tree so beautiful would not be
noticed.

Then a powerful blizzard lashed the land.
Villagers slammed shutters closed while birds
and animals huddled in nests and dens. A small
wren, blown astray, desperately sought sanctuary
in evergreens. But each she approached clenched
its branches tight, like a fist.

Finally, in exhaustion, she fell into the
little pine. The pine's heart opened and so did
its branches and the wren slept within them,
warm and secure. But the pine had difficulty
rearranging its branches. There would be a gap
evermore.

Weeks passed and winter deepened, bringing a
gale such as never before experienced in the
mountains. It caught a small fawn who had wandered
from its mother. Head down, blinded by snow, it
inched its way into the evergreens seeking a wind
break. But the trees held their branches so the
wind could whistle through them without dangerously
breaking or bending them.

Again the little pine took pity and now tight-
closed its branches, forming an impenetrable
wall behind which the fawn huddled out of the gale.
Alas, when the wind ceased, the small pine
severely and permanently been bent out of shape.

A tear of pine gum oozed from a branch tip.
Now it could never hope for the honor it had longed
for since a seedling.

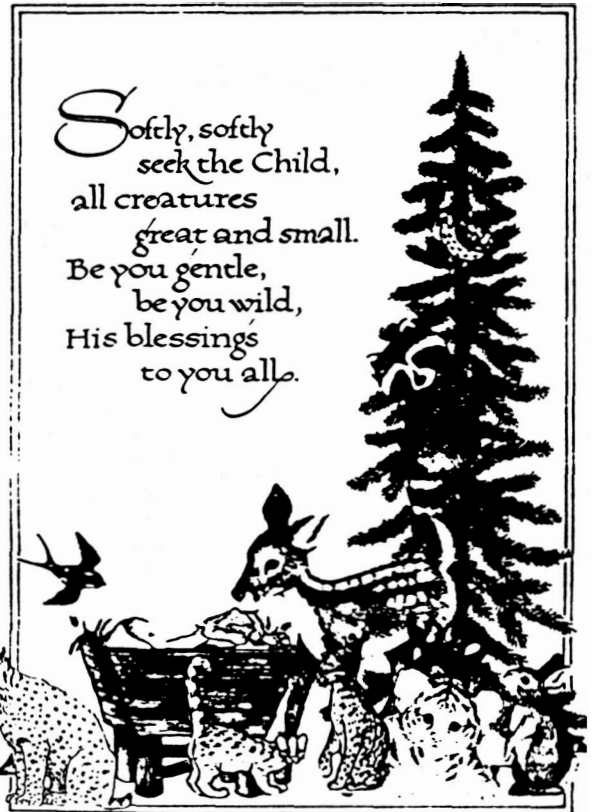
Lost in despair, the little pine did not hear
the Queen come into the forest. She had come to
choose the finest tree herself.

As her royal sleigh passed through the
forest, her practiced eye scanned the evergreens
now preening themselves. When she was the little
pine, a flush of anger filled her. What right had
such a tree with such defects to be in the royal
forest? Reminding herself to have a woodsman
dispose of it, she drove on, but then stopped
and glanced back at it. As she gazed on it, she
noticed the tracks of small animals that had
found shelter under it and a downy feather where
a bird had nested. And as she studied the gaping
hole in its side and its wind-whipped trunk,
understanding filled her heart.

"This one" she said. Her attendants gasped!
And to the astonishment of the forest, the little
pine was borne to the great hall. And everyone
who danced and sang around it said it was the
finest Christmas yet. For in looking at its
gnarled and worn branches many saw the protecting
arm of their father, others the comforting bosom
of their mother, and some, as did the Queen, saw
the love of Christ expressed on earth.

So if you walk among the evergreens today,
you will find, along with rabbits, birds and
other happy living things, drooped branches
providing cover, gaps offering nesting places,
forms bent from wrestling winter winds.

For as have many of us, the trees have
learned that the scars suffered for the sake
of others make one most beautiful in the eyes of
God.





DUR-A-GARD Epoxy Finish

Dur-A-Gard may be applied with roller or brush, but it's no paint! Dur-A-Gard's epoxy finish is lustrous and long lasting. In fact one coat of Dur-A-Gard will last longer than ten coats of latex paint! Dur-A-Gard not only wears well, it resists chemicals, acids, solvents, oils, and harsh detergents . . . retains its waterproof, easy-to-clean, glossy finish in any one of 16

