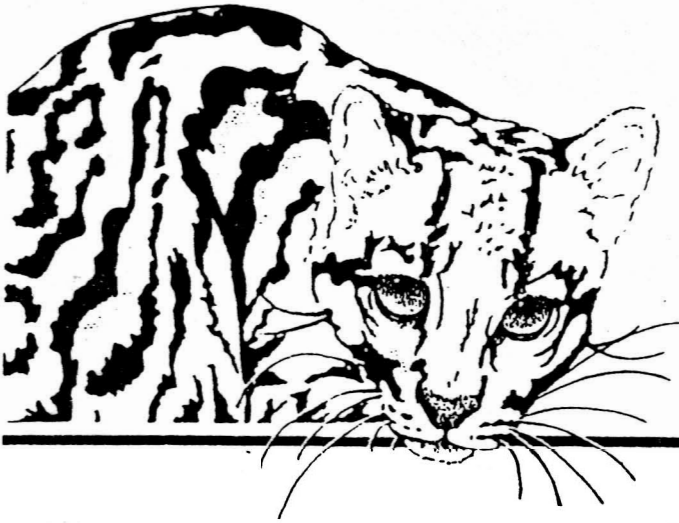


L.I.O.C. Endangered Species Conservation Federation Incorporated.



Newsletter

4101 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15224

Nov./Dec. 1988, Volume 32, Number 6



Ether Hauser and Spiffy. Spiffy is a male Safari cat. Safaris are hybrids; one parent is usually a domestic cat and one is a Geoffroy's cat (*Felis Geoffroyi*), although cases of Safari/Geoffroy's hybrids have also been reported. Spiffy is unusually large, weighing in at about 35 lbs. Most Safari cats are considerably smaller.

Information about LIOC ESCF Inc. and this Newsletter.

This newsletter is published bi-monthly by the LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation Incorporated. We are a non-profit, non-commercial organization, international in membership, devoted to the welfare of exotic felines. The purpose of the newsletter is to present information about exotic-feline conservation, management, and ownership to our members, and to allow our members to publish their points of views on these topics. The material printed in this newsletter is contributed by our members and, in many cases, reflects the point of view of the person whose name appears on the article, rather than the point of view of the organization. The organization's statement of intent is contained in our by-laws; a copy can be requested from the Secretary/Treasurer. Reproduction of the material in this newsletter may not be made without written permission of the authors and/or the copyright owner LIOC.

Since the newsletter consists of articles, photos, and artwork contributed by members, we depend on you for our material. We can only publish what you send us. Articles of all types concerning exotic felines are gladly accepted. We also have a reader's write section for letters or responses to articles. Please send materials for contribution to the newsletter editor.

Newsletter Editor: Wendie Wulff, 4101 Penn Ave. #6, Pittsburgh PA 15224

LIOC ESCF Officers, Directors, Branches and Affiliates.

Founder

Catherine Cisin, Amangasset NY 11930, (516) 267-3852

Officers

President: Fred Boyajian, 483 Armour Circle, Atlanta GA 30324, (800) 251-5800, (404) 873-6000, (404) 351-0519

Vice President: ---

Secy/Treas: Suzi Mutascio, 6 E. Lake Circle Dr., Medford NJ 08055, (609) 983-6671

Life Directors

Ken Hatfield, 1991 S.W. 136 Ave., Davie FL 33325, (305) 472-7276

Ethel Hauser, 14622 N.E. 99th St., Vancouver WA 98622, (206) 892-9994

Dr. John Perry, 6684 Central Ave., N.Fridley MN 55432, (612) 571-7918, (612) 481-2763

Shirley Wagner, Rt. 4, Box 377, Mobile AL 36619, (205) 661-1342

Term Directors

Member Services: Shirley Wagner, Rt. 4, Box 377, Mobile AL 36619, (205) 661-1342

Education and Conservation: Carin Carmichael, 7006 Willoughby, Hollywood CA 90038, (213) 874-9817, (213) 874-9791

