Sue Arnold’s Wildlife; these three have a strong bond having been raised together. Who says we can’t all get along!
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.

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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 ____________________________

2
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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.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at cathspohrer@metrocast.net
Cathy Freeman-Spohrer
Secretary, Phoenix Exotics
Border fence threatens wildlife

Submitted by (south zoo) Mon, May 21, 2007

By LYNN BREZOSKY, Associated Press

Nancy Brown drives the government truck slowly past mossy ponds, thick shrouds of beard-like Spanish moss and majestic ebony trees, gleefully identifying the song of the kiskadee and the gurgling call of the chachalaca.

As the truck rounds a bend near the greenish-brown Rio Grande, a bobcat scampers ahead, disappearing into the lush subtropical foliage.

Lizards dart about. A tortoise lazes in the sun. Somewhere in the forest, well-camouflaged by evolution, are ocelots and jaguarundi, both of them endangered species of cats.

These are some of the natural wonders in the Rio Grande Valley that Brown and other wildlife enthusiasts fear could be spoiled by the fences and adjacent roads the U.S. government plans to erect along the Mexican border to keep out illegal immigrants and smugglers.

Environmentalists have spent decades acquiring and preserving 90,000 riverfront acres of Texas scrub and forest and protecting their wildlife. Now they fear the hundreds of miles of border fences will undo their work and kill some land animals by cutting them off from the Rio Grande, the only source of fresh water.

A fence could also prevent the ocelots and other animals from swimming across the water to mate with partners on the other side.

"If you have a fence that runs several miles long, if you are a tortoise or any animal that can't fly over or go through it, then you have a pretty long distance that you have to go to get water," said Brown, an outreach manager at the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, 225 miles south of San Antonio. Also, "any destruction of any brush is very damaging."

In addition, some worry that the barrier, described in some plans as triple-layer metal fencing, will damage the tourism industry along the Rio Grande.

The wild cats, reptiles and at least 500 species of birds attract visitors from around the world who bring the impoverished region $150 million a year.

Depending on how far inland the fence is built, it could create a no man's land north of the river, hurting tourism.

While the Department of Homeland Security said it has not made any final decisions on where the fence will go, meetings this week with the Border Patrol have wildlife officials convinced that some of the 70 miles planned for the Rio Grande Valley will be erected on the string of wildlife refuges along the border.

Homeland Security spokesman Russ Knocke said it has not made any final decisions on where the fence will go, meetings this week with the Border Patrol have wildlife officials convinced that some of the 70 miles planned for the Rio Grande Valley will be erected on the string of wildlife refuges along the border.

Homeland Security spokesman Russ Knocke said environmental concerns will be taken into account in the final decisions. But Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has used his authority to waive environmental regulations for security reasons in other states, and Knocke said he would do so in the Rio Grande Valley if necessary. "We do have to be mindful of the fact that we are remedying a problem that has been more than two decades in the making," he said.

The refuges show signs of immigrant activity, food wrappers and water jugs, discarded wet clothing, the plastic bags used to carry a change of clothing across the river. Similar evidence is found up and down the river, despite the presence of Border Patrol agents and the sensors and cameras that make up the current "virtual" fence.

The fence idea "is wholly incongruous with a 30-plus year investment by the federal government, the citizens and the landowners of the Rio Grande Valley who have worked hard to protect their special land and waters," said Carter.
Smith of the Nature Conservancy. The organization said the government should instead use more border agents, sensors and cameras.

President Bush called for about 700 miles of fence along the U.S.-Mexico border, and Homeland Security is committed to completing 370 miles by the end of 2008. Congress has budgeted $1.2 million for the fences. Close to $100 million has been spent creating, restoring and maintaining the refuges, wildlife officials said.

"The bottom line is the wildlife corridor took us many years to put together," said Karen Chapman of Environmental Defense. "It represents work, hard work, by a number of federal, state and local agencies and citizens of the Valley. And when we were working to put that wildlife corridor together, nobody was doing it with the thought that someday it was going to be stuck behind a wall."

The four-county Rio Grande Valley contains 11 distinct ecosystems, Brown said.

"From a biological standpoint this area is really, really impressive," she said. "You have a coastal climate meeting a desert climate meeting the temperate and the tropical."

**County wants female wolf removed from the wild**
Submitted by (south zoo) Mon, May 21, 2007

SILVER CITY, N.M. (AP)--Catron County officials say a female Mexican gray wolf released in southwestern New Mexico in late April has a history of cattle depredations, and they want the animal removed from the wild. If the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service doesn't remove the wolf, the county might take action itself.