Dur-A-Gard Physical Properties

HARDNESS (Shore D).....	ASTM D-1706	70-80
WATER ABSORPTION.....	ASTM D-543	0.37% after 7 days immersion
LINEAR SHRINKAGE.....	ERF 12-64	.002" per inch
TENSILE STRENGTH.....	ASTM D-638	3,000 psi minimum
FLEXURAL STRENGTH.....	ASTM D-790	4,000 psi minimum
COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH.....	ASTM D-695	16,000 psi
IZOD IMPACT (ft. lb./in. notch).....	ASTM D-256	0.50
BOND STRENGTH TO CONCRETE.....	ACI-403	Concrete fails before loss of bond
ULTIMATE ELONGATION.....	ASTM D-638	20%
HEAT DEFLECTION TEMPERATURE.....	ASTM D-790	No slip or flow at 242°F.
FUNGUS & BACTERIA RESISTANCE.....	MIL-F-52505	Will not support growth of fungus & bacteria
SALT SPRAY RESISTANCE, 25% solution		
@ 90°F.....	MIL-F-52505	No effect after 100 hrs.
THERMAL SHOCK.....	MIL-F-52505	No cracking or loss of adhesion
ABRASION RESISTANCE, CS-17 Wheels(2)		
Wgt. Loss, 1000 gr. load, 1000 cycles.....		.035 Gm Loss
U.V. RESISTANCE.....	MIL-F-52505	No chalking or loss of adhesion
TOXICITY.....		Non-toxic
POT LIFE.....		23 min. or 45 min.

appealing colors. Dur-A-Gard adheres to wood and metal, and it's a "natural" for concrete floors.

It's easy to apply . . . merely combine Dur-A-Gard's two components and spread with roller or brush. A non-slip texture may be obtained by adding a suitable grit during application. Simple instructions are included in every order.

FOR BEST RESULTS:

The surface to be covered must be bondable, dry, and clean. The temperature during application, and for several hours thereafter, must be over 50°F. One coat may be satisfactory for many areas, but two coats are recommended for more uniform color and

greater durability. On average concrete apply the first coat at the rate of about 250 square feet per gallon and the second coat at 300 square feet per gallon. Dur-A-Gard may be applied as thickly as desired and can be used to fill and level a rough surface.

DUR-A-GARD RESISTANCE TO CHEMICALS

REAGENT	EXPOSURE		
	45 Min.	24 Hrs.	7 Days
Acetone	E	NR	NR
Acetic Acid (10%)	E	E	G
Acetic Acid/Glacial (100%)	E	NR	NR
Ammonium Hydroxide (28%)	E	G*	NR*
Benzene	E	E	E
Chloroform	E	G*	NR*
Calcium Chloride (30%)	E	E	E
Clorox (Full Strength)	E	G*	NR*
Coca Cola	E	E	G*
Cottage Cheese	E	E	E
Chromic Acid (10%)	E	G	NR
Citric Acid (30%)	E	G*	NR*
Ethyl Alcohol (95%)	E	G*	NR
Ethylene Glycol	E	G	NR
Ethylene Dichloride (10%)	E	G	G
Ferric Chloride (10%)	E	E	G*
Gasoline	E	E	E
Glycerine	E	E	E
Hydrogen Peroxide (8%)	E	G	NR
Hydrochloric Acid (20%)	E	E	G
Hydrofluoric Acid (10%)	E	NR	NR
Hydraulic Fluid	E	E	E
Isopropyl Alcohol	E	E	E
Lactic Acid (20%)	E	E	G*
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone	E	E	E
Methylene Chloride	E	NR	NR
Mineral Spirits	E	E	E
Motor Oil	E	E	E
Mustard	E	G*	G
Nitric Acid (10%)	E	G*	NR*
Phosphoric Acid (85%)	E	E	E
Salt Water	E	E	E
Spic and Span (30%)	E	E	E
Syrup	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid (30%)	E	E	E
Sodium Hydroxide (30%)	E	G*	G
Silver Nitrate (10%)	E	G*	G
Tide Detergent	E	E	E
Trichloroethylene	E	G	NR
Tri-sodium-phosphate	E	E	E
Toluene	E	E	E
Urine (Synthetic-6.6% urea)	E	E	G

Legend: E - Excellent, no chemical deterioration
 G - Good, sample discolored but no chemical deterioration
 NR - Not Recommended, sample deteriorated. Contact Dur-A-Plus to ascertain if a more chemical resistant formulation is available.
 *Resistance to attack by the chemical can be improved by using Dur-A-Glaze #1 or #2 as a topcoat(s).

CAT PROOF !!

Great for walls too!

DUR-A-GUARD EPOXY COATING is available in 15 colors: White, Black, Medium Gray, Dark Green, Light Green, Dark Blue, Light Blue, Dark Brown, Cocoa Brown, Tile Red, Canyon red, Yellow Ochra, Bright Yellow and Light Yellow.

Order sufficient amount of a color to finish the entire job. Slight batch-to-batch color variations may occur.

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➡ THAT'S A 40% DISCOUNT! ⬅

UNIT SIZE	SHIPPING WEIGHT	LIQ& PRICE
3 quart	10 lbs	\$ 39.52
1 1/2 gallon	18 lbs	79.06
3 gallon	34 lbs	149.33
15 gallon	164 lbs	701.81

Normal coverage - floors- 250 square feet per gallon per coat. Walls- 350 square feet per gallon per coat.

Thicker coatings may be appropriate for heavy traffic areas.

DUR-A-GUARD is USDA and OSHA approved.

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