Bathing in the evening sun is 2 and 1/2 years old, Teeghkii. He is owned by Kat Mills.
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 upcoming newsletters. The newsletter is an avenue to reach our members who do not have convenient access to our website. We are reaching out to 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, 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 832 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
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  

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

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

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

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!  

NOW AVAILABLE ON AMAZON!!!!

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

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  

PLEASE NOTE!!!!

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Phoenix Exotics Wildlife Association  
Responsible Ownership Series #1  

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

(Please include $2.95 for shipping/handling charges)
2004 Meeting Reviews from Attendees

2004 Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting
Submitted by Cathy Sphorer Thu Mar 4, 2004
I would like to take a moment and let everyone know how pleased and wonderful the Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting, February 28, 29, turned out. Las Vegas was great! We had a large turn out from people all over the country! The theme of the Phoenix Meeting was "Solutions". Many ideas and comments were made in regards to "Solutions" for the future concern of exotics. Cats, wolves and any other exotics. Phoenix Exotics had some extremely high profile guest speakers; Vernon Weir, American Sanctuary Association, Brian Werner, Missing Tiger Link Foundation, Jonathan Kraft, Keepers of the Wild, Sue Cranston, Indigo Mountain Nature Center, Robert Gibbons, USDA Western Animal Care, Dr. Gary Pusillo, Apperton Inc., Kat Mills, Wolf Alliance, Barry Needleman, Animal Science major, Lee Corbridge, DVM, All Critters Veterinarian, Larry Wallach, Animal Activist, and Tim Stoffel, Study of African Lions. It was felt by people attending the Phoenix Exotic meeting that after discussion with the guest speakers, all parties involved, including the guest speakers, feel that working together can and will happen. It all depends on us, the responsible private owner, coming forward to the necessary agencies and begin to work with them. They are willing to work with us. Now is the time to begin this work for the benefit of the responsible private owner and the life of the exotic. "Solutions" began at the Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting, now we ALL need to continue through the "Open Door" that has been given us. Currently we are dealing with high media attention as well as many states and our government pushing exotic ban bills. We must continue to fight these issues to the last straw for the responsible private owner for he may be one of the few to help preserve many exotic species. At the same time, now we have the opportunity to begin working together with many agencies. Don't let it slip through our fingers!! All of us: Now is the time to start a process of working together with those that have opposed us! Plans are already underway for next years Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting, with many more great guest speakers, updates on any progress made in approaching and working with the agencies involved willing to meet us half way. Of course, great fun will also be had during the days of the next Phoenix Meeting!! To all of you, A Big Thank you. Cathryn Freeman-Spohrer, Secretary, Phoenix Exotics

Personal PE Annual Meeting Report
Submitted by Sara Schimke Mon Mar 8, 2004
Aside from the exiting, interesting, and somewhat scary OT experiences my hubby and I had in regards to our first time in Vegas and traveling by air, the PE folks that attended, speakers, meeting, entertainment package, etc. were GREAT!!! The variety of speakers was phenomenal and to see them all in the same room and being civil was amazing to witness, IMHO. Everyone attended for one reason or another, but all seemed much focused on the topic of "Solutions". The speakers were interesting, informational, even entertaining and funny at times, and did a SUPER job!!! Sadly, we missed Dirk Arthur's show but I heard it was wonderful. (And adding a side note from meeting Penn&Teller after their show, I DID get somewhat related inside news from Penn that one of their new and upcoming topics on their Bull's**t show on Showtime cable will be none other than "PeTA". I'm not sure if it will be aired on April 1st or if they are filming it then, dunno. But I'll be sure to watch. Our trip to the Las Vegas Zoo and Keepers of The Wild sanctuary on Sunday was awesome. The zoo was small and a "on your own" kind of touring. I was happy to see a couple of ravens, golden eagles, cute cockatoos, and many other species (including a couple of lions). At Jonathan Kraft's I was impressed with his hospitality and it was a wonderful experience. He took the time to give us a personalized tour of his facility, telling us about the animals, training, safety, his big plans, and going in and interacting with some of the cats that reside there. His staff/volunteers were very helpful and friendly as well. They all did a great job! The trip across the Hoover Dam was really neat, too. Through meeting others that share similar views and/or interests (regardless of where they are from), it can only prove to be helpful and beneficial in the future for self, others, and animals alike. ~Wolfen (aka: Sara S.)

