In Loving Memory...

Jimmy

2001-2004
(A Washington Not-For-Profit Corporation)

Welcome from President - Jeanne Hall

My name is Jeanne Hall, I am the President of Phoenix Exotic and would like to brief you on what to expect in our monthly newsletters. The newsletter is for our members who do not have convenient access to our website. We want to reach out and make Phoenix Exotic accessible, including in our newsletter information from our e-list for members who are currently not online. Enjoy!

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 Association is 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.”

Phoenix Exotics E-List contained 526 posts in February. 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.

Please note: Please visit the archive section of the Yahoo E-list for many more articles, posts and replies.

Letter From Editor - Rhonda Kiker

WELCOME!

This newsletter is a derivative of the articles and posts from the Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, Inc. E-List. (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Phoenix_Exotics/) Many thanks to the members for their contributions. Any published submissions have been granted prior permission for publication. Should you feel that your views have not been properly represented, please email, General@PhoenixExotics.Org or President@PhoenixExotics.Org, or you may write a letter to the address below. Please be descriptive as to which article and please reference “Volume Number” and “Issue Number”, located on the front of the newsletter. If you wish to see any of our past copies of the newsletters, you may go to website, http://www.PhoenixExotics.org/

Our thanks goes to the “Associated Press” for granting a non-exclusive license to reprint materials online for the purpose of this newsletter. Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, Inc., membership fee is only $10.00/annually. A check or money order can be mailed along with any inquiries you may have.

Membership & Membership Renewal Form

Name(s) __________________________ Phone __________________________ Dues ________ x $10 ________
Mailing Address __________________________________________________________
E-Mail Address __________________________________________________________

I would like to join and support the Phoenix Wildlife Association. I understand that dues are for membership only and non-refundable.

Signature____________________ Second Signature __________________________

Please enclose check or money order.
Mail to Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, PO Box 1132 Chehalis, WA 98532
Now available on Amazon!!!!

Now available online at http://www.Amazon.com with a beautiful glossy, color soft cover!

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. 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 voice:

LISTEN!

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

1 Copy $8.00
5 Copies $32.00
10 Copies $48.00
50 Copies $200.00

(Please include $2.95 for shipping/handling charges)

Send Check or Money Order to:
Phoenix Exotics
Wildlife Association
PO Box 1132
Chehalis, WA 98532

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P L E A S E   N O T E   ! ! ! ! ! !
********************************************
Prices have not changed if you purchase directly from Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association. Bulk rates remain the same. This is a great deal for the price. Definitely take advantage of the savings so you can share this treasure with friends and colleagues!

2004 Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting DVD and/or VHS

I would like to announce that the long awaited DVD master copy has arrived of the 2004 Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting that was held at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting is available in DVD or VHS format. This has turned out terrific and is 4 1/2 hours long! The DVD and VHS case is beautifully done with the Phoenix Exotic Logo, the theme of the meeting is "SOLUTIONS" and where the meeting was held, nicely done!! A "Wanna get this" for sure!! For all those that want to order a DVD( 2 discs) or VHS ( 2 tapes for better quality) we have tried to keep the cost to a minimal and as close to cost as possible. We are only sending in orders of 10 or more at a time in order to help keep the cost down.

To order :

DVD's: $19.95 + $4.95 for shipping and handling
VHS: $25.95 + $4.95 shipping and handling
(check or money order)

Payment can be made to:
Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association
P O Box 1132
Chehalis, WA 98532
OR
http://www.paypal.com
payable to :President@PhoenixExotics.org

*note:please add $2.00 extra if ordering through paypal for paypal fees.

