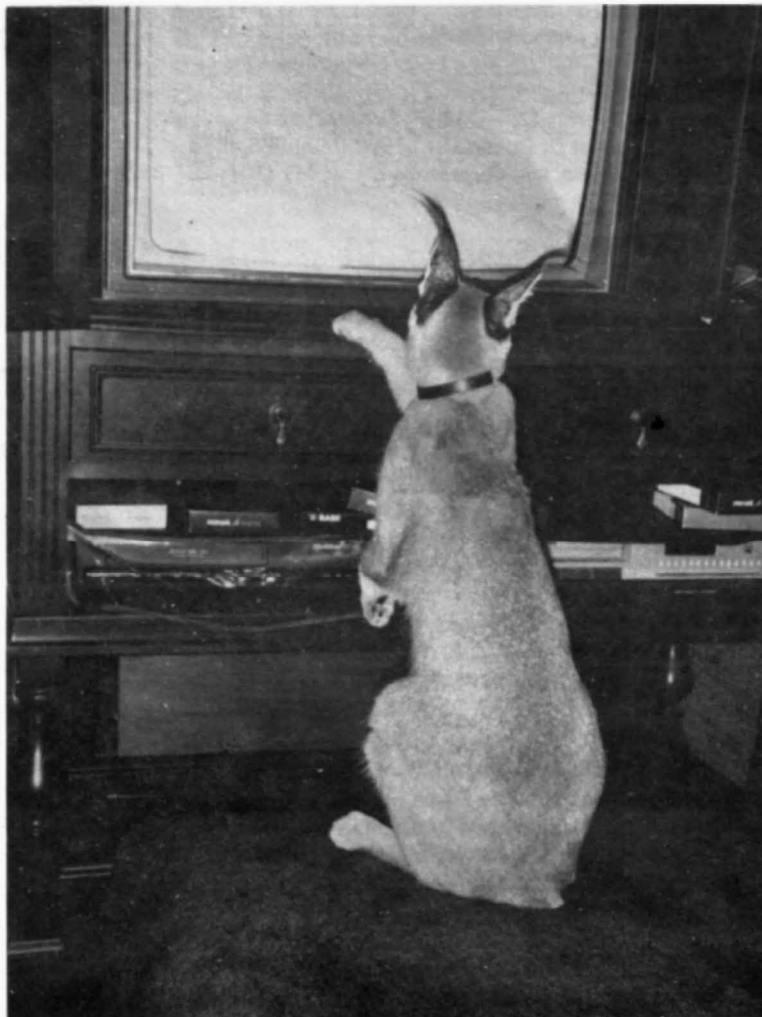


# NEWSLETTER

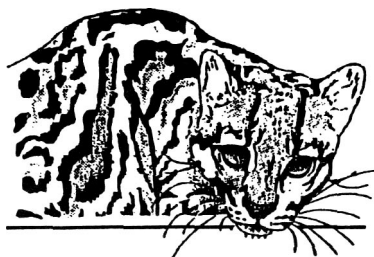
## CONTENTS:

Kira & T.J.....	3
Clouded Leopard .....	6
Wildcats Smarter? .....	7
Nominations Sought. ....	8
Branch Reports begin. ....	9
Book Review. ....	17
The Last Lion .....	20



KIRA watching TV

That's a dolphin she's  
fascinated with  
Story on page 3



# 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 with international 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 reflects the point of view of the author but does not necessarily represent the point of view of the organization. LIOC ESCF, Inc.'s statement of intent is contained in our by-laws, a copy of which can be requested from the Secretary. Reproduction of the material in this newsletter may not be made without the written permission of the original copyright owners 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, studies, 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 Readers Write column. Please submit all newsletter material to the Managing Editor.

<b>Founder</b>	Catherine Cisin	Amagansett NY 11930
<b>Editor</b>	Shirley Wagner	3730 Belle Isle Lane Mobile AL 36619 (205) 661-1342
<b>Officers</b>		
President	Katie Knight-Monteiro	Rt 3 Box 410 Alvin TX 77511 (713) 331-2742
Vice President	Gayle Schaecher	10715 SE Orient Dr Boring OR 97009 (503) 663-4673
Secretary/Treasurer	Loreon Vigne	20889 Geyserville Ave Geyserville CA 95441 (707) 857-3524
<b>Life Directors</b>		
	J.B. Anderson	Rt 4 Box 2190 Lake Rd 54-37 Osage Beach MO 65065 (314) 348-5092
	Carin Carmichael	7009 Willoughby Ave Hollywood CA 90038 (213) 874-9817
	Dr. John Perry	6684 Central Ave NE Fridley MN 55432 (612) 571-7918/481-2673
	Shirley Wagner	3730 Belle Isle Lane Mobile AL 36619 (205) 661-1342
<b>Term Directors</b>		
Member Services	Barbara Wilton	LIOC ESCF INC PO Box 66040 Portland OR 97290 (503) 774-1657
Education & Conservation	Ed Strickland	12717 Bullick Hollow Rd Austin TX 78726 (512) 258-8998
Legal Affairs	Sharon Roe	10702 SE 15th St Vancouver WA 98682 (206) 896-8208
Advertising & Publicity	Ron Eldridge	2 Spring St Providence RI 02904 (401) 728-7438
<b>Branches</b>		
Northwest Exotic Felines	Ethel Hauser	14622 N.E. 99th St Vancouver WA 98682 (206) 892-9994
Pacific Northwest Exotics	Glen Davis	PO Box 205 Gresham OR 97030 (503) 663-4673 (Gayle Schaecher)
Sunshine State Exotics	David Cassalia	PO Box 7113 Hollywood FL 33081-1113 (305) 966-0406
<b>Regional Contacts</b>		
Northeast	George Stowers	8 Meadowhill Dr Armingdale ME 04344 (207) 622-9201
Southeast	Jean Hatfield	1991 Southwest 136 Ave Davie FL 33325 (305) 472-727 6
Central	J.B. Anderson	Rt 4 Box 2190 Lake Rd 54-37 Osage Beach MO 65065 (314) 348-5092
Northwest	See Branches	
Southwest	Loreon Vigne	20889 Geyserville Ave Geyserville CA 95441 (707) 857-3524
Canada	Scarlett Bellingham	PO Box 722 Niverville Manitoba Canada ROA1EO (204) 388-4845
<b>Affiliates</b>		
World Pet Society	Jan Giacinto	Box 570343 Tarzana CA 91357 (818) 345-5140
Animal Finder's Guide	Pat Hocter	Box 99 Prairie Creek IN 47969 (812) 898-2701/2678



