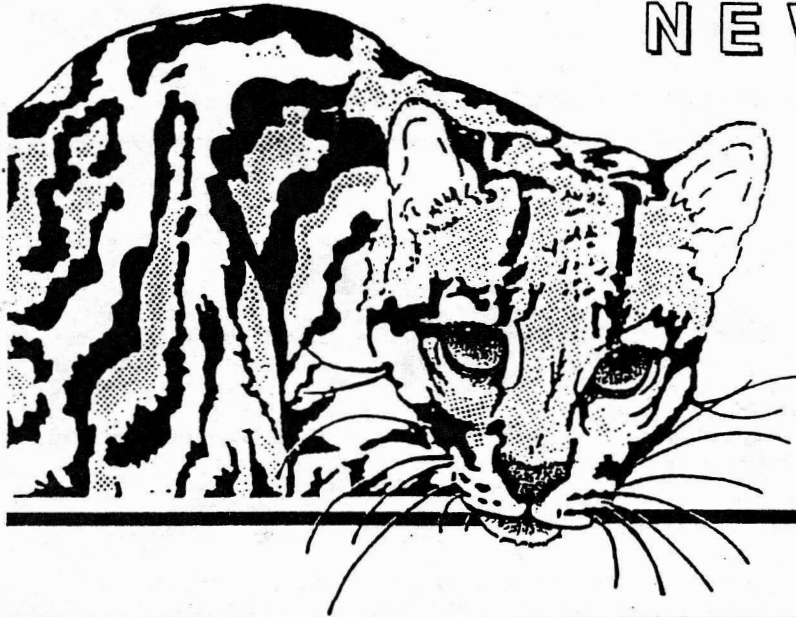
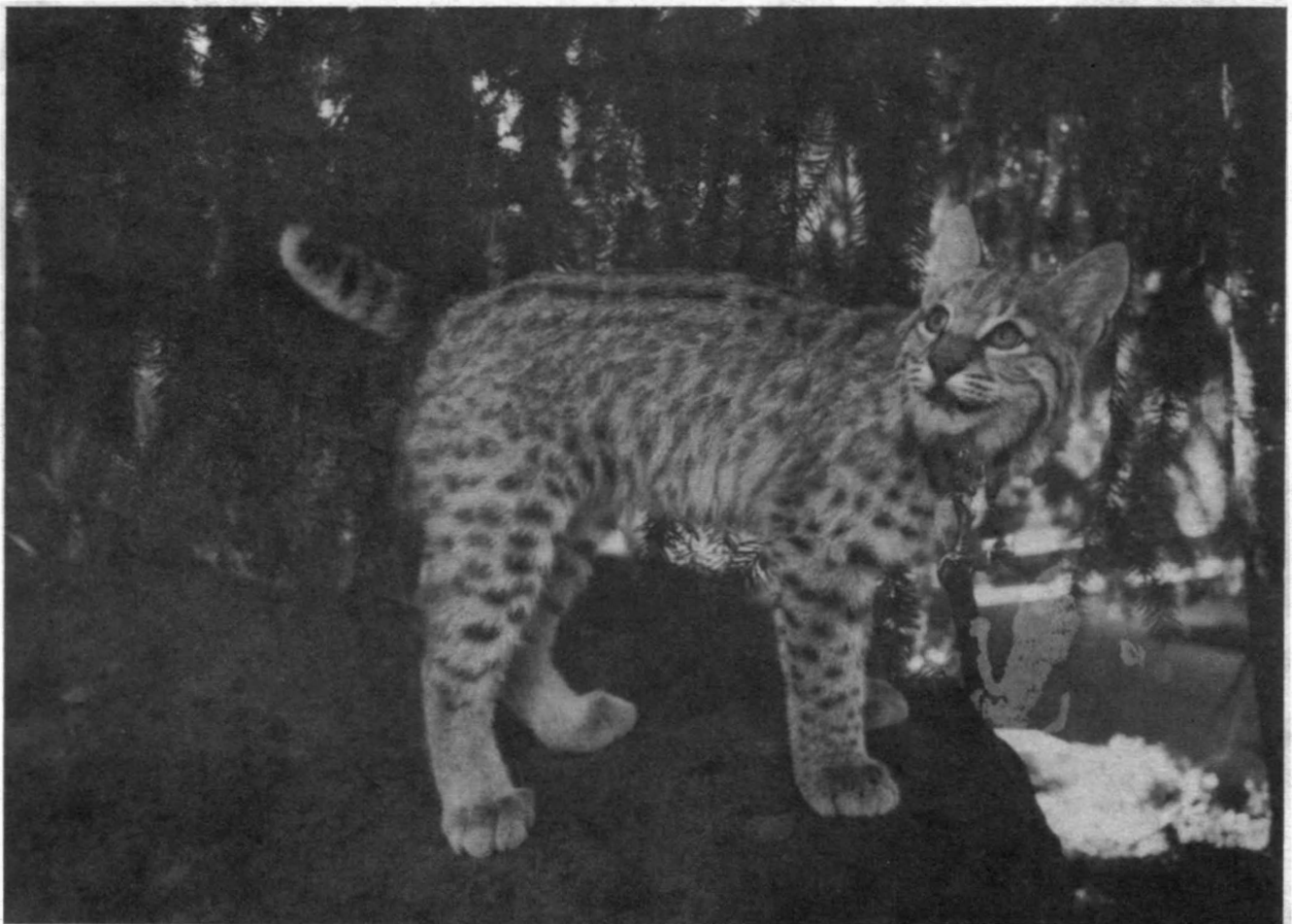


# NEWSLETTER

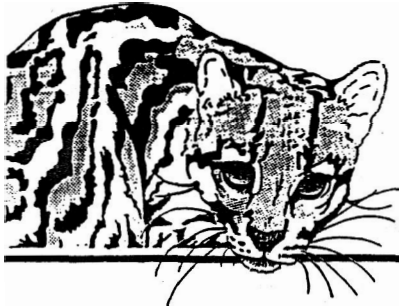


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Bobcat CHAINSAW, obtained his name because of his loud purr. He lives now with Donna Amos in Oregon.



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

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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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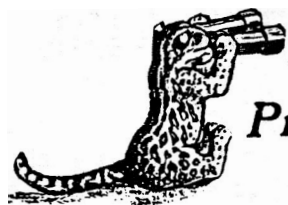
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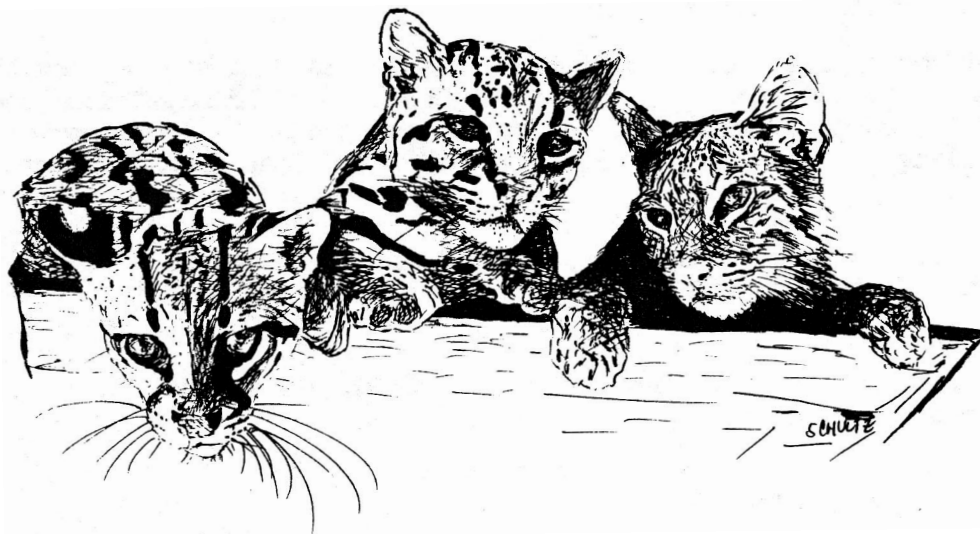
## *President's Perspective*

Ken Hatfield recently resigned from his Life Directorship on the Board of Directors. Ken has been active in LIOC for many years on its Executive Board both as President and as Life Director. His contributions will be missed. This leaves an opening to be filled in a special election this fall. I encourage any of you to make nominations for this position. The Life Director position is one which provides continuity to the organization. The Life Director is elected once and serves indefinitely. Past Life Directors have included Catherine Cisin, our Founder, Mike Balbo and Dr. Roger Harmon. **Nominations can be made by mail to the Secretary/Treasurer or at Convention.** As a favor, please save us some time verifying nominees by asking the person you nominate whether he or she would be willing to serve if elected.

