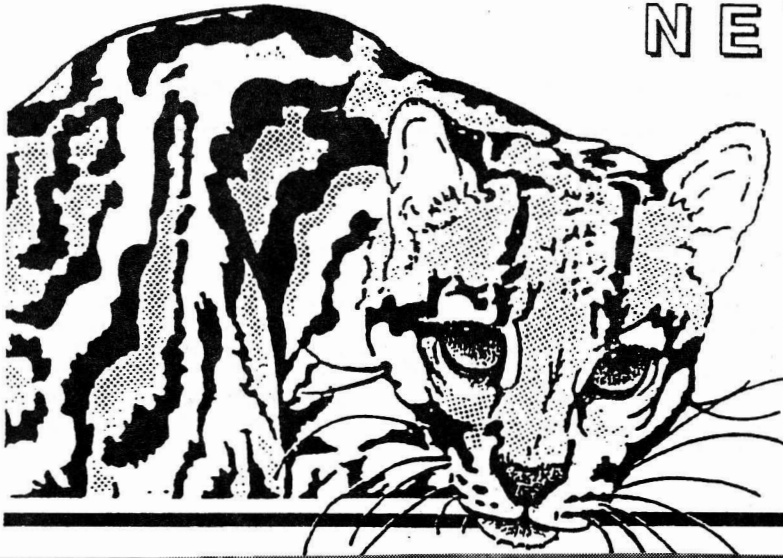


NEWSLETTER

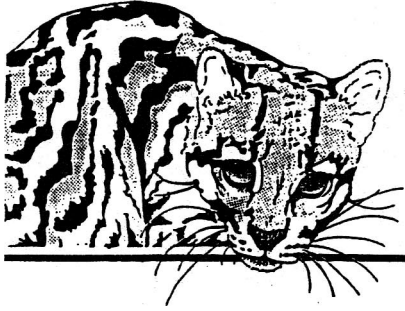


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MYKA, a Siberian tiger, was born and raised by Cris & Wolf Klose at Jungle Cat World in Ontario Canada, seems right at home in the Canadian winter snow.



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

This newsletter is published bi-monthly by the LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc. We are a non-profit (Federal I.D.# 58-9100616), non-commercial organization, international in membership, devoted to the welfare of exotic felines. The purpose of this newsletter is to present information about exotic feline conservation, management, and ownership to our members. 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 of which 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 copyright owner LIOC.

Since the newsletter consists of articles, photos and artwork contributed by our 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 column for letters or responses to articles. Please send all materials for contribution to the Newsletter editor.

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President's Perspective

Dear LIOC:

The job of editing and putting out the LIOC Newsletter probably requires more time, effort, and skill than any other role in the organization. Wouldn't it be a good idea to offer some kind of compensation? **Non-profit status doesn't** prohibit a reasonable salary being paid for a job which involves many hours and days of work. If necessary, a couple of dollars could be added to the dues for this purpose. After all, the newsletter is the one factor which holds a wide-spread common-interest group together.

Why not have a page or two of ads -- both wants and sales -- for available felines? You could have "suggested donation" rates for these, ..which might then be applied to a laser-printed cover in color on occasion. **Two-birds-with-one-stone:** a useful service to members; and a few of your best ~~at~~ pictures in living color!

I am especially interested in wild/domestic hybrid felines and have been toying with the idea of publishing a non-affiliated periodical devoted to these. To the General Membership: If you'd have any interest in this, would you drop me a postcard so I can get some estimate as to whether enough interest exists to make it feasible? Thanks a lot.

I have a personal interest in Bobcat/domestic hybrids and would very much like to hear from anyone involved in these.

Mightn't it be better to list Animal Finder's Guide as a source rather than an affiliate to an organization with "Conservation" in its title? This publication serves the big money market in exotic animals. For instance, bobcats sold by the dozens therein are bred and raised for fur-farming....afact anyone can find out for themselves quite easily. This is just hearsay, but someone who's been involved in that market for twenty years once told me that many of the hand-raised larger cats end up in highly illegal "safaris" conducted for rich guys who want to boast a nice trophy or rug at little risk to their own pelts. Seems a bit inappropriate as an LIOC affiliate, doesn't it?

Sincerely,
Cassandra Nemzek
1717 Summit Ave. #103
Seattle, WA 98122

* * * *

April 16, 1990

I just received the above and I'd like to share Cassandra's suggestions with the membership because I really appreciate her willingness to raise some issues and I'd like to get some feedback since it's YOUR club. **The letter was** originally addressed to Wendi Wulff as Editor and was passed on to me.

President's Perspective - continued

Cass suggests that we consider paying the Editor a reasonable salary since putting the Newsletter together is a job that requires many hours of work. In the past, this has always been a volunteer job (as have been all positions in the organization). If we look at \$10.00 per hour figure as a basis (arbitrary, but not unreasonable for a professional position) and 20 hours work per issue, then the cost comes to \$1,200.00 per year. If we add on top of this taxes (social security and federal) we are looking at approximately \$1,500.00. Is this membership in favor of raising dues by \$3 - \$7 per year to fund this?

In deciding this, remember that the Editor edits - not writes - the newsletter. The material in the Newsletter reflects what is submitted by the membership. Paying for an editor might improve the appearance, but it wouldn't be likely to change the content unless the membership sends in more material. I've only figured time for preparation of the Newsletter, not for going out and soliciting material from members. This should serve as a reminder that the Newsletter needs input from you - the members!

Cass also suggests a page for ads wanting or selling available felines. The answer to this is simple - we don't seem to have any members who want to advertise they are looking or have cats for sale. The space is available if members want to pay for it. Jeff Bellingham is the Advertising Director (address on page 2). Seriously, as a breeder, there are two reasons why I don't take out an ad. First, the schedule of the Newsletter at every other month is too infrequent to be of use to me. Kittens need to be sold young. There is a fairly narrow window when it is easy to sell young cats. Secondly, there has been, at least in the recent past, more demand than availability. If I can't supply those people who have already contacted me, why should I go looking for more? Also, (and for FREE) are the Birth Announcements. Most people who see a birth announcement can make the connection that the person whose cat it is will be looking for homes for the animals. On the other side, I don't know why people don't advertise that they are looking. Maybe it is because breeders aren't looking for new owners most of the time and wouldn't contact the advertiser.

Cass is interested in hybrids. The club hasn't really taken a position on hybrids. They are a diversion of breedable cats, on one hand. On the other, they are a way of keeping involved those who can't have a full-blooded exotic. My personal feeling is that, that the club should be directed primarily toward purebred exotics. However, hybrid owners should not be discouraged from involvement and membership. My personal concerns relating to the issue arise from the sterility of many hybrid varieties. Further, in diverting full-blooded exotics to hybridizing, we are losing much of the original genetic material and characteristics of the foundation cat. I would not oppose use of a cat for hybridizing that was also used for breeding its own species.

Cass was wondering what the Affiliate status of the Animal Finder's Guide (AFG) meant, and why not list it as a source of animals. Affiliate groups are groups that have at least some of their objectives the same as ours. In particular, LIOC and AFT (published by Pat Hoxtor) both strongly support private ownership of exotics. Affiliation is a two-way street by which both organizations stand to gain in dealing with the community or government. **In those situations, numbers** are often the most important consideration. We don't have to subscribe to all of each others goals, but enough to keep the arrangement beneficial to both. Also, in listing AFG, we make members aware of it. With its greater publication frequency, AFG seems a much better place to advertise animals.

Tied to AFG, Cass expressed concern that it was involved with a market to

Continued on Page 7

A TRIBUTE: REMEMBRANCES OF ROCKY

I can remember that evening in April, 1982 as if it were yesterday. We waited so impatiently. They arrived late that evening, 4 beautiful little cubs. I was told to pick one up, but one little ball of fur took matters upon itself and climbed up the box as if to say "You are to be MY parents" We fell in love with him immediately. He was beautiful. - gray with spots and stripes one little, black dot on his nose.