Legal Affairs: Karen Jusseaume, 168 Taffrail Rd, Quincy MA 02169, (617) 472-8899

Advertising and Publicity: J.B. Anderson, Lake Rd. 54-37, Orange Beach MO 65065, (314) 348-5092

Branches

Florida: Danny Treanor, 1898 Twin Lakes Dr., Winter Garden FL 32787, (407) 887-6336

New England: Al Porges, 6 Westview Dr. Stoughton MA 02072, (617) 344-4943

Affiliates

World Pet Society: Jan Giacinto, Box 343 Tarzana CA 91356, (818) 345-5140

Animal Finder's Guide: Pat Hctor, Box 99, Prarie Creek IN 47969, (812) 898 2678

First, the final President's Perspective did not arrive in time to be printed in this Newsletter. It may be included in this issue as an insert, just before mailing, or it may be included in the first issue of next year's Newsletter.

Second, we have inserted an announcement for Convention '89 in New Orleans. We're starting to promote convention early to give everyone time to think about attending. So, start thinking about it!

Third, this is an election issue of the Newsletter. Enclosed, as an insert, you will find a page reading Voting Instructions on one side, and Election Ballot on the other. Please read the Instructions carefully and then fill out the Ballot and mail it right away. We need to have new officers and term directors in place as soon as we possibly can.

Fourth, Gwen Oberlin has been an immense help in figuring out what's been going on with our membership list. We finally have everything sorted out and we've included an insert to let everyone know what we believe their status is. Enclosed, you should find a color-coded insert indicating your personal membership status. If you got a green notice you are a member in good standing. If you got a yellow notice, this is your first renewal notice. If you got an orange notice, you renewed recently for 1988, but need to renew again for 1989. If you got a red notice, marked 'final,' your renewal has been overdue for some time, and you need to renew now if you wish to receive the next mailing. How do you renew? Well, if you got a yellow, orange or red notice, you also got a goldenrod colored Membership Form. If you wish to renew, fill out the Membership Form and mail it to Gwen Oberlin with a check for \$20. Gwen's address is on the Membership Form. (LIFE DIRECTORS: you do not have to pay the \$20, but please do fill out the membership form so we can update our records.)

Since the Newsletter will still be off schedule for a while, a full year's membership will be determined by a member having received six, bi-monthly issues of the Newsletter, rather than by the passing of a year's time. With our computerized record-keeping system, we can keep track of membership this way. By doing so, we'll be sure everyone gets what they paid for -- six issues of the Newsletter. I'll have to ask you to bear with me if the six issues get spread over fifteen months instead of twelve. This issue, on top of the producing the Newsletter, I've had to coordinate all the election materials, as well as the membership and renewal materials. Somehow, I can't believe those tasks are an editor's job, but, since the previous board members are in limbo, and new ones have not been elected yet, someone had to do the work. Hopefully, after the election, we'll have new people in Board positions who will be willing to help out.

I'd like to close with two comments. First, Gwen Oberlin has done a terrific job with the membership list. She's also been great at supplying me with mailing labels on a timely basis. If she wasn't out there, I'd have given up by now. Second, I know this mailing is late, and I apologize. Typing the articles, assembling the newsletter, co-ordinating the printing, inserting the inserts, stuffing 550 envelopes, sealing 550 envelopes, affixing labels to 550 envelopes and dragging 550 envelopes to the post office is much too much for one person. For those of you out there who are political animals, let me say that the delay in mailing Newsletters and election materials has nothing to do with anyone wishing to hold onto an office in some underhanded way and everything to do with my being overworked and understaffed. All I can do is apologize. And add that I'm new at this, and I'm doing the best I can. I'd welcome suggestions, offers of help etc. (Those with complaints will get invited over for an envelope-stuffing session.)

All the candidates for office who are listed on the enclosed Election Ballot were invited to make a short statement for publication in the Newsletter. These statements follow, in the same order that the candidates appear on the Ballot. I have also included short descriptions of each of the offices. Please read the descriptions and the statements. After you have done so, please fill out the Ballot mail it.

