This 2 year old African Auger Buzzard is named Peeper and is owned by Phoenix member Dave. Peeper is a working bird who is part of the Predators of the Heart program aimed at educating kids about wild animals, as well as, the evils of drugs and other destructive behaviors.

Phoenix member Max calls this 20 foot long Burmese Python, Monty.
LETTER FROM EDITOR: Welcome!

This newsletter is a derivative of articles or posts from the E-List through member participation. Any and all articles included in this newsletter were either taken from Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Assoc., Inc. email E-List or were submitted by members with their permission. Please feel free to submit any article you wish to have included in our newsletter. Email requests to:

General@PhoenixExotics.Org or President@PhoenixExotics.Org

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR PHOENIX EXOTICS WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION, INC. IS $10.00 ANNUALLY.

SEND ANY INQUIRIES OR $10.00 TO: Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association Inc., PO Box 1132, Chehalis, WA 98532

NOTE FROM EDITOR:

Any submissions that have been published have been given prior permission for publication. If you or anyone feels that their views have not been properly represented, please contact:

General@PhoenixExotics.Org or President@PhoenixExotics.Org

or mail correspondence; be descriptive as to what issue and date located on front of newsletter. Articles appearing in this newsletter have been taken from the Phoenix Exotics e-list, many thanks to all the e-list members for their contributions. Thank you to the ASSOCIATED PRESS for granting a non-exclusive license to reprint materials online for the purposes of this newsletter.

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NOTE FROM EDITOR:

Phoenix E-List Contained 447 posts in June. We are limited in the print medium to select only a few items. You can join the e-list at http://phoenixexotics.org/ then click on the link for E-groups email list.

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“Friendly Felines – Small Exotic Cats We’ve Known and Loved – Responsible Ownership Series #1”

Phoenix Exotics is proud to present the first in a series of books on Responsible Ownership of Exotic Animals. This book is 115 pages long with photos and illustrations.

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Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association
Responsible Ownership Series #1
Exotic pet crisis spreads to birds?—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Tue Jun 10, 2003

Papers all over the country are now running the "Exotic pets, exotic diseases" story posted earlier. Here's another which adds birds. If the press gets its way this will be as big a panic as SARS when it broke. "Why keeping exotic pets is risky venture". By Stacy St. Clair Daily Herald Staff Writer, Posted June 10, 2003.

Twila Nipper enjoys people's reactions when she tells them about her pet menagerie. At one time, her collection included Precious the Rat, an iguana named Creature and two cockatiels, Cinnamon and Melvina. "It's fun to say you have an exotic pet," the Lisle woman said. "How many other people can say they have a pet rat?" Exotic pets, however, come with great health risks and even greater responsibilities. The animals - either by their very nature or through breeder error - can carry such diseases as salmonella, the plague and the monkeypox virus. Nipper, for her part, devotes several hours each week to reducing the risk of infection in her home. She cleans cages daily, regularly inspects for signs of disease and pays for expensive medical care. "People need to be aware of the health risks when they take on exotic pets," she said. "These aren't really pets you're taking on; they're a huge responsibility." Unsuspecting owners run the risk of not only infecting themselves, but also causing a public-health crisis like the one stemming from the prairie dogs sold by a suburban distributor. Three Midwest states currently are battling a monkeypox outbreak after diseased prairie dogs spread the virus to at least four humans. Health officials believe the animals were infected by giant Gambian rats while both species were awaiting sale at Phil's Pocket Pets in Villa Park. Prairie dogs, however, aren't the only exotic pets to pose a threat. An estimated 93,000 salmonella cases each year are caused by exposure to reptiles such as turtles and iguanas, according to the national Centers for Disease Control.

RE: Exotic pet crisis spreads to birds?—Thread by SaraSchimke Tue Jun 10, 2003

(Zoonotic diseases by pets) The following CDC site has a list of zoonotic diseases people can get from animals. Among those listed are birds, cats, dogs, farm animals, fish, horses, reptiles, and wildlife.
http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/browse_by_animal.htm

Birds–4; Cats–14; Dogs–15; Farm Animals–10; Fish–2; Horses–6; Reptiles–1; Wildlife–11. It's funny the domestic dogs and cats can transfer way more than the birds, fish, and reptiles. If going by these statistics alone, let's just ban them ALL (extreme sarcasm here).

Here it comes - exotic pets spread disease—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Sun Jun 8, 2003 “Prairie Dog Illness Resembles Smallpox” By TODD RICHMOND, Associated Press Writer. Doctors initially feared a smallpox outbreak as they began seeing cases of a mysterious disease that has spread to at least 19 people who came into contact with pet prairie dogs in the Midwest, health officials said Sunday. "The symptoms were alarmingly similar-fever, chills, rashes and swollen lymph nodes", said Milwaukee's health commissioner, Dr. Seth Foldy. It was when the prairie dog connection surfaced that they knew it must be something else. "We asked the question but discounted it very early," Foldy said. "Smallpox has never been known to affect another species." The Centers for Disease Control said Saturday pet prairie dogs from a suburban Chicago pet distributor likely are infected with monkeypox, a member of the same viral family as smallpox. The virus can pass from animal to animal, and scientists believe it can pass human-to-human, as well, but it had never been documented in North America, Foldy said. So far, at least 17 people in Wisconsin and one each in Illinois and Indiana have become sick since early May with the symptoms consistent with monkeypox after coming in close contact with prairie dogs. "It eventually will clear up as you treat the symptoms," said Mark McLaughlin, a spokesman for Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital in Milwaukee, which has treated several patients with the symptoms. "We don't need people to go
off the deep end. This is not an epidemic in the public's common perception of that," he said.

**Transportation of dead domestic livestock to feed exotic animals**—Submitted by Lynn Culver Sun Jun 22, 2003 Indiana requires persons who transport dead domestic livestock to feed exotic animals, must register with the State Veterinarian and be permitted. The Indiana State Department of Health has just changed their rules and is going to stop issuing any new permits after July 1. Only persons who have registered before the date will be allowed to transport dead livestock to feed exotic animals. This is to control and track disease and the possible spread of disease. In addition to having to register for approval to transport, they are now requiring those who feed dead livestock to exotic animals document every animal they pick up - date, and farmer name and address of each location of each dead domestic animal. I hope all Indiana big cat sanctuaries, breeders and collectors who feed beef and horsemeat they butcher, have already registered. Otherwise, we are only talking about another week to register. It makes me wonder how many other states regulate this kind of activity.

**PA: Religion, Horses, vs. Town**—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Thu Jun 5, 2003 “A PA Town Won't Let Amish Men Keep Horses” By DAN LEWERENZ, Associated Press Writer. Officials rejected a request to change a local ordinance so two Amish men could keep horses on their rural central Pennsylvania property, meaning the men have less than a week to remove the animals or face fines of $100 a day. The horses are an essential form of transportation for the Amish, who generally shun modern conveniences such as electricity, telephones and cars. Daniel King and Daniel Beiler said they use the horses to pull buggies. "I ain't going to be able to live very long paying $100 a day," King, 26, said after Wednesday's vote by the Walker Township supervisors. The men's attorney said they would appeal the ruling. King and Beiler, 31, acknowledged knowing Walker Township had a zoning ordinance prohibiting horses when they bought the land. The township only allows horses on plots larger than two acres, and does not allow horses within villages or in areas zoned for multifamily residential use. Keith Harter, chairman of the board of supervisors, said the zoning ordinance was necessary because of concerns about animal waste. The men's attorney, James M. Bryant, said most of the available land where the men could keep horses was either ill-suited or too expensive. Bryant said he would immediately appeal a judge's May 30 ruling that established the fines. He said he may also appeal in federal court on the grounds the ordinance violates the Constitution and the federal Religious Land Use Act, which exempts religious groups from most local zoning rules unless the restrictions protect public safety. "We're living in America here. I can't believe you can't have a horse for religious transportation," King said. "It makes no sense at all." Copyright 2003 Associated Press

**IL: More ownership restrictions considered**—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Wed Jun 4, 2003 "Pet owners may have to cover vicious animals" By David R. Kazak Daily Herald Staff Writer, Posted June 04, 2003. Pets that Kane County authorities deem vicious soon could end up costing their owners much more than the price of food or shots. On Tuesday, a panel of county board members that oversees public safety issues bit into a plan that would force owners to spay or neuter a violent pet and buy expensive liability insurance. "That's something I think we should consider," said Dr. Joseph Busch, a St. Charles veterinarian and Kane County's animal control director. Officials reviewed Kane County's animal control laws, which Busch compared to such laws in the home-rule city of Aurora. Aurora's animal control department places strict limits on troublesome pets. The rules for vicious animals go much farther, making ownership nearly prohibitive. Besides requiring $100,000 in liability insurance and expensive spay or neuter surgery, owners of animals deemed
vicious—a label earned by the most severe of biting or attacking animals—are never allowed to take the animals for walks. Owners also must pay to have a tracking microchip implanted in the animals' backs. And whenever such an animal is outside, they must be in secure enclosures. Warning signs must be posted on properties and the animals cannot leave the properties without prior permission from the city.

