Clark (left), is a 12 year old Vervet who simply enjoys having his chest and back groomed for hours. SammyJo (below) is 18 years old. They have lived together for 7 years and belong to Bennie and Karline Elder.

Their favorite fruit is bananas and their favorite veggie is sweet potatoes. SammyJo loves to play with her “stuffed duck”. She throws it up, catches it and gives it gentle hugs! We are told that this pair are a joy to have and it isn’t difficult to see why!
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 536 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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PLEASE NOTE!!!!
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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

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
PHOENIX EXOTIC ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT!

'TIME FLIES WHEN WE HAD SO MANY FABULOUS GUEST SPEAKERS AND FUN AT THE PHOENIX EXOTIC ANNUAL MEETING THIS PAST FEBRUARY 2004. PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR AN EVEN GREATER PHOENIX EXOTIC ANNUAL MEETING FOR THIS UPCOMING FEBRUARY 25 & 26, 2005. PHOENIX IS PLANNING SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT FOR THIS UPCOMING MEETING AND WILL ALLOW SOME GREAT GUEST SPEAKERS TO ADDRESS SOLUTIONS 2005 AND LEAVE PLENTY OF TIME FOR QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ALONG WITH TIME FOR ALL TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER AND TALK EXOTICS! THE MOST EXCITING PART OF THIS UPCOMING EVENT IS STILL TO COME! ANY AND ALL ATTENDEES AND GUEST SPEAKERS STAYING AT THE FACILITY HOSTING THE PHOENIX ANNUAL MEETING ARE ABLE TO BRING THE EXOTIC ANIMAL OF THEIR CHOOSING! YES FOLKS, THAT MEANS ATTENDEES CAN BRING FELINES, WOLFS, MONKEYS, REPTILES AND ANY OTHER EXOTIC! (SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY). NOW IS EVERYONE'S CHANCE TO NOT ONLY MINGLE WITH EXOTIC

OWNERS BUT BRING THEIR EXOTICS ALSO! SO PLAN ON COMING TO THE PHOENIX EXOTIC ANNUAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 25 & 26, 2005. AN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE VERY SHORTLY GIVING ALL THE DETAILS OF THIS EXCITING PHOENIX ANNUAL MEETING! (HINT: PHOENIX EXOTIC ANNUAL MEETING 2005 WILL STILL BE HELD IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA) LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS!

CATHY FREEMAN-SPOHNER
SECRETARY, PHOENIX EXOTICS

WA: COUGAR KITTENS MYSTERIOUSLY SHOW UP IN BACKYARD

Submitted by (Southzoo) Fri Sep 3, 2004

AP-DUVALL, Wash. — Three 6-week-old cougar kittens were found in a couple's backyard, and authorities have no idea how they ended up there. The kittens were found Aug. 21 behind the home of Steve Schroeder and Sheila MacDonald in this rural town. They took the little cougars to the animal welfare organization PAWS in Lynnwood the next day. There, the kittens are being fed by wildlife specialists working to prevent them from imprinting on humans. The kittens were weak, dehydrated and hungry when they were found, Fish and Wildlife Capt. Bill Hebner said. The kittens are being fed formula and some meat four times daily, said Kip Parker, PAWS wildlife director. They weighed 3 pounds each when found and now weigh 5 pounds each. As for the future, "obviously, rehabilitation or some other non-lethal option is our preferred option," Hebner said. "Euthanasia is our very, very last resort." A state decision on the kittens' future is expected in about a week.
Greetings Everyone, The Phoenix self-evaluation checklists are now available. The link to the lists can be found on the Phoenix Exotics main web site (http://www.PhoenixExotics.org). Note that you will need to register to use the system but, all information is strictly confidential. Right now we are not offering reviews of checklist submissions but we will soon. Also, we welcome any comments you may have about the checklists. Remember, this is your system to assist everyone in exotic animal care. If you would like to contribute a checklist to the system, please contact me.

