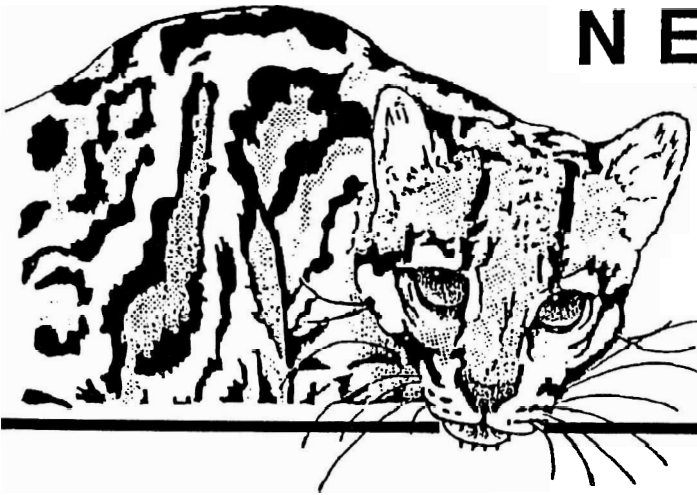


# NEWSLETTER



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**Hector, Panda and Fossa (l-r) share their home with the Len Davidson and her family.  
For more on the *House Full of Spots*, see page 7**



# LIOC

## *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 feline are preferred and gladly accepted. Articles involving other related subject will also be considered. Letters and responses to articles may be included in the Readers Write column. Please submit all material to the Managing Editor.

<b>Founder:</b>	Catherine Cisin	Amaganasett, N.Y. 11930
<b>Editor:</b>	Shirley Wagner	3730 Belle Isle Ln, Mobile, Al. 36619 (334) 661-1342 nites,(334) 433-5418 days Fax(334)433-5422
<b>Officers</b>		
<b>President</b>	Ken Hatfield	1260 N.W. Perimeter Rd., Troutdale, OR 97060 (503) 668-8628
<b>Vice President</b>	Barbara Wilton	7800 S.E. Luther Rd. Portland, OR 97206 (503) 774-1657
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Sharon Roe	29641 N.E. Timmen Rd., Ridgefield, WA 98642 (206)887-8563
<b>Term Directors</b>		
<b>Member Services</b>	Kelly Jean Buckley	P.O. Box 22085, Phoenix, AZ 85028 (602) 996-5935
<b>Education &amp; Conservation</b>	Scarlett Bellingham	P.O. Box 722, Niverville, Manitoba ROA 1E0, Canada (204) 388-4845 home & fax
<b>Legal Affairs</b>	George Stowers	8 Meadowhill Dr., Farmingdale, ME 04344 (207)622-9201
<b>Advertising &amp; Publicity</b>	Jean Hamil	31307 Debbi, Magnolia, TX 77355 (713)356-2076
<b>Life Directors</b>		
	J.B. Anderson	Rt 4, Box 2190, Lake Rd. 54-37, Osage Beach, MO 65065 (314) 348-5092
	Carin C. Sousa	2960 Bay St., Gulf Breeze, FL (904)932-6383
	John Perry	6684 Central Ave. N.E., Fridley, MN 55432 (612)571-7918 nites (612)481-2673 days
	Shirley Wagner	3730 Belle Isle Ln, Mobile, AL 36619 (334)433-5418 days 661-1342 nites Fax: (334)433-5422
<b>Branches</b>		
<b>Exotic Feline</b>		
<b>Educational Society</b>	Rod Black	1260 N.W. Perimeter Rd., Troutdale, OR 97060 (503)666-5814
<b>Pacific Northwest Exotics</b>	Steve Belknap	P.O. Box 205, Gresham, OR 97030 (503)663-4673
<b>Sunshine State Exotics</b>	David Cassalia	P.O. Box 7113, Hollywood, FL 33081-1113 (305)966-0406
<b>Regional Contacts</b>		
<b>Northeast</b>	George Stowers	8 Meadowhill Dr., Farmingdale, ME 04344 (207)622-9201
<b>Southeast</b>	Jean Hatfield	1991 S.W. 136th Ave., Davie, FL 33325 (305)472-7276
<b>Central</b>	J.B.Anderson	Rt 4, Box 2190, Lake Rd. 54-37, Osage Beach, MO 65065 (314)348-5092
<b>Northwest</b>	See Branches	
<b>Southwest</b>	Loreon Vigne	20889 Geyserville Ave., Geyserville, CA 95441 (707)857-3524
<b>Canada</b>	Scarlett Bellingham	P.O.Box 722, Niverville, Manitoba ROA1E0, Canada (204)388-4845

**LIOC needs YOU!**

**And you thought today was going to be just an ordinary day...Nope!** Today's the day to make your 1995 LIOC Convention plans. You know it's our 25th Convention and the dates when all this excitement happens are August 16-20! Our destination is the Embassy Suites in Colorado Springs, and your special toll-free reservation number is 1-800-362-2779. Best of all your \$89.00 nightly room rate includes Complimentary Breakfast each day AND Happy Hour in the atrium each night.

**Wednesday, August 16,** you will check into your own room, with its tropical atrium view. After settling in, you may visit the hospitality room with your auction goodies and get a preview look at all the great incoming sale items. Unfortunately the state of Colorado won't allow us to bring our feline friends; so sad.

**Thursday morning,** we'll start with the annual general membership meeting. You will really enjoy listening to our speakers' presentations. That evening we'll put on our western duds or casual clothes for an authentic western theme dinner with a special surprise guest to entertain us.

**Friday,** our sightseeing trip will begin with a visit to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, rated one of the best ten animal parks in the nation and America's only mountain zoo. Dale Leeds, a zoo curator, is scheduled to give a presentation just for us. Then we'll travel across the "Short Leg of the Gold Camp Road," former bed of the Short Line RR to the Gold Fields. Stunning scenery and magnificent vistas await! We will enjoy a delicious lunch at Helen Hunt Falls. After returning to the Hotel, the rest of the day will be free time on your own.

**Saturday is free time also,** until the evening festivities. Colorado Springs has boundless activities available for your enjoyment. For example, there's the US Air Force Academy, Pikes Peak Tour, US Olympic Complex, two Wax Museums, ProRodeo Hall of Fame Museum, Seven Falls Park, Garden of the Gods, the famous Broadmoor Hotel and many outstanding restaurants. Saturday night there will be extra special fun with our banquet dinner and auction.

