Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association is pleased to announce our upcoming 2004 Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 28th and 29th, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Details on page 7.
Phoenix Exotica Wildlife Association, Inc. volume 3 issue 27 September 2003

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 Exotics 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.
PLEASE 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.

Phoenice Exotics E-List Contained 254 posts in September. 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.

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

Phoenix Exotic 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.

Presenting real life tales of small exotic cats and their dedicated owners, heartwarming, yet unafraid to inform prospective owners about the potential for hard times, as well as good, in such deeply held relationships. Nearly 20 authors including a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, a Doctor of Chiropractic, Veterinary Chiropractic, pet owners, breeders, sanctuary owners and folks who have been involved with exotic cats for many years have created a must read.

Now, in their own words, exotic owners speak out. This book gives them a voice: Listen!

1 Copy $8.00 Please include $2.95 for shipping/handling for 5 Copies $32.00 10 Copies $48.00 orders 1, 5, or 10 copies.
50 Copies $200.00 (plus shipping) Send check or Money Order to:
Phoenix Exotics Wildlife Association PO Box 1132 Chehalis, WA 98532

Friendly Felines - Small Exotic Cats We've Known and Loved

Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association
Responsible Ownership Series #1
Phoenix Exotic's Membership Statistics-Submitted by Cathryn Freeman-Spohrer, Secretary of the Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, Sun Sep 7, 2003. The Phoenix Exotic's elist membership has just gone over the 400 member mark! We currently have 402 members on the Phoenix elist. In addition to that, we have 138 who can access the elist via web only. That puts us at the 540 individual addresssees’ who are on Phoenix elist! Some of these addresssees represent groups of hundreds or thousands, and relay information and discussion highlights. Some members have two addresses enrolled for easy access at home and at work. 540 listings are pretty impressive! When saying you are a member of the Phoenix group, it is no exaggeration to say there are thousands of members Free and Paid!!! Someone said we have had 12,000 website hits! Paid memberships are on an individual basis, all it takes is $10.00 per person, and per year to join. A paid member has one vote per membership and has the option of a newsletter in the mail. Our membership fee is tiny and we expect it to stay that way. Phoenix Exotic's is a public service organization. We don't do all this free stuff cause we are "nice" guys!! Our ultimate goal is to continue to improve conditions for exotics and their owners. You are all invited to upgrade your membership to a full or voting membership. It just takes a few minutes and very little money! Full instructions are on the Phoenix website or I will be glad to provide you with the needed information. Thanks to all of you for continued involvement with Phoenix Exotic's and helping to improve all that we strive to do in our efforts of improving conditions for exotic's and owners.
Elist Yahoo Group Site:  http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Phoenix_Exotics/
Phoenix Exotic Website:  http://www.phoenixexotics.org/

MI: Game Ranch may export rare animals-Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Tue Sep 9, 2003 "Brutus resident's love of animals leads to game ranch". The Associated Press, BRUTUS, Mich. (AP) After decades of conservation work in Africa, Don Hunt has set his sights on reintroducing a nearly extinct animal to an African mountain. The Brutus man first fell in love with Africa and its animals when he was starring in the children's television show, "Bwana Don in Jungle-la." "The show went to the U.S., Europe, Australia and Japan, and we decided we'd do our last 30 shows in Kenya," Hunt told the Petoskey News-Review for a recent story. He founded the Mount Kenya Game Ranch on 1,216 acres of land intended to breed, hold and translocate endangered species. It was a sanctuary to keep the many poachers in Kenya away from dying breeds of animals. Hunt and actor William Holden, along with a large crew, worked with the Kenyan government to translocate herds and animals in danger. Hunt also worked with a local team of expert animal catchers and handlers, conducting school tours, patrolling the exact location of animals, looking after fences and animal shelters and helping his wife, Iris, at her animal orphanage. The ranch soon became the world's largest animal export and import firm. It was a dream realized for Hunt. Copyright 2003 Associated Press

MA: Gorilla escape at Boston Zoo-Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Sun Sep 28, 2003 "Gorilla Escapes From Boston Zoo, Hurts 2", by MARK PRATT, Associated Press Writer. A restless gorilla broke out of its zoo enclosure Sunday injuring a 2-year-old and a teenager before it was sedated and recaptured almost two hours later, according to zoo officials. The gorilla escaped from the Franklin Park Zoo minutes before the zoo was scheduled to close, according to Zoo New England CEO and President John Linehan. The gorilla injured the young girl and an 18-year-old woman almost immediately after escaping, Linehan said. A witness told police she later saw the gorilla sitting at a bus stop on a street near the zoo. "We've had a very difficult evening, and we feel very badly about the adult and young child injured. We don't know the extent of their injuries, but we think they'll be OK," he said. The 5-foot, 300-pound adolescent gorilla escaped from its section of the Tropical Forest exhibit in August, but did not leave the exhibit grounds. Copyright 2003 Associated Press
IL: OSHA gets into exotic keeping-Submitted by Ray (Rune.Raion) Sun Sep 28, 2003

Ray says, “Uh-oh...”. “Animal trainer cited for failure to protect against TB”. (AP) Federal workplace safety officials have cited a northern Illinois circus animal training center for failure to protect workers from potential exposure to tuberculosis from elephants. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration charges Richmond-based Hawthorn Corp. with failing to provide protective clothing and medical monitoring, and failing to label a barn where infected animals stayed. Charles Shields, area director for OSHA, said some Hawthorn employees tested positive for the bacterial lung infection, though that does not necessarily mean they will develop the disease. The citation issued last week seeks $37,000 and corrective action from Hawthorn owner John Cuneo. Cuneo paid a $60,000 animal cruelty fine in 1996 after the U.S. Department of Agriculture investigated the tuberculosis deaths of two elephants. Cuneo said the ongoing scrutiny is the result of animal rights agitators. "We're getting sick of it," he said. "It's a witch hunt. It gets tiresome. We have very good people." In May, Agriculture Department officials charged Cuneo's business with violating the Animal Welfare Act by failing to cut elephants' toenails and properly treat a sick elephant. No court date has been set in that case. Copyright 2003 by The Associated Press


“Humane Society transfers exotic cat to haven” PORTLAND-An exotic cat has a new home, thanks to the Oregon Humane Society. The African serval cat was rescued last Wednesday from the Portland International Airport. The small, spotted cat belonged to a family that couldn't take the animal on their foreign flight. Today, the Humane Society took the serval -- named D'Artagnan to the Wild Cat Haven in Sherwood. There, D'Artagnan will join ten other servals. He'll be placed on quarantine and visited by the resident veterinarian on arrival. The Oregon Humane Society say wild cat sanctuaries are filling up as more people purchase exotic felines for pets. The organization says many domestic cats also need homes. Copyright 2003 by The Associated Press

MN Bill SF1530-Submitted by Lynn Culver Mon Sep 15, 2003

Minnesota Bill SF 1530, was introduced in late 2003 legislative session immediately after S769 failed to pass. It will be addressed early next year. All persons who already have these prohibited species must come into compliance with animal welfare standards, but no breeding of these animals is allowed. Phoenix members need to be aware of this bill, as it is being introduced very early in the legislative session and will have plenty of time to gain sponsors and momentum. You can view the full bill on the Minnesota legislative website at: http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/legis.asp

(S269 Update–long-Submitted by BigCats Fri Sep 12, 2003 Hi Folks, Just a heads up! I spoke to the committee on Environment and Public Works where the bill presently sits. They have made amendments to the original bill, more specifically regarding the exemptions. Bottom line, this bill will have a major impact on the sale, and or transport of these felines across state lines for those that are not regulated and inspected by a federal agency. As I read it, stricter guidelines are placed on sanctuaries and 501(c)3 organizations. Pet owners will be hit the hardest. (Note from Editor-to read the Bill S269 in its entirety, please join the elist at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Phoenix_Exotics/, click on Messages, #28393)

RE: S269 Update–long-Thread by Ray (Rune.Raion) Mon Sep 15, 2003 Ok, I have been looking at this and it reads to me as if it has seriously tightened up the already bad bill. Note that it now not only forbids non-USDA entities from transporting their cats but goes on to prohibit USDA-licensed people from transporting them for them: “(F) any person having custody of a wild animal solely for the purpose of
transporting the animal to a person referred to in this paragraph." (Including rescues.) We still do not know exactly what they will require of people they "permit" to have these animals since: "(2) REGULATIONS- Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary, in cooperation with the Director of the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service and in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall promulgate regulations describing the persons or entities to which paragraph (1) applies." And then there is: "(v) maintains exceptional standards of animal care." (?) This seems to let WAO out of things. (Poor care, no fences, etc.) All kidding aside, this seems to be a strange addition and I suspect it is an escape clause for the agencies to use to selectively enforce this law or for troublemakers to use to harass competition. Don't like a transaction? Use this as a hook for a violation. After all, who decides? Using what criteria? The rewritten standards seem to be an attempt to appear neutral and not endorse specific organizations (AZA, ASA, TAOS, ACE) while codifying their definitions of what a "sanctuary" must be. This would still permit USDA people to take in rescues and essentially permits sanctuaries to continue to do so IF they meet "(v)"-whatever it means. If I had such a sanctuary (non-USDA, fully private, is described) then I would be very leery about taking in animals from out of state. There is a big joker in that deck as I have never seen a facility that nobody can criticize in some way that that criticism could turn into a violation of the Lacey Act, a notoriously bad law already. Note that the wording even excludes vets from having or transporting the covered animals UNLESS they are owned by one of the exempted entities. This means you can NOT have your animal treated out-of-state even if the vet is willing to do it. Need special surgery at that university in the next state? Tough! Kill it. It also is worded to forbid USDA licensed dealers brokering an animal for a non-licensed buyer or seller if the animal has to cross state lines. Other changes appear to have been made to allow for easy expansion to include other species later on. It is obvious that a great deal of thought has gone into this and that our objections have been heard and instead of inspiring abandonment of this bill have inspired attempts to wiggle around them and head us off. A great deal of work and money is obvious in this. This bill means a lot to the power-mad.

