

NEWSLETTER

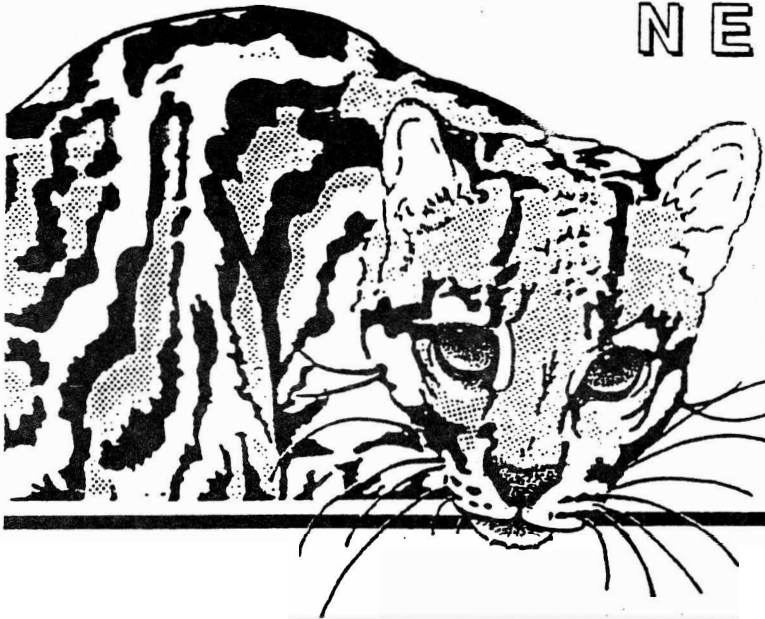
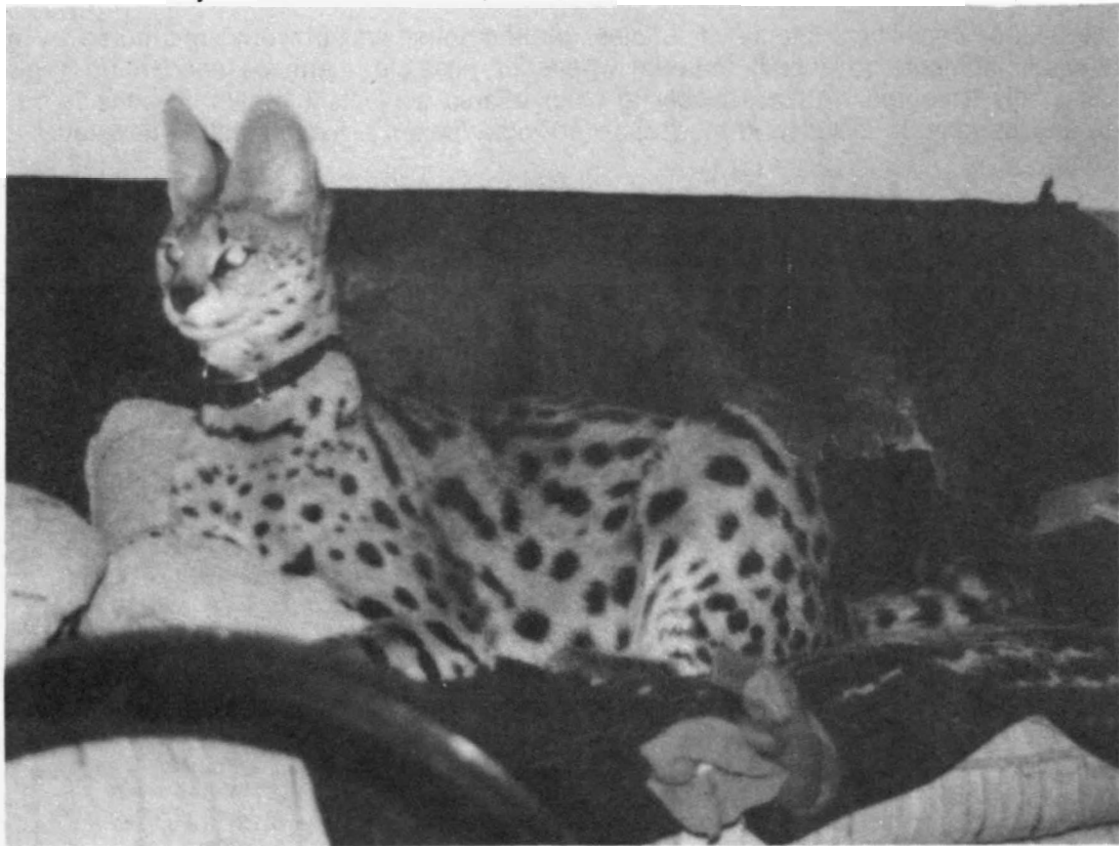
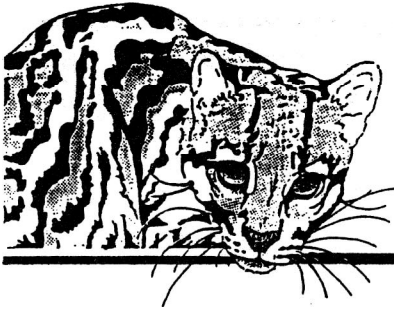


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Convention '91 Report.	3
1991 Lottie Award.	12
President's Perspective.	13
Photo Collage.	14
Cats in Nepal.	16
Membership Directory	21
White Tiger Debate	23
Book Reviews	25



Natasha is a beautiful, well behaved, three year old African serval. She has appeared with her owner, Niki Martin, at numerous schools as a good will ambassador to help children learn about conservation and wildlife. She recently underwent emergency hysterectomy surgery. Niki reports "Natasha is taking full advantage of being inside - everything is hers - the couch, the bed. She is the queen and proud of it!" Niki is keeping a watchful eye on Natasha as she continues to recover.



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. Persons interested in joining LIOC should contact the Term Director in charge of Member Services.

Since the newsletter consists primarily of articles, photographs, and artwork contributed by our members, we encourage all members to submit material whenever possible. Articles concerning exotic felines are preferred and gladly accepted. Articles involving other related subjects will also be considered. Letters and responses to articles may be included in the Reader's Write column. Please send all newsletter material to the Managing Editor.

Editors

Managing Editor: Shirley Wagner, 3730 Belle Isle Lane, E., Mobile, AL 36619 (205) 661-1342

Production Editor: Lynn Culver, Rt. 6, Box BC56A, Mena, AR 71953 (501) 394-5235

Founder: Catherine Cisin, Amagansett, NY 11930

Officers

President: Dr. John Perry, 6684 Central Ave., N., Fridley, MN 55432 (612) 571-7918, 481-2673

Vice President: Suzi Mutascio, 2470 Eloong Dr., Mobile, AL 36605 (205) 471-5498

Secretary/Treasurer: *Lynn Culver, Rt. 6, Box BC56A, Mena, AR 71953 (501) 394-5235

Life Directors

Ethel Hauser, 14622 N. E. 99th St., Vancouver, WA 98682 (206) 892-9994

Dr. John Perry, 6684 Central Ave., N., Fridley, MN 55432 (612) 571-7918, 481-2673

Shirley Wagner, 3730 Belle Isle Lane E., Mobile, AL 36619 (205) 661-1342 night 434-0626 day

Term Directors

Member Services: Barbara Wilton, P. O. Box 66040, Portland, OR 97290 (503) 774-1657

Education & Conservation: Al Porges, 6 Westview Dr., Stoughton, MA 02072 (617) 344-4943

Legal Affairs: Katie Knight-Monteiro, 412 Matts lane, Rt. 3, Alvin, TX 77511 (713) 331-2742

Advertising & Publicity: Katie Knight-Monteiro, 412 Matts Lane, Rt. 3, Alvin, TX 77511 (713) 331-2742

Branches

Pacific Northwest Exotics: Jerry Boyle, P. O. Box 205, Gresham, OR 97030

Northwest Exotic Felines: Ethel Hauser, 14622 N. E. 99th St., Vancouver, WA 98682 (206) 892-9994

