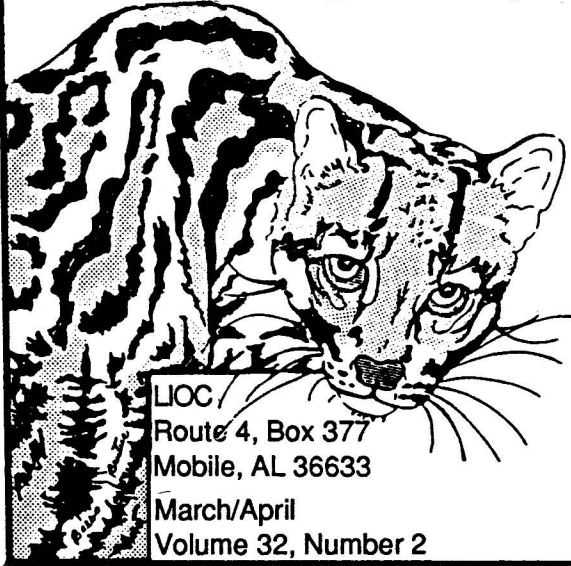


# LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation Inc.



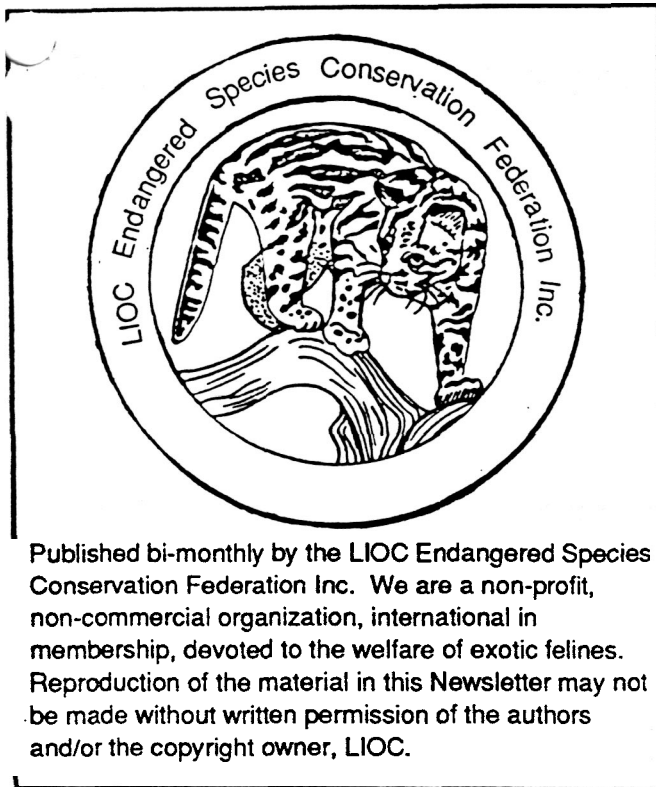
LIOC  
Route 4, Box 377  
Mobile, AL 36633  
March/April  
Volume 32, Number 2

## NEWSLETTER

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These three serval kittens were bred by Donna Amos of Exotic African Serval Cats in Roseburg OR. She writes that they are her first litter and all three are female.



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**Contributions:**

The newsletter consists of articles, photos and artwork submitted by members. We depend on you for our material -- we can only publish what you send us. Articles of all types on all exotic cat subjects are gladly accepted. We also have a reader's write column. Materials should be sent to the Editor by the first day of odd numbered months for inclusion in the next issue.

## Tiger Territory

In August of 1974, a young but fierce male tiger emerged from a mangrove marsh in the Ganges River delta near Calcutta, India, and approached the village of Jharkhali. Within a few hours a woman lay dead. The tiger also killed several domestic animals before it could be darted, immobilized and caged.

In the past, man-killing tigers were invariably destroyed. But current Indian wildlife protection laws dictate that the animal must be saved unless incorrigibly homicidal. John Seidensticker, a large-cat expert and field researcher from the National Zoo, was flown in from Nepal. It was quickly decided to tranquilize the young animal, then transfer him to the nearby Sundarbans Tiger Reserve.

The slumbering tiger was placed in a zoo transfer cage and carried by boat to a release site in the delta reserve. Once awakened from the immobilization chemicals, the tiger walked off through the deep mud and into a thick stand of mangroves.

Four days later, Dr. Seidensticker and the Indian research team returned to the tiger reserve only to find the newly released tiger dead in his tracks, 25 feet from the cage - the victim of multiple, gaping wounds inflicted by a large tiger.

This incident points out one immutable fact of wildlife management: working with large predators, particularly attempting to transplant them into new surroundings, is complicated, risky and often unsuccessful. Some wild-born hoofed animals can be transferred from one range to another with relative ease. Many game birds are now routinely hatched in captivity and reintroduced to the wild. But, as the Sundarbans tiger case proves, it's a different ball game altogether for large predators.

John Eisenberg is among the wildlife experts who are pessimistic about the prospects of reintroducing captive-born predators to the wild. "Born Free" operations in which a single large cat is hand reared and trained to hunt are extremely expensive. Reintroducing perhaps 10 tigers into the wild could take more than five years and cost more than one half million dollars. And even at that, the tigers - having lost their natural fear of humans - would always be particularly dangerous.

Dr. Eisenberg considers the translocation of wild-born predators a more viable option, but it too has drawbacks. The Sundarbans tiger was unwittingly placed in another tiger's home territory. And unless one of the two (probably the young intruder) had quickly migrated to another unclaimed territory, a death was inevitable. Clearly, researchers must learn considerably more about the home ranges and interactions of large predators before they can hope to successfully transplant them within wild habitats.

This is one of the reasons that the Smithsonian Institute has funded several studies of Asian cats. Seidensticker has observed the interactions of tigers and leopards in Nepal and studied the natural history of the Javan tiger (now virtually extinct, with just five individuals remaining). The work on tigers was continued by Melvin Sunquist and Kirti Tamang, and the Nepal study continues under the direction of zoologist David Smith, who is employing radio transmitters to help track tiger movements through the park.

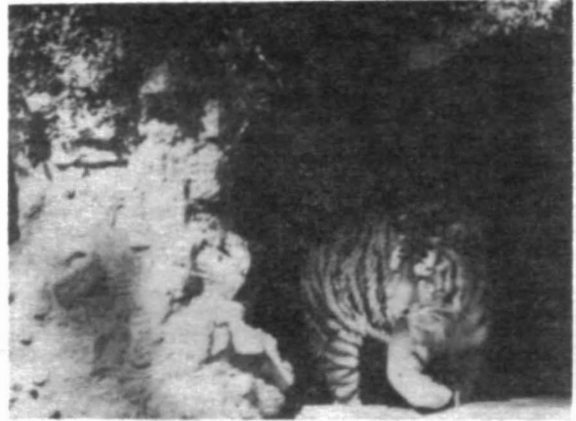
Once detailed information has been collected regarding home ranges, movements, and prey, larger questions may be answered.

Is the Chitawan area large enough, and the terrain suitable, to ensure the survival of a genetically diverse and healthy population of tigers? If not, what should be done? And if it is sufficiently large, can isolated and doomed pockets of five or six tigers be safely translocated to the preserve?

It seems sometimes that the efforts to save magnificent wildlife like the Bengal tiger move forward too slowly. But as the Sundarbans tiger case demonstrated, without sufficient data on their habits and territories, precipitous actions to preserve large predators can instead end in their destruction.

Reprinted from A Zoo for All Seasons, National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution

## Tiger Injured in Auto Accident



A 290 pound tiger, riding in the back seat of a car on its way to a public appearance took "a smart lick to the head" in a traffic accident in Prattville, Alabama according to an Associated Press release. The cat is now back home with its owner.

But the method of transporting the tiger may have gotten its owner in trouble with a federal agency. Owner Edwin Corders remained at the cat's side during the seven hours it spent at the clinic of a Prattville veterinarian, Dr. Doug Carmichael.

Corders, a former drug addict, uses the Bengal-Siberian mix named Misty Crystal in presentations to share with the public how religion changed his life, said Mac Gober, president of Canaan Land Boys Home.

Corders had raised the seventeen month old tiger since it was 2 days old. Where he got the cat is unknown. Gober said Corders and Misty were enroute to an appearance when their car hit a guard rail.

The cat was bleeding from the mouth and apparently in shock, and Carmichael tranquilized it and treated it at the scene. "We're real fortunate she didn't have any serious injuries" said Carmichael.

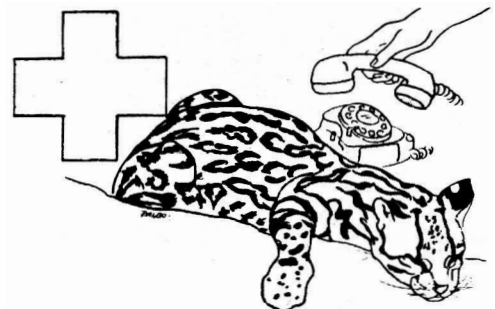
Dr. R.S. Reese, assistant veterinarian in charge for the U.S. Department of Agriculture said that Corders was licensed by the agency to exhibit the tiger in Tuscaloosa and met regulations such as caging and care as well as fencing to protect the public.

But he said the agency would not sanction any transportation of the cat in the back seat of a car and would investigate.

Condensed from the San Jose Mercury  
Contributed by Jean Townes

(Ed. Note: Whenever transportation of your feline is necessary, it is crucial that it be safely confined to a travel crate - regardless of the size of the cat. Should you be injured in the wreck, you would not be available to recapture a loose cat, which might be injured and defensive. Your veterinarian's name, plainly visible on the crate might also be a good precaution.)

## KNOW YOUR VET'S TELEPHONE NUMBER



## Readers Write

Dear Editor:

I am the owner of several small exotic cats. I live in California, a state that is presently trying to make private ownership of exotic animals illegal. A group of us "responsible" exotic owners has started an organization to fight this legislation, in fact LIOC President, Fred Boyajian attended our first meeting.

A couple of weeks ago I received the Nov/Dec Newsletter and was appalled upon finishing the article "A Cougar's Tale". This article about a totally irresponsible exotic owner upholds the California Fish & Game Department's contention that there should be no ownership of exotics. At a time when most states are trying to pass regulations, how dare you print an article like this. In the same Newsletter, LIOC President, Fred Boyajian, says in his column, "LIOC must become involved in defining what responsible ownership is in general and feline ownership in particular".

I feel LIOC must get its priorities straight. Are we going to work for responsible exotic ownership or are we just going to fill up the Newsletter pages with articles that shows how dumb people can be?

I am very upset!

Barbara Dicely  
Occidental, CA

Dear Shirley:

With regard to the article "A Cougar's Tale" printed in the last newsletter...it was nice of Lynn to share her story, but I must remark on the following.

How anyone could allow a half-grown cougar to RUN FREE is totally beyond me! If the danger to the cat were not enough, Lynn states that farmers in the area SHOOT TO KILL animals molesting their cattle and expecting a cougar not to chase cattle is like asking a bird not to fly! Then to allow the cat to drag a leash is unthinkable! It's a miracle the animal didn't become entangled and die a horrible death by strangulation. Excuse me, but I believe even a novice exotic owner should use common sense.

The lack of regard for the general public was amazing. What if the cat jumped a child? This type of irresponsibility is what the "OUTLAW ALL EXOTIC CAT OWNERSHIP" Laws are made of.....

This time, the exotic did not pay with its life and exotic owners will not feel the noose of prohibition tighten around their necks because of one owner's disregard for safety.

I just hope that Lynn and her husband will take a more responsible attitude toward exotic ownership in the future.

Jean Towns  
Santa Clara, CA

Dear Editor:

We have been breeding, training, and exhibiting exotic animals for 50 years now. We keep 52 species of animals and have been successful in breeding all of them.

On the cover of the Newsletter the picture of Mercury the cougar, caught my eye. (Nice looking cat). After reading the story my first thought was "what a dummy". I'm happy that Mercury survived, I know Lynn learned something. You can tame and train exotic cats, but you do not domesticate them like a dog. Lynn's story had a happy ending, but it could have been tragic. Anytime a wild cat or any wild animal hurts someone or something, the news media really plays it up and it hurts all of us, who keep exotics. We love our wild animals as much as Lynn loves Mercury and we do not need any bad publicity.

I hope Lynn's story will be a lesson to others.

Gerhart Wille  
Pres, Wisconsin Zoo Assoc.  
Wille's Game Farm & Zoo  
Brandon, Wisc.