Description of the Office of President

The President is the organization's spokesman, however he is only to speak within the framework set by the board, and does not set policy. The President presides at the annual meeting in accordance with the rules set forth in Robert's rules of order. When possible, with funding allocated by the board, the President should attempt to visit each branch yearly. Prior to the annual meeting each year, the President shall poll the Term Directors for their plans for projects for the upcoming year. A brief description of these plans should be circulated in the Agenda for the meeting, which the President should provide to the Board at least two weeks before the annual meeting.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for the Office of President

John Perry -- As a candidate for the position of President of LIOC ESCF, my qualifications are as follows: Experience within the group as term director, vice president and life director, and experience as a breeder for over fifteen years. My objectives as President would be two-fold. First, to heal the rifts which have developed within the organization. We can't effectively deal with those outside the organization if we don't work together to develop a united position within. The different views within the organization aren't right or wrong, just different, and we must work to synthesize a view we all can accept. As long as we keep our target in sight -- Promoting the Well Being of Exotic Felines -- we should be able to define our common actions. My second objective is to continue the work Fred has started to make the organization more active and visible in dealing with the problems facing owners and breeders of exotics. This is not to say that the president should be a "do it all," rather it is a matter of getting agreement and working out plans where all the members are involved. I don't feel that the structure of the group should command large amounts of time. We need to decide among us what needs to be done, get commitment from who is going to do it, and then get it done. Each member has something to contribute, and must have some desire to participate, or why would they have joined? Unfortunately, since our organization is strictly volunteer, we have no stick to force people to do things. It is only through motivation and wanting to do something that we can move ahead. In a sense, I see the President being as much a coach as a manager of the organization. Lets aim to make the next two years ones of significant progress. I hope I can count on your vote.

Description of the Office of Vice President

In the President's absence, the Vice President presides at all meetings. Should the President be unable to fulfill his term of office, the vice president would assume his duties. The Vice President will assist the President as the need arises with organizing and the completion of projects approved by the Board at the annual meeting, as well as acting as Branch Coordinator.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for the Office of Vice President

Suzi Mutascio -- I have been an LIOC member for nine years and I have served on the Board as Secretary/Treasurer for four years. I have hosted one convention and am in the process of co-hosting the upcoming 1989 convention in New Orleans. I co-authored the LIOC information booklet EXOTICA. I am also a recent recipient of the Lottie award. I am a fully licensed owner and breeder of servals, Geoffroys cats and safari cats. I have acted as an emergency sanctuary for the states of New York and New Jersey many times, and I am actively working with these states to clarify exotic ownership issues and legislation. I have always been interested in building relations with new members, and, as many of you know, I spend hours and hours on the phone helping first time owners with their cats. As Vice-President, I would like to serve the membership by continuing my role as a contact person for new members.

Jackie Vanderwall -- I have been an LIOC ESCF member and exotic cat owner for twelve years. Past membership secretary and Secretary/Treasurer of LIOC for five years. Currently own 17 animals, including clouded leopards, jaguar, cougars, jungle cats, wolf and coatimundis. Licensed by USDA and USDI, I have worked with state and local governments regarding exotic animal ownership. Served on the committee to write and pass 8B509 into law, ensuring private individuals the right to own exotic animals in Oregon. Employed as the staff manager for the inpatient nursing department in Kaiser Permanente Hospital. Responsible for the staffing and payroll of over 600 people. Experienced with budgets, cost accounting, computer systems, and labor negotiations. I want to help LIOC ESCF focus on animals, instead of politics.

Description of the Office of Secretary/Treasurer

The Secy/Treas shall maintain written minutes of all Board meetings, special meetings and general meetings and provide written transcripts for the Newsletter, shall maintain copies of all of the organization's documents in good order, shall assist the President in compiling agendas for meetings, shall be responsible for overseeing all LIOC ESCF funds, shall make quarterly statements of accounts to the Board, shall prepare a statement of accounts for each annual meeting, shall draw up a proposed budget for the upcoming year at each annual meeting, shall be responsible for the collection of all monies owed LIOC ESCF and shall bring allegations of financial mis-mangement to the attention of the Board.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for the Office of Secretary/Treasurer

Connie Hatfield -- No Statement

Jackie Vanderwall -- See statement above for Vice President.