Affiliates

World Pet Society: Jan Giacinto, Box 570343, Tarzana, CA 91357 (818) 345-5140 office (818) 881-7459 FAX

Animal Finder's Guide: Pat Hctor, Box 99, Prairie Creek, IN 47969 (812) 898-2676

Las Vegas Convention '91

Convention '91 began Thursday August 8th, with LIOC members checking into the sprawling Flamingo Hilton Hotel. The size was impressive, though it also created difficulties, the elevators could take you to the floor you wanted, but you hiked many a long and winding hall to get to different rooms. LIOC's hospitality room on the 28th floor, overlooking Ceasers' Palace, the Las Vegas strip and the beautiful Sierra Nevada mountains in the backround became the gathering point for check-ins, reunions and cat talk. Gayle Schaecher and Kathleen Tesdale registered attendees giving out name tags and taking orders for the exciting Siegfried and Roy Friday night Show seats. Several members had arrived early, John Perry, Shirley Wagner with husband Donnie, Jerry Boyle among others. Old friends and new joined together for dinner plans. My party, John Perry, Katie Knight-Monteiro, Nanette McGann, Al Porges and myself, Lynn Culver, tried out a taxi driver-recommended "Hole in the Wall" Italian restaurant. Great food, homemade pasta. Many other members toured the strip to try their luck gambling. Several members bought show tickets to see such acts as David Copperfield.

General Membership Meeting

Friday morning at 10:00a.m. President, John Perry welcomed us to the LIOC general membership meeting. LIOC officers were introduced and John gave us an update on the chicken neck with and without skin analysis performed by his employer Land of Lakes's analysis lab. This information will be published in the newsletter shortly.

Membership Suggestions

The floor was then opened to member's input and requests for board action. Member John Van Stry gave the first membership suggestion. He proposed that LIOC donate some of its discretionary savings to a Washington lobby which protects the rights of people to own animals. The Joint Pet Industry Council was suggested as a possible recipient to a LIOC donation. John Perry felt we needed to do some research on lobby possibilities.

Life Director Ethel Hauser, suggested that LIOC create an official New Owner Handbook, of 8 to 10 pages, covering basic cat care. Katie Knight-Monteiro added that this booklet should also contain trouble-shooting "what to look for" as well as "how to care" information. Gayle Schaecher offered LIOC the use of Pacific Northwest's care booklet. A committee to work on this project consisting of Lynn Culver, Gayle Schaecher, Ethel Hauser and Katie Knight-Monteiro was formed.

Membership Meeting Continued

Al Porges asked for input on publishing a new LIOC Breeder's Directory. He relayed how as director of Conservation and Education, he receives many calls asking for specific felines, but lacking a current breeder's reference, he is providing less information than he would like. Shirley Wagner told the membership of plans in the works for a membership directory, which will include breeding information and experience which should also function as a breeder's directory. The enclosed membership survey in this newsletter should be filled and returned out by everyone for this directory to be effective.

Kat Morrow took the floor next to share with LIOC members what she and Robert Haack are doing next year. They are putting together a Wildlife Run in conjunction with the Milwaukee Zoological Society. All proceeds from this planned annual event will be put into a conservancy fund with the Milwaukee Zoological Society and specifically used for preservation of endangered species and their habitat. The first endangered species featured will be the ocelot. She asked the members for any suggestions of how to best aid the ocelot and its habitat.

Jerry Boyle encouraged the creation of new LIOC branches. Branches don't have to be fancy, but for the sake of the cats, Jerry wants to see 10 to 20 new LIOC branches. His pep talk was continued on Saturday morning.

Nanette Gann of Florida is hoping to find a baby serval as soon as her Florida permit is approved and Wisconsin member, Kat Morrow asked if members knew of a breeding male ocelot for her female ocelot.

The membership meeting was concluded with a special introduction of Robert Baudy, longtime LIOC member, and extremely successful animal trainer and breeder of endangered leopards, tigers and other felines.

Those attending Convention '91 were Richard and Donna Amos, Oregon, Jane Anderson, Wisconsin, Robert Baudy, Florida, Jeff and Scarlett Bellingham, Canada, Steve Belknap, Don Both, Jerry Boyle and Addie Lindstrom, all Oregon, Kathleen Bolye, California, Carlo Brittelli, California, Tom and Kelly Jean Buckley, Arizona, Carin Carmichael, California, Ed and Nancy Chlarson, Oregon, Terry Coop, Nevada, Lynn Culver, Arkansas, Glen Davis, Jackie Vanderwall, John Van Stry, all Oregon, Gan Giacinto, California, Robert Haack and Kat Morrow, Wisconsin, Ethel Hauser, Barbara Wilton, both Oregon, Karen and Mary Jesseaume, both Massachuttes, Lily Lehman, Nanette McGann, both Florida, Ralph and Connie Miller, Washington, Katie Knight-Monteiro, Kristine Benben!, both Texas, Lisa Padula, Paul Richardson, both Massachuttes, Ray and Linda Powers, Texas, John Perry, Minnesota, Albert Porges, Massachuttes, Paul Rames, Loreon Vigne, California, Gayle Schaecher, Oregon, Diane Stahl, New Jersey, Chris Peterson, New Jersey, Kathleen Tesdale, Oregon, Donnie and Shirley Wagner, Alabama, Wayne and Cherly Warren Washington, and our special guest speaker, Ralph Helfer, Africa.

Board of Directors Meeting

Present were president John Perry, secretary/treasurer, Lynn Culver, life directors, Ethel Hauser and Shirley Wagner, term directors, Al Porges, Conservation and Education; Katie Knight-Monteiro, Advertising and Publicity; Barbara Wilton, Member Services, and Pacific Northwest Exotics branch representatives, Gayle Schaecher, and Jerry Boyle. Absent were Vice president, Suzi Mustacio and Legal Affairs director, Mary Parker.

A motion was made by Shirley Wagner, to have Katie Knight-Monteiro rewrite the LIOC information brochure, making improvements in wording and information content as well as layout and then circulate for board approval. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Al Porges, to run a publicity article in Animal Finder's Guide covering the LIOC cat ownership information contained in the LIOC information brochure. Motion approved.

The LIOC membership directory was suggested by Shirley Wagner. A sample of the questionnaire, which will be included in the Spetember/October issue was circulated and approved. A motion was made by Ethel Hauser to accept this questionnaire for the purpose of creating a membership directory. Motion Approved.

Shirley Wagner suggested that business cards be solicited for the membership directory at an advertising fee of \$5.00 each, to defray the cost of printing the directory, and encourage advertising by the membership. Cat related, as well as non-cat related business cards will be solicited from the membership, in order that members be given the opportunity to patronize the goods and services of other LIOC members.

Membership Report - Barbara Wilton supplied the board with copies of the membership mailing list.

Lynn Culver suggested that LIOC should send out questionnaires to members that do not renew to LIOC for the purpose of better understanding why they choose to drop their membership. Barbara reported that LIOC has about 100 delates per year, and this questionnaire would cost the organization about \$29.00 in return postage. This questionnaire will be included in the final copy of the LIOC newsletter that a non-renewing member would receive. A motion was made by Ethel Hauser that Katie Knight--Monteiro work up this questionnaire, and submit it to the board for approval.

Advertising and Publicity Report - Katie Knight-Monteiro read the new LIOC ad which will appear in Cat Fancy magazine in the November issue. "Join the only organization of private wild cat owners, breeders and fanciers. Bi-monthly newsletter brings you stories of care and conservation. LIOC

Board of Directors Meeting Continued

Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc. Annual Membership is \$20.00 US., \$25 International, or \$2.00 for info package". The LIOC ads will appear in the miscellaneous services.

A motion was made by Shirley Wagner to accept the new ad in Cat Fancy and Cats magazine. Motion was approved.

Katie read LIOC background information package to be mailed to organizations and product manufacturers to encourage them to advertise in LIOC's newsletter. Al Porges offered to send Katie a list of manufacturers of products he uses. All LIOC members are encouraged to send Katie lists of potential LIOC advertisers.