I encourage all of you to attend convention. It's the first time we've held convention in Las Vegas and it could be fun exploring as well as seeing old friends. If you plan ahead, there are inexpensive fares from almost anywhere (except maybe Atlantic City) to Las Vegas. **We have an in-house travel agency that's working to keep abreast of the least expensive fares.** Contact Addie's Travel Service in Portland for further information (800-342-5500 or 7545 N.E. Sandy, Portland, Or 97213).

Animal Finder's Guide recently published an article about LIOC by Lynn Culver. This article includes a good historical perspective and is worth sharing with those who might be interested in joining LIOC.

Spring is time for kittens, and I wish you all who are hoping for them Good Luck.



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## RESORT PLANS DEFEATED

Reprinted from Sierra Club

A five year fight to block a coastal resort ended in victory in October when the U.S. Corps of Engineers announced that it would cease processing the permit required to fill in more than 8,000 acres of coastal wetlands for the project. On behalf of a vocal coalition of Texas conservationists, staff attorney Lori Potter has petitioned both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Corps to deny the permit.

The Playa del Rio resort was proposed for construction on undeveloped barrier islands, shallow marshes, and salt flats along the mouth of the Rio Grande on the gulf coast of Texas. After the Legal Defense Fund took up the battle, Congress acted to protect the affected barrier islands under the Coastal Barrier Resources act, and the Fish and Wildlife Service found that the project would jeopardize the existence of the endangered ocelot and jaguarundi. In combination, these actions supplied the death knell for one very bad idea.

Contributed by Jean Hamil

## CHANGES IN HILL'S C/D?

Jean Hamil reports that since Hills changed the label on its canned C/D feline diets, the consistency and palatability of the food appears to have deteriorated. Jean reports using this product over a number of years with good results in ocelots, bobcats and cougars in conjunction with a mixed diet.

Hill's contends that their formula has not changed although they admit to having received recent complaints from others. Jean found both the "original" and the "new" formulas in one case and asks that others who might have encountered this problem contact Hill's at the address on the can to the attention of MURF. Hill's supposedly is looking into and testing the cans sent them by Jean.

## STUFFED TOY KILLS WHITE BENGAL

The death of a rare white Bengal tiger was caused by a stuffed toy that it swallowed weeks ago according to officials. The 2 year old male tiger named Mwelu drowned while apparently suffering severe stomach pains. Visitors noticed the tiger struggling in a pool before it sank said David Conrod, a spokesman for Busch Gardens.

The remains of a small stuffed animal were found in the tiger's upper intestines, said Dr. John Olsen, chief veterinarian. Since the tiger apparently ate the toy three to six weeks previously, two gallstones had formed around it, further blocking digestion and creating what must have been painful stomach attacks, Olsen said.

There are about 140 white Bengals in the world, all of them in captivity according to park officials.

From an Associated Press release  
Contributed by Sandra Klessen



## CARDIOMYOPATHY IN A COUGAR

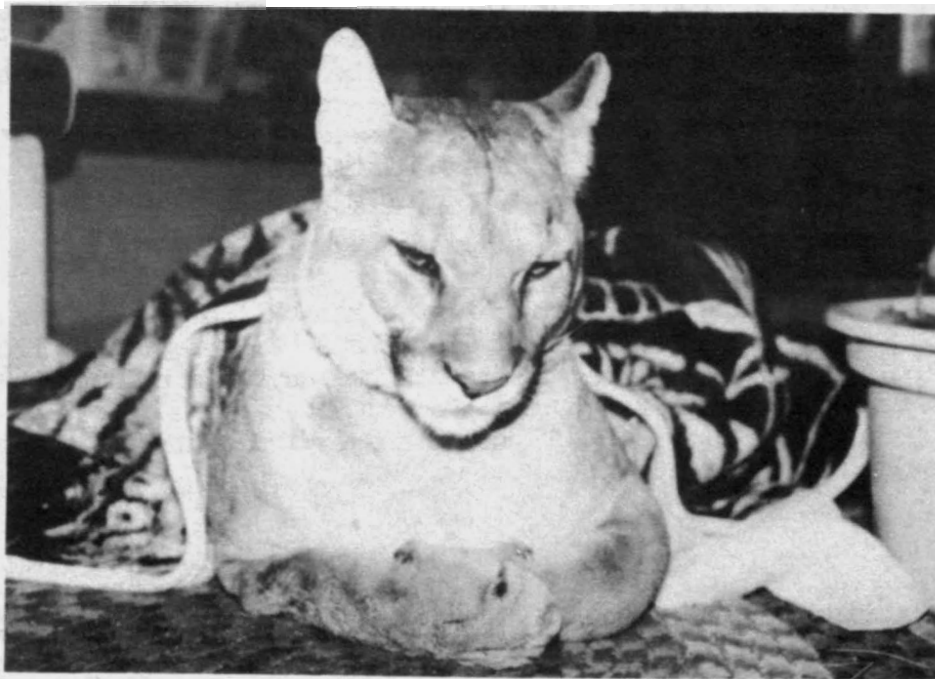
By Lynn Culver

Cardiomyopathy is a diseased condition of the heart. It can be congenital or acquired. If inheritance plays a role, the feline usually dies before it is a year old. **Acquired heart disease usually shows up later in life.** Early detection is important if the patient is to survive, but early symptoms are vague and indefinite. Cats are unique in their ability to recognize their limitations and restrict their activities accordingly. **Cardiomyopathies are subdivided into three types:** hypertropic, dilated and restrictive. Each type requires individual treatment.

Hypertropic is the most common type of heart muscle disease in cats and affects young to middle-aged, mostly male cats. This type of disease prevents the heart from expanding to receive blood due to an enlarged left ventricular wall. Decreased cardiac output and a high incidence of blood clots, usually in the hind legs, result. Cats with this type of disease will have fluid build up in their lungs, causing labored breathing. They are lethargic, lose their appetite and sometimes experience paralysis due to the blood clots. Treatment includes diuretics and medication to affect the force of the heart's contractions.

