Phoenix member Robin Taylor Corbridge’s beautiful cougar, Cindy.
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

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 ________________________________________________ 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 __________________________________
(A Washington Not-For-Profit Corporation)

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 second in a series of books on Responsible Ownership of Exotic Animals. This book is 144 pages long with photos and illustrations. Presenting real life tales of Monkeys 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.

Real life owners with real Monkeys in their families, including published authors, Board members, politicians, medical and mental health professionals and owners who have been involved with Monkeys for many years, have created a must read. Now, in their own words, exotic owners speak out.

This book gives them voice:

LISTEN!

1 Copy $9.00
5 Copies $38.00
10 Copies $58.00
50 Copies $240.00

(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!!!!

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!

2006 Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting DVD and/or VHS

I would like to announce that the long awaited DVD master copy has arrived of the 2006 Phoenix Exotic Annual Meeting that was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting is available in DVD or VHS format. This has turned out terrific and is 9 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:
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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
FL: It's OK. They belong to the state
Submitted by (rrooney) Mon May 15, 2006

What if states were held to the same standards as the people? What recourse do the victim's families have?

(AP) Florida had seen just 17 confirmed fatal alligator attacks in the previous 58 years. In less a week, there appears to have been three.

The bodies of two women were found Sunday some 130 miles apart. A third woman's body was found on Wednesday.

Annemarie Campbell, 23, of Paris, Tennessee, was attacked while snorkeling in a secluded recreation area near Lake George, said state wildlife spokeswoman Kat Kelley. The lake is about 50 miles southeast of Gainesville.

"The people she was staying with came around and found her inside the gator's mouth," said Marion County Fire-Rescue Capt. Joe Amigliore.

By poking the alligator's eyes and trying to open its jaws, the men were able to free Campbell's body, but she was already dead, the Ocala Star-Banner reported.

Her stepfather, who had tried to help her, was treated on the scene for a hand injury.

"You just don't think of your daughter dying from an alligator," Campbell's mother, Dawn Marie Yankeelov, told the newspaper.

Authorities estimate the animal was 7 to 9 feet long.

In Pinellas County, the body of another woman apparently killed by an alligator was found in a canal 20 miles north of St. Petersburg, authorities said.

Judy W. Cooper's body had been in the water for about three days, authorities said.

The 43-year-old Dunedin woman suffered animal bites that were consistent with an alligator, which "did play some part in the victim's death," according to a preliminary autopsy. The cause of death was pending and the medical examiner's final report will not be released for at least four weeks, the sheriff's office said.

"We don't know the condition she was in when this happened," state wildlife spokesman Gary Morse said.

It was not immediately known why Cooper was in the area, where wildlife officials said alligators are frequently spotted.

Cooper's family had not heard from her for about three months and she had a history of drug abuse, her sister, Dannette Goodrich, told The Orlando Sentinel.

Gary Goodrich, Cooper's brother-in-law, told the newspaper that officials said her purse was found near the water and drugs may have played a factor.

Authorities were baiting traps in their searches for both alligators Sunday.

On Wednesday, construction workers found the dismembered body of a Florida Atlantic University student in a canal near Fort Lauderdale. A medical examiner concluded that Yovy Suarez Jimenez, 28, was attacked as she was jogging near the canal bank and dragged into the water.

On Saturday, wildlife officers captured an 9-foot, 6-inch (2.85-meter) alligator in Sunrise that they believe fatally attacked her.

Suarez's death was the 18th confirmed fatal alligator attack in Florida since 1948. Nine other previous deaths are unconfirmed, mainly because it was not clear whether the person was already dead when the alligator attacked.

What provoked the attacks in three separate Florida counties was unknown, but state wildlife officials said alligators are generally on the
move looking for mates and food this time of year.

"As the weather heats up, the alligators' metabolism increases and they have to eat more," Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission spokesman Willie Puz said Sunday. "They might be moving more, but that just shouldn't mean increased alligator attacks."

