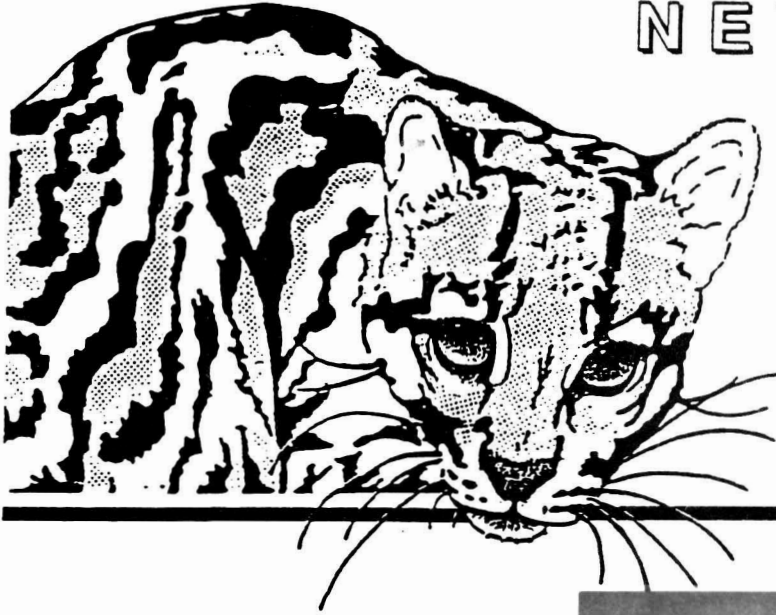


NEWSLETTER



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Felis tigrina, the Little Spotted Cat, or *Oncilla*. Tigrinas, which are one of the world's smallest cats, are similar to margay in appearance, but have a relatively shorter tail. Native to South America, deforestation and poaching threaten the survival of this rare species. The cover feline is safe though, residing at Pat Quillen's SOS Care foundation. Pat pioneered the successful hand-rearing of these endangered felines. Your LIOC Board of Directors recently voted to support her international conservation programs by donating \$500 to SOS Care. See article inside.

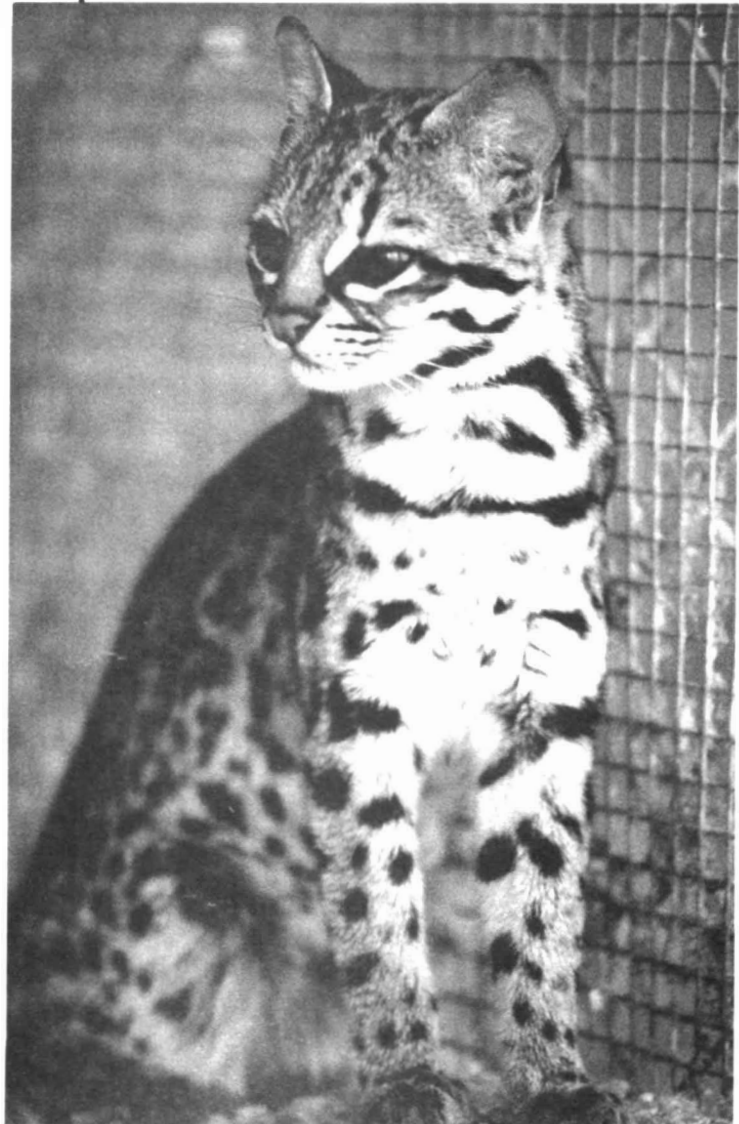
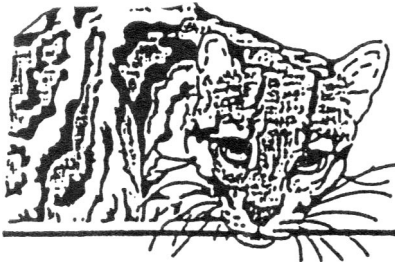


photo by Peter Cromer



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.#59-2048618), 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.

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SOS CARE Promotes International Conservation Centers

SOS Care, (formerly Society of Scientific Care) began working with Luis Bacardi in September of 1989 on the concept of establishing conservation breeding centers in the countries of origin. This approach is not only more economical than dealing with all of the legal and labor restrictions of a U.S. breeding center, it is essential to gently stimulate a sincere interest within the population of the country of origin, which can be achieved through their realizing the rewards of achievement and financial benefits of operating a conservation center with their own rare fauna. If the people of the region do not place a value on the survival of their own fauna, then it shall not survive for long.

The first encounter between Luis Bacardi and myself came the week end before the 1989 AAZPA National Conference in Pittsburg. Luis was a man of vision and a man of action. He had decided to make a difference in the world by focusing his resources and his energy in conservation efforts for a few types of animals which were largely ignored by the rest of the world. Animals which played a key roll in the natural balance of eco-systems, and yet were no direct threat to man. He built a beautiful state-of-the-art facility in Gainesville, Florida, called The Lubee Foundation, where he housed a collection of rare birds and other large animals. His first major commitment was to fruit bats, possibly prompted, in part, by the fact that the Bacardi Rum label (which was designed generations ago by his ancestors) still bares the bat in the red circle. Subsequently, Luis has, through the Lubee Foundation, been a leading contributor to growing understanding of the critically important roll of the fruit bat species around the world.

Luis had decided that his second commitment through Lubee Foundation would be the small cats of the world. He had been advised that I would be the best person to talk with on the matter of species selection, and on the proper establishment of a global conservation program of captive breeding on their behalf,. So he had his staff summon me for a week-end consultation at his Lubee facility.

I must confess that with one tigrina kitten in the weaning process (from bottle to solid food), one three week old geoffroy's kitten on the bottle, and a Friday filming schedule with CNN Science & Technology, I wasn't thrilled at the prospect of leaving San Diego Friday night to arrive the next morning in Florida with kittens, bottles, formulas and other necessary supplies in tow, for an intensive two day consultation, and then have to repeat the cross country travel the following week, so I proposed that we meet at the AAZPA Conference instead. Luis's mind was made up about small cats, and he was not about to dally around even for a week. He really wanted me there at the Lubee Facility as quickly as possible, so off I went. Luis personally met me at the airport, a quiet, kind, and amazingly gentle man who also had a wonderful sense of humor. All in all, he was very comfortable to be around and soon became my most trusted friend. Shortly after that meeting he began addressing me as "Sis", and we worked well together as "Sis" and Bro" until his sudden death on August 12, 1991.

With Luis's support, my 24 years experience and membership in IUCN Species Survival Commission Cat Specialist Group; Captive Breeding Specialists Group; and finally, one of the 12 working members of the AAZPA Felid Taxon Advisory Group, we had all the necessary components to launch a series of global conservation programs for small felids, in collaboration with the very dedicated individuals in the countries of origin.

Our first proposal was presented in Guyana, at the prompting of Dale and Shirley Jackson, who had just bought a sizable chunk of jungle there and offered us as much land as we needed for a center to breed small cats. All went well until we experienced conflicts between two government officials (both of which were key to the approval of the project) who were at total loggerheads. Realizing that there would not be a program until the two either made peace or until one was replaced in his or her current position, we took the graceful way out and tabled the project indefinitely despite the agreement which one of the parties signed and forwarded to us for our signatures.

Immediately following the first contact in Guyana, we went to Sao Paulo, Brazil to follow up with contact I had established there over the previous several years, and to determine the possibilities of a project in cooperation with the Zoo there. To make a long story short, we were warmly received, and the Director was receptive to our concepts of small cats breeding program, and asked us to draft a formal proposal. I drafted the proposal and we returned to Brazil. The proposal was accepted without changes or amendments of any kind, and Sao Paulo began building off-exhibit cages and collecting single animals from other zoos for the breeding stock.

Luis agreed to provide the building materials for a center and support all travel expenses, and I am to provide the technical experiences, nursery supplies, etc., and Sao Paulo Zoo provides the labor, animals and food, and agrees to publish the results, thereby making accurate and current data available on these species about which very little data is available now.

Despite Luis Bacardi's death, and in his memory, I am following through with the project even though the source for funding is at this time rather uncertain. I visited Sao Paulo in January of this year, and we chose a large site for an off-exhibit small cat breeding facility at the Zoo farm, located about an hour away from the zoo. The farm is not open to the public at all, but is quite spacious and lush. Dr. Faical Simon and I sat down and drew up a design for the enclosures which were quite nice for breeding. In the surplus area they had collected quite a number of animals for the project, including: about 10 Tigrinas, 4 margays, 4 or more jaguarundi, a couple of ocelots and the bonus was a Pampas cat which is quite a rare find in Brazil. I took two rather heavy boxes of vitamins and nursery supplies which had previously not been available to them, so we are well on our way to getting the project off the ground. We went over diets for the animals, and I do expect that there will be births even before the facilities are ready.

Having little time to waste, Luis and I had already discussed the desperate plight of some of the small cats of South East Asia. We took the opportunity presented by the IUCN Congress in Perth, Australia to make direct contact with Mohammed Khan, Director General of the National Parks and Wildlife of Malaysia. Mr. Khan was receptive to further discussion, so we met again during his visit to San Diego for the International Rhino Conference. During his stay in San Diego he visited our facility and agreed to attempt a breeding program which would begin with the Flat Headed cat, and we were to draw up the formal proposal. Luis died before the proposal could be presented, so all paperwork had been on hold until it is decided if Luis's successor will follow through or if the project will be funded by other sources. Once again, I am proceeding without hesitation because this work MUST be done. After the Captive Breeding Specialists Group Conference in Singapore last September, I took the short hop back into Malaysia to spend time with Mohammed and meet the staff people he intends to assign to the project. During the few days I spent there we discussed other cats which were in need of attention, and it was approved for us to include the Golden Cats, Marbled Cats and believe it or not, the Borneo Bay cat, which, it seems, is not extinct after all. It is imperative that this project get started as soon as possible because Mohammed is scheduled for mandatory retirement at the end of this year. We have sent humane traps to them which they have put to use, along with their own version which is also quite humane box style. I am currently trying to find reference books for their library since their own are inadequate for their needs. There is already housing in the Malaca Zoo which can be used for the project, and there are presently a few Golden Cats, and a couple of Flat Headed cats already in captivity.

Also during the IUCN Congress, we made contact with the delegation from China who were most interested in talking to us further about working with them on the Pallas Cats, Marbled Cats, and the rare Chinese Desert Cat. Luis was looking forward to our expected visit to China with great anticipation. His death came before we were able to make the trip, but I will be in China in July for a Cat Specialist Group meeting, and plan to continue discussions of the possibilities at that time.

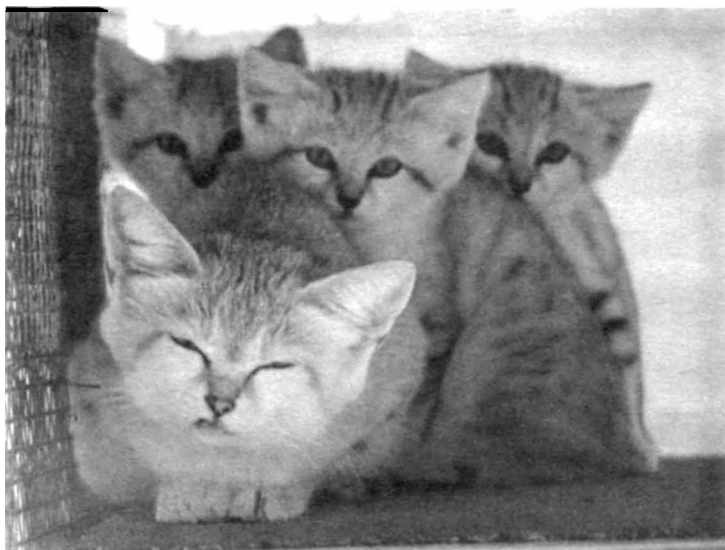
About a year and a half ago, the BBC produced a film on wild cats, and the threats to their survival. Some of the film of the live cats was shot right here at our little facility, so . . . they sent us a complimentary copy. In the film they had captured a Kodkod cat vanishing into the grass, so I contacted them and asked for the name and address of the person they had worked with in Chile, where the animal was filmed. Having this information in hand, I contacted that person, and told him I was coming specifically to meet with him and to see the little cat. Following the Brazil meetings I went to Santiago and met with the man who is the Director of the Santiago Zoo. He is a very nice and caring man who also agreed to institute a breeding program for the small cats provided that I could assure him that there would be zoos in the U.S. and Europe which would like to have the progeny - No problem!

Provided we can continue to find support for the above programs, we will have initiated a much needed effort to help most of the rarest of the small cats of this world. At the moment, the funding seems to be our only glitch. . . aside from keeping the frantic pace until all systems are operating.

Support for any of these programs would be greatly appreciated and well invested.

If I can answer further questions, please write:

Pat Quillen
P.O. Box 7535
San Diego, CA. 92107



Sand Cat Mother & Kittens at SOS Care

Pat Quillen began her husbandry career specializing in the Leopard Cat and has been an outstanding producer of that species. She was president of the Leopard Cat Society in the late 70's. Pat joined LIOC in 1970. She was nominated to serve as term director for LIOC in 1977, and was awarded the prestigious Lottie in 1980.

Today, in addition to working with the various captive breeding specialist groups, she runs SOS Care, a non-profit tax exempt foundation, which has a captive breeding facility currently housing four dozen felines of various small cat species; tigrina, margay, leopard cat, black-footed cat, desert cat and sand cat. Pat pioneered the successful hand-rearing of tigrina and she has possibly one of the largest breeding colonies of tigrinas anywhere, with 17 in residence today.

Pat has trained Biology and Zoology students from around the globe on the proper handling and husbandry of small cats at her SOS Care facility, most recently training a student from the University of Wales.

Look for Pat's felines in a soon-to-be-released book, titled "*Cats of the World*" by Barbara Sleeper, with photos by Art Wolfe. Art spent time recently with Pat shooting her tigrinas and other felines at the SOS Care facility.

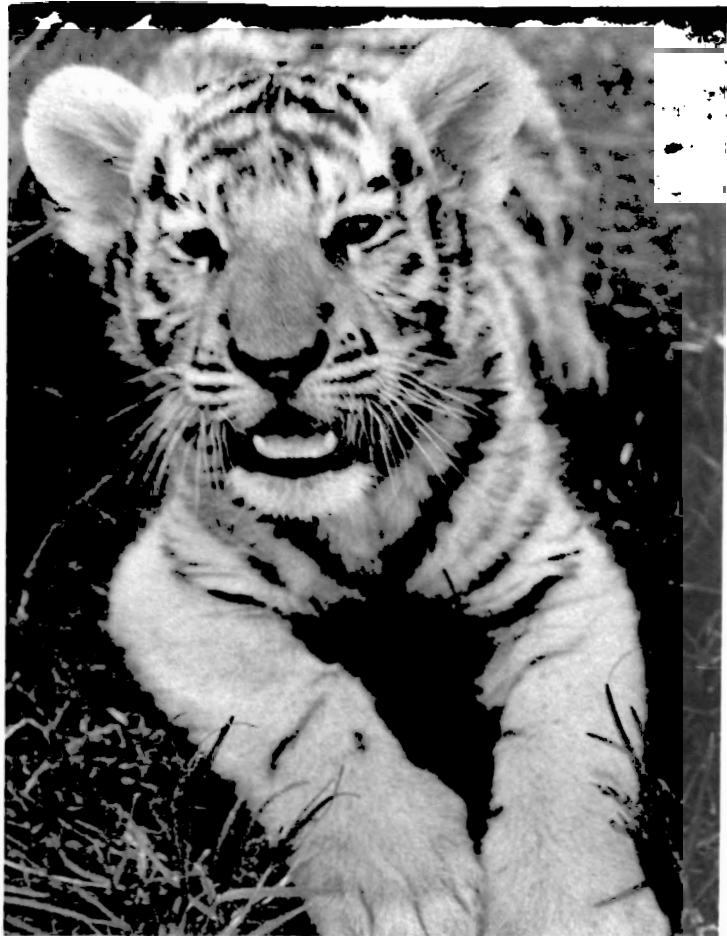
SOS Care now sells beautiful, white T-shirts with a collage of 6 cats on the front in sizes; medium, large and extra large. The multi-colored, original artwork design features caracal, clouded leopard, margay, pampas cat, jaguarundi and sand cat. Pat says these shirts run a little on the small side, but won't shrink as they're 50/50 cotton/polyester. The cost is \$22.00 postage paid. Show your support and order some today!

LIOC PROMOTION AT JUNGLE CAT WORLD

Hello all LIOC members! My name is James Godsmark, and I have been a member of LIOC since December 1991, when my employer, Wolf Klose took advantage of the LIOC Christmas special and gave me a gift membership. I find LIOC to be a very informative organization, truly the only such organization for exotic feline owners and fanciers. I don't actually own an exotic (do you ever really own a cat, or do they own you?) due to the very restrictive laws in our area; you need a zoo license to own any animal that is considered "exotic" and in our area, even ferrets are considered exotic. However, I have a great interest in exotic felines, and even though I do not own one, I have daily contact with exotic cats.

