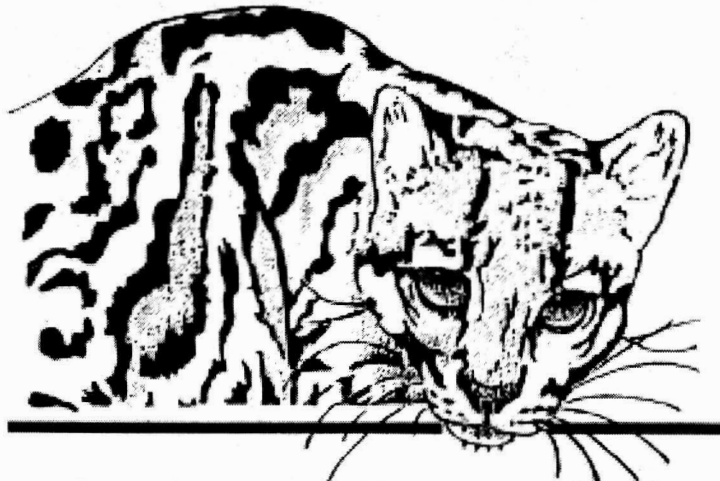


LIOC

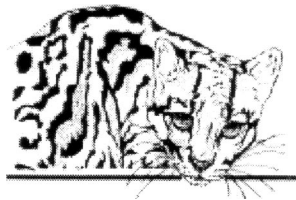
ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FEDERATION, INC.



Volume 43, Issue 1 - January/February 1999



Keenya from Wild Cat Valley
Keystone, SD



LIOC

This Newsletter is published bimonthly by the LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation, Inc. We are a nonprofit (Federal I.D. 59-2048618) noncommercial 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 bylaws, 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 felines are preferred and gladly accepted. Articles involving other related subjects will also be considered. Letters and responses to articles may be included in the Readers Write column. 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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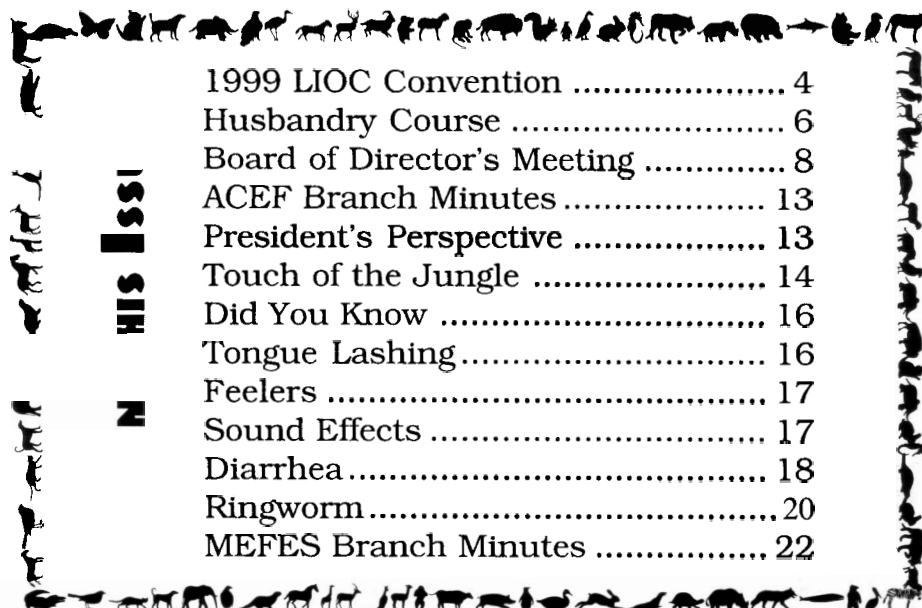
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LIOC T-SHIRTS



50/50 COTTON - FRUIT OF THE LOOM
COLOR NATURAL
SIZES: MEDIUM, LARGE, XLARGE, XXLARGE
\$15.00 EACH

(Includes Shipping & Handling)

Please make checks payable to:
LIOC ESCF, Inc.
PO Box 22085
Phoenix, Arizona 85028

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

Animal Finder's Guide
Kelly Jean Buckley
Cats Wild to Mild
Arlene Goffena
Mike Harrison
Mark Jenkins
Rosa Jordan
John Lussmyer
Sharon Roe
Jill Rose
Shogun Exotic Cats
George Stowers
Bob Turner
Barbara Wilton

Visit our Web Site!

<http://www.lioc.org>

Informational contributions may be sent to George Stowers, Vice President, Email: gstowers@aiusa.com Please send computer readable text files (email is fine or ASCII text files on disc.)

for contributions to this newsletter. This is YOUR newsletter. ALL contributions—new or old, long or short, technical or humorous personal story, article or advertisement—are welcome and needed. I'll be happy to assist with writing and/or editing. Calls, emails, or faxes are welcome.

Marge Maxwell, Editor

1999 LIOC 29TH



**Keenya is a Serval
at Wild Cat Valley
Keystone, SD.**

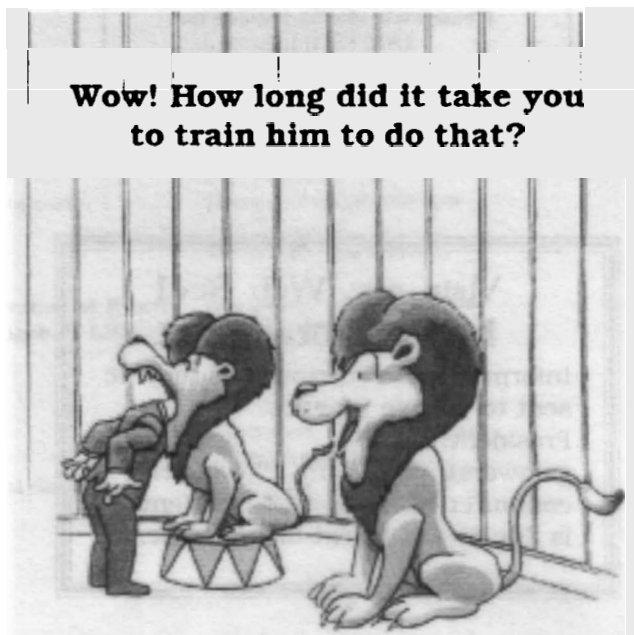
Register for the 1999 LIOC Convention by June 10

Please send \$85.00 payment to:

LIOC-ESCF, Inc.
PO Box 22085
Phoenix, AZ 85028

After June 10 the fee will be \$110.00. (Please send your choice of Beef or Chicken for the Saturday night Banquet.)

At the LIOC Convention we'll learn from special guest speakers, take a trip to Mt. Rushmore and visit the cats at Wild Cat Valley.