Barry Needleman

Bad weather
Submitted by (ocelots) Thu Sep 9, 2004

When something is threatening & imminent is NOT the time to try to figure out what to do. Please, have crates/carriers READY for every animal in your household. Have the means READY to transport them - either friends/volunteers lined up way in advance that are on notice to help or a van/trailer you own. True, in some instances nothing is safe - but you should be able to crate your critters & put them in a safe space. They should not be left in flood plains, nor should they be left loose in a house during a hurricane. Windows blow, roofs come off. Shelters do not take animals even domestics. At the very least, a temporary solution (a day or two) should be planned for and then once the immediate threat has passed, you can cope and move animals to new quarters (that you have lined up in advance). Any out there that can shift critters to free up cage space for disaster victims? Even putting up barriers to cut cages in half temporarily might help someone. Look at your facility, could you take in a critter or two? If so, contact someone you know who might need your help & make the offer - IF you can go get the critter even better - you can deliver goods not available in the affected area. Unfortunately, the internet puts us in touch with more folks, but we know less about them than in the old days of face-to-face meets. Praying for everyone in harms way. H U G S , S h i r l

Sample legislative letters
Submitted by (bigcats10) Fri Sep 24, 2004

Hi Folks, For all of you that have written letters in the past to legislators or councilmen opposing exotic animal bans, please feel free to share these with Phoenix. We have an area on the web just for that purpose so that others may use if needed. So many of you have written outstanding letters which could be used to help another. Thanks to all of you for your dedication and hard work. Vicki
Wanted...Your exotic animal stories and photos for responsible private owner book series. Just to explain a bit about the Phoenix Exotic responsible private owner book series, our first book in this ever blossoming series and available now, is titled 'Friendly Felines-Small Exotic Cats We've Known and Loved'. It is a wonderful book compiled of owner stories and photos of how their exotic felines have enhanced their lives. Some stories are sad, some are happy and some are down right funny! It would be a wonderful addition to your library on exotic animals. It would also be a great addition to your local library's bookshelves, Vet offices, send one to your Legislators, and as gifts for family and friends as well. You can purchase this book either thru Amazon.com by doing a search for 'friendly felines' or you may also purchase directly thru Phoenix at bulk prices. The more we buy and get out amongst the public, the better to help educate them on our animals of choice! These books are designed specifically for distribution to the public. As we all know, as exotic owners, it can be difficult to get our views on exotic ownership out to the public. A happy story doesn't make the news but have a tragic story happen with an exotic and the media is all over it. Sad but true. So, we have taken those steps to get the word out about responsible ownership and why we have the animals we do! Phoenix has taken the steps to become an actual publisher, gotten the necessary registrations to allows these book to be carried on Amazon, in bookstores, placed on library shelves and other outlets. The books are very professional looking and are appealing to the eye! These are not money maker books for Phoenix. We have priced them low and produced in bulk so that we can hand them out all over. If you feel like you just are not that good of a story writer, I understand. Just look at this way, if someone were to ask you WHY do you have that animal, what would you tell them? These books are where you give that answer to let the public know why. If there is something you would like to share with the general public about your relationship and joy of sharing your life with an exotic, this is the forum to do so! Your stories do not need to be pages and pages long - a one page story is great too! So please, try not to feel so intimidated by me asking for you to write. I know I sit here and think "Wow, I don't know if I could write a story that book. What would I write about?" but there is plenty to write about. Tell about a funny incident that has happened with you and your pets. Tell about a scary incident that only brought you closer. Tell about a day-in-the-life of you and your pet. Tell it from your pet's perspective. Maybe tell why or how you came to have the exotics you do. That last one, why and how I came to have the exotics I do. Please rest assured that your identity is not revealed. With a number of books in production right now, our original publication dates are open to adjustment. We had planned to do the Big Cats then Herps, then Wolfdog/Canids, then monkeys, but we have changed that order to whichever one gets compiled first. For those of you who have other animals not listed here, we are planning to do book on these animals too: prairie dogs, birds, hoofstock, special farm animals, etc. So just because you don't have a wolfdog, monkey, reptile or big cat, please don't hesitate in sending in your stories as well. Stories on ALL of these animals are greatly appreciated. Come on and get your stories and pictures into us! High resolution pictures are needed for printing but low resolution pictures are fine to send with the story. Remember that this is your chance to speak to the public. Please don't let it slip by! If you would like to submit a story and photos for the Phoenix Responsible Private Owner Book Series, submit by either standard mail or by e-mail to: President, Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association Inc., PO Box 1132, Chehalis, WA 98532 OR Cathryn Freeman-Spohrer, Secretary-Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association Inc., 28 Hubbards Cove Rd., Shapleigh, ME 04076 OR Colette Talkington-Pfaehler, Book Project Coordinator-Phoenix Exotics Wildlife Assoc. Inc., 16310 Clear Creek Rd., NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370. Thank-you to everyone that has responded so far (of course I hope to hear from ALL members of Phoenix). Thank-you, Colette Talkington-Pfaehler Book Project Coordinator
SNCJ Spotlight— The WASHINGTON House passed House Bill 1151 this spring, which would have barred private possession of big cats, primates, bears and wolves, but it failed to get a vote in the full Senate after clearing the Rules Committee. Overall, 21 states ban or limit exotic pets, 14 states require a permit or license and 15 have no restrictions. There are also federal laws that seek to at least partially manage exotic animal ownership. The Lacey Act, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Public Health Service Act all regulate traffic of exotic animals into the U.S. or between states, and the Captive Wildlife Safety Act bars the interstate commerce of most big cats. Many local municipalities also have their own laws addressing exotic pet ownership. Most of these laws, however, do not regulate animals bred in the United States. Even with federal laws in place, enforcement remains difficult. Enforcement is always an issue of having an adequate number of officers, says Sandra Clevey of the U.S. Dept of Fish and Wildlife. There are only 263 (federal) officers to cover the entire country. That’s to enforce all animal laws, the ESA, everything. That’s pretty tough. But not everyone thinks more laws are the answer to exotic pet problems. Jeanne Hall, president of the Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association in Chehalis, Washington, a non-profit group that advocates for education and self-regulation among exotic pet owners, says laws that ban exotic pets are a violation of the constitutional rights of animal owners. This is an issue of property rights, Hall says. There is a constitutional right for citizens of this country to own property. Nicole Paquette, Director of Legal and Government Affairs for the Animal Protection Institute in Sacramento, which helped to write Washington’s HB 1151, agrees that some states have been hesitant to ban exotic pets because they view animals as personal property. But Paquette says such an interpretation is inherently flawed. I’ve read the constitution several times, Paquette says, And I’ve never seen where it says anyone has the right to own a lion or a primate. Hall says the real answer to exotic pet incidents is to address the specific problem in each attack rather than throwing down a blanket of legislation that affects every pet owner, and to require more education for owners before they are allowed to obtain an exotic pet. Take the man in Harlem, she says. That guy was illegal, illegal, illegal. You could have passed a billion laws and that particular situation would not have been changed. Using that occurrence to pass, say, a law banning bunnies from South Africa is absurd. Exotic pets are a lot like guns, Hall adds. Guns don’t kill people; people kill people. Hall says the majority of escapes and incidents also do not come from illegal ownership, but from legal sites approved and licensed by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Such was the case in July of this year when a 600-pound Siberian tiger escaped from its owner in Florida. The tiger was eventually destroyed by authorities after it lunged at an officer who had cornered it. It was the third incident for the tiger’s owner, who has a USDA permit for six large cats. But Hall also concedes it is impossible to truly tame a wild animal. By definition and biology, your regular house cat is not tame either, Hall says. By RICH EHISEN
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting Announcement!
- Self-evaluation Checklists now available!
- Jeanne Hall featured in Capitol Journal Article

- Get your animal stories in to us.