**Sunday morning** the convention will wrap up with a banquet breakfast, the final results of the auction and any new news.

**ACT NOW** and this convention can be yours for only an \$85.00 fee. After June 15, the fee will be \$110.00. Please send payment to: LIOC ESCF, P.O. Box 22085, Phoenix, AZ 85028.

You'll leave this convention with enough memorable experiences to last a life time. So come join us...you'll be so glad you did!

Submitted by "The Phantom Host"

## Partners with Animals

It was a small step, but an important one. The sun was hot, but they didn't mind, they just wanted to get out of the truck that brought them. One by one they were removed, chain swinging in the summer sun and with an occasional hiss associated with greeting a strange, new place.

There were three of them, color-wise they were much alike, but size was another story. Jiggs, he was big - bigger than most - 200 pounds. Not fat, just big. Maggie, the female, was just the opposite, she was quite small but not so small as to not be a threat to small children or strangers. That is one of the first things that you learn about these creatures, they watch children with an eager eye and a quick jerk of the body. Mya, the third one, was the tricky one. She could never quite be trusted. She was led with a firm grasp on the chain, no messing around with her, straight into the large enclosure she went. Once inside it was time for all to sniff around and explore their new home.

Jiggs, the male cougar, slowly moved round the pen with a look of real interest on his face. Ah, he found something, an interesting smell, perhaps a new smell. After sniffing for a few seconds it was time to get down to business and really get into a good rub session with an occasional smile, showing his teeth. Five minutes later satisfaction finally came and it was time to move on to another interesting spot. I stood there absolutely amazed at these cougars and the way they checked things out. Nothing escaped their scrutiny and detection. If they were not sniffing something they would accidentally get too close to one of their penmates and receive a quick swat or a serious hiss with ears full back.

I could have stood there for a week watching these majestic animals, but two hours had passed and it was time for feeding and fresh water. Three pieces of beef was on the menu today. In through the feeding chute the meat went. Two of the three pieces never even hit the ground before they were snatched by the cats intent on their evening cuisine.

Twenty minutes later, bellies full, it was time to lay down and have a good wash. Some of the meat juice was on their paws, this was quickly licked off. Then, by licking the back of their paws and then rubbing them across their faces, they finished the cleanup process. This method of licking the back of the paws and then rubbing across their faces several times was like a human washing their face with a washcloth.

Hours later Jiggs had picked out areas to stake out as his territory. The crickets and frogs in the background only seemed to enhance my feeling of closeness to nature that I felt that day in 1979. I will never forget the early years before the zoo was a zoo. Living through the raising of baby exotic cats has only heightened my awareness of the importance of private people being able to own exotic animals. It has become a way of life for me as normal as the average family's keeping a dog or cat.

Since that summer in 1979 a lot has happened. We became the Killman Wildlife Sanctuary and then the Killman Zoo in 1987 with a large variety of animals. In 1988 we were attacked by animal rights activists. This opened our eyes to the big threat that exists against private ownership of exotic animals.

### **Partners...continued**

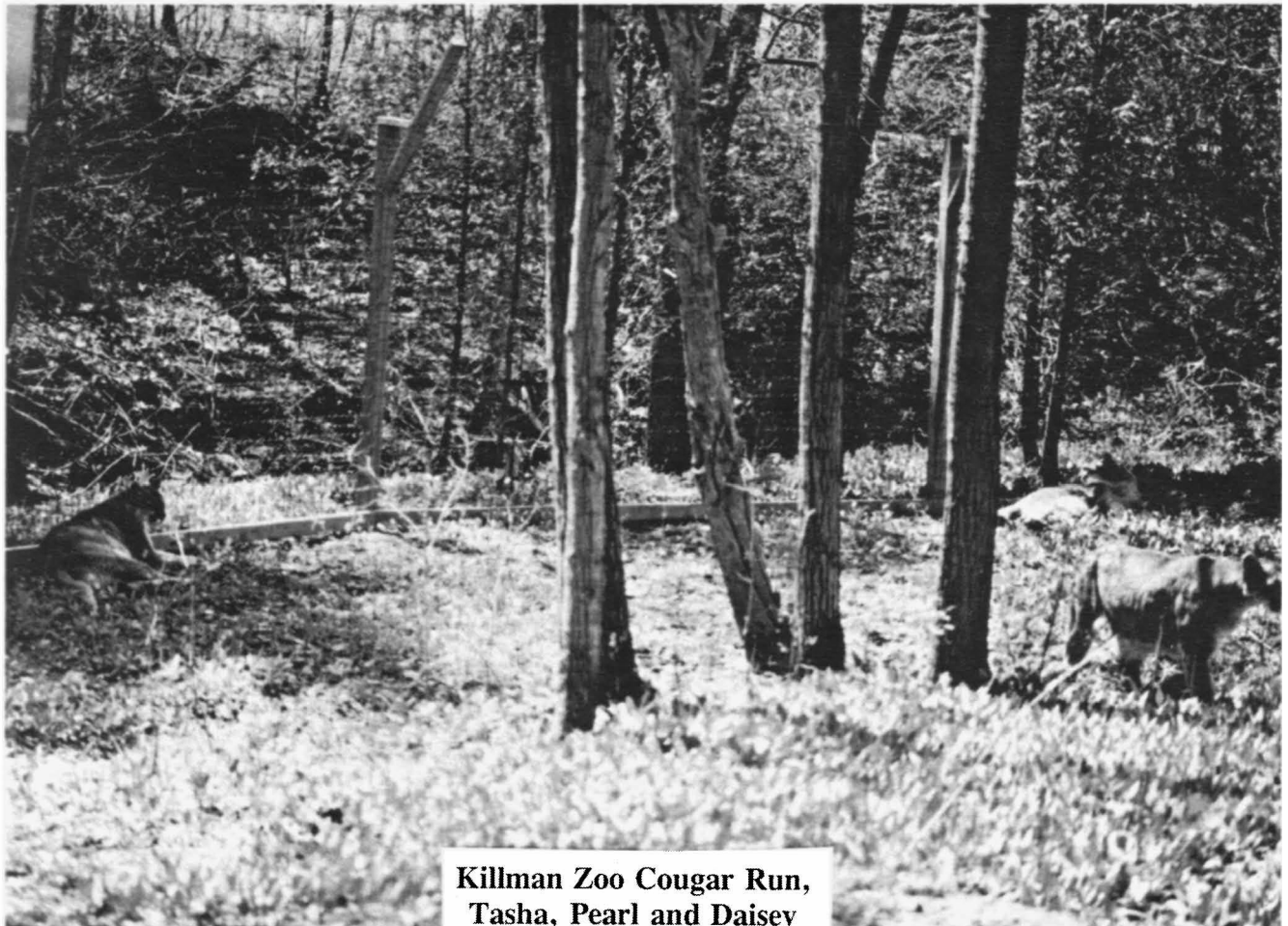
In 1993, after a few small battles with the animal rights movement, I decided to start a group called *Partners with Animals*. Now, two years later, we've grown in size and are now international. People with exotic animals must become united or face being banned out of existence. It has become part of our mandate to put in place some basic standards for private owners that don't necessarily have a lot of money to spend. I've had great success in animal husbandry over the last 16 years and the group gives me a chance to help others by sharing my experiences. Since starting the group, I have handed out thousands of sheets of information on the animal rights movement and have engaged these activists

on TV, radio, in city halls and in the newspapers. We have helped turn the tide several times in favor of responsible animal owners.

I publish a newsletter for the group twice a year in addition to putting out mailings as needed to alert the membership. We speak at schools and have a booth at small animal association meetings. If you'd like more information you may write me at

Partners with Animals  
c/o Mark Killman  
RR 1, Caledonia, Ont.,  
Canada N3W 1V1

Dues are \$25 per year.



**Killman Zoo Cougar Run,  
Tasha, Pearl and Daisey**

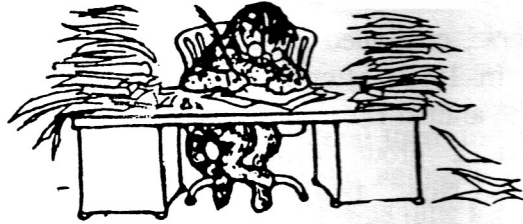
## Readers Write.....

Dear LIOC,

I am a new member of your organization. I have joined because I intend to own an exotic cat in the near future and I want to learn as much as possible about them first. I am hoping that LIOC will help teach me what I need to know about exotic cats. I am currently leaning towards starting with a cougar, but that isn't set in concrete yet.

Since I currently live in a state that is hostile to such ownership (Michigan), I must move somewhere else. What I am trying to do is gather information on where I could move to. I have been unable to find a list anywhere of what states, counties and townships have which rules. I was hoping that such information would have already been gathered in one place, but it seems not to exist yet (see Editor's note). So I have decided to put together such a list. Thus, I am asking, where is it legal? Where is it not legal? Which areas have what kind of regulations? Which permits are required where for what species? I would highly appreciate receiving this information from anybody willing to supply it. I will gladly make the results available to anyone who would like it. I am available via electronic mail for those who wish to use it, my address is: "Dragon@Mystery.Com" on the internet.

I am also looking for ways to get practical hands-on experience. Again, I am hindered by the state that I live in. Does anyone have any suggestions on ways for me to get experience? One thought I have had is if I can find someone who has exotic



cats, has an apartment for rent, and would be willing to teach me. I would still be working at my current job, and the whole reason this will be possible for me is that I am a computer programmer and can work from home (and move my home as needed.)

Yours very truly

John G. Lussmyer  
12900 Northfield Rd  
Oak Park, MI 48237

Voice: (810) 353-7900 (days)

(810) 545-5492 (eves)

FAX: (810) 353-8444

usenet: Dragon@Mystery.Com

jlussmyer@Bix.Com

Ed.Note: Our Director of Legal Affairs (see page 2) keeps a listing of states having regulations on keeping exotics as well as the address of those agencies administering the law. In addition a summary is available of Federal law. We ask all members to keep us appraised of any legislation and provide us with copies of all local laws as well.



## Tidbits.....

In a 1960 newsletter the following was offered as the cat-census of LIOC: Ocelots - 58, Margays - 16, Jaguarundi - 2, Puma - 1, Bobcat - 1, Cheetah - 1.



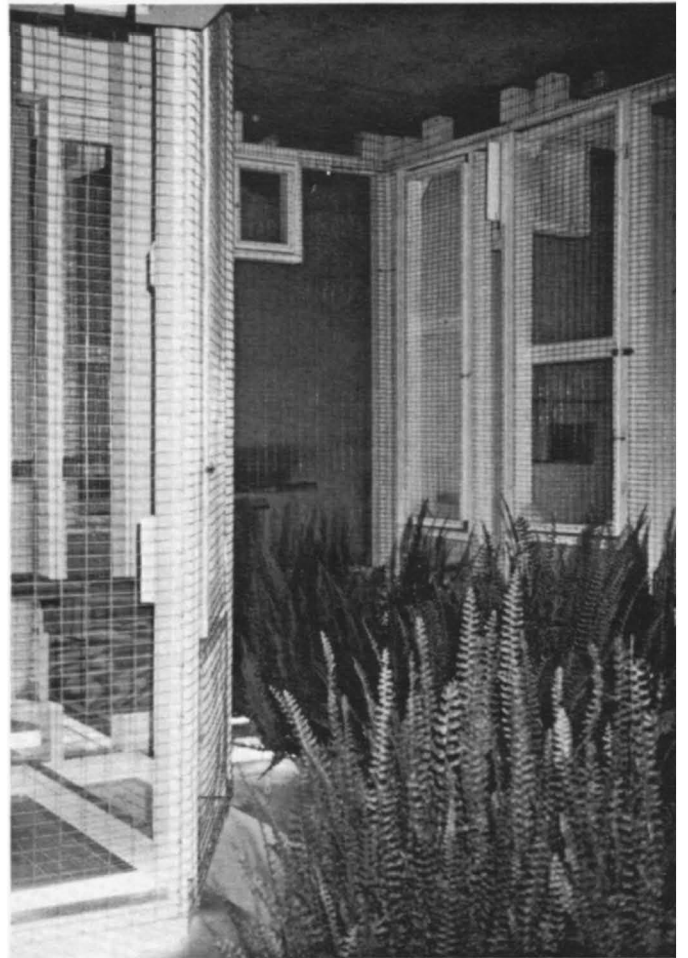
## *A House Full of Spots*

Over the years, my husband and I have painstakingly collected ten Geoffroy's Cats. We are now, however, up to a population of seventeen and growing. Our goal has been to try to maintain a genetically diverse population. This has not been easy.

We have traced our cats' origins as best we can, but have encountered a few dead-ends. Some have ISIS numbers and some are reported to be wild-caught.



**Hector**



**The cattery with nesting boxes**

Variations in body types, color and facial features are apparent. We are excited to tell you we were able to record breeding habits on video tape. Until now, our cats insisted on breeding secretly and would stop whenever we approached.

Our breeding program has been highly successful. We attribute this to our carefully planned, indoor facility which is temperature controlled and displays full-spectrum lighting. In addition, we set the mood by hanging lush ferns and added a stereo system which plays the natural sounds

**Houseful....continued**

heard in the rain forest. A myriad of jumping shelves and breeder boxes complete the habitat. We spared nothing and did our best to think of everything. We feel that our elaborate efforts have been worth it.

We are interested in working with others who share the same goals as we: to preserve the Geoffroy's Cat. Persons interested in working with us may call or write:

J. Len Davidson  
Northwood Felid Research & Education  
2933 Congress Lake Road  
Mogadore, OH 44260  
(216) 673-4114

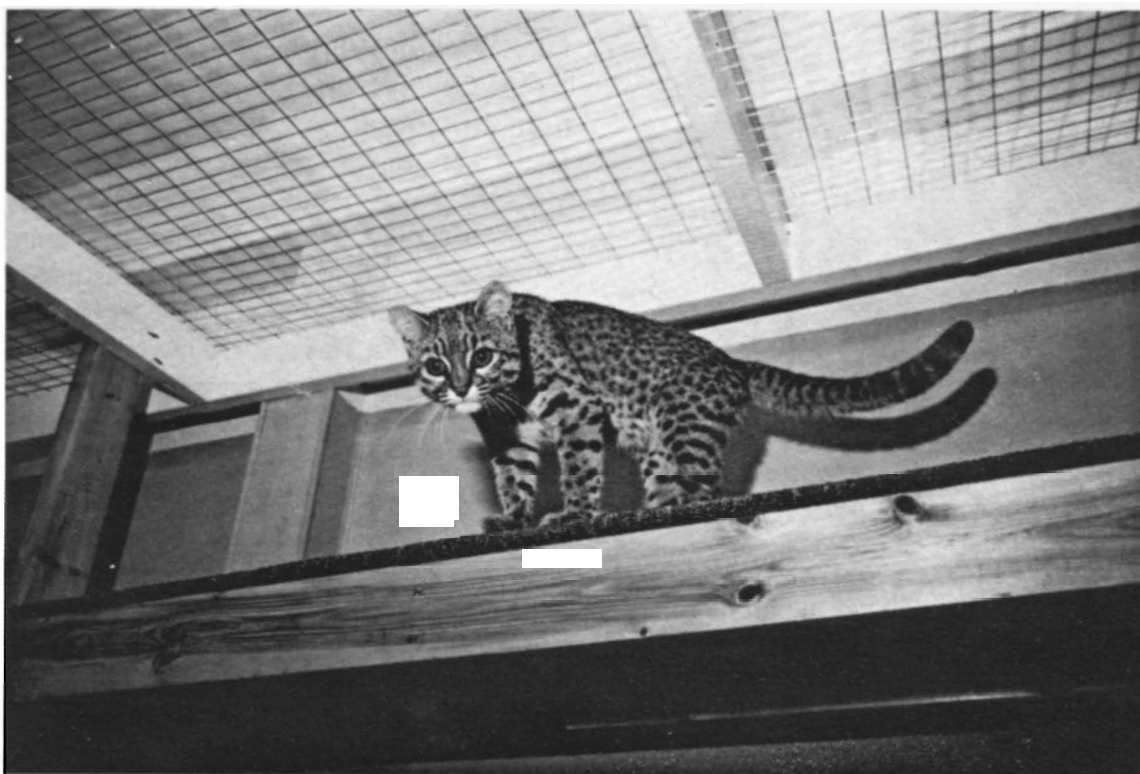


**Above - our daughter Robyn with a recent litter**



**At left - Fossa relaxes**





**Meggie**



**Puppy atop a perch**



### February Meeting

The meeting was held at the home of Jackie Sinnott in Beaverton. Things were a bit hectic as Jackie's father has been missing since early Saturday morning. Her father is 97 years young and does get lost once in a while. Jackie was in and out all day. We all pray he will soon be found safe and sound.

Gayle acted as hostess and President, Jerry Boyle welcomed everyone.

First on the agenda was the election of officers. Our new officers are:

Steve Belknap - President  
Jerry Boyle - Vice President  
Gayle Schaecher - Secretary/Treasurer

Next we talked about LIOC and the advantages of joining. A couple of new members did relate the useful information from the Newsletters which was useful to them.

We then discussed a few problems people had encountered. New members that have had a couple of cougars talked about the problem they had with their neighbors, but that has died down.

Gayle reported nothing new with the Department of Fish & Wildlife even though they were planning on calling the Task

Force back in February.

Gayle reported on a letter she received from the Oregon Bear & Cougar Coalition. They are again asking for donations. Measure 18, which they worked on last year, that did ban the baiting and using hounds to hunt bear and cougar, was passed but is being threatened by new legislation. H.B. 2584 & H.B. 2570 would repeal Measure 18 that voters approved by almost 44,000 votes. Our Branch voted to send another donation.

Gayle announced that member Kathy Van Loo has moved out of state. Jan Merris's serval are now breeding. Steve Belknap announced he has twin marmoset babies. Also, the sugar glider has a baby in the pouch and last, but far from least, one of the wallabies has a baby in the pouch - how exciting!

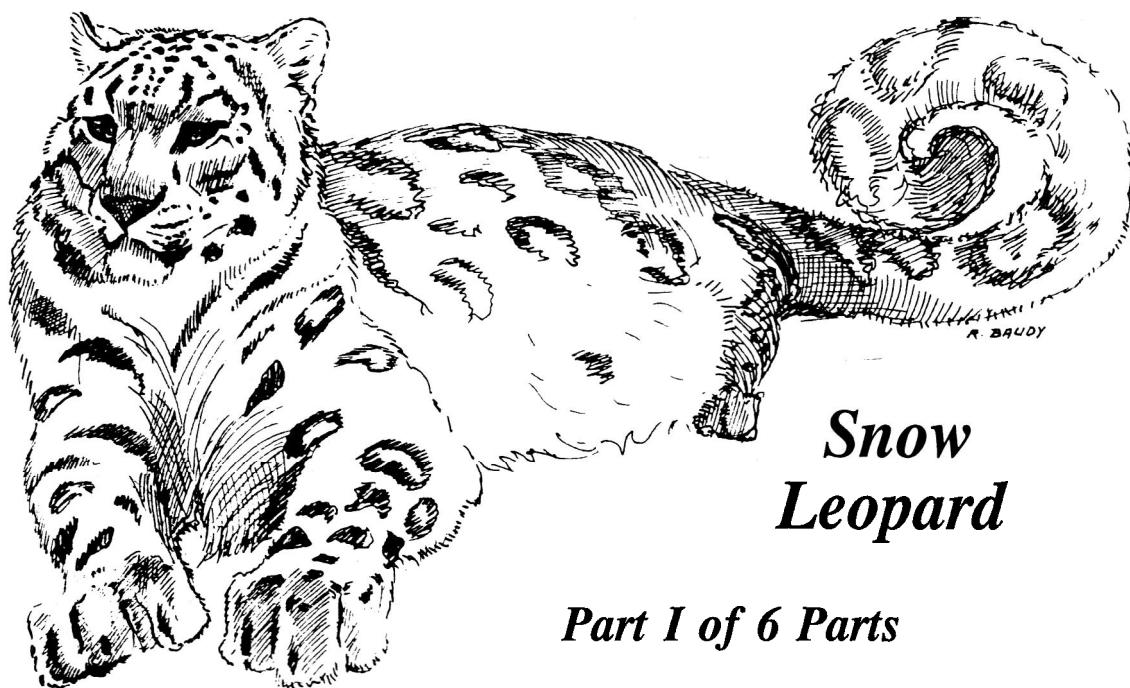
We were very pleased and honored to have well known animal psychic Bea Lydecker present at our meeting. She gave 2 free consultations as raffle gifts.

The real highlight of the meeting was Rhompa, a 10 week old serval kitten belonging to Wade McGilvra. Rhompa is one of the nicest serval babies we've seen...calm, loving, held by everyone, just adorable. Rhompa came to Wade from Sharon Roe in Washington.

Gayle won the dollar game and donated all the money back to the club. Next we had the raffle. With so many nice gifts, not one person went home empty handed. Lynnette and Gayle won the Free Consultations. The rest of the day was spent visiting and playing with the kitten. Jackie asked to have the March meeting at her home again, but Clem and Gayle will be hosting.

See you then.

Submitted by Gayle Schaecher.



## *Snow Leopard*

### *Part I of 6 Parts*

**By Ron Eldridge, BVS**

In the high mountains of Asia a ghostly figure sits among the crags, its greenish eyes intently surveying the panorama. The striking beauty and physical power of this exotic cat have always produced awe and wonder in the human observer.

The snow leopard or "Ounce" is classified with the big cats, but shares some small cat characteristics. For example, it does not roar like the big cats, nor can it purr like the smaller cats.

They make audible communication through a complex series of grunts that vary in pitch and intensity. When greeting other snow leopards, they make sounds by exhaling their breath causing the upper lip to flutter, making a very distinct sound called "chuffing".

Even if you can't hear these chuffing sounds, its easy to tell visually if they are

communicating because they rock their heads back slightly, which is very evident even when walking. I have witnessed tigers using this same form of communication.

The other characteristic it shares with the smaller felines is the crouched position when feeding. It usually eats its prey in a position to move rapidly if danger approaches.

The snow leopard's coat is a soft gray, shading to white on the belly. The head and lower limbs are marked with solid black or dark brown spots arranged in rows. The body is covered with medium brown blotches ringed with black or dark brown rosettes. A black streak along the back of the cat; tail is round and heavy with fur; ears are edged with black. The background of the cat's coat turns darker in the summer. This cat has one of the most valuable pelts and is the prime reason for poaching. It is listed as CITES Appendix I - Endangered.

## Snow Leopard....continued

### Other Key Statistics:

Size: Body length - 45-56"  
Tail length 36"

Weight: 55-165 pounds

Range: Himalayas through Russia (Baltic States) and China and into the Mongolian Republic.

Life Style: Solitary except during breeding season. Crepuscular. Mountain and coniferous forest scrub 1800 altitude.

Reproduction: January to May, 1-5 cubs, gestation period 98-103 days.

The snow leopard is often called the "gray ghost" and may soon become only a ghost if measures are not taken to stem the tide of poaching and habitat loss for this beautiful beyond description cat.

In the words of biologist George Schaller, "When the last snow leopard has stalked among the crags, a spark of life will have gone, turning the mountains into stones of silence."

Part II will cover "Breeding and Reproduction".

# Moving?



*Don't miss any issues  
Notify Member Services Promptly  
(See Page 2 for address)*

## *A Note from J.B.*

I would like to thank all the previous Lotty award recipients for voting me the 1994 Lotty. I consider it a very great honor and it is much appreciated for what it stands for. It is displayed in a very prominent location by our Charles Frace' painting of our departed gal jag, Chiquita.

I also want to thank all the people who have bid at the convention auctions over the years. This is LIOC's largest fundraiser. I encourage every member to come to convention where there is hundreds of years of cat expertise available.

We had a great convention in Tucson in 1994, though small in numbers. I'm sure the Phantom will live up to another great one in Colorado Springs this year. We are looking forward to seeing the big bird Priscilla and working with the new Board members at convention. Come and see us and bring auction items (no guano please), and your check books. Remember all items will be sold!

J.B. Anderson  
Life Director

Ed.Note: Our annual auction is much more than a fundraiser - its fun!. Folks bring (or send) items to convention. These items are offered for sale at a fixed price throughout convention in the hospitality room. Anything which remains unsold Saturday evening is auctioned off to the highest bidder after the banquet. J.B. (and his delightful assistant, Vanna) have served as our auctioneers for numerous years now and regardless of the number of folks attending, seem to get more and more out of us each year. J.B.'s wit and Vanna's good looks make auction a truly looked-forward-to event.

## Alternatives for Animals

With my own kennel, goats, cats and birds, whenever possible, I prefer to use a form of treatment that includes no synthetic chemicals and has no side effects. "Side effects", in my opinion, is just a polite way of saying "poisoning". This active form of treatment, called homeopathy, reinforces the animal's own healing powers rather than merely masking his symptoms.

There are a few things to keep in mind when using homeopathics. They are:

1. Generally use a low potency at frequent intervals (such as 1 dose every one-half to two hours depending on the progress of the animal). Chronic conditions generally call for a relatively high potency given once or twice a day until symptoms vanish. In an acute condition, however, any potency will be helpful.
2. Never continue a remedy once symptoms are gone.
3. Size and weight of the animal are of no bearing. The dosage is the same for a parrot as it would be for a wolfhound. One hundred tablets will have no greater or lesser effect than one tablet. You do not need to worry about poisoning your animal even if he manages to eat an entire bottle of a homeopathic remedy. If he manages to crunch up and swallow the glass bottle along with it, you do have a problem however.
4. Suggested doses are: 1 tablet, a few pellets, a little less than 1/2 teaspoon of a powder, or 5-10 drops.

In November of last year, I adopted

a F2 Asian Leopard Cat hybrid I call Lydia the Queen of Tatoes. The very next day, while playing "kick and bite" with her, I noticed some round, bald patches on her belly. By the end of the week, poor Lydia was what could best be described as threadbare. I gave her the most common homeopathics for ringworm such as Sepia, Sulphur, Lycopodium, and Dulcamera. Lydia responded by passing a few patches of it on to me. We then tried the ointment that the vet gave her. It really burned. A few doses of Sepia worked for me, but Lydia was looking "well loved" like the velvetine rabbit in the children's story,

I then decided to try a comparatively new line manufactured by Hobon in Florida. From Hobon's veterinary line, called Homeovetix, I used Theratox, Supportasode, and R&R (for stress). From the human line I used Detoxosode: Fungi/Yeast. Within 4 days of starting the Fungi/Yeast, Lydia had peach fuzz on her bald spots. She has not had a reoccurrence of ringworm.

In the Homeovetix line there are some brilliant formulas for clearing parasite toxins, chemical toxins, viral toxins, and antigenic substances such as flea-bite allergies. Hobon formulas are tasteless and can be added to drinking water. I enjoy Hobon's claim that their Homeovetix formulas have been "human-tested" for over ten years. Your vet can order Hobon Formulas by calling Biotics Research at (304) 726-7107. I personally would try using Homeovetix's Theratox, Supportasode, and R&R for 24 days, followed by Viratox, Supportasode, and R&R for another 24 days for a cat with FIP, Feline Leukemia, Feline Aides or some other nasty virus, before I would eliminate him. The cost would be

minimal. It is not recommended to use Viratox within 30 days of completing a vaccination program. It can negate active immunity.

After the burning ringworm applications, Lydia became very reclusive. I'd go for days without seeing her. She became little more than a tail disappearing under the bed. When I saw that this was more than just a passing phase, I decided to use some Bach flowers on her. I used Mimulus for concrete fears and Rock Rose for fear bordering on sheer terror. Within 5 weeks she became a highly visible and very demanding member of the household. It's great to have her back.

Bach flower remedies are similar in application to homeopathics. They act on the spiritual level. An underlying philosophy in the Bach system is that there is no true healing except that which comes from the spirit. Edward Bach was a very prominent bacteriologist and homeopathic physician. In 1930, he left a thriving medical practice to devote the last six years of his life to finding a simpler, more natural form of treatment. It was his desire that this system would be used by both physicians and lay-people everywhere. Bach shares the view of so many great physicians and philosophers that there are no diseases, only sick people.

There are 38 Bach Flower Remedies in all. They relate to many personality types such as the martyr type, those that live in the past, domineering mothers and workaholics, to those who truly live lives of "quiet desperation". They often cause a profound change in personality resulting in what appears to be a miraculous physical cure. Do not expect immediate results with Bach flowers. They can be very slow acting.

You can purchase Bach Flower Remedies at many health food stores. It is a good idea to always have on hand the most common Bach Flower Remedy which is

rescue remedy. It is truly worth its weight in gold in shock and near-death situations - stailizing the animal until emergency medical help can be obtained. The Bach Flower, Holly, is wonderful for settling down extremely hostile, hateful, and vindictive animals, the kind that hiss and growl and lash out at the least provocation or act of kindness. Grumpy old men can benefit from Holly as well.

This July, Lydia had her kittens. Several hours after giving birth she became aggressive towards them. I looked in on her alarmed by all the "jungle noises" and she hissed at me, grabbed a kitten, and began to chew on him, glaring and yowling the whole time. I got the message, leviated, retreated and dashed downstairs to grab a bottle of Sepia 200, something I'd used successfully on a particularly black-hearted dog in a similar situation. So as not to disturb her, I tossed the Sepia from the doorway into her waterdish (at several hundred pellets to a bottle, the odds were pretty good), and went downstairs to have a good cry.

The next morning when I went upstairs to feed the little cannibal, she met me at the door, chirped a few times, and led me over to the kitten box. All of the kittens were there. No limbs were missing. I wondered what sort of perverse cat joke this had been. She let me look at them while she went off to eat her breakfast.

Several days later, Lydia began to growl and hiss at the kittens again. Some she tossed out of the box and didn't feed. If I got too close she grabbed the nearest kitten and began chewing while it screamed. I redosed her and called a biochemist. He suggested that I check her chromium level. He explained that sometimes the stress and hormonal change of giving birth will cause drastic blood-sugar fluctuations. This can cause extreme anxiety as well as hunger. The new mother will often view her young



as the cause of her discomfort and eliminate them. At his suggestion, I added a small amount of chromium picolinate (it can help levelize blood sugar) to her food. There have been no further episodes.

Some other remedies that I've used successfully on the subject of breeding are:

Pulsatilla 30x 3 times a day for false pregnancy.

Acidum Phosphate 30x for a month has worked for infertile males.

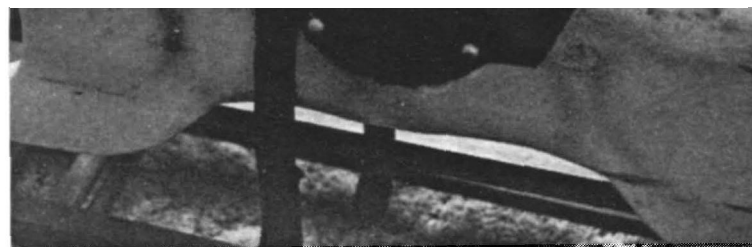
Acidum Phosphate 6x and Damiana 1x 3 times a day will sometimes work on a male that shows no interest in breeding. The trick here is to give it on an empty stomach.