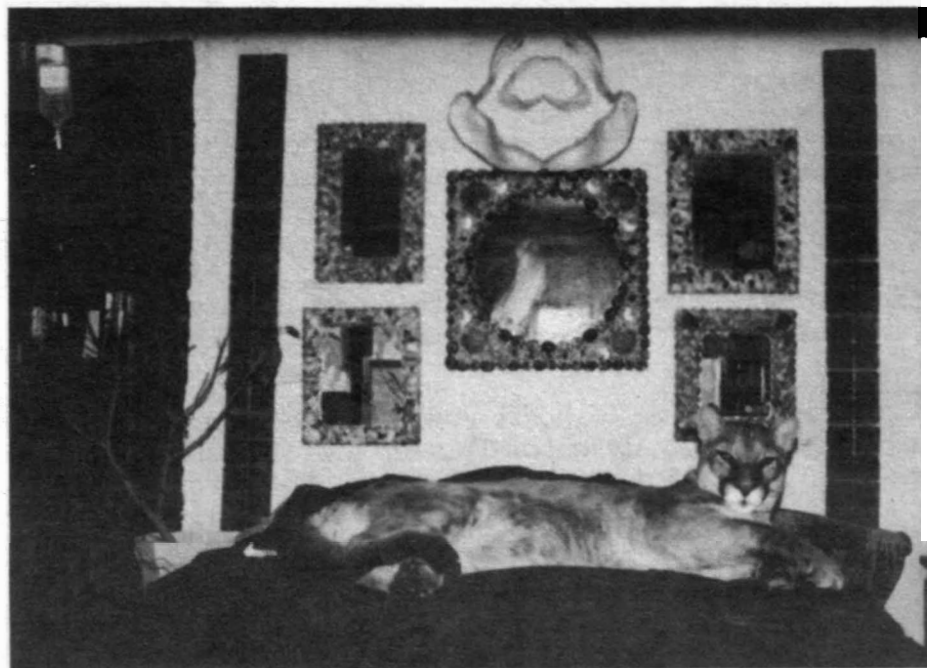
Dilated cardiomyopathy usually affects middle-aged to old cats. This disease causes an enlargement of the heart's chambers, which results in thinner, weaker walls. The heart has difficulty pushing blood out of the heart at a normal rate, so blood backs up in the heart. Fluid accumulates in the thorax and abdomen because the kidneys respond to the low blood pressure by retaining sodium and water. This exacerbates the problem. The amino acid taurine, has proven to be an effective cure for some dilative cardiomyopathies. Treatment also includes a low salt diet, diuretics and vasodilators.

Restrictive cardiomyopathy is not as common in the cat. A fibrous tissue covers the heart muscle causing rigidity of the heart. This type usually affects older cats. Diuretics and digitalis are used in treatment.



King Max, under a robe for warmth, just home from the vet's isn't feeling too good about his diagnosis - cardiomyopathy.

## CARDIOMYOPATHY - cont



Administering subcutaneous lactated Ringer's solution (note bottle in upper left corner)

## A CASE HISTORY OF CARDIOMYOPATHY IN A COUGAR

## BACKGROUND

Max was 20 months old when signs of cardiomyopathy appeared. He was adopted by my husband and me two months earlier. He is an overweight, stocky, extremely mellow, male cougar. His roommate, Patches, experienced her first estrous on Thursday, January 10th. When Max began courting behaviours, Max was removed from their communal cage and given free roam of our enclosed yard to prevent any possible pregnancy. Max showed no signs of discontent at being separated from Patches.

Saturday, January 12th

I woke up to see Max throwing up a hairball in the yard. I also noticed another hairball by his temporary house in front of our porch door. The hairball consisted of mostly beaver fur. The cougars had been eating beaver this past week, and due to the pelts' low value, the trappers did not skin them. All beavers are frozen, then quartered and gutted of stomach and intestines. The cougars can easily consume the meat and bone and avoid the skin and fur if they choose. None of the other six cougars showed any signs of gastrointestinal distress. I observed Max that day, but could determine no other symptoms. He did not eat his dinner that night.

Sunday, January 13th

I administered Laxatone, deciding that he must have a hairball blockage in his intestine. I wondered if he was tired of beaver or if perhaps being separated from Patches, or being in a hormone induced "love-sick" state had anything to do with his loss of appetite. There were no other symptoms. Max didn't eat his beaver Sunday night. Max was spending the nights in the house and exhibited lively thumb-sucking and purring sessions in our bed.

Monday, January 14th

I called my vet to ask his opinion of Max. His suggestion was to continue the Laxatone, while monitoring his behavior. The vet felt that Max had gastrointestinal distress due to excess hair consumption. As long as Max was "purring

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CARDIOMYOPATHY - cont

around" it was decided to hold off on a vet visit. Our main vet is a 70 mile drive, and it was the middle of winter. Max still seemed fine. I offered him chicken instead of beaver for dinner, but he showed no interest in eating.

Tuesday, January 15th

I re-examined Max's vomit and discovered three roundworms. I called the vet again and it was decided that Max might feel nausea and appetite loss due to the roundworms. His last worming was 14 months earlier. I administered another dose of Laxatone as well as 15 cc's of Strongid-T, liquid wormer. Max was slightly slower that day. He wasn't growling at the other cougars as he usually did. He showed no interest in his dinner. I spent about three hours in bed with Max massaging his stomach trying to determine if there was any particular spot that seemed painful, but found none. His belly was beginning to swell. He didn't look like a cougar that had been fasting for four days. He purred and thumb-sucked passionately and he really didn't seem seriously ill. It was most curious. I just hoped that Max had a bad case of worms and would soon be cured.

Wednesday, January 16th

I heavily dosed him with Laxatone and another dose of Strongid-T. Wednesday was a busy day as we had about 60 pullets that had to be chopped, skinned, gutted, bagged and frozen. Wednesday afternoon though Max began going downhill. He was lethargic, retiring to his house in front of our house. I visited him in his house. His stomach was noticeably swollen, and his personality was subdued. He was sick and I had waited too long to take him to the vet that day! I called Dr. Adney and arranged for an appointment first thing Thursday morning. For the first time I felt Max was going to DIE! I layed with him and felt this overwhelming sense of doom. His paw pads were cool to the touch, something unusual for cougars. He once again didn't eat his dinner. I was consumed with fear. I began frantically reading. Perhaps Max had feline infectious peritonitis, my worst nightmare. His stomach was bloated, he had vomited and was anorexic. Wednesday night Max laid on our bed, he wasn't the same cougar. He wasn't full of purrs and drool, he was quiet, passive and changed positions like he was in stomach pain. I wondered if he had a

Bart administering  
TLC



## CARDIOMYOPATHY - cont

a block or not. I had not found any evidence of his passing any stools, but I couldn't be sure with him having so much territory to roam.

Thursday, January 17th

We loaded up Max into our squeeze cage, boarded him up and drove the 70 miles to the Lake Hamilton vet clinic. Dr. Adney looked at Max and listened to his heart. Immediately he suspected heart trouble. Blood was drawn and a CBC and a complete blood profile run. Initial results from the CBC suggested that Max didn't have FIP. His protein level was just high of normal and he didn't have an elevated white blood cell count, indicating he probably didn't have an infection. He had a normal body temperature. Dr. Adney tried to draw out some of the abdominal fluid but was unsuccessful. Then he asked that we bring Max inside for an ECG. Max was pretty cooperative as we clipped four alligator clips on his elbows and waited for the computer to register the results.

The results were ominous. Max had premature ventricular complex. He had fusion beats occurring and had a left bundle branch block. Tentative diagnosis was dilatative cardiomyopathy. Max was beginning to become dehydrated so he needed electrolytes. But his heart was his main problem. Apparently Max's heart was unable to pump enough blood to allow the other organs to function. As a result, his body's first response was for his digestive system to shut down. He vomited the last thing in his stomach, beaver hair that normally would have been passed as stool. Max's kidneys were retaining sodium and water, causing his bloated-belly look. Next his liver would suffer the effects of reduced blood flow. Dr. Adney sent us home with instructions to give Max eight, 500mg pills of taurine a day. There was a chance that Max had this very important amino acid deficiency, and if so, he might completely recover with large doses of taurine. But if that was not the case, Dr. Adney painted a gloomy picture. To be told you cougar which is fed a varied diet of fresh, whole meats with vitamin-mineral supplements is deficient in an amino acid found in fresh meat seemed pretty remote. Housecats get this problem because commercial, cooked and canned foods have the amino acids destroyed. It seemed like a long shot, but we had to try.

Max needed fluids and electrolytes, but his heart and kidneys needed a low salt diet. Electrolytes contain sodium chloride. Max needed a diuretic to eliminate his abdominal fluids, but since he was dehydrated, a strong diuretic would be very dangerous. Max needed heart medicine but those pills usually cause either kidney or liver damage, something he couldn't handle. It was for those reasons that we were told to rely heavily on the taurine supplementation only.