I have worked at Wolf and Chris Klose's Jungle Cat World here in Orono for about two years. When Wolf and Chris came over from Germany, they eventually got into dog training, and did this for many years before Wolf traded a trained guard dog to a man for a lion cub in 1981. Basically the Kloses fell in love with exotic cats at this point. When the cub got too big for their house, they built him a large enclosure near their house. Then they decided to get him a female, and when they went to get the lioness, they saw a tigress they couldn't resist, and then they got a pair of cougars, and so on, and so on, until they suddenly had a zoo.

The laws were a little more lax then, and allowed a person to own exotic animals. However, when the Klose's started getting into a multiple exotic situation, they were informed that they would have to get a zoo license. The ensuing court battle raged on for several years before the Kloses were finally awarded their zoo license. And here they are today, with the first private zoo in Canada to be accredited under CAZPA (the Canadian equivalent of AAZPA) All of their cats are exceptionally well-adjusted, and easy going animals. The reason is that most were hand-raised in the Klose's house and even when they reach adulthood they are given daily attention, so they are quite friendly as a result. In the years that I have known the Klose's and their animals, I have gotten to



*Tekahn, Siberian tiger cub
born April 11, 1992*

know their cats very well. I myself have become totally hooked on exotics. The reason I wanted to join LIOC was because I saw that here was an organization where emphasis was on exotic felines and their care and conservation, and I wanted to help.

At one point I wrote Lynn and asked what I could do to help LIOC, and she suggested an information display where more Canadians could obtain LIOC information. and maybe become members. We felt that the Jungle Cat World would be ideal because people from all over Canada, and the U.S. come there every summer, (over 100,000 in a season to be exact) and even though a good deal come from areas where it is illegal to own an exotic, there may be many exotic fanciers who would like to join LIOC just for the information, and to dream of actually owning a cat. A good deal of the people also come from areas where it is legal to own exotics, and if they already own an exotic, LIOC may give them information that they need, or they may consider getting an exotic cat, thus aiding us to conserve exotic felines through increasing their captive habitat.

Even so, this will bring the organization more members, and the more members an organization has, the more credibility it has, thus, the more powerful it becomes. If LIOC gets enough members, we will be a force to be reckoned with. A force for the conservation of exotic felines through captive management. With wild habitat disappearing at an alarming rate, and almost all exotic felines facing extinction in the wild, the only way many exotics will see the next century is in captivity. It's very sad, but unfortunately true. Private owners are needed, because zoos realistically do not have enough genetic



Siberian Lynx at Jungle Cat World

diversity between their animals. However, the more responsible private owners there are, the more genetic diversity there will be in captive felines, If LIOC becomes a more credible organization, maybe in the future, LIOC members will play a very large part in captive breeding, and conservation, cooperating with zoos and scientists. However, this can only happen with responsible private ownership.

For the information display, I have received the very kind permission of the Kloses to place it in their zoo. What we have done, is to take newsletters, membership applications, and brochures about LIOC and placed them in the pamphlet rack, next to a poster-collage showing photos of LIOC members and their cats, and giving information about LIOC and what it is all about. On the display I have stressed responsible private ownership, with a real mind to conservation, not as cute pets.

So far the display has been a modest success, with a fair amount of people taking LIOC information and the application forms (whether or not they actually fill them out and send them in is a different matter altogether) Several have even asked me questions about LIOC. Now as the summer season picks up and more people come to Jungle Cat World, I hope that the information display does even better. Usually when the summer season really picks up is for Canada day (July 1st) and July 4th, when many Americans visit the zoo. So I hope maybe there will be many new LIOC members, and then we can consider this experiment a success.

James Godsmark Box 496 Orono, Ontario LOB 1M0



*The caracal lynx at Jungle Cat World
enjoys his high tower platforms*

REPRODUCTIVE SUCCESS IN SMALL FELIDS

summary of research article

by Jill D. Mellon Washington Park Zoo, Portland, Oregon

Reproductive success of small captive felids is a result of several factors not completely known or understood. In an effort to improve management techniques used in captive husbandry of these felids, 15 variables, (environmental, genetic, social and experiential) were examined at eight different zoos and measured and compared to measures of reproductive success to determine which of these factors most closely correlated with successful reproduction.

Species examined were African Golden Cat, Black-Footed Cat, Bobcat, Canadian Lynx, Caracal, Fishing Cat, Geoffroy's Cat, Indian Desert Cat, Jaguarundi, Jungle Cat, Margay, Ocelot, Pallas Cat, Pampas Cat, Rusty-Spotted Cat, Siberian Lynx, Sand Cat, Scottish Wildcat, and Serval.

In this study, almost all species contained some members that successfully reproduced and typically the female was successful in rearing her offspring. The African Golden Cats, Pallas Cats and Canadian lynx examined in this study did not reproduce. The Canadian Lynx bred, but did not conceive. About 42% of all felid species' pairings failed to produce any offspring, suggesting that the social/environmental requirements of many individuals were not being met.

Results of the present study demonstrated that 2 of the independent variables correlated significantly with successful reproduction: group size and husbandry style.

Cats maintained in group sizes greater than two (one male, one female) seldom bred and virtually never produced maternally raised offspring. The African Golden Cats and the Pallas Cats were maintained in groups greater than 1.1. Studies suggest that some individuals may be able to suppress the reproduction of others. (Kleiman, 1980; Wasser and Barash, 1983)

It is recommended that only cats extremely compatible (strongly pair bonded) should be left together constantly. Instead, to more closely mimic natural conditions, males and females should be housed singly, with access to each other granted for an hour or so a day. Another possibility is to maintain pairs for 30 - 40 days, then separate them for 65 days. This would allow them together for at least one estrus cycle, and give the possibly pregnant female a less stressful pregnancy by herself.

One of the most important correlations for successful reproduction was the finding that the more time keepers spent interacting and talking with the cats they cared for, the more likely the cats were to successfully reproduce. This is possibly one of the reasons private breeders have had superior reproductive results with small felids; their daily contact, and personal involvement has contributed to their cats "feeling comfortable". Hurin (1981) showed

that the "hasty handling" of pregnant laboratory cats (*F. catus*) resulted in a substantially higher loss of litters.

Socialization of offspring minimizes stress in captivity, so whenever possible, kittens should be checked and weighed, as well as stroked and played with. These actions all reduce fear towards humans, which are a necessary and integral part of their captive environment.

Another finding of this study was that as the number of medical treatments of an individual increased, the reproductive success of it's pairings, decreased. This is possibly due to the felid's unthriftiness, and caretakers should concentrate on practicing preventative health care.

Some of the factors examined but found not to correlate directly with reproductive success were cage size, number of den boxes, origin of the felid (wild-caught vs. captive-born) and early rearing experience (maternal vs. hand-raising).

Earlier studies of carnivores by McCusker (1978) did find a positive correlation between enclosure size and reproductive success. It may be the quality/complexity of the enclosure which is more important. Hiding places and escape routes (physical barriers) were examined in this study, but couldn't be correlated with reproductive success.

All felids had at least one den box, and the presence of another didn't contribute to any significant change in reproductive success.

A 1984 survey of small cats by Dvornich also reported no significant difference between wild-caught vs. captive-born, or age difference within pairs on reproductive success.

Although this study did not find an association between the mother-raised vs. hand-raised felids' reproductive success, Jill Mellon did an earlier study on domestic kittens and found that mother-raised females were significantly more likely to copulate than were hand-raised cats, suggesting that hand-rearing (especially in sterile nursery environments) should be avoided, when possible. Also Hediger (1950) noted animals that are human-raised are most likely to be zoomorphic in their interaction with humans and, as adults, direct their sexual behavior toward them.

A further examination of feeding and food is suggested. The author recommends that small cats should receive at least two feedings per day and no fast days. To allow the captive felids an opportunity to exhibit more natural behavior, freshly killed or frozen mice, chicks, beef bones and live fish or crickets should be offered to supplement prepared diets.

For more detailed information, this excellent research article can be read in it's entirety in *Zoo Biology* 10:95-110 (1991)



Cheetah Preservation Fund

Within the International Wilderness Leadership Foundation

211 West Magnolia, Fort Collins, CO 80521

Namibian Base: P.O. Box 247, Windhoek 900, Namibia/SW Africa

By Laurie Marker-Kraus and Daniel Kraus

A very important objective of the Cheetah Preservation Fund is to develop strategies to conserve the biodiversity of the large ranges that cheetahs occupy. The cheetah can only survive if its habitat is preserved and can support healthy wild prey populations. The maintenance of wild prey reduces the conflict of cheetah on livestock and therefore, the prey base is critical to the long-term conservation of the cheetah.

In this arid land, farms average in size from 10,000 to 40,000 acres. An important point is that eighty percent of the wildlife in Namibia lives on these farmlands and is legally owned by the farmers, not the government. Since the wildlife belongs to the landowners, strategies to sustain populations of wildlife and the cheetah for the future must be developed with the farmers along with livestock and pasture management. This ownership of wildlife causes some unique problems for wildlife and our cheetah conservation efforts. Each farmer has his own opinion as to how to deal with "his" wildlife, even though the game moves from farm to farm. Therefore, development of workable strategies is dependant on the ability and the willingness of local communities, and their full understanding of all aspects of the ecosystem.

The cheetah is considered to be a problem animal by the farmers and a threat to livestock. It is legal to shoot a cheetah if it is threatening livestock so for three generations farmers have done their best to eliminate the species. As we travel through the cheetah regions of the country interviewing farmers, we are developing a clear picture of their problems with the cheetah, and we are learning what can be done to reach a compromise so that the cheetah has a chance to survive and habitat available.