Sepia 6x 3 times a day for 3 weeks before breeding can be given to a female who is reluctant to breed. It will also save wear and tear on the male.

Homeopathy can bridge many of the curative gaps in traditional healing arts. I have personally witnessed many miracles in animals that seemed doomed to a life of pain or even death. The great homeopathic physician, Hahnemann, himself said in a lecture given at Leipzig, "In a word, animals can be cured just as safely and surely as human beings can."

There are many fine books on the subject of homeopathy and animals. An increasing number of vets are using homeopathy in their practices. Do your research, as homeopathy can play an important role in preserving the health, happiness and well-being of your animals.

Sue Zak  
RD 2, Box 10  
West Finley, PA 15377



**Our bengal, Lydia, the  
Queen of Tattoos**

## FLEA SEASON IS UPON US

In summertime the living is easy for fleas. Fleas can leap 150 times their own tenth-of-an-inch length, vertically or horizontally. They can shoot from cat to carpet, from carpet to cat or from one cat to another, 50 times faster than a space shuttle accelerates after liftoff.

Fleas can survive months without eating, and they are able to remain frozen for a year, then revive and conquer. A heavy load of fleas can reduce appetite and even compromise immune systems. In some cats, fleas cause allergies that result in abnormal itching, loose fur and raw sores. Fleas are hosts to tapeworms.

Considering the flea's number and hastiness, it is unrealistic to think that casual methods of flea control will be effective.

There are several active flea-killing ingredients contained in shampoos, sprays, powders and dips. Pyrethrins are probably the safest and most effective. Pyrethrins are made from a species of chrysanthemum. They are fast acting and low in toxicity. Permethrin is a synthetic pyrethrin. Its killing effectiveness is broader and longer-lasting than a pyrethrin's. Carbaryl (sevin) is relatively low in toxicity but may produce resistance in fleas. Organophosphates are effective, but very toxic and should not be used on exotics.

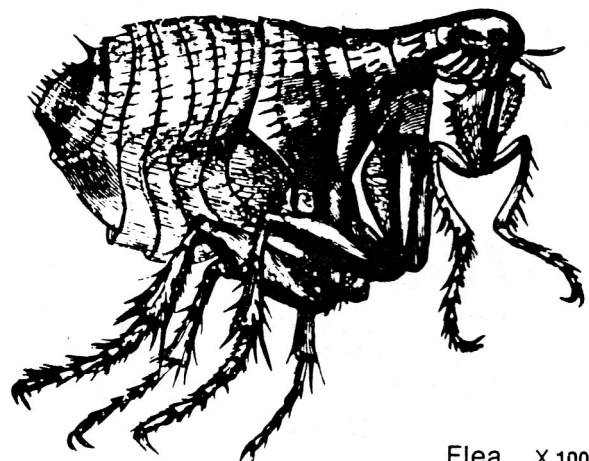
Whatever the flea-fighting weapons you prefer, you should never use an insecticide from the same class in more than one form. If you use a flea bomb, for example, containing organophosphates, you should not use a flea shampoo that contains organophosphates. The result could easily be a lethal overdose. You might get rid of your

cat along with the fleas!

Shampoos kill fleas quickly, but have scant residual effect - a few days at most. What's more, the Cornell Book of Cats warns that flea baths are unnecessary if a dip is to be used: "The often routine shampooing of cats prior to the application of a parasiticide dip is not necessary and may be contraindicated because it removes skin-surface lipid film (a fatlike substance) in which dips may be soluble."

Sprays and powders, though their residual killing power is not much longer than shampoos, can be applied several times a day. It is easier to dust a cat than to bathe one. For this reason, many owners prefer shampooing and then powdering or spraying at regular intervals after that.

If you do have a flea problem be aware that fecal tests do not reveal the presence of tapeworms. You must keep a watch for the actual worm segments in the cat's stools and alert your vet to their presence. *Continued next page*



Flea X 100

### FLEA...continued

A new product is available for indoor and outdoor use using a natural beneficial nematode. This microscopic nematode seeks out flea larvae and pupae in the soil and releases bacteria that kills the insect within 24 hours. The nematodes feed on the bodies, reproduce and seek out more pre-adult fleas. When their food source disappears so do the nematodes. These nematodes are harmless to people, fish, pets and plants. Pets and children can play in a yard treated with Bio-Halt immediately after application.

Bio-Halt is applied using a hose-end sprayer and works up to 6 weeks (the average time it takes to eradicate larvae).

Indoors, Bio-Halt is applied to carpeted areas via a boron-based powder. This powder also controls roaches, ants and silverfish without toxic pesticides.

Biohalt is now available at most pet supply stores.

## Disposable Litter & Box

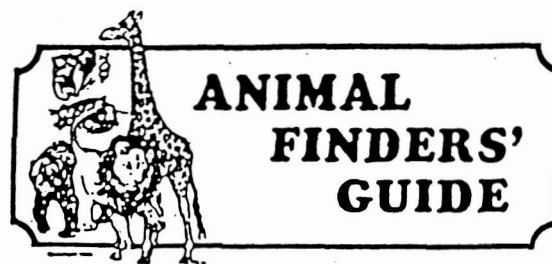
Eco-Litter™ & Box from Housekeepers™ is a disposable, recyclable cat litter and box that's perfect for home, travel or visiting cats, or for post-surgical or recently declawed cats. Eco-Litter is made from crimped, recycled kraft paper. The box has a liner treated with neomycin to reduce the possibility of common illnesses, and it contains a neutralizing agent to control odors. Just use and throw away. No scooping, no sifting. It comes in two sizes (economy and standard) and two versions (travel and designer "house".) Eco-litter and Box is sold in 3-packs and is available at pet stores.

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## The Classifieds

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## Sad News

Our condolences to Oregon member Jackie Sinnot and her family at the loss of her father. Our prayers are with them.

## CITES '94

The ninth meeting of the parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) was held November 7 through 18 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

CITES (pronounced "sigh-tease"), is an international agreement that was signed in Washington, D.C., in 1973 and came into force in 1975. More than 120 countries are now parties to the convention.

For more than two decades, CITES has been the largest, and by some accounts, the most effective international wildlife conservation agreement in the world. CITES decides when international trade in certain species, whether an African elephant, jaguar, or exotic birds, can continue unimpeded, when it must slow, and when it must stop entirely to avoid extinction.