We returned home and began administering taurine pills and electrolytes. I squeezed the electrolytes in his mouth using an ear syringe. Max consumed six taurine pills that day and was very quiet and depressed. We listened to his heart. It was not normal, there was no "dub" after the "lub", instead there was a speeded up, single beat.

Friday, January 18th

Max received two taurine pills that morning and about a ¼ cup of electrolytes. Then he vomited about noon. His vomit was extremely foul smelling, like diarrhea. He spent time outdoors, just laying around. I kept a blanket on him at all times, he looked like King Max with his robe hanging down. Max's old mom came over to visit him and give encouragement and support. I got Max to take six more taurine pills that day and he consumed a total of one pint of electrolytes. I was in contact with the vet. His blood work was back from the lab. Max had depleted phosphorus, potassium and chloride. He had slightly elevated protein and albumin

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CARDIOMYOPATHY - cont.

levels, which would suggest the beginning of liver damage. Now that the vet had Max's blood values, he felt safe to prescribe a heart medicine. Max was to take one Captopril, a vasodialator with a slight diuretic effect, twice a day. These pills cause nausea. I gave Max his first one late that night, in hopes that his taurine pills for the day would stay in his stomach long enough to be absorbed.

Saturday, January 19th

Max took his first 2 taurines that morning along with about a quarter cup of electrolytes. I was also administering Nutrical, but having very poor success, so I concentrated on the electrolytes, which were very important. By this time, Max was severely dehydrated. The vet didn't want to give him IV liquids as his heart couldn't take the increased blood pressure. I just had to get Max to drink. Then Max vomited again, once again very foul-smelling. Out came his Taurines and his much needed liquids. Max was very lethargic and I was sure he was going to die. I called the vet again, and got a prescription for Reglan, an anti-nausea medicine and received the advice to decrease the amount of Captopril and keep trying. Once again I administered the heart medicine, a half a pill now, a half hour after the two Reglans. It worked, Max held it down. I administered a total of eight taurines that day and one again, only a pint of electrolytes. I was loosing ground. Max was getting more dehydrated. The potassium depletion alone could cause heart failure. That night Max was very weak, purring only briefly and had not interest in sucking our thumbs.

Sunday, January 20th

We began subcutaneous lactated Ringer's solution at noon Sunday. We were loosing Max, he was dehydrating away and blood pressure or not, sodium levels or not, something drastic had to be done. 500 ml were administered every six hours, for a total of 2,000 mls. The results were instantaneous! After the first treatment, Max defacated a very dehydrated, hairy stool, surrounded by a liquid diarrhea. He groomed himself for the first time in a week. He licked Bart in gratitude, he purred. He absorbed the Ringer's in about three hours, then began to run down after five hours. After six hours he was quiet again and very submissive for his next treatment. Once again he perked up. At 1:00 am we awoke for this third treatment. At 3:00 am, when we were done, Max actually seemed hungry. I offered him  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of very finely chopped up chicken. He ate! He was recovering.

Monday, January 21st

Max received his last treatment of lactated Ringer's solution at 10:00 AM. He was rehydrated now and he actually asked to go outside. His walk was slow, careful, tentative. He was weak, but getting better. We gave him a shot of B-12 to help with his recovery, and began administering 2 grams of calcium ascorbate, 400 IU of vitamin E and a potassium glutonate pill. We fed him very small meals every three to four hours. He was eating, urinating, walking, purring and still taking his taurines. Now he was taking 10 taurines a day as well as his half of a Captopril pill, morning and night for a total of 16 pills a day!

Tuesday, January 22nd

Max actually stole a partially thawed rabbit off the top of the freezer and ran over the hill, play-killed it and ate it! Max's recovery has been unbelievable! His belly swelling has subsided, his appetite has

## CARDIOMYOPATHY - cont.

returned and his heart sounds considerably better.

Wednesday, January 23rd

Max continues to improve. His appetite is bigger than I would like. He needs to lose more weight. It's hard to believe he fasted for nine days because he is still so chunky. Wednesday night Max comes in the house to visit but he's still lethargic. He doesn't purr or suck thumbs. He shows signs of abdominal distress. He has overeaten. Perhaps he has overtaxed his heart. We will have to monitor his activities and prevent him from over-exerting himself. We go to bed worried at his backslide, leaving him asleep on the livingroom floor. At 1:00 am Max jumps in bed with us, animated and purring. He wants to suck thumbs, he has recovered again. He spends the night with us in our bed.

Friday, February 1st.

Max continues to remain stable. He takes the equivalent of 6000 mg of taurine powder a day now. I sprinkle this amino acid over his food these days. We can finally hear a "lub-dub" sound of a normal heart. His rate is slower too, down to about 70 beats per minute instead of the 120 when he was so sick. Without a sonogram, we cannot determine for sure what kind of cardiomyopathy Max has, but his recovery after taurine supplementation indicated Dr. Adney has made the right diagnosis.

It is curious to me that Max and Patches, which were both acquired by us three months ago have always been fed identical diets yet Patches is fine and Max developed a taurine deficiency. This indicates to me that perhaps some cats are predisposed to this condition due to some sort of metabolic problem. Curious also, is the initial symptom - the vomiting of a hairball. My girlfriend in Maryland nursed a housecat with cardiomyopathy and it's first symptom was to vomit a hairball. When the heart is sick, the digestive system shuts down and in Max's case, resulted in total anorexia. continued on page 19



A recovered Max



# 7 panther deaths spur captive breeding hope

By Beverly Keneagy

A record number of endangered Florida Panthers have died this year, and wildlife officials are hoping they can have a captive breeding program underway by early 1991 to help the population recover.

Seven panthers have died in 1990 in the wild in South Florida, more than any previous year on record, said Dennis Jorday, Florida Panther coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Gainesville.

Three were killed in fights with other panthers, according to state records. Two died of medical infections, one died crossing a highway and one died of unknown causes.

Two of the deaths were particularly critical because the cats had "founder" genetic material, which means they had some of the purest genetic material available and haven't been subjected to inbreeding, which weakens the species Jordan said.

Wildlife officials are targeting animals for that type of captive breeding program.

"In terms of the goal of the program, to protect existing genetic material, we've lost some," Jordan said.

Under the program, up to half of the wild Florida Panthers would be captured and placed in zoos for breeding. Some of the cats would go to the Jacksonville zoo and a private wildlife reserve near Yulee.

Biologists say such action is needed to prevent the tawny cats from becoming extinct. Wildlife experts estimate that only 30 to 50 panthers remain in a single population in South Florida.

Through captive breeding, officials hope to increase the number of panthers to the point that a second population could be established in the wild.

Reprinted from the Florida Times Union  
Contributed by BeeJay Lester



# Chlorhexidine Treatment of Ringworm

By Gary D. Van Winkle, DVM  
Animal Clinic of Lawrenceville  
P.O.Box 256  
Lawrenceville, IL 62439

A mature domestic shorthaired cat was presented with several large, ringworm-like lesions. Cultures of the lesions revealed *Trichophyton*. Initial therapy was oral griseofulvin at 62.5 mg BID. Within a few days the cat became anorectic and vomited when the drug was given. Griseofulvin use was stopped and an alternative treatment was sought.

I first tried topical applications of thiabendazole-dexamethasone-meomycin (Tresaderm: MSD Agvet), but the cat licked the treated areas and salivated profusely. Miconazole nitrate (Conofite. Pittman-Moore) was also tried, but with the same results. A 13% thiabendazole dip was used once, but the cat salivated profusely for several hours after treatment, and when the hair dried, it was matted and had a powdered appearance. The owner, as well as the cat, had found all of the treatments tried so far objectionable.

