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Big Red!
Roody and KJ

Photos from The Outback Christmas Tree and Kangaroo Farm owned by Phoenix member, Ray Strom and wife, Joey!
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.

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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 ______________________
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!

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:

- 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

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!
Cheetahs kill zoo-goer who entered cage
Submitted by (south zoo) Tue Feb 13, 2007

An animal lover was mauled to death by cheetahs after entering their cage at a zoo in northern Belgium, authorities and zoo officials said Monday. Karen Aerts, 37, of Antwerp, was found dead in the cage, Olmense Zoo spokesman Jan Libot said. Police said they ruled out any foul play.

Authorities believe Aerts, a regular visitor to the zoo, hid in the park late Sunday until it closed and managed to find the keys to the cheetah cage. "Karen loved animals. Unfortunately the cheetahs betrayed her trust," Libot said.

One of the cats that killed Aerts was named Bongo, whom the woman had adopted under a special program. She paid for Bongo's food, Libot said. Animal rights group GAIA called for the immediate closure of the zoo, located 55 miles northeast of Brussels, saying it was unsafe for both visitors and the cats.

Rudy Demotte, the Belgian minister responsible for animal welfare, sent a team to investigate.

Exotic pet startles Calif. investigators
Submitted by (south zoo) Mon Feb 12, 2007

An exotic animal with a long snout, bear-like claws and a tale like a raccoon scared the heck out of some narcotics investigators searching a home for drugs.

Riverside County sheriff's investigators said the "strange looking," "sloth-like" animal emerged from its hiding place in the Lakeland Village home on Saturday. It was eventually identified as a coatimundi, usually found in the forests of Central and South America.

Possessing a coatimundi is illegal in California without a license, and Fish and game official Kyle Chang said the animal's owner, 29-year-old Norman James Vollan, will have to give it up to a zoo or to someone with an exotic animal license. In the meantime, the animal was taken to an undisclosed animal sanctuary.

Vollan was arrested after deputies discovered methamphetamine in his home, sheriff's investigators said.

He "was pretty much crying in jail" when he learned he would lose his coatimundi, Chang said. He said Vollan bought the animal for about $1,000 three years ago and had it imported from Texas to Nevada, where he was working at the time.

Zoos cash in on animal sex
Submitted by (south zoo) Tue Feb 13, 2007

TAMPA, Florida (AP) -- Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo calls it the "Wild at Heart" tour.

At New York's Central Park Zoo, it's "Jungle Love." San Francisco offers "Woo at the Zoo," and in Boise, Idaho, it's possible to enjoy "Wild Love at the Zoo."

When Valentine's Day rolls around, zoos around the country have become an unlikely locale for adult-oriented entertainment with risque tours that combine champagne, chocolate-covered strawberries and candlelight dining with impressive facts about how animals mate.

Genevieve Chandler, 30, has been visiting the
Lowry Park Zoo since she was a kid, but the tour she took the other night was definitely not what she remembers from her childhood.

Credit for the zoo sex tour concept goes to Jane Tollini, a former penguin keeper at the San Francisco Zoo. Tollini conceived the idea two decades ago while watching her penguins' courtship ritual, which culminates in what she describes as "bowling pins making love." "The keepers get there early and we see things that other people don't see," Tollini said. "And I went, 'My God, that's fascinating.' You know the old Peter Sellers line, 'I like to watch?' You kind of go, 'Oh my, my, my. How big? How many? How far?' It was unbelievable." She set the ritual to Johnny Mathis songs -- the makeout tunes of her generation -- pitched it to her bosses and a new zoo tradition was born. The idea soon spread to other zoos. "Sex sells. No matter what," Tollini said. "I wish I had a nickel for everybody that has copied me. But not every city is as liberal as San Francisco and can get away with what I do."

Zoos charge about $50 per person for the tours, and crowds are kept deliberately intimate. Many zoos, including Lowry Park, have added additional nights to handle the overflow from Valentine's Day.

"It's a fundraiser, but it's definitely not our largest," said Rachel Nelson, Lowry Park's director of public relations. "It's a way to introduce a new audience to the zoo." But even in San Francisco, the zoo sex tours are mostly all talk and no action. Animals do it when they please, or, in some cases, when their human keepers deem it appropriate.

Tour guides in Tampa warned of possible manatee make-out sessions. But the giant mammals were content to munch on vegetation while the tour group ate a candlelight dinner in front of the zoo's massive aquarium windows. "Manatees are not particular," said Rachel Nelson, the zoo's director of public relations. "We have only males right now, and they don't seem to care."

Despite the blunt talk on the tour, many in the Saturday crowd in Tampa were coy about their reasons for attending. "I really like the zoo and I thought it was a nice thing to do with my boyfriend for Valentine's Day," Chandler said. Her most memorable statistic: "whales have like 10-foot-long whatevers." Hillsborough Community College professor Mara Manis said the evening's unique educational twist attracted her to the tour. "People always look to do something on Valentine's Day. It's one of those holidays where everything has been done so many times. It's so forced." Manis said. "And this is different." Her date, landscape architect John Tate, made it clear he hoped to cash in on the "King of the Jungle" title he won earlier in the evening. His moves were deemed the best in a contest howcasing how some male animals must win their mates with elaborate dances. "This is the only time of year I have free license," Tate said, smiling. Statistics about whale endowments and monkey love may not prove useful on the human dating scene, but a scent-marking experiment with big cats could prove useful when selecting a cologne to wear - - or not to wear -- on a tiger tour in India. "Apparently," Nelson said, "tigers prefer Obsession."
Well, our nice shiny new congress has been very busy this first 100 hours. The very first senate bill (SB 1) contains provisions to ban political speech and petitioning of representatives by grassroots groups like Phoenix by expanding McCain-Feingold.