The County Commission in an emergency meeting Thursday decided to write a demand letter to the agency, saying it may turn to an ordinance adopted in February that asserts the right to trap and remove wolves deemed dangerous and accustomed to humans.

County Manager Bill Aymar said the letter will likely be mailed May 1. It states that if federal agents don't remove the wolf within 24 hours of getting the letter, a county agent may harass and then attempt to remove the wolf.

Wolf program coordinator John Morgart declined to comment about the removal demand but he issued a veiled warning. "They certainly have their ordinance, but their ordinance doesn't trump federal law, and I'm not sure what their plans are, what they will do, but these animals are covered by the Endangered Species Act, and there are very clear consequences for people who take an endangered species inappropriately," he said.

As for the female wolf, Morgart said there were two incidents in New Mexico last year of the wolf killing cattle, a calf on Aug. 24 and an adult cow on Nov. 13.

Following the November incident, the female wolf was captured and taken to the Sevilleta wildlife facility and paired with a male from another pack.

Morgart said biologists believe the two wolves will sustain themselves on wild prey.

The county, in its letter, claims the female wolf was released in an area within 10 miles of a retirement community and near areas where calves are present.

Santa Fe-based Forest Guardians plans to file a lawsuit this month to have the county ordinance declared invalid and to prevent county officials from acting on it.
BAN WAGON
by Robin Taylor-Corbridge ©2007

All animals come from the wild,
Some are tempered much more mild.
People who state they don't belong in our life,
Are just looking to make grief and cause strife.

Exotic pets do make good ones,
Some people keep them by the tons.
Who's to say what you should do,
Or if having them is right for you.

I prefer a world of peace and joy,
Sometimes neigh-sayers have a ploy.
To take what's rightfully yours to keep,
Into your lives they delve deep.

Government controls far too much,
Sometimes I feel they are not in touch.
The people behind the bans are on a mission,
They just want to see private owners out of commission.

Is it truly a safety issue they seek,
Or are they just preying after the weak?
When our loving pets are outlawed,
That's a sign we live in a society that is flawed.

Keeping a cougar in your yard,
Is something they look to have barred.
Experience is not something they seek,
They spread lies and know not what they speak.

Somehow our legislators listen to them though,
Maybe it's because they give them the dough?
No practical reason for banning my choice of pet,
They are in their cage and cause no one a threat.

Perhaps one day the only cougar you will see,
Will be printed on what used to be a tree.
For in the wild we know they can't exist well,
Obviously the move to ban is on, as far as I can tell.

This is a shame for future people to come,
They will probably think we were quite dumb.
For my bet is they would have liked to see,
A live cougar up close and happy as can be!

Robin Taylor
http://www.collegekyd.com/

WV Animal Owners Alliance
Submitted by (hlrinc) Mon Apr 23, 2007

If anyone is from WV please join the WV Animal Owners Alliance. It is our duty as citizens (local, WV and U.S.) to know the laws. It's time to spread the word to the WV animal owning population that there are people out there trying to create laws that have the potential to affect every aspect of all animal ownership. Please join our group, and help preserve your right to keep animals!
http://groups.msn.com/
WVAnimalOwnersAlliance

Tiger euthanized after fatal mauling at exotic animal farm
Submitted by (south zoo) Mon, May 21, 2007

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) -- The tiger that fatally mauled a 32-year-old woman at an exotic animal farm in British Columbia has been euthanized, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said Sunday.

RCMP Corp. Scott Ksionzik said the 3-year-old Bengal tiger was "humanely euthanized with the consent of the owner."

Authorities said an autopsy on the animal will be conducted later this week.

Tanya Dumstrey-Soos of 100 Mile House, B.C., was attacked last Thursday at Siberian Magic, an exotic animal farm owned by her fiance, Kim Carlton.

Investigators believe the cat began clawing at Dumstrey-Soos' dress as she stood outside its cage, then grabbed her legs.

A number of children witnessed the attack, including at least one of Dumstrey-Soos' own, RCMP Const. Annie Lineau said.
The mauling has led to calls for government action. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has called for legislation banning the ownership of exotic animals. On Friday, Agriculture Minister Pat Bell said he will work with authorities to determine if legislation or a change in regulations is needed.

King Kong, gone wrong and on the run
Submitted by (south zoo) Mon May 21, 2007

A 180-kilogram gorilla escaped from its enclosure and ran amok in a Rotterdam zoo, biting one woman, dragging her around, and causing scenes of panic among dozens of families before being subdued, zoo officials said.

The Diergaarde Blijdorp zoo was evacuated and the 11-year old gorilla