While searching for an alternative treatment, I discovered that chlorhexidine can be used as an antifungal agent. I began with chlorhexidine shampoos (Nolvasan: Ft.Dodge) 3 times a week. Inbetween baths, the owner applied a 0.5% chlorhexidine solution (Nolvasan: Ft.Dodge) to the lesions once a day. Both treatments were continued for 6 weeks. Follow-up cultures failed to grow the fungus, and the cat's hair grew back in a few months.

After chlorhexidine treatments were started, the lesions responded rapidly. Chlorhexidine is nonirritating and nontoxic and the cat tolerated the treatments without adverse reactions.

Reprinted from Modern Veterinary Practice - Contributed by John Perry.

Ed. Note: Dr. Lawrence writes that since this article appeared he has used Nolvasan several more times with equal success. He now prefers this treatment and uses the ointment for isolated lesions, adding baths only if the lesions begin to spread.

Ringworm as noted is a fungus, and occasionally can be recognized by the roundish, dry, hairless lesions. Young animals sometimes do not exhibit the lesions until severely infected, but will exhibit a bad coat. To be certain the lesion is ringworm, a culture must be grown which can take 2-3 weeks.

Once the fungus is controlled on the cat, the environment must be sanitized as well or reinfection will occur. The fungus is highly contagious and if one animal develops it you must watch the others closely for signs. Burn all bedding, disinfect caging etc. and wash hands thoroughly before handling another animal.

Stress, change of diet, malnutrition or prolonged antibiotic use can make an animal susceptible to ringworm.

# For the Good of the Species

## Keeping Animals Captive in Zoos Might Prolong Their Stay on Earth

BY JON R. LUOMA

Does an Asian lion or a bottle-nosed dolphin care whether it is a captive? As serious scientists, most animal managers would scoff at any suggestion that animals necessarily suffer because they are contained. There is no evidence that even the most intelligent animals have any perception of captivity. A compelling case could be made that, if one considers the best interests of the animals as individuals, they are better off in zoos than in the wild. Animals in the wild are subject to a Homeric catalogue of parasites and diseases. In good zoos, they receive, from extensively trained staff veterinarians, far better medical care than many of the earth's humans ever will enjoy. They are free from sudden death by predation. They live longer lives, their toenails clipped, cataracts removed, lacerations stitched and hunter sated with carefully balanced sometimes vitamin-enriched foods. Animals in inhumane, overcrowded and filthy exhibits forced to live outside natural social groupings or denied the opportunity to practice natural behaviors may indeed suffer. But Heiner Hediger, the renowned director of the Zurich Zoo, once opined: "If all the needs of the animals are adequately met, the zoo offers its inhabitants a man-made miniature territory with all the properties of a natural one. The animal will then think the territory is its own. It marks and defends the area and does not feel imprisoned."

In the end, the aversion to animals in captivity may be a purely one.

But to some who care about wildlife, even the most naturalistic exhibit is still a container for creatures not meant to be contained. Despite whatever verdant elegance a designer may have given to a box, it is still a box with wild animals living in it rather than where they should be. Yet in many cases "where they should be" isn't there anymore. Put simply: habitat, the area where an animal lives - habitat is limiting - the number of brook trout in a mountain pond cannot increase beyond the pond's limitations; habitat is vanishing at a staggering rate. Grasslands, fresh water and saltwater wetlands and most of all the moist forests of Africa, Asia and South America are being torched, bulldozed, filled and drained out of existence. Consequently, the species that live in these habitats are losing their homes and they are vanishing.

My son will finish high school in the 2001. If prevailing views of some of the world's leading biologists are correct, one-fifth of the species that existed on the day of his birth will have been extirpated by then.

From: A Crowded Ark, published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston  
Reprinted from WPS Newsletter

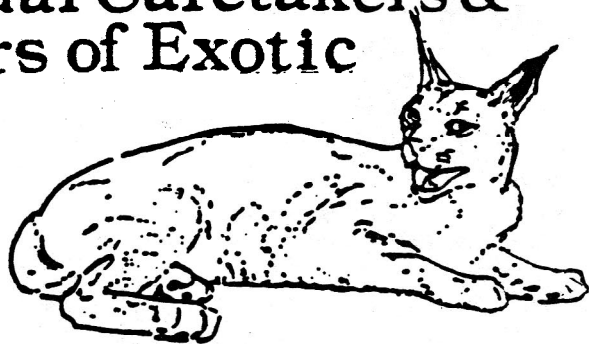
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# EXOTICA

**A Practical Guide for  
Individual Caretakers &  
Admirers of Exotic  
Felines**

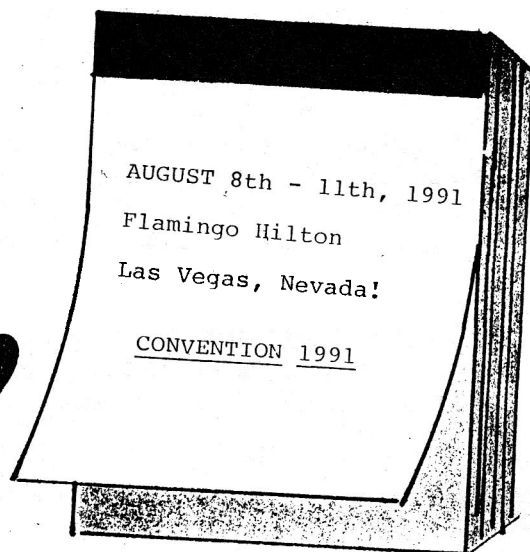


Over 100 pages of invaluable articles from past issues of the LIOC Newsletter, covering all aspects of exotic feline care and management, including information on different species, behavior, nutritional management of both adults and kittens, handling, first aid, infectious diseases, basic genetics, and diagrams for making basic equipment, plus much, much more. Available to LIOC members at \$20.00 US., send check to LIOC, 3730 Belle Isle Lane, Mobile, AL 36619.

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# CARE FOR PETS WITH CANCER

By Michael W. Lemmon, DVM

I would like to emphasize that it is far more important to work in the direction of preventing cancer than in trying to treat it after it has already affected one of our pets.

Prevention involves an understanding of what causes cancer. There are many opinions on this subject, but the most convincing from a scientific viewpoint was described by the two-time Nobel prize winner, Dr. Otto Warburg. In 1931, he earned his first Nobel prize in medicine for his work with oxygen transferring enzymes. His studies showed that the lack of these enzymes cause a change from aerobic metabolism to anaerobic metabolism on the cellular level. This lack of sufficient oxygen causes the normal cells to be transformed into cancer cells. This is the primary cause of cancer.

How does the body become low in these vital oxygen transferring enzymes? By understanding the answer to this question, one learns about many of the secondary causes of cancer. Each individual is born with an enzyme reserve. Some have a greater reserve than others. Enzymes are vital to all functions in the body including cellular maintenance and repair, digestion and assimilation of nutrients, elimination of toxins from the body and protecting the body with the immune system. Those with a greater enzyme reserve lead a healthier and longer life.

As the body ages, the enzyme reserve becomes depleted. There are many factors that contribute to the premature depletion of the enzyme reserve. These include environmental poisons, drugs, fluoride, negative emotions and insufficient amounts of a high quality raw food in the diet. Depletion of the enzyme reserve also means a depletion of the oxygen transferring enzymes and this leads to cancer.

Cancer can be prevented therefore by preserving the enzyme reserve, and this can be done by avoiding to the best of our ability as many of the environmental poisons as possible. This includes additives and preservatives in processed foods, fluoride in water, insecticides and herbicides. One should try to maintain a harmonious household avoiding a constant negative emotional environment which may be soaked up by our pets. One should emphasize high quality food in their diets that are free from pollutants and are as little processed as possible. If cooked foods must be used, then enzyme supplementation is recommended. Minerals such as magnesium and zinc and also many trace minerals are vital for the metabolism of enzymes in the body.

There are many modalities that have been successfully used in the treatment of cancer in pets. High potency, protease rich enzymes given on an empty stomach are a basic requirement. These enzymes are derived from certain plants. Trace minerals are important supplements in treating all degenerative diseases since they are so vital to enzyme metabolism.

