

VOLUME 42, ISSUE 1- JANUARY/FEBUARY 1998 THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE BARBARA WILTON----------------3

EDITORS DESK—-4

WEBSITES-4

1998 CONFERENCE NEWS-5

CIRCUS TIGERS RESCUED BY: KELLY JEAN BUCKLEY---6-7

TIGER TRIVIA---8

EDUCATION & CONSERVATION GEORGESTOWERS-9

KEN HATFIELD MEMORIAL FUND BY: DR. JOHN PERRY-10-11

GENERAL HANDLING RECOMMENDATIONS-12

COMMERCIAL DIETS FOR EXOTIC FELINES—12

VIEW FROM THR BRANCHES-13

CHEERS AND TEARS-14-15

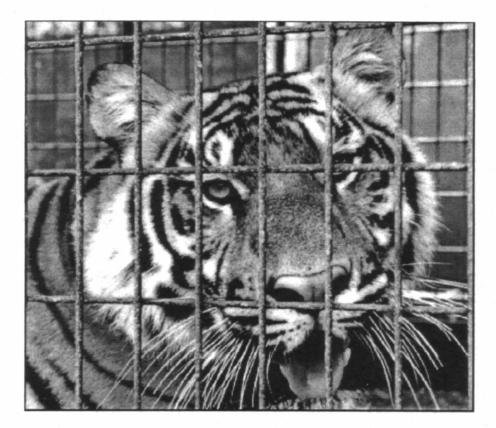
NOMINATIONS SOUGHT-16

THIS AND THAT BY: SHIRLEY WAGNER—-16

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES----17-22

CLASSIFIED-23

THE QUOTABLE CAT-24



OH GIVE ME A HOME WHERE TIGERS CAN ROAM WHERE LIONS AND LEOPARDS CAN PLAY.

CIRCUS TIGERS FIND FREEDOM IN NEW HOME WITH JOE TAFT SEE OUR FEATURE ARTICLE

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.

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. Deadline for the next issue is the 1st of even-numbered months. Please submit all material to the Editor.

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

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	5	

PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE

OREGON UPDATE

I know many of you are aware of the recent "Tiger Problem" here in Portland, Oregon. There were many meetings here both public and private, concerning the best solution for all.

Many LIOC-ESCF members and other exotic animal owners attended a meeting before Multnomah County Commissioner on October 29th to express their concerns about their various exotics. The Commissioners have made no rulings as of this writing.

On November 5th the city of Portland Commissioners held a meeting also. This was not nearly as well attended. Consequently, the city of Portland has banned: tigers, lions, leopards, clouded leopards and snow leopards. I'm surprised that their list did not include Leopard cat!

December 6th, Greg Anderson moved his tiger to Washington State. Unfortunately the news media heard about it, probably from the permit office and they were out in force. Washington State will probably now start the banning procedure or permit system.

The hardest part for me to understand is:

- Greg Anderson was given a permit by the State of Oregon to have the tiger at his address.
- Greg's caging was above average, highly rated and approved by Oregon Fish and Game.

In a part of the Country that is so protective of their trees, salmon, and spotted owls, why are they so opposed to another endangered species? Most people I know would give their eye teeth to be able to see this beautiful cat and to have the opportunity to watch her grow and mature.

Will keep you posted on further developments.

Barbara Wilton President LIOC-ESCF

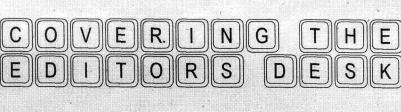
Greg Anderson is an LIOC-ESCF member. Kulia his tiger temporarily been placed with another LIOC-ESCF member until the Anderson's can move out of state. Kulia is doing well, but really misses her family. Greg seconds that, and is anxiously waiting for the day they can be reunited.

The "trouble" with Kulia started when a neighbor who lived several blocks away, caught a glimpse of Kalia in the Anderson's fenced in back yard. The neighbor then went to the authorities with a complaint of a Siberian tiger running "loose" in Greg's yard. Not satisfied with just complaining to the authorities, she also created public panic by sighting a public school in the area as a target, should Kalia ever escape.

This one woman is responsible for not only having Anderson's permits revoked and Kulia run out of town, but also seeing that all big cats are banned (licensed or not) from Portland, Oregon. With Oregon in her pocket, according to reports, this neighbor has decided to take her cause on to Washington DC. *Editor.*

3





1998 THE YEAR OF THE TIGER,

promises to be a very exciting year for LIOC-ESCF!

Now more than ever there is a need for nondomestic cat people to come together to support responsible ownership of non-domestic felines. In 1998, it is important for all of us to take responsibility for following legislature in our own states with regard to new laws being introduced against private ownership of exotics!

NEW LOOK:

You will notice some changes in the Newsletter. With LIOC's concern about conservation I have decided to use recycled paper to print the Newsletter on.

Cutting down fewer trees for paper products, means more habitat for the animals.



→ WEBSITES → PAWS FOR A MOMENT AND CHECK OUT THESE SITES

LIOC-ESCF http://www.lioc.org/ LIOC ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FEDERATION is a national organization for private owners of wild and exotic non-domestic felines.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES EMAIL: kjbuck@phnx.uswest.net (Kelly Jean Buckley)

MAINELY FELIDS http://www.mint.net/ ~gstowers/ Information on private ownership. Wild feline conservation and education. EMAIL: gstowers@mint.net (George Stowers)

UNDER CONSTRUCTION:

. This is your Newsletter. Your input will help me to produce the Newsletter that you want in the format that you would like to see and read. I need your suggestions and comments.

Send me your art work, photos and articles! I can be reached by email, phone (EST 11:00 AM-10:00 PM) or via regular mail. My address information is on page 2. If you have a question or would like to comment, don't hesitate to get in

As Editor, my position is one of service to the LIOC-ESCF membership and the cats. I look forward to working with each of you.

In your service, for the cats!

touch with me!

