The lazy days of summer are just around the corner. Don’t believe it? Just ask the roos at Raro Ray’s Outback Christmas Tree and Kangaroo Farm!
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 May. 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 ____________________________
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
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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!

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
Komodo Dragon Kills Indonesian Boy
Submitted by (TellFelids) Tue Jun 5, 2007

(AP) Jakarta, Indonesia - A Komodo dragon attacked and killed an 8-year-old boy in eastern Indonesia, the first recorded deadly attack on a human by one of the giant lizards in 33 years, a national park spokesman said Monday.

A Komodo dragon walks around her enclosure at Chester Zoo in England. The lizards are found in the wild only in eastern Indonesia.

The boy was mauled when he went to defecate behind a bush Saturday on Komodo Island, Heru Rudiharto said.

"The Komodo bit him on his waist and tossed him viciously from side to side," Rudiharto said.

"A fishermen, who just happened to be the boy's uncle, threw rocks at the lizard until it let the boy go and fled," he said. "The boy died from massive bleeding half an hour later."

Wardens on Komodo have launched a hunt for the dragon, he said.

Komodos, the world's largest lizards, are only found in the wild in a small archipelago in eastern Indonesia. Fewer than 4,000 survive.

Rudiharto said the lizards had been living side-by-side with the 1,200 people on Komodo with no fatal incident for 33 years.

"Perhaps the lizards' natural prey has decreased because we are entering the dry season and there has been too much deer hunting," he said.

Komodos can grow to a length of 10 feet and weigh up to 365 pounds.

Thousands of tourists visit Komodo each year to see the lizards in their natural habitat.

They are normally shown around the arid and rocky island by guides who carry large, forked sticks to ward of the lizards.

Panda Released Into Wild Found Dead
Submitted by (TellFelids) Thu May 31, 2007

(AP) - BEIJING - A 5-year-old panda who last year became the first to be released into the wild after being bred in captivity has died, China's state-run Xinhua News Agency said Thursday.

The body of Xiang Xiang was found Feb. 19 in the forests of Sichuan province in China's southwest, Xinhua said. He survived less than a year in the wild after nearly three years of training in survival techniques and defense tactics.

Xiang Xiang, who may have fallen from a high place while fighting with wild pandas, died of serious internal injuries, the report said, citing the Wolong Giant Panda Research Center in Sichuan.

No other details were given and it wasn't immediately clear why the bear's death was just reported. The 176-pound male panda was released from Wolong in April 2006.

Xiang Xiang, whose name means auspicious, had learned how to build a den, forage for food and mark his territory, experts at Wolong have said. He also developed defensive skills such as howling and biting.

State media last year said that Xiang Xiang hesitated for a second when the door of his cage was opened, then scampered off into a nearby bamboo forest where he was tracked by a global positioning device attached to his collar.

There are only about 1,600 wild pandas in the mountain forests of central China - the only place in the world they are found - and more
than 180 live in captivity.

Pandas are threatened by loss of habitat, poaching and a low reproduction rate. Females in the wild typically have a cub once every two to three years.

Cicadas: A Deafening Love Story
Submitted by (TellFelids) Thu May 31, 2007

(AP) - Cicadas are back by the billions for the first time since 1990. But Laura Peters, who lives at the epicenter of the invasion, says bring 'em on. "They don't do any damage," she says. "They don't eat your children. They just come and make a lot of noise."

Four-time cicada invasion veteran Ed Ewald, 72, compares the unique sound to "an alien invasion," reports CBS News correspondent Michelle Miller.

They've clearly already captured the Windy City. From field trips at nature centers to creepy-crawly street fairs, cicada-mania is playing at full volume in Chicago.

The volume is the drone of male cicadas attempting to lure their mates. The sound can get up near 100 decibels, as loud as a bus.

The sounds of the cicadas are the unwelcome competition that forced the area's biggest outdoor music hall to reschedule an entire month of concerts.

"Once they start with that mating call, which is almost as loud as the top volume we use for a rock concert," says Welz Kaufmann, president of Chicago's Ravinia Festival, "there's not much we can do."

Mike Raupp, a University of Maryland Entomology professor, is an expert on all things cicada. To him, it's a love story, 17 years in the making. He describes the bugs' single mission in life: to dig themselves out of a hole, shed their skin, climb a tree and let nature take its course.

"They're singing their little hearts out," says Raupp. "They've only got a couple of weeks to hook this thing up."

It isn't easy being a cicada. After waiting all those years, only a handful live long enough to mate. The challenge: not getting eaten along the way. It seems that anything bigger than a cicada wants to make a meal of one.

Even one of the bugs' biggest fans can't resist.

"They're delicious," says Raupp.

Cicadas' time on Earth is short: A few weeks of heaven, and they're history, bound to a cycle that will bury them again until 2024.

Major Donation Funds Zoo Exhibit
Submitted by (Southzoo) Thu Jun 07, 2007

Fort Wayne, Indiana (AP) - Fort Wayne Zoo officials say a donation will allow them to finance a renovation of its African Journey exhibit.

The donation of the undisclosed sum comes from Mark Shambaugh, to honor his father, long-time zoo supporter Max Shambaugh.