Editor's Note: As you can see we had some response on this story. No one advocates Lynn's actions, she, herself, admits she made a stupid mistake. We can only hope that by printing such stories that others will learn in advance and avoid mistakes that can ultimately hurt us all. LIOC has always advocated sharing knowledge with the belief that mistakes can be learned from and will help others take better care of their animals in the long run. Unfortunately, a new owner is usually ignorant in many areas, especially if they don't have access to a Branch or other owners in close proximity. Perhaps by reading of the consequences of one person's mistake, they can avoid that same or a similar mistake in their own lives.

Dear Fellow Exotic Lovers:

As far back as I can remember I have loved exotic cats. I have read all I could get my hands on (which is very little) and asked lots of questions of anyone remotely associated with exotics (which have been very few). I lived for the day I could bring home my first exotic and later, add others. I was blessed with a wonderful husband who shares my extreme interest in these beautiful cats (I think we want one of everything). Realistically, we are trying hard to learn all we can about the numerous breeds that we find especially appealing, and will eventually choose several of these to actually bring into our lives. We both become very attached to any animal that finds its way to our home, and ours is a lifetime commitment to each animal. Thus, we have to be sure everything is as ready as possible before we can make an addition to our home.

I was ecstatic to find a little blurb on LIOC in a cat magazine earlier this year, and I immediately wrote to become a member. That has proven to be the best thing I could have done in my search for more information on exotics. (I wish I had learned of LIOC many years ago). How can we let the public know we exist? I have since written to several of the people listed in the Breeder Directory about several different cats. I was surprised with the wonderful response I received from these people. I have received some really nice letters with loads of information (one with pictures!) and an open invitation to continue to ask more, and three people even called long distance to talk.

As a complete novice/beginner I am open to any hands-on experience that anyone is willing to share with me. I am aware of the different opinions on each subject, even among LIOC members, and realize that everything has to be "taken with a grain of salt" and adjusted to my situation. I now have several wonderful people to turn to, and I can't express how much that means to me. I hope someday to be referred to as "experienced" or an "expert" with one or more of the exotics, and I want to always be ready and willing to spend time and, if necessary, money (on long distance calls, etc.) to help the next generation carry on my love and concern for our slowly vanishing exotics.

I realize that asking for help is a big question! There is so much to know. That is why I'm asking now even though I know we won't be able to bring an exotic home til next year. When the big day comes we will feel like we can adequately care for our exotic

Some time ago I started to get involved with the world of show dogs. I have found (as have other people trying to get involved) that most of the know edgale breeders won't talk with novices, or will actually give false information. It seems that they are afraid to give out any help or secrets to newcomers. I don't understand that philosophy. If we don't train new, interested people in our areas of interest, who is going to carry on when we are gone? Who is going to continue to look out for the animals and raise them correctly? I hope we never see that type of attitude in LIOC. In the end, the ones we hurt are the very ones we are supposedly trying to help...the animals themselves.

Thank you for such a caring organization and devoted people.

Does anyone out there know anyone near the Denver area that has any type of exotic?

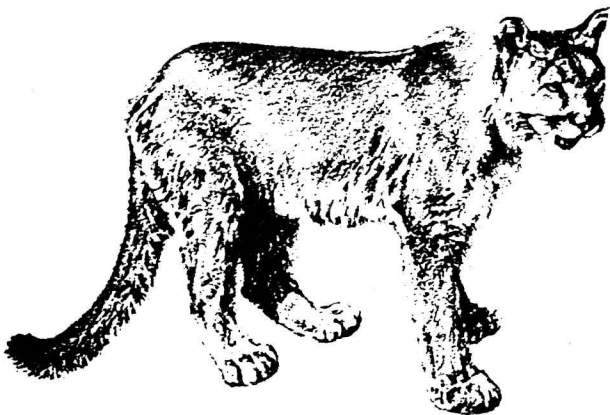
Does anyone know of someone who will have caracal kittens available next spring?

Sincerely,

*Cindy*

Mrs. Cindy Campbell  
899 East Summer Drive  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126  
(303) 791-0886

## Cougar Recieves Artificial Eyes



A blind mountain lion named Filice will undergo surgery, freeing her from pain and leaving two silicon implants instead of eyes, the animal's owner reported.

"Unlike many wild and exotic animals, this one has accepted the fact that it is blind," said Charles Sammut, owner of Oxton Kennels and Exotics of Salina. "It's not unhappy at all."

Filice, a three year old female, is used as a show animal by Sammut during educational seminars on exotic creatures he conducts at schools and before youth groups.

"I was worried that children would be upset if they saw an animal without eyes, so that's essentially why we're doing it," said Richard Clark, one of two Monterey County veterinarians who have volunteered to conduct the surgical procedure.

Filice suffers from complications of glaucoma, a disease that results in the hardening of the eyeball. In humans it can cause great pain because of increased pressure on the brain.

Filice's right eye was replaced with an implant several years ago. The left eye has since swollen to twice its normal size, and is believed to be painful, said Sammut.

Most animals are destroyed when they go blind because they often turn mean, and become unmanageable due to their handicap.

"Filice is so gentle, and has simply decided to make herself dependent on people", said Sammut. "When she's locked up, she spends hours exploring her cage, acquainting herself with every inch."

Reprinted from World Pet Society Newsletter.

## Dusty



When we moved Macho, our male bobcat to an outdoor pen, he looked so lonely that we decided to get a female to keep him company.

Dusty was two weeks old when we got her and the cutest bundle of fur I had ever seen. Right from the start she was easy-going and calm. We were told that this was not normal as the females are usually more hyper than the males.

When Dusty was three months old, we took her to the veterinarian for declawing and a general kitty check-up. When we picked her up, the vet told us that we didn't have a female, but then it wasn't a male either! Dusty was a little of both. The vet couldn't decide if Dusty was more male or female and we still don't know.

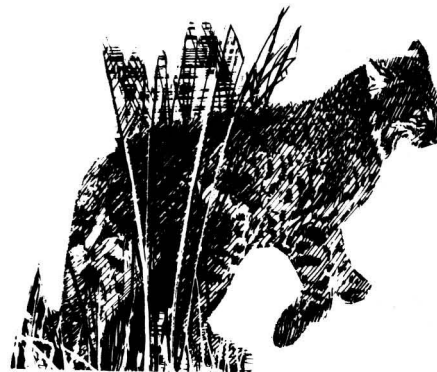
The motherly instinct really comes out when confronted with a kitten. Dusty is a great "nanny" she gives them baths, and watches over them as if they were "her" own.

Dusty was our constant companion, she went with us visiting our friends, relatives, on vacation and even slept with us.