TIGERHAVEN http://www.tigerhaven.org/ Wild feline rescue, education and conservation. EMAIL: tigerhav@ix.netcom.com (Joe Parker)

Sherry

TIGER TOUCH http://www.tigertouch.com Alternative strategies toward conservation, training and ownership of non-domestic felines.

WILD ABOUT CATS

http:/pages.prodigy.com/cats/ Research, rescue and education. Find out about what is going on in education and research around the world. EMAIL:mxnd53a@prodigy.com (Dawn Simas)

WILDLIFE ON EASY STREET http:// www.wildlifeeasyst.com

Rescue, rehabilitation, education for exotic and endangered species.

1998 L.I.O.C. Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc. 28th annual conference - August 6-9 - Indianapolis, Indiana

LIOC member, Joe Taft is hosting the 1998 LIOC convention. During a site visit to Indianapolis we searched for a hotel and visited with Joe at his Exotic Feline Rescue Center. Joe has made special arrangements for convention attendees to visit his exotic cats on Friday, August 7. Following the tour, Professor Thomas J. Burke, DVM MS, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois will give a presentation. We will also take time for LIOC Board Member candidates to give a short talk about their qualifications. Lunch will be provided before we travel to the Indianapolis Zoo. Additional guest speakers will give presentations on Saturday, August 8.

The Ramada Inn, Indianapolis Airport is your destination for the 1998 LIOC convention, August 6-9. Call 1-317-244-3361 to reserve your room for \$79.00 each night, double occupancy. FREE Transportation to and from the airport terminal is provided by using the courtesy phones in baggage claim area.

The Ramada Inn has 288 guest rooms, large meeting and banquet space, a full service restaurant, a lounge offering a lighter menu, multi screen TV's, pool tables, electronic darts, and a juke box, indoor swimming pool, and gift shop.

Did you know . . . Indiana has the most exotic cats in LIOC's cat census, second only to Florida? The Exotic Cats are welcome in Indiana and at the Ramada Inn! (Less than 30 pounds) The Ramada Inn requires notice when you make your reservations, as to which cats you are bringing to the convention, and a \$50.00 room deposit, \$25.00 is non-refundable.

Downtown is a quick ten minutes from the hotel. The downtown area gives you a wonderful overview of the historical nature of Indianapolis. Old buildings have been restored and a wonderful shopping mall has been intertwined into prominent buildings with enclosed skyways crisscrossing the streets. Indianapolis has museums galore and is truly a destination city.

CIRCUS TIGERS RESCUED!

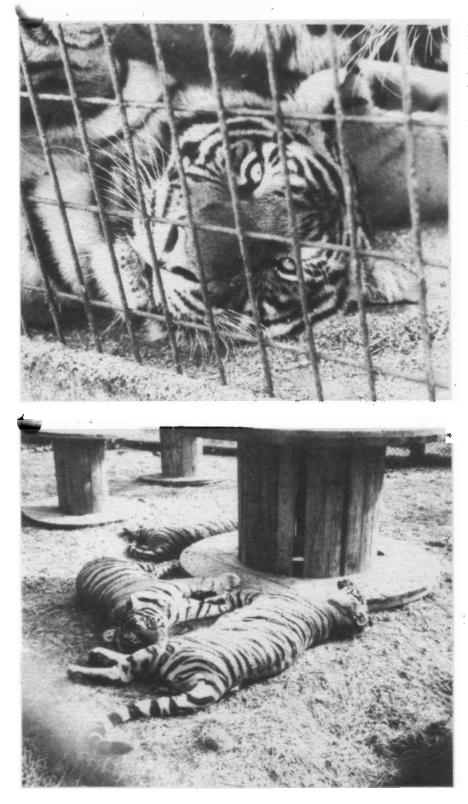


Ten adult tigers were brought to the Exotic Feline Rescue Center, located in Center Point, Indiana, on September 11, 1997. These tigers had been performing at the International Circus Hall of Fame in Peru. The tiger's trainer couldn't make a living any more with his circus and couldn't find a permanent home for the tigers. He planned to euthanize them. The USDA referred the circus trainer to Joe Taft.

Joe's greatest concern for the four male and six female tigers was where they were housed. They were living exclusively in eight circus cages, each 40x90 inches in size.

Kashka had developed deep groves and missing enamel in her teeth from chewing on the cage cables. An examination determined that the damage was not structural and the teeth do not need repair. Zavata also chewed the cables and had knocked-out canine teeth, which had opened nerves. She's fine now, following four root canals. Some of the others had developed cage sores.

Joe needed to build new enclosures quickly to get the cats out of the rusty circus cages that they had lived in for five years. The local community actively participated in donating 300 telephone poles, wood and much hard labor to erect the three enclosures, each 40x80 feet in size. These are temporary to make it through the Winter. Next Spring, three larger enclosures will be built, approximately 180x100 feet in size, and will include large ponds and underground dens.



Kashka, 11 years old, is the only unrelated female tiger in the bunch. Zavata, 11 years old, is the mother to the remaining eight tigers. Prince and Olaf are nine years old. Then came Princess and Goldie, six years old. Moustafa, Menelik. Then came Bombay and Mauzi, three years old, who were born and raised in the circus cages. When it was time to release the tigers into their new enclosures, several were terrified to leave the familiar circus cages. Within two days they were snoozing belly-up in the warm sunshine, feeling the earth against their fur!

They join four other tigers, 26 lions, nine cougars, two leopards and a bobcat on the 26-acre tract. The Center's outdoor cages are large. Male Lions roam in up to 15,000 square feet of fenced in space, with ponds or pools and underground dens.

Joe is most proud that he has "managed to provide the Center's animals, premium veterinarian care through the University of Illinois". The Circus Tigers will stay at the center for the rest of their lives, playing, swimming, and sleeping. For more information call Joe Taft at 812-835-1130.

Submitted by Kelly Jean Buckley



Tasmanian tigers are not tigers at all!

They are really marsupials. The species of marsupials is thought to be extinct since the 1930's.

White tigers are not albino tigers! They are a mutation of the Bengal subspecies.

White tigers are born from Bengal parents who both carry the gene for white coloration.

