Zeus belongs to Phoenix member, Lea Juanakais. She said that Zeus enjoys basking in the sun and looks regal doing so. We’d have to agree!
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

Phoenix Exotics E-List contained many 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__________________________ 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_________________________
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:

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
OH: Wrestling bear gets attention of federal regulators
Submitted by (south zoo) Wed Mar 14, 2007

CLEVELAND
(AP) -- A sports show opening today in Cleveland must decide whether a wrestling bear attraction will appear despite the objections of federal regulators.

The star attraction is Caesar, a seven-foot, half-ton bear who wrestles with any willing challenger at least 21 years old.

Caesar is owned by Sam Mazzola, whose license to exhibit exotic animals was revoked in November for providing false information to the U-S-D-A. Mazzoli says the exhibit is legal because he has a business partner with an exotic animal license.

Organizers of the Cleveland Sports, Travel and Outdoor Show must decide whether to allow the bear wrestling attraction at the I-X Center.

MI: No liability coverage for housecat attacks?
Submitted by (runeraion) Tue, Mar 20, 2007

(AP) - FLUSHING, Mich. - A nasty bite on the hand that a man got from his sister's Siamese cat is worth $122,400.

A jury on Friday awarded Michael Sabo, 57, the money for an injury he got when the cat, Randy, bit his right hand in March 2004.

Sabo's fingers swelled so much that they looked like "plump hot dogs," his attorney, Tom Pabst, told The Flint Journal, and an infection put Sabo in a hospital for three weeks. He had to pay thousands in medical bills.

Pabst said Sabo's sister, Jean Toney, had warned people not to pick up Randy because he had bitten people before, but the newspaper said the cat leapt into Sabo's lap.

Sabo initially tried to get his sister's homeowner's insurance policy to cover the cost of treatment. When that request was refused, Sabo had no choice but to take the matter to court, Pabst said.

There was no answer Sunday at a telephone listing for Toney. A call to Pabst on Sunday wasn't immediately returned.

Dog and Cat Food Recall
Submitted by (runeraion) Sat, Mar 17, 2007

WASHINGTON (AP) -- A major manufacturer of pet foods sold throughout North America under dozens of store names is recalling millions of containers of its products while working to determine what caused kidney failure and some deaths of cats and dogs.

Menu Foods said Saturday it is recalling dog food sold under 46 brands and cat food sold under 37 brands and distributed throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. The pet foods were sold by major retailers, including Wal-Mart, Kroger and Safeway.

A complete list of the recalled products along with product codes, descriptions and production dates is available from the Menu Foods website.

Tracking tigers provides heart-stopping excitement
Submitted by (south zoo) Tue Mar 27, 2007

By Vijay Joshi

CORBETT NATIONAL PARK, India (AP) -- I would rather be on an elephant than in front of one. It's no fun when a wild tusker is lumbering toward you, and you are trapped in a Jeep with no choice but to drive in reverse on a muddy,
twisting, hilly road flanked by a jungle on the left and a gurgling river to the right.

The heart-stopping encounter with an irritated elephant occurred barely 30 minutes after we had driven into the Corbett National Park -- India's finest tiger reserve in the foothills of the Himalayas -- in search of the big cats. At the wheel was a friend, a city lad whose skills in reverse driving were limited to parking between parallel lines. Still, he did an admirable job of driving us -- a shaken party of four -- backward to safety behind a curve in the forested hill.

The elephant, apparently bored by our lack of sportsmanship, ambled away after a while. We were lucky. Later at a forest lodge, the staging point for tiger safaris, we saw another vehicle that had been gored the same day by a tusker, possibly the one we met. The vehicle displayed two holes in the metal grille in the front. No humans were injured.

But Rajiv Bhartari, the director of Corbett Tiger Reserve, which encompasses the national park, later told us that it is common for wild elephants to confront humans although fatal encounters are unheard of. Still, he said, we are better off being atop an elephant while in the forest. "Besides, that's the best way to see a tiger," he said. And nothing can be truer.

Corbett National Park is no Serengeti or Kruger. Unlike those African parks, you won't see hordes of animals under shady trees or watering holes. But tracking and spotting a tiger in the Indian jungle with an experienced guide turned out to be every bit as thrilling as homing in on a pair of cheetahs in the African grasslands. But more of that later.

Animal reserve Corbett National Park, located in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand, epitomizes India's success in saving the endangered Royal Bengal Tiger, the magnificent yellow-and-black striped cat found only in Asia.

A victim of hunting, poaching and human encroachment, the tigers were threatened with extinction when the global Project Tiger was launched in Corbett National Park on April 1, 1973. At the time, the tiger population in the park was 44. Across India, only about 1,800 existed, down from 40,000 at the turn of the 20th century.

Under Bhartari's stewardship, the tiger population in Corbett has increased to about 175. Overall, there are about 3,600 tigers in India but other national parks have not fared as well as Corbett and some reserves have no tigers left.