The following books have more information on the subject:

FATS AND OILS, Udo Erasmus, Alive Books, Burnaby, B.C., Canada

CANCER THERAPY: RESULTS OF FIFTY CASES: Max Gerson, The Gerson Institute, P.O.Box 430, Bonita, GA 92002

ENZYME NUTRITION: Edward Howell, Food Enzyme Research Foundation, 1619

Cont page 19



**World Society for the  
Protection of Animals**

**February 1991**

## **Emergency Appeal**

**WSPA Needs Your Help  
To Bring Disaster Relief to the  
Gulf!**

We've all watched as the war in the Persian Gulf devastated the area and its' natural resources. Millions of gallons of oil have created enormous slicks that are bringing an agonizing death to many of the region's marine animals. The eggs of green and hawksbill turtles could be wiped out if oil washes ashore in nesting areas. Sea cows (Dugongs) that have been struggling back from near extinction could find their habitat devastated. Rich sea grasses at the base of the food chain could be destroyed. The Persian Gulf is home to dolphins, coral reefs, birds, fish and even whale, all endangered by this ecological catastrophe.

John Walsh, Assistant Director General of the World Society for the Protection of Animals is in Saudi Arabia at the invitation of the Saudi National Commission on Wildlife Conservation and Development. John addressed LIOC at its 1980 Convention in Boston Mass. He is coordinating efforts by an international network to mount an effective response to this disaster.

Donations are needed to implement these relief and cleanup efforts. With the people of the region concentrating on rebuilding their lives and country little regional attention can be devoted to nature. We can do a little here to help overcome this devastation. Contributions can be sent to:

WSPA  
Persian Gulf Cleanup  
P.O.Box 190  
Boston, MA 02130

## **ATTENTION PAST LOTTIE RECIPIENTS**

It is once again time to give thought to the presentation of a 1991 Lottie. Please give serious thought to nominations for the Lottie and send any nominations to: Shirley Wagner, 3730 Belle Isle Lane. Mobile, AL. 36619 as soon as possible.





COMMENTARY:

## INDIANS, LIONS AND IDIOTS

It hasn't been all that many years since the great Indian nations of the western plains were free, proud, resourceful and self-reliant people. That to spite their numbers were in near perfect harmony with their environment. Along came white man - first they encroached on their land and eventually stole it; systematically and methodically destroyed the great buffalo herds which the Indians were totally reliant upon. Then the Indians with broken spirits and broken hearts were relegated to an existence on the reservations that were completely alien to them. The few that held out, Red Cloud, Sitting Bull, Geronimo and others were branded as butchers, renegades and savages.

I remember seeing a painting in one of our art museums entitled "Fort Indians". The scene was winter, bitter cold and deep snow. There was this hodge-pode of tattered teepees alongside the fort wall. No fires in the teepees - they didn't have firewood. No meat in the pot - they didn't have buffalo. No horses - they had already eaten them. There was this gathering of broken spirits huddled close to the closed gates of the fort patiently waiting for whatever handouts that might come along. And the atrocities continued. It seems that we, the so-called civilized people just have a knack for that sort of thing. And the further removed you are from our likeness and our persuasion, the worse the treatment, the more swift the retaliation and the more ruthless we become.

Now let's get a little closer to home. Let's talk about the large carnivores. And in particular let's talk about the cats of the world - the greater cats (that roar) and the lesser cats (that purr). Their plight has followed the same course as the Indian. Their habitat destroyed, their food supply diminished and the prospects for viable breeding populations for many of these magnificent animals is dimming rapidly. Zoos until most recently provided very dismal and boring environments for animals. And in the case of the big cats didn't even come close to providing a proper diet. A lot of that is changing in the zoo environment. However, zoos and wild animal parks are not the answer long-term. They're not in the breeding business, they're in the exhibition business. They do not deal in numbers. As a matter of fact, limited breeding is the practice. But overall, the changes that have taken place in the zoo environment have improved the quality of life for the animals. And I commend the efforts of these dedicated, devoted people.

Now let's focus on private ownership. Here's where the cat becomes a "Fort Indian". In my opinion, here also is where their destiny will ultimately be determined. But folks, we've got big problems. On the one hand we have the damned, empty-headed bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere who have historically failed at absolutely every attempt to find solutions to problems. We have the Animal Rights groups who think no one should own an exotic and maybe the worst of all, we have among us those who own exotic cats that are giving private ownership a black eye through their stupidity, their greed and their cruelty and are generating a lot of bad publicity. Publicity which could ultimately bring about changes in the law in an attempt to control these idiots, changes that will ultimately make it impossible or totally impracticable for those of us that are caring, responsible owners.

Zoos and animal parks are under the constant scrutiny of various activists groups, the general public and other governing agencies, so by and large they are thoroughly policed.

Conversely, private owners, breeders, brokers and the likes, depending on what permits and licenses they have, be it U.S.D.A., U.S.D.I, etc., will most

## INDIANS, LIONS &amp; IDIOTS - cont.

likely only be visited by a representative of that agency on an annual basis unless there is a complaint filed or they find some discrepancies which would require subsequent visits. The point I'm trying to make here is that this area of private ownership is the breeding ground for abuse, misuse, neglect and profiteering. I am not suggesting nor do I subscribe to more government or more restrictions because for over half of my life I've realized that if you want solutions to problems the last place you look is to the government. What we need is a strong sense of commitment insuring that every captive wild animal is permitted the opportunity to live a life with some dignity and quality.

It's easy to dismiss how Joe, John, or Bill is not doing this or that and then dismiss the whole thing by saying, "It's really none of my business." But, it is your business, literally, if you own exotics AND it is your responsibility. I have always adhered to a basic philosophy and that is, "if you see a wrong and do not attempt to correct it, then you have chosen to be a part of it" Therefore, I urge each and every one of you to channel your concerns. Get active in an internal policing program. There are situations out there right now that many of you people know about or suspect, where an animal needs a champion.

As I write this, I'm looking out at a bleak, snowy landscape. I know that there are some shivering, sick, abused and neglected animals out there. Across the country there are some sensitive, big-hearted, caring folks that have devoted their lives to this cause. I'm talking about the many exotic animal sanctuaries that have sprung up in the last decade or so. In many cases these sanctuaries are run by individuals who because of their love and compassion have redirected their life's goals and in some cases joined the ranks of the have-nots by pouring their life savings into pens, housing, medications and vet bills for animals they take in and then have to go begging for food and donations. Why don't you seek out one of these sanctuaries and see how you can assist? Something as simple as a beef head makes an old, wornout lion feel like he died and went to heaven and it makes you feel pretty good too.

I want to leave you with just a couple or three things that I've encountered or been exposed to in the recent past, these are the deeds of our fellow exotic cat owners (idiots). The owner was sitting around the house with some of his buddies imbibing when he decided to demonstrate his courage and prowess as a "lion-tamer". He let one of his cougars in the house, fetched a broomstick from the back porch which had been broken off and tapered down to a splintered point, grabbed a chair and in true lion-tamer fashion, started jousting with his cat. He was really putting on a good show, amusing his half drunk friends. The end result was he stabbed the cougar in the left eye - real macho, huh?

And, how about the 6 month old cougar that weighed slightly over 10 pounds? A concerned individual asked, "what do you feed your cat, he looks like he's starving to death?" The owner said, "dry dog food." The concerned individual said "Don't you understand cougars don't eat dry dog food?" The owner's response was, "By god, they will if that's all they get." And a most recent development, I was called by the Oklahoma Game and Fish Commission asking if I could take 8 confiscated cougars which were destined to be turned loose into a small enclosure and shot by trophy hunters. All 8 had been declawed, no doubt by their previous owners and were being held in dirty, cramped quarters. As I was filled to capacity, I couldn't take any of these animals. (Ed. note - all have since been placed.)