ANNUAL CONVENTION

**August 4-8
Rapid City, South Dakota**

HOTEL ALEX JOHNSON

Built in the roaring twenties by a railroader who had a flair for luxury and a keen appreciation of the Sioux Indian culture, construction began August 1927, one day before the first blast on Mount Rushmore. The hotel has been completely renovated with every room beautifully updated in the grand hotel tradition. The Alex Johnson includes 143 guest rooms, The Landmark Restaurant, Paddy O'Neill's Irish Pub and Casino, shopping, and recreation. The hotel has 71 years of service excellence, luxury accommodations, AAA ♦♦♦ dining, and is within walking distance of a movie theater, various museums, and numerous shops.

CALL 1-800-888-2539 and identify yourself with GROUP #G8171, to reserve your room for \$79.00 each night, double occupancy. No charge for children 18 and younger. LIOC convention attendees can take advantage of the \$79.00 room rate if you plan to come a few days early to vacation

in Rapid City. The **Exotic Cats** are Welcome! (Less than 30 pounds) The Alex Johnson 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.

The week following the LIOC convention, August 9-15 is the Sturgis Rally and Races. Over 200,000 people attend the Rally. Naturally, because sleeping rooms and camping spaces are filled years in advance, the room rates are increased for Rally week. If you should decide to stay on at the Alex Johnson, starting August 9, your per night room rates will be: 1 person/1 bed \$150 - 2 persons/1 bed \$175 and 2 persons/2 beds \$245 - 3 persons/2beds \$260 - 4 persons/2beds \$275.00. All reservations for this week MUST go through Nancy Cooper, Guest Operations Director of Hotel Alex Johnson.

Submitted by Kelly Jean Buckley,
Director of Member Services

Wild Feline Husbandry Course

A Pre-conference Course at the 1999 LIOC Convention

On August 4, 1999 an eight hour Wild Feline Husbandry Training Course will be held at the Hotel Alex Johnson, Rapid City, South Dakota.

This course will provide students with the knowledge required to practice responsible captive husbandry of wild felines as set forth in the LIOC-Endangered Species Conservation Federation's Code of Conduct for Private Owners of Wild Felines. Topics that will be covered include the following:

- **Natural History of Wild Felines**
- **Conservation & Regulatory Agencies**
- **Permits**
- **Facility Design & Handling Equipment**
- **Nutrition**
- **Health Care**
- **Disposition & Handling**
- **Behavior Conditioning**
- **Contingency Planning**

This course is being held the day before, and at the same location, as the LIOC Endangered Species Conservation Federation's Annual Convention, and is suitable for both novices and "Old Hands" who want improve their level of knowledge.

Individuals interested in taking this course should contact the LIOC's Director, Conservation & Education, Sherry Blanchette at (804) 263-6652 or via email at MSFWILDCAT@AOL.COM

Worldly Cats

What names do cats from other parts of the world answer to? Can you match the language with the correct spelling for "cat"? (Answers on page 23.)

Language	Word for "Cat"
Latin	katze(kat-zeh)
French	chat(shat)
Spanish	mao(mauw)
Polish	kot(caught)
Japanese	felis(fay-lis)
German	paka(pa-ka)
Ancient Egyptian	gato(gah-toh)
Hebrew	chatul(kha-tool)
Chinese	neko(nay-ko)
Swahili	miu (mee-u)

Sleeping Thermostat

You can learn to interpret the temperature of a room by the way your cat sleeps. It takes some time, steady observation, and good notes, but it's a lot of fun too!

You will need:

- *a sleepy cat (easy to find since cats sleep almost 20 hours/day)
- *paper and pencil
- *a portable room thermometer

1. Observe your cat while it is sleeping. Make a sketch of its sleeping position. Measure the temperature of the area the cat is sleeping in. Record the temperature.
2. Repeat these observations for several days in a variety of weather conditions. Try to come up with a hypothesis for the way temperature affects sleeping positions.

Research findings on page 23.

Reprinted with permission from Cats Wild to Mild

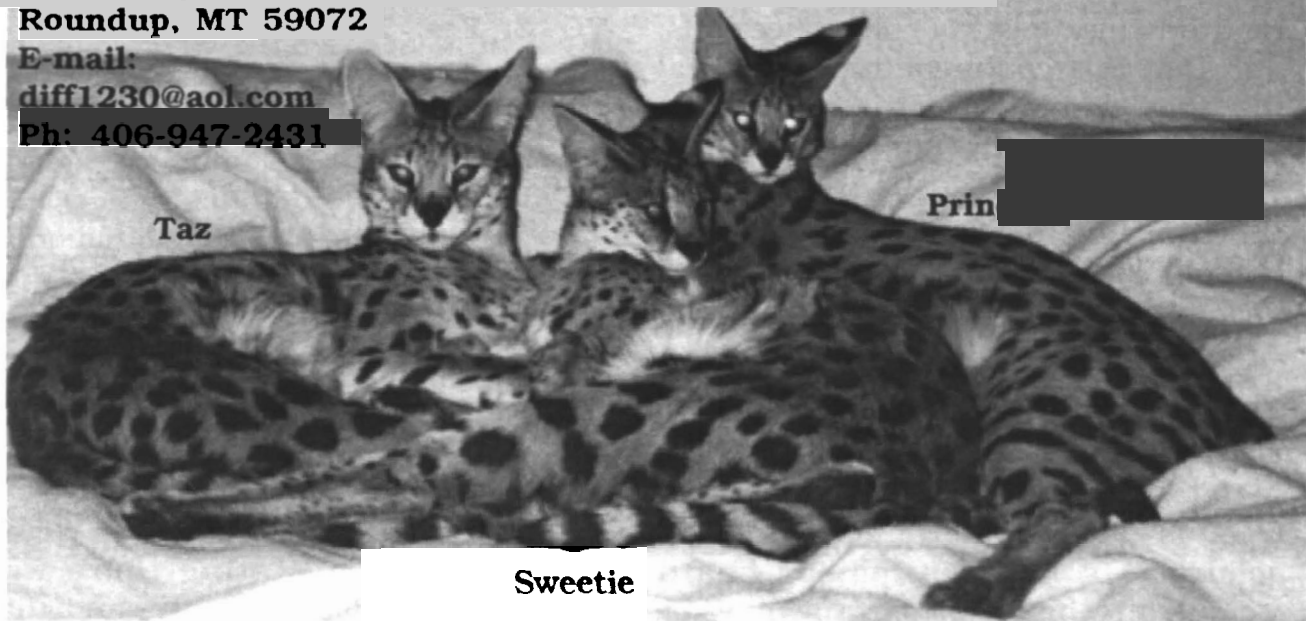
African Serval Kittens For Sale

Taz is the male serval, Sweetie is the mommy and the third is their kitten born May, 1998. It surprised me that Taz was so fatherly since servals are solitary animals in the wild. He cleaned and looked after baby Princess constantly. When Sweetie started labor, she crawled onto my lap. So I helped her through the delivery. Sweetie is so bonded with me, I had to

sleep in her room with her and the baby with Taz overseeing us all. That kitten became a family affair. Since I had planned to keep the kitten, I left the kitten with the mother for four weeks. The love and enjoyment I get from these three cats are above and beyond anything I could have ever imagined. Sweetie is expecting again and this love can be yours.