## 1994 CONVENTION Tucson, Arizona

Afternoon temperatures in the Arizona desert, in August, are very warm, therefore, it is best to participate in outdoor activities in the morning hours. On Friday, August 12, we will leave the resort, at 8:00am, on a Gray Lines Tour Bus and travel to the wonderful Arizona Sonora Desert Museum.

This distinctive zoo with more than 200 different living animals and 1200 kinds of plants on display in naturalistic settings is a wonderfully exciting way to begin the day. This is Self-Guided, and you will need to wear comfortable walking or tennis shoes.

Following is a list of the exhibits:

- \* Jaguarundi, Ocelots, Margays, Bobcats and Cougars
- \* Mexican Wolves, Desert Bighorn Sheep and Black Bears
- \* Bird Exhibits with over 300 individual birds and two walk-through Aviaries
- \* Cave & Earth History Room and Reptiles
- \* Riparian Habitat, River Otters with underwater viewing
- \* Aquatic Exhibits; rare and endangered aquatic and amphibious animals

At 11:00am, we will meet as a group for a special speaker, one of the curators of the museum. He will be speaking about the various cats the museum houses. Afterwards we will re-board our tour bus and travel a short distance to the Saguaro National Monument.

The Monument is part of the National Park Service. This is the most magnificent Saguaro Cactus Forest in the world. We'll be there approximately 15 or 20 minutes. Then we will travel to see the great Colossal Cave. On our way a tasty lunch will be provided.

The Colossal Cave is Arizona's greatest underground natural wonder. Possibly the largest dry cavern in the world, the cave is 6 stories deep into the mountain. The year round temperature is 72 degrees, and is a very enjoyable walk. If you find it easy to walk short distances, you will enjoy this guided tour into the mountain. However, if you choose not to enter the cave, there is a wonderful and interesting store and patio area, with a beautiful dessert mountain viewpoint, for your enjoyment.

New Members Sean and Camm Stoddard will be attending this convention, and Sean will be speaking about his experiences with various animals. Sean has established a consulting, manufacturing, and distributing firm specializing in the Zoological industry; assisting in enhancement of husbandry for better propagation of all exotic species being bred in the zoological world.

Looking forward to seeing you at convention. Kelly Jean Buckley

# Kira & T.J.

Kira, the caracal, came to live with me when she was 9 weeks old (she's now 14 months). I could not wait any longer for the baby serval I had originally planned on getting. Kira was really not my first caracal - but that is a longer story.... She was smart as a whip, but has always had an attitude and her own agenda. She loves her "mom" and now her "baby boy".but she has always pushed for her own way whenever she wants it. I still win, sometimes, not many, and she does KNOW - it's just that she keeps checking.

I live in a small, two bedroom, one bath townhouse. I turned a bedroom into my "cat enclosure" for my intended ONE cat. The room is where the two now stay when mom's not home....or when they insist on bouncing off walls in the livingroom and I am not in the mood. Mostly when I'm home the cats are out. Kira loves to watch TV, but less now that she has TJ. Her favorite is the Discovery Channel and the animal programs at that. I had so wanted a cat I could cuddle, but that is really not Kira's bag. She occasionally allows me an hour to stretch out alongside of or on top of me for some extended scratching and stroking. I must admit that this is a really special time - as though she is enjoying this - I know that she is only doing it for me. She is not the cat I planned on but she is the cat I got and I love her to pieces.

TJ at 13 weeks in one of his favorite places - on Kira's back with her ear in his mouth - at least it was until this photo was snapped.