"Right now, what you see is a glorious Corbett. We have never seen anything like it. (Tiger) sightings are becoming more common," said Bhartari in an interview at the Dhikala forest lodge. It is the largest and most frequented of the 12 lodges, operated by the state forest department, inside the 200-square-mile Corbett National Park. The park is named after Jim Corbett, a British colonial army colonel who was born in 1875 in Nainital, not far from the sanctuary, and lived virtually all his life in India until 1847. An ardent hunter, he gave up killing for sport after witnessing a carnage of water fowl by three army officers, and dedicated his life to preserving wildlife.

The accommodations in Dhikala lodge are basic but comfortable and adequate. Only vegetarian food is available because meat leftovers and their scent attract carnivores.

(continued on page 6)
Still, the lodge, protected by an electrified perimeter fence, can't be topped for its location in the heart of the park, overlooking the Ramganga river where tigers sometimes come to bathe and drink in summers.

Visitors to Corbett National Park, about 160,000 come every year, usually spend two days at the lodge. Lodge officials arrange elephant and Jeep safaris that set out twice a day, once at dawn and again before dusk when most animals come out to hunt or forage.

Elephant safaris are highly popular and get booked days in advance. We were slow in booking and had to settle for the Jeep. Our first day proved to be fruitless. Riding in an open Jeep, we crisscrossed the dirt tracks across the dry brown grasslands and stopped at a spot where a tiger was seen a day before. But patience proved futile and as dusk began to approach we hurried back to the lodge before the curfew. Big mistake.

M.C. Klaarwater, a young Dutch engineer on his second trip to India, lingered and came across a frolicking tiger, leaping over the grass, its black-tipped tail up in the air. He even had pictures to prove it.

That evening M.C. proved to be the most popular man at the lodge with all residents lining up to see the pictures on his digital camera. With renewed vigor, despite near freezing temperatures, we set out at dawn the next day to the same spot and parked ourselves. The stillness of dawn was soon broken by jungle sounds.

To us they were just sounds. To our guide, the language was jungle telegraph: a Sambhar deer was alerting its herd and another species, a barking deer, had issued its warning as well.

"It's definitely somewhere here," the guide whispered, urging everybody to keep still and quiet. As the minutes ticked away, The warning calls became more frequent. Soon, the white-and black furred Langur monkeys, perched atop tall Sal trees, joined the chorus with loud "keeee... keeee." They could clearly see the tiger from their vantage point.

Tension mounted as the monkeys' shouts became cacophonous. The tiger was certainly there, but where was it going to emerge from? Suddenly, we all saw a flash of orange and black in the thick shrubs under the trees.

Cameras trained and eyes peeled we tracked the blurred patches of galloping color. The rustling through the dry bushes was loud and clear. A gasp went up among the assembled audience -- many more people had arrived by then in Jeeps including M.C. -- as the majestic tiger bounded through the forest, onto the road in front of us, 50 yards away, before disappearing into the foliage again.

A young woman squealed with excitement. Men said "wow" in hushed tones, and immediately began to look at their camera screens to see if the moment was trapped in digital magnificence.

I did too. And realized with great chagrin that I had set the camera on manual and shot on extreme slow shutter speed. The picture turned to be shaky and blurred. M.C., on the other hand, wisely relied on automatic and got a series of terrific images. He was once again a popular guy back at the lodge. Never mind.
What I saw that day through my camera's viewfinder will be printed in my memory forever.

Joke!

A Poor Choice of Snack

Two tigers were stalking through the jungles of Asia. Suddenly, the one to the rear reached out with his tongue, and licked the posterior of the tiger in front of him. The startled front tiger turned and said, "Cut it out." The rear tiger apologized, and they continued onward.

About five minutes later, it happened again. The front tiger turned, growling, "I said stop it." The rear tiger again apologized, and they continued.

Another five minutes passed, and again the front tiger felt the unwanted tongue. The front tiger turned, giving the rear tiger a ferocious glare, angrily hissing, "What is it with you?"

The rear tiger replied, "I'm sorry -- I really didn't mean to offend you. But I just ate a lawyer and I'm trying to get the taste out of my mouth!"

Legislation Watch!

North Carolina
S.B. 1032

Indiana
S.B. 482 & H.B. 1472

West Virginia
H.B. 2430, H.B. 2774 & S.B. 384

Oregon
H.B. 3437 & S.B. 804

Ohio
H.B. 45

Florida
H.B. 1505 & S.B. 2766

Writing Tips!

Please visit (http://www.phoenixexotics.org/plegislativeaction.html) on our website to see various sample letters for reference in assisting you in writing your letters to your local and state representatives.
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Dog and cat food recall
- Tracking tigers provides heart-stopping excitement
- Wrestling bear gets attention of federal regulators