Arlene Goffena
451 Fattig Creek Rd.
Roundup, MT 59072

E-mail:
diff1230@aol.com
Ph: 406-947-2431



LIOC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AUGUST 7, 1998, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

President, Barbara Wilton called meeting to order. Present: Anderson, Buckley, Perry, Sousa, Stowers, Wagner, Wilton. Absent Bellingham, Hamil, McGann, and Roe. Branch representatives present: Ginger Becken, PNWE, and Ethel Hauser, EFES. Candidates present: Andy Turudic, Jana Londré, Sherry Blanchette, and Mark Jenkins.

Conference Calls.

Shirley did not agree to conference calls for absentee board members due to expense and that they did not participate in the General Membership meeting. George mentioned that conference calls are the normal mode of doing business today. Meetings if conducted properly can be very effectively done, and all board members should have the opportunity to participate.

Motion by Wagner: That board members are allowed to participate via conference calls at the annual convention board meetings. Stowers second. In the past, the board held quarterly meetings via conference calls, and that this could continue. Annual meetings should be restrictive to those present. With the improvements in telephone service, costs are reduced, however, it was felt very important for board members to be present during the general membership meeting.

VOTE: Yes: 2 No: 5

Article 15 Sanctuaries

Written Motion by Sharon Roe: Delete Article 15 Sanctuaries. JB second.

LIOC is not capable of certifying the accuracy of licenses, paying board members to inspect such a facility, or

police an established facility to insure they adhere to LIOC By-law requirement.

In the past a few facilities have been approved. By-laws provide the procedure for application. The concern was raised that LIOC is not capable of enforcement, and that we do not have the resources to police the care and quality of the facility. By Law Article 15-11 reads, "the Executive Board may at any time revoke Sanctuary status or amend the requirements as needed." It was recommended that the Director of Education & Conservation review and propose to the board modifications to the current By-Law Article 15. **Motion by Anderson: To have the Education & Conservation Director review current article, and submit recommended modifications to the board for further discussion and approval. Wagner second.** Mark Jenkins was asked to assist in this project. He accepted. Board requested results of review by next quarterly meeting, November 15, 1998.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Membership Report by Kelly Jean Buckley

65 new members. Of these, 21 originated as inquiries, 12 from Internet. 9 members renewed after being dropped. There were 118 inquiries and 61 dropped memberships. The total membership is 345, a gain of 26 new. To date, 31 T-Shirts have been sold.

Advertising & Publicity Report

In Jean Hamil's absence, Barbara Wilton read her report stating there was minimal advertising activity, and that

only three convention videos were sold.

Treasurer Report – See enclosed insert

New Branch Application: Midwest Exotic Feline Educational Society (MEFES)

Motion by Anderson: Accept application of new branch. Buckley second. Their membership list has been submitted and received. They are in compliance with the 50% LIOC membership requirement. Buckley has worked with their president, Bob Turner, this past year. She has provided information to assist him in starting this new branch.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Motion by Stowers: Should LIOC establish and maintain a private sector feline database to improve cooperation and coordination between AZA and private sector captive conservation and husbandry efforts. Perry second. There is a one-time software purchase fee of \$250. Currently LIOC maintains a voluntary census of the felines held by LIOC members. During the past two years, George has shared the raw numbers with Danny Morris, Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo, who reports on the population from the AZA institutions. He found this information interesting as LIOC has almost as many animals and/or species as the AZA has on record. The LIOC information on private sector felid population has generated interest within the AZA to more fully cooperate with the private sector. The AZA found these numbers useful to them but had no way to utilize this information in their own population studies and planning. It was asked of LIOC to consider setting up a database that would be sharable with ISIS (International Species Information System). This would give a more complete picture of captive felines within

North America that they could apply to their demographic studies.

Many members would share this information with anonymity, and confidentiality would be maintained for those who request it. It would be beneficial to our organization and mainstream conservation efforts if we could broaden that and accept data from anybody. This would allow us to get a better picture of what is in the private sector and would enable LIOC to open dialog between members and non-members of LIOC. George gave a brief overview of the baseline and detail information that would be requested.

As a minimum, the communication required of LIOC would be providing a floppy update once a year to Danny Morris, and Nate Flesness who runs the ISIS database. There is no current methodology for SPARKS (Single Population Analysis and Records Keeping System) to share information with ARKS (Animal Record Keeping System). LIOC would not have the software to access the main database. If LIOC goes ahead with this project, ISIS would share the summary outputs of their MEDARKS database (a subset of the ARKS medical record keeping system). One of the output reports is serology studies (statistical blood data) for all feline species on record. This would be an exceptional tool for LIOC members to provide their veterinarians to use as baseline data in treating their felines. LIOC would control the distribution of this data with database participants only.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Motion by Stowers: Should the LIOC-ESCF, Inc. formally adopt a policy encouraging private owners to register their felines either directly with ISIS

(Board Minutes continued)

or the private sector feline database, and the applicable PMP (Population Management Program) Stud Books. Buckley second. This would help LIOC implement the database. There is a stud bookkeeper for each feline species. A request was made for a summary explanation of the ISIS programs that could be published in the newsletter to educate LIOC members.

Ginger Becken: *Who cares if we have information if they won't sell felines to the private sector?* Year by year the privilege of private ownership is being chipped away at. What is driving this is the change in public attitudes due to the aggressive stance by animal rights activists. In our culture, there has been over the years a lesser acceptance of any level of risk. Both are contributing significantly to the increased regulation and public opposition to private ownership. *How do we combat this?* We can improve our husbandry standards to lower the actual risk, and we can show we are providing some valued service by cooperating with mainstream conservation efforts. This is a useful thing that we are doing by engaging in private captive husbandry. It has garnered some support from AZA. This year in an official publication by AZA, they recognized that the private sector could support mainstream conservation efforts. *Is there confidentiality?* Confidentiality can be provided to those who request it by assigning them a number within the system. **VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0**

Motion by Stowers: Should the LIOC-ESCF, Inc. create a board appointed position to act as a representative for individual owners of wild felines on the AZA Felid Tag Private Sector Liaison

Committee? Anderson second VOTE: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1

Motion by Stowers: Should the LIOC-ESCF formally adopt a policy of encouraging private owners to provide permanent identification of their cats by tattoo or transponder chip? Buckley second. It was agreed that micro chipping would provide owners a means of identifying their felines, and it would be at the choice of the owner whether to do this or not. **Ginger Becken:** *Could LIOC purchase microchips in large quantities that would be available to members at a cheaper cost?* The cost in purchasing in bulk is not feasible for LIOC, as the organization does not have the financial resources to draw upon.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Motion by Stowers: Should the LIOC-ESCF, Inc. provide a subsidy to the individual appointed to help defray the cost of participation in the Felid TAG Private Sector Liaison Committee. Buckley second.

The expenses entailed would be attending one annual mid-year meeting, the Felid TAG working group session. There is also the possibility of attending a meeting held in conjunction with the AZA meeting. This meeting is a summary report delivered by the co-chairs of the Felid TAG. **VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0**

Motion by Buckley: To budget a maximum of \$400 for the LIOC representative to the Felid TAG Sector Liaison Committee. Sousa second. This cost would become a budget item. The board requested that this representative would provide an annual summary report on any meetings attended. This will be an annual agenda item. **Ginger Becken:** *Could we request*

(Board Minutes continued)

that it not be an AZA member that our dollars are going to, that it be a private sector individual or LIOC member? The board has no restrictions on who they elect to appoint as this representative.

VOTE: Yes 5 No: 0 Abstain: 2

Motion by Perry: Nominate George Stowers as the representative to the Felid TAG Liaison Committee. Sousa second.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Convention Report by Kelly Jean Buckley

Convention Committee members: Carin Sousa, Ethel Hauser, Barbara Wilton, and Kelly Jean Buckley. *(The committee is to recommend the candidates for hosting the next year's annual convention. Recommendations are to be provided to the board two weeks prior to the annual convention. Convention costs represent 1/3 of LIOC's annual budget. The board reviews and approves the convention site during the executive board meeting). The committee recommends hosts, Jim Morrow and Judy Penland of Wildcat Valley Resort, located in Keystone, South Dakota. The selected accommodation is the Alex Johnson Hotel in Rapid City, South Dakota. The board recommended that an annual notice be printed in the LIOC newsletter asking for volunteers/organizations to host an annual convention. The date for the next convention is set for August 4-8, 1999.*

Motion by Buckley: Committee motions the board to approve Rapid City, South Dakota as the site for the 1999 LIOC Annual Convention. Anderson second.

VOTE: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1

Appointment of LIOC Editor. (ARTICLE 12 – The Newsletter, 12.1 “The Board appoints the Newsletter Editor at the first board meeting following an election.”) Buckley recommended Marge Maxwell who offered to assist in proofreading previous newsletter issues.

Motion by Buckley: For the board to appoint and approve a managing editor to give a final review of each newsletter to insure all insert requirements are met, and if needed, to further assist the editor in the production of the newsletter. Wilton amended motion for the managing editor to have final authority on the decision to release the newsletter for printing. Board accepted this amendment. Sousa second.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Motion by Buckley: Appoint Marge Maxwell as Editor for the remainder of the 1998/1999 term. Anderson second. VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Motion by Buckley: Appoint Shirley Wagner as Managing Editor for the remainder of the 1998/1999 term. Carin second.

VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

Motion by Buckley: For LIOC to purchase a fax machine to be used by the Managing Editor in the production of the LIOC newsletter. VOTE: Yes: 7 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Perry: The Ken Hatfield Memorial Scholarship Fund has been incorporated in the State of Minnesota as a non-profit organization, and is to be managed by the four LIOC Life Directors. As of January 1998, there is a balance of \$10,588.00. Announcement of the fund will be published in the LIOC newsletter,

(Board Minutes continued)

and sent to educational institutions, exotic animal newsletters, publications, etc.

Stowers asked: *Have we excluded members of the trustees and their relatives from consideration?* After discussion it was agreed that the Scholarship fund By-Laws would be amended to include this statement.

Anderson acknowledged that income was received from two fundraisers in 1998: Sharon Roe donated proceeds of \$393.00, and Barbara Wilton and Ethel Hauser donated proceeds of \$650.00.

Buckley brought up reprinting the directory. The last printing of the LIOC Membership Directory was May 1997 at a cost of \$388. A bid was received of \$307 to print 500 copies. We currently have 100 old directories. Linda Covell has worked with Buckley in redesigning the membership renewal form to incorporate it with the directory, and cat census information. Covell has volunteered to maintain the directory. The last directory update was mailed in the Sept/Oct 1996 newsletter for the membership to complete and return. Only 40 members responded. The board reviewed proposed draft of the membership renewal form.

Motion by Buckley: To print the Membership Directory following the 1999 annual convention, utilizing the redesigned form as submitted, and further to appoint Linda Covell to maintain this record. Wilton second.

The board acknowledged that no vote was needed for printing the directory, and that Buckley could assign and/or appoint anyone to assist her in accomplishing her membership services

tasks. **Wagner Amended Motion: Buckley second.** Motion amended to approve the redesigned form. **VOTE: 7 Yes No: 0**

Secretary/Treasure Report

John Perry and Shirley Wagner presented this report:

Total proposed budget of \$11,580 (did not include convention expense or proposed capital expenditures). Officer and director expenses discussed and adjusted. Total proposed 1999/2000 budget of \$15,920.

Motion by Perry: Approve 1999/2000 LIOC budget of \$15,920.00. Wagner second.

VOTE: 7 Yes No: 0

The president adjourned the meeting.

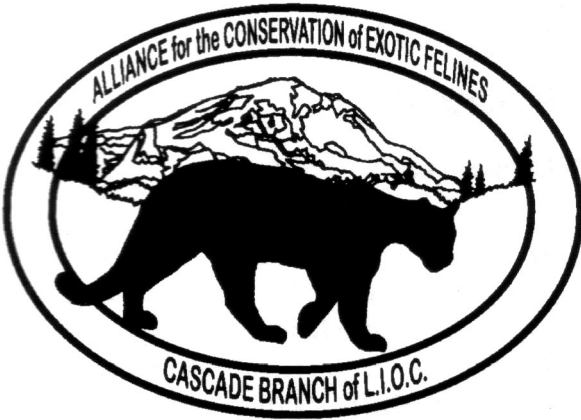
Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Roe
Secretary/Treasurer



Since 1982 the United States has destroyed half of its wetlands, 90% of its old-growth forests and 99% of its tallgrass prairie, most of this to shopping malls, parking lots and subdivisions. We as exotic cat defenders know that human encroachment is the greatest threat to the survival of wild cat species. The Land Trust Alliance is a national umbrella group that assists and trains local preservation organizations and lobbies for conservation laws on Capitol Hill. You can contact the LTA for technical assistance in saving threatened land in your area (www.lta.org, or 202-638-4725).