**OH/MI/IN: Raids, seizures**—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Sun Jun 29, 2003 “Wildlife authorities seize rare animals in illegal reptile ring” By BREE FOWLER, The Associated Press. DETROIT (AP) -- State and federal wildlife officials seized hundreds of rare and endangered turtles and snakes in raids Saturday aimed at breaking up one of the nation's largest suspected networks of illegal reptile and amphibian sales. The morning raids in Ohio, Indiana and southern Michigan followed a two-year investigation by the states' departments of natural resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, officials said. "It's the first time we've actually been able to catch them and hopefully it will send a strong message to curtail that activity," said Brad Wurfel, press secretary for the Michigan DNR. The ring was under observation for more than a decade and the break came when investigators managed to infiltrate the group by posing as dealers, trappers and customers, officials said. At least 50 people in the three states are expected to be charged, officials said. More than 100 snakes, turtles and other animals were seized at 10 homes were searched in Ohio, said Jim Quinlivan, law enforcement supervisor for the Ohio DNR's Wildlife Division. About 150 protected turtles and 20 protected snakes were seized in Michigan, along with marijuana, according to an undercover detective with the Michigan DNR, who asked not to be identified. Their market value was estimated at more than $55,000. Some of the animals were spotted turtles, which are a protected species in Michigan and can sell for as much as $250 each, the detective said. The illegally traded animals also included spotted salamanders, which are amphibians. Many of the Ohio animals were colorful snakes and turtles native to the Lake Erie shore, while others such as Eastern Massasauga rattlesnakes are found in hilly regions inland. The number of animals seized in Indiana was not immediately available. Copyright 2003 Associated Press

**CA: Malibu stops short of banning declawing**—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Wed May 28, 2003 “Malibu stops short of banning declawing of animals” By Bruce Haring, The Associated Press—LOS ANGELES. Malibu City Council stopped short of becoming the second city in California to ban the practice of declawing cats, calling instead for a resolution that would condemn the surgery for all animals. The five-member council voted unanimously Tuesday night to order its staff to draft the resolution in time for the next council meeting on June 9. Councilwoman Joan House's motion for an ordinance banning declawing did not receive a second, despite the support of about 40 people, including actor Buddy Hackett, who attended Tuesday's meeting. Last month West Hollywood became the first city in California to ban the declawing of cats, which animal rights activists say is painful and unnecessary. Hackett, a longtime animal rights advocate, said he had rescued many cats over the years and has noticed behavioral problems in those that have been declawed. Veterinarian Jennifer Conrad, founder of The Paw Project, a local animal advocacy group, said her organization would continue to push for declawing bans in the cities of Santa Monica, Palm Springs and San Francisco. In the meantime, she praised the support for a resolution condemning the process in Malibu, saying it "might just be a symbolic act, but it is an act saying we do not condone the practice of declawing." The procedure, formally known as onychectomy, costs $100 to $300 and removes the first joint of each toe in an animal's paw. It's typically done to prevent cats from scratching people and furniture, but opponents say other alternatives are available, including regular claw trimming, coating a cat's nails in vinyl, or teaching a cat to use a scratching post.
WE are having an EFFECT—Submitted by Jeanne Hall Thu Jun 19, 2003 Congratulations folks! We are having a big enough effect on the legislative issues. Phoenix, as a group, is becoming a target for AR types! We ARE having an effect! I am very proud to report, I have been receiving emails and snail mail letters from folks who are definitely on the opposite sides of the issues. I know sometimes it feels like we are just fleas on a gnat's ass. The work we do, the letters we write, the education and information we provide maybe falling on deaf ears. And I am sure some of it is. But at least some of the work you are all doing is having an effect. It is not pleasant or fun to receive attacks. But, it is less enjoyable to be completely ignored or brushed aside. Somewhere, somehow we are considered to be big enough to be worth attacking. WE ARE BEING NOTICED! Please take this as a sign whatever you are doing, it IS making a difference! Please increase, as much as you can. If you have made one phone call this month, make two next month. If you wrote one letter, write two more. And PLEASE pass this good news on to the other members of the various groups you belong to or support. Your legislative representatives cannot work for you or make optimum decisions if they do not have accurate data. The news media is fast to spread bad news. The supporters of these and other similar bills are quick to use any tragedy or negative occurrence to support such bills. Your legislators NEED to know about the LEGAL, RESPONSIBLE PRIVATE OWNERS. Let everyone know we ARE being noticed. We are considered a threat to the supporters of these bills. Press the advantage. Speak your mind. Get the TRUTH out there.

WI: Prairie Dog dealer is USDA inspector—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Sun Jun 15, 2003 This might be useful...“Report: Exotic animal firm owner is safety inspector”. The Associated Press-SOUTH MILWAUKEE - The owner of a suburban Milwaukee firm that distributes exotic animals - including prairie dogs believed to have spread monkeypox virus - is a federal consumer safety inspector at a Milwaukee meat processing plant. But officials from the company and the federal government said his presence on the food line posed no risk to the food supply. A federal official confirmed that Scott Knapp, owner of SK Exotics in South Milwaukee, works at the Emmpak slaughterhouse and meat processing plant, a U.S. official said. Until May 23, Knapp was actively working as a line inspector, visually inspecting cow carcasses for contamination, said Steve Cohen of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Both Cohen and Mark Klein, director of communication for Excel, the parent company of Emmpak, said there was no risk to the public. "You can't transmit monkeypox through food," said Cohen, who added that smallpox, a similar virus, also is unable to infect food. Federal health officials have confirmed a total of 12 human cases of the disease in this country: four each in Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois. Also, 56 possible cases have been reported - 25 in Indiana, 17 in Wisconsin, 13 in Illinois and one in New Jersey. Monkeypox, a west African disease never before seen in the Western Hemisphere, is related to smallpox but is not as lethal. It causes rashes, chills and fever. Knapp left the plant May 23 in order to see a doctor about his flu-like symptoms, Cohen said. Knapp was diagnosed with possible monkeypox a few days later. "We follow good manufacturing processes," Klein said. "Things like personal hygiene, washing hands, washing boots and keeping things sanitary in the plant are a priority." All 12 inspectors at the plant wear latex gloves, sterile smocks, hairnets and hard hats, the officials said. Copyright 2003 Associated Press

MA: Lion-like cat seen—Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Wed Jun 11, 2003 “Residents spot lion on the loose”—By: Capital News 9 web staff-Associated Press. Somebody in northeastern Massachusetts may be missing a lion. Police in Westford said they've gotten several reports of a strange creature roaming the streets. Witnesses described a big cat, like a mountain lion. But experts said it can't be a cougar, because wild mountain lions have been extinct in Massachusetts for years. Authorities said it could be a hybrid jungle cat which escaped its owner.
Possessing such an animal is illegal in Massachusetts, which could explain why no missing lions have been reported. Police urge anyone who sees the beast to use extra caution and keep their pets far away. Westford Police Captain Edward Cossette told the Lowell Sun that the animal was seen twice in the last week, once in the area of Depot Street and Cherry Lane. Two days later the animal was spotted near the Chelmsford Line. Copyright 2003 Associated Press

The stated purpose of Phoenix per the articles of incorporation:

“...for charitable educational and scientific purposes; to educate the public in the necessary safety precautions and procedures for dealing with exotic wildlife; and to provide emergency assistance to exotic wildlife in need of care or relocation.”

“Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, Inc. is based in the UNITED STATES of AMERICA and addresses concerns within the USA and internationally. Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Assoc. became incorporated in the state of Washington as a non-profit corporation.”

“Phoenix is dedicated to the legal and ethical ownership of exotic animals by private persons with an emphasis on education and safety. Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association Inc. is an organization of active members working to protect and maintain the rights of private ownership through responsible behavior.”

WELCOME – MY NAME IS JEANNE HALL, I AM THE PRESIDENT OF PHOENIX EXOTIC AND WOULD LIKE TO BRIEF YOU ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN OUR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS. THE NEWSLETTER IS AN AVENUE TO REACH OUR MEMBERS THAT ARE NOT ON OUR E-LIST PROVIDED BY YAHOOGROUPS.COM. THIS NEWSLETTER WILL HELP MEMBERS WHO DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS OR EASY ACCESS TO OUR WEBSITE. WE ARE REACHING OUT TO MAKE PHOENIX EXOTICS ACCESSIBLE, INCLUDING IN OUR NEWSLETTER INFORMATION FROM OUR E-LIST FOR MEMBERS THAT ARE CURRENTLY NOT ONLINE. ENJOY!
Highlights:

- “We Are Having An Effect”
- Exotic pet crisis spreads to birds?
- OH/MI/IN: Raids, seizures