When Dusty reached the age of two "he" started spraying - I guess that's when the male side came out.

Dusty is large like a male and weighs 45 pounds, but he's build delicately and looks like a female. Dusty is now three years old and has a pen off the deck so he can see us and we can see him. Dusty is still an easy-going, calm cat and has brought a lot of joy into our lives.

Patti & Ray Radcliff  
PRRR Enterprise  
1013 N.E. 6th Ave. Dr  
Hillsboro, OR 97123



## ☞ You Aware of Current Legislation?

At a convention this year, it was suggested that LIOC should place more emphasis on our members being in full compliance with all federal, state, county and city laws governing our animals. Further, the American Humane Society has stated as one of its goals having a piece of "model legislation" passed in all states. This "model legislation" in effect, outlaws exotics. Some states have already taken action on this and enacted new, restrictive legislation. In many states without large exotic populations, these laws are passed quickly and quietly. Therefore, listed below are the governing agencies in all states.

To ensure that unknown to us, laws are not passed without our input, we ask that you write and ask to be put on a list to be notified if any legislation is proposed. Even if your state now has a permit system or other wildlife laws, please do this. The Humane Society is determined to restrict the individual's rights to own exotics. PLEASE DO IT NOW!

### ALABAMA

Alabama Division of Game & Fish  
64 N. Union St.  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(205) 261-3465

### ALASKA

Alaska Dept of Fish & Game  
P.O.Box 3-2000  
Juneau, AK 99802  
(907) 465-4190

### ARIZONA

Arizona Fish & Game Dept.  
2222 West Greenway  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
(602) 942-3000

### ARKANSAS

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission  
Newark Natural Resources Dr.  
Fayetteville, AR 72705  
(501) 223-6359

### CALIFORNIA

Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game  
Wildlife Protection Branch  
1416 Ninth St.  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 324-7247

### COLORADO

Colorado Division of Wildlife  
6060 Broadway  
Denver CO 80216  
(303) 297-1192

### CONNECTICUT

Conn. Dept. of Environmental Protection  
165 Capitol Ave.  
Hartford, CT 06106  
(203) 566-4683

### DELAWARE

Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife  
P.O.Box 1401  
Dover, DE 19903  
(302) 736-5297

### FLORIDA

Fla. Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission  
620 South Meridian  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(904) 4883831

### GEORGIA

Game & Fish Division  
Dept. of Natural Resources  
100 Dawsonville, Hwy.  
Dawsonville, GA 30501  
(706) 532-5279

### HAWAII

Hawaii Division of Forestry & Wildlife  
Department of Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl St  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(808) 548-2861

### IDAHO

Idaho Dept of Fish & Game  
109 W 44th St  
Boise, ID 83704  
(208) 334-3725

### ILLINOIS

Ill. Dept of Conservation  
524 Lincoln Tower Plaza  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-2965

### INDIANA

Ind. Dept. of Natural Resources  
607 State Office Building  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 232-4080

### IOWA

Iowa State Conservation Commission  
Wallace State Office Bldg.  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
(515) 281-5638

### KANSAS

Kansas Fish & Game Commission  
Rural Rt 2, Box 54A  
Pratt, KS 67124  
(316) 672-5911

### KENTUCKY

Kentucky Dept of Fish & Wildlife  
Resources  
No 1 Game Farm Rd  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 564-3176

### LOUISIANA

Louisiana Dept of Wildlife & Fish  
P.O.Box 15570  
Baton Rouge, LA 70895  
(504) 342-9247

### MAINE

Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries &  
Wildlife  
Attn: Wildlife Division  
284 State St.  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 289-3651

### MARYLAND

Maryland Dept of Natural Resources  
Maryland Forest, Park & Wildlife  
Tawes State Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(301) 269-3195

### MASSACHUSETTS

Division of Fisheries & WILDLIFE  
Leverett Saltonstall Bldg.  
100 Cambridge St  
Boston, MA 02202  
(617) 727-3151

### MICHIGAN

Mich. Dept of Natural Resources  
Box 30028  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 373-1263

### MINNESOTA

Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7  
Centennial Office Bldg  
St Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 296-3344

### MISSISSIPPI

Miss. Dept of Wildlife Conservation  
P.O.Box 451  
Jackson, MS 39205  
(601) 961-5311

### MISSOURI

Mo. Dept of Conservation  
Division of Wildlife  
P.O.Box 180  
Jefferson City, MO 65101  
(314) 751-4115

### MONTANA

Dept of Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
1420 E. 6th Ave  
Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 444-2535

### NEBRASKA

Neb. Game & Parks Commission  
P.O.Box 30370  
Lincoln, NE 68503  
(402) 464-0641

### NEVADA

Nev. Division of Enforcement  
Department of Wildlife  
P.O.Box 10678  
Reno, NV 89520  
(702) 789-0500

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Fish & Game Dept  
34 Bridge St  
Concord, N.H. 03301  
(603) 271-3127

### NEW JERSEY

N.J. Dept of Environmental Protection  
Division of Fish, Game & Wildlife  
P.O.Box CN400  
Trenton, N.J. 086625  
(309) 292-6685

### NEW MEXICO

N.M. Dept of Game & Fish  
State Capitol-Villagra Bldg  
Santa Fe, N.M. 87503  
(505) 827-7934



NEW YORK

State Dept. of Environmental  
Conservation  
Wildlife Resource Center  
Delmar, N.Y. 12054  
(518) 439-7635

NORTH CAROLINA

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission  
512 N. Salisbury St  
Raleigh, N.C. 27611  
(919) 733-3391

NORTH DAKOTA

ND Game & Fish Dept  
2121 Lovett Ave  
Bismark, N.D. 58505  
(701) 224-2180

OHIO

Division of Wildlife Survey &  
Inventory  
1500 Dublin Rd  
Columbus, OH 43215  
(614) 265-7027

OKLAHOMA

OK Dept of Wildlife Conservation  
1801 N. Lincoln BLVD  
P.O.Box 53465  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152  
(405) 521-2739

OREGON

State Dept of Fish & Wildlife  
100 S.W. Mill St  
Portland, ORE 97201  
(503) 229-5473

PENNSYLVANIA

Penn. Game Commission  
P.O.Box 1567  
Harrisburg, PA 17105  
(717) 787-5740

RHODE ISLAND

Dept of Environmental Management  
Division of Fish & Wildlife  
Government Center,  
Tower Hill Rd  
Wakefield, RI 02879  
(401) 789-3094