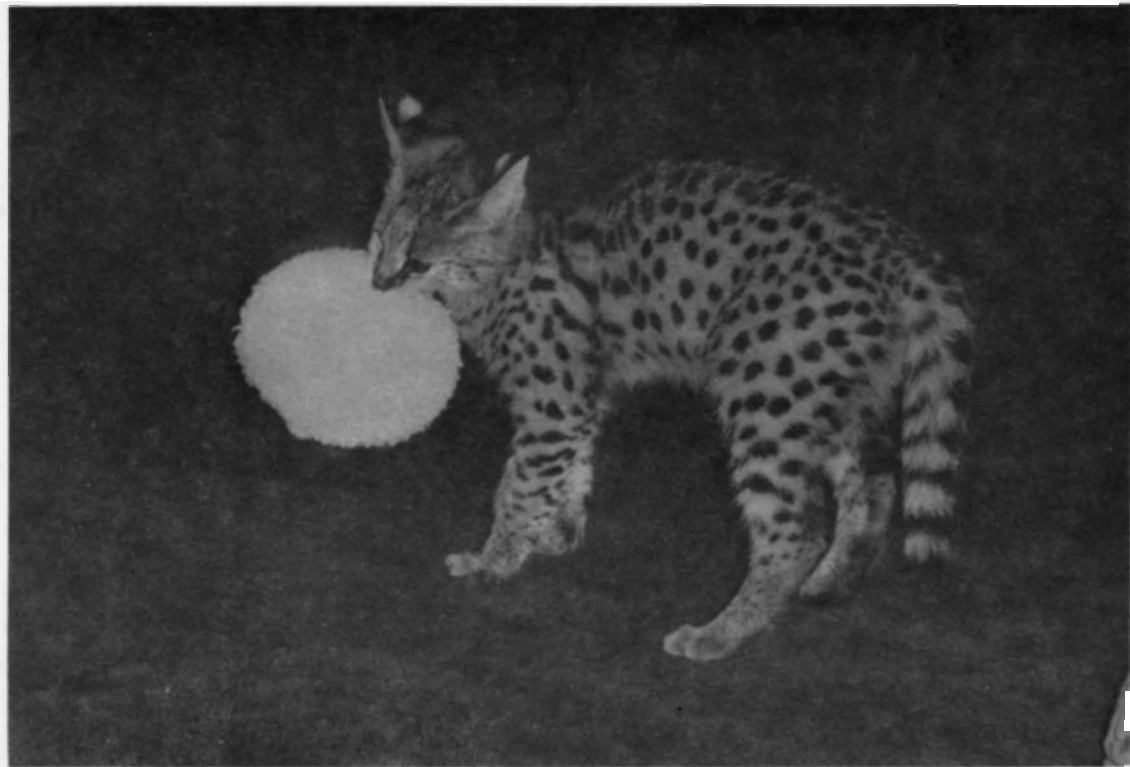
TJ was born at Jean Hatfield's. TJ's real mom belongs to a friend of mine. Fourth of July weekend I saw him and he told me I should come see the 9 week-old baby serval he had at home. I, of course, knew better than to look at a baby serval, so I said "No!" So, naturally, later that night JT was at my house....temporarily until he was sold or Kira killed him. From the very first moment they were together it was obvious that this was true love. She would talk to him and they chased each other, TJ coming to me when things got a bit rough. I would tell Kira when she appeared to have him by the throat

"Don't kill the baby!" She would stop immediately and look at me as if to say "What is your problem? You see any blood?"

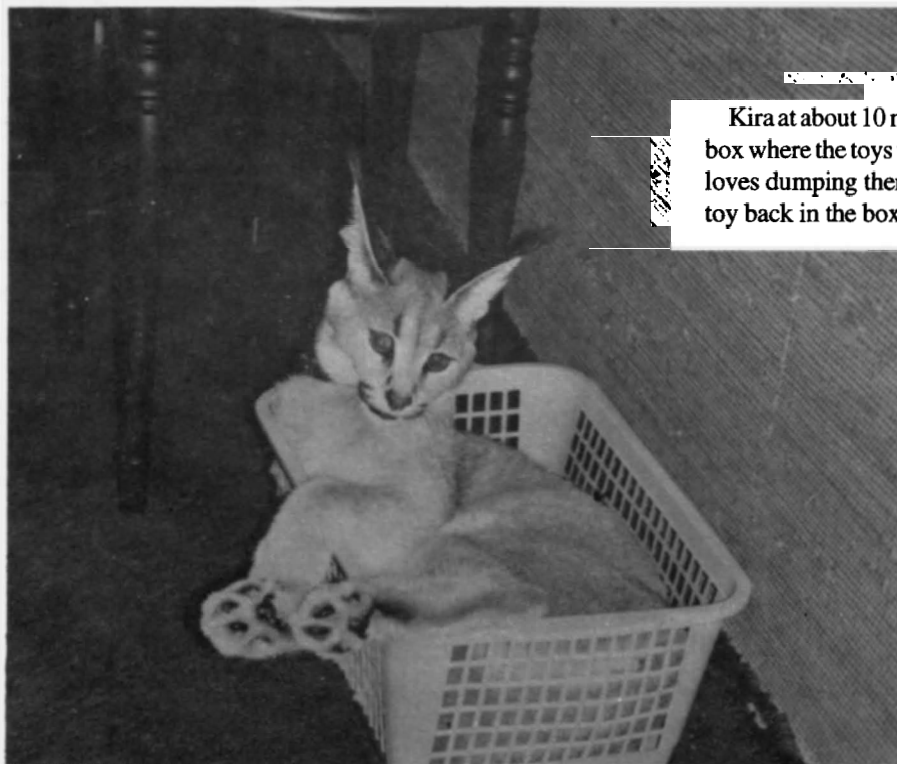
TJ continues to be "wet" across his throat. His favorite part of Kira appears to be her left ear. He gets on her back and bites the ear. They really have fun together. I admit the first time I put them together without my being there concerned me, but no matter, all is wonderful.

TJ, of course, is the cat I'd planned on in the first place. I knew that I would keep him as soon as Kira did not kill him and he let me know that he adored me too. Snuggles, kisses and such sweetness. He still has all of this and he feels the same way about any human. He climbs right up and looks a "new" person right in the face. Maybe even purring and licking in the process. So, now I have two babies as different as day and night. More work and more delightful.





TJ at 10 weeks. He loves to carry fuzzy toys around and unlike Kira is not interested in chewing them to pieces.



Kira at about 10 months - she is sitting in the living room toy box where the toys whose use is to be supervised are kept. She loves dumping them out...she usually puts one and only one toy back in the box. I've not figured this out yet.

## The Clouded Leopard

### Part I

Shy and rare, this partially diurnal hunter is among the most elusive member of the cat family. Too large to be grouped with the smaller cats, genus *Felis*, such as the margay and too small to be part of the big cats, genus *Panthera*, including lions and tigers, the clouded leopard has its own genus - *Neofelis*. This is why it is called the "link" between the larger and smaller cats.