The biggest problem for the cheetah is live trapping, after which a large percentage of them are then shot. These live traps are set at 'playtrees'. Therefore, the 'playtrees' are the cheetahs biggest problem. These 'playtrees' have not been reported in any other area of Africa and the significance of them, here, is not totally understood. These trees have sloping trunks that branch into large horizontal limbs that can easily be climbed into by cheetahs. Cheetahs come to the 'playtrees' on a regular basis and mark them with scat and urine. These trees are a focal point for cheetahs in their large home ranges. We are recording the locations of the 'playtrees' and are working even closer with the farmers that have these trees on their farms.

Not all farms have 'playtrees', but on those that do, the farmer can catch all the cheetahs that come to the trees. We have talked to one farmer who, in the last 11 years, has caught and then killed 175 cheetahs. So, much of our effort is to get such farmers

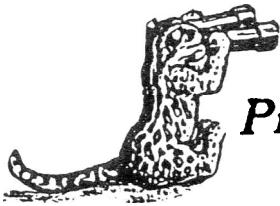
to use farm management practices to protect their livestock, rather than expend so much energy in trying to exterminate a species. We have found that by moving calving herds out of the areas where 'playtrees' are, reduces calf losses and the farmers problems with the cheetah.

Much of our program includes promoting farm management practices, found here and in other parts of the world, to protect livestock from predators, reducing the need for the elimination of a species. Some of these practices include, the use of donkeys with calving herds, as they chase away dogs, jackals, and cheetah; more rapid rotation of stock through camps; larger concentrations of stock in camps during calving times of the year; bringing cows in closer to the homestead during calving time; farms with more wildlife have less problems with cheetahs because cheetahs prefer wild game; promoting more aggressive breeds of cattle, such as the Bos Indicus and indigenous breeds; keeping heifers (first time calving cows) in the same camps as older cows, as many losses are in heifer herds because they don't know what to do; keeping a few cows or steers with horns in with the calving herd. Other solutions are being found for small stock, sheep and goats, and these include the use of herders and large breeds of guard dogs to stay with the herds. And, would you believe, baboons raised with the herds become furious protectors.

By working closely with farmers and sharing these management practices, we hope to reduce the conflict between them and the cheetah. So far our data suggests that the cheetah population is lower than what is estimated by the Department of Wildlife, Conservation, and Research. Our continued survey will verify the population trend. We have developed a form for farmers to keep track of cheetah sightings and tracks on their farms, to help us develop a pattern of movements between farms. This has been very well received and should be of assistance in the over all data collection.

The Cheetah Preservation Fund would like to set up a permanent base of operations on a purchased, leased, or donated farm in one of the cheetah regions of Namibia. Funding for this is being sought. One of the integral parts of the conservation of the cheetah in farmlands of Namibia is the changing of attitudes. This can only be accomplished through a continuous process of education and awareness. From a base/center, farmers would know where to find information and help if they are having cheetah/livestock problems, and it would begin the process of an outwardly growing area, specifically recognized for cheetah conservation on farmland. Over time, this base/center will have many possibilities for expansion.

In 1992, the Cheetah Preservation Fund will begin to use more volunteers to help keep up with the growing international correspondence and administrative work. Selected volunteers will assist in educational efforts by giving talks, and will help in the development of a national awareness campaign to instill a national pride for the Namibian cheetah.



President's Perspective

Convention is again approaching. I encourage all of you to plan on attending. Mike Tewes will be reporting on his ocelot work and representatives of Fossil Rim Park will be talking about their success in breeding cheetahs! Besides that, we'll have the chance to see the Alamo and other San Antonio sites immortalized in Disney's *Davy Crockett* movie. Make your plane reservations early, if you haven't already taken advantage of the half price fares. Many airlines are completely booked on flights.

The convention serves two major functions for our organization. First, it is a chance for those of us scattered over the United States and Canada to get together to keep the membership who are not in branches aware of one other. It provides an opportunity to meet the candidates for the Executive Board which we will be electing this fall. This year will see the largest number of new faces on the Board at one time that I can remember. There will be lots of energy for new tasks. Second, it provides an opportunity to determine what directions we should pursue for the next year. I would like, in particular, to get feedback from the membership as to what criteria we should use in determining contributions to conservation efforts. There seem to be increasing numbers (finally), and more than we can support. Should breeding, or conservation, or veterinary/biological research, or something else have priority. This is your money we are using to support these activities. Please let us on the Board know your thoughts.

Two steps forward, one back. Just as the federal government seems to be easing up on captive bred endangered species, the state of Missouri is trying to ban ownership of exotic felines. The states obviously have different priorities than the federal government. We need to keep aware of what is happening at all levels of government, not just the national. If the interior department does finalize the changes, then Missouri's ban will be in direct contradiction to the purpose of increased breeding of endangered felines. Tom Chandler has an article elsewhere in this issue on the proposed law.



The Pride In The Lion

The lioness picked up the log, and held it in her mouth, balanced neatly on the points of her canines. She stared out of her cage, eyes blazing her rage and fury at her mate, with whom she had just had a quarrel. Venting her anger, she bit down on the log. The loud cracking sound of splintering wood resounded through the Lion House. Several large chips of shattered wood flew from the four-foot by six inch thick log, as it split in half down the length, one half falling to the floor, while the other half remained within her mouth.

She dropped it, then picked it up again. This time her lips were drawn back and her head was at the right angle so I could see the two inch canines sink into the wood, and the large splinters once again fly from the corners of her mouth as she split the log half into quarters. She then finished the job by picking up one quarter and biting a mouth-shaped chunk out of it as a human would bite a sandwich. She spat the wood chips out, and, her anger spent, lay down with a dumb look on her face, mouth hanging loosely. The vet-tech and I looked at each other in awe as I reached for my flashlight to check her mouth for injury or splinters.

In the life of every wild captive animal, there is at least one moment of greatness, of glory, the one moment for which that animal forever lives on in the memories of the humans who were there. For Buggy, a lioness who lived at the Prospect Park Zoo in Brooklyn, New York, this was the moment for which I will always remember her. Though for Buggy, there were many other moments, as well.

Buggy was one of a litter of five, and the only cub from that litter to survive, and that thanks to the veterinarian who saved her life. She spent the first three years of her life in his house, growing up along with his children, who would take her out in the backyard and hose her down with a garden hose. Reportedly she enjoyed it. Her owner remembers how she would hide behind the sofa, "usually with one part or another sticking out," until one of the kids would happen by, and she would run out and pounce. She never hurt anyone, and she would look at her victim as if to say, "I got you good this time, didn't I?". Then she would go and do it all over again. The vet says that when she got too rambunctious, she would "give her a smack on the behind like her mother would have done," after which she was well behaved once again.

I'll never know why he brought her to the zoo and consigned her to what I think had to be an unhappy life behind bars, but he did. For this lioness who grew up with humans and thought she was a human, never again would she know the touch of human hands. It was something I know for sure she always longed for.

In due course she was given as a companion, a large male cub named Jesse, whom she raised with loving care into a majestic 700 pound lion. Buggy herself was unusually small, weighing not more than 225 pounds, as a result of her cubhood illness. It also robbed her of her voice. She would try to roar, mouth in the roaring position, but no sound would come. Buggy and Jesse produced two cubs, Sonny and Carol, who lived on at the zoo, much to their oft-stated displeasure.

Bugsy can claim yet another moment of greatness. It seems that at one point our vet-tech decided Jesse lion was getting too heavy. He was not, but no one could convince our vet-tech. Since each cat was fed 10 pounds of Nebraska each day (except for a once a week fast day) he ordered Jesse's ration cut to 7 1/2 pounds. Each cat was given its ration at the same time on opposite ends of the cage, and both would eat at the same time. On the second day of the diet Bugsy realized Jesse was being shortchanged. She walked over to her food, and stood there without eating until Jesse finished his food, came over, and ate about 2 1/2 pounds of hers. When he had enough, only then would she eat. The vet-tech ordered that the lions be separated for feeding. Separated, Bugsy refused to eat entirely. The vet-tech thought that hunger would force her to eat. After two days, she would eat a pound or so, and leave the rest, which would be thrown out. Bugsy stuck to her guns, and refused to eat at all when separated from Jesse. Sickened, I appealed to the zoo manager, and reunited Bugsy and Jesse. Seeing him, she launched herself into the air and came down on her belly across his back, paws hanging down on each side. Jesse gave me an embarrassed look, like, "look what I have to put up with". All the zookeepers began bootlegging Nebraska Feline, feeding the lions surreptitiously. Those lions never had it so good for a while. The vet-tech gave up in disgust. Bugsy had won.

Bugsy knew how to use a very effective police-style choke hold; I think she may have learned it from her old owner, who might have used it to control her, on those occasions when she became too rambunctious. I saw her use it on Jesse once when he really got her mad at him. She hooked her arm around his neck from behind, with his throat in her inside elbow; she locked her paws together and applied pressure, and Jesse was down and out instantly. Neat trick.

I always dreamed of acquiring Bugsy and Jesse and giving them the kind of home I always wanted for Bugsy, but it wasn't to be. When the zoo was closed, they were sent to their deaths, despite all my efforts to save them. I'm sorry Bugsy, I loved you so much. I'll always remember you for the person you were. Forever in my mind's eye will I see you split that log whenever I think of you. You were truly great.

by Mark Allen
1776 East 13th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11229





CITES REPORT:

Leopards, Cheetahs, Bobcats,
Geoffroy's Cat & a Tiger Farm

A proposal to downgrade the leopard in sub-Saharan Africa from Appendix I to II was deferred for further consultation at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) meeting in Japan in March 1992.

Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe made the proposal, which involved continuing the quota system for export of trophies and skins which exists under Appendix I.

Committee Chairman Martin Holdgate (Director General of the World Conservation Union) decided to recommend deferring the proposal.

Richard Leakey, representing Kenya, which has a quota, spoke against the proposal, declaring that there was a spate of leopard poaching in the country. Downgrading to Appendix II would send a message to poachers which would fuel illegal trade, he declared.

Kristin Nowell, who represented the Cat Group at the meeting, said the Parties clearly demonstrated that they were against downgrading on principal rather than on any criteria.

During plenary, Peter Dollinger of Switzerland suggested that, in view of reported outbreaks of leopard poaching in Kenya, Tanzania and the Central African Republic, their Appendix I quotas should temporarily be reduced to zero. Since the debate could not be re-opened, Dollinger suggested that Management Authorities of importing countries should consider restricting imports of leopard skins from these countries. Tanzania then intervened to argue that its leopard population was "very healthy".

Quotas for leopard exports, limited to sport hunting trophies and problem animals are: Botswana 100, Central African Republic 40, Ethiopia 500, Kenya 80, Malawi 50, Mozambique 60, Namibia 100, South Africa 50, Tanzania 250, Zambia 300, and Zimbabwe 500.

Namibia withdrew a proposal to downgrade cheetah to Appendix II, and a resolution drafted by Nowell to establish an Appendix I quota system for exports of live animals and cheetah hunting trophies and skins was accepted by the Conference. The quotas are: Namibia 150, Zimbabwe 50 and Botswana 5.

The Mexican bobcat, *Felis rufa esquinapae*, the only subspecies on Appendix I, was downgraded following a proposal by USA for it to join the species on Appendix II on the grounds that its subspecific status is questionable and Mexico said it was "widespread and common".

Geoffroy's cat was moved from Appendix II to I, as proposed by Brazil, which recognized the paucity of status data and its similarity to *Felis tigrina*, *F. pardina* and *F. weidii*, while all evidence pointed to heavy exploitation combined with declining population.

A Chinese request for registration of its felid breeding Center in Heilongjiang was withdrawn. It was agreed that Chinese specialists would confer with the Cat Specialist Group concerning providing more information on export data for tiger bone, medicines, registration data for "pre-Convention stocks" of Amur tiger bone; details of proposed marking system; details on bloodline of founder stock; and evidence of consultation with importing states on mutual trade controls.

The Chinese proposal referred to the cost of raising and keeping large cats in captivity. Derivatives and parts from culled and dead individuals would accumulate. Income from sales would be invested in the captive population. It argued that the market was limited to some countries in Asia, and since the demand was relatively small, no substantial threat would be caused to survival of the species "since the wild population is very small, thus poaching becomes very difficult". It claimed that limited trade might reduce or even stop smuggling.

The Kyoto conference approved a new resolution setting definitive guidelines for the first registration of breeding operations for Appendix I animals for commercial purposes.

It also agreed that new criteria should be developed for listing or removing animals or plants on the two CITES appendixes. A resolution said the appendixes included a very large number of species, many of which might not be threatened by commercial trade. Certain species might not be appropriately listed. The governments agreed that appropriate criteria were lacking to define the term "threatened with extinction".

reprinted from Cat News, March 1992

Iberian Lynx Captive Breeding Program

The first breeding center for Iberian lynx, *Lynx pardinus* is being established at the Donana National Park in southern Spain, home of a wild population.

Juan J. Aldama of the Spanish Institute for Conservation of Nature ICONA reports that three injured lynx, which cannot be returned to the wild, will be founders of the breeding programme.

The lynx population in the Donana National Park is estimated to number about 50. It is one of the most studied Iberian lynx populations. The total number of lynx in Spain and Portugal is put between 1,000 and 1,200 in nine genetically isolated populations, according to Alejandro Rodriguez, and Miguel Delibes of the Donana Biological Station. They consider that there are 48 separate breeding areas, generally small in size.

The main threats to the lynx are continued habitat fragmentation, decline in rabbits, the main prey, and capture in rabbit snares. In addition, lynx are killed crossing roads.

reprinted from Cat News, March 1992

JUNGLE CATS

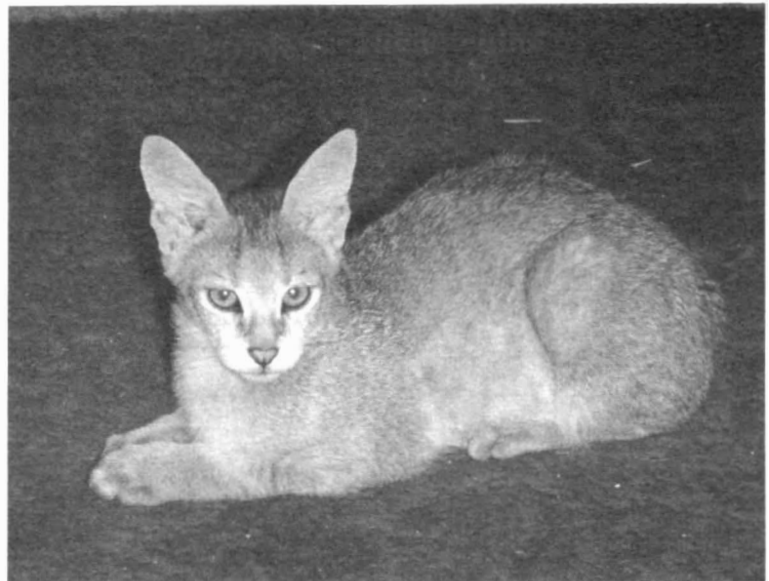
The jungle cat shares the distinction, with the African wildcats and domestic cats, of having been mummified and placed in tombs in Ancient Egypt. This fact, coupled with its sharing a very similar coloration to the Abyssinian breed of domestic cat, has led some authorities to speculate about jungle cat's role in the ancestry of domestic cats.

The jungle cat varies in size from 8 to 30 pounds. They are generally sandy brown, grey or redish. The jungle cat has the widest distribution of all the small cats and is found on three continents. In Africa is occurs only in Egypt, while in Europe and Asia it's distribution spans more than 25 countries. They feed on small rodents, birds, frogs, beetles, snakes, fish or even chital fawns.

BAMBI, THE CHAUS PERSON

Bambi came to live with us when she was three weeks old. She is not the usual kitten. She likes and needs people. Living with her is like having a four legged shadow.

I get up to get a cup of coffee, she goes to the coffee pot. I do dishes, she sits at my feet. I sit and talk on the phone, she sits on the table looking at me. I go to the restroom, she comes in and goes potty in the bathtub.



Before dinner, I feed her hoping I can eat dinner without her help, but no luck, she sits besides me to see what she might find to snack on.

On weekends in the morning, Clem and I sometimes play cards or dice games. She sits watching and most of the time joins in playing dice.

For toys, she steal socks, has a tennis ball, a Mardi Gras ball from the Convention in New Orleans, and a toy pomerian dog, giving equal time to all.

At night, when the lights go out, no matter where she might be, she is the first one in bed.

We got Bambi from Jackie Vanderwall. I babysit her Chaus babies every year, as her work schedule is heavy. I've taken care of many litters for her.

Bambi is so sweet and loveable, we really love and enjoy her. If you have the time to spend, my wish is for everyone to have a Bambi in their life. Thanks Jackie, for mine.

Gayle Schaecher

BOARD BALLOT RESULTS

June 9, 1992

1. To accept Ethel Hauser's resignation as life director,
Unanimous approval.

2. To approve Tom Chandler's request for LIOC sanctuary status.

Approve - Perry, Porges, Wagner, Wilton, Culver
Disapprove - Knight-Monteiro Motion Approved

Comment:

Knight-Monteiro: Disapprove pending additional definition of the meaning, requirement for evaluation criteria, and data or other responsibilities associated with such a designation.

3. To approve the donation of \$500 to SOS Care.

Approve - Wagner, Porges, Knight-Monteiro, Perry
Disapprove - Wilton, Culver Motion Approved

Comments:

Culver: Not at this time - Approve to present to membership for their vote at convention. We need to provide for conservation and education donations in yearly budget.

Knight-Monteiro: Note that a coordinating committee needs to be formed and a budget needs to be allocated, and I wish to include such items in the Convention agenda so that a "master plan" can be developed for future donations.

Porges: Can we keep giving money to everyone who asks?

THE BIRTHS

Scarlett Bellingham, in Manitoba, Canada reports the birth of a male serval born 6-15. Parents are Shaka & Chantilly.

Scarlett's Jungle Cat pair, Persia & Cairo produced five kittens on 7-10, two boys & three girls, all golden colored.

Persia is a year old, first-time mother. She is sharing the kittens with Scarlett, so for now, they are being co-raised.

John Perry announces the birth of twin Geoffroy kittens.



Inde-

Readers Write



5 July, 1992
829 SE 15th, Apt 401
Portland, Or. 97214

Dear LIOC Members,

In the last election that was held, (Life Director), a letter appeared that made many scandalous and libelous claim's against one of the candidate's, Jackie Vanderwall. This letter was in some cases followed by other's, and was part of a vicious rumor campaign as well. I feel that it needs to be made clear that everything in those letter's was totally untrue and fictitious!