Legal Services report - Mary Parker was absent from the executive meeting. Mary has resigned from the board. A motion was made to have Katie Knight-Monteiro fill the office of Legal Affairs until the regular elections of 1992. Shirley expressed a desire to have access to the legal books so that she could put together a brochure for members concerning the laws on exotic ownership.

Conservation and Education Report - Al Porges related how he receives many phone inquiries, but lacks the information necessary to refer callers to the proper experts or breeders. Once again this pointed out the need for a membership directory.

Al Porges reported that his New England chapter of LIOC is dead - tough anti-cat laws prevent new ownership. It will be removed from the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - The proposed budget for 1992 was read. Shirley Wagner made a motion to approve the budget. Motion approved.

New Business

A motion was made by Ethel Hauser for LIOC to approve the expense of about \$50 to \$70 for the purchase of a file cabinet for Barbara Wilton to hold LIOC files. Motion approved.

Al Porges proposed that LIOC donate \$125 to Michael Tewes research on the ocelot and \$125 to his jaguarundi study. Motion approved.

A motion was made to further study lobbying interests that might best represent the LIOC interests for a potential donation from LIOC. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Shirley Wagner to give a year's subscription to LIOC gratis to Michael Tewes. Motion approved.

John Perry made a motion that LIOC reaffirm the membership fees - \$20 in U.S. and \$25 international U.S. Motion approved.

Board of Directors Meeting Continued

A motion was made to have convention 1992 in San Antonio, to be put together by Katie Knight-Monteiro. Motion approved.

A motion was made to create Regional Contacts as part of the newsletter inside page, to function as assistants to the board, in communicating with the members of LIOC. A phone budget will have to be approved for these positions once they are filled. Motion approved.

Katie Knight-Monteiro suggested to the board that the LIOC non-profit, tax-exempt status be employed to receive donations for goods and services.

A motion was made by Ethel Hauser to give free advertising space to Katie's attorney, Sherry, in gratitude for her future services to LIOC. Motion approved.

Shirley Wagner made a motion that all board officers write their job description in great detail, covering their duties, for a file system to be sent to the president, who will get them into a coherent form and send them out to the board. This will then be kept as a permanent record by the secretary. Motion approved.

This concludes issues discussed by the LIOC board during convention 1991.

ExotiCare Presentation

Friday's busy schedule continued after the General Membership Meeting with a presentation by president of ExotiCare, Inc., Katie Knight-Monteiro, on her handler training apprenticeship program. Katie relayed to LIOC members the difficulties of reaching those who need this information most. She explained her theory behind the ideal class size - 4 to 6 persons, which in her experience, has proven to be small enough for individual attention, but large enough for creating feedback by watching others practice and learn. Many questions from the audience centered on liability insurance, precautions, and how she could reach a greater audience, including the U.S.D.A. inspectors.

Jerry Boyle then shared with us his many amusing and insightful observations concerning designing wild feline caging and compounds. As president John Perry shared in his president's perspective, Jerry had several useful suggestions.

Siegfried & Roy at the Mirage

After an afternoon of meetings and educational talks, the convention goers were ready to relax and enjoy the beauty and mystery of the world famous Siegfried and Roy show at the Mirage Hotel. For those who haven't experienced the Mirage, the hotel environment is one of a tropical oasis, including numerous waterfalls, an indoor tropical rainforest of palms and lush flowering undergrowth, a mountain volcano which erupts nightly, white tigers displayed behind glass and dolphins playing.

Our block seats for Siegfried and Roy were adjacent to the stage itself, one couldn't get any closer. Siegfried and Roy are showbiz pizzaz, the technology of tomorrow, combined with the beauty of nature; a celebration of mystery, fantasy and illusion. Not only were we treated to illusions involving beautiful white tigers, lion, leopard, and jaguar, but also at least 100 colorfully costumed, choreographed dancers, laser light shows, and a three story tall, fire breathing, robotic dragon. For two hours we were spellbound, watching mystifying illusions such as a disappearing elephant, dancers in lizard and angel costumes, smoke and laser light shows.

Siegfried and Roy are in awe of their animals. "To me the white tiger is like a unicorn", says Roy. "All my life I dreamt of them." "I feel magic every day I look out of the window", says Siegfried, "It is nature, it is all around us".

Roy points out that "Three hundred years ago pure white tigers still roamed the wilds of India. Today they are gone; we nearly lost them forever." They are ever so grateful that nature has given them a second chance. "If there is anything we want to be remembered for is leaving behind a living legacy of the white tigers for our children to enjoy. It is our goal to return the white tigers to the wild state where they may once again bring grace and granduer to the four corners of the earth".



Lecture By Ralph Helfer

Convention goers were treated to an inspiring lecture by one of Hollywoods most successful and controversial animal trainers, Ralph Helfer. LIOC members who have read Toni Helfer's book, "Gentle Jungle", written in 1980, are aware of his history and reputation. Ralph has recently written his own account of his experiences during the 70's in Hollywood, called the "Beauty of the Beasts". His book contains many of the same stories, and ends at the same point as Toni's, shortly after the epic flood which destroyed his Africa U.S.A. animal theme park.

Ralph began his lecture giving background information on the early days of stuntman, wild animals and the whims of directors. He related how animals used to be trained with brutality, resulting in animals which were unreliable, hateful and dangerous. Because of this fact, he found himself in a near death situation. It was a circus movie scene gone wrong; a full grown male African lion jumped from its pedastal biting Ralph through his arm, biting his chest and legs and then pinning him to the ground. He was rescued by a brave prop man who scared the lion off with a fire extinguisher.

While he was recovering from this serious mauling, Ralph began to formulate a plan to start anew. He believed that he could connect with animals on an emotional level, and he would use this emotional reinforcement to attempt to train without the use of force or violence. Ralph divested himself of his adult animals and began collecting only newborn babies. He discovered one must take the place of the maternal, paternal parent, and live in intense contact with the animal. The cornerstone of this training was the idea of love, patience, understanding and respect. Mixed together in the right proportions, Ralph hoped to raise wild animals to adulthood, having them understand and cooperate.

He told of his theory that the hand must only be used for two things - to feed - and Ralph claims to hand feed everything - no buckets for him, and - to show affection. For undesirable behavior, Ralph reprimands by removing a favored item or privilege - he never uses physical punishment. He stated that if one uses a fist on such an animal as a lion or tiger, then he has lost it all. He raised his daughter on this "affection training" and she turned out great. Ralph's animals grew to adulthood, experiencing sexual maturity, and instead of untrustworthy dangerous beasts, they were his friends.

Ralph's great acceptance in Hollywood came when his affection raised male African lion Zamba, won the starring role in the movie "The Lion". This was special because the plot of this movie called for Zamba and a female child to have a love relationship. Zamba performed his role, and actually developed a fondness for his co-star.

Ralph's company grew and in the 30 years of existance, was responsible for over 3,000 animal performances. He bought 300 acres in Soledad Canyon in California and built animal compounds and movie sets. He filmed, produced, wrote and directed. Daktari, Gentle Ben, Walt Disney, and many other shows were filmed on his premises.

Saturday Night Banquet

Members were in high spirits after an inspiring talk by guest speaker Ralph Helfer, and a return trip to the Hospitality Suite to purchase autographed copies of his recent book, "The Beauty of the Beasts". Ralph reduced his price, and LIOC added \$10.00 to the cost, so that the 32 books purchased netted LIOC another \$320.00 Thank you convention goers. Afterwards, There was just time enough to shower and dress for the banquet dinner, having so much activity packed into the day.

Dinner was in the Flamingo Room. While socializing over drinks, everyone gathered around the photo poster so they could vote two choices for the newsletter "Photo of the Year" contest. And raffle tickets for a black and white drawing of Ethel Hauser's ocelots kittens and a hand made ocelot stuffed animal were sold.

After an excellent salad, (lots of goodies in it) cornish game hens, assorted vegetables, after dinner coffee and ice cream with fruit, we were stuffed. First item on the evening program was the awards ceremony. Overwhelmingly chosen as the photo of the year was the May/June cover shot of Gayle Schaecher's lynx, licking her popsicle. Gayle was presented with an engraved plaque. For reporter of the year, Jean Hamil was honored for her regular contributions of news articles. A beautiful engraved silver platter will be mailed to her, since she was unable to attend the convention. And the very special Lotty was voted by the past recipients to be awarded to longtime Florida member, BJ Lester. She was notified by phone of this special honor.