They are in power now and they are going to see to it that those they consider the opposition are locked out.

Congress preparing to criminalize critics?
Senate bill would 'create most expansive intrusion on First Amendment rights ever'.

The Senate is considering legislation that would regulate grassroots communications, with penalties for critics of Congress.

"In what sounds like a comedy sketch from Jon Stewart's Daily Show, but isn't, the U. S. Senate would impose criminal penalties, even jail time, on grassroots causes and citizens who criticize Congress," says Richard A. Viguerie, chairman of GrassrootsFreedom.com.

Section 220 of S. 1, the lobbying reform bill before the Senate, would require grassroots causes, even bloggers, who communicate to 500 or more members of the public on policy matters, to register and report quarterly to Congress, as lobbyists are required.

"Section 220 would amend existing lobbying reporting law by creating the most expansive intrusion on First Amendment rights ever," Viguerie said.

For the first time in history, he stated, critics of Congress will need to register and report with Congress itself.

"The bill would require reporting of 'paid efforts to stimulate grassroots lobbying,' but defines 'paid' merely as communications to 500 or more members of the public, with no other qualifiers," Viguerie said.

The Senate passed an amendment on the bill Jan. 9 to create criminal penalties, including up to one year in jail, if someone "knowingly and willingly fails to file or report."

Viguerie said the legislation regulates small, legitimate nonprofits, bloggers, and individuals, but creates loopholes for corporations, unions, and large membership organizations that would be able to spend hundreds of millions of dollars, yet not report.

"Congress is trying to blame the grassroots, which are American citizens engaging in their First Amendment rights, for Washington's internal corruption problems," he said.

Christian leader James Dobson -- along with Tony Perkins, Gary Bauer and Don Wildmon -- spoke out about the provision on a recent "Focus on the Family" radio broadcast.

"The Democrats, and a few Republicans are trying now, very, very quickly, to insulate themselves from the public and to do it by muzzling people like us," Dobson said. "It's a complex piece of legislation and not everything in it is offensive. But the provision that we cannot accept would require organizations like Focus on the Family to report every contact with anyone in the executive or legislative branches and any effort to try to influence grassroots response, even if it doesn't include a call to action. In other words, they are trying to muzzle us and many other organizations."

Last weekend, Sen. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, introduced an amendment to remove the bill's controversial section.

CBN News reported a senior Senate aide said the effort to remove the disputed section is
garnering wide support.

"Virtually every single American is represented by a lobbyist," Sen. Bennett said while introducing the bill. "Every single American has someone lobbying in behalf of his or her interests, whether he or she knows it or not."

Bennett argued, according to CBN News, that if the Senate does not remove Section 220, "we will do damage to the constitutional right, right there in the first amendment, next to freedom of religion and freedom of speech -- the constitutional right to lobby."

"Even though the people who broke the old rules were caught under the old rules, convicted under the old rules, and sent to prison under the old rules, we need to be looking ahead and recognize that in a world where virtually everyone is involved, in one way or another, we need to do this right," he said.

Co-sponsors of Bennett's amendment are Sens. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., and John Cornyn, R-Texas.

Zoo Atlanta May Move to Old Lakewood Fairgrounds Site
Submitted by (south zoo) Sun Jan 28, 2007

ATLANTA (AP) -- Zoo Atlanta is considering a move a few miles south to the old Lakewood Fairgrounds site south of downtown, the zoo's president said Friday.

Zoo Atlanta, located at Grant Park for more than 100 years, is considering the move while also embarking on a multimillion-dollar fund-raising campaign to add more animals to its collection, Dennis Kelly, the zoo's president and chief executive officer, told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

The 120-acre Lakewood site is more than three times the size of the current 35-acre tract at Grant Park, according to Kelly.

The Lakewood site contains a floodplain and lake, which Kelly said would make good exhibit space for some animals.

Kelly said if the zoo remains at its current location, it may add a parking deck in order to create more zoo space on property currently reserved for parking.

Zoo officials and consultants plan to submit a master plan this spring on whether the zoo should move, according to Kelly. The zoo has been at Grant Park since 1889.

The zoo also is planning a campaign to raise between $150-$175 million from public and private sources over a 10-year period.

"We've got to raise money, no matter what we do," Kelly said.

OK: Coyote Attacks
Submitted by (south zoo) Mon Feb 12, 2007

EDMOND, Okla. (AP) -- Animal specialists say the harsh winter may be leading to coyotes attacking pets.

Dana Amaya of Edmond says her two small dogs were killed in attacks in her back yard and even though no one saw the attacks she believes a coyote is to blame.

Ian Wolfe of the Edmond Animal Welfare Division says it wouldn't be a surprise if a coyote is to blame. He says the winter weather is destroying the coyote habitat and causing them to become bolder and more desperate in their search for food.

Suggestions to protect pets include not leaving pet food outside where it might attract wild animals and providing an enclosure to keep pets in and predators out.
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Exotic pet startles CA investigators
- Cheetah kills zoo-goer who entered cage
- Bill to ban groups like Phoenix Exotics

Coming up in next issue....Phoenix Exotics 2007 Annual Meeting Review!