Subject: We're HOME!
Submitted by Robin Taylor Tue Mar 2, 2004
Hi All, We just got in safe & sound from the annual meeting in Las Vegas - all I can say is - WOW! First I need to thank some very special people - because without them we could not have had this hard working, yet joyful event. To Jeannine & Zuzana - thank you for being there for us all - without you two this organization would still be a dream, you guys took that vision and focused it into the solid foundation we have today, THANK YOU !! To Cathy Sporher - Thank you for all of your hard work & effort- it certainly showed how much you did for us to all enjoy the time of our lives with all the events scheduled in the Phoenix Exotics Entertainment Package as well the overall convention/meeting we had. We owe you a big debt of gratitude for your labor, labor of love I could tell - you did an ace job for us all, and we appreciate it! To ALL the guest speakers that came & spoke, as well as the presenters that set up informational booths/displays - you guys were ALL awesome- the list is so tremendous, the information so well put together and presented - we all gained an awful lot from it all - I know I learned so many tips - it was wonderful! To all the people from this list that I finally got to meet in person, as well as the ones I already knew I loved - it was a great opportunity (I hope to see you all in FL in June for the LIOC convention) to meet the new people, and see my best friends - we had a blast. Not only did we come together, and not everyone there was on the same side of the fence too I might add, but I truly believe we did a lot of brainstorming and co-working and in my heart of hearts I know together we will work out some solutions, in the end it was well worth traveling across country to be there, we're glad we didn't miss it this year! It was awesome to be there - the positive flow and cooperation was rampant in the room - and I just wanted to thank everyone involved for such a great time. hugas to all, Robin (and Doc)
EDITOR’S NOTE: THE FOLLOWING IS COMMUNICATION ON-LIST POSTS AND RESPONSES.

Need Sanctuary Information
Submitted by Colby (cbhardison@yahoo.com) Sat Mar 13, 2004
When I graduate from college, I want to start an exotic animal sanctuary, and I need some information. I've e-mailed the USDA several times, but they've never sent any replies. I was hoping that someone here would know what permits were needed. Any input would be a big help. Please reply.

Need Sanctuary Information
Submitted by Ray (rune.raion) Sun Mar 14, 2004
The permits you would need vary from state to state. If you run a true sanctuary (501 C 3, no breeding, no exhibiting, etc.) you will not need a federal license (USDA) under recent legislation. Your state may require something though and may even insist you _must_ be USDA to operate there. That would mean you would _have_ to conduct some form of business to qualify. Exhibition, probably. You are also subject to county and township restrictions as well as zoning problems so make sure all of these are investigated before buying any land or building any enclosures. People here can fill you in on state requirements if you tell them what state you plan to open in. Good luck. Ray

Minneasota: Exotic Animals Bill Passes First House Committee
Submitted (saraserval) Tue Mar 9, 2004
Exotic Animals Bill Passes First House Committee, A watered-down bill to better regulate exotic animals in Minnesota got past its first House committee Monday, but still has a long way to go. The proposal would require businesses and people who own exotic animals such as tigers, monkeys and bears to be licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or the state Board of Animal Health. Anyone who possesses a regulated animal would be required to have a tranquilizer gun or other equipment to help capture an exotic animal that may get loose. Representative Steve Strachan of Farmington sponsors the bill. He had wanted more strict controls, such as not allowing new people to buy the animals as pets and allowing existing pet owners to only replace the animals once if they die. Strachan says he'll likely push for such restrictions in upcoming hearings. (Copyright 2004 by The Associated Press.)

Peer Review Checklists
Submitted by Barry Thu Mar 11, 2004
Greetings Everyone, I'd like to announce that the Alpha version of the Phoenix Peer review checklists are available to checkout at the following URL; http://www.furville.com/phoenix. Any and all comments would be greatly appreciated. We also need volunteers to put together species specific checklists. One would not need to do any html coding, all one would need to do is send me the list of statements and I'll take care of the rest. So, if you are experienced with >any< exotic species, this is a great way to share that knowledge. For those of you that are not familiar with our the Peer Certification project, it is a system we are developing to help promote top quality exotic care. This system will also provide >one< of the ways to fight the objections of the public and officials to unskilled owners by showing we are proactive in regulating ourselves. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me offline at; pcert@a... Thanks! Barry Needleman

Editor’s Note: For members who do not have access to the online content, you may request this information by writing to Phoenix Exotics Wildlife Association, PO Box 1132, Chehalis, WA 98532.
Subject: Organizational structure
Submitted by Jeanne Hall Mon Mar 15, 2004

The Organizational Chart I posted about last month has been prepared and gotten into use. It is available for all members to view in the files section of this list. The flow of the thing is fairly easy to see, but to clarify a little, the organization is headed by a corporate board. There are three Corp officers - President, Vice President and Secretary and two additional Officers - Ethics Officer and Membership Officer.