I have known Ms Vanderwall for several year's now and have had the chance to handle many of her animal's. She is an excellent caretaker and goes to great length's to make sure that her animal's are healthy and well provided for. She has many friend's among the State and Federal regulatory agency's, and even the local Washington County Zoo has spoken on her behalf in the past.

The letter that many of you received was launched for the sole purpose of smearing Ms Vanderwall's reputation and to cause her as much trouble as possible. I would also like to make it totally clear that Carin Carmichael was in no way connected to this vendetta, it was carried out to hurt Ms Vanderwall; not to help Ms Carmichael.

With more election's looming in the future I would like to take to task those of you who let these thing's influence your vote's! Let us not fall into the trap's of governmental politic's! If you should receive such letter's about other candidate's in the future, call them and allow them to answer the charge's personally! Then call your board and demand that the people behind such thing's be taken to task! This behavior belittles us all!



Sincerely,

John Van Stry

Missouri Amendment Threatens Cat Ownership

Missouri plans to eliminate certain threatened and endangered captive felids, bears and wolves through attrition. This proposed amendment 3 CSR 10-4.110 number 7 reads as follows:

No person shall buy, sell, possess or transport the following: lions, tigers, leopards, ocelots, jaguars, cheetahs, margays, mountain lions, Canada lynx, jaguarundis, hyenas, wolves or bears, without a wildlife breeder permit issued prior to July 1, 1993, except wildlife previously held without permit may be possessed or sold until January 1, 2000, but may not be propagated. Permits for these animals may be renewed until January 1, 2000, only by the holder of the original permit."

MISSOURI BANS OWNERSHIP

My friends and I write this letter with a heavy heart. One of the few really good reasons I have found to be on this earth and to get up each morning has just been attacked by the state; which I live in, pay taxes to, and chose to live in because it drew on it's agricultural base. This dark cloud hangs over this nation like a death veil, and is enveloping the nation state by state: A harbinger to the end of a way of life for many of us, but more importantly it is a death blow to captive wild cats in a captive setting. All of us know the plight of the cats in the wild. The middle of the 21st century will see cats in the wild as only history book stuff. Everyone in the next state sits back and watches these laws passed and hopes it won't happen to them, but knowing that it will. Many of you that know me are aware that I have been very active in promoting good management practices, using education as a tool to get the people, new to cats, on a good footing; hoping to ensure a better quality of life for the cats. I have also been in constant liaison with state and federal agencies trying to head off just this kind of stupid legislation. I think it would be wise and prudent for all of you to become involved in the common cause. For when deciding to ban ownership; states always look to other states that have already banned ownership to see if it flies through the process without any opposition. What ever the case - write letters, even if you don't live in Missouri, voice your opposition. Write the conservation commission here in Missouri as well as in your own state. Write your governor or state representative. Write whoever necessary to have your voice heard for the time is coming soon when the dark cloud will move over your state and you too will need help. Laws and restrictions in any state effects cats, and cat people everywhere. This country is regulating itself out of business, but more over it's regulating you and I out of business.

Respectfully,

Tom Chandler
Rt. 1 Box 22, Stover, MO 65078

To send your comments on the proposed amendment write: Kenneth Babcock, Assistant Director, Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO. 65102.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXOTICS
MEETING MINUTES - MAY 3, 1992

The April/May meeting was hosted by Jerry Boyle and Addie Lindstrom at the Ramada Inn in Portland, Oregon. This special meeting started at 12:00PM. In attendance were 28 members and two guests. Due to the meeting's location, no animals were allowed.



The meeting was called to order by Jerry Boyle. The following topics (old business) were discussed:

-The Liger incident was briefly discussed. Jerry had met with Ed and Debbie Wineburger prior to the meeting, and advised that to date the lack of a facility permit is the issue. Ed later advised that he is now licensed by U.S.D.A. This issue will be brought before the Multnomah County court in June.

-Larry Torland advised that he will not be able to obtain his permit from the city of Troutdale, as the city is located in Multnomah County. However, the Troutdale city council has the option of allowing exotics under a special permit. Larry will be addressing the issue before the Multnomah County on May 26th.

Gayle Schaecher directed a question about why there was a special meeting called together regarding the Liger incident with only a few members invited, and not including the Wineburgers.

In response, Sharon Roe advised that the meeting was held at her home, and was called together in response to the Torland's and the Smith's problem with Multnomah County, which was initiated by the Liger incident. The members present were, Larry & Jean Torland, Dave & Marilee Smith, and the PNWE officers. It was an initial meeting to obtain the facts on what transpired between Multnomah County Animal Control and these members with regards to permits. This meeting was also to determine whether these members wanted club support and participation in helping to resolve their problems.

Additional comments:

- Jackie Vanderwall announced that she lost her male Clouded Leopard "Squash", to lung cancer. He was almost 11 years old when he died on April 8th.
- John Van Stry reported the birth of six Chaus hybrid kittens, three black and three striped.
- Patti Radcliffe reported the birth of three Siberian lynx kittens.
- Gayle Schaecher reported the birth of one Siberian Lynx/Bobcat kitten. Sadly, it died during the night.
- Darryl Scheel reported that all 17 persons who traveled to Bandon April 4th and 5th had a great time. The weather cooperated as did the baby bears.
- Sharon Roe reported that the trip to Northwest Trek on April 25th

was a success. There were 11 members and 3 guests in attendance, and once again the weather cooperated beautifully. With the temperature cool in the early morning hours, we enjoyed the walk through Keeper's Tour for two hours. All participated in the hour long tram ride through the extensive acreage of exotic hoof stock, and water fowl. The hosts at NW Trek gave a great tour to our enthusiastic group.

Special Speaker

Ralph Helfer, known for his affection training method of exotics, gave a one hour promotional talk on the upcoming L.I.O.C. 1992 Safari throughout Africa.

At the conclusion of his talk, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted, Connie Miller, secretary/treasurer

JUNE 28, 1992 MEETING MINUTES

The June meeting was hosted by Ray and Patti Radcliffe. In attendance were 31 members and 13 guests.

Bruce & Phyllis Bobst - (1) Canadian Lynx kitten
 Girley Crum - (1) Bobcat/Lynx kitten
 Sandy Hammersley - (1) Bobcat kitten
 Sandy Hughes - (1) Siberian Lynx kitten
 Gayle Schaecher - (1) female Chaus, (2) Bobcat kittens
 Jackie Vanderwall - (5) Jungle Cat kittens
 John Van Stry - young cougar and (3) domestic/chaus hybrids

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Boyle. The following announcements were made:

-Gayle Schaecher advised that Oregon Fish & Wildlife is trying to introduce a management program for private owners of Elk and Deer. One section of this lengthy proposal uses the term "exotic animals", instead of reference to just the intended Elk and Deer. Several members are afraid that this is another attempt by the State of Oregon to ban private ownership of all exotic animals. Oregon Fish & Wildlife has scheduled a meeting to be held on July 15th (time and place to be announced). For further information, please call the Oregon State Veterinarian (503) 378-4170. Jerry encouraged everyone to attend to support our effort to retain private ownership.

-Jerry announced that the State of Oregon has new management, thus a new interpretation of the law regarding which exotic animals the State of Oregon wants licensed. In the past, Bobcat/Lynx crosses were considered hybrids and did not need a license. New management has decided that licensing will be required.

Jerry offered exotic cat T-shirts for sale. A portion of the proceeds was donated to the club. The meeting was adjourned early so everyone could play with the new kittens in attendance.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Miller, Secretary/treasurer

MEMBERS TO REACTIVATE FLORIDA CHAPTER

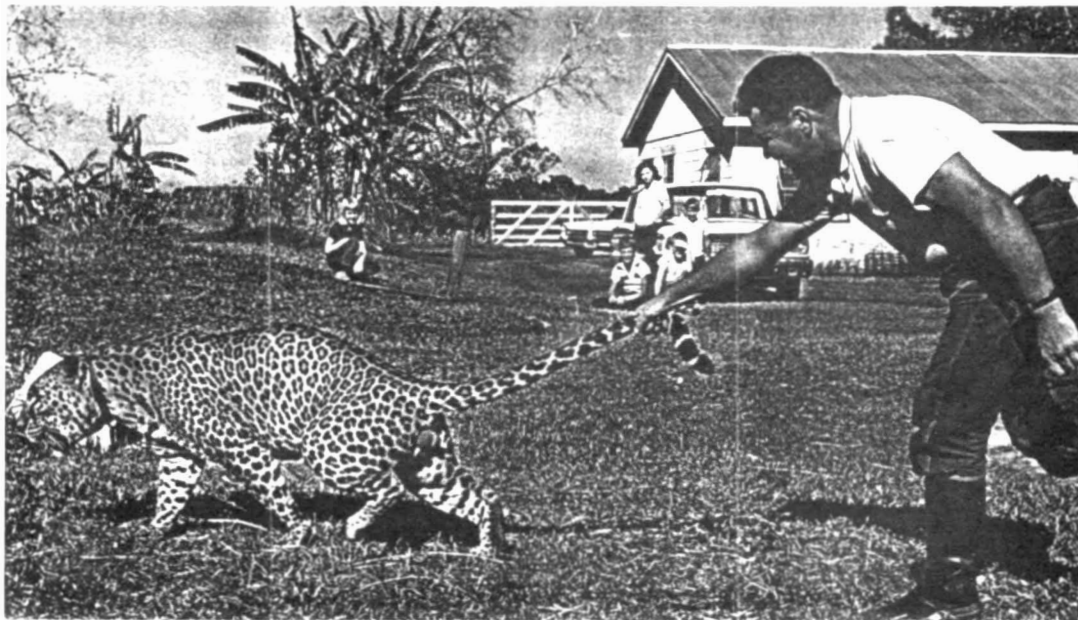
On Sunday, June 21, 1992 Florida LIOC members who plan to start a new Florida chapter held their first meeting. We had the meeting in my air-conditioned family room as it was too hot - 96 degrees outside that day. We all enjoyed chocolate fudge cake and coffee. With the kind help of Ken Hatfield - who flew in from Oregon, we filled out our LIOC branch application.

I made a sofa throw pillow which I painted an ocelot head on it and we had a drawing for it. Jackie Harvell took the pillow home hugging it. Personally I had not been some of these members for 20 years, but I have kept in touch with them. It was a wonderful surprise to see Suzie and Chuck Kindt, who flew in from Costa Rica, and told us about their home down there.

I made a poster with photos of George Fish and his leopards and we discussed the dilemma with his 4 leopards. George passed away on Mother's Day and I have been desperately trying to find the leopards a home. I think they have been placed by now. Dave and Sue Salisbury and I were close friends of George's and will miss him dearly.

Sandra Cassalia has just moved back to Florida and brought her photo albums with all the animals from jungle cats, tigers, cougars, monkeys, hedgehogs, foxes, etc. She must have had every critter I can think of. We all enjoyed her photo albums!

Members in attendance were Ken Hatfield, Jean Hatfield, Dave and Sue Salisbury, Suzie and Chuck Kindt, Sandra Cassalia and myself, Jane Baetjer, and Charlie Baetjer, my 10 year old son, who was my little door man. I have agreed to be coordinator for the planned Florida Chapter so if there is anyone interested in our new chapter starting up, they can contact me at (407) 722-9566, Jane Baetjer 1201 Wayne Lane N.E., Palm Bay, Florida 32905. Signing off for now, Jane Baetjer.



In loving memory of George Fish, Fellsmere, Florida. George passed away on May 10, 1992. George had many ocelots, bobcats and leopards. This was his favorite leopard, Squeaky. This was his favorite photo - he always said "I don't have a tiger by the tail, I have a leopard by the tail". He was my best friend for 20 years, Jane Baetjer.

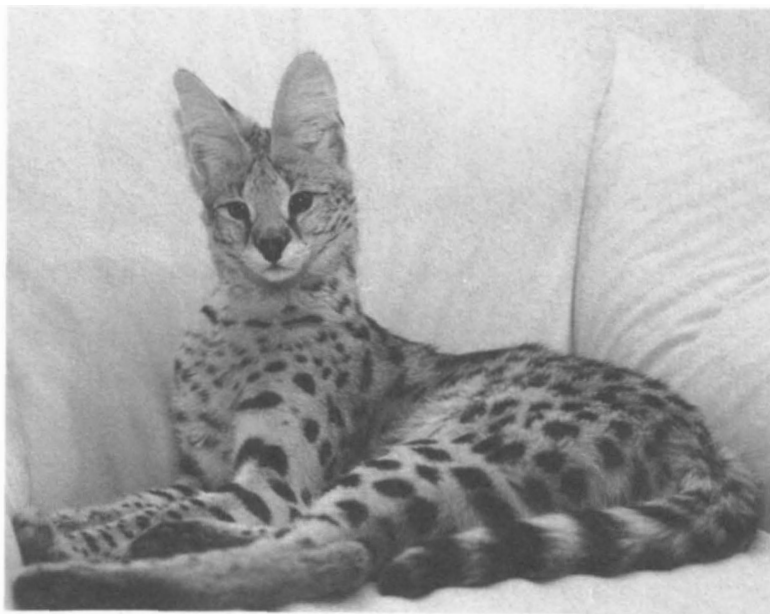
SERVAL CAGING IDEAS

Hi from Captain Caviar and Shoo! We want to introduce our elegant pair of Servals, Oyo (born 7-19-90), and Ashanti (born 8-20-90). Oyo and Ashanti have brought hours of love, fun, and work into our lives. These photos were taken at one year of age.

We purchased both at the age of eight weeks. We missed out on their early life and bottle feeding, but within days after their arrival were able to form that necessary maternal bond. Not new to having domestic animals around the home, I was unaware of the amount of time an exotic animal would require. They changed my daily schedule to their's, and my other interests have been set aside, and are still waiting on the back burner. Working a full time job doesn't leave much time when there are kittens about.



Oyo Serval



Ashanti (Keko)

When I made the telephone decision to acquire these cats, I had no existing caging. As with any project/hobby or goal, I tackle whatever obstacles and do or provide the best I can. I never seem to lack for ideas. My utility room was immediately converted to the nursery, (I'd rather play with cats than do laundry anyway). I designed a cage to fit their needs and the top of my utility counter (4'L x 4' H x 2'W), photo below. There are two platforms (18"L x 2'W), one pull out tray to catch water, food, etc, and one litter tray. This cage was completely built with 1/2" sq. wire. To prevent the cats from having to stand

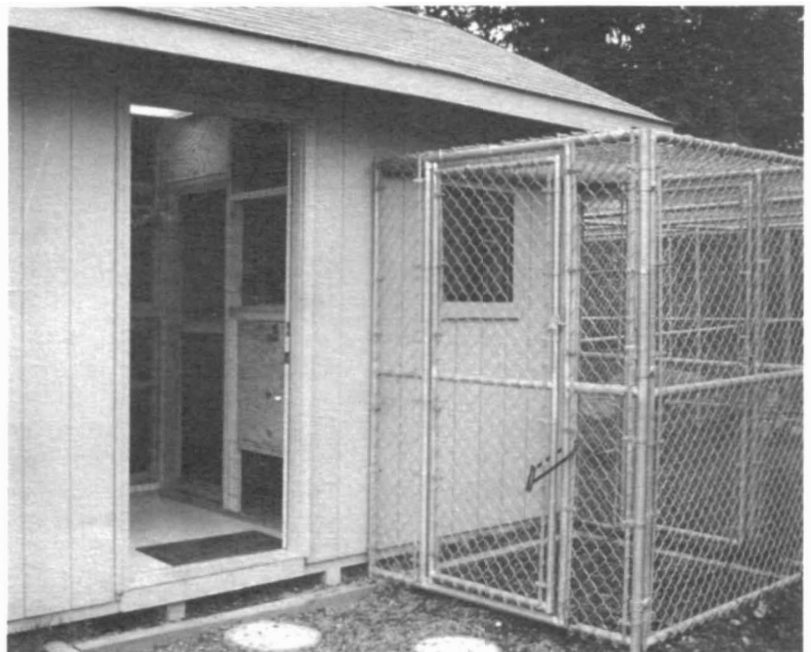
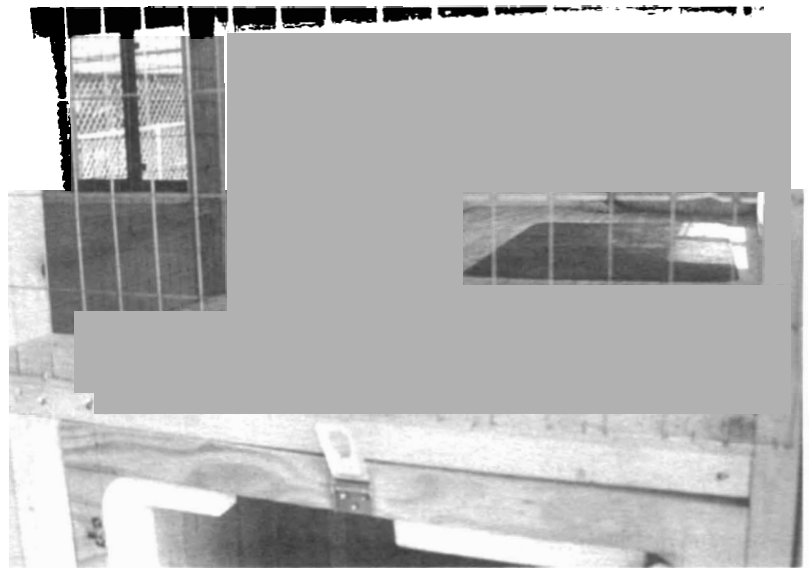
on wire, I purchased rubber back mats for each platform and the base. This worked out perfect, as they washable and never chewed upon. Oyo and Ashanti were very comfortable in their new home.

Seeing their growth, I knew that spring of 1991 was going to be the start of a big project, their outdoor environment. When we purchased our home on 1/2 acre, there was natural woods on one end of the property. We decided to build their outdoor/indoor house with this woods as a backdrop. We purchased an unfinished shed, 10' x 12', designed with a standard door and two windows. To keep it portable for possible later moves, we placed it on beams instead of a concrete foundation. We finished the outside to look like our house (for neighborhood aesthetic re-sale reasons). The inside of the house is fully insulated, paneled with what is called tile-board (almost like write and wipe), with the floor covered by linoleum.

There is a 4' shop light with Vita'lite bulbs for indoor lighting, and a in-wall fan heater for those cold winter nights (more so for me than the cats). Both the overhead light and the heater are placed within the storage and work area out of reach of the cats.