The color is cause by a double recessive *allele*. (One of two or more different genes containing specific inheritable characteristics that occupy corresponding positions on a pair of chromosomes.)

The only reported wild white tigers are white Bengal's found in India.

In captivity white Bengal's are mated with different subspecies producing white hybrid tigers.

Black tigers?

Melanistic tigers have a tawny, yellow or white stripes on a black back ground. There have been reports of black tigers with out stripes, but it has never been substantiated

There are 5 different subspecies of tigers today. SIBERIAN (AMUR), SOUTH CHINA, INDOCHINESE, BENGAL(INDIAN) and SUMATRAN.

In the past 70 years three tiger subspecies have be come extinct: BALI, JAVAN, and CASPIAN.



Robert Baudy's white tiger cub Photo taken by Diane Herrmann, 1997 LIOC Convention.



Tiger paw prints are called pug marks.

The GUINESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS recorded the known heaviest tiger, a Siberian male at 1,025 pounds.

Wild tigers exist in 13 Asian countries today:

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Eastern Russia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam.

Tiger camouflage.

The Sumatran tiger is thought to have the most stripes of all the subspecies of tigers. The Siberian tiger is thought to have the least amount of stripes.

No two tigers have the same stripe pattern.

Endangered in the wild, it is thought that only about 5,000-7,400 are left.

Tigers can see six times better than humans in the dark.

It is also believed that they can see color



Tigers often carry this mark on their forehead. The Chinese call it a "Wang" mark. It is the symbol of the king or



CHINA DOLL AND SHERE KHAN Carole Lewis, Wildlife on Easy Street

EDUCATION & CONSERVATION

GEORGE STOWERS

RESEARCH PROJECTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

George Stowers Director of Education and Conservation

The following research projects have requested assistance from private owners of wild felines. I urge you to volunteer your cats participation in these studies. If you are interested in participating please contact the researcher at the address provided.

COMPARATIVE MIDDLE-EAR FUNCTION IN FELIDAE

Purpose:

The purpose of this study is to determine if there is a correlation between the acoustic response of the external ear canal of the various species of wild feline and the preferred habitat/prey of the species in the wild.

What is needed:

Non-invasive measurement of acoustic response of ear canal while cat is anesthetized. This can be accomplished while cat is anesthetized for other reasons, e.g., Annual physical, spay/neuter, etc.

CONTACT:

Dr. William Peak 77 Massachusetts Ave Room 36-825 Cambridge, MA 02139 (617)253-7349

WILD FELINE VIRAL/IMMUNOLOGY STUDY

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to determine the prevalence of certain viruses in the wild feline population including FIV, FeLV AND feline foamy. What is needed: Have your vet collect 2-3cc's of blood serum from your cat(s) and send it via Priority or Overnight mail to: Dr. Jenni Spencer. Scott-Richey Research Center College of Veterinary Medicine Auburn University Auburn, AL 36849 (334)844-5569 Sample should be frozen and packed with a watertight ice-pack to keep the sample cool during shipment. A copy of your cat(s)

vaccination record should be included. The required sample could be drawn the next time your cat is at the vet.

CONTACT:

Dr. Jenni Spencer. Scott-Richey Research Center College of Veterinary Medicine Auburn University Auburn, AL 36849 (334)844-5569



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR : EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION

Frequently, I get requests from people interested in private ownership of wild felines who would like to make contact with people in their own state or area with whom they can talk and even meet a cat or two.

I am currently compiling a list of LIOC members in each state who are willing to be a resource and referral contact person.

Ideally, I would like to have at least two volunteers, resource contact persons from each state.

If you are interested in being a volunteer resource person for your state or local area, please let me know. My address, phone and email information can be found on page 2 of the newsletter.

Cordially, George

EDUCATION & CONSERVATION

HATFIELD SCHOLARSHIP FUND Dr. John Perry

Since I am chairing the Ken Hatfield scholarship Fund, I thought I would clarify the sequence of what has happened.

- 1. The fund was originally proposed at the Board of Directors meeting after Ken's death.
- 2. The enabling bylaws were approved at the Board of Directors meeting this past August. There was a lot of effort put into structuring the fund so as to qualify as a non-profit and because it is to operate independently of LIOC, except for appointment of directors.
- 3. In September, the incorporation papers were drawn up. These have now been finalized and submitted to the State of Minnesota.

It is anticipated that the fund will be fully functional for 1998. Below is the application information.

Dr. John Perry

LIOC-ESCF KEN HATFIELD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Objective:

To promote the study and practice of exotic animal medicine by veterinary students.

Background:

The LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation was begun as the Long Island Ocelot Club 30 years ago. It grew out of a concern by owners of exotic felines (mainly ocelots at the time) that they and their veterinarians were not well equipped to deal with the animals health and care. The group exchanged information concerning health, nutrition, and breeding.

Since then, the organization has grown and changed, but not lost sight of these concerns. Ken Hatfield was president of the organization for many years and was instrumental in many of the early success in breeding of exotic felines.

To remember him, and to also help in the improved care of exotic (non-domestic) animals being maintained in the United States, the LIOC-ESCF decided to establish a scholarship foundation to promote the study of exotic animal medicine by student seeking to become veterinarians.

The scholarship fund is independent of LIOC-ESCF excepting for the appointment of trustees and reporting of financial activities. The scholarships are intended for study of any aspect of exotic animal medicine, not just felines.

·Criteria for Selection of Awardees:

- The awardee shall be enrolled in and making satisfactory progress toward a degree in veterinary medicine in an accredited school of veterinary medicine in the United States of America. Application may be made for any semester in which the applicant is studying exotic animal medicine.
- 2. The award shall be specifically toward the expenses associated with the study of exotic animal medicine (i.e. books, tuition, or lab fees.)

- 3. The following may be considered by the Trustee's in evaluation of applicants:
 - Financial need.
 - Evidence of interest in exotic animal care, including letters of reference.
 - Academic accomplishment to date, particularly including results from any course for which the applicant has received a grant from the scholarship fund.