The foundation of CITES is that it lists three lists or "appendices" that enumerate species facing some degree of threat from international trade. Appendix I lists species that are threatened with extinction that are or may be affected by trade. With certain narrow exceptions, all international trade in the roughly 675 Appendix I species is forbidden. Included in this appendix are all rhinos, elephants, sea turtles, great apes, great whales, and most large cats.

Species listed in Appendix II may not be threatened now with extinction but they could become threatened unless trade is strictly regulated. The more than 25,000 species in Appendix II (including some 3,700 animals and more than 21,000 plants) may be traded, provided certain conditions are met that assure the species will not be

harmful for the long term by the trade. Appendix III allows a country to list a species already protected within its own borders to alert other CITES members and seek their cooperation in enforcing national wildlife laws.

The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) was one of 221 non-governmental observers and 21 member nations attending the CITES Ninth Conference in November, 1994. Thirty-three pet industry and hobby representatives from 14 countries attended the conference in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

PIJAC's Marshall Meyers said, "This particular conference witnessed significant changes with the U.S. led protectionist dominance neutralized: U.S.' attempt to restrict the secret ballot was defeated; the committee voting structure was amended so Africa, Asia and South America have increased representation. Adoption of new listing criteria will add science and hard data to the process. The Transport Working Group was transferred to the Animals Committee where it will concentrate on training shippers.

In addition the following actions were taken:

- The parties agreed to fund a study on how to improve the effectiveness of the treaty.

- Attempts to establish a law enforcement working group failed in large measure due to the fact that its chief proponent was the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and a number of anti-trade groups.

Meyers further commented: "CITES is at a crossroads, and its future success is

dependent upon industry working with the conservation community to implement rational, effective conservation measures that promote and ensure sustainable use of wildlife. Industry must also continue to captive breeding initiatives to ensure a balance and to reduce the pressure to exert undue influence on wild harvesting"

The next CITES conference will be held in Zimbabwe in the summer of 1997.

### **"Bergmann's Rule"**

A pioneering evolutionary concept concocted in the 19th century by German physiologist Carl Bergmann without the encumbrance of hard evidence, he supposed that the body size of a mammal should be inversely proportional to average temperatures in the animal's environment. In other words, mammals in hot climates like deserts should be smaller than mammals in cold climates.

Elephants do spring to mind as an immediate contradiction, but most interpretations of the rule assume that Bergmann meant to compare races within a single species, or species of a given genus - not wholesale fauna of a given temperature zone.

And his reasoning is solid: owing to their high surface-to-volume ratios, small animals lose heat much more readily than large ones, so if they find themselves in a hot place, it behooves them to be small. The great size disparity between the North American and South American cougars is a prime example as is the comparison of grizzly bears to sun bears.

## **Nevada Forms Lion Task Force**

The Nevada Division of Wildlife has formed an internal task force to address increasing concerns over mountain lion populations in the state. Daytime sightings have become common and lion-human confrontations, extremely rare in the past, are now being reported with increasing frequency.

Lion hunting, through a limited tag quota, is still allowed in Nevada, but pursuits with dogs are not due to a technicality in the law.

Many sportsmen and biologists feel pursuit hunts are necessary to keep lions respectful of humans and away from inhabited areas. More lion tags and a provision for pursuit hunts may be recommended by the task force, which feels lion management may soon become a critical issue.

Bill Krueger

Reprinted from Western Outdoors

Contributed by Ethel Hauser

### **HELPFUL HINT**

To prevent wire corrosion in the corners of the pen where cats may spray, Jean Hamil suggests placing corrugated fiberglass panels there. They protect the wire and are easily hosed down. She writes they last fairly well if cleaned regularly. A small hole can be drilled through to allow them to be anchored to the cornerposts and wire.

## Conserving the Asiatic Lion

Indian and international specialists have selected possible re-introduction sites for Asiatic Lions (*Panthera leo persica*), which are now confined to a single population of fewer than 300 in the Gir forest in Saurashtra, western India.

At a Population and Habitat Viability Analysis (PHVA) workshop in Baroda in October, 1993, the specialists identified five possible sites on the basis of adequate habitat and prey populations (including and excluding livestock). The sites are all within the former range of the lion. Further assessment of the areas is being carried out by Ravi Chellam, who recently completed his doctoral thesis on the ecology of the lions.

A protocol for adoption before any release of lions was outlined in the light of general guidelines prepared by the IUCN Re-introduction Specialist Group.

One group considered all possible types of interaction between lions and people and analyzed the circumstances and consequences. The group strongly recommended population management of lions in the surrounds of the Gir reserve, where livestock predation and human deaths have occurred in recent years. It also stressed the need for an education and awareness program for the people around the forest boundary.

The Monitoring and Research Group stressed the need for constant monitoring of the Gir and any re-introduced lions, using radio-telemetry, and maintaining long-term records. It was felt that a permanent research station would be located in the Gir and that research should cover prey species, other carnivores, and animal-habitat relationships.

The Disease and Veterinary Research Group compiled a comprehensive list of all

diseases reported from captive and free-ranging lions and identified areas for research. Some of the diseases and parasites are considered major threats to the Gir lions.

The Eco-Development Group examined ways of improving the lives of people in and around the Gir and reducing their dependence on the natural resources of the forest. At the same time, the Public Education Group outlined strategies to improve knowledge of the values of conservation and of species threatened with extinction.

As a result of the discovery that all captive Asiatic lions outside India in the international studbook, except for four, had genes of African lion origin, efforts are being made to rebuild the pure captive population. The Captive Population Group outlined the objectives of the captive breeding program and fixed a regional limit on the number of lions that could be held in captivity. Integration of wild-caught problem lions from the Gir is required to maintain the genetic purity of the captive stock and to retain the maximum genetic diversity. All captive lions would be fitted with implanted transponders to ensure clear identification. The group provided a detailed protocol for breeding and husbandry of the lions.

A Genetics Group described procedures for identifying hybrid lions and highlighted the urgent need to sample the free-ranging lions population systematically to assess the genetic diversity of the population. Earlier studies have shown considerable genetic uniformity as a result of a bottleneck a century ago when the lions, which once ranged over a vast area of northern India, had been reduced to fewer than 100.

Reprinted from *IUCN Cat News*