Florida residents are warned not to swim in heavily vegetated areas, feed wildlife or walk pets near the water, especially between dusk and dawn when alligators are more active, Morse said.

**Responsible Ownership Series: Small Cats**
Submitted by (tigress) Sat Jun 3, 2006

I just wanted to drop a line to PE to say thanks for putting together this incredible book. I received it Wednesday and read the whole thing on Thursday, while waiting in the dentist's office for a root canal. It totally took my mind off of my impending doom, and I'm sure that the other people in the waiting room just thought was afraid of the drill as I periodically broke into tears. I can't wait for the Big Cats book!

Anyway, thanks again, Cristine

**Response**
Submitted by (cathspohrer) Sun June 4, 2006

As soon as enough stories are gathered for the Big Cat book, it will be published! Come on all of you, just a few pages for a story along with a picture and this new book can be done.

If you don't own a big cat, but know of others that do or have had an experience you would like to share, get it to me!

We have several stories now and only need a few more in order to begin publishing this new book!

These books are published not only for us to read, but to hopefully be passed on to the public, demonstrating legal and responsible ownership of exotics.

Send stories to: cathspohrer@metrocast.net

**PETA files lawsuit seeking records of Roy Horn tiger attack**
Submitted by (Bigcats10) Fri May 19, 2006

Las Vegas (AP) - An animal protection organization has filed a federal lawsuit accusing the U.S. Department of Agriculture of improperly withholding information gathered during its investigation of a tiger attack that seriously injured illusionist Roy Horn.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals filed the complaint Wednesday in Washington, D.C. It challenges the Agriculture Department's decision to withhold affidavits of USDA employees and witnesses collected during investigations of alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act and other laws.

USDA said disclosing the affidavits would violate the personal privacy of witnesses, according to the lawsuit.

A Sept. 28, 2004, Department of Agriculture final report was obtained in June 2005 by The Associated Press through a Freedom of Information Act request. It consisted of The Mirage's internal investigation, a Las Vegas police probe and witness statements. The report showed the case was closed with no official determination of what prompted the tiger to attack Horn. PETA filed a Freedom of Information Act request in June 2005 for the USDA's final report and several supporting affidavits.

"The USDA's lack of compliance with the letter and the spirit of the Freedom of Information Act is helping companies to get away with animal abuse," PETA Senior Vice President Mary Beth Sweetland said on the group's Web site. A U.S. Department of Agriculture spokesman in Washington did not immediately respond Friday to a request for comment.
OH - Exotic Animal Paradise to close
Submitted by (Bigcats10) Sat Jun 10, 2006

Strafford, Mo. (AP) - After three decades as a landmark roadside attraction, a drive-through animal park on Interstate 44 east of Springfield will close October 1 to become the latest housing development in the fast-growing region.

The 500-acre Exotic Animal Paradise, founded in 1971 by Pat Jones, the father of Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, is ranked by the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau among the top four tourist draws in the immediate Springfield area, with around 190,000 visitors a year.

Owner Ron Armitage, 59, said Thursday he had accepted a multimillion-dollar offer from Lake of the Ozarks area developer Tony Oddo as land development along the interstate between Springfield and Marshfield is starting to boom.

The park's 1,500 animals, including lions, tigers, bears and giraffes, will be auctioned off.

Selling was inevitable, Armitage said.

"The cost of operating this facility is right at a million dollars a year," Armitage said. "Those costs continue to increase." Armitage said he was caught between increasing ticket prices and a 5 percent to 6 percent decline in the number of visitors in the past couple years.

And government animal-welfare regulations added paperwork and expenses to the operation, he said.

Armitage said updating the four-mile tour road and doing other work in 2005 was a million-dollar project.

Vehicle occupants can see and hand-feed 70 species of animals along the way.

DNA tests tie bear to fatal attack on Ohio girl
Submitted by (gleisser) Wed Jun 14, 2006

By Bill Poovey, Cleveland, Tenn. (AP) - Forensics tests have linked the second of two bears captured after the mauling of an Ohio girl to her death, state wildlife officials said on Wednesday.