Geographic needs for veterinarians involved in exotic animal medicine, such other criteria that shall be determined and published by the Trustees to better accomplish the objective of the scholarship.

Note: The recipient may receive multiple awards if the recipient's studies include more than one course or extend over more than one semester.

Administration of the fund and selection of scholarship awardees shall be made without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, disability, veteran status, marital status, citizenship status, or status with regard to public assistance or other classes protected by sate or local regulations.

Awards:

- 1. All decisions regarding amount and recipients of the awards shall be exclusively the trustees. The decisions shall be by majority vote.
- 2. Awardees shall be promptly notified and the award made to them as promptly as possible. Typically awards will be made in late August and late January, although they may be made more frequently at the discretion of the trustees.
- 3. Awardees shall be requested to provide a statement at the end of the coarse of study relating the benefit of the coarse to the student.

The Application:

The application shall be in letter form (or other such form as may be published by the trustees) and shall contain (but not be limited to) the following information:

- 1. Evidence of enrollment in a program leading to a degree in veterinary medicine. Also, evidence that satisfactory progress is being made toward that degree.
- 2. Evidence of enrollment in a coarse of study in exotic animal medicine.
- 3. The name, address and phone number of applicant.
- 4. A discussion of the applicant's interest in exotic animal medicine and any plans for future practice in exotic animal area

Editors Note:

You have an opportunity to be apart of this worthwhile project! In the future, special fund raising projects will be held with proceeds going to the Ken Hatfield Memorial Fund. When you send in your yearly dues, check off the box on your renewal notice and donate a few extra dollars to help support this fund. Don't forget to mention the Ken Hatfield Memorial Fund to your vet. He may know of a student who is working toward a degree in exotic animal medicine.



GENERAL HANDLING RECOMMENDATIONS

EXCERPT FROM: LIOC CAGING & HANDLING GUIDELINES Copies available for sale from Membership Services or Shirley Wagner.

Cats being the private persons they are, it is recommended that you do not walk your feline outside the confines of your property, especially in a residential area. The owner may be able to control what his cat approaches, but has no control over what may approach the cat. An exotic feline though vaccinated, may not have been exposed to all the common diseases that could make a domestic feline ill. Common diseases to an exotic with no natural immunity could be fatal.

Although it is wise to leash train your feline, it is foolhardy to expose them to the hazards of neighborhood dogs, disease, unknown parasites, and unruly and unpredictable behaviors of humans.

For Class I-II cats (weighing no more than 45 pounds), handheld leashes and appropriate harnesses are acceptable.

Hand held leashes are not appropriate for any cat that is Class III (46-85 pounds) or larger. Class III and larger, should be attached to the handler.

All collars, leashes, anchors, runner cables and other equipment must meet or exceed the minimum standards for the appropriate Class of cat.

Minimum strength requirements for equipment and materials is determined by multiplying the cats weight (*muscle factor*) X by 1.25, plus 30% for potential wear of equipment and for safety assurance. The muscle factors are 8.5 for Cheetahs; 6 for jaguars; 4 for lions and tigers and 8 for all other species.

Transportation in a vehicle should be in a manner that the cat is secured so that it can not escape or interfere with the driver. Preferably the vehicle will be equipped with caging that separates the cat from driver.

Many cats are relativity small and may be allowed general freedom of the house when supervised. Precautions should be taken such as keeping doors locked and checking windows to be certain that the openings are limited so escape is impossible. Remember that your house is loaded with

things that might harm your cat. We strongly recommend that you never leave an exotic unsupervised at large in your home.

COMMERCIAL FOODS FOR THE EXOTIC FELINE DIET

There is much discussion among owners of non - domestic felines today, as to what constitutes the best diet to meet the nutritional needs of their cats.

There are several popular companies that produce products that are designed to meet the nutritional needs of exotic felines.

The goal of this article is not to recommend which company or product to use, but to provide contact information to better help owners make informed choices through their own resource.

These companies will send you information on their products if requested:

CHAPARRAL ZOOLOGICAL VITAMINS 6810 EDITH N.E. ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87113 PHONE # (505) 334-2323

ZUPREEM CANNED FELINE DIET P.O. BOX 2094 MISSION, KS 66202 PHONE # 1-800-345-4767 or (308)-532-1250 Email 73324.1576@CompuServe.com

NEBRASKA BRAND FELINE DIET (Frozen raw meat) CENTRAL NEBRASKA PACKING, INC. NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA 69101 PHONE # (308) 532-1250

MAZURI DRY LION KIBBLE PHONE # 1 800 227-8941 or (314) 768-4592 LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc. Volume 42, Issue 1 - January/February, 1998



EXOTIC FELINE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

E.F.E.S. Meeting Minutes October 19, 1997

President, Ethel Hauser opened the meeting by sharing a description of the purpose of E.F.E.S. and how members in the group support each other by sharing information about exotic cat care, experiences living with cats, and ways we assist fellow members when other types of help are needed. She also reviewed an assortment of medical handouts pertaining to both exotic and domestic cats which were available for both members and guests to take home to refer to as needed.

Karen Pugh, from Australia USA Plus, told us a little about her facility and offered the benefit of her previous experience with big cats to Greg Anderson, the owner of the Siberian Tiger who has become known nationally because of the City of Portland's repeal of Greg's license to keep his cat at his current location.

Greg gave us an update on his legal battle to keep his cat and thanked the club for their support. Members are encouraged to attend the upcoming hearings regarding the ban of exotic cats by the City of Portland, Multnomah County, and the State of Oregon.

We will plan a meeting at Australia USA Plus in the future so we can meet Karen's collection of Australian animals. They are such unique creatures -- the visit should be quite interesting and educational.

Shirley Malar showed her five month old Siberian Lynx kitten, *Cassandra*, and shared her experience with raising a litter of three kittens together. David Hill brought *Sam*, his Safari, who wasn't shy about anything, and of course, Ethel had a wide assortment of cats to show including an Ocelot, Geoffroys Cat, Leopard Cat, a young Bobcat, and a variety of hybrids.