SOUTH CAROLINA

S.C. Wildlife & Marine Resources Dept  
P.O.Box 167  
Columbia, S.C. 29202  
(803) 758-0014

SOUTH DAKOTA

Dept of Game, Fish & Parks  
Division of Fish & Game  
Pierre, SD 57501  
(605) 773-3381

TENNESSEE

Tenn Wildlife Resources Agency  
P.O.Box 40747  
Nashville, TN 37204  
(615) 741-1476

TEXAS

Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept  
1000 Smith School Rd  
Austin, TX 78744  
(512) 579-4864

UTAH

Dpt of Natural Resources  
Division of Wildlife  
1596 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116  
(801) 533-9333

VERMONT

Agency of Environmental Conservation  
Fish & Game Dept  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
(802) 828-3371

VIRGINIA

VA. Commission of Game & Fisheries  
P.O.Box 11104  
Richmond, VA 23230  
(804) 257-1000

WASHINGTON

Wash. Dept of Game  
600 N. Capitan WAY, GJ-11  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(206) 753-5728

WEST VIRGINIA

Div. of Wildlife Resources  
Dept of Natural Resources  
1800 E. Washington St  
Charleston, WV 25305  
(304) 348-2771

WISCONSIN

Wisc. Dept of Natural Resources  
P.O.Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707  
(608) 266-5463

WYOMING

Wyoming Game & Fish Dept.  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
(307) 777-7604



Where's the Newsletter  
been ??? We've been  
asking ourselves the  
same question about  
all of you.

We need contributions,  
someone to help out  
with membership and  
someone(s) to help out  
with mailing. Is there  
anyone in western PA  
or eastern OH ? Call  
Wendie 412 687-7550)

## Elections Are Approaching

It is time to begin the election process again.

Except for the four (4) Life Directors, all Officers and Directors are elected to serve a two (2) year term. Incumbent Officers and Directors automatically re-nominated unless they decline (in writing) serve further. In order to be nominated, a person must have the support of two valid LIOC members. The nomination must be in writing and the person nominated must accept the nomination in writing. We are accepting nominations for the following positions:

- PRESIDENT
- VICE PRESIDENT
- SECRETARY/TREASURER
- TERM DIRECTOR - MEMBER SERVICES
- TERM DIRECTOR - EDUCATION & CONSERVATION
- TERM DIRECTOR - LEGAL AFFAIRS
- TERM DIRECTOR - ADVERTISING & PUBLICITY

Please send your nominations, as quickly as possible, and no later than April 30th to: Suzi Mutascio, 6 E. Lake Circle Dr. Medford, N.J. 08055

# Khayam: Gone But Not Forgotten

Laurie Marker

The great day occurred on December 4, 1976, when I had a litter of five cubs. One would be mine to raise - the one that would become "The World's Most Famous Cheetah". However, the who, what, why, where and when of this cheetah story goes back to 1974 when my first job at Wildlife Safari was working in the clinic and taking care of the goat yard in the Children's Zoo. What I became interested in most at the time however, was the six-acre cheetah breeding area located on a secluded hillside above the drive-through section of the park.

Wildlife Safari's main research field was its breeding program with this endangered species. I was impressed with the Safari's early breeding success eight months earlier when they had a litter of four cubs, marking only the 28th litter ever born in captivity. Success seemed to depend on the shy and timid cheetah needing complete privacy away from man's disturbances. The parents of this first litter were Trian and Kruger, who along with four other cheetahs had been caught in the wild in Southwest Africa and shipped to Wildlife Safari in 1972.

Later that summer two of these cubs were put into my care in the Clinic before being sent to the Sacramento Zoo in an animal trade. My job was to wean them and acclimate them to being around people before they were shipped in order to avoid any stress or trauma to them. These two feisty cubs triggered my curiosity about this amazing cat, and I began reading all I could find about them. I had to know more about cheetahs - I was fascinated by their unique differences from other wild cats and began behavioral studies on the Safari's cheetahs by spending all the free time I could in observing them. I became "hooked" on cheetahs!

Then in January, 1975, two cubs, Rafa and Juba, were pulled from the second Safari litter for raising and behavioral studies. Juba was put in my direct care when they were three months old, while Rafa was under another clinic worker "Little" Johnson. Our goal was to leash train them using affection training, but progress was slow due to our not getting them young enough to people imprint them, plus the fact that they were high-strung and spirited. Thus, they were never trustworthy enough to be handled by others or to meet the public, and they were returned to the breeding program.

Nevertheless, because of the experience of helping to raise Rafa and Juba I had a positive feeling of accomplishment and it instilled in me a desire to hand raise another cub, a much younger one that I could apply my new knowledge into raising a well-trained cheetah.

In the fall of 1976, fate stepped in and plans were formulated that made my dream become a reality. That fall, producers from ABC's American Sportsman program were at the Safari filming a TV special on the park's birds of prey rehabilitation program. This film was the forerunner of what was to be the experience of a lifetime for me and the beginning of Khayam's fame. The film's producer, Bob Nixon, and his director John Wilcox, were not only pleased with the birds of prey footage they'd gotten, but most importantly, they were impressed with Wildlife Safari itself - a physical layout so resembling Africa and Asian habitats and its emphasis on and its success in breeding endangered species, particularly the cheetah.

They proposed the idea of documenting on film the true story of a cheetah born in captivity being taught to hunt, stalk and kill its own prey when returned to its natural habitat as a means of keeping the species alive should it ever become extinct in the wild.

To work towards this goal we decided to pull two cubs from our next litter. Now we had only to be patient for Trian and Kruger to produce for us.

Before this event happened, however, the Safari's first baby gibbon was delivered into my arms for care. When her mother rejected her, a surrogate mother was needed, as the tiny 10 ounce, furless and pink baby was completely dependent. Thus, little Munchkin became a permanent member of our household. She was to become the first gibbon to be raised with a cheetah and a dog as her best friends for I was soon to become 'mother' of a baby cheetah.

As mentioned, Trian's five cubs were born that December 4th. When we brought my little female from the breeding area down to the nursery, she weighed four pounds, eight ounces. In choosing her it was somewhat like trying to pick the best pup from a litter, but as we were vaccinating all the cubs against distemper, I soon had little doubt which one I wanted - she was the only one that acted calm when being handled for vaccination. The others were typical spitfires.