*Neofelis nebulosa*, the "new cat with a cloudy pelt", lives in rainforests of tropical Asia. Other common names for this cat are "tree tiger" and "mint leopard". These cats were often seen only in trees, thus it was believed to be arboreal. Now, wildlife biologists seem to agree that the clouded leopard is mainly a terrestrial animal which merely rests in trees.

Very little is known about this cat in the wild. It lives in inaccessible areas, and its markings blend into the foliage making it very difficult to locate. When in danger, it freezes all movement and uses its protective coloration until danger passes.

One of the most unusually marked cats, the clouded leopard's cat is patterned with large, dark, cloud-shaped markings, thus the name clouded leopard. Coat color is a greyish yellow. The clouded leopard has a heavily built body with short legs. Weight is 18-22 kg (40-50 lbs.) a body length of 93-100cm



(30-47") with an additional tail of 76 cm (30"). The head is narrow with a broad, blunt snout.

Some interesting facets of this solitary cat are its teeth. The clouded leopard's canine teeth are similar to those of the extinct saber-toothed tiger. It has the longest canine teeth of any living cat. Unlike other "big" cats, the clouded leopard does not roar. A bone in its voice box prevents this. It does however purr like the smaller cats.

Clouded leopards are extremely difficult to breed due to the notoriously high incidence of males killing females. We will discuss this in Part II. The clouded leopard is listed as CITES Appendix I and endangered. Deforestation and poaching are responsible for the decline in clouded leopard populations. An International Studbook is published by the Minnesota Zoological Gardens and a Species Survival Plan (SSP) for the species has been established.

Part II will feature the reproduction and breeding habits as well as insight on the captive breeding programs.

By Ron Eldridge, BVSc

## WILDCATS SMARTER?

To anyone who has stared into the deep and unwavering blankness of a housecat's eyes, or has watched his beloved pet stand motionless in the center of a room, waiting for a thought to enter its plum-sized brain - to such a person the news will be no surprise: compared with its wild ancestor, the domestic cat has about one third fewer neurons. The cat's brain has shrunk by losing neurons.

So say Robert Williams of the University of Tennessee at Memphis and Carmen Cavada and Fernando Reinoso-Suarez of the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid. They compared the brain of *Felis catus* with that of the Spanish wildcat. Spanish wildcats are living fossils-rare survivors of the species that some believe gave rise to domesticated cats 15,000 to 20,000 years ago. While the domestic cat's line has evolved rapidly since then, the Spanish wildcat has barely changed.



SMARTER THAN your  
average cat:  
the Spanish wildcat.

Williams and his colleagues found that the domestic cat brain is 20 to 30 percent lighter than the Spanish wildcat's brain. (It's whole body is about half the size of the wildcat's body). To find out whether the

domestic cat had smaller neurons, more tightly packed neurons, or simply fewer neurons, the researchers decided to actually count the number of neurons in a small section of the feline brain - the visual pathway.

They found that the Spanish wildcat had half again as many cone cells - the cells that allow for daytime and color vision - in the retina; 50 percent more signal transmitting axons in the optic nerve; and 50 percent more cells in the lateral geniculate nucleus, a clump of neurons in the brain that sorts the signals from the optic nerve. If one extrapolates these findings to the whole brain, says Williams, this means that the domestic cat has lost about a third of their neurons during evolution.

The intriguing thing is that each domestic cat seems to start out with all its ancestral neurons: comparing a fetal wildcat with a fetal domestic cat, the researchers found that both make the same number of retinal ganglions (the cells whose axons make up the optic nerve). A large number of the domestic cat's cells, however, die as the fetus develops. "The death of brain cells often happens in mammals," says Williams. "The human makes close to a million and keeps only 160,000." If you're going to evolve a smaller brain, he adds, the cat's strategy is a good one. "It has a built-in flexibility. If conditions were to change rapidly in a few thousand years, an animal could take advantage and stop losing as many cells."



While the domestic cat should want to lose brain cells in the first place, however, the researchers can't say. But they warn against drawing conclusions concerning the animal's intelligence. "In some respects I'm sure a wildcat is a much more competent animal," says Williams. "But domestic cats are much smarter at coping with humans than wildcats - so in that respect, a domestic cat is obviously a genius."

Reprinted from Discover

## Sad News

Gayle and Clem Schaecher report the death of Charo, cougar at age 18. Charo was a special cat that will be greatly missed. Over the years she produced 25 cubs to carry on her special ways.

Max cougar died Christmas of liver problems. Although he had only lived with us a few years, he had a permanent place in our hearts, says Lynn Culver.

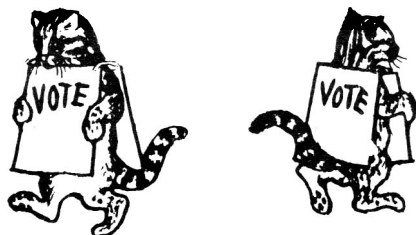


## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

It is once again time to begin our nomination and election process for the 1995-1996 term of office.

Those currently holding office will be automatically re-nominated unless they decline in writing. Current office holders are shown on page two of this newsletter.

To be properly nominated a nomination must be signed by two LIOC members and accepted in writing by the nominee.