"Rocky" - we chose the name ahead of time since we wanted a male. The first night we had him home with us we just couldn't get over how beautiful he was, and how luck we were. I put on my pink housecoat and laid down with him, holding him close to my heart. Early the next morning Hank got up early to take Rocky to the zoo vet for his vaccinations and first check-up. The next morning my husband called very upset - Rocky was bad off. He had a respiratory infection. The vet didn't think he'd make it since he was only a week old. Rocky was put in an incubator and on an IV. For 24 hours we waited. He pulled through. He lived up to his name the vet said..."the little guy sure was a fighter, Rocky's a good name for him."

When Hank brought him back home, everything was ready, his pen in our bedroom, the formula, litter box, food and water bowls. We bottle-fed him, burped him, stimulated him until he could learn to go to the bathroom by himself, talked to him, petted him. When he did go to sleep we just sat there and looked at him. We thank God and our friends for helping us get Rocky.

As the weeks passed, it was pure joy having him. He quickly learned to use the litter box. He loved being out of his pen. His little legs weren't quite strong enough to run but he'd try even though it would end in a fall. After about six weeks, I had the bedroom door open and our two domestic cats, Patches and Coco came in to see what it was! Rocky's eyes were of course open and when he saw them that was the first time I heard his "greeting" noise. Patches got scared and ran off to another room and hid. Coco just sat there staring at him. Rocky loved Coco, our Siamese, very much. I guess he thought that he was one of his kind.



Eventually, we let Rocky venture out into the livingroom. Hank would be sitting on the couch with Coco and Rocky would just look up at them from the floor. After a week or so, Rocky learned to crawl up the couch to get to them.

Coco would get mad because Rocky would want to wrestle and he still had his claws, and even as a kitten Rocky could be rough, so Coco would move to the top of the TV. Rocky would sit on the couch and stare at him, but after a week or so he summoned the courage and made the jump

ROCKY - continued

from the couch to the coffee table to the TV. That upset Coco so he had to find another "out of the way" place. He chose the countertop in the kitchen. It took Rocky another week to jump up there, Coco moved to the top of the refrigerator. This took Rocky a little longer to figure out.

By this time, Rocky's pen was moved to the kitchen. Patches went outside during the day and a large cage was built outside for Rocky and Coco. Rocky eventually grew and made the jump to the top of the fridge. Rocky just purred and chirped, he was so happy over this triumph and his ability to be with Coco. But Coco wasn't pleased at all. He yowled his displeasure and almost fell off the fridge. Coco finally gave up and accepted Rocky's presence, and friendship. If you can't beat them, join them.

I taught Rocky to play hide-and-seek. I'd hide and whistle for him and he'd come find me. When he found me or Hank he'd be so pleased with himself he'd roll over and over. Rocky also played "basketball" - a crumpled paperbag, tossed in the air would be caught with both paws, and then swatted throughout the house.

Rocky really enjoyed his time alone with Hank on the couch. He'd sit there next to Hank and do his little cat dance with his front paws. Then he'd grab Hank's arm and suck on it while purring away.

We started taking Rocky to his outdoor pen gradually each day with Coco. The time went by too fast. Rocky grew to about 40 pounds, still loving his games and his time with Hank on the couch. He'd greet us when we woke up in the morning or when we returned from work or wherever we went.

December, 1989, brought a severe freeze to the South. We didn't notice much unusual, but I had been sick with bronchitis. One morning we woke up to hear Rocky getting sick in the kitchen. For about a week, he wasn't quite right, his stools were loose, or he'd vomit occasionally. We were told he probably had a bacterial infection in the digestive tract and he was put on antibiotics. He still ate well and used his litterbox, so we weren't real concerned. We called the vet as the first antibiotics didn't seem to be doing much. The vet said his coat looked good, his eyes were bright and he wasn't dehydrated but thought he

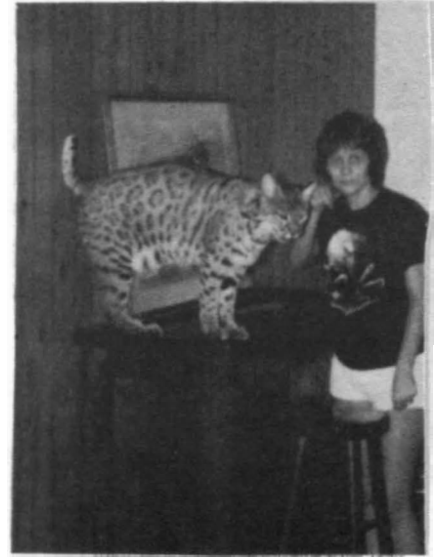


ROCKY - continued

might have a mild case of pneumonia, so he changed to another antibiotic. From then on he went downhill. His breathing was labored, his appetite decreased and he didn't want to play. Over the weekend his breathing was real bad. Monday, February 19th, 1990 we took him to the zoo vet and waited. He didn't come out of the anesthetic. The diagnosis was Feline Infectious Peritonitis.

Rocky was buried with flowers and my pink robe he loved. We miss him terribly but know his spirit is free and perhaps one day we'll be together again.

Hansford "Hank" and Bonita "April" Cox
93 Oaklawn Drive
Metairie, LA 70005



President's Perspective - continued

supply cats for the illegal safaries conducted for "Rich Guys" who want to own a pelt or trophy. Having met and talked with Pat Hctor at the Atlanta convention and knowing of his concern for animals, I am sure that he would not be involved or condone this sort of activity. In fact, if anyone comes across information of such safaries anywhere, I would encourage you to notify Fish & Wildlife **IMMEDIATELY!** The government would be more than glad to stop any such activity.

Cass, I hope this addresses some of your concerns and the membership will generate some feedback.

MEMBERS - can we get a dialogue going on some of these subjects?

John Perry

FLORIDA CHANGES WILDLIFE RULES

The state of Florida, a center for importation and sale of wildlife, has made several regulatory changes that will affect the pet industry.

Lt. Thomas Wuinn, a wildlife inspector with the Florida Game & Freshwater Fish Commission, said the Florida Administrative Code now makes it illegal to purchase wildlife from anyone who does not have a state permit.

Wholesale and retail dealers and anyone who buys wildlife for eventual sale, must be able to prove they bought from licensed dealers. Quinn said buyers should always get photocopies of the sellers' state permits for their files. Included in the rule are most mammals, all primates, all venomous reptiles and some birds.

An exception to minimum pen requirements now allows wildlife being held for sale or veterinary care to be housed for up to 60 days in sub-minimum caging, provided the animals are permanently marked to enable date of acquisition to be verified. The relaxed rule was intended primarily to address the pet industry's needs in handling of mammals.

Reprinted from PET BUSINESS

CHAPARRAL SALES CORPORATION

6810 Edith N.E. • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87113 • Ph. 505-344-2343 Telex No. 660-463

NEWS BULLETIN:

I understand that some of you are blending Chaparral Vitamins in with moist meat and freezing it. Please keep in mind that Chaparral Vitamins uses live yeast as its base and that it will start activating when it reaches moisture. I do feel that you will be much happier with your results if you will add Chaparral to your ration as you feed it to your animals.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE ANSWERED WE WILL BE GLAD TO ASSIST YOU.



Animal Feed Specialists

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The term "pet" is unforgivably misleading to the public when applied to exotic predators. Although "we" may know just what we mean, the term speaks of a control that we do not have over the animals and neglects the emphasis on responsibility that we do have. **Therefore** we choose not to use the term and discourage its use by others.

Each of us, the owners and the interested, as controllers of the animals' environments, are completely responsible for their care and continued welfare en masse.

From ExotiCare's Statement of Beliefs.

CATANATOMY

By Tom Morrissey

When your veterinarian talks about 'carpal pads', do you think the doctor means something that goes under a rug? Does the 'nictitating membrane' sound like something they make cigarette filters from?

Actually, both of these odd-sounding things are parts of the creature who may be sleeping on your knees at this very moment. Cat owners have their own terms for these and various other feline features. But it helps to know the textbook terms as well.