The inside is partitioned off into two indoor runs, each with a shelf and a 28" square cat box. One box is positioned directly on a shelf, with one attached below. Each cat has a high place to lay on those rainy indoor days. The back side of each box is accessed by a 24" square hinged door for easy access for cleaning, checking on kittens, or in the event the animals were injured accessibility to reach them for doctoring. Their bedding is straw which I have placed over the top of cedar shavings to help avert fleas.

I designed and had built two portable cyclone 10' x 20' runs, with a 5' x 5' double gate entry. The runs have a door between them, and the house has Johnson cat doors, for their access into each run. The entire cage is cyclone enclosed overhead.



The rocks inside the runs were literally jimmed, pushed, and pulled, and put in place by my hubby, son, and myself prior to the caging going up. A lot of sweat, but a great place for a Serval to hide behind or jump up on. The platforms were another idea, hanging and anchoring them to the cage top and side.

No running water, but a kid size pool is their fishing pond. They love feeder goldfish (usually 7-10 for a dollar, and last maybe ten minutes). The outdoor plumbing is a sand box in each run, and due to their use of litter boxes inside, is used rather than the other areas of the runs.

The entry door is a key lock with a deadbolt, and for security we use cryptonite bike locks for the cage door and perimeter fence.

They moved out of our house and into their new condo on 7-5-91.

Sharon Roe, 10702 S.E. 15th St., Vancouver, WA. 98664-5124



Yes, they are happy servals!

FUNDRAISER ANNOUNCED FOR EXOTIC ANIMAL LOBBY

A benefit auction this fall has been announced by Charlie Hume, a long-time breeder of exotic animals. The auction will consist of donated animals and services and all proceeds (including cash pledges) are to form a start-up fund for an exotic lobbying effort. Details have been provided in *Animal Finder's Guide* and other exotic trade publications. Individuals may provide pledges and/or feedback to Charlie c/o Hume's Exotic Wildlife Ranch, 1406 Busse Rd., Marengo, IL 60152, phone 815-943-5266

LIOC ESCF does not encourage the sale of cats through auctions and does not plan to participate. You, as an individual may wish to do so. Feedback to the LIOC ESCF Board members will be appreciated.

Guest Editorial

The approaches being recommended and several of the terms used to call for your response to current state legislative directions concern me greatly. From my position as a professional teacher of wild cat care and conservation subjects and as a liaison to legislative and enforcement agencies, let me give you the points upon which my concerns are based.

Point 1. I believe it is wrong to affiliate animals that are technically *wild* and that are classified *legally* as dangerous (cats, bears and wolves specifically) with the exotic animal and bird industry. This is true for several reasons 1) These animals are legally different, 2) These animals are covered and coverable by different legislative actions 3) These animals ~~are~~ classifiable as endangered and threatened, which exotics are not, and 4) These animals fall under recognized conservation programs at state, federal and international levels and exotics do not.

Because of this, direct affiliation with the exotic industry or its lobbying efforts are not pertinent to the interests of the animal families named above. Such an affiliation will work counter to any of the interests of the exotic industry, and most importantly - conservation concerns for those animal families are negated by such an affiliation. If LIOC means anything by its ESCF part, this must be considered.

Point 2. Auctions are a big and emotional part of what the public and legislators are responding to. With the perception of auctions as not appropriate for "dangerous" endangered or threatened wild animals, it is folly for LIOC ESCF to associate with or promote ~~any~~ auction at this time.

Point 3. Many of the most fervid statements I hear concern "defending our rights" to have these animals. Well, lets quit fooling ourselves. I'd like to get out in the open what we all really know: There is absolutely no *right*, constitutional or otherwise, to own a wild animal (there isn't a *right* to own a dog or cat, fish, bird, or have a truck, boat, house, or even a child in restricted areas either.)

As a matter of record, the protective "ownership" of wildlife was vested in the government (in the form of the King at the time) in the Magna Charta of 1215. This is, in fact the basis of all Western natural resource philosophy for eight centuries now.

Point 4. Though it's generally not nice to say "I told you so", I need to in the case. Look back at the commentary I wrote for the July/August '91 Newsletter. The effect of the canned hunt and excess animal placement stories in the national media, combined with increasing local bite, escape, and atrocity stories, was for me, easy to see.

And indeed, now we are watching a mass movement by states and conservation organizations to deal with the perceptions created by that coverage. Naturally, they are dealing with it through legislation and restrictions (By no means does all this attention to Missouri mean, that it is the only state making such movements in legislation virtually all are and have been since last summer.)

Not only I, but many other thoughtful experts have been saying to

LIOC for years. You claim you are doing well by the animals. You claim that you care about them as a whole. And you want to protect the *privileges* you have to own and sell them. Well, then you must actively work to properly self-regulate all those who have and deal in these animals. For if you do not those *privileges* will be taken away from you by those who are charged to deal with the problem.

Point 5. Any attempt to affect legislative approaches must be thoughtful, balanced, and deal with reality if it is to be successful. In the past, emotional reactions that cite the "business" of wild animals (as Tom Chandler calls it) will only serve to further resolve the legislators and will prove what they already suspect that those in the "business" are not rational. And believe me, it has happened in the past. A recent statement by a state legislator to me "No one we've heard from has been credible, they're too emotional and don't recognize the opinion of the majority of our constituents." That says more than I ever could, I hope, to make you realize that we'd all better *think* before we write or call, lest we shoot ourselves in the foot.

So, if you've heard and digested all those points, you may then wonder "What *should* we do? The reality is there must be *some* - hopefully well-balanced laws. What laws are balanced and how we as an organization can help to make them that way is what we need to agree on. In this way LIOC ESCF can truly affect the future of wild cats.

I believe that we must address and acknowledge the difference between exotics and wild animals. That we must recognize and encourage established conservation programs for cats. That we must recognize that the industry is much larger than our membership and has some real problems that do need to be addressed, i.e., that the public is responding to a real problem. And we must take the responsibility *not* to "make noise" to protest, but to *act* to correct the problems. We cannot expect a change in the direction of legislation today until there is a change in the direction of the "business"!

And, in your hearts, I believe you all know that.

A position paper to this effect will be available for consideration and discussion at Convention.

by Katie Knight-Monteiro, Director of Legal Affairs

FOR HELP WITH PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

by Katie Knight-Monteiro

Many of you are being presented with proposed new laws or enforcement. Let me take this opportunity to offer my assistance to any of you who are faced with local or state changes regarding wild cats.

I can offer you and your legislators many examples of approaches that have worked and of those that haven't, as well as statistics that will get their attention. This has been a very successful approach to balancing the concerns of the lawmakers with those of the survival, safety and continued care of the cats. And legislators appreciate both the assistance in an area about which they know little and the fact that I have references as a consultant to many other city, county and state agencies.

Give me a call or refer the authority to me at 713-585-4144

Ballot Results On Constitutional Ammendments

The ballots for amending the LIOC constitution have been counted and none of the three proposed amendments passed. The voting results were as follows:

1. Abolish the Constitution: 7 yes, 51 no
2. Establish a committee to propose organization and by law changes: 13 yes, 45 no
3. Require that presidential candidates have served previously on the board: 28 yes, 30 no

The LIOC Constitution is governed by Robert's Rules of Order and states that for a change to occur, it must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote. None of the proposed amendments received even a simple 50% majority vote. Voter response was poor, with only about 1/3 as many people participating in this club decision compared to the recent Life Director election. Apparently, most LIOC members did not feel strongly enough, one way or another, to want to influence the future direction of their club's activities, so they chose to abstain. I hope that this fall's upcoming Executive Board election will stimulate a greater member interest so voting will pick up.

THE CLASSIFIEDS



All ads in this publication are void where prohibited by law.

All transactions are between buyer and seller.

All buyers and sellers must have proper licenses and permits for all animals offered for sale or sold.

LIOC does not necessarily endorse or guarantee the honesty of any advertiser.

LIOC reserves the right to edit or reject any subscription or ad.

No blind animal ads - all ads must contain:

- A - Name of business or individual
- B - Must state whether individual is the owner or broker
- C - Must show state and phone number or full address.

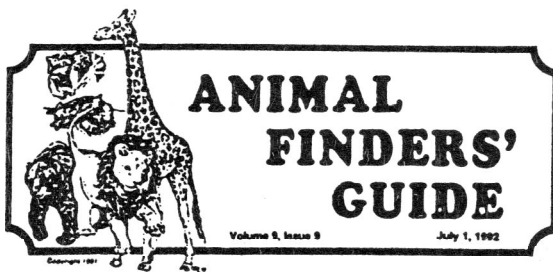
For further information regarding advertising contact.

Katie Knight-Monteiro
412 Mattes Lane Rt. 3
Alvin, TX 77511

Two 16x40x12 foot high, steel bar construction cages with three guillotine doors, etc.

Trio - 1 female bobcat, 1 bobcat/lynx cross and 1 male bobcat for sale. Make offer. Also cages for bobcats available.

Contact: Al Porges, owner
(617) 334-4943 6 Westview
Dr., Stoughton, MA. 02072



18 ISSUES A YEAR. Informative articles on exotic animal husbandry. Exotic animals, auctions, products & services advertised. \$25 a year. P.O. Box 99, Prairie Creek, Indiana 47869



Marbled Cat, *Felis marmorata*. Pat Quillen took this photo while in Bangkok, Thailand. This rare species is threatened by deforestation of its native habitat, Asian tropical forests.



Felis colocolo, the Pampas Cat, resembles the European wildcat in appearance, but is native to South America. It occurs in a variety of habitats, from open grasslands to humid forests. Pat Quillen photographed this feline at an English zoo.