The bear, held by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency pending DNA test results, has been euthanized, officials said.

FBI lab tests showed human DNA under the bear's claws, said Assistant TWRA Director Ron Fox. Tests will be done to determine whether the bear responsible for the attack had any abnormalities.

Elora Petrasek, 6, of Clyde, Ohio, was killed April 13 and her mother and younger half brother seriously injured while the family visited at Cherokee National Forest in southeast Tennessee.

A 203-pound male bear was caught three days later in traps baited with doughnuts and honey buns was immediately euthanized. Wildlife authorities suspected that bear was responsible until tests that linked the second bear to her death. That bear was captured April 17 about 1 1/2 miles from the site of the attack.

The family was attacked while visiting a mountaintop swimming hole near the Ocoee River, a popular whitewater, camping and fishing area.

The bear bit 2-year-old Luke Cenkus, puncturing his skull, and seriously injured the children's mother, Susan Cenkus, 45, who tried to fend off the animal.

The little girl's body was found by volunteer searchers a short distance from the waterfall with the bear still standing over her. The bear ran away after one of the volunteers fired a handgun when the animal charged him.

After hospital stays in Chattanooga, Cenkus and
her son returned to Ohio in early May.

The attack was the second fatal black bear mauling in Tennessee since 2000, but just the second in the South and 12th in the contiguous United States in 100 years, according to the North American Bear Center.

**Philly Zoo set to open $20 million big cat exhibit**
Submitted by (raven) Thu May 18, 2006

By Maryclaire Dale, (AP) Philadelphia -
Thirteen big cats - from a rare black jaguar to a trio of young snow leopards - are enjoying spacious new digs in the city after some time away "vacationing" at other zoos.

The Philadelphia Zoo next week will formally open its new $20 million habitat, which is designed to give the animals a more natural setting and visitors a more intimate experience.

The exhibit also preaches conservation, using interactive games, video clips and other tools to describe the threats humans pose to big-cat species around the world.

"Its intent is really gut level, for people to look at how beautiful and intense and amazing these animals really are, so they'll want to do something to save big cats," said Andrew Baker, the zoo’s senior vice president of animal programs.

When the cats are willing, visitors can play patty-cake with them against a 1 1/2-inch-thick glass pane that is the only thing separating the natural predators from the public.

Zenda, a playful, 273-pound African lion, took the bait Thursday, bounding over when a child appeared and patting its thick paws against the awe-struck girl’s hands.

"This is what we hope for, a really powerful experience," Baker said. "You can see the reaction people have to the cats and the reaction cats have to people."

Threats to their survival run the gamut from hunting to development to ranching.

The zoo’s 10-month-old puma cubs - two girls and a boy - were orphaned in South Dakota last summer when a hunter legally killed their mother.

The 364-pound tiger Dmitri belongs to the subspecies once known as Siberian tigers, the largest of the world's big cats. With their range now limited to the Amur River Valley in southern Russia, they are now called Amur tigers. Only a few hundred remain in the wild.

Other exhibits describe the human encroachment that has largely driven jaguars from the southwestern United States into Mexico and pumas - also called mountain lions or cougars - from the eastern United States.

"You hear reports of people seeing mountain lions in Appalachia," Baker said. "It's hard to know if these are real or not."

The zoo also offers information on a program in Kenya it supports that teaches ranchers how to build lion-proof corrals for their herds, so they don't shoot the endangered lions.

Big Cat Falls, which opens Thursday, is likely to be a summer blockbuster for the zoo, which attracts as many as 13,000 visitors on a weekend summer day and 1.2 million visitors a year.

It is the first new exhibit at the Philadelphia Zoo since 1999, spokeswoman Ginette Meluso said. The zoo has two other capital campaigns planned, one to update the aviary and the other to redesign the children's zoo.
Highlighted In This Issue:

- DNA ties bear to fatal attack on Ohio girl
- PETA files lawsuit seeking records of Roy Horn attack
- OH: Exotic Animal Paradise To Close