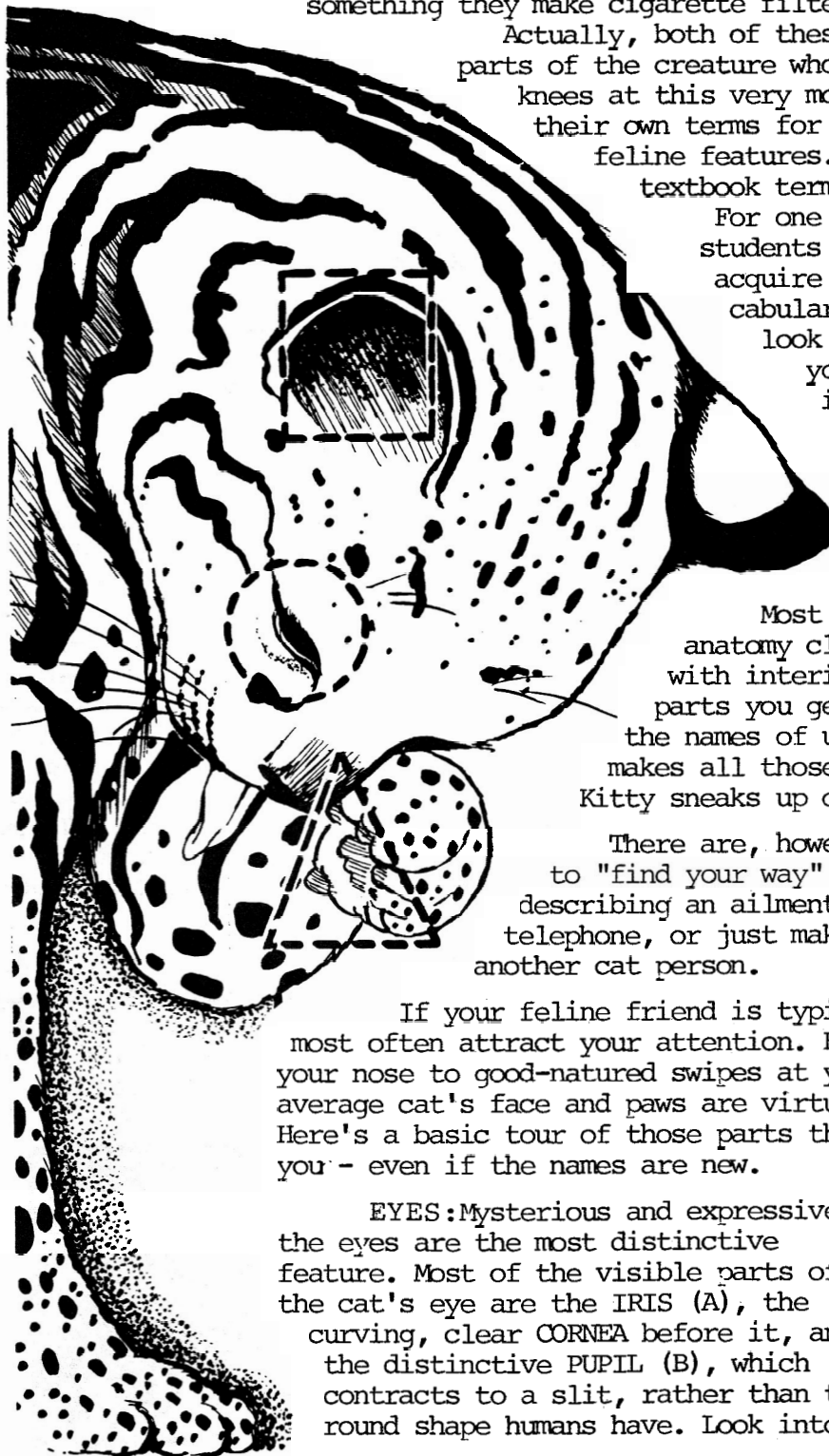
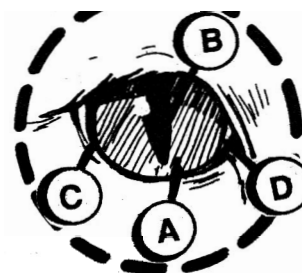
For one thing, when veterinary students learn all about cats, they acquire a completely different vocabulary in the process. AND they look at things differently. To you, for instance, the ear is something that's mostly on the outside of your cat's head. To someone trained in medicine, the ear is mostly inside; what's outside is called something else.

Most of the names taught in feline anatomy classes are terms associated with interior bones, organs and tissues—parts you generally won't need to know the names of unless you're wondering what makes all those odd gurgling sounds when Kitty sneaks up onto your pillow at 3 a.m.

There are, however, some terms you can use to "find your way" around the cat when you're describing an ailment to your veterinarian on the telephone, or just making party conversation with another cat person.

If your feline friend is typical, his face and forepaws most often attract your attention. From good-morning licks on your nose to good-natured swipes at your dangling necktie, the average cat's face and paws are virtually impossible to ignore. Here's a basic tour of those parts that have become familiar to you— even if the names are new.

EYES: Mysterious and expressive, the eyes are the most distinctive feature. Most of the visible parts of the cat's eye are the IRIS (A), the curving, clear CORNEA before it, and the distinctive PUPIL (B), which contracts to a slit, rather than the round shape humans have. Look into

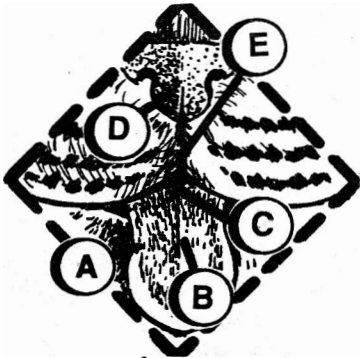


CATANATOMY - cont.

the pupil with the light just right and you'll see the **TAPETUM**, reflective cells which lie under the **RETINA**. These bounce light back to the front of the eye like a mirror at the base of an astronomer's telescope, and give the cat a "second chance" in very dim light (so he can pounce on your toes while you're groping to the bathroom in the middle of the night). The white of the eye, known as the **SCLERA (C)**, is only marginally visible, except when the eyelids are open wider than normal, as is the case when your veterinarian examines your cat's eyes.

Speaking of eyelids, when your cat's eyes are being examined, you'll probably notice the **NICTITATING MEMBRANE (D)** (there it is!). This feature, often referred to by cat owners as the "third eyelid", is a folded membrane that the cat uses to cover much of its cornea whenever something comes near the eye.

TONGUE Look quickly while Kitty's in mid-yawn and you may notice that the tongue has three different kinds of "taste buds" on it. Those around the perimeter of the tongue are slightly mushroom-shaped and so are called **FUNGIFORM** (as in fungus or mushrooms) **PAPILLAE (A)**. The fungiform papillae are just what they look like - tastebuds. By contrast, the buds in the center, which are hooked like the business side of a Velcro fastener, have little to do with taste and are used mostly for grooming; these buds are called **FILIFORM PAPILLAE (B)**. Finally, there are a few cup-shaped buds, the **VALLATE PAPILLAE (C)**, at the back. These also contain tastebuds.



Closely related to taste is the **JACOBSON'S ORGAN**, a special, tiny structure located behind the front teeth in the roof of the mouth. If Kitty will sit still while you open his mouth, you can see two tiny nostril-like holes that lead to the Jacobson's organ. This structure allows the cat to employ a special feline sixth-sense, which is best described as the ability to "taste" smells.

Imagine enjoying the taste of your favorite chocolate chip ice cream with none of the calories and you get the picture. While your feline pal might not sit still while you look for the Jacobson's organ, you can tell when the cat is using it. Kitty will adopt a behavior known as the **FLEHMEN RESPONSE**, a lip-curling procedure that looks like a cross between a guard dog grimacing and a wine steward sampling the bouquet of a 1959 Chateau Lafite-Rothchild.

NOSE Regular smelling is, of course, done through the nose, the twitchy, leathery outer part of which is known as the **PLANUM NASEL (D)**. A split runs down through the planum nasale, eventually separating the cat's upper lip into two parts, and this is called the **PHILTRUM (E)**. The philtrum may be the reason why, back to the dawn of history, there is no record whatsoever of a cat with the ability to whistle.

EARS Open a can, or rustle a package of food, and your cat will no doubt be all ears.