We are seeking nominations for the following:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Advertising/Publicity  
Legal Affairs  
Education & Conservation  
Member Services

Nominations must be received not later than  
April 20th, 1994

Send to: John Perry,  
6684 Central Ave  
Fridley, Mn 55432



## EFES DECEMBER FUND-RAISER & CHRISTMAS LUNCH



EXOTIC FELINE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

### WORK is FUN!!

*Gathering at Santa's workshop, alias Larry's hideaway.*

*The elves journeyed through the mist bearing  
holly, cedar boughs, ornaments, ribbons, and implements.*

*With the head elf, Norman Ray, directing his helpers along the way.*

*Amidst all the laughter, they scurried and scampered  
while with spirits and goodies, other elves did pamper.*

*While the Christmas music played,  
they cut, assembled, and sprayed,  
joking and laughing all through the day.*

*To our delight and cheer, to our wondering eyes did appear,  
39 sparkling wonderful Christmas Centerpieces.  
Such a fun fund-raiser for this time of year!*

#### *Elves in attendance:*

*Rod Black*

*Ethel Hauser*

*Sharon Roe*

*Marilee Carroll*

*Judith Hendricks*

*Darryl & Melanie Scheel*

*Corrine Cary*

*Don & Arla Hertz*

*Larry & Jean Torland*

*Bob & Colette Griffiths*

*Jan Merris*

*Herb & Barbara Wilton*

*Ken Hatfield*

*Norman Ray*

*Our goal we did meet, and the gift to be bought is neat!*

*"A medical device, \*PRONEB"*

*Our felines are ever so special,  
and this Christmas we are ever so thankful,  
for the elves participation,  
which made this fund-raiser successful!!*

*At the close of our day, the Good Guy award Jean surprisingly bestowed,  
on one of the elves, Sharon, for her year's hard work. Boy did she glow!*

*Respectfully submitted,*

**Sharon L. Roe**  
**Secretary/EFES**

*\*A medical device available for members to use for feline medical emergency in treatment of upper respiratory illnesses.*



**January 16, 1994**  
**Business Meeting Minutes**

Ethel called the meeting to order. She introduced the new 1994-1995 officers as follows:

*Larry Torland* ————— *President*  
*Rod Black* ————— *Vice President*  
*Sharon Roe* ————— *Secretary*  
*Barbara Wilton* ————— *Treasurer*

The meeting was then turned over to our new president, Larry Torland.

Larry thanked everyone for their support, and gave a thumbnail sketch of his background for those new members present.

***TREASURER REPORT***

Barbara reported we earned \$48.00 from the "raffle and dollar game" at our November business meeting. Our December fund-raiser, Christmas Centerpieces, raised \$292.50. A gift of \$25.00 was sent to Norman Ray, along with a thank you letter for his instructions and participation.

## ***SECRETARY REPORT***

Sharon welcomed the 20 members, and thanked Don and Arla Hertz for hosting this meeting in their home in Vancouver, WA. Sharon introduced and welcomed *new members Kip and Cher Leonhardt*.

A reminder was made that *the \$5.00 annual dues is due by January 31st* in accordance with the recent change in the Bi-Laws.

Everyone was encouraged to attend the EFES dinner at the Stagecoach Inn, scheduled for January 22nd at 5:30 PM. RSVP's are needed. Please contact Ethel or Sharon.

## ***ACTION ITEMS***

Larry reported that of the two programs voted upon by the membership, *Adopt-A-Highway* won. This program covers litter control and improves the appearance of the state highway system. This is a great opportunity to promote our organization as two signs with our name will be posted on the highway section assigned to us for clean up. We have requested an assignment from the Oregon Department of Transportation, and to date, we are waiting for confirmation. Details will follow as soon as information is received.

## **NEW BUSINESS**



## ***SCHEDULED MEETING DATES***

Larry reviewed the six month meeting plan. Suggestions were discussed, and the following schedule was decided upon:

<i>Feb. 20th</i>	<i>Membership/Guest Meeting</i> <i>Marshall Center, Vancouver, WA</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>Work Party/Fund-raiser - Firewood Cutting at Steve Johnson's</i> <i>home in Randall, WA - see enclosed flyer</i>
<i>April 17th</i>	<i>Membership/Guest Meeting - Camas Washougal Wildlife League</i>
<i>May 15th</i>	<i>Field Trip to Wolf Haven - details to follow</i>
<i>June 19th</i>	<i>Membership/Guest meeting - location to be announced</i>
<i>July 17th</i>	<i>Business Meeting - location to be announced</i>

It may be necessary to schedule activities outside the above meeting dates and/or functions, i.e., making catch poles, building security fencing, Adopt-A-Highway, etc. We want to make this a successful year and accomplish those ideas suggested by our membership. As details are finalized, these activities will be published in our meeting minutes.

## **NEW APPOINTMENTS**

Members volunteered for the following positions:

1. ***Sunshine Member - Judith Hendricks***  
She will send cards to members who are ill, hospitalized, newlywed, etc.
2. ***Raffler - Bob Griffiths***  
He will sell raffle tickets for donated new items, and tickets for our dollar game.
3. ***Telephone Tree***  
- *Washington will be Corrine Carry and Linda Bizeau*  
- *Oregon will be Rod Black and Cher Leonhardt*  
They will be our network to phone members and guests encouraging attendance and participation in club functions.
4. ***Librarian - Corrine Cary***  
She will be responsible for our library of books and videos. This is a resource which is available at our meeting functions for membership use.
5. ***Photo Historian - Marilee Carroll***  
She will be responsible for the bulletin board display, and will take photographs of our meetings, functions, attendees, felines, and maintain a permanent record for the club. The photo album is available to view at meeting functions.
6. ***Public Relations - Ken Hatfield***  
He will be responsible for presenting articles and editorials to the EFES members for review and discussion. When necessary, he will respond on behalf of EFES.
7. ***Designated Host & Hostess - Don & Arla Hertz and Herb Wilton***  
These members will greet everyone, provide name tags, and make guests and new members feel welcome.
8. ***Food & Beverage Coordinator- Barbara Wilton***  
She will coordinate member participation in providing food and beverage for our meeting functions.
9. ***Medical Handouts - Ethel Hauser***  
She will make available at meeting functions, pertinent medical information in the form of presentations and handouts.
10. ***Fund-raiser Activity Coordinator - Judith Hendricks and Cher Leonhardt***  
They will be responsible for researching ideas for fund-raisers.
11. ***Volunteers -New Action Projects***
  1. ***Handbook - Ethel Hauser, Ken Hatfield, Jean Torland, & Sharon Roe***  
They will be responsible for compiling a handbook of information for potential and existing felines owners
  2. ***Obtaining a Mock Exotic Feline License - Bob & Colette Griffiths,  
Steve Johnson, & Sharon Roe***  
They will be responsible for obtaining a license (if required) from the Dept of Wildlife in Washington, City of Vancouver, and Clark County.
12. ***Good Guy Award Coordinator - Jean Torland***  
She will be the keeper of the Good Guy suggestion box and will coordinate with the officers the nominees.

### ***NEW ACTIVITY***

Ethel suggested and will coordinate the making of safari and carrier covers. They will be available for use by members and guests to cover their feline(s) when necessary during meeting functions. These covers will have the EFES name printed on them.

### ***NEW EFES INTRODUCTION FLYER***

Enclosed is a one page flyer to be used as the handout to potential new members and other interested parties. Please review this document and contact Sharon Roe if you have any suggestions or changes. This handout will include our logo when the design is completed.

\*

We ended our very productive and successful meeting with a lively raffle and dollar game. Steve Johnson did it again - he donated a very popular 1/3 cord of wood! Others donated wildlife art, books, and miscellaneous items. EVERYONE was digging deep in their pockets for dollars!

We had an abundance of popular sweets for everyone to enjoy.



Outgoing President Ethel Hauser with the "President's Plaque" with incoming President, Larry Torland

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The EFES Officer Installation Dinner was held at the Stagecoach Inn on January 29, 1994. There were 22 members in attendance to express their appreciation for the work and effort put forth by the 1993 officers: Ethel presented each officer with a thank you gift: A porcelain Stein, which she made. Each stein depicted cougars and wildlife scenes.

*The 1994 Officers were introduced by Ethel Hauser.*


<i>President</i>	<i>Larry Torland</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Rod Black</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Sharon Roe</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Barbara Wilton</i>

Ethel presented Larry with a personalized engraved gavel, and surprised all with a EFES bronze wall plaque which lists all the presidents and vice presidents on gold nameplates back to 1975. The plaque has a gold lion laying on a shelf with the name of the organization etched into the plaque. The outgoing president will be able to keep this plaque for two years on display in their home until the next EFES election of officers.

To show our appreciation for Ethel's understanding, support, and her effort in supporting all the new members, the members presented Ethel with a Daytimer notebook.

We had a great dinner and enjoyed the opportunity to relax and socialize with our friends.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sharon L. Roe  
Secretary/EFES





The November meeting was held at the home of Pam & Brian Riley on November 20, 1993. There were approximately 30 people in attendance with alot of cats present also. These were: Pam & Brian Riley with their serval Zaire, their jungles, and bengals; Sandra & David Cassalia with their cougar Magnum; Jean Hattfield with baby ocelot; Deborah & Tom Misotti, Connie Calavenzo, Rebecca Woods, Maria & Ricky Prieto, Mike & Carol Preston with jungle cat Joey; Marilee Lubin, Nanette McGann, Bob & Gennene Orcott, Alan Rigerman, Kim Half, Jane Baetjer and son Charlie, Ed Collins and last but not least Vernon Yates and crew with his cats. A few more people were there, but didn't stay long enough to be accounted for on the roster.

It was a great day and we had a fantastic meeting. No doubt the highlight of the meeting was when Vernon Yates arrived with his tiger, lion, leopards and cougar in tow ! When they pulled out their two baby Amur leopards everyone oohed and ahhed, yet the best was still to come. He brought with him his baby snow leopard. What a magnificent cat !

We all chatted alot yet we actually got some business done too. We voted in the club officers, which are as follows:

President -	David Cassalia
Vice Pres. -	Jean Hattfield
Secretary -	Sandra Cassalia
Treasurer -	Pam Riley

We decided to hold meetings every two months and agreed upon a \$15.00 club membership fee. There is a distinct possibilty that the January meeting will be held at the home of Robert Baudy. We are still ironing out the details. Please, everyone, send in your applications along with membership fee so you will be advised of club meetings and receive your newsletter.

I would personally like to thank Pam & Brian Riley for hosting this meeting; Vernon Yates for bringing his crowd pleasers (and believe me there was a crowd when he opened the door to the back of the trailer and everyone saw this 800 + pound siberian tiger); and all the attendees for making it such a fun-filled day ! Hope to see you all at the January meeting.

Your Secretary,





The November meeting of was held in the home of Clem and Gayle Schaecher in Boring, Ore. With the threat of snow that afternoon, it was a small turnout and a short meeting. Since only twelve members attended, we decided to take the nominations for next year's officers by mail.

We talked about different plants that are toxic to the animals. And discussed the different diets we use in the feeding of our animals.

We then talked as great length on the pros and cons of declawing. We had a new member here with a five month old bobcat that hasn't yet been declawed. I think we convinced him it would be a wise thing to have the cat declawed.

Gayle showed a 2 minute segment on Jungle Cats she had taped from the series "CATS" that had been shown on the

learning channel.

The meeting was then adjourned and as Clem was giving tours outside in the cathouse, Gayle gave tours to the back of the house so everyone could see and play with the Jungle Cats, Bambi and Juca.

Our next meeting will be in February, 1994. We wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday and New Year.

Submitted by  
Gayle Schaecher

FEBRUARY, 1994

Bill and Linda Hobson hosted the meeting at the Redland Grange. It was nice to see Bill, as he's been out of touch for about a year.

Glen Davis welcomed both members and guests. We had a lot of new faces there. Glenn explained a little about our group to the new folks.

It was quite a surprise that there were no cats present - it had been raining all day and I think that's what kept the cats home.

After the election of officers for 1994, Glen turned the meeting over to Jerry Boyle, our new President. Steve Belknap is our new Vice President and Gayle Schaecher returned as Secretary/Treasurer.

Most of the day was spent talking about the proposed U.S. Fish and Game rule changes.  
continued on page 19



## La Vie Sauvage Au Sahara (Wildlife in the Sahara)

By Alain Dragesco-Joffe'

The wildlife of the Sahara has been little studied and there is only meager knowledge of the life and status of the animals of this vast, intimidating area. Mere survival in the severe climate is a problem for wildlife and people. Nevertheless, many species, humans included, have adapted to the conditions, but, as in most parts of the world, wildlife is suffering from human pressure. French naturalist, Alain Dragesco-Joffe', decided in 1982 to concentrate on documenting Saharan wildlife. The result of 10 years intensive work has now been published in a spectacular coffee table book, packed with breathtaking photos of mammals, birds and reptiles.

Cat specialists will turn immediately to accounts of cheetah, sandcat, wildcat, and caracal. All are informative, but the cheetah steals the show in a chapter subtitled "A Cat Lost in Hell".

The author found signs of cheetah almost everywhere while ranging over 275,000 km in Niger's Air Mountains and the plains of the Tenere. Numbers were small, except in the Tenere, but even there he estimated the density to be one cheetah per 194 km, compared with an average of one per 30 km in East Africa.

Several fine photos support Dragesco-Joffe's comment that the Saharan cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus hecki*) seemed to be very different from those of the rest of Africa, both in size and coat color. He found them smaller and more stocky. Two adult males he measured were only 65 cm in height at the shoulder and measured 1.69 m and 1.70 m respectively (including the tail of 65cm), while sub-Saharan cheetahs of East and southern Africa average 80 cm at the shoulder and up to 2.3 meters in length, including a tail of 80cm.

The photo of a running cheetah shows unusually large ears and a pronounced muzzle.

He noted that cheetahs in open regions had little contrast in their coats, which blended with their habitat. The coats were light beige with ocher, instead of black spots. Furthermore, the black line between the eye and the mouth, and the black rings at the end of the tail, characteristic of ordinary cheetahs, were very muted in the Saharan cheetah, even non-existent. On the other hand, he noted that cheetah living around the mountain chains where black rocks prevail, had much more contrasting coats and darker spots.

Dragesco-Joffe' estimates that between 300-500 cheetahs remain in the Sahara, most of them in Mali, Niger and with others probably north of the Hoggar, in Algeria.

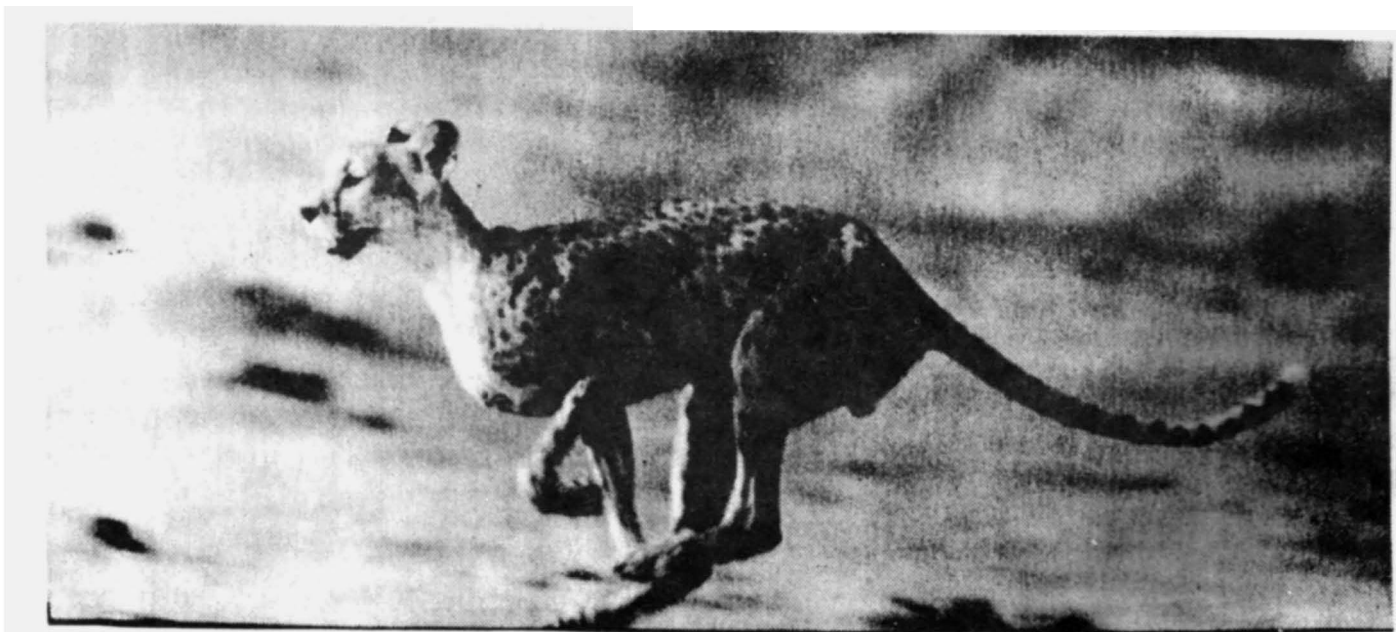
Saluki hounds are used by local people to hunt cheetahs. Dragesco-Joffe' notes that the Saharan cheetahs suffer from heat stress and are likely to collapse when chased. But even if not molested, the cheetahs appeared unable to tolerate human presence: they disappeared from one area soon after people settled there.