There is an advisory board of these five and others who are working on issues. The rest of the organization is divided into 6 divisions. The first two are directly under one Executive Officer and the other four are under another Executive Officer. Neither of these Executive Officer positions are filled at this time. The President is managing the first two Divisions and the Secretary is in charge of the other four. We have made some personnel assignments -

**Corporate Officers:**
- Pres - Jeanne Hall
- VP - Zuzana Kukol
- Sec - Cathy Freeman Spohrer
- EO - Dave Coleburn
- MO - John Lussmyer

**Divisions:**
- Director of Human Resources - Vicki Windland Taraska
- Director of Marketing - Rhonda Kiker
- Treasurer - John Kaelin
- Director of Operations - open at this time
- Director of Quality Assurance - open at this time
- Director of Public Relations - open at this time

Within these Divisions - Under Human Resources, there are two Departments. The Executive Department contains the offices of all executives and the Special Projects Section. Anyone working on special projects or available for work on a moment’s notice to help out on such things can be assigned to the Special Projects section directly under the President. The Establishment Department deals with any actions necessary to the Establishment of the organization - Personnel, communication and communication systems, Legislative/legal issues etc. Under Marketing, everything relating to Distribution, promotion, publication has been assigned to one Department. Under Finance, all matters dealing with money have been assigned to one Department. Under Operations, each major area we are working on will receive its own Department.

**Departments At present:**
- Annual Meeting, In Charge not assigned, staff available are Tony Spohrer, Tim Stoffel and Joanne Ellerbrock
- Peer Accreditation, In Charge is Barry Needleman
- Other Projects, In Charge not assigned. This Department is where any start-up projects will go.

We have one project in development which Nathan Wheelock is working on. It is an educational program, but it has not been drawn up and gone thru board approval. When it does, it will have its own Department. In Quality Assurance, we have put all the functions in one Department. Dave Coleburn has been assigned as the Chaplain. In Public Relations, all functions have been put into one department. Guestbook management has been covered by Leona Guthrie, currently on leave. The free elist is a function of this Department, but has not been assigned an In-Charge.

- Domain management is done by Peter Kukol
- Website management is done by Chris Brown
- Picture management for the website is done by Tom
- Membership Services - Jackie Klakken In Charge

Anyone interested in taking on a job can get with me or with Vicki directly. And, if I have left anyone off the list of assignments I apologize. As we assign new folks, the posts will reference the spot on the organizing board where they belong. And, of course, as we expand the organizing chart, changes will be reflected on copies of the chart in the file section. Welcome to post all you folks! :) J, Pres

Editors Note: On the following page is a current version of the “Org Board” or a chart of the current organizational structure.
# Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association Organization

## Executive Director
Joanne Hall

## Corporate Board

### ESTABLISHMENT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Vicki Winland Taraska

### ORGANIZATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Cathy Freeman Sphorer

## Advisory Board

## Marketing

### Director
Rhonda Kiker

### Marketing Director
Rhonda Kiker

### Treasurer
John Kaelin

### Operations Director

#### Annual Meeting
- Staff Member: Tony Spohrer
- Project in Charge: Barry Needelman
- Printer Liaison: Chris Brown

#### Peer Accreditation
- Staff Member: Tim Stoffel
- Editor: David Witts
- First Editions: Joanne Ellerbrock

#### Operations
- Small Cats: Lois Lenz
- Assistant Editors: Priscilla Lussmyer
- Research: David Witts
- Preparation: John Lussmyer
- Compilation: Chris Brown
- Big Cats
- Herps
- Simian
- Nancy
- Wolves/Dogs
- Kat
- Assistant-Dianne

### Second Editions

## Quality Assurance

### Director of QA

## Public Relations

### Director of Public Relations

### PUBLIC CONTACT
- Guest Book: Leona Guthrie
- Free E-list:

## Public Services

### MEMBER SERVICES
- Jackie Klakken

### TROUBLESHOOTER

### CERTIFICATIONS

---

### Website

#### Domain Manager
- Peter Kukol

#### Webmaster
- Dave Holt

#### Picture Manager
- Tom

### Communications

#### Media Liaison
- Joanne Ellerbrock

### Treasury

## Operations

### INCOME
- Staff Member: Tony Spohrer
- Project in Charge: Barry Needelman
- Printer Liaison: Chris Brown

### Disbursements
- Staff Member: Tim Stoffel
- Editor: David Witts
- First Editions: Joanne Ellerbrock

### Records
- Small Cats: Lois Lenz
- Assistant Editors: Priscilla Lussmyer
- Research: David Witts
- Preparation: John Lussmyer
- Compilation: Chris Brown
- Big Cats
- Herps
- Simian
- Nancy
- Wolves/Dogs
- Kat
- Assistant-Dianne

### Second Editions

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### Establishes the Organization
- Markets the Organization
- Handles Financial Matters

### Organizational Matters
- Operational
- Production

### Ensures Quality Production

### Contacts & Services
- The Public
Highlighted In This Issue:

- 2004 Meeting Reviews from Attendees.
- Annual Meeting DVD/VHS
- Organizational Structure