This year our beloved regular auctioneer, J.B. Anderson missed convention, so we did something different. Vanna White (a.k.a. Jeff Bellingham) changed over to auctioneer position. John Van Stry gave his best shot at being Vanna, and away we went. Not to be too critical, but the auction bidding oclated from being too slow (more alcohol needed? or did you all spend too much money gambling?) to being overwhelming, when Jane Anderson and Addie Lindstrom jumped in with Vanna to auction three items simultaneously. There were generous numbers of sale items donated. Shirley Wagner alone deserves some sort of award, or at least a generous "Thank you" for the many, many, artfully designed cat print T-shirts and handbags she created. Many observant, old time convention goers know to purchase ahead of auction while items are on the sale table, realizing items often auction for higher than the stated price. But with so many new faces at convention, the sale table stayed loaded with clothing, jewelry, photos, paintings, and other good stuff until it was auctioned Saturday night. The fun-filled chaos netted LIOC \$2,124.34! Winning the raffle ocelot kitens drawing was Barbara Wilton and the special guest speaker Ralph Helfer, won the ocelot stuffed animal.

RAFFEL WINNERS

Ralph Helfer with
stuffed ocelot

Barbara Wilton with
ocelot kittens art



Shirley Wagner presents
Gayle Schaecher, who's
lynx photo was voted by
convention goers as the
favorite photo to appear
in all of last year's
LIOC newsletters, with
a plaque, as Kathleen
Tesdale looks on.

**Sunday Morning Breakfast**

Sunday morning came all too soon. The goodbye breakfast was bittersweet. Good feelings were abundant due to the new friendships created, and progress generated from the general membership and the board of directors meetings, and the information learned from the various speakers. The future of LIOC appears strong, united and progressive. Sad though, was the actual parting, the hugs, kisses. Once again saying goodbye to people that share our unique and challenging devotion to some of nature's most perfect creatures. We all have friends at home, but it is only fellow cat people that can ever truly understand us. So until next year's convention, we will savor the memories, and plan for the future.

There were many new faces at this year's LIOC convention. A sign of a healthy and growing membership interest. We invite all of you back, and encourage others who haven't been to a convention yet, to plan now for the 1992 August LIOC convention in San Antonio, Texas. Several guest speakers are being lined up now, and a social get together cocktail hour for introductions and member mixing are already planned.

1991 LOTTIE GOES TO BEEJAY LESTER



The 1991 Lottie was presented to Florida member BeeJay Lester at LIOC's 20th Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

A member since 1969, BeeJay has always stood ready to assist LIOC and the felines she loves. She has been a steady contributor to the Newsletter and a tireless worker whenever asked over the years. The roster of Lottie recipients is indeed enhanced by the addition of her name.

The Lottie signifies unusual devotion to LIOC and the cats we love. It is represented by a sculpted ocelot head originally done by Brenda Duprey in the form of her ocelot, Zapata. BeeJay's is number 25.

The first being presented to then LIOC Secretary, Gene Brill in 1966. No presentation was made in 1989 as no outstanding

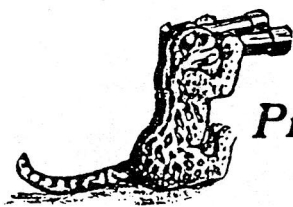
candidate was found.

Past Lottie recipients are polled for nominations and then a vote is taken from past recipients. The presentation of the Lottie is one of the highlights of each convention as until that time, the awardee is a closely guarded secret. Congratulations BeeJay.

Life Director Nominations

Two ladies, Carin Carmichael and Jackie Vanderwall, which have been nominated by the LIOC membership to serve on the LIOC Board of Directors as Life Directors, have accepted their nominations. This position will be voted on by the general membership this coming December, when a ballot form will be included in your newsletter.

Since Ken Hatfield stepped down as Life Director earlier this year, the position has been vacant. To be eligible for a Life Director position on the Board, you must have already served on the board in the past. Two signatures, from LIOC members in good standing are required before a nomination can be accepted. If there are any other potential candidates, willing to serve, they must be nominated immediately.



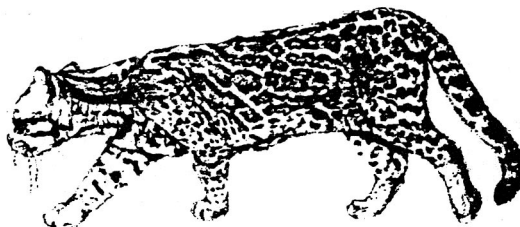
President's Perspective

September, 1991

It was good seeing everyone at convention and we missed those of you who didn't make it there! We're continuing our support of the Texas Ocelot program and also providing support for the Jaguarundi project. (Both are being organized by Mike Tewes.) The Board received lots of feedback as to what the members consider the priorities for us to be working on. Gerry Boyle's roundtable on improvements we'd make with our caging the second time we built them was very interesting. Some of it was common sense, like making sure you can get a wheelbarrow through the door if you use one for cleaning. Some was very enlightening, for instance, Bob Baudy suggested that transition runways between cage sections can be adapted to make squeeze cages for large cats so that one doesn't have to get them out of the cage to immobilize them.

Next year is an election year. Several positions, including that of president will not have incumbents running. I have decided not to run for re-election. While I have been challenged and rewarded during these three years, I feel it is time for others to take over the leadership. I will continue on the board in the position of Life Director. I feel that the past three years have been productive, and that the organization has become much more dynamic. I look forward to working with the new officers.

I see the most important task of the group over the next few years is reaching out to those who have exotic cats and aren't members. These are, quite likely, the group that most needs help to know how to adequately care for their animals. Also, this is where the publicity and legal catastrophies come from. Within the membership, I feel that the awareness of animal care and safety is high. We may not all agree on all the details, but we understand the needs for good nutrition and safe housing for our animals. I'd welcome any suggestions on how we can raise the awareness of people who don't realize they have a problem or who for one reason or another don't care to be involved in us {or don't know about LIOC!}.



Convention



Barbara Wilton, Ethel Hauser, Lynn Culver, Katie Knight-Monteiro, Shirley and Donnie Wagner