The African Lion Exhibit will be the centerpiece of the African Journey, with over 15,000 square feet of natural grasses, trees and rocks.

The lions will live among waterfalls, ponds and a heated rock. Visitors will be able to see the giant cats up close through a two-and-a-half-inch thick glass wall.

The over $10 million African Journey is the largest project the zoo has undertaken in its 42-year history.

Construction is underway and the exhibit scheduled to open in 2009.
Indonesia returns rare kangaroos to wild
Submitted by (Southzoo) Wed Jun 6, 2007

(AP) Jakarta, Indonesia - Indonesia is returning 17 rare pygmy kangaroos to the Papuan rain forest after rescuing and acquiring them in recent years from illegal traders and private zoos, officials said Monday. It is unknown how many of the mammals, which can grow up to three-feet long and weigh 25 pounds, still survive in the wild.

The animals being released were born to six males and females cared for by the Cikananga Animal Rescue Center on West Java where they have been reared to survive in their natural habitat, said spokesman Resit Sozer. They are to be released on Tuesday into the forest, where they will face predators such as giant pythons and local poachers who eat their meat or sell their hides.

The World Conservation Union placed the species in its "vulnerable" category, meaning they face a high risk of extinction in the medium-term. It has not specified a time period.

The trade in rare and exotic animals from Papua and other areas of Indonesia is rampant, due largely to poor law enforcement. Rapid deforestation and commercial development also threaten species such as the Sumatran tiger, elephant, rhino and orangutan.

"Illegal trade can't be stopped without the cooperation of buyers and neighboring countries. If the buying continues, we will never be able to stop it," said Adi Susmianto, a senior official at the Forest Ministry.

Little is known about the Indonesian kangaroos, known as dusky pademelons, or Thylogale brunii. They belong to a family of seven kangaroo-like mammals and are generally found in forests in the southeastern coast of the island of Papua, split between Indonesia's West Papua and Papua New Guinea.

Rare monkey stolen from zoo in Brazil
Submitted by (Southzoo) Wed Jun 6, 2007

By Tales Azzoni, Associated Press Writer

The theft of a rare Amazon monkey from a Brazilian zoo could harm biologists' efforts to repopulate the endangered species, zoo officials said Wednesday.

Workers arriving at the zoo Tuesday morning noticed the male pied tamarin was missing, and found a wrench and a coat left behind in its cage. "This is a significant loss," said Luiz Antonio da Silva Pires, director of the city zoo in Bauru, 220 miles northwest of Sao Paulo. "The monkey was likely one of the few still alive in captivity and we were hoping to use it to start a new population and keep the species alive."

Pires said the pied tamarins have increasingly lost their natural habitat because of urban growth and as farmers slash down jungle to graze cattle. How many are still alive is not known, although they have occasionally been sighted near the jungle city of Manaus, 1,700 miles northwest of Sao Paulo.

The zoo has been trying...
for months to find a female pied tamarin to mate with the 2.2-pound monkey. "It's hard to say who would do this," Pires said. "This monkey would not be sold very easily; it's not usually used as a pet." Police did not have any suspects.

According to Renctas, a Brazilian organization that fights animal smuggling, illegal trafficking of rare species generates about $2 billion a year in the country. Many of the animals are sold to collectors in the United States, Europe and Asia. Brazil's environmental protection agency alerted agents nationwide in an attempt to find the monkey, spokesman Gustavo Rick said.

**NM: Cougar spotted in Hillsboro**

Hillsboro, N.M. (AP) - Officers with the state Game and Fish Department are watching for a cougar that's suspected of killing at least one house cat and possibly two other animals in Hillsboro.

Wildlife officers responded Sunday to a complaint that a cougar had killed a cat.

Hillsboro resident Harley Shaw says he saw the wild cat munching on the pet in a woman's yard. Shaw says another house cat and a raccoon were found dead at the same home the day before, and two other cats disappeared from a different home a week before.

But officials say there’s no way to tell whether the cougar was responsible.

The cougar hasn’t threatened any residents, but authorities say people should be cautious since a few cougar attacks have occurred in Colorado and California in recent years.

**Bear Problems**

Submitted by (TellFelids) Thu Jun 07, 2007

(AP) White Haven, Pennsylvania - A bear tried to pull a Girl Scout out of her tent during a camping trip, the girl and scout officials said.

Celeste Tietz, 11, said Wednesday that she managed to grab a tent pole and slide out of her sleeping bag as the bear was tugging at it early Sunday morning at Camp Mosey Wood.

"Something started pulling me towards the front of my tent and tried to pull me out," she told The Express-Times of Easton.

Tietz of Franklin Township, New Jersey, and the other girls in the tent screamed for help. Adults then loaded the girls, about 15 of them, into a van and took them to the camp's mess hall.

Ann Meredith, chief executive officer of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, said the camp will not allow girls to sleep in tents this coming weekend or the following weekend.

Campers and adult leaders get bear education when they register for camp, she said.

"Bears are a fact of life," Meredith said. "We're living in their habitat."
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Cicadas: A deafening love story
- Rare monkey stolen from zoo in Brazil
- NM: Cougar spotted in Hillsboro