I didn't name her for two weeks. I wanted to wait until the proper name finally matched up with her. Then 'Khayam' popped into my head. We lived in a vineyard, and wine was to be my husband Jon's and my livelihood - Omar Khayyam in the Rubaiyat said "...A jug of wine, a loaf of bread...". The name seemed appropriate since her life would be filled with the fruits of wine and she would run free in our vineyard. I committed literary sacrilege, however and simplified the spelling by dropping the second redundant 'y', appropriate enough since I am a notoriously poor speller.

Khayam readily adapted to her new way of life - days with me at the Clinic and nights at home with her new family where our sort-of-black-lab Sheso took over a self-appointed mothering dog role, providing security, love, play and most importantly discipline. Khayam and I were becoming closer to - a relationship that would grow into complete understanding. History in the annals of cheetah-dom was being made.

Too, other zoos soon would realize the value of having a dog companion for animals they wished to raise well-behaved enough to use in meeting the public. Sheso's surrogate mother role cannot be emphasized enough in helping make Khayam such a perfectly calm cat. Besides Khayam, Munchkin and Sheso, we soon added Jay-Jay to our family - another cub for Sheso to mother. Jay-Jay was a Bengal tiger cub rejected at birth by her mother, and like Khayam, she too became perfectly gentle, sweet-tempered cat under Sheso's tutelage. She was probably the only tiger in the whole world who could calmly meet the public all day at our various Safari programs and promotions, letting people not only admire her at close range, but also pet her and cuddle up to her when having their picture taken. Sadly, however, both Munchkin and Jay-Jay died of incurable diseases when they were three and two years old respectively. Khayam, Sheso and I carried on alone.

But getting back to Khayam's first year, we began conditioning her for the ultimate test of seeing whether she could hunt on her own or not by putting her through various learning processes. These sessions included having her chase a hand-pulled lure first, then on a mechanical lure like those used for greyhounds, and finally a lure pulled behind a Safari vehicle.

After such runs she learned to return to me when I rang a small sheep bell, at which time I rewarded her with a meat treat. This step was important because if we were to let her run free to catch her own prey in Africa, we had to have some means of calling her back to us so as not to lose her.

Khayam and I spent over two months in Africa during the summer of 1977-78 filming the ABC American Sportsman TV special with Olivia Newton-John as the guest celebrity. What was to be a 10 day trip lengthened into weeks for Khayam and me. After five days Khayam became critically ill, and the whole crew left to return home for the Christmas holidays. She would have surely died had it not been for Dr. Arthur Baggot-Smith, fa-



mous in Southwest Africa and known as the 'flying vet' who flies in his own plane to take care of his animal patients in that vast area. He picked us up at the game reserve where we were staying and flew us back to his ranch where he operated on Khayam and found she had a complete intestinal blockage. After a second operation was necessary, Khayam began to respond to T.L.C., as I stayed close to her all this time.

Miraculously she had a rapid recovery, and we began our training for her to learn to hunt. During this time I actually had to assume the role of mother cheetah, at first simulating a 'stalk' by creeping and crawling with her through the ground cover. Then when she finally did catch a small springbok on her own I had to literally show her how she must clamp down on the vital neck spot to complete her kill. By this time the film crew had returned and we were able to finish the filming.

A plus from this trip was that during our first few days in Africa, Olivia became immediate good friends with Khayam and me, and she has remained our friend and staunch supporter of the Safari's conservation efforts ever since.

The filmed turned out to be a complete success with ABC officials saying the production "contained some of the most interesting and exciting animal footage" they had ever shot. As for Khayam returning to the people world afterwards, she was amazing - fantastic - her natural hunting instincts had been so good - she really could run, stalk and kill her prey, yet she still behaved in her docile manner when the hunt was over and we were on our way home.

We stopped at the Kalahari Sands Hotel in Windhoek, South West Africa, and this 14-month-old cat who had just been running free and acting as a wild carnivore should, calmly walked with me into a disco atmosphere, crowded with people and loud music, and nonchalantly lay down then lapped milk and other food offerings brought to her by the waiters while we ate our own six-course dinners.

Khayam was on her way to becoming a celebrity and Safari Goodwill Ambassador. We attended hundreds of personal appearances - dinners, shows, school programs, meetings, conventions, fairs, home shows, TV and media programs, you name it. She was always at her regal best - nothing ever bot hered her equanimity.

The list of celebrities she has met, or rather I should say 'who met her', runs into hundreds - to name a few, Robert Redford, Della Reese, Zsa Zsa Gabor, President Ford, Vitas Gerulaitis, Richard Leakey, Olivia Newton-John and many of her friends, Jim Fowler, Johnny Carson, Anne Lindburg, Amanda Blake, Tippi Hedren, Roger Whitaker, Oregon Governors Tom McCall, Bob Straub, Vic Atiyeh and Neil Goldschmidt, Senators Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood, as well as well-known media people from coast to coast.

She was the guest of honor at such prestigious events as the Charles Lindbergh Foundation dinner in New York, the Mzuri Foundation dinners, the Smithsonian Institute lectures, World Wildlife Fund events, and the Interantional Design Conference. She also appeared on national TV shows -twice on the Tonight Show, Those Amazing Animals, P.M. Magazine, That's Incredible, and the Today Show.

Even after nine and a half years being with Khayam, I didn't actually realize how unique she was. I thought her normal and that all cheetahs were like her - until a year ago this February when she became critically ill and I tried to find a substitute cheetah to take her place at the World Wildlife Fund's fundraising event to be held in Connecticut. The cheetah is their symbol, and Khayam had always been their honored guest. In calling other zoos and animal facilities around the country I found that there were only five hand-raised cheetahs, and none of them were capable of taking Khayam's place.

Why not?  
No. 1 - Khayam was the only one who could be put on a normal airline flight.

No. 2 - Khayam was the only one calm and tractable enough to cope with large crowds, spend a whole evening at a dinner or let people pet her for hours.

No. 3 - Khayam was the only cheetah in the world trained to give running exhibitions, like chasing a lure behind a speeding car.

No. 4 - Khayam was the only cheetah that was housebroken to stay in a hotel or motel room (with me) like any well-behaved domestic pet.

Yes, I finally realized that Khayam was not only wonderful, she was super-wonderful! And I feel I am the luckiest person in the world to have had the chance of loving her and knowing her so intimately.