The part that sticks up radar-like is the **PINNA (A)**. Peer down at the base of the pinna and you'll see the convoluted opening of the **EXTERNAL AUDITORY CANAL (B)**. This makes a turn after an inch or so. Further around the corner of the external auditory canal, and pretty much out of sight, is the **TYMPANIC MEMBRANE**, better known as the eardrum. Behind this lies the rest of a delicate mechanism that can pick up the sound of a

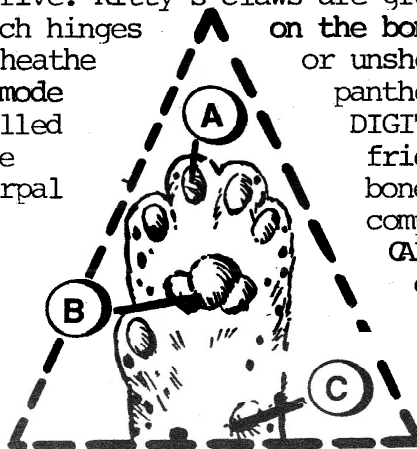


CATANATOMY - cont.

refridgerator door opening from three rooms away.

PAW - if your companion is typical, by this point there is a front paw coming over the top of this article, trying to get your attention back to Number One. You can take advantage of this and do a brief examination of Kitty's combination hand, foot, landing gear, weapon, hockey stick and litterbox rake.

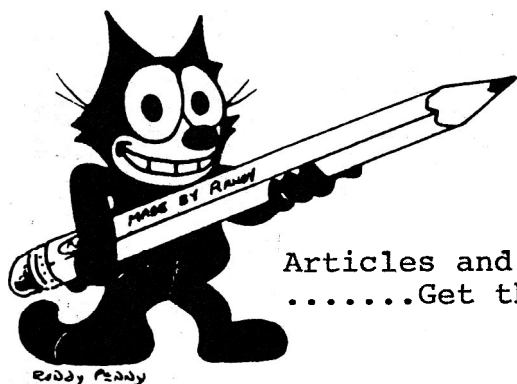
The toes are, like your fingers and toes, formally known as DIGITS. Interestingly enough, what you probably know as the "fifth tow" - the thumb-like one on the side - is actually the first digit, and the rest of the digits are numbered in order from it, one through five. Kitty's claws are growing from a tiny bone, called the DISTAL PHALANX, which hinges on the bone behind it and can, by means of attached ligaments, sheathe the owner to go from pussycat mode or unsheathe the claws, allowing them to go from pussycat mode to panther. The "toe pads" since they are on the digits, are called DIGITAL PADS (A) (share that one with your computer literate friends), and the "palm pad" being located under the metacarpal bones is actually the META-CARPAL PAD (B). The toe-palm comparison sort of falls apart when you get to the heel of your hand, is so high up on the leg that it does not touch the ground when the cat is at rest. This pad comes into play after a jump, bounding or flitting target. making a leap for some Contrary to the way it sounds, the carpal pad is NOT found under the rug - unless Kitty is going after an errant catnip mouse.



So, the next time you'r late in getting up to serve breakfast, you'll know that it's the PLANUM NASALE being pressed colding against your forehead to wake you up, the FILIFORM PAPILLAE rasping over your eyebrows if you try to pretend you're still asleep, and (once you're up) the DIGITAL PADS slapping at the cupboard, to remind you where you put the cat food. But at least one thing's still sure, and that's the term for how you and Kitty feel about having one another around.

After all, there is no scientific term for SATISFACTION.

Reprinted from FRISKIES CAT COMPANION - Thanks to John Paramore for "exoticizing" the artwork.



Edo, Penny

Articles and photos for the Newsletter are always needed
.....Get the point?

COURT LETS COUGAR RULING STAND

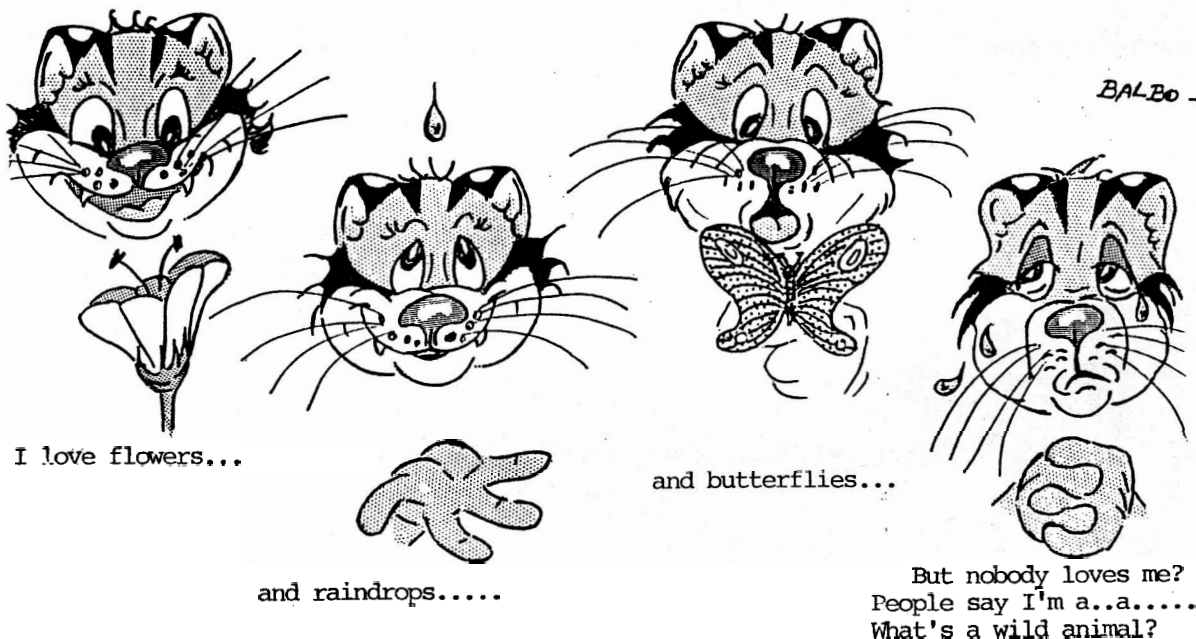
California's Supreme Court has refused to review a landmark 1988 decision by the San Francisco Superior Court preventing the resumption of mountain lion trophy hunting in the state. A moratorium banning mountain lion hunting had been in effect since 1972. In 1986, Governor George Deukmejian vetoed a three-year extension of the moratorium, and the California Fish & Game immediately proposed a lion hunting season. Defenders of Wildlife and other groups sued. In November, 1987, Judge Lucy Kelly McCabe of the San Francisco Superior Court rejected a Fish & Game Commission finding that the season would have no adverse effect on the lion population and ordered the state to prepare an impact assessment.

The state appealed, but last October the Court of Appeal sustained the lower court. The department now is awaiting the result of a state-wide June referendum on a proposal to ban mountain lion trophy hunting permanently.

The state elections office validated 505,249 signatures collected by hunting opponents in the initiative that put the question on the June ballot. If passed, the initiative also will require special permits to kill lions for predator control and will outlaw the use of poison, snares and leghold and metal-jawed traps. In addition, the voters will decide whether the state will launch a 30-year, \$900 million land acquisition program to protect habitat of mountain lions and rare and endangered species.

Sharon Negri, Executive Director of the Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation, said: "It's going to be an uphill fight between now and June. We know what the opposition can do." For information on how to help in the campaign, write or call Lynn Sadler, California Wildlife Protection Initiative, Suite 202, 1012 J Street, Sacramento, Ca. 95814 (916) 444-2287

By Robert L Pardini, Defenders of Wildlife
Contributed by Jean Hamil



CONVENTION SPEAKER ANNOUNCED

Charles J. Sedgwick, DVM will be a guest speaker at the 1990 Convention in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Sedgwick is a course director at the Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine. He has previously served as a zoo veterinarian for the Los Angeles Zoo, the Sacramento Zoo and the San Diego Zoological Society, in addition to several teaching posts. He is a past Vice President of the Zoo and Wildlife Division of the Morrison Animal Foundation.