Description of the Office of Term Director: Member Services

This Director maintains membership lists in order, answers membership inquiries and forwards to the closest branch for follow-up, provides the Newsletter with renewal notices and mailing labels, complies membership reports, and provides copies of membership lists to Board members on request.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for Office of Term Director: Member Services

Gwen Oberlin -- No Statement

Gale Schaecher -- I feel I can give the time needed for member services, without taking away from other items. I think we need to donate some time to promote good P.R. between the Officers-Directors and the membership of LIOC ESCF. This is one of the items I plan on working on if elected. If we can group together in all things, I feel we will have a closer, stronger organization. I think my experience speaks for itself, since I have been exposed to exotics since my first, when I was a child living in South America. I've had ocelots, margays, cougars, bobcats and Siberian lynx. Over the years of breeding these wonderful cats, I feel we need someone special in Member Services that is willing to help first time owners, as well as anyone with problems. I truly believe I am that person.

Barb Wilton -- As acting Membership Secretary for several years, I am well aware of the needs of this office. I feel these files must be brought together so one person knows what is going on and is responsible for maintaining some semblance of order. Membership address labels and renewal slips must be current and ready to coincide with the Newsletter distribution. LIOC ESCF cannot be financed with dues from new members alone. Computers are fine, and I intend to utilize the work which has been done in that field and continue with it, but computers do not put stamps on envelopes and walk them to the post office! I request your support as Term Director for Member Services. We need to get LIOC ESCF back on track.

Description of the Office of Term Director: Education and Conservation

This Director coordinates the development of educational materials, contacts other organizations who might have compatible programs, and advises the general membership of these programs.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for Office of Term Director: Education and Conservation

Glen Davis -- I have been involved with exotic cats and the LIOC ESCF for several years, am a past coordinator of the Oregon Educational and Exotic Feline Club, and am a member of the Pacific Northwest Exotics Club. My work as an engineer and a manager has given me a great deal of experience in gathering and coordinating information for use by other people, which is what I believe this position is all about. As Term Director of Education and Conservation, I would work to establish an organized source of information about exotic cats. Not only would this benefit our members, but this was also mentioned by Helen Freeman of the International Snow Leopard Trust at this year's convention, as being a way that the LIOC ESCF could contribute to the conservation effort.

Al Porges -- I am President of the New England branch of LIOC ESCF. I am also a member of the International Snow Leopard Trust and I am involved with nutritional balance diets for exotic cats. I am very aggressive and want growth. I am very dedicated to care, love, husbandry and preservation of exotic cats. I have bobcats, lynx-bobcat crosses, and snow leopards, which I am extremely devoted to. I do educational wildlife programs for science museums, schools, children's organizations and special interest groups. I would like to see government grants made available for endangered species breeding compounds. If you don't want growth, don't vote for me. If you want to go ahead and grow, then vote for me.

Description of the Office of Term Director: Legal Affairs

This Director keeps current on legislation affecting the membership, notifies the Newsletter as needed of pending legislation, maintains a list of departments responsible for applicable legislation and assists members in their applications for permits where possible.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for Office of Term Director: Legal Affairs

Mary Parker -- I feel I could do a good job because of my genuine interest in loving and preserving our feline and other endangered species for future generations to enjoy. Making available information and data to those interested is important. Would be willing to make appearances relative to conservation and living in harmony with creatures whenever possible. Willing to make mailings or calls to ban trophy hunting of semi-docile felines and hoof-stock.