I am lucky too, to have had such strong support along the way. Khayam's story is really one of a loving and understanding husband, a kindly boss and many hours of assistance from all the Safari staff and those special ones - Dan and Pat, Toni, Ann, Don, Kyla, Melody, Marilyn, Gobie, 'Uncle' Jay and 'Aunt' Bonnie.

I know that because of Khayam my life has been richer and that I am "cheetah imprinted" for life. My mission is one of total commitment to the cause of keeping the cheetah from extinction - to make sure there will still be these magnificent creatures for our grandchildren to appreciate. But then, by her very presence in front of millions of people through the years she eloquently stated her own cause loud and clear, seeming to say, "I am here for you to see now, but without your help you may not see cheetahs tomorrow!"

\* \* \* \* \*

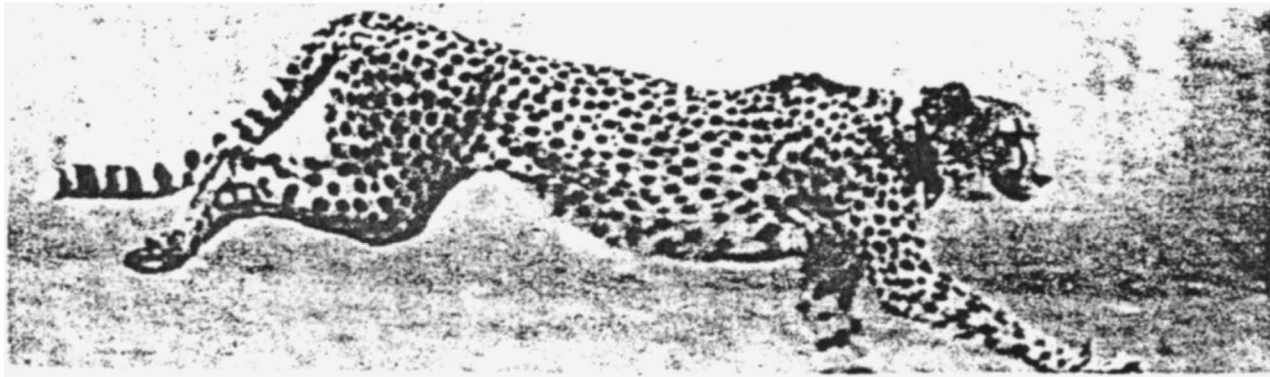
At the age of 10, Khayam died November 26th, 1986, three days after undergoing a kidney transplant that was performed as the only hope of saving her life after she had suffered complete kidney failure.

Ironically, even in death she added one more 'first' in her claims to fame, as she became the first known cheetah to receive a kidney transplant. The Safari's cheetah Blondie, was the donor, and has recovered completely.

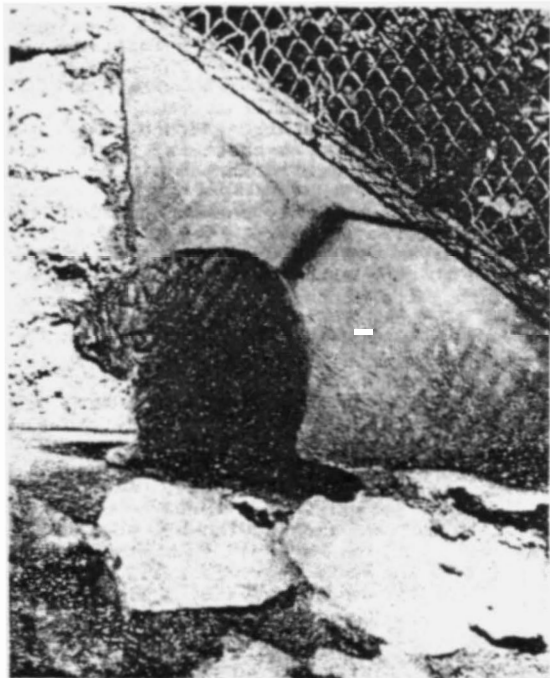
Reprinted from Wildlife Safari Newsletter, published by the Safari Game Search Foundation. Contributed by Bill Boyle

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Editor's Note: Many of you will remember Laurie Marker, Sheso and of course, Khayam, who were generous enough to spend a day with us at the 1979 LIOC convention. Those of us privileged to be there will always have a very special remembrance of that remarkable cheetah known as Khayam.



## European Wildcat in France



By Phillip Stahl

Phillipe Stahl of the French National Centre for Studies of Rabies and the Pathology of Wild Animals, has completed a doctoral study of the European Wildcat (*Felis sylvestris*). Here is a summary, translated from the original French.

\* \* \*

The object was to study one of the intermediate links between the social structure of *Felis sylvestris* and the nature of available resources, specifically the functional relations between the area and use of ranges, daily movements and activity patterns, and the composition of food items and hunting techniques, as well as the abundance and distribution of prey species.

Fieldwork was continuous from the end of 1981 to the spring of 1984 along the southeast foot of the forested massif of Meine. The food spectrum of the population studied was not wide. Five genera of rodents appeared in 99% of the feces. Birds and lagomorphs were found only in 2.7% and 1.6% of feces. The proportions in terms of rodent biomass ingested varied considerably.

Rodents of similar size were consumed mainly according to their relative abundance in the habitat. Only the ground vole could be a preferred prey because of its greater weight. Specialization on groups of species in open areas or closed areas occur when abundance of food is at a minimum and maximum. Food specialization on rodents of open habitats, observed when the abundance of food in the habitat is low, constitutes an example contrary to the classic model of "optimal foraging". It is explained by the combination of factors linking the predator's hunting technique and the distribution of the prey. Specialization on species in closed habitats would be due to the characteristics of daytime use of space by wildcats.

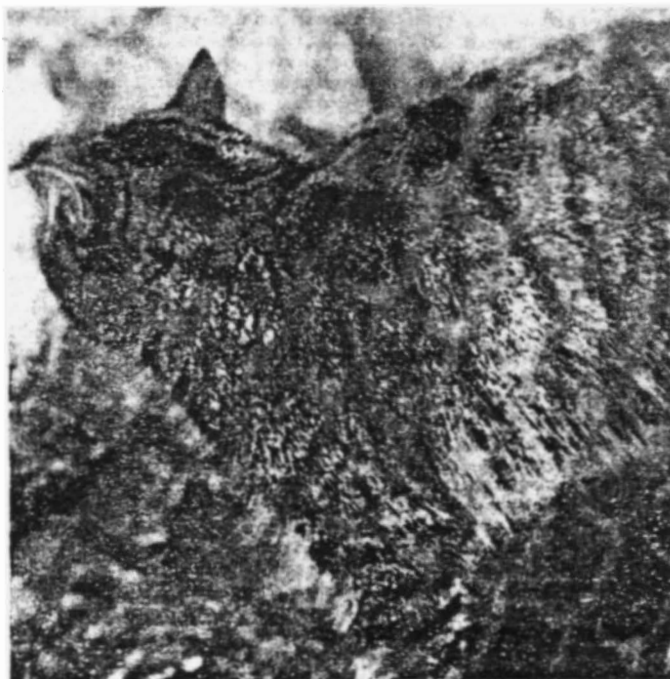
The daily activity pattern of all the individuals studied showed a peak at night. The importance of this peak relative to the daytime activity varied from one individual to another. The duration of the period of activity could be an adjustment to a low abundance of prey in the area. Females had an activity range of about 200 ha, which varied little either individually or seasonally. The males' ranges varied by a factor of 1.5 (220 ha to 1,270 ha) according to individuals. Cats using large ranges are resident, while a cat using a small area is nomadic. There is a positive linear correlation between the distance travelled in kilometres in 24 hours and the area of the range. The increase is not, however, sufficient to permit the males with larger ranges to patrol them as intensively as with the small

ranges of females and other males. Exploitation of the large ranges covered several days, more or less, according to the seasons.

The composition of the ranges is variable from one individual to another. The daytime utilisation of the habitat by all the individuals is similar. Nighttime utilisation varied considerably. It is adjusted among individuals living in the forest/plain ecotones according to the quantity of resources available. Tactics varied according to the abundance of food.

(Dr. Philippe Stahl, Centre National D'Etudes sur la Rage et la Pathologie des Animaux Sauvages, B.P. N.9 4220 Malzeville, France)

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**T**owards the end of 1986 we spent an unforgettable day being photographed with 3 exotic felines. Two of these were Amur Leopards (Boris & Nikita), while the other was an Indian Black Melanistic Leopard (Noel). The cats were all from the Pearlman/Erskine Private Zoo which is located in Miami. The zoo also has other kinds of large cats, as well as a few large primates, all of which seem to have been raised like housepets, and that made them very friendly and easy to work with. That's Noel on the back cover. The purpose of the Erskine/Pearlman Private Zoo is to expose the plight of diminishing species to the general public via means of intellectual endeavors such as this. Included in their breeding and thriving family are Bengal Tigers, African Lions, Jaguars, a large variety of Leopards, Panthers, Mountain Lions, Servals, Bobcats, Ocelots, Geoffroy's cats, Mandrills, Baboons, Giant Anteaters, Egyptian Eagle Owls, in addition to some of the world's rarest canines. The struggle of the above species is very critical to all who share our planet. The shared goal of those involved in this album is to sensitize the people of the world to the beauty and importance of endangered species and the necessity of people caring for them. This gives us all a chance to better understand their plight. Without educational facilities for exposure and breeding, these magnificent animals will join ranks with dinosaurs.

*Mystique*

"SPECIAL EFX" an internationally top-ranked new-age jazz group originally contacted LIOC members Mark Pearlman and Gene and Geoff Erskine, owners of the Pearlman/Erskine Private Zoo in Miami, Fl. to request a routine photographic session with the animals for their latest album cover entitled "MYSTIQUE".

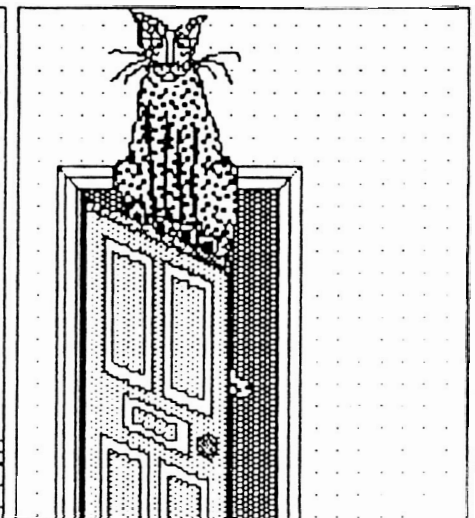
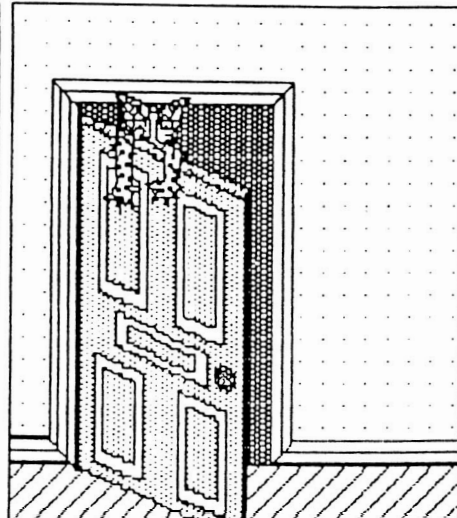
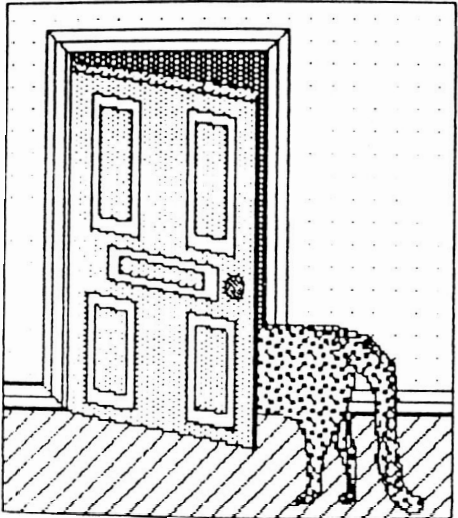
So impressed was SPECIAL EFX with the apparent contentment and serenity of the cats as well as their chosen, peaceful co-existence and rapport with each other and with man, that the group dedicated the entire album to increased awareness of the plight of endangered species.

One of the album cuts entitled "Noel" was written in celebration of the impressive Pearlman/Erskine black leopard of the same name. Leopard Noel's photograph appears on the cover. A beautiful and creative medium with which to extend endangered species education, bless you Marc, Gene, Geoff and "MYSTIQUE" for your dedication and sincere love of animals.

The above illustration is a reprint directly from the interior album sleeve.

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Gasoline	E	E	E
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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
Soft 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
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Trichloroethylene	E	G	NR
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