Contributed by Mark Jenkins,
Director of Legal Affairs



This months meeting was held on Whidbey Island at the home of John Lussmyer (me!). We had about 20 members attending, 2 lynx, and a tiger cub. We all spent quite a bit of time playing with the kitties (many pictures were taken), and chatting with each other. For the business part of the meeting, we started out showing the new logo artwork (done by our own Maggie Bogart) as it appears in the newsletter and our business cards. There was a bit of discussion on what we should be doing with our WEB site, but the main topic of discussion was what we should be doing for the next year. There were differing opinions on how much publicity we want. This discussion ranged around quite a bit, many opinions were aired, but no real decision was reached. We did figure out where the next meeting will be held, and hope to complete the year's plans at that meeting. This month was the debut of our new newsletter editor (Naomi Novotny) and many compliments were given on the new newsletter. It was also announced that members should have any articles or pictures ready for the newsletter by the 20th of each month. The "Caging and Legal Affairs" committee was split up into 2 separate groups. The "Caging guidelines" committee is being headed by Michael Jones, and the "Legal Affiars" (collecting current and suggested ordinances and other related information) is being headed by Joey Ladson.

President's Perspective

Do You Just Belong?

Are you an active member,
The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meeting
And mingle with the croud?
Or do you stay at home
And crab both long and loud?
Do you ever go to visit
When the roads are wet and slick?
Or leave that only for the few
And talk about the clique?
There is quite a program scheduled
That means success if done
And it can be accomplished
With the help from everyone.
Think this over, member,
Are we right or are we wrong?
Are you and active member ?
Or do you just belong?

Anonymous

Contributed by Barbara Wilton,
President

TOUCH THE JUNGLE WILDLIFE RESERVE

Playa de Oro, Ecuador

December 1998 Report from Rosa Jordan

For the past year we have been, little by little, accumulating the funds needed to renovate an abandoned army barracks in the rainforest of Northern Ecuador, to make it functional as a research station and visitors' center in what is, as far as we know, the first reserve in the world devoted to the preservation of the smaller neo-tropical felids (ocelots, margays, and oncillas).

On this trip, my daughter Jona managed to get away from her veterinary practice in Santa Rosa, California, in order to accompany me. Although she has been involved with the project since its inception, including numerous fruitless trips to Guyana, Belize, Guatemala, and Mexico in search of an appropriate site, this was her first trip to Ecuador, and her first view of the reserve we finally established there last year.

We flew into Quito, Ecuador, high in the Andes, and on to the coastal town of Esmeraldas, then by car to Rio Santiago. There we were met by a small boat which took us three hours up-river to Playa de Oro, the 60-family community which is partnering with us in this project. The people of Playa de Oro (who are not Indians, but are the descendants of slaves shipwrecked off the coast of Ecuador some 400 years ago, and who have since lived in the hunting-gathering manner of indigenous rainforest dwellers) greeted us enthusiastically and put us up in one of their visitors' cabanas.

The following day, along with our project facilitator Mauro Caicedo (from the village but educated in Esmeraldas), and local carpenters, we traveled another

half-hour up the river to Touch the Jungle's reserve, to discuss and plan renovation work on the abandoned barracks. We do not have enough money to do everything that needs doing, but we prioritized the essentials, and told them to get as much done as funds allowed (funds which will go a little further than we anticipated because the village has volunteered to provide whatever lumber we need.) Most critical is a water supply, which the army never bothered to install, since it had lots of bodies to carry water from the river. We planned two separate sources: a line laid from a nearby creek, and a rainwater catchment system with storage tanks. Next will come toilets. (The military stripped out those that were there, but fortunately, had no way of taking the large, modern septic tanks they'd built). Then the kitchen, likewise stripped, must be rebuilt. Then locks replaced on the doors of the ten bedrooms, screens installed, and some basic furniture (beds, desks, chairs, and storage shelves). Mauro, who presently works at a permaculture station in San Lorenzo (a port town six hours downriver by boat), was also instructed to plant fruit trees to supplement the banana, papaya, and lemon trees already there, and to begin composting for a vegetable garden, so that the center will be as food-self-sufficient as possible.

All of this we hope to have done by the summer of 1999, at which time a graduate student from the University of California at San Diego, Shelly Crosby, has agreed to go there and, in exchange for an opportunity to live in the rainforest and pursue her primate studies, will manage the center while training local

people to take over. As soon as Shelly is in residence, we hope to begin seeking captive margays and ocelots in Ecuador, and repatriating them to their natural habitat in the rainforest, either with or without human support, depending on their capacity to fend for themselves.

After leaving Playa de Oro, as we were in a taxi headed for the airport, we described the project to our driver and asked if he had heard of any captive "tigrillos" as the smaller species of neo-tropical felids are called in South America. He said most certainly that there is a thriving black market in small jungle cats in Esmeraldas and, as far as he knew in all Ecuadorian port cities; the buyers are foreigners on ships from the Orient and Europe.

On our last day in Quito, my daughter and I wandered into a shop in a heavily touristed area of Avenida Amazonas in search of gifts for our menfolk. There, as if to underscore the deadly danger faced by small spotted cats of the rainforest, lay a pile of margay pelts as high as my shoulder — no less than 40 of them! And quite in public view,

indicating how completely national and international laws prohibiting such sales are being ignored.

We left the shop almost in tears, our determination stronger than ever to put our energy into creating one place in the world devoted especially to the conservation of the smaller species of neo-tropical felids, which, despite their dwindling numbers, continue to face entrapment and death at every turn.

To Dawn Simas at Wild About Cats in Auburn, California, to Dr. Sinigalliano and his wife Maribeth at Florida International University in Miami, to Spokesmen 4 the Jungle at Duke University, North Carolina, to the International Society for Endangered Cats in Alberta, Canada, to Gaylon Monteverde of San Diego, California, to Bo Ordner of St. Paul, Minnesota, to Jacqui Feather of Santa Monica, California, to Coddington Veterinary Clinic in Santa Rosa, California, and to our sponsoring organization, Earthways Foundation in Malibu, California, all I can say, for the little cats who cannot say it for themselves, is **Thank You for Your Support.**



Sincerely,

Rosa Jordan
Box 1143
Rossland BC VOG 1Y0
Canada

E-mail: rosaj@kootenay.net

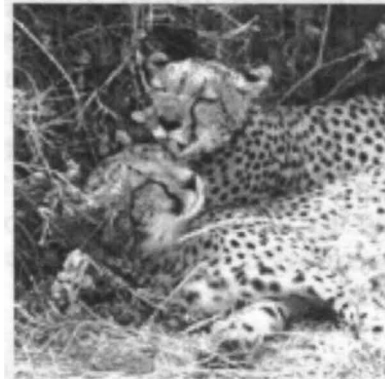
Did You Know...

- Cats were domesticated about 3,000 B.C. in Egypt.
- Only four cats really roar: lions, tigers, leopards and jaguars.
- Domestic cats spend about 70% of their day sleeping and 15% of the day grooming.
- Less than 50 Florida panthers still exist in the wild.
- Cats were brought to the Americas by colonists to protect their granaries and as pets. As settlers moved inland, cats accompanied them.
- Lions can consume 20-30 pounds of meat in one sitting.
- There are an estimated 65.8 million domestic cats in the United States compared to 54.9 million dogs.
- Lions can leap out to 12 feet.
- Cats communicate through their tails. An upright tail means alertness, and a low swinging tail means playfulness or nervousness.
- The roar of the lion is the loudest sound made by any cat.
- The cat has around 290 bones and 517 separate muscles.
- Lions can sleep up to 20 hours a day.
- A frightened cat can run up to 30 mph — while the fastest human can only run up to 27.89 mph.
- The cat can see better at night than man.
- Present on every continent, today's modern domestic cat is believed to be a cross between the African and European wildcat.

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Have You Had Your "Tongue Lashing" Today?

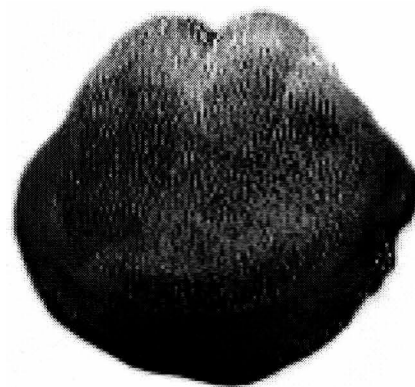
Cats use their tongues for eating, drinking, and grooming. The tongue's surface acts as knife, spoon, and comb.



Rough and Ready

If a cat has ever licked you, you have felt how rough its tongue is. This is because cats' tongues are covered with rear-facing fleshy hooks called *papillae*.

Papillae



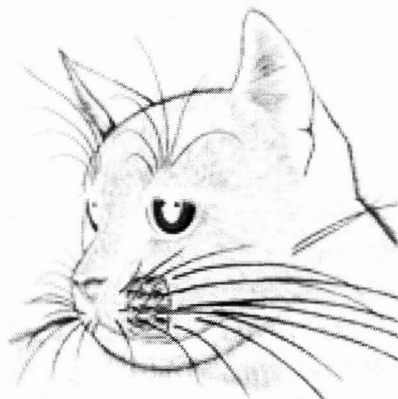
dorsal surface of cat's tongue

These hooks act as combs in grooming the fur and as small cups when the cats drink. In larger cats, the hooks are bigger and are also used to scrape meat off the bones of prey.

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Feelers

A cat's whiskers, or *vibrissae*, helps it to "see" in the dark.



Cats have relatively long whiskers that are very sensitive to movement and touch. These specialized hairs are stiffer than body hairs and have an increased nerve supply.

Vibrissae are found on the cat's muzzle, cheeks, and above its eyes. Extending beyond the cat's body, the whiskers can feel surrounding objects or walls, allowing the cat to move confidently in total darkness.

Domestic cats have four rows of whiskers on their muzzle. They can change the orientation of these "antennae," fanning them out and forward when walking, and pressing them back and flat against the cheeks when sniffing or biting.

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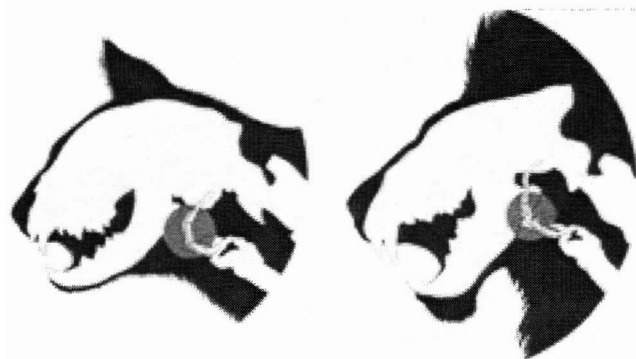
Sound Effects

Roaring and purring are the two best-known noises made by cats. However, only four species of cat can roar, and they aren't known to purr in the wild. Can you name these cats? (Answer on page 23.)

Most small cats, cheetahs, and pumas purr, although how is not fully understood. The sound seems to be produced by air passing over vibrating vocal cords when the cat breathes. These vibrations are felt through the body wall. Purring is associated with a contented cat.

Through Thick and Thin

The tongue and the larynx are supported by a series of small interconnected bones called the hyoid apparatus. The four cats that roar have thickened vocal cords and a more flexible larynx both of which allow these cats to make a roaring sound. The other cat species have thin vocal cords and a more rigid hyoid apparatus.



The Lion's Roar

Lions can probably recognize individual roars. When separated from the pride, solitary lions roar to reestablish contact. Similarly, a pride may engage in group roaring to locate missing pride members. The roars of the pride also warn off possible intruders. In areas where lions are often hunted, they are quiet and do not roar very often.

Lions may also roar simply to communicate how they're feeling to another lion.

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Diarrhea

Jill Rose, RN, BSN
The Painted Rose Ranches
Olympia, Washington

Diarrhea is the direct result of excessive fecal water and should be categorized as acute versus chronic, serious versus nonserious, and small bowel versus large bowel. This condition refers to a change in the consistency, frequency and volume of feces. Acute diarrhea lasts less than 2 to 3 weeks in duration while chronic diarrhea would last for a period of three weeks or longer. This can be caused by either the small bowel or the large bowel.

Your vet should be able to determine the differentiating features of small and large bowel diarrhea by looking at the characteristics of frequency, volume, type of blood (if any), presence of mucus, dyschezia, and urgency.

Signs of small bowel involvement would include a larger volume of feces than normal, frequency of defecation slightly increased, some weight loss, and oftentimes vomiting is common. There is no blood or mucus in the stool and efforts to defecate are not spasmodic or nonproductive.

Signs of large bowel involvement would include a smaller volume of feces with each defecation, a significant increase in frequency of defecation, blood in the stool accompanied by mucus in most cats, as well as tenesmus (ineffective spasmodic attempts to defecate or void).

High risk factors include dietary changes and feeding high-fat or poorly-digestible diets.

There are four pathophysiological

types of diarrhea and the resulting diarrhea may be caused by any single or combination of these. Osmotic diarrhea is caused by poorly absorbed solutes within the gut lumen, which leads to increased fecal water. This increase in poorly absorbed solutes may be a result of dietary overload, malassimilation of ingested foodstuffs, and small intestinal mucosa disease, such as inflammatory bowel disease. With osmotic diarrhea, the diarrhea will usually stop shortly after fasting.

Secretory diarrhea is caused by the mucosal cells secreting fluids and electrolytes at an exaggerated rate. This increase in fluid secretion may be a result from bacterial enterotoxins, gastrointestinal hormones, serotonin, prostaglandins, cholinergic agonists, deconjugated bile acids, and hydroxy fatty acids. Usually, pure secretory diarrhea does not resolve upon fasting.

Increased permeability is caused by a change in the mucosal cell membranes, which in turn, cause an increase in the size of the pores. This can lead to malassimilation, as well as leakage of fluid, electrolytes, and large particles into the gastrointestinal tract causing diarrhea.

Motility disorders may lead to diarrhea as a result of decreased fluid absorption due to increased forward peristalsis, or decreased rhythmic segmentation. More often than not, the cause is a decrease in the rhythmic segmentation rather than an increase in peristalsis.

Extra gastrointestinal causes may include hyperthyroidism, renal failure, exocrine pancreatic insufficiency, liver disease, neoplasia, and FeLV/FIV-related diseases.

Gastrointestinal causes may include nonspecific enterocolitis, food intolerance, food allergy, toxins, Salmonella and Campylobacter,

nematodes, Giardia, Cryptosporidium; inflammatory bowel diseases, and neoplasia.

Diagnostics include submitting a database (CBC, chemical profile, UA) to check for kidney disease, liver disease, hyperthyroidism and lymphoma. Fecal tests are done to check for nematodes and Giardia. Total T4 levels performed on aged cats also to check for hyperthyroidism, and FeLV/FIV tests are run simply to detect if other diseases are likely to be present.

Additionally, there are further serum, fecal, biopsy, imaging and endoscopy tests that can be run to check an even further range of possible causes.

Treatment is usually accomplished by dietary management and medications such as metronidazole, while surgery may be necessary for the treatment of any obstructive diseases.

Fluids such as lactated Ringer's or normal saline may be required if the cat is dehydrated to replace lost fluids and electrolytes. Acid/base imbalances are always a consideration when dealing with dehydration.

A bland diet may also be beneficial, remember that such should be a highly digestible low fiber diet with no more than 5-10% fat. An easily digestible bland carbohydrate such as rice should be added, and lactose and sucrose should be avoided. This should be fed in small amounts in frequent but regular feedings.

Metronidazole in an oral dosage (for cats) of 10-20 mg/kg every 8-12 hours for 10-14 days has proven to be effective. This medication has nonspecific anti-inflammatory gastric effects and is also effective in treating small intestinal bacterial growths.

Resolution of diarrhea usually happens gradually with treatment, and if not, the diagnosis should be re-examined.

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(Dermatophytosis)

Jill Rose, RN, BSN
The Painted Rose Ranches
Olympia, Washington

The term "ringworm" describes a type of clinical condition, rather than a specific infection. Dermatophytosis (ringworm), is a fungal infection that affects specific regions of the hair and nails, as well as the superficial layers of the skin. About 95% of feline cases are caused by *Microsporum canis*. Two other commonly isolated organisms are *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and *Microsporum gypseum*. Although these ringworm fungi have evolved into highly host-adapted parasites, they can still survive in the soil for long periods of time.

Direct exposure to a dermatophyte does not necessarily result in an infection, and infections do not always result in visible signs. Long-haired cats are more prone to having infections with visible signs and symptoms, as are young cats. Sex doesn't seem to be a factor. Typical incubation period is 1-4 weeks; however, some cats remain carriers for long periods of time without showing any outwardly visible signs. Lesions may begin with simply a poor coat, or they may have the typical patchy or circular areas of alopecia (hair loss). Kittens will often have dry scaly crusty areas on their ears. Since their manifestation is so diverse, any cat with skin disease should be suspected and examined for dermatophytosis. Risk factors include immunocompromising diseases and medications resulting in immunosuppression, both of which predispose the cat to dermatophytosis.

High population density in multi-cat facilities, poor nutrition, poor sanitation, and lack of quarantine for new cats entering a facility also increase the risks for infection.

Wood's lamp examinations are not very useful in screening when used alone. There are often false negatives and false positives for a variety of reasons. Consequently, any hairs exhibiting the apple-green fluorescent color should be further cultured. When used, the lamp should be turned on for approximately 5 minutes and the suspected hairs exposed for a full 5 minutes.

Fungal culture is the best means of confirming diagnosis. It is best to obtain hairs from the periphery of the lesion. In asymptomatic cats (carriers without obvious visual signs), utilize a sterile toothbrush to collect hair by brushing the entire cat. Dermatophyte test medium changes to a red color simultaneously with light-colored, cottony fungal growth within 7-14 days.

CBC, blood chemistries, and urinalysis are not useful for diagnosis of dermatophytes; however, they may reveal an underlying disorder that may adversely affect recovery, or be a contributing factor to the disease. Consequently, they should be considered for nonresponsive cases.

Skin biopsies may be used when another skin disease is suspected. Due to this being a contagious and zoonotic disease, affected cats should be quarantined. It is crucial to treat the environment if further spread and recurring infections are to be avoided. A dilute bleach (1:10) has been proven in studies to be effective in use for decontamination. Concentrated bleach or sporicidin would be more effective in killing spores; however, this isn't always practical.

Microsized griseofulvin is the most widely prescribed systemic (pertaining

to the whole body) product.

Recommended dosage is orally at 25-60 mg/kg BID for 4-6 weeks. The ultramicrosized griseofulvin dose is much lower (2.5-5.0 mg/kg BID) than the microsized form. There is also a pediatric suspension available for kittens with a recommended dosage of 20-50 mg/kg divided twice per day. (Gastrointestinal absorption is enhanced by dividing the dose twice per day or when given with a fatty meal.)

Griseofulvin can cause severe leukopenia (abnormal decrease in WBCs) when given to patients infected with FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus). Therefore, cats should be tested for FIV prior to administration. Periodic CBC checks should also be performed, as fatal bone marrow suppression can occur. Griseofulvin is teratogenic, causing cleft palate, skeletal and brain malformations in kittens if given to the dam during the first trimester of pregnancy.

Ketoconazole is also effective in place of griseofulvin. Recommended dosage is to give orally at 5 mg/kg BID. A common side effect is anorexia and cases of severe liver disease have also been reported. Ketoconazole can also affect testosterone synthesis.

Itraconazole may also be used in place of griseofulvin. Recommended dosage is to give orally at 10 mg/kg BID. It generally has fewer side effects and is reported to be more effective. However, it is quite expensive and is not recommended in cats with liver disease.