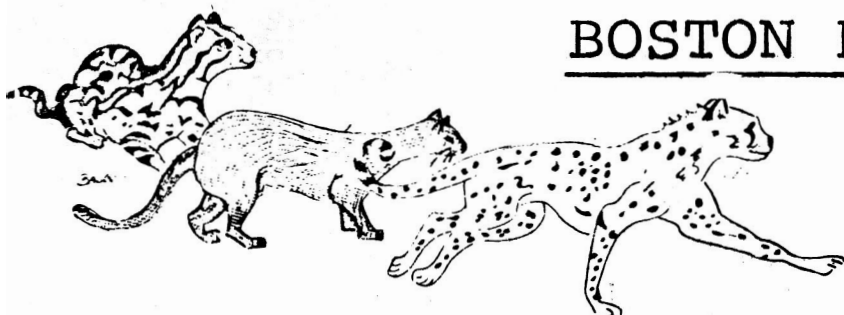
Having met Dr. Sedgwick several years ago in San Diego, I can guarantee an enlightening session.

IF YOU HAVEN'T YET REGISTERED - send a check for \$80 (before June 30th) - after that \$85. to: Al Porges
6 Westview Dr
Stoughton, Ma 02072

We're staying at the ROYAL SONESTA, 5 Cambridge Pkwy, Cambridge Ma 02142 (617-491-3600. Rates are \$99 double or single. Make your reservations now!

If you are bringing cats - you MUST have a temporary permit from Massachusetts. You may request one from: Massachusetts Division of Fish & Wildlife
Leverett Saltonstall Bldg, Government Center
100 Cambridge St,
Boston, Ma 02202

Make sure you state you are attending the LIOC convention for educational purposes. A current health certificate will be required. You may phone 617-727-3151



BOSTON HERE WE COME!

August 9th thru August 12th

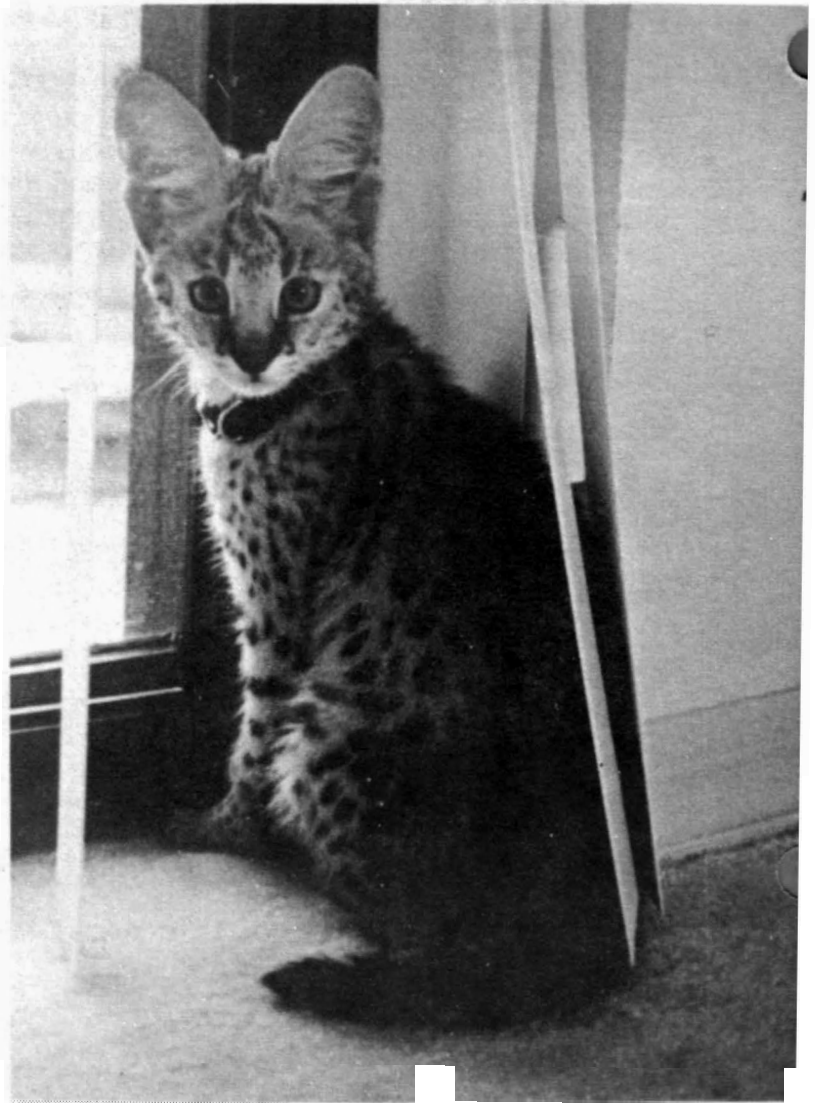
CONVENTION ITINERARY

- THURSDAY - Check-in. Sightseeing in historic Boston, Quincy Market and other waterfront sites.
- FRIDAY - Membership meeting, Executive Meeting and a tour of the spectacular Science Museum
- SATURDAY - Speakers, visiting, Lottie and awards presentation, banquet and Auction (send contributions to Al Porges - address above)
- SUNDAY - Farewell breakfast, and report of the Executive Meeting.

Don't forget, the Royal Sonesta offers all the ice cream you can eat daily (diet NOW), free transportation around the city, boat rides on the St Charles, biking, pool, saunas, exercise rooms, etc., and hors de overs daily in the Jazz Lounge and Sport Bar. Get ready to have fun! SEE YOU THERE



TASHA
serval kitten
Bonnie Morrison
Orlando, Fl.



Kathy Tesdale and
Siberian Lynx kitten





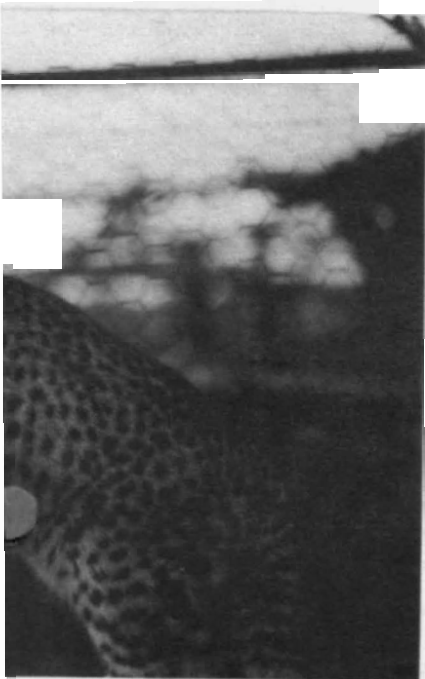
Photos submitted are voted on at convention and the person contributing the best is awarded the PHOTO OF THE YEAR award.

I've got my human by the tail!

Geoffroy's owned by new German member see "Letter Box"



An armfull of love - Mary Parker & Friend

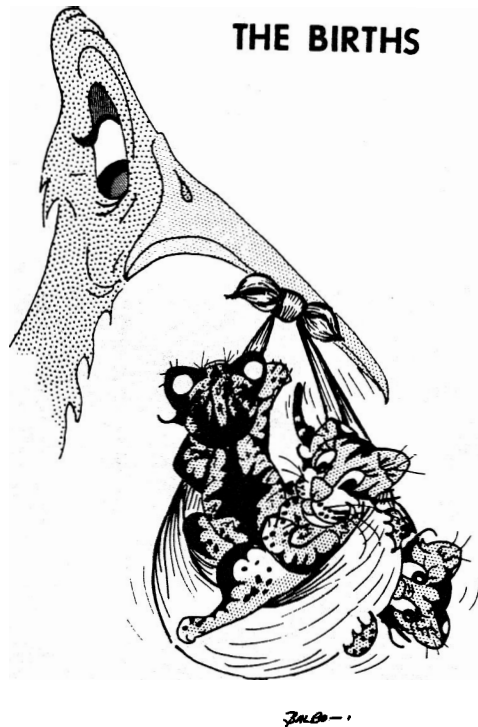


NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

Since Jeff Bellingham, Term Director for Advertising and Publicity has chosen not to accept re-nomination to that position, it will be filled in the upcoming term by Katie Knight-Monteiro.

All other officers and directors with the exception of our Secretary/Treasurer will return to their current positions as no nominees were presented to run for these positions.

Lynn Culver has been nominated and accepted the nomination for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. A ballot for this vote will be included in your September-October Newsletter.



Canadian members Jeff & Scarlett Bellingham, report in with a Geoffroy's kitten. John Perry and Wendi Wulff's pairs of Geoffroy's also produced single births, however both were lost.

Ethel Hauser announces a litter of 8 Safari (Geoffroy's hybrids) kittens. Six are surviving. She reports the kittens are mixed with some having distinct spots and others a swirl pattern.

Also in the northwest, Gayle Schaecher is expecting litters of both bobcats and Siberian Lynx. While in the deep south Suzi Mutascio's savannah (serval hybrid) is again expecting, having produced a set of twins in March (one survived).

Florida member Jim Craft recently was blessed with a margay kitten - the first in a long while! Let's hope the trend continues!

Lynn Culver's cougars, Tara and Mercury are also again expecting.

INFANTCIDE BY CATS

Infanticide by lions when taking over a pride is now an established fact. The behavior is found in other species. While this has appeared to many as a surprise, it is interesting to note remarks by the Greek geographer and historian, Herodotus, in the fifth century BC.

"The number of domestic animals in Egypt...would be still greater were it not for what befalls the cats. Because the females, when they have kittened, no longer seek the company of the males, these last, to obtain their companionship once more, practice a curious artifice. They seize the kittens, carry them off and kill them, but do not eat them afterwards. Upon this, the females, being deprived of their young, and long to supply their place, seek the males once more, since they are particularly fond of their offspring."

CATFISHING - Culver-style



The Instructor, Bart Culver & his students from R to L: Cinni, Sharu and Arjan

Keeping captive wild cats happy and healthy requires regular exercise and mental stimulation. In our continuing efforts to discover and invent ways to meet these requirements, my husband Bart has created and fine-tuned this "Catfishing" game.

The basic materials are a heavy-duty salt water fishing rod, heaviest gauge (90/1000th) weed whip line, and a 8 inch piece of white plastic plumbing pipe. Drill two holes in the pipe and tie the monofilament line to it and lace the other end through the eyes of the fishing rod, tying it securely to the rod's base. Use about 20 foot of line. And, of course, even though this game totally captivates your cat's attention, you must have a secure, fenced area in which to play this game safely.

Whip the plastic pipe around in a circle, varying the diameter of the circle by letting out some of the line, and then reeling in the line with your free hand. (sort of like fly-fishing) so that the cat cannot predict the lure's movements. Once you have the cat completely involved, you can raise up the rod, which will tease the cat into a splendid jump.

This game has evolved from a simple cane pole and bailing twine and black plastic PVC pipe to its current, high-tech version. In the beginning, the cougars would grab hold of the black pipe, and because it is flexible, they could sink

CATFISHING - continued

their teeth into it, and really take hold. This would stress the simple cane stick, causing it to break. And, sometimes one of the cougars would cheat, and grab the pole and bite it to pieces, or they learned to grab hold of the baling twine and bite at it. But nowadays, they do not attack the fishing pole, as we have explained to them that this is not allowed. And, the heavy gauge week whip-line just slides through their teeth. All the cougars are very good about letting go of the lure after they have caught it.



SHARU's leap (he likes to eat, can you tell?)



CINNI leaps while SHARU watches

Once your cat has been introduced to the rod & lure, you can then use it to direct him through training lessons or obstacle courses, by reeling the line and having the lure hang close to the rod. The cat will follow where you point. A generous amount of praise after the trick is completed reinforces the training. Cougars can become real "hams" when they have learned a new trick, and ours compete for the opportunity to perform.

We have enjoyed playing this game and the cougars all let out excited whistles when they see Bart coming with the rod. Its interesting to me, that although wild cougars are documented as being able to jump anywhere from 12 to 18 feet straight up in the air, the greatest leap we have so far observed is back feet four feet off the ground. Of course, even at that height, the front

CATFISHING - continued

CINNI jumps for the lure - on the ground, from R to L - SHARU & ARJAN

paws can be 9 feet in the air. Our female, TARA, once jumped 8 feet up to the second level of a tower we were constructing, and hadn't built the stairs yet. I am interested in hearing from other cougar owners who have witnessed and measured jumping feats. I would like to know whether it was a jump up to a level or a jump over an object and back to the ground and the height attained. Thanks.

Lynn Culver
Rt 6, Box BC56A
Mena, Ark 71953

**“Future generations
must be inheritors...
not just survivors.”**
George Schaller



Litter Box

Dear LIOC:

I thank you very much for your answers to my questions and I am very happy that I have found an organization which is dealing with keeping and breeding exotic cats.

I've tried to find such an organization for years. I am keeping exotics on a private, non-commercial basis and have a strong feeling for the cats. At this time I have a pair of Geoffroy's cats of the small, Argentinian subspecies (*Felis Geoffroyi salinarium*). I hope to breed them this year when they become 2 years old.

I would like to keep one or two other species and am especially looking for oncillas and margays.

Both species are very hard to obtain here in Europe and I hope that between your members it would be possible to obtain the, although legal restrictions are hard.

I am also looking for information about keeping exotic cats because one cannot learn too much. Unfortunately, literature about wild cats is very hard to find here in Europe. Possibly the situation is much better in the USA.

I know a lot of people keep ocelots in Europe, but your club is not well known. Are there any European members? I hope to inform more people about LIOC.

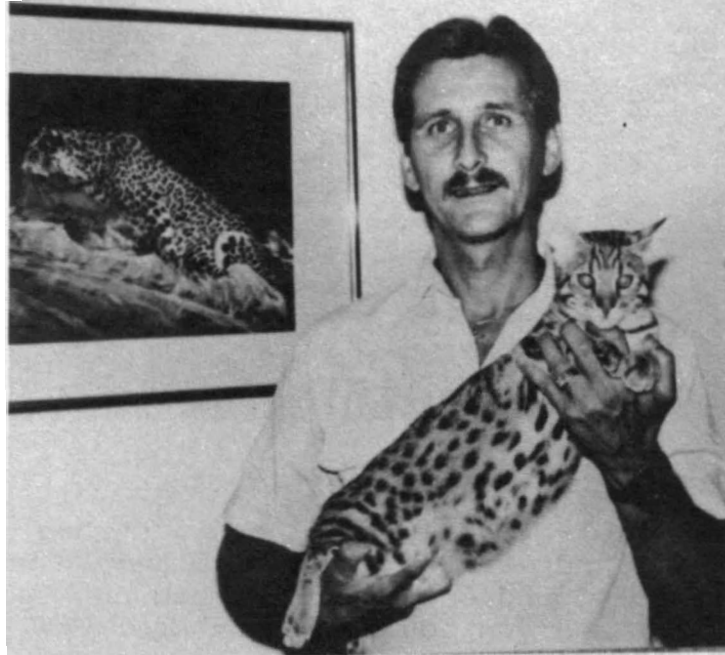
Best wishes,
Heiko von Glovcewki
Elbinger Str. 21
2803 Weyhe-Kirchweyhe
Fed. Republic of Germany

A photo of Heiko's Geoffroy is in the LIOC Gallery.



PROOF POSITIVE - John and Evelyn (Dyck) Paramore

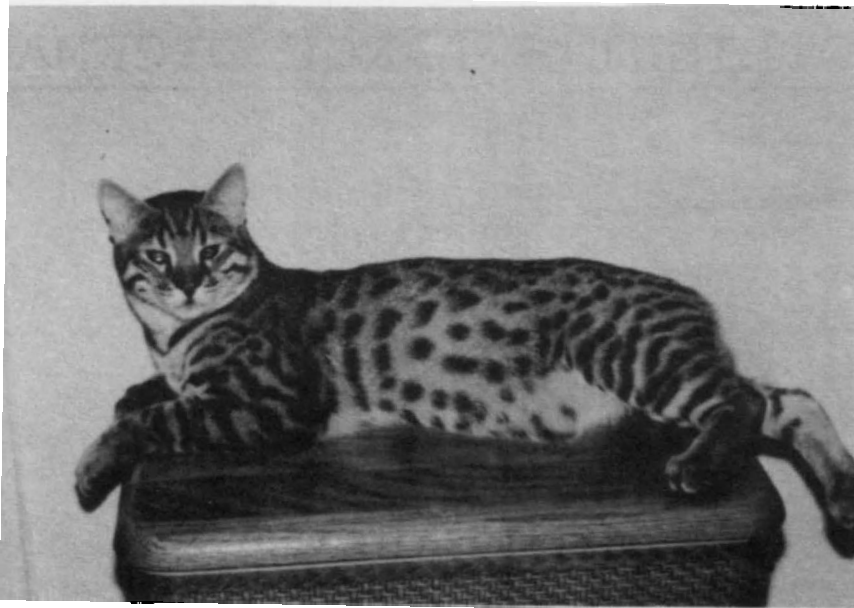
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - LANCE DICKMAN



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and try to give a little background as to my experience with two exotics (an ocelot and an Asian Leopard cat) and now a BENGAL - or is it the other way around, - he owns me.