I am a newcomer, having had cougars for only 4 years now and I learn new things virtually every day that enhance my abilities to provide for my cats and

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INDIANS, LIONS & IDIOTS - cont.

am always available to share and discuss cats.

Thomas J. Chandler  
H.T. Circle C Ranch  
Stover, MO 65078  
(314) 377-CATS

As Tom notes, in cases of abuse, if you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem. If you have offered help in the form of education (a LIOC subscription), tips on proper care, etc, and have been rebuffed then it is time to act. Notify the local authorities and be prepared to testify as to the proper care of the animal involved. If you have the facilities and permits to house confiscated animals let us know! We receive many calls from authorities trying to place confiscated animals and this would be invaluable in establishing a "Rescue Network". However, please take the time to find out the facts. All cases of abuse give us a blackeye, but by letting the authorities know we do not condone improper care or treatment, and by offering a solution (help in placement) we can help the cats and gain credence.

Further, as a point for discussion, do you believe LIOC should stringently police it's members? Have you suggestions as to how this could be accomplished? Do remember that we have a greivance procedure - albeit it was not specifically designed for abuse cases, but could be applied.

CANCER - cont.

Ruttledge Rd, Longwood, FL 32779

KEEP YOUR PET HEALTHY THE NATURAL WAY: Pat Lazarus, Bobbs-Merrill Co. Inc, Indianapolis/New York

THE DEATH OF CANCER: Harold Manner, Advanced Century Publishing, Chicago

OXYGEN THERAPIES: Ed McCabe, Energy Publications, Morrisville, N.Y. 13408

CHLORELLA, David Steenblock, Aging Research Institute, El Toro, CA 92630

FLUORIDE, THE AGING FACTOR: John Yamouyiannis, Health Action Press, Delaware, Ohio, 43013

Reprinted from Doris Day Animal League

Contributed by Jean Hamil

CARDIOMYOPATHY - cont

Curious also is Max's personality. He is one-in-a-million. He has always been very mellow, disarmingly domestic in behavior. He has no stalk and pounce tendancies, no ambushing, no biting, chewing or boisterous behavior. He's a perfect gentleman, as if he's always known he has a heart condition.



## Litter Box e

Dear Shirley:

I have to wonder what was the motivation in printing the story of "Confessions of a Lion Trainer" by Kevin T. Patton in the Jan/Feb issue of the Newsletter. I simply do not concur with the so-called logic emitting from this story. Mr. Patton's "love of truth..and love of cats" seems tainted indeed. All he is really doing is justifying happy slavery.

It is bad enough we like keeping wild animals in cramp cages, (I am guilty of such a situation and once helped to care for over 100 various felines stuffed into cages.) It was a private sanctuary for cats unwanted or mistreated...needing some kind of hom. But the exploitation of the big cats and elephants used to entertain humans in circuses is a true reflection of

our callousness toward the dignity of these proud creatures. If I learned one thing with all those cats I worked with, including my own African lion, it is that they are definite individuals. Moreover, the fact that each of the big cats are confined to battery cages measuring only seven feet by four feet and are moved constantly from town to town, the resulting stress is by no means imagined. Take a close look at their coats as they try to move about in those cells...males spraying into adjoining cages irritating the skin. Who cares if whips, chairs and pistols are used or not. The origin of such devices is irrelevant.

During my study of circuses that traveled throughout the Northwest area from 1970 to 1973, I never witnessed a big cat over the age of seven years used in the ring. The older cats were put in a side show or sent away, making way for new ones. The animals become merchandise.

The physical abuse of these mighty wild felids does not take place in the performance. The maintenance and shipping of the cats (both in dealership and during the travels between performances) is inferior animal caretaking. We are reminded that these animals are subdued through bluffing. Yes, Accidents do occur.

Who says that wild animals living in wide-open grottos at modern zoos are bored? Lions are by nature, lethargic. They love nothing more than lying around with their fellow pride members. By the way, would you rather sleep in a cramp cage or outdoors in the shade of a tree where fresh air is everywhere? Mr. Patton said, "...the circus life is the closest approximation of nature that I know of" Is this the voice of truth and love?

Everyday I awoke to face my lion living in his enclosure, I had to deal with the duality. My point is not to justify. My love of the natural world comes first and I would love to see our efforts put into education, not entertainment at the cost of an animal's individual dignity. Wake up.

Most sincerely,

*Edward*

Edward Eugene Smith  
14515 119th Way S.E.  
Yelm, Washington 98597

As with many articles published in the Newsletter - we do not necessarily agree with their contents. However, an open forum for all viewpoints must be provided. We welcome letters such as the above, in hopes they will give food for thought on all sides of an issue. ED.

## DOCTOR FINED FOR PELT SMUGGLING

By Doina Chiacu

After three years of litigation and a mistrial, Dr. Constantine Hampers of Dublin, N.H. agreed to pay \$200,000 and plead guilty to reduced federal charges of smuggling the skins of endangered ocelots and jaguars (see Vol 33, No. 6, Nov/Dec 89).

It's strictly a matter of practicality," said Dr. Hampers after pleading guilty to smuggling ocelot and jagaur pelts into the U.S. from Mexico in 1986 and 1987. Each count carried a maximum penalty of one year in prison and a \$10,000 fine. He will pay \$180,000 to the World Wildlife Fund. The charges said Hampers should have known it was illegal to smuggle pelts into the country, which he admitted to Judge Shane Devein. But in comments to reporters after sentencing, Hampers called the plea bargain a "practical solution " to end 3 years of court battles.

Hampers also maintains his innocence. "There were Mexican agents that didn't know about the law..how the hell was I supposed to know?" he said. At the time of the hunts, it was legal to kill ocelots and jaguars in Mexico at the time of the hunt, but illegal to bring the pelts into the U.S. Mexico has since outlawed the hunting of these cats.

Reprinted from Middlesex News  
Contributed by Al Porges

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## BELIZE EXPANDS JAGUAR SANCTUARY

Condensed from World Wildlife Fund Newsletter

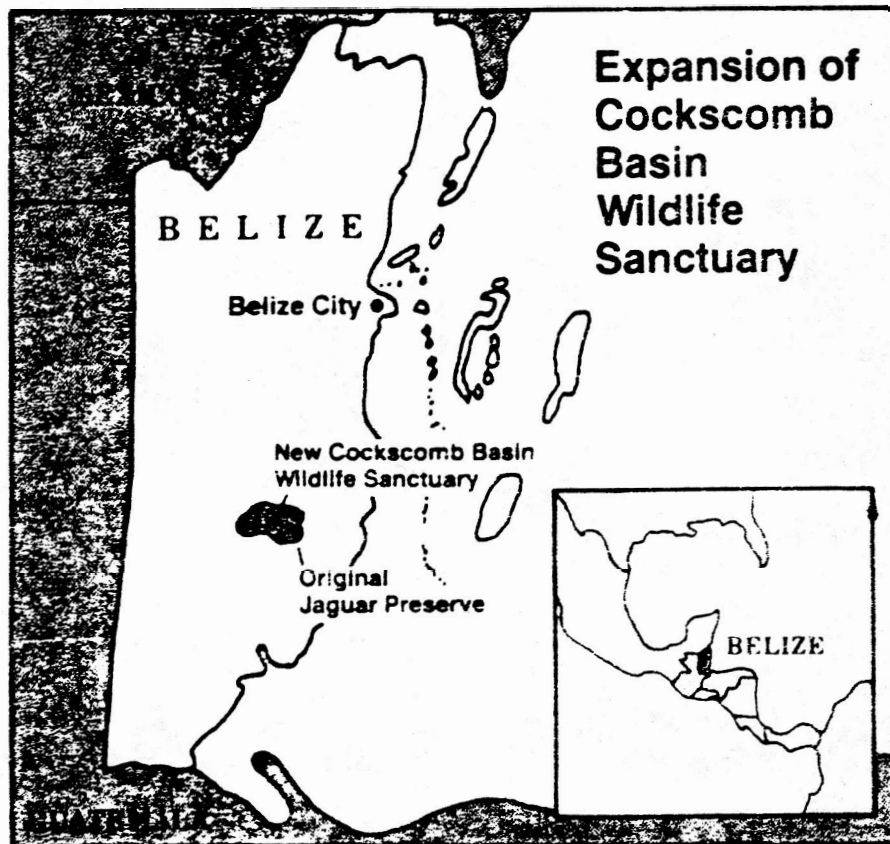
In a move encouraged by WWF President Kathryn S. Fuller, the government of Belize recently expanded the Cockscomb Wildlife Sanctuary 30-fold from 3,500 to nearly 100,000 acres.