Paul Ramses and



Robert Baudy, Lily Lehman



Jeff Bellingham, John Perry



Lisa Padula, Paul Richardson Carin Carmichael

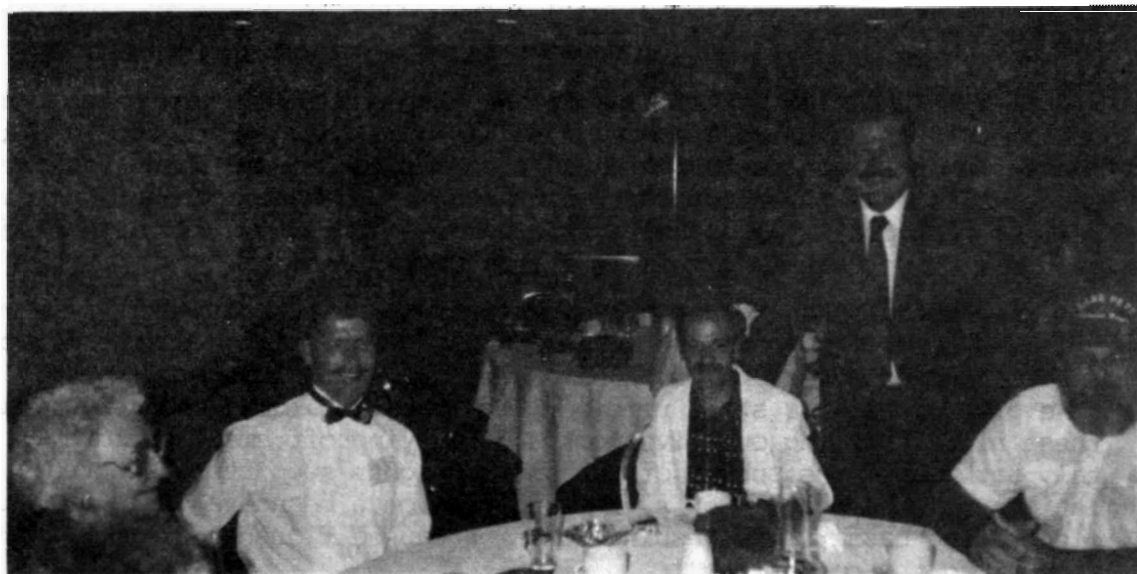


Linda and Ray Powers

n Memories



nd Loreon Vigne



Kathleen Boyle, Don Both, Steve Belknap, John Perry, Ed Chlarson



ry, John Van Stry



Gan Giacinto



Jerry Boyle, Scarlett and Jeff Bellingham



Robert Haack, Kat Morrow, Al Porges



Donna Amos, Lynn Culver,
Jayne Anderson

Cats in Nepal

When it comes to house cats, the Nepalese don't discriminate. Tabbies, calicoes, Siamese, Persians - they're all bad luck. My Driver, Kancha Lama, a man who usually greets life with a broad smile, frowned when I quizzed him about the local status of *Felis catus*. "If a cat crosses the path of our pickup truck, we must stay put until another vehicle passes us. And if it is a black cat, we must not drive that day. This is a very wicked animal."

Wild cats, on the other hand inspire awe. Most Nepalese live in mountain villages, close to wooded areas and wild-cat habitat. Even where the dense forests of rhododendron and birch have been cut and only the odd jungle cat survives, the older residents still remember "Not too long ago," they say, "tigers roamed these hills, killing our livestock and carrying off small children." In the capital, Kathmandu, the suburb of Baneshwar Heights supports a spotted leopard population until the late 1950's, a young male once meandered into the middle of the old trading bazaar. The ensuing commotion caused ricksha gridlock and sparked a riot among the pedestrians.

To rural Nepalese, all four large cats native to the kingdom are known as bagh. The term most commonly used to refer to the Bengal tiger, the biggest of the species. At one time it was found throughout the lowlands. Today, probably no more than 150 tigers survive. The snow leopard, formerly thought to be on the verge of extinction, remains safe from humanity, tucked away in the inaccessible Himalayan gorges, its numbers unknown. Spotted leopards are ubiquitous, wily survivors that manage to eke out a living in the most degraded forests. (A friend of mine who is a biologist by training and a cynic by nature is convinced that when all other species vanish from the Earth, spotted leopards will be there swatting cockroaches.) The rarest of these cats is the clouded leopard, a species found in east India, across Southeast Asia to Borneo and in Taiwan, but one that until recently had not been reported in Nepal for a century.

Not long ago, when I was awakened at 6 a.m. by an out-of-breath villager who told me that a 'bagh' had been captured as it raided a local chicken coop, I assumed that he meant a tiger. The owner of the coop had pinned the animal down with a log behind its head, the man explained, and then the creature had been placed inside a crate by the villagers and later brought to our research camp in the park.

It was not unusual for people to drop off injured wild cats; the camp had been the home base for the Smithsonian's cooperative wildlife ecology research with Nepal since the mid-1970s. We were now studying rhinos but in the years past, had captured and radio-collared Bengal tigers. I hurriedly pulled on my clothes but remained skeptical about the villager's story. How, after all, could a 120-pound farmer get the better of a full-grown tiger?

When I saw the size of the crate I realized that if it contained a Bengal tiger, the villagers must have captured a cub. To my amazement, though, I found not a tiger cub but a clouded leopard - the first I had ever seen outside a zoo. This improbable capture raised the possibility that the "official" range of the species extended several hundred miles farther west than scientists had previously believed.

Clouded leopards are endangered, and little is known about their ecology or their behavior in the wild. This one on our doorstep, a young male, was the fourth to be reported within the past few months. A pair of cubs and another subadult male had been captured earlier in other locations, a clear sign that at least the remnant of a breeding population remains in Nepal.

CATS OF NEPAL - continued.

Biologists have commonly assumed that these cats survive only in the disappearing band of dense, evergreen tropical forest that stretches from India to Southeast Asia. That they're also holding on in the scrubby jungles around villages is astonishing to those who study wild carnivores - somewhat like discovering that Donald Trum has sublet his Manhattan townhouse in order to live in the South Bronx.

A sullen prisoner, our cat snarled and spat, exposing a massive set of canines that would do a prehistoric saber-toothed tiger proud. For their size, about 50 pounds at maturity for a male, the clouded leopards possess the largest canines of any cat. This proud beast had suffered a few abrasions when it was captured and we had to treat those before releasing it.

We sedated the leopard using a drug the family vet employs to tranquilize dogs and cats. Within 5 minutes our 'bagh' was sleepy enough to be dragged out of the crate. We all marveled at the softness of his fur, which was swirled along the sides with a striking pattern of dark clouds.

After measuring him - his impressive tail was almost as long as his 34-inch body - we attached a collar that was rigged with a radio-transmitter. We then applied a long-lasting antibiotic to his wounds and put him back inside his crate.

Several hours after he revived from the drug, we fed our guest a chicken and he dispatched it with a swipe of his paw. Until I talked them out of it, members of my staff wanted to feed him a puppy because, they pointed out, village dogs were frequently preyed upon by spotted leopards.

On a steady diet of pullets, the leopard quickly regained his strength while we waited for permission from wildlife officials in Kathmandu to release him. As time dragged on, the main participant in this drama grew more and more restless. At night as I lay in my bed on the second floor of my jungle hut, I could hear the cat's deep growl as he paced in his cage on the floor below. Finally, three days after he was brought to ca-p, one week after he tried to steal a farmer's chickens, official word filtered down to us. The national zoo already had a pair of clouded leopards, therefore, this one would be returned to the wild. The only condition was that it had to be released inside the park.

Early the next morning we loaded the crate and its snarling occupant onto the bed of our pickup truck and headed for the release site. Within a half-hour we arrived at a riverine forest of evergreen wild avocado and fig trees. We lifted the crate out of the truck and opened the door, expecting the leopard to leap out immediately.

Nothing happened.

We tried clapping our hands and throwing sticks at the crate. The leopard still refused to budge.

Finally, we tried lifting the crate off the animal, a trick we had pulled once with a stubborn rhino. When we winched the crate up this time however, the leopard simply climbed up inside of the crate and held on.

Minutes passed, still no movement. At last, the leopard seemed to tire and slid to the edge of the door. He crawled out and under the crate, which was suspended several feet off the ground, and remained there motionless - as if ready to pounce.

One of our elephant drivers picked up a stick and hit the leopard on the hindquarters, whereupon it bounded off into the undergrowth to loud and sustained

CATS OF NEPAL - continued

applause. The squawking of wild jungle fowl and peacocks, startled by the arrival of a new predator, clearly marked the route the leopard had taken. After a few hours of rest for the cat and our crew, we climbed onto our elephants and began to follow the radio signal emanating from the transmitter on the animal's collar.

Students of wildlife biology are warned early about the temptation to attribute human emotions and attitudes to the animals they study - a sin usually referred to as anthropomorphism - but I couldn't help wondering what was going through the leopard's mind as we spent the following days radio-tracking him. For all we knew, he might have sensed, from the lack of tracks, droppings and scent of his own kind, that he was exploring new terrain.

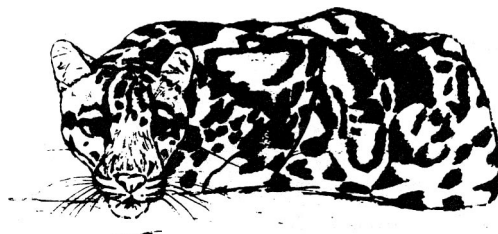
The leopard kept moving west, and so did we. During the second week, radio contact became infrequent. The cat had gone up into the hills. After nine more days, during which I was unable to pick up any signal at all, Gyan Bahadur, my elephant driver, sensed that I still wanted to press on. With a broad sweep of his hand, the old mahout uttered what I already knew to be true, "ahh, gayo, gayo, Saheb, gaisakyo!" (Gone, gone, Sir, already gone!) and turned our elephant homeward.