About 20 years ago, when I got out of the U.S. Navy, I was looking around for a place of employment. I answered an ad in the news for a salesperson for a pet shop. Soon afterwards I was promoted to assistant manager and in a few months became the manager of several pet shops in the western New York area. I had access to many breeders of animals and exotics at the time. We sold everything from tarantulas, monkeys, parrots and felines. I had a customer request an ocelot for a pet so I called a breeder in California and they sent me a kitten. Well, the person changed their mind and now I had to try to find another home for the beautiful cat. I took it home with me for several weeks as I did not want to have it caged, they were born free so free she was! After several pairs of drapes in my apartment, along with a bedspread, my sneakers and dozens of other things that ocelots like to chew, I had to send her back to her breeder. I would have given anything to keep her, but at that time, it was not in my means to do so. After sending her back, I felt alone and like a child of mine was abducted from me. You see, ocelots really grow on you!

Shortly after the ocelot left, I had the opportunity to buy an Asian leopard cat from someone in California who told me she was tame and made a wonderful pet. I bought her but she was very wild and



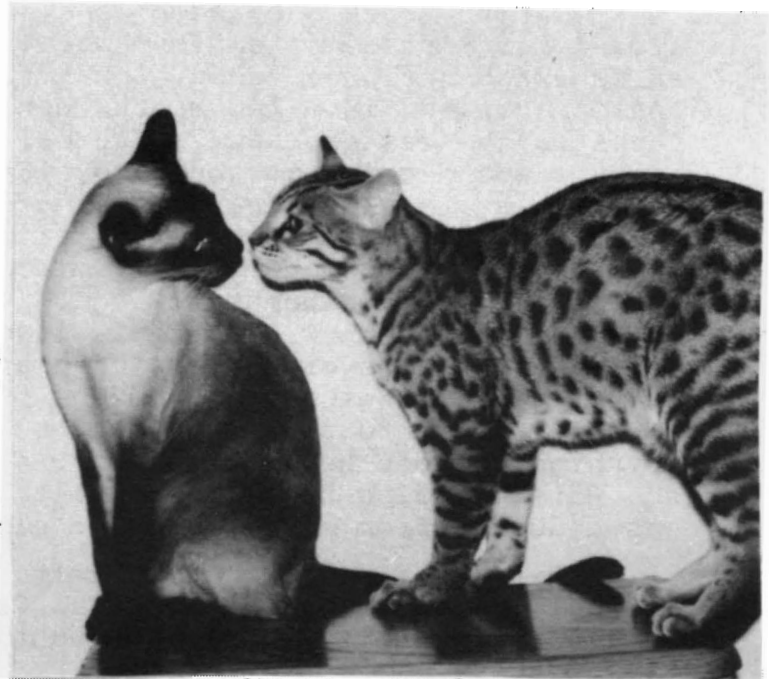
bit everything in sight...she was several months old when I purchased her and obviously didn't have any handling by humans as a kitten. I had to forward her to the Buffalo Zoological Gardens who used her for a breeding program. I have recently checked with the zoo and found out that she has produced many kittens and they have been shipped all over the U.S., it may be that someone out there has one of her kittens! All of this took place in

1974 when it was legal to own these cats in New York.

Now I bring you to last year. I had a strong desire to try again with leopard cats and started writing to people who might help me obtain one. I then found out that they had been placed on the Endangered Species list and you could not own one. Well, I was upset, but I did not give up. I saw pictures of oicats and then I saw a picture of a Bengal Cat (Leopard Cat hybrid). I wrote Jean Mill who was very nice and guided me all through the pain-staking task of obtaining the cat. You see, I still wanted the leopard cat and the Bengal ownership was just dangling in the back of my head. Jean Mill sent me several photos which started my blood racing through my veins; it was of an F2 Bengal which is supposed to be the most wild-looking of the Bengals and closely resembles the leopard cat.

Well, she was right. My Bengal has many qualities of the leopard cat in looks, however, has the temperament of the domestic. He loves to be held and roughed-up and is just a baby looking for a lot of attention. He has the "necklace", a black band that distinguishes him from other hybrids, large front paws with short legs and a robust, muscular body.

I named him "Phoenix" and he weighs in at 12 pounds at six months of age. I am hoping he will attain 16-18 pounds. F2 Bengals have a very high sterility rate and I will have to wait for awhile to



PHOENIX & NIKO

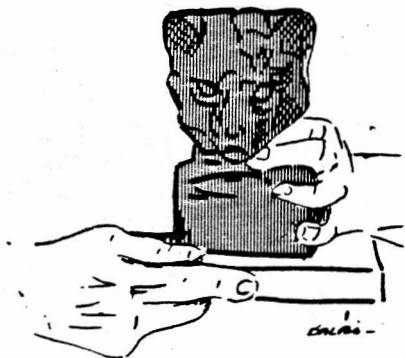
PHOENIX - cont.

see if he is fertile or not.. I plan to breed him if he is.

I am not promoting the Bengal for a substitution for the Leopard Cat, but until numbers of leopard cats start to rise, we will have something beautiful as cat lovers and owners to enjoy for awhile. There is nothing more beautiful than *Felis bengalensis* and we must not let the species vanish from our minds and above all, from this planet. Extinct is Forever....

I am looking for photos of leopard cats if anyone out t here has any to share (ocelots too). I hope I can contribute to LIOC and help educate others about ou r beautiful spotted cats.

Lance T. Dickman
11 New Southgate Rd.
Buffalo, N.Y. 14215



The 1990 Lottie will be presented
at the Convention banquet in Boston.
Be among the 1st to know to who -
BE THERE!

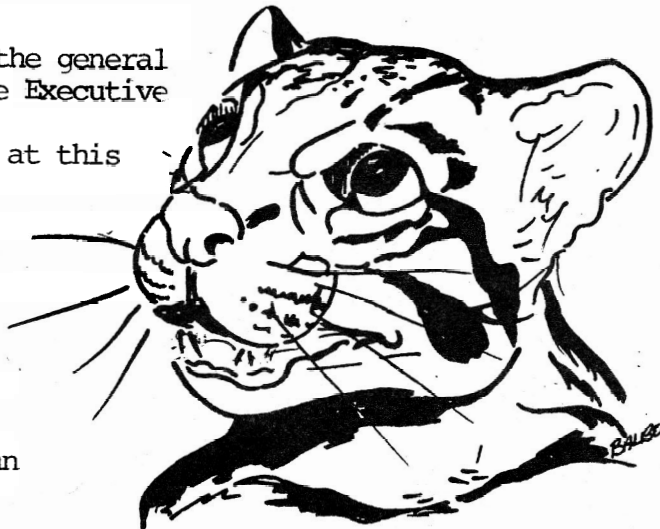
AGENDA BEING PLANNED

Each year at convention, a meeting of the general membership is held where members may ask the Executive board to address issues of concern.

If you have an item you wish discussed at this year's meeting, send it to:

John Perry, President
LIOC
6684 Central Ave.
Fridley, Minn 55432

This is your opportunity to have input on how LIOC is run, or suggest programs for implementation. Active involvement insures an active organization. This is your chance to influence how LIOC is run.





NORTHWEST EXOTIC FELINE SOCIETY

Our spring guest meeting of the year was held at Ethel & Allen Hauser's in Vancouver, Washington. The weather did not cooperate so Herb Wilton did not bring Sean cougar.

The meeting was called to order by President, Mary Parker, The Secretary/Treasurer reports were read and approved.

Barbara Wildton reported about taking Sean to the Science Fair at Centennial High School in Portland on April 21st. Two students had taken the subject "Cougars" for their project - then couldn't find anyone willing to give them information. Finally, a "friend of a friend" gave them our phone number. Jeff Presley spent about an hour at the house getting acquainted with Sean and taking notes. We loaned him several pictures and paintings of Sean plus 2 cougar hides - one North American and 1 puma. On Saturday we arrived at the school about 1 PM. Jeff had arranged good security and a good location for his booth. Everyone who stopped by asked the usual questions and Jeff and his partner, Randy answered them like old pros! The teachers came by about 4 PM to check the exhibit. They received an "A" for their efforts. Everyone said their booth attracted more attention than any other.

Our next speakout will be May 11th at a grade school in Oregon. This is a night program given for the 100 or so students involved in a reading program. It is an all-night party but we'll only be there for an hour or so. Herb is known as the "Cougar Man".

Cassandra Nemzek from Seattle spoke on the newsletter she is publishing on Wild/Domestic hybrids. Subscriptions are \$15. for the quarterly.

We discussed convention and some things we are working on for the auction.

Since we have a lot of members in Washington, we agreed to have our next meeting in the Tacoma/Seattle area.

The dollar pool was won by guest Jill Bobst.

Everyone enjoyed the buffet between running out in the rain to see Ethel's cats. Liz Ghent had her wolf in the van and we all enjoyed seeing her.

Submitted by Barbara Wilton



The February meeting was held at the Redland Grange in Redland, Or.

We welcomed several guests from Washington, Canby and Portland.

A discussion on different problems were talked about, also Glen brought a few copies of our booklet to show how it will look when finished. Some improvements were talked about along with more information to be included in the booklet. Hopefully, it will be done in time to give out when we sell kittens. Everyone agreed it would really help the new owner.

We had our usual raffle and the dollar pool was won by a guest.

*

The March meeting was held in the home of Addie & Jerry Boyle in Troutdale, Or. It was a beautiful day so the meeting was out on the patio and backyard. The only cats present were Jerry's three: Cajun, Sassy and Tara. We all enjoyed visiting with the cats.

First order of business was the election of officers. Then, there was more discussion on our booklets with three more articles turned in to be included. We had our usual raffle and a special raffle of a hand-painted sweatshirt of a lion cub donated by Ginger Christmas. Clem Schaecher was the big winner and got it along with the dollar pool.

Jim Aleshire brought some jackets with prices if we wanted to get them with the club logo. Cheryl also had checked into some different prices. We decided to wait for the time being.

Gayle Schaecher brought the information of the dates the Bear cubs would be on display at Bandon. It was decided that we would go down as a group the second weekend of April.

With no other business we adjourned and spent the rest of the afternoon snacking and visiting. New officers are: Jerry Boyle- President, Glen Davis-Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer - Gayle Schaecher.

*

The second weekend of April a group of club members went to Bandon, Oregon to visit the West Coast Game Park owned by Bob and Mary Tenney. We try and make the trip at least once a year and sometimes twice a year.

Bear cubs that were only about 10 weeks old were out for viewing and to be held. We all had a good time and brought back lots of pictures. We always spend the night and visit the Bandon Cheese Factory on the way home - a fun weekend!

*

The April meeting was held at the home of Ginger Christmas. We welcomed a couple of visitors. One was Shirley Malar who a lot of us hadn't see for a few years. She is a very talented artist and we all enjoyed seeing her again.

Ginger brought out her new kitten for everyone to see and play with. It is a little black jungle cat that was born March 17th from Jackie Vanderwall's pair. Of course we also visited with her other 4 bobcats.

A report of the Bandon trip was given for those who were unable to attend. We had our usual raffle and the dollar pool was won by Kathy Tesdal.

The remainder of the day was spent snacking and visiting. Ginger surprised Gayle Schaecher with a beautiful birthday cake decorated with an ocelot in icing. (I had tried to hide this one as it was the big 55 - guess I wasn't too successful.)

The next meeting will be in Camas, Washington.

Submitted by: Gayle Schaecher

THE HETRICK ZOO

I first started my exotic family with a baby ocelot purchased from the Tarpon Zoo in Tarpon Springs, Florida, many years ago. We owned Ginger for 14 years before she passed away. We loved her very much and miss her til this day.

Soon after her death I purchased a three month old female cougar from a private owner, she's very friendly and gentle. A couple of years later a male kitten was acquired from a breeder in Tennessee. So, now I have 2 cougars. At an exotic animal auction I became the proud owner of a 2 month old black bear.

I live on a large, old farm with lots of room. My animals are part of the family and are pampered and loved. I hate cages and to see any animal confined to one, so what I have done is made the big barn into an animal hotel. Security is foremost with chainlink lining all interior walls. Outside is a 500' enclosure of 8 foot chainlink with converted corncribs serving as outside living quarters. It's really neat - the animals come and go as they please.

Currently my family includes two cougars, a very large Alaskan timberwolf, the black bear, and a 10 month old Sigerian tiger who weighs 350 pounds - you can see him growing! Everyone is the best of friends and are together every day. They are only confined to their cages at night. There has never been a fight and the timberwolf is boss, he watches over everybody but the tiger is beginning to take over.

I'd like to purchase a female Siberian for Tico. Folks are always stopping by to visit with the animals and they've appeared on TV several times as well as in the newspaper.

My food bill is really not that large as there are plenty of cattle farmers in the area who donate cows for the 3 large freezers. The animals seemingly know no strangers. The tiger will put his paws on your shoulders and puff, & puff; the bear will walk up to you on her hind legs and hug you while the cougars are rubbing around your legs.

I am not a wealthy man by any means, having worked for Chrysler Corp for 25 years, and I've lots of bills like anyone else. But the animals enrich our lives beyond measure. My wife and I invite any member sin the area to come by anytime and share our wealth.

Ken Hatrick
5359 Fremont Pike
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419-837-6277

USEFUL GUIDES AVAILABLE

EXOTICA - over 100 pages of practical information for caretakers of exotic felines is now available - send \$20.00 to LIOC, 3730 Belle Isle Lane, Mobile, Al 36619

Also available for just \$5 to LIOC members, a bibliography of volumes of interest t o the exotic owner or admirer.

EDITORIAL

Recently a questionnaire was included with your newsletter. This asked for detailed information on how you care for your cats. Less than 3% of you took the time to fill it out and return it. Only one fairly large breeder returned it.

Again, recently we asked for nominations for the upcoming elections. You must be terribly pleased with the current officers and directors as there were no nominations made from the general membership.

In every organization, there are a few workers and lots of folks who just come along for the ride, but this is ridiculous! LIOC is a network to support those working with exotic felines by providing them with information to better care for their charges. Unless you share what you know it will not be available to future caretakers of exotic felines - that is a tragedy - for the cats.

All the old-timers out there remember the terrible days when nothing was known about the cats, what to feed them, what vaccinations were safe and effective, etc., LIOC progressed because of many dedicated individuals who shared this information - often by trial and error at the expense of the feline. We learned from those tragic mistakes, made from ignorance, but made nevertheless.

If you truly care about your animals you must take the time to share what you know - and that is a lot! This information must be collated and put into a form that is READILY available to new members or those dealing in another species for the first time.

Pressure is being applied to the exotic owner from many quarters; state, local and federal governments are doing their best to make it all but impossible to own an exotic cat. It would help to be able to show these folks that exotic owners are responsible caring people - people truly concerned with the cats and not just with the "profit" they generate (this is a joke). We must prove this with action!

You must take an active part in the decision making process and support your elected representatives with action when asked. Your animals demand a lot of time, money and attention. But in the near future you may be faced with the prospect of a lot more freedom - when the cats are gone, there will be no drain on your resources. If you can afford the expense of an exotic cat, feeding it, housing it and providing proper veterinary care, you can afford to contribute time energy and money to support LIOC and those who are trying to help. Each of us have many demands on our time and energies - we must dig deep and come up with just a little more if we are to retain the right to keep our cats.

Please, this very minute, look in your past newsletters, find the questionnaire, sit down, give it some serious thought, and send it in. Look deep and see what you might be able to do to contribute to LIOC - attend your convention, offer to work on special projects, contact your Branch Rep - or organize one if there is't one in your area, make contact with your state legislators concerning any legislation in your area. **DO SOMETHING!**



Myka & Zorn romp at Jungle Cat World in Ontario, the home they share with Wolf & Chris Klose.



Ken Hetrick and "family" - see story on page 26