Since 1985, WWF's support of this protected area, which includes tropical moist forest and an unusually high number of jaguars, has totalled more than \$150,000. As part of its growing conservation program in Belize, WWF has promised to provide the funds needed to manage the greatly enlarged program.

Increased costs in management will be incurred primarily in hiring additional guards and buying equipment and supplies needed to patrol this much larger area. One jaguar may require as much as 15 square miles of territory in which to hunt. Many of the Cockscomb jaguars will be able to safely roam the extensive habitat they need to survive.

These sleek felines once inhabited a wide range from southern Arizona to the middle of Argentina. Their numbers are now severely reduced throughout the range as a result of habitat destruction and hunting.

Cockscomb, therefore, represents an important stronghold for the species. On the basis of frequent jaguar sightings, WWF researchers believe the Cockscomb is home to a healthy population of jaguars. A vast number of other species of flora and fauna will also benefit from protection of this extensive rain forest. With a human population of only 170,000, located primarily on the Caribbean coast,





### COCKSCOMB - cont

a large portion of Belize's land remains undeveloped and contains an abundance of remarkable species.

Of the 22 animal species both found in Belize and regulated by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) as rare or endangered, all but four are common in this small nation. They include ocelots, margays, collared peccaries and tapirs. The country also boasts 533 bird species, an unusual number for such a small nation. Many of these birds migrate to Belize from North America in the spring.

The Cockscomb Wildlife Sanctuary provides important benefits to people as well as to wildlife. The forest protects a watershed critical to agriculture at lower levels. If the Cockscomb rain forests were cut for citrus plantations, as is happening throughout Central America, the runoff would damage Belize's famed barrier reef. This reef, the second longest in the world, is considered one of the few pristine reefs left on earth and provides important fisheries for the nation's economy.

While most of Belize's original forests remain intact, the recent influx of refugees from neighboring countries could soon threaten Belize's wealth of wild-lands. Many of these displaced persons depend on slash and burn agricultural practices and wildlife hunting to support themselves.

Contributed by Jean Hamil

## NEW FeLV VACCINE INTRODUCED

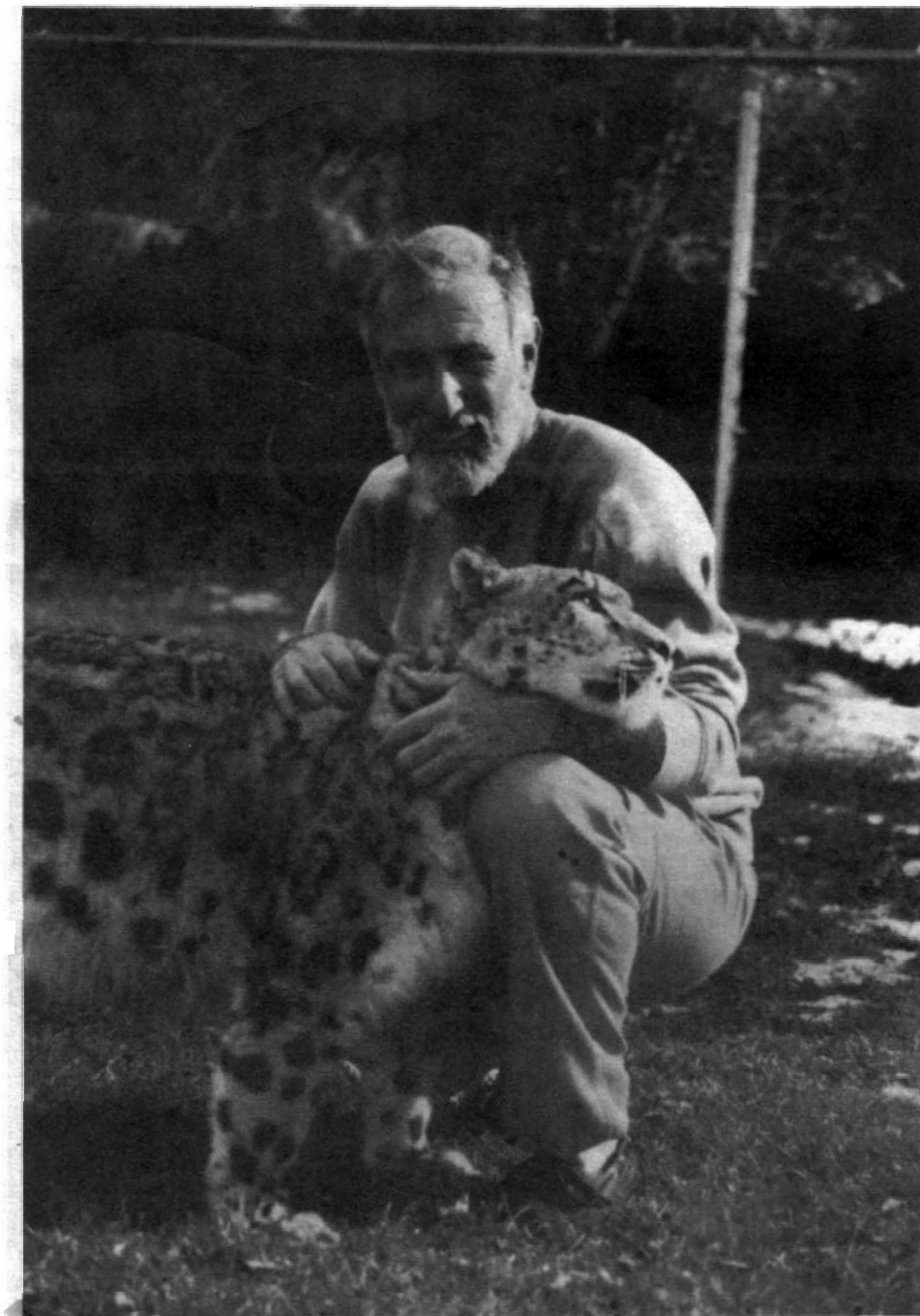
Pitman-Moore Inc. and Cambridge Biotech Corporation have announced the release of a new Feline Leukemia (FeLV) vaccine. The vaccine, GenetiVac FeLV, contains highly purified, genetically engineered antigens extracted from the feline leukemia virus. The manufactureres, Cambridge Biotech, say it will help prevent FeLV without the risks associated with other vaccines.

Feline leukemia is a communicable disease that attacks a cat's immune system resulting in degenerative diseases that are often fatal. Researchers have identified three subgroups of the disease: A, B and C. Subgroup A plays the crucial role in the FeLV infection process.

GenetiVac contains the specific component from subgroup A that causes the production of FeLV neutralizing antibodies. It does not contain any viral proteins found in conventional vaccines which have caused adverse reactions.

The new vaccine also contains an ingredient called Simulon, which increases the bodies response to this isolated antigen. "A very high protection rate was achieved against a much stronger virus than would occur in nature." said Edward Haddad, product manager for Pitman-Moore who will market the vaccine in the U.S.

We would be interested in hearing from any members who try this new vaccine as well as from those currently using any FeLV vaccine. Good or bad.



Al Porges, reports Verushka was seen breeding and is probably pregnant - kittens hopefully are due in May.