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 EXOTIC ACCESSIBLE, INCLUDING IN OUR NEWSLETTER INFORMATION FROM OUR E-LIST FOR MEMBERS THAT ARE CURRENTLY NOT ONLINE. ENJOY!
Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting  
February 28, 29, 2004  
'SOLUTIONS'

Hotel Accommodations:  
Plaza Hotel  
1 Main Street  
Las Vegas, NV.

For a 3 Night Stay, February 27, 28 & 29, 2004  
$174.00: Single (one person in room); private room; 3 night stay  
$ 89.00: Shared rate for room per person for 3 night stay (subject to availability)  
$178.00: Double occupancy rate for the private room for the 3 night stay

The above price (approximately $59 a night) includes; Hotel taxes, Transfers to and from airport, Bellman Gratuity (luggage taken to your room)

In order to get these room rates a deposit of $25.00 must be made within 7 days of the date of this posting to the travel agent. Then 45 days prior to arrival date (1/12/04), final payment must be made. Once reservation is made it IS nonrefundable unless you purchase insurance. Please speak to the travel agent concerning insurance if you are interested.

For those who plan to arrive earlier or stay longer, please let travel agent know. The hotel rate will be comparable to the above rates.

To reserve rooms, please call; Majestic Travel, ask for: Judy Shane, 1-850-934-3597  
Note: Please make reference to the Phoenix Exotics meeting at Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas. Any agent should be able to help you.

Entertainment Package:

$103.00: per person  
$98.00 : each, 2 or more  
$95.00: 2 or more registering and paying in full before December 31, 2003  
$92.00: 2 or more registering and paying in full before December 20, 2003  
****Package Special for 2 if paid in full before December 20, 2003;  
Package price for 2:$184.00  
Add the Chinese Dinner Buffet Saturday night to your package for free ($21.00 value!)

Saturday February 28:  
- Breakfast Buffet  
- Free Phoenix Meeting, Guest speakers...Q&A  
- Coffee/danish  
- Lunch on own  
The afternoon will be free time to go enjoy some of the Las Vegas sights or gather together to further discuss "Solutions". There is a public trolley and bus for transportation to the Vegas strip where one can enjoy the sight of Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden, MGM Lions, Treasure Island and so much more!  
- Chinese Dinner Buffet (Included in package for 2 that pay in full before December 20, 2003)  
- Dirk Arthur's, "The Magic of Art" show with his tigers.  
After show, all are on their own walk and watch the "Fremont Street Experience". 
Sunday, February 29:
- Main Street Station Breakfast Brunch
- Private Gray Line bus w/ facilities
- Zoological and Botanical Park (40 endangered species of all sorts)
- Lunch Buffet at Sam's Town Restaurant Stop at Hoover Dam
- Private viewing at Johnathon Kraft's, "Keepers of the Wild"
Return to hotel, Dinner and evening on own

Note: The Phoenix Entertainment package is separate from the Plaza Hotel package.

The payment for the Phoenix Exotic Entertainment Package will be made to:

Phoenix Exotic Entertainment Package
% Phoenix Exotics Wildlife Assoc.
P.O. Box 1132
Chehalis, WA 98532

Check or money order accepted at above address. If you want to send money or pay by credit card, go to Paypal online, send payment to:
state payment for Phoenix Exotic Entertainment Package

For further assistance, questions or information:
ed-mail or call:

Jeanne Hall, President            Cathy Spohrer-Freeman
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Hope to see you all there!!
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Upcoming Conference in Las Vegas
- OSHA gets into exotic keeping
- Phoenix Exotic's Membership Statistics

TO:

Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Assoc. Annual Meeting
Feb 28-29, 2004