After the cheetah, the attention of the reader is drawn to the beautiful little sandcat, *Felis margarita*, the subject of further striking photos, including a series showing its technique when attacking a horned viper and finally biting its head off. The author says the sandcat is found throughout the Sahara and appears to be rather more diurnal in its activity than the wildcat, *Felis silvestris libyca* (also beautifully photographed). Prey include gerbils, young cape hares, and varana lizards.

Sandcats were seen to cover the remains of prey with sand and return later to feed. While sandcats can live for long periods without drinking water, the Toubou guides surprised one at dawn drinking camel's milk from a gourd.

As with cheetahs, Dragesco-Joffe' found that the coats of wildcats were well adapted to the habitat: reddish-grey in the red clays of the Ighazer, and yellowish in the sands. They are almost exclusively nocturnal, preying on gerbils, birds and reptiles. They appeared to be neither rare or threatened in the southern Sahara.

In similar habitat to the wildcats, Dragesco-Joffe' found caracals, *Caracal caracal*. They kept to rocky areas and did not venture into sandy wastes. His desert guides said that their numbers had diminished over the past 40 years with increasing desiccation. The decline could well have been helped through human persecution because of their depredation on livestock. Dragesco-Joffe' was frequently asked to rid



an area of the cats, which attacked goats, sheep and chickens. A Tuareg said she lost 10 percent of her goats a year. But caracals were easily tracked, and people sent their saluki hounds after them.

This review has concentrated on the cats, but the book should be in the hands of all interested in the Saharan, and desert wildlife. At present it is available only in French, but one hopes the English version will appear before too long. Dragesco-Joffe' has been awarded the Prix Nature 1993 established by the Fondation Electricite' de France for the best nature book of the year in French.

Andrew Kitchener of the Royal Museum of Scotland comments: "I do not find the desert cheetah as odd as it first seems. The problems with most species of large mammal is that we have little idea what variation (whether it is morphological or genetic) means. To some extent, ideas about variation can only be tested in captivity or by translocation of specimens between habitats. What would one expect for a desert

Cheetah? It would have a very short fur (hence the lack of a mane); the productivity of deserts is low, so we could expect it to be small. Finally, the effect of sunlight on the spotted coat would be a fading of the melanin to produce a pale animal with pale spots. It would be interesting to test whether desert cheetahs that grow up in captivity in Europe grow bigger and have black spots like other cheetahs. A similar problem has occurred over the Baluchistan black bear, the type of specimen of which had brown fur, probably caused by fading of the sun. A captive animal at the London zoo had black fur!

Reviewed by Peter Jackson  
Reprinted from IUCN Cat News

PNW Report cont.

Everyone was encouraged to write or phone in their comments. The address and phone number was furnished for those who wished it.

Todd Stiles won the dollar game and of course we had our usual raffle. Jackie S. brought a photo album filled to the brim with pictures of her ocelots and bobcats which everyone enjoyed looking at. The next meeting will be held at her home in Beaverton, so we'll be able to see the real thing. She does have some beautiful cats.

The rest of the day was spent visiting with old and new friends.

  
GAYLE SCHAECHER

#### 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 ESCF Inc. does not necessarily endorse or guarantee the honesty of any advertiser. LIOC ESCF Inc. reserves the right to edit or reject any subscription or ad. No blind animal ads will be accepted: all ads must a) contain name of business or individual, b) state whether the individual is owner or broker, c) show state and phone number or full address. For further information regarding advertising with LIOC ESCF Inc. contact the Term Director for Advertising & Publicity as listed inside the front cover of this Newsletter.



## *The Last Lion*

I am your last lion...I greet you with a groan,  
Gone are our companions and we are all alone.  
I know not why our friends are gone,  
Nor do I know just where;  
The only friend I have is you,  
the one who seems to care.  
Thanks to you, I've never known  
Winter's icy stare.  
I never had to kill for food,  
For you were always there.  
The sound of dogs I've never heard,  
on trail to mountain lair;  
Nor felt the pain of steel,  
as it would rend and tear.  
And yet, somehow, I seem to know  
of the bounty on my head.  
You and I both feel it...  
there are those who want me dead.  
The traps are set in the world of men,  
I see it in their eyes,  
There is nothing you can do old friend,  
they have baited them with lies.  
In the book you call Good....  
John 8 and 44....  
Like Father, like the sons,  
just who is the predator?

Like a roaring lion,  
seeking whom he may devour,  
They prowl within his shadow,  
as they would wield his power.  
But these, a different breed of cat,  
not of fang and claw...  
The concrete jungle bureaucrat,  
who kills within the law.  
You can't fight City Hall and win,  
(that saying may be true)  
But you really haven't lost, my friend,  
for the end's not up to you.  
Though the battle may be over,  
as far as you can say;  
Remember how the Lord above,  
has promised to repay?  
If I could know a wish come true,  
if I could just come home...  
I'm old and tired and deplore my fate,  
How I hate to die alone.  
I've known more joy than sorrow,  
as I've walked the path of men...  
And, should there be no more tomorrow,  
I've known a faithful friend.

*By Dale & Laura Parks*

---

## **U.S. Considers Listing Jaguar**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may propose adding the jaguar to the U.S. endangered species list. Although on the U.S. list from Mexico south, the big cat - once resident in our southwest and still reported occasionally - was omitted by oversight when the domestic list was prepared in 1975. Thus jaguars crossing from Mexico lack federal protection on our side of the border.

## ***New Arrivals***

John Perry, past president and LIOC Minnesota member, is proud to announce the birth of two melanistic geoffroys on October 27. John has had a record of number of successful geoffroy births in the last year. Congratulations!