A vaccine is available for use as adjuvant to systemic therapy, although the production of lasting immunity has not been proved. Clotrimazole (Lotrimin, Mycelex, Canisten) is reported to be the most effective topical agent for localized dermatophytosis. Shampoos and dips are often used to aid in removing spores from the cat as well as killing the fungus. Studies have shown that lime sulfur dip

(1:16), and miconazole shampoo are the most effective; however, lime sulfur is odiferous and can stain. The cat should be shampooed and dipped one to two times per week for 1-3 weeks. Any other exposed cats should be shampooed and dipped as well. While hair clipping along with topical therapy was once strongly advocated, this may result in the worsening of signs due to the mechanical spread of the fungus. Clipping the haircoat of any cat is not recommended with the exception of cases where widespread lesions are present.

Many cats will have self-limiting infections and self-clear over a period of a few months. However, due to the contagious and zoonosis nature of the disease, aggressive treatment is justified.

If you suspect ringworm in your cat, see your vet for diagnosis and treatment.

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**MIDWEST EXOTIC FELINE EDUCATIONAL
SOCIETY — Minutes of Regular Meeting
January 16, 1999**

Hi MEFES Members,

Our last meeting was held January 16, 1999 at Gary Dutcher's home in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. (16) members, four guest and three serval cats attended. Gary had his six month old female serval, Bill Johnson brought his six month old female serval and Marvin and Hush, his 11 year old male serval, came all the way up from Madison, Indiana, which is a 470 mile round trip.

We had just received word that Marvin has been nominated for the Jefferson Award which honors Indiana's top ten extraordinary outstanding volunteers. Marvin has visited and shared Hush with over 75,000 patients in over 740 different nursing homes. Marvin has volunteered without compensation in any form over 2500 hours a year and 34,000 hours over the past 11 1/2 years making life a little more pleasant for these lonely people.

Before the meeting Gary and his friend Monica provided us with an excellent meal with some of the members bringing a side dish. Bob Turner played a VCR tape of Marvin and Hush that appeared on three Indianapolis television stations about their visiting nursing homes. The program on Indianapolis WRTV channel 6 left tears in most of our eyes after viewing the wonderful special on Marvin and Hush. Marvin said, if he is not 6 feet under, he plans to attend this year's LIOC national convention.

Bob started the meeting off by asking a volunteer to be MEFES construction director. Bill Johnson volunteered to be our construction director with the approval of the members in attendance. If you have questions or need help in designing and / or building cages or a cat facility, do not hesitate to contact Bill at 317-769-5483.

We discussed the duties of the membership director and the large Midwestern area that MEFES covers. We decided to split the area in half- a Southern half and Northern half. Our membership director, Herald Maxwell, who was unable to attend due to the 500 mile round trip drive will be membership director for the Southern half and Bill Johnson will cover the Northern half. Down the road we may want to have a membership drive representative from each state that is covered by MEFES with Herald as the overall director.

Bob stated that we have one candidate for each of the offices of President and Vice President that he was aware of. One of the members said

they would run for Vice President. That made it two running for the office of Vice President. Bob will contact Tonya Jones after the January 31 deadline to see if there are any more candidates for office

Bob stated that he was in favor of a one year term instead of the two year term for the club officers. He felt that we could get more people to run for office if the term was one year verses the two year term.

Bob talked about non-cat owners being just as important as members of MEFES and LIOC as cat owners. He gave the example of LIOC membership services director, Kelly Jean Buckley, being a LIOC member for ten years before she got her exotic cat and how she was and still is a big part of LIOC. Ray and Sue Beckley are another example of non-exotic cat owners who work very hard for the welfare of the wildcats in the wild as well in captivity.

Ray Beckley of Chicago gave a talk on how the LIOC newsletters helped him convince the Chicago Lincoln Park Zoo that LIOC and MEFES are reputable organizations for the benefit of the wildcats. The zoo feline director was impressed with the research articles in the LIOC newsletter. Almost every day after work Ray visits the wildcats at the zoo. The zoo has recently added Ray to their wildcat research team. This is an example of excellent work by members who do not have exotic cats of their own to share their life with but do beneficial work towards the welfare of the cats. We look forward to hearing about the research work Ray will be doing at Lincoln Park Zoo.

Bob gave out information about a program on tigers of the wild that was to be presented by the World Wildlife Fund at the Indianapolis zoo.

Gary mentioned that he and Monte Francis were working on the new husbandry manual questionnaire and it should be ready for this newsletter.

We also discussed the possibility of a MEFES Joe Taft Volunteer day this year. Bob Turner will contact Joe to see this would be a benefit to him, and if so, what day would be good for him. This may be an opportunity for our membership to help Joe at his wildcat facility for at least one day or two.

After the meeting, many members went back to playing and petting the servals and eating again the fine food Gary and Monica provided.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert L. Turner
President, MEFES



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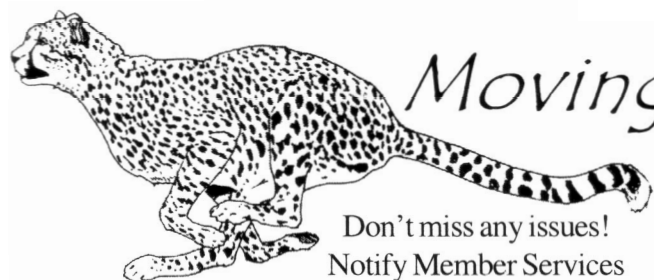
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"Sleeping Thermostat" Research from page 7.

Scientists who study cats have found that on cold days a cat usually sleeps curled in a ball, with its paws and head tucked in and its tail tightly curled around its body. This helps to conserve body heat. As the temperature gets a bit warmer, a cat will usually sleep less tightly curled, with the tail looser and paws out. On very warm days most cats will sleep stretched out, some on their sides or backs to allow their body heat to escape more easily.

Answers to Worldly Cats on page 7.

Language	Word for "Cat"
Latin	katze(kat-zeh)
French	chat(shat)
Spanish	mao(mauw)
Polish	kot(caught)
Japanese	felis(fay-lis)
German	paka(pa-ka)
Ancient Egyptian	gato(gah-toh)
Hebrew	chatul(kha-tool)
Chinese	neko(nay-ko)
Swahili	miu (mee-u)



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Answer to question on page 17:

Lions, tigers, leopards, and jaguars make similar loud and deep-throated calls called roars. Other species of cats are silent or make higher-pitched cries. The four roaring cats can not purr.

Come have a roaring
good time with me
in Rapid City, SD
at the
1999 LIOC Convention!

(Details on page 4-5)



Mike Harrison's kitten
New Member from
Roslyn, WA