Description of the Office of Term Director: Advertising and Publicity

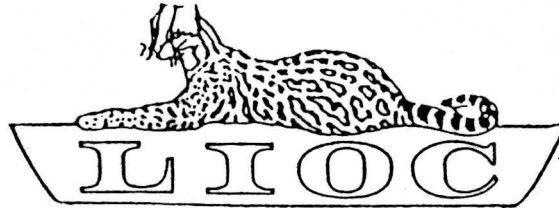
This director solicits display advertising, contacts other publications for promotion of LIOC ESCF, and explores ways to fund LIOC ESCF projects.

Statement/s of Candidate/s for the Office of Term Director: Advertising and Publicity

Jeff Bellingham -- I have been an LIOC ESCF member since 1983. Scarlett and I share our home with one ocelot, three servals and a Geoffroys cat. We're currently trying to breed the servals and we're looking for a male Geoffroys cat to complement our female. We live on 43 acres of land, and we're working on building a breeding facility for the animals. We were introduced to LIOC ESCF through Jean Hatfield, and we attended the Atlanta and Tacoma Conventions, where we met many of you. We're two of 19 Canadian members; we've been working on building awareness of LIOC ESCF in our area and in Canada. As Term Director: Advertising and Publicity, my goals would be to reach out to other people, to bring in new members, and to bring in advertising. My personal goals are to preserve, protect and propagate exotic felines and I'm a supporter of responsible private ownership.

Kelly Jean Finell -- After careful thought and consideration, I have decided to accept the nomination to serve for LIOC ESCF in the office of Term Director for Advertising and Publicity. My love for cats and interest in their preservation and care is foremost. I feel that it is essential to provide information to cat owners which will further the efforts of LIOC ESCF. I believe that as Term Director of Advertising and Publicity, I can effectively work toward attracting interested individuals to LIOC ESCF. The larger our organization grows, the more we will be able to accomplish. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve as Term Director. Thank you for your nomination.

Through its Matching Gifts Program, the Cray Research Foundation matches Cray Research employee gifts to non-profit organizations. Gwen and Steve Oberlin are responsible for the following.



ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FEDERATION, INC.
483 Armour Circle N.E., Atlanta, GA 30324

November 18, 1988

John Whiterabbit
Matching Gifts Program Manager
Cray Research Foundation
608 2nd Avenue South
Minneapolis, Mn. 55402

Dear Mr. Whiterabbit,

On behalf of all us in LIOC, especially our animals, I would like to extend a warm Thank You for your generous gift of \$500.00. We are a non-profit, all volunteer, educational and conservation organization for the preservation of Exotic Felines and we welcome your financial support. It will come in handy in our work, of educating our members on the proper care of their cats, and promoting sound animal welfare programs and legal environment for their owners.

Thank you too, for Gwen and Steve Oberlin who are continuing to do a fine job in maintaining our membership databank on their computer.

As a manager myself, I wish there were more corporations like the Cray Research Foundation, who recognize the value of encouraging their employees to do a little extra for our community and environment that has served us so well. Stepping beyond your normal business endeavors is a fine example of leadership and responsibility. We sincerely appreciate your gift and hope you continue your good works.

For felines,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fred Boyajian".

Fred Boyajian,
LIOC President

cc: LIOC Executive Board
Newsletter Editor
Gwen and Steve Oberlin

5225 Silo Road
St. Augustine, Florida 320
November 9, 1988

Shirley Wagner, Editor
LIOC Endangered Species
Conservation Federation, Inc.
Rt. 4, Box 377
Mobile, La. 36619

Dear Editor:

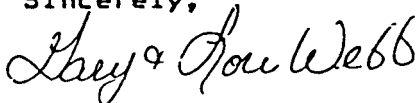
My husband and I are new members to LIOC. We've had the opportunity to speak with other members and they seem to reflect the same love and concern for their animals as we do.

In the most recent issue of your publication an article was printed on Robert Baudy. We were very disappointed that this organization would allow Mr. Baudy to be a member and condone his practices. Several of our acquaintances have purchased cats from Mr. Baudy only to spend thousands of dollars on surgery to correct genetic defects due to inbreeding. Inbreeding does not save endangered species, it only creates defective animals.

Also, his technique of handling difficult animals, "a Baudy administered bullet through the brain", demonstrates his lack of understanding of animals in general. Problem animals require a great deal of time and patience, neither of which Mr. Baudy apparently has. If a bullet to the brain is his solution to a difficult animal maybe he should not be in the animal business.

On page 2 of the newsletter, it states LIOC is "devoted to the welfare of exotic felines" which is the reason we joined the organization. If LIOC supports the practices of people such as Robert Baudy, my husband and I would like to withdraw our membership.

Sincerely,



Gary & Lori Webb

cc: Fred Boyajian
President. LIOC

TIGER TIGER

No longer burning bright--but recovering.

E.J. Shumak///JES Exotics

Jill and I received a call from an exotic breeder in northeast Illinois. He had been having problems with a housing development near his compounds, and even though he was properly licensed and had plenty of acreage, the pressure from the neighborhood was too great for him. He had just lost his favored male cougar to poison and feared for the safety of his other cats and bear. He wanted to place two Bengal tigers, a black leopard, and a black bear with us, free and with no strings attached. They had to leave his place as soon as possible, lest they end up like his cougar, Thunder.

We just didn't have room for the bear or the tigers, but could take the black leopard. Jill knew a nearby exhibitor who had exotics and might be interested. He had said he wanted a bear and had recently lost his cougar to heat exhaustion. This caused us to stop and wonder, but he took such good care of his other exotics (herbivores and hooved stock) that we gave him the benefit of the doubt. We would learn that this was a near tragic mistake.

We went down to the gentleman in northern Illinois with this exhibitor (let's call him Larry - not his real name) to look at the cats and bear. When we arrived we found all the animals in good condition. The leopard did have an allergic skin condition but was otherwise very healthy. The tigers were angels, a male and female who just loved everybody. They were retired circus cats and they just couldn't stop puffing at us.

Then I noticed that the male was drooling and rubbing his tongue over the stub of a removed lower canine. The cats had been defanged and the male was having problems with his tooth. He was trying to show me where he hurt. This really touched Jill and myself and we told "Larry" that the male would need immediate tooth work. The owner confirmed that he had been treating the tiger's mouths ever since they had been defanged and that the male may well be due for some more work. "Larry" readily agreed to take of it and further agreed to properly care for the two tigers and the bear. With that understanding, the owner gave "Larry" the tigers and black bear, and we took the leopard home with us. We thought this was the end of an only slightly sad story.

A month and one half later we were at "Larry's" compound on our way to pick up a 25' x 10' cage in Iowa. When Jill saw the tigers she started to cry. The female was down 75 to 100 pounds and frightened, but, apparently smelling our cats on us, came up and began puffing to us as if she remembered us. The male was worse. His tooth had completely abscessed and he was unable to eat normally. Black and white puss mixed with the saliva running from his mouth and again he showed me where his tooth hurt. He had received no medical attention and had lost in excess of 150 pounds. A friend who had accompanied us (Wayne Riebe) had to walk away, he couldn't stand looking at the animals.

Surprisingly enough, the bear was in good shape and apparently well treated. "Larry" even commented about a recent vet check of the bear. The tigers were living in an approx 12 foot square pen with a concrete floor and two small pallets. The concrete was always wet as "Larry" wouldn't clean it any other way. Both tiger's pads were swollen, abscessed and bleeding. When we asked why the tigers were in such a small pen with wet floor and no bedding, "Larry" became agitated. He told us that he went in this tiny pen with a pitchfork to protect himself. As he put down the

pallets, the male bit him on the arm. "Larry" received a black and blue mark and a small cut from this "vicious" attack and now wasn't interested in improving the tiger's living conditions. They had no shelter and were always wet. The nights were starting to get pretty cold too. Both tigers were severely arthritic and could not put their weight on all four legs. The condition of their pads compounded their suffering.

We asked, "What about the tiger's teeth?".

"Larry" said, "They're doin' fine. We're feeding them bones so that the bad teeth will work their way out."

Jill asked him, "What would it take to get those tigers?"

"Larry" responded, "What have you got?"

Apparently we were going to have to buy back the tigers with an animal trade. Eventually, "Larry" agreed to give us the tigers back in exchange for a \$2,000.00 Quarter Horse and a cougar kitten next spring. Thinking only of saving the tigers, we agreed.

Three days later our Iowa pen was up and the tigers were home. Our vet, (Dr Bohdan Rudawski) was out that sunday and operated on the tiger's teeth. To make a long story short, after three weeks of intensive vet care, the tiger's are eating fine and gaining weight. The male has to have his meat cut into quarter pound strips as most of his jaw is now paralyzed, Great care must be taken to hand feed him and this will be required until the day he dies. The female is only 50 pounds light and we actually caught them playing yesterday. They will never be normal, their teeth will not grow back of course and the male has a genetic arthritis condition that was complicated by the wet concrete pen (We neutered the male.). But they are happy together and they can eat (as long as we hand feed them little chunks) and they have a safe, warm home for the rest of their lives.

I'll never understand why people need to "possess" these animals with no regard for the animal's needs. We never say we "own" any large cats, but we've been lucky enough to have a dozen or so allow us the privilege of caring for their needs. We have rescued and rehabilitated many animals, but have never been more moved by an animal, then by these tigers. Their will to fight for life is incredible. We won't know if the male will recover as his condition is still unstable.

We are only thankful that there are others who understand these majestic creatures.

The rehabilitation process for the tigers has been a slow but rewarding one. After surgery, Farah gained strength and size with each passing day. Sambo on the other hand, has been a long, hard struggle. Many days we didn't think he was going to make it and many nights were spent tracking down veterinarians. We prayed alot, sat up with the tigers many nights, and fought along with them.

The costs of rehabilitation have been enormous. Feed alone has been extremely costly and has put us severely into debt. With that in mind several people have asked us if we would do it again. Our answer has been a resounding YES, 110%! The bond between the two tigers and their will to live is incredible. They're happy now. They play and thank us with "Puff puffs." each time we see them.

To start with the rehabilitation program, our initial feed level was free choice red meat, five to six times a day. They could only eat very small amounts at this point. We mixed the meat with Chaparral zoo vitamins, calcium and Prozyme which works

directly on the pancreas getting the most out of the feed by breaking the food enzymes down. This was mixed with internal organs from stillborn calves with extra calcium given in careful amounts as the cats could not chew cartilage nor bone.

They started eating two to three pounds of meat daily. Sambo had huge, ulcerated holes towards the back of his throat and he would strain to swallow even a small piece of meat several times finally succeeding. He had to be carefully hand fed, which took over two hours per feeding and sometimes accomplished only getting two to three pounds of feed down him. Now they clean up forty-five to fifty pounds of meat daily, between the two of them. We are hoping to cut back to thirty to forty pounds daily, once they are completely rehabilitated.

Sambo will be on cortizone for the rest of his life, in an attempt to treat the symptoms of his arthritis. His pectoral muscles have shortened to four to five inches, as opposed to the normal ten to twelve inches. This severely restricts the movement of the rear legs. When he came to us he could only shuffle and walk in tiny steps. Now he jumps and plays! Sambo has also regained some of his facial control, which we feared was a permanent paralysis.

Looking back on the last few months, a hard lump is felt in the throat and tears begin to well in the eyes. We wonder how the tigers made it through, and are surprised to see we made it too. So many tears and so many prayers for two very special tigers.

E.J. Shumak

Jill E Shumak

JES Exotics

Top, Farah and Sambo reassure each other. Lower left, Farah, and right, Sambo. All these photos were taken before surgery. Note how thin the animals were.



Upper left, Jill and Farah after surgery. Upper right, Dr. Rudawski, DVM who performed the surgery, holding a four month old tiger. Below, E.J. with Farah and Sambo one month after surgery. Puff, puff! Happy cats!