Please include:
Name and address
Number of copies
Amount sent
e-mail address or telephone number in the event we need to get in touch with you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at cathspohrer@metrocast.net
Cathy Freeman-Spohrer
Secretary, Phoenix Exotics
A snow leopard that had been missing for over a week was captured in good health near a rabbit farm in Bullitt County on Tuesday. “He’s back home, penned up again,” says Mark Marraccini, spokesman for the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Department. “Kentucky no longer has its free range snow leopard.” The leopard escaped when he was startled and broke from a pen. The owner has since taken custody of the animal and moved it to his home. The cat’s name is “Magic,” but the search was anything but magical – ten days of fruitless searches and false leads, but a break came early Wednesday morning when a resident spotted the snow leopard and called police. Police called owner Tim Peveler, who spotted Magic strolling along a fence line. I shot at him with a dart, it went over his head and he looked up and heard it. And after that, I dropped the gun, went and grabbed him, sat down and had a bone with me, called Myra, Myra come up, we got him in. Everybody’s been great. “I was ecstatic,” says Officer Myra Minton. “I’m glad that it’s safely back at Mr. Peveler’s residence at this time.”

someone simply saying, "You didn't feed enough calcium in the first place." But then again that would have been so anti-climatic. Remember kids ... the world is a dangerous place and everyone is an expert so be careful out there. I Hope This Helps ... Keep Looking Up Doc

UP FOR DISCUSSION.........

WHAT TO SAY?

Submitted by (durlslswen)

MonAug23,2004

Hi, although I do not own many wild/exotic animals and I will probably never get into owning the larger types, I do support their responsible ownership. Many people though who I have run across are very opposed to the idea of keeping a wild/exotic animal as a pet. They feel that the animal deserves to be wild, that even when raised in captivity "their wild instincts will never go away and no wild animal can ever be truly happy in captivity." What do you all usually say to people who think this way? ~Seij

RESPONSES........

Submitted by (cathspohrer) Mon Aug 23, 2004

I for one consider myself my exotic's caregiver and protector. Born into captivity, they can not be returned to the "so called wild, what little is left of it". My goal in life is to be able to enhance their life with all that is needed to enrich it, preserve it and have a life of happy and fulfilling existence. Cathy

Submitted by (cheetahtu) Mon Aug 23, 2004

Hello, I tell people like this that there is no wild for these animals to be put back to. They are hunted and killed for their pelts and body parts in the wild. They have to fight for their food, etc., I feel so sorry for these animals and I do have exotics. I have owned them for the past 50 years. They get their food every day and I get their love. When they are ill I take them to the Vets. They live many more years of life in captivity then they ever could in the wild. Is it quite common for people opposed to exotic animal ownership to tell you that the reason wild animals shouldn't be kept as pets is because "they deserve to be in the wild where they belong"? Jan G.

Submitted by (gleisser) Tue Aug 24, 2004

First define "PET". I consider my animals my family but I call them Pets. Why? Because the word "PET" implies ownership. SO, everyone aghast hang on. If they are NOT your property they can be taken from you. Think not? With the laws being passed your companion can be made a ward of the government - to do what they see fit with it. Calling your companion a pet does not lesson your relationship with it - it just helps to define that it belongs to you - LEGALLY. Sure, call them anything you like with your family but it had better be a pet when the government is making laws. You can treat them just like your kids - leave them in your will but get used to the word pet - if you don't own them, then WHO DOES?

Submitted by Tim Stoffel Tue Aug 24, 2004

The other thing to consider is that few of these AR people have any experience with these animals. They do not know the deep love a lion can express. They are also not aware of what can and cannot trigger aggressive behavior in a big cat. They just assume they are killing machines that can think of nothing else but warm blood. They have never see the lions we know that come up for a rub before sitting down to their meal. They never see the lions who want long, deep mane scratches. They never see the lions that are sad when you have to go away. They never see the lions that drag people out of fires. They never see the young lions that snuggle so wonderfully at bedtime! For the lions, Tim Stoffel
In addition to the information Lynn will be posting, Phoenix can assist with a packet of information on dealing with legislation. Please contact our Establishment Executive Secretary, Vicki Windland, she can provide you with this packet of examples. Here in Washington we have been active in contacting the State Legislators and local government officials. Some of the guidelines we use are:

- Connect up and share with others what has worked, what hasn't and what you have submitted as written reports and letters.
- Write letters and make phone calls!!! Your elected representatives cannot properly represent you if you don't speak up. As you write letters and make calls you will get better and better.
- Be courteous, factual and helpful. Don't attack or tell the legislator what an idiot s/he is. Be helpful to the legislators. Provide enough written copies of your statement to the clerk for each committee member (usually a minimum of 10)
- We have also been giving out a copy of the Phoenix Book (Friendly Felines, Responsible Ownership Series #1) to each of the committee members. This means we are handing them out in batches of 10. We have had excellent feed back on the book and even been asked for extras. One or more of the folks attending the hearing purchases these to hand to the legislators. The books are deeply discounted in batches of 10.
- The Phoenix jacket in a bright Goldenrod with the Logo on back and front has helped us have greater presence at hearings. The jackets are LOUD and a few sprinkled around the room give us a "big" look. Other groups also have insignia clothing. Wear the Phoenix jackets and t's or the insignia of another group to increase your standing. Include the website in your written submissions. If you are attending as a Phoenix member, include the Phoenix site. As a Herpological member, Simian Society etc, wear insignia and include websites and contact information.
- Find out when your local city, county and state meetings are held. Ask for an agenda or call in on a regular basis to stay on top of what is occurring in your area.
- Connect up with other concerned folks and groups, share your results, help others, keep working on it and getting better and better!

Most of us here don't have a lot of money to hire lobbyists or mount PR campaigns. We spend it all on animals and causes. Most are not professional politicians. Few of us have the time to run around to these hearings, most don't have the least interest in getting political. Many of us live out in the boonies away from lots of people. But, we do have passion. We do have voices. We have telephones, faxes, stamps, envelopes and like minded individuals – right here. To protect our rights to Legal, Responsible Private Ownership we can either start setting aside our funds to hire a Lobbyist– one good, professional, outstanding and expensive voice for our cause...or we can put those dollars and cents to work right this instant and do the speaking ourselves. We are not pros, but we can learn to be very, very good. We are not the only group speaking out. Going to hearings is an excellent way to connect up with other local and national groups too. Phoenix is a working group. The members on this list work to help one another. And we have fun too! :) Jeanne
Greetings, This is to remind everyone that the Phoenix Peer review checklists will become available officially the end of this month on August 30th. The checklist system will be a way to self-evaluate one's ability to own exotic animals. Also if you wish, you can have the Phoenix peer review committee review your checklist submission and make recommendations about your current operation or future plans to own exotics.

Barry Needleman

Checklist Frequently Asked Questions:

Q How do I sign up for the checklists?
A When the checklist system is available I will post a link here and a link on the Phoenix web site. There will be a simple sign up form on the checklist page to grant access to the checklists. You will then be able to access any of the checklists on the system.

Q Is there a charge to use the checklists?
A This service is free of charge.

Q Must you be a member of Phoenix Exotics Wildlife Association to use the checklists?
A The checklists are available to anyone who is interested in the proper care of exotic animals.

Q Will my submission be available to the public?
A No, all submissions are strictly confidential and will not be made available to the public.

Q What type of checklists will be available?
A Currently we have 5 checklists available, three lists covering general care and two species specific lists so far (tiger, cougar).

Q Will new checklists be added to the system?
A Absolutely! In fact we are looking for people with species expertise to volunteer creating checklists. If you are interested in helping out please e-mail me.

Q What else is the Phoenix Peer review committee doing?
A This fall we will be introducing the Phoenix Exotic Photo inspection and certification program. More details will be available as we get closer to the release date.
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Metabolic Bone Disease
- Centralia, WA Exotic Ordinance
- KY: Escaped Snow Leopard Found!

Coming Next Month

It’s almost here again! First information announcing the 2005 Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting in Las Vegas!

TO: