Meet Zeus! This big boy just turned 4 in December and he belongs to Phoenix member, Lea Juanakais. He loves to hug trees and his favorite toy is a white safari ball. Lea says he absolutely loves human attention and interaction, almost more than with other tigers. Easy to see why she refers to him as her big ol’ baby!
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 many posts in January. 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.

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Membership & Membership Renewal Form

Name(s) __________________________ Phone __________________________  Dues ______ x $10 ______
Mailing Address __________________________________________ Total enclosed: ______
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

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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!

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

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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:

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(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
**Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting**  
Submitted by (cathspohrer) Thu Jan 6, 2005

To all concerned; if you would like to have your business pamphlets, membership information or any other material displayed at the Phoenix Annual Meeting, please bring it with you to the meeting or you may mail it to Cathy Freeman, 29 Hubbard's Cove Road, Shapleigh, Maine 04076. I will bring them with me to the Phoenix Meeting for open display on a table set up expressly for this. If there are any questions please get in touch with me by calling 1-207-636-3785 or by e-mail at cathspohrer@metrocast.net. Thank you.

Cathy

**Media attention**  
Submitted by Jeanne Hall Tue Jan 4, 2005

Folks, I frequently get inquiries and requests from the media for this or that. For example, newspapers and publications such as the State Journal, the National Geographic Explorer, film companies and so on wanting to know about exotic pets. Sometimes it is just a little bit of info that they are looking for and sometimes an entire show is planned such as recently occurred with Landmark Films in the UK. Some of you probably also get requests. I seem to be getting a lot more requests recently. If you would be interested in being involved in news media filming, photographing or print story, could you please send me a private post? Right now, I am scratching my head on who has young animals that they are socializing. Awhile back I had a request for someone with bears and I only could think of one person, but I know there are a number of you out there. I need to get out more! Thanks for your help!

Jeanne

**Neb. Zoo Discovers Two Species of Lemurs**  
Submitted by (SouthZoo) Thu Jan 13, 2005

AP- OMAHA, Neb. - Researchers with the Henry Doorly Zoo have discovered two new species of lemurs, one of the most primitive and endangered primates in the world, the zoo announced Wednesday. Dr. Edward Lewis will describe his findings in a December issue of the International Journal of Primatology. Lewis may have discovered three other new species of lemurs - the world's smallest primate - but other scientists must confirm his suspicions first. These are the first new species ever discovered by the zoo, said its director, Dr. Lee G. Simmons. Lewis, head of the genetics department at the zoo's Grewcock Center for Conservation and Research, has been working with conservation agencies in Madagascar since 1998. The world's wild population of lemurs, which has about 70 species, is found solely on the island, in the Indian Ocean. Lewis' team has taken genetic samples from more than 1,800 lemurs and returned the animals to the wild, the zoo said. The two new species are found in different forest environments, one dry on the island's west coast and the other in a rain forest on the east coast. The species will be known as Lepilemur mitsinjonensis and Lepilemur seali. The discovery of any new species is significant, Simmons said, but finding two new species of primates is important to both science and conservation. Typically large universities make such discoveries, he said, so this raises the zoo's stature. "I think it simply means that it says we are players on a world class level," Simmons said.
Warning for owners in Dublin, OH
Submitted by Evelyn Shaw Fri Dec 17, 2004

I know that most of you will not like what I have to say but it has to be done for the safety of the animals. We (a group of us) have been working with Dublin City officials. Please be advised that it is illegal to own ANY exotic animals. They allow domestic cats and dogs, no exceptions. This law was passed in the 1980's. There is also a Franklin county ban. If you own exotics in this area you can contact me for further information. We have an agreement with the city that we will not release information on the owner or the whereabouts of the animal and they will not ask. We will assist them in any way possible. This law will be strictly enforced. We have been asked to pass this information on. If you need a copy of the law let me know. Please also be advised not to bring your animals to this area if you are traveling, visiting or working. City officials know about some of the illegal animals already so please do the right thing and remove them. Please also note we do not support broad bans but we must obey the law. We support responsible ownership! Evelyn

Phoenix Woman Had Lion, Bobcats at Home
Submitted by (southzoo) Sat Dec 18, 2004

AP - A Phoenix woman who kept a mountain lion and other wild animals in her home has been charged with child abuse and endangerment. Michelle Carole Gierke, 32, admitted keeping a mountain lion, two bobcats and an African serval at her west Phoenix home. She didn't have a state permit for the animals, and she sometimes left her small children alone with the animals. Gierke acknowledged to officers that if the animals had gotten out, they would have been a danger to her neighbors. Her home is just a block from a school.

Help build the online exotic cat vet listing
Submitted by Jessi Clark-White Fri Dec 31, 2004

Finding a good veterinarian can be difficult, so I'm adding a section on my website listing exotic feline vets. This directory is intended to help exotic feline owners locate veterinarians in their area. This list is in its infancy, but you can help it grow. If you have a good exotic feline vet, or if you are one yourself, please email me at jetflair@gmail.com with the contact information so it can be added to this listing. Taking the time to do this might save an exotic cat's life one day! The information I would like for each vet is:

Clinic Name:
Website: (optional)
Veterinarian's Name(s):
Address:
Phone Number:
Exotic Felines Treated:
Comments by referring party: (optional)
Referred By: (optional)

You can see the beginnings of the list at: http://www.africanserval.com/carevetlist.html

Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Book Series
Submitted by Colette Fri Dec 31, 2004

It's that time again, your favorite and friendly story gathering pest to ask for more stories! Remember, the annual meeting is a bit less then two months away and we are still in need of monkey stories as well as photos! Our goal is to have the book ready for purchase at the meeting but we can not attain this goal without your help! Stories on other exotic animals are also being accepted. So please, by no means think that just because you don't share your life with a monkey, we wouldn't like to have your stories and photos. We do! Come on people. Time to start to sharing stories about your exotic pet! As always, I look forward to seeing many stories and photos, filling up my e-mail inbox!

Colette
Tigers turn up when you least expect

Commentary by Tom Tomlinson
(With permission of The Charlotte Observer)

The tigers were right out there among us. Somebody called the police Saturday night, and unbelievably, the call was legit: two tigers, padding along the road between Cherryville and Kings Mountain. They're sisters, less than a year old, one close to 70 pounds, the other nearly 80. About the size of a couple of Labrador retrievers. (Grown female tigers can reach 350 pounds.) Turns out the road sits on the county line, and the tigers were found on opposite sides of the road. So of course the tigers had to be separated, one taken to Gaston County and the other to Cleveland County. (Bureaucracy. Lovely.) The N.C. Zoo took them in Tuesday, and they'll probably end up at a wildlife refuge in Pittsboro. They leave behind a couple of juicy mysteries. One's a simple question: How in the world did two tigers end up wandering a country road on a Saturday night? That mystery is for police. The other mystery is for the rest of us. We've all been warned about the dangers out there in the world. Every dark curve could be our downfall. Every patch of woods could be the lair of a beast. Tigers waiting everywhere. So, in a hundred different ways, most of us play it safe. We take the stable job. We buy the practical car. We wear sensible clothes and don’t dance in public and never have an extra glass of wine. We can pull out the charts and the actuarial tables and justify every decision, yep, this is how to pack your life securely so you make it through undamaged. And all the time the clock is running down. There’s no doubt that the world can hurt us. Global disasters like the tsunami. National events like the train wreck in South Carolina. Local troubles -- a murder across town, a break-in on your street. And of course the small but profound pain of a fight with the kids or a loveless home. Sometimes it all adds up in your head and you want to turn the lights off and curl up on the floor in a ball. Here’s what we forget: People figure out a way to survive even the worst failures. Every day companies go under, couples divorce, grand plans of all kinds run into walls. Terrible things happen. And yet we move on. You don't have to go up and smack the tigers in the face. But to hide from them entirely is to hide from our humanity -- pushing forward, taking risks, being willing to fail. Tigers are dangerous. A full-grown tiger can kill you with a single swat. They're also rare -- worldwide, only about 7,000 left in the wild. Of course, they're even rarer on N.C. 216 on a Saturday night, which makes the whole thing news. It's a bizarre event, two tigers wandering around on a country road. It's the kind of thing that can freak a person out, if you let it. The police were wary when they answered the call. But when they found the tigers, it wasn't hard to snare them. It turns out they were tame.

Tommy Tomlinson Reach Tommy: (704) 358-5227; P.O. Box 30308, Charlotte, NC 28230 http://www.charlotte.com/mld/observer/news/local/10623430.htm

Legislative issues and alerts
Submitted by Jeanne Hall Sat Jan 8, 2005

Legislative bodies are returning to session around the nation. And, there are a number of state legislative groups in existence, such as the one recently announced on list for Florida. Members who are heading up these state wide legislative groups are to be highly commended! Good to see! Keep in mind the rest of the list is available to help in your efforts too. We also have the PE Alerts list available for issues not covered by a state group or in addition to such groups. Working together, we CAN make a difference! Jeanne
NY: Harlem's Tiger Man wants to open zoo
Submitted by (southzoo) Fri Dec 24, 2004

AP -- A Harlem man sentenced to five months in jail after pleading guilty to keeping a tiger and an alligator in his apartment was released early from Rikers Island on Thursday. Antoine Yates, 36, said he was freed around 6 a.m. after serving about 3 1/2 months as a result of his guilty plea in July to reckless endangerment. He said the shortened term reflected time off for good behavior. Yates said that he spent his jail time studying and working out physically and that he plans to apply for a job at the Bronx Zoo. "I would like to further my education by studying animal science and would like one day to open my own zoo," he said. Yates, dubbed the Tiger Man after his widely publicized arrest, said he has finished 500 pages of a book about his experiences and hopes they will be the basis of a documentary movie script. He was arrested Oct. 4, 2003, at a hospital in Philadelphia, where he had gone for treatment of a deep bite on his right leg. The bite had been inflicted by his 400-pound, 2-year-old orange and white Siberian-Bengal tiger, Ming. Police removed the tiger and an alligator, Al, from Yates' apartment in the Drew Hamilton Houses in East Harlem. The tiger was sent to an animal sanctuary, Noah's Lost Ark, in Berlin, Ohio. The alligator is at an animal sanctuary in Indiana. After Yates pleaded guilty, state Supreme Court Justice Budd Goodman sentenced him in October to five months in jail and five years probation. The judge told him to get a job and not to keep wild animals. Yates reports to a probation officer twice a month. He said he would try to get his probation term and the prohibition against keeping animals lifted. "I'm going to try to get my tiger and my alligator back," he said. "My tiger, Ming, he's my heart."

Did animals sense tsunami?
Submitted by (cougar time) Wed Dec 29, 2004

COLOMBO (Reuters) - Sri Lankan wildlife officials are stunned -- the worst tsunami in memory has killed around 22,000 people along the Indian Ocean island's coast, but they can't find any dead animals. Giant waves washed floodwaters up to 2 miles inland at Yala National Park in the ravaged southeast, Sri Lanka's biggest wildlife reserve and home to hundreds of wild elephants and several leopards. "The strange thing is we haven't recorded any dead animals," H.D. Ratnayake, deputy director of the national Wildlife Department, told Reuters on Wednesday. "No elephants are dead, not even a dead hare or rabbit," he added. "I think animals can sense disaster. They have a sixth sense. They know when things are happening." At least 40 tourists, including nine Japanese, were drowned. The tsunami was triggered by an earthquake in the Indian Ocean on Sunday, which sent waves up to 5-metres high crashing onto Sri Lanka's southern, eastern and northern seaboard, flooding whole towns and villages, destroying hotels and causing widespread destruction. http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story2&u=/nm/20041229/od_uk_nm/

New Year's Wishes!
Submitted by (phoenix president) Fri Dec 31, 2004

The new year is nearly upon us. A time for reflection on the year just past. While we are continuously bombarded with bad news, bans and reasons to despair or give up, please keep in mind that positives also exist. Many here have faced challenges and difficulties and come through. Some are still facing and dealing with hardships. I wish all a New Year in which they flourish and prosper! The legislative year also begins soon, bringing new challenges. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year as we face these challenges! Jeanne
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Commentary by Tom Tomlinson
- Did Animals Sense Tsunami?
- Harlem’s Tiger Man wants to open zoo

- Get your animal stories in to us.