Many Asian Buddhists place great faith in the release of captive wildlife as an act that purifies the soul. Cultural views aside, few things give more satisfaction to anyone who reveres wildlife than treating an injured wild animal and returning it to nature. Such had been our privilege. But our encounter with that beautiful creature also gave us professional satisfaction. For two weeks we had been able to track him daily. It was the first time that biologists had monitored the movements of a free-ranging clouded leopard.

The fate of this particular cat remains unclear. Perhaps it was killed by a tiger before it could find safe haven. Perhaps it is still wandering in the Churia Hills of Chitwan, looking for a mate. Any one of a number of things could have happened to it. As for me, I am left with the image of a lone clouded leopard stalking across the forest floor. Now and then he pauses to scrape the earth and mark with urine at the junction of two deer trails, charting what may be virgin territory in his species' atlas of modern Asia.

Reprinted from "Around the Mall and Beyond," Smithsonian Magazine, by Eric Dinerstein.

Eric Dinerstein is a biologist with the World Wildlife Fund and a visiting research scientist at the Smithsonian who spent four years working in Nepal's Royal Chitwan National Park. He has written before for the Smithsonian about his experiences there.



NEPAL - cont.

From WWF "Focus" by Larry Barnes.

While in Nepal last winter (1989), I discovered fur coats made from leopard cats, common leopards, clouded leopards, snow leopards and wolves being openly sold in the tourist area of Kathmandu. Over 90 percent of Kathmandu's fur-selling stores sold coats made from species protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). CITES prohibits commercial trade of endangered species and strictly regulates all other cat species. Nepal has been a member of CITES since 1975.

Posing as a potential fur buyer, I was told by shopkeepers how I could smuggle an illegal fur back into the U.S. Merchants offered to sew an artificial fur over a snow leopard coat in an ornate pillowcase, or attach a falsified document to a leopard skinning coat to pass it through customs under the grandfather clause of CITES. Prices for the endangered species ranged from \$300 for a half length leopard cat coat made from scrap pieces, to \$3,200 for a full length snow leopard coat made from four adult cats. A snow leopard coat can then reportedly be sold for \$30,000 in the west and in Japan.

The furs I found being sold in Kathmandu's shops represented over 1,000 animals. At least 30 diminutive leopard cats are required to make just one full-length coat. I estimated that 700 to 1,000 leopard cats were found in the fur shops. Similarly, about 40 clouded leopards, 70 common leopards, and 12 snow leopards were killed to make fur coats. These numbers are probably conservative because some of the more rare species are not on open display. I also found coats made from desert cats, fishing cats and jungle cats. Although these species are not protected by CITES, they are protected by Indian law. And India, specifically Srinagar, Kashmir, is where these and all other animals I found were tanned and sewn into coats. From Kashmir they are smuggled into Nepal.

Naive fur-buying tourists need to be educated, tourists intentionally buying illegal furs need to be caught and penalized. The wild cats of the Indian subcontinent face an uncertain future as habitat disappears under the pressure of nearly one billion human beings. The added burden of poaching could be a final blow. CITES and wildlife protection acts must be enforced if we are to save these species from extinction.



CANNED HUNT UPDATE cont.

In Bryan County, Oklahoma, about 100 miles north of Dallas, Texas, Charles Bartholomew operated the 160 acre Texoma Hunting Wilderness, another grisly canned hunt facility. His trial ended with a plea bargain; he will spend six months in jail, do 400 hours of community service and forfeit his "preserve" to the state.

Environmental Defense Fund Seeks Cleanup of Agricultural Runoff

The Florida Everglades Park has lost 90% of its formerly vast colonies of wading birds, which have had virtually no nesting success for two years. More than a dozen Everglades animals are endangered or threatened, including the American crocodile, Florida panther, West Indian manatee, snail kite, wood stork, and five species of sea turtles.

These wildlife losses have resulted from the rechanneling of the Everglades' complex, natural flow into a massive plumbing system of canals and pumps. "In the wet season", WDF chairman Michael Bean explained, "water managers drain a huge portion of the northern Everglades for sugarcane farming. In the dry season, they pump water back in to irrigate the cane. This cycle provides too little water at the wrong time for wildlife and also generates polluted agricultural runoff."

EDF intervened in a suit with a coalition of national and local environmental groups to force the Florida sugar industry to clean up its agricultural runoff which is polluting the Florida Everglades. "Ending pollution requires enforcing existing clean water laws against the sugar industry," said EDF's attorney Timothy Searchinger.

condensed from the Environmental Defense Fund
contributed by Jean Hamil

Deaths

Sheba, John Perry's female geoffroy's cat died July 29, 1991. She was approximately 17 years old, and LIOC's last remaining jungle caught geoffroy's.

Chiquita, J.B. and Reva Anderson's 13 year old female jaguar died August 8th. She had been under treatment for a suspected bladder infection, when she developed serious bleeding. She died during transport to the veterinary hospital. Autopsy revealed that she had extensive cancer throughout her body. She is missed by Pepe, her male jaguar companion and her humans.

SAD NEWS



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY TO BE COMPILED

LIOC is a spread out organization. So many of us are so far apart. To solve this frustrating communication problem LIOC is about to create an exciting and useful resource tool for our membership. Early next year, it is the goal of the LIOC board of directors to publish and distribute a Membership Directory. This will greatly increase communication between members, providing information such as the species kept, or bred by a member, as well as addresses and phone numbers.

Included in this Newsletter is a questionnaire we ask that you complete and return as soon as possible. It is very necessary that we receive the full cooperation of the membership, as the directory will only be as complete as the information you provide. If you do not wish to be included in the Membership Directory, indicate that by answering the question concerning privacy. We still would like to see everyone return their questionnaires, as the information will be used by the board of directors for statistical and demographic purposes as well. The editors are especially interested in learning what species of felines are represented by the membership, so that we can better tailor the newsletter articles to the membership.

Another feature of the membership directory will be a business card advertising section. Do you have a card advertising felines you breed? How about products you sell or services you provide, whether cat related or not? Tell the membership, give them the opportunity to patronize your business or service. Business cards will be reproduced in a special section. If you would like to advertise in the Membership Directory, send your business card and a check for \$5.00 made out to LIOC.

The Directory will be updated every two years. So don't delay, if you miss this time, you'll have a long wait. **EVERYONE FILL OUT YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE TODAY AND MAIL IT BACK IMMEDIATELY!**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: My vet uses only a killed vaccine when vaccinating for rabies as required by Alabama state law. The vaccine he routinely uses is manufactured by Pittman-Moore and is administered sub-Q. His reasoning is that even in his domestic practice intramuscular shots are more difficult to administer and he doesn't want to risk being inoculated, or having one of his assistants inoculated with a modified-live vaccine - "so why should we take a chance with a pet we wouldn't take with ourselves, if the equivalent is available?" Rabies are 100% fatal - why take a chance?

Environmental Group Wants Lynx Listed As Endangered

Conconully, Washington (AP) A coalition of environmental groups says it had filed a petition asking the federal government to declare the lynx an endangered species.

"Unless we makes some waves, the agencies will allow the lynx to disappear here as they have everywhere else in the country," said Mitch Friedman, a biologist for the Greater Ecosystem Alliance.

Fifteen to 20 lynx live in the Meadows area of the Okanogan National Forest. The population is considered the largest in the contiguous United States, environmentalists said.

The Greater Ecosystem Alliance, the National Audubon Society, Humane Society, Firends of the Loomis Forest and eight other groups are listed as petitioners.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has has 90 days to determine if the petition has merit and a year to recommend action,

The goups also want the state to put the lynx on the Washington list of endangered species.

Contributed by Donna Amos

LIONS USED AS GUARDS AT HOMES IN BRAZIL

Brazilians are keeping lions in their homes as a means of protecting them from vandals. According to a recent news release from Rio de Janeiro. A book wholesaler, who has raised ten lions on his farm in the interior says Brazil's soaring crime rate has created a steady demand for the lions. "With a lion for a guard a thief may enter but he won't leave." said Mr. Gonzalex.

I recommend a large backyard, the construction of a gate and plenty of space. Then let the lions roam free at night, " he added. In Brazil there are no regulations against keeping lions. "Exotic animals can be kept at home if conditions are good. The owner is responsible for security and the animals' actions," a police official said.

One happy customer is the Oliveria family who has a 13 year old daughter and a 20 month old lion, who has a special pen in the yard. "We bought Mickey to scare away burglars and I'm sure no one would enter our house. People around the neighborhood know we have a lion, so the word is out," said Mrs. Oliveria.

Condensed from Circus Report
Contributed by BeeJay Lester.

Ethics Of Breeding White Tigers Under Debate

Shere Khan, the handsome tiger cub gamboling like a kitten at Wildlife Safari this summer wears the white and brown - soon to be black - stripes of a zoological controversy.

The creatures' rarity is where a good deal of the controversy arises, say zoo directors around the country. Some question the cat's survival capabilities, and therefore the wisdom of reproducing tigers with white coats, while others defend the striking cats as a valuable genetic variation.

"The white tiger has been a controversy practically since the Tiger Species Survival Program was formed, which is going on 12 years now", said Ron Tillson, director of conservation at the Minnesota Zoo and an outspoken opponent of the practice. The program is one of about 55 created by the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums to preserve endangered species.

All of the white tigers in the United States - except for a very few - are either hybrids, produced by crossing Bengal tigers with their Siberian cousins to get larger tigers, or are of unknown lineage, which makes them useless for breeding programs aimed at perserving the tiger gene pool, Tillson said.

That's bad enough, he said, but even more objectionable is the high degree of inbreeding used to produce the recessive gene that creates the white coat. The inbreeding - mating parents to their offspring and sisters to brothers - has resulted in a very high death and deformity rate for white cubs, he said.

Zoo conservationists also criticize the U.S. breeders of white tigers for producing animals they say can't survive well on their own in the wild, because their coloring handicaps them in their native jungles, and then touting them as ambassadors for endangered species, Tillson said.

Because the exotic white tigers and their rarity attract attention from the public, they often end up being used "to create a circus-like atmosphere to improve attendance," he said.

At the other end of the controversy spectrum is Edward J. Maruska, director of the Cincinnati Zoo, which has bred white tigers in the past and now owns two of about five purebred white Bengal tigers in the country.

The zoo imported two white females from India last year and expects to get another female and male this year, Maruska said.

Although he acknowledges the validity of the argument that most white tigers now in existence are the result of Bengal-Siberian crosses and shouldn't be reproduced, he has argued

White Tiger Debate Continued

passionately that the gene should be preserved by breeding purebred Bengal tigers.

"Not too long ago they decided the white tiger was a freak, which I disagree with strenuously," Maruska said. "Two-headed calves do not survive for any length of time - white tigers do."

White-coated cats have occurred naturally in Nepal and India in small numbers for centuries, and many have been captured as adults, he said. That proves they can learn to adapt to their unusual coloring and hunt at night, when their colorblind prey can't detect them, he said.

Because experts know so little about tiger genetics, it's possible that the recessive gene causing the white fur also carries beneficial traits not yet identified, he said.

Two years ago Maruska convinced supporters of the tiger survival plan that white tigers should be bred in small numbers if they come from pure Bengal parents. The Cincinnati Zoo plans to do so, he said.

Meanwhile, Shere Khan is spending the summer entertaining visitors to Wildlife Safari.

Condensed from an article by Kathleen Monje
in The Oregonian Newspaper
Contributed by Barbara Wilton

CANNED HUNTS UPDATE

Last issue of LIOC contained reports of recent canned hunt activities in Texas where three men were arrested and charged with killing endangered species. The three individuals involved in killing the leopard have all pled guilty in Federal District Court in San Antonio, Texas. One of the individuals was fined \$2,000 and given 3 years of probation in which he may not hunt or possess a firearm. A second individual was sentenced to 2 years and 3 months of incarceration and 3 years of supervised probation after release from the penitentiary.

This is only one of three highly publicized canned hunt operations which have been uncovered this past year. In Monterey county, California, Floyd and Dawn Patterson were charged with 49 counts of violating California poaching laws. Hunters paid up to \$3,000 each to shoot, at close range and often still in the cages, two Bengal tigers, a leopard, a black jaguar, and several illegally trapped mountain lions. Floyd and Dawn Patterson were fined a total of \$42,300. Floyd was also sentenced to 6 months in jail; Dawn Patterson was sentenced to 200 hours of community service.

New Book Available

GREAT CATS

Edited by John Seidensticker, Ph.D. and Susan Lumpkin, Ph.D.
Rodale Press, Emaus, Pa. ISBN 0-97857-965-6,
240 pages plus 200 color photos and illustrations. \$40.00

John Seidensticker is Curator of Mammals at the National Zoological Park of the Smithsonian Institution and his wife, Susan Lumpkin received her Ph.D. in biological psychology, specializing in animal behavior. She is currently Director of Communications for Friends of the National Zoo. Together, they have called on the foremost experts in a multiplicity of subjects relating to the feline species, from the latest theories on feline evolution to invitro fertilization, they have produced a comprehensive and alluring look at the world's felines today.

Nearly forty internationally renowned experts share their observations of how cats breed, live, socialize and interact with their environment. There are many unique features to GREAT CATS previously omitted from the previous volumes we all have on our shelves. One of the most useful is a chapter on the smaller felines in captivity, with insights into captive management as it pertains to reproductive success.

A chapter I found particularly interesting compared ocelots to servals - both mid-sized cats in the middle of their respective ecological chains, yet each distinctive in their approaches to this role.

Lavishly illustrated, we were pleased to see totally new color photos of most of the cats - even such elusive ones as the rusty spotted cat and kodkod. Specially commissioned original paintings of each species are featured with maps showing their current distributions.

As with all texts, we found a few errors (a picture of a margay identified as an oncilla - you editor should know!) however they are few, making this book an up-to-date reference tool.

Although this handsome volume certainly qualifies as a "coffee-table" book, being magnificently illustrated and substantial (19 x 12¼) which draws you to just leaf through it's pages; it has already replaced others as a main reference source on my library shelves.

Since it is being released September 23rd, it may not arrive unless you order it now in time for your Christmas lists, and since it is well worth the price, I suggest you call your bookstore now.

Reviewed by:
Shirley Wagner

UNTAMED

by Gunther Gebel-Williams

William Morrow & Co
105 Madison Ave
N.Y., N.Y. 10016

Reviewed by BeeJay Lester

This reviewer's love affair with the circus began in college in 1950 as a Mayday clown, followed by some clowning the next year; then in a "Walk for Wildlife" at the Jacksonville Zoo where volunteers wore animal costumes; and some promotional work for a private breeder wearing a chimp costume while riding a camel; then trying out for Ringling's Clown College; and finally going to a clown school to learn makeup and joining a local clown club.

And all these years attending circuses - from the big Ringling Bros., Barnum and Bailey to the mud shows and one ring big top shows. That's how I met Robert Baudy while he was performing with his tigers and leopards at a Shrine Circus. But I was never able to meet Gunther Gebel-Williams until this spring while he was in Jacksonville, Florida, promoting UNTAMED. After shelling out \$19.95 plus tax and getting the blond German's autograph on my copy, I proceeded to read it. It is written in a down to earth, very basic style. **Only a few chapters would** be of interest to our club members as relating to the care of their cats.

Chapter 13 being the most informative about the big cats. Gebel-Williams fed his tigers Nebraska-brand feed with a yearly meat bill of \$2,000. He could not bear the thought of cremating or burying any of the tigers that died (or his favorite leopard) so he had a taxidermist preserve their skins. "They have places of honor in the living room of my house" he said. "No one is allowed to walk on the skins." One of his tigers lived to be 22 years old.

Gebel-Williams method of training was to respect each animal and have each respect him. He says experience is the only way to learn animal training. His tools are touch and voice, not punishment. He says lions can either be very nice or very mean and because they are family-oriented, are harder to train. Tigers and leopards live independently so it is easier to build individual relationships with them. "The leopard is the toughest animal I have ever trained." Says Gebel-Williams. Tigers are dangerous but leopards kill just for the pleasure of killing and fight for the pleasure of fighting. Even though leopards are smaller Williams felt much safer working with tigers. One of his acts used 22 cats: 17 leopards, 3 black leopards and two mountain lions.

Of the Siberian tiger, Williams says they are tougher to train than Bengals; they have longer backs which make it difficult for them to sit up so they need more time in training to learn simple tricks.



UNTAMED - cont.

This bit of medical info in his book was astonishing to this reviewer: "It is better for the cubs when their mothers raise them (tigers) but often the mothers push them aside. When that happens, the best thing to insure a cub's health is for the vet to get a bit of the mother's blood and put it under the skin to help build it's immune system."

Has anyone ever heard of this method? It's news to me! Well that's about it for UNTAMED, unless the reader would be interested in Gebel-Williams' raise to fame and his life in the circus. I'm sure he's the world's most famous animal trainer, but he should stick to that profession and leave book writing to others.

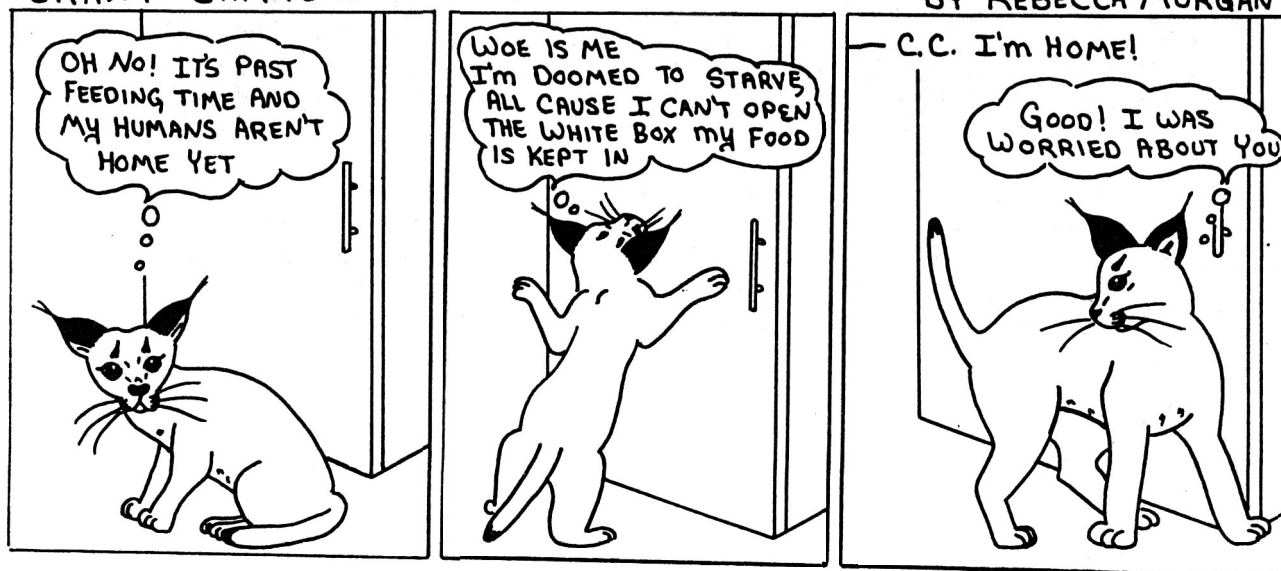
Another thing, he also tells us something we should all know already: Never wear cologn, aftershave, scented deodorant when working with wild cats. Perfume-type odors annoy some he says. But, I've found that unusual scents arouse the cats first and then some get possessive of the wearer.

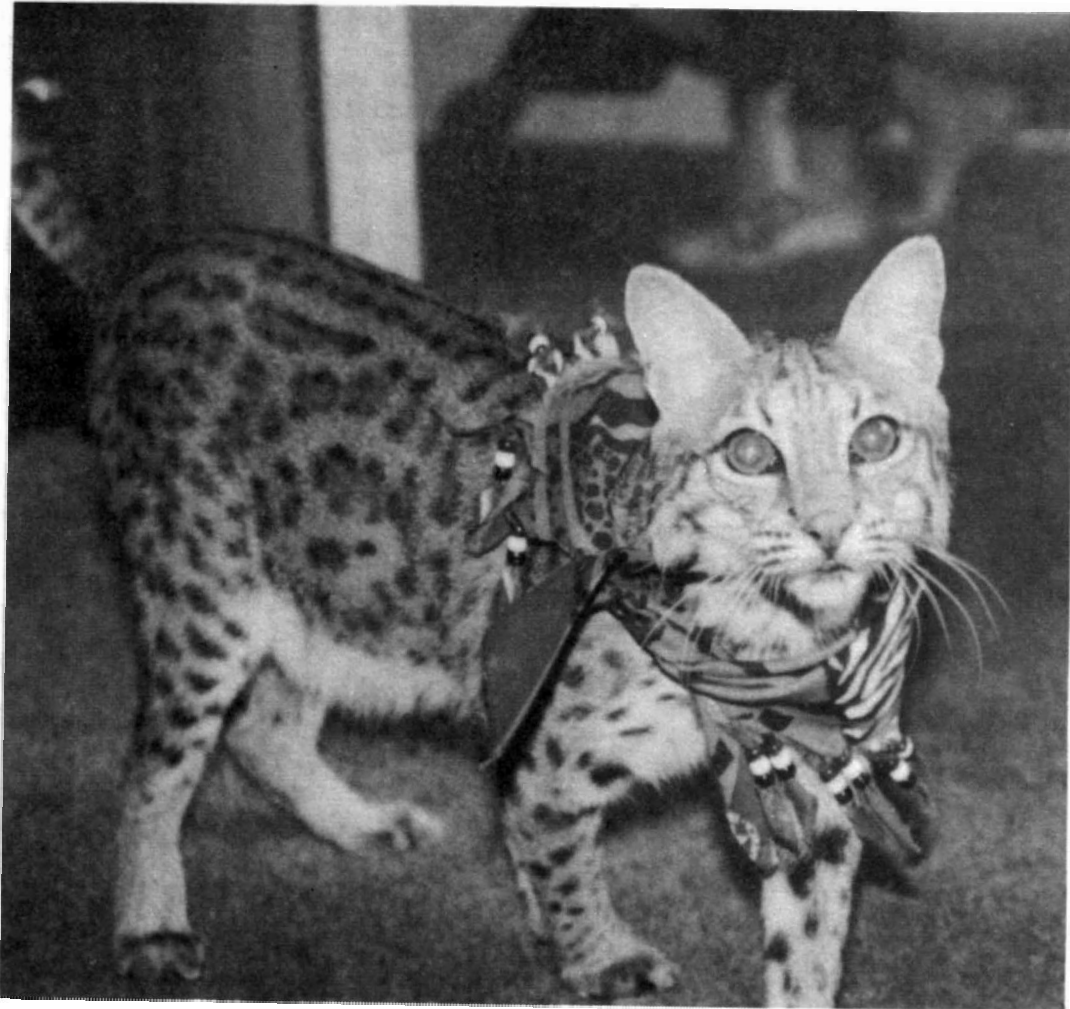
EDITOR'S NOTE: Yes BeeJay we have used this with both oncillas and margays in a slightly different form. Blood is taken from the mother, spun down in a centrifuge and the serum injected in the kitten. We took enough blood for two lcc does. In case the spindown didn't take. Also, a "lion serum" is available commercially so I'm told. However we felt there would be better results using mother's immunity and less chance of any reaction from the kitten. This procedure is used when the kitten does not nurse or receive colostrum from it's mother to receive it's initial "mother's milk immunity".

S

CRAZY CARACAL

BY REBECCA MORGAN





Bonita "Bonnie" models the latest in bobcat fashions - a scarf purchased at the LIOC convention in Las Vegas. Bonnie is a brilliantly spotted bobcat with a mild mannered personality. She lives with Katie Knight-Monteiro and family. ExotiCare took over Bonnie's care after she was abandoned by her former owner.