After the potluck lunch, raffle, and a lot of belly-rubbing encouraged by Cassandra, guests drove to Shirley's for a tour of her facility and to meet Cassandra's brothers.

Shirley Malar Secretary



CHEERS & TEARS

CHEERS!

Dr. Ron Eldridge and Michelle Lewis are pleased to announce their engagement. Ron writes:

Michelle is just the greatest person...She's intelligent, witty and beautiful with an insight into animal behavior that is almost uncanny...Most of all we love each other very much

We will be married in Kenya in August 1998. We then, will both continue our research on the cheetah. We will be studying and working with the Masi Mara Tribes people. Our marriage will take place somewhere on the plains of Africa. All of you are invited to the wedding!

TEARS **•**

Ríck & Precíous



Precious, Rick Armstrong's 4 year old deaf Bengal tiger recently passed away.

Rick writes "I can't seem to get her out of my mind, I sure do miss her! No other tiger will ever take her place! Charlie Cougar really misses her too!"

TEARS 🌢

Long time friend of LIOC-ESCF Jackie Vanderwall has passed away.

Jackie's long time friend Gayle Schaecher writes: "Jackie died October 29, 1997 at the age of 47. Over the years she owned and raised many species of felines and was devoted to the welfare of all exotics.

Jackie was an active member of Pacific North West Exotics and was involved working with our members to protect the rights to own these animals in Oregon, PNW, LIOC, the animals and I have lost a truly good and caring friend."

Jackie joined LIOC-ESCF in March of 1977. She served as LIOC's Secretary/ Treasurer for two terms from 1980-84.

Outside of PNW she was best remembered for her clouded leopards that accompanied her to convention when circumstances permitted.



Jackie & Friend

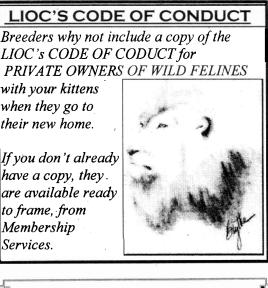
CHEERS

GO GIRL!

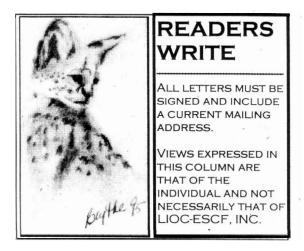
EFES President Ethel Hauser writes about Debbie Walding! "What energy she gives for getting the word out about meeting and cat issues with state and city officials." As president of EFES I want to say thank you for coming to our meetings and giving us information about the input meetings. Our club had a great showing for the Oregon chapter of the Portland area. We need another 100 or 200 like YOU!

CHEERS

EXCITING CATS! EXCITING PEOPLE! EXCITING TIME! LIOC-ESCF 1998 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA AUGUST 6-9 1998 DON'T MISS IT!







LAW:

Dear LIOC,

I thought that our members would like to know that: The NRA (National Rifle Association) has announced their intentions to "change the Constitution for the protection of sportsmen's rights" by eliminating the right of the people to vote on wildlife issues. They intend to rewrite the Constitutions of all 24 states that have initiative process to take away peoples rights to have a say in how the government manages wildlife.

This measure would legalize Hunting Mountain Lions with dogs, by making the Fish and Game Commission the only authority.

Sincerely,

Mark Jenkins COOPERS ROCK MOUNTAIN LION SANCTUARY 3071-A UNIVERSITY AVE. #180 MORGANTOWN, WV 26505

WHERE CAN YOU FIND ANIMAL CARE AND HANDLING EQUIPMENT? ACES

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Nominations Sought

It is again an election year. Nominations for all positions (except Life Directions) are being sought.

To be properly nominated a candidate for office must be nominated in writing by two LIOC ESCF members in good standing. If you wish to run for an office, but do not know-any other LIOC members, contact any Board member as they serve as the nominating committee and can assist you in having your name placed on the ballot. All nominees must accept their nominations in writing.

Our nomination and election procedures are set forth in our Constitution which can be found in the Membership Handbook. (contact Member Services if you wish a copy).

Nominations must be mailed by March 20th, 1998 to:

> Shirley Wagner Life Director, LIOC 3730 Belle Isle Lane Mobile, Al 36619

Participation in the governing of LIOC is a major way you can make a difference. If you wish to contribute, but don't feel you want to hold office, contact the Director in charge of the area of your interest, or write an article, or even submit some artwork or photos -



In today's era of instant communications and information via the internet, it is all too likely that at some point you will be confronted with an *instant* expert!

Sharing knowledge is what LIOC is all about, but how are we to know just what information or source is reliable? There are all types of sources out there. Although, admittedly, all felines share certain traits, not all felines are equal! There are differences in various species.

A very knowledgeable friend once visited me and spent a great deal of time attempting to ingratiate himself with my serval. After a lengthy interval of talking to the haughty feline, the cat decided to accept my friends overtures. She stood, hissed, in typical serval fashion and quickly advanced, head down to offer the serval equivalent to a handshake -a head butt. My friend, who had tons of experience with a variety of felines (but no experience with servals) instinctively turned his face away. Margays and ocelots, if coming at your face while hissing, mean you no good. Poor Jenny, my serval, was quite insulted by the refusal of her goodwill! She laid her ears back and hissed in earnest then left the room thoroughly insulted.

How to know then, who does and who does not qualify as an expert? First and foremost, experience counts! Another good indicator is the age at which folks lose their felines. Several cats that are owned by the person and die at an early age may indicate lack of true knowledge or at the very lest proper care.

There are those who have considerable book knowledge, but this is just the beginning of a journey and in my eyes, certainly doesn't qualify one as a true expert.

Someone may have a prolific pair of cats, boasting "I've produced all these kittens." Does this qualify them? Not necessarily and in fact, if they are over breeding they are not practicing sound husbandry. All mom cats need to rest. Remember, in the wild they would not be producing kittens every year. Though with proper diet, vitamins etc., one litter a year is probably not excessive in captivity.

So folks, while surfing the internet, use some caution before accepting information obtained there. There's no short cut to knowledge. Be leery of those who regularly belittle others. Take self-proclaimed "experts" with a grain of salt. Double check the information and if at all possible, check the "experts" references as well. Ask questions and listen carefully to the answers. Your cat's life may depend on it!

August 7, 1997 LIOC General Membership Meeting

Kelly Jean opened with welcoming the convention attendees and gave special recognition to first time guests. The meeting was turned over to President, Barbara Wilton. Barbara expressed her delight in seeing many new faces this year. She introduced the LIOC Life Directors and officers, noting that the Vice President, Scarlet Bellingham, and Secretary/Treasurer, Sharon Roe, were not able to attend this year. Sharon submitted a letter for Barbara to read to the membership and guests.

Barbara advised the attendees to submit any questions or suggestions during this session or prior to the executive board meeting. This is the opportune time for comments and ideas to be heard and discussed.

Member Proposal

Shirley Wagner, editor and life director, read the following section of a letter written by Andy Turudic, President of Pacific Northwest Exotics Branch.

"Our Branch members are getting frustrated with the mother ship, and some are jumping off. Fortunately the Branch memberships are still being retained and attended. Other than the newsletter, the membership sees little benefit from LIOC. We have legislation that seriously affects our membership, yet LIOC legal has posted NOTHING in the newsletter. This is where the first reform needs to take place. To be effective, we need to increase our mass of membership, not allow its decline. We need to . tune into the legislature of each state and stop the dominoes from falling against us. This can only be done at the national level, by apprising the LIOC membership of what's happening in the country, so we can nip things in the bud. At primary fault is a geriatric LIOC constitution, one that served well in the easy going and carefree 70's, one that is not doing well for the turn of the millennium. Here are some topics of change that our Branch would like to see brought up in convention as a primer towards amending the constitution of LIOC."

Before discussion Shirley advised that new handbooks have been printed and include the bylaws and constitution. Contact Kelly Jean, Membership Services for your copy.

Shirley pointed out that the constitution can only be amended by members every two years during the months of February and March of the second year of the term of the current elected officers. Refer to Article VI, Item #2. A motion would need to be submitted during this time frame.

Andy further proposed a change to Article 5, Section 5 of the LIOC by-laws - "Legal Affairs". There is a clause in this portion of the LIOC constitution that says that the legal affairs position may be "notifying the Newsletter Editor as needed of pending "legislation." This provision should be changed to "and shall maintain an unabridged Newsletter column of pending legislative action that may affect the membership, with entries in each and every publication of the Newsletter."

Discussion followed. Gail Schaecher, Secretary/Treasurer of Pacific Northwest Exotics, said she explained to her branch that a legal column would not be effective because by the time notifications are submitted and printed in the newsletter, legislation is passed. She felt that the director of Legal Affairs could submit new legislative regulations to keep the membership aware of changes.

Kelly Jean stated that this by-law change is stated in such a way that something would have to be printed in every issue, when information may not be available.

Shirley pointed out that the word "unabridged" restricts editor privilege in cleaning up statements and or phrases.

A member from Georgia spoke up saying he felt he was hearing that this branch was asking for help in finding out about legislative changes, and thought it would be good to have a resource available to call on for assistance and guidance in addressing regulation changes. Gail added that last year, the PNWE branch sent to the editor ongoing notices and information on the regulation status of Oregon, all of which were printed in the newsletter. She feels that it would be helpful when members know of problems or have facts on changes within their state that they should submit this data for printing in the newsletter.

Nanette McGann, advised that the Legal Affairs position tries to maintain the current legislative regulations, but it is impossible to be current at any one time for all 50 states. She stated that when members contact her, she will provide them with the address, phone number, and contact person for their state.

John Perry offered that the membership directory is for the members use in knowing who else is located near them. This could be their resource in working together within their state to address problems.

Kelly Jean asked if the original motion as presented had been seconded. It had not. This issue was tabled and will be discussed by the board during the executive board session.

Shirley conveyed Andy's additional proposal to have equal branch representation on the board, proposing two Term Directors vs. the current four positions, and that the position of branch director be established, one for each branch. Submission of constitutional changes to the term director structure should follow the guidelines under the Constitution, Article VI, Item #2.

The last item proposed by Andy was to have a general overhaul of the entire LIOC By-Laws to modernize any language that could be found as offensive to new members. Shirley stated that when new handbooks are reprinted, it will be checked for spelling and grammar.

Gail wants the membership to know that Andy's proposals, although written and submitted by the President of PNWE, is not supported 100% by the branch members.

Newsletter Budget and Dues Increase

Shirley stated that in order to stay within the 1996/1997 budget, the newsletter has been restricted to 24 pages. The newsletter mailing includes life members who do not pay dues, some complimentary issues, and extra copies for the officers. To expand the newsletter to 32 pages and cover the cost of postage increase, the dues would need to be increased.

Kelly Jean recommended keeping the newsletter to 24 pages and to review the dues issue next year. Carin Sousa and Gail Schaecher agreed. Kelly Jean further added that over the last year, the newsletter has improved with new contributors providing in depth articles on education, medical, facilities, etc.

JB Anderson stated that the dues should be raised to \$30 per year to enable the board to have flexibility in improving the quality of the newsletter. All officers and the editor are volunteers with some contributing a good deal of expense from their own pockets. It is time that LIOC raise the dues to handle the total expenses that are incurred.

Ethel Hauser, President of Exotic Feline Educational Society, feels that the dues should not be raised as the organization came in under budget.

John Perry reviewed the budget. See enclosed financial report provided as an insert in this newsletter issue.

Membership includes a couple, a member and spouse with full voting rights for each person.

Suggestions made:

- Offer different levels of membership dues.
- Raise dues in smaller increments rather than in \$5 jumps.
- Allow payments to made for those who have a hardship with raised dues.
- Offer sponsorships:

George Stowers mentioned that last year, LIOC gave out 46 free memberships. Only 7 renewed He posed a question to the attendees: Why did you join, and what do you want from LIOC? Responses were:

- We want regulatory type information at the state and federal level.
- There is a need for husbandry information:, how to care for your cat, i.e., feed, nutrition, medical..
- We need veterinary information; where to find vets that help you care for your animals
- Help with wildlife education
- Provide on-going support and assistance through the process of raising their exotic

A unidentified member spoke up and gave the following reason their family joined LIOC: "Our family joined LIOC because we felt that a mind set change is needed for the general public and this organization has the opportunity to be a very influential part of that. If we can take these animals and enjoy them, but while we are enjoying them educate with them and create awareness for them, then we are doing something that is truly unique. If we treat these animals as another pet in the house, we have suppressed the possibilities of what could take place for these animals in the future. Help people better understand what they have and how they can share with others on how we can save our wildlife."

A closing remark by Gail Schaecher as a retired person and a member of LIOC since 1972: "I feel this organization has the power to make it so there are still wild exotic cats in the future for when this little girl is my age, she can still enjoy them."

Barbara thanked everyone for their ideas and contributions, and Kelly Jean closed the meeting with a quick review of the agenda for the weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon C Roe

Sharon L. Roe Secretary/Treasurer



August 8, 1997 LIOC Executive Board Meeting

Attended by: JB Anderson, K.J.Buckley, J. Hamil, N. McGann, J.Perry, C. Sousa, G.Stowers, S.Wagner, B. Wilton. Absent: Sharon Roe, Secretary/Treasurer and Scarlett Bellingham, Vice President.

Report - Secretary/Treasurer

John Perry submitted financial data in Sharon's absence. The expenses and income were submitted and reviewed. The budget would be discussed later in this meeting and approved.

Report - Membership Services

Kelly Jean Buckley, Period 08-06-96 to 08-07-97

61 new members (30 inquiries, 7 gift memberships)

- 6 re-instated members
- 83 inquiries received

(foreign were from 1/France, 1/England, 2/South America, 1/Peru) 86 dropped memberships

35 dropped gift memberships

There has been many inquiries generated by the LIOC web page.

Report - Advertising/Publicity

Jean Hamil

Sent letters to various organizations with advertising information but no response received.

- John suggested contacting Cat Fancy.
- Carin offered to write a letter on behalf of LIOC.
- George suggested offering to link the LIOC web site to the Cat and Cat Fancy magazines.

Report - Legal Affairs

Nanette McGann

Sent 13 packets with current laws if available along with a cover letter with contact information for their state.

Report - Education & Conservation George Stowers

Attended a North American Felid Tag Meeting and a Small Felid Workshop. It is becoming clear that the AZA is beginning to recognize that they need to work closer with the private cat facilities. Private individuals are looking for more respect from the AZA, recognition for their contribution to improving husbandry knowledge, better access to AZA information, and improvement in the fee structure allowing participation by private facilities. There is a plan to develop a framework for future dialog with AZA.

From the Cat Census compiled and issued this year was, George compared the number of cats held by members of LIOC which is 1,200 to the approximate total of 1,229 held by all the AZA institutions in the U.S.

Old Business:

Finalize the Ken Hatfield Memorial

<u>Scholarship Fund</u>. John Perry distributed to the officers the documents for setting up this independent scholarship granting fund. Documents were in two parts, the structure of the fund, and additional by-laws for LIOC supervision and the appointment of trustees for the fund. Outside funds could be solicited for fund growth from any type of organization.

- Annual reports would be required for submission to LIOC.
- Being set up as a separate entity, if LIOC was to disband, this fund could continue to exist.

Discussion began with John suggesting that the four trustees be the four Life Directors.

Shirley made the motion to adopt the structure of the K.H.M. Scholarship Trust. John seconded the motion. Vote: 8 Yes, 1 No

Shirley made the motion to adopt the additional by-laws #1 through #7. JB seconded. Vote: 8 Yes, 1 No

Kelly Jean asked the group to discuss the maximum distribution of \$500 annually. There is no maximum set in the structure as adopted. The distribution amount will be at the discretion of the trustees.

Shirley made the motion to delete by-law #4.7, "The legal fund shall be kept separate from other monies in an interest bearing account as directed by the board." There is no longer a legal fund as it was converted to the K.H. Memorial Scholarship Fund. John seconded. Vote: 9 yes John asked if any of the four Life Directors wanted to decline their position as trustee of the scholarship fund. No one declined. Kelly Jean made the motion to appoint the life directors as the trustees of the fund. George seconded motion. Vote: 9 yes.

New Business:

• The Membership Directory

John advised that Sharon received a E-mail from Linda Covell stating she had problems with the information format of the directory and offered her expertise and time in redoing the directory in a more readable, understandable format.

Kelly Jean stated the John spent literally hours putting this directory together, with herself doing the editing. Linda is offering a commitment of time and labor to add cross-referencing and make the directory more legible. Due to the amount of statistics, the directory would be cumbersome to produce in the format as presented by Linda, however, some parts could be condensed. The next directory would be issued in two years. In the interim, Kelly Jean will work with Linda in improving different sections for submission to the board for approval.

Proposal by Kelly Jean to sell LIOC T-Shirts

Three artists contributed to the T-Shirt design: Sherry Blanchette, Shirley Malar, and Ethel Hauser.

Kelly Jean proposed to purchase 400 shirts, natural color, with a black design, manufactured in the U.S. in sizes: 50M, 200L, 100XL, 50XXL. Sell at a retail price of \$15.00 each. Kelly Jean would be responsible for distribution of T-shirts.

JB made the motion to accept the purchase of 400 T-Shirts as proposed by Kelly Jean, retailing for \$15.00 including shipping and handling. George seconded. Vote: 9 yes

Kelly Jean proposed giving Sherry Blanchette one classified ad in one LIOC newsletter issue for her book, Cougars, Knows to Tale, as a thank you for her contribution to the T-shirt design. JB seconded. Vote: 9 yes.

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Kelly Jean proposed giving Ethel Hauser one classified ad in one LIOC newsletter issue as a thank you for her contribution to the T-shirt design. Barbara seconded. Vote: 9 yes

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A thank you was extended from the board to Kelly Jean for her contribution of expense, time and development of this project.

Shirley Wagner advised that the Engler-Douglas fund has been dissolved and the balance of \$300.00 has been contributed to the Ken Hatfield Memorial Scholarship fund. Shirley and Barbara felt this award should continue and could be awarded each year with the board determining the awardee. Shirley made the motion for LIOC to continue with the Engler-Douglas award. Kelly Jean seconded. Vote: 9 yes.

Al Porges, a long time member of LIOC, has had a tragic loss of his fiancee, Peggy Wheeler, who passed away suddenly, leaving a 13 year old daughter, Ashley. Al has set up a educational trust fund for Ashley, and has asked that instead of flowers, etc., that donations be made direct to this fund. The membership will be advised in the next newsletter issue.

Shirley purchased a Russian porcelain Siberian Lynx for the auction. Shirley proposed to sell raffle tickets for this porcelain piece with proceeds from the raffle going direct to Ashley's educational trust fund. The money collected would be handled personally by Shirley. Kelly Jean seconded. Vote: 9 yes.

George advised that an LIOC member, Kate Conner, is donating free server space and the internet registry to register a LIOC web site. He explained the format of the site, services, and visibility that LIOC would have. George made the motion to approve the development of an LIOC web site to be administered by board members who have access to the internet. Nanette seconded. Vote: 9 yes.

LIOC WEB ADDRESS: http://www.lioc.org

The LIOC Caging and Handling book was discussed. Shirley advised that it could be

xeroxed by Land O'Lakes, and she would handle the distribution of this book. John suggested that the expense and income for the production of this book be handled through the membership services budget. The first printing would be 50 copies, and would retail at \$6.25 which includes postage. Shirley made the motion to produce 50 copies of the LIOC Caging & Handing book and offer for sale at a price of \$6.25. Carin seconded. Vote: 9 yes

George recommended that this project should be accounted for in the budget for Education & Conservation. JB made the motion to amend the prior motion to include the statement that this project would be accounted for under the Education & Conservation budget. Nanette seconded. Vote: 9 yes.

Shirley made the motion to have any board decisions that were made between board meetings be entered into the annual board minutes each year. George seconded. Vote: 7 Yes, 2 no vote

Barbara brought up a request for branch status in the Seattle, WA area, for the formation of Alliance for the Conservation of Exotic Felines, Cascade Branch of LIOC. The officers are President: Marc Watkins, VP: Steve Johnson, and Secretary/Treasurer: Laurisa Watkins. Bylaws were submitted.

Shirley made the motion to accept the Alliance for the Conservation of Exotic Felines, Cascade Branch of LIOC. Carin seconded. Vote: 9 yes

Kelly Jean made the motion for the position of President of LIOC to be required to have served on the executive board in the past in some other position. John advised this motion would have to be submitted next year as a constitutional amendment.

George introduced a Code of Ethics. He has been promoting this code on his own and has received a good response. He presented it to the board for their acceptance and adoption as the Code of Ethics for LIOC. George made the motion to formally adopt this Code of Ethics. JB seconded. Vote: 9 yes. This code will be included with all new member packets.

CONVENTION 1998

Kelly Jean made the motion to hold the 1998 convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. George seconded. Vote: 8 yes, 1 no

Kelly Jean read Ethel Hauser's request to have the branch, Exotic Feline Educational Society as first consideration to host the convention in year 2000. The board decided their request would need to be submitted to the next elected board.

1997/1998 BUDGET

Due to postage increase expected next year, additional income will be needed to make budget.

JB made the motion to increase the membership fee for a family to \$30.00, retain a single person membership of \$25.00, and keep foreign membership as is. Shirley seconded. Vote: 9 yes

John amended the motion to have two classes of membership dues. A \$30.00 fee for all renewing memberships, a \$25.00 fee for new memberships, and \$30.00 for all foreign memberships. Nanette seconded. Vote: 9 yes

Kelly Jean amended the motion to have the membership dues change effective January 1, 1998. John seconded. Vote: 9 yes

John made the motion to approve the budget. Shirley seconded. Vote: 9 yes

Kelly Jean made the motion to appoint Sherry Blanchette to serve as newsletter Editor of LIOC for a two year term starting January 1, 1998. Nanette seconded. Vote: 9 yes

Barbara adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L Roe

Sharon L. Roe Secretary/Treasurer



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. Only LIOC members may place ads listing cats for sale. Adoption ads are free of charge for cats that need good homes and no money is involved in the transaction. All ads must contain the name of business or individual. Ads must state whether the individual is a private owner or broker. Full current address with a phone number must be stated in the ad.

Au Raits.	
1 column inch "Classified"	\$10.00
¹ / ₄ page	\$25.00
1/2 page	\$50.00
FULL PAGE	\$100.00
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The commitment of the adopting home is one of stability, permanence in a licensed facility.

LIOC-ESCF Inc. is not in anyway responsible for, or guarantees placement. All transactions are solely between the owner and adopting facility.

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Before you get the cat get the book! Focuses on responsible ownership and husbandry of captive bred, privately owned cougars. \$25.00 postage paid.

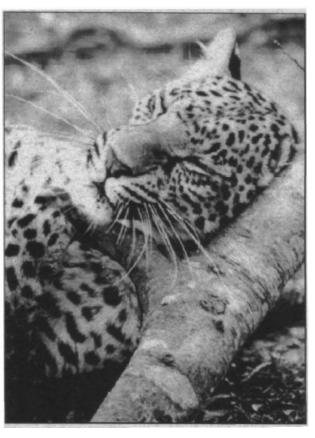
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WORLD DOMINANCE IS FOREMOST IN THE MIND OF A SLEEPING CAT.



ALLEN AND IVY DODD AMERICAN WRITERS



IF THERE IS ONE SPOT OF SUN SPILLING ONTO THE GROUND, A CAT WILL FIND IT AND SOAK IT UP. JOAN ASPER MCINTOSH

LIOC CAT NAPPERS: WILLOW -Siberian Lynx- Carol Lewis NYLA-Asian Leopard- Carole Lewis CJ-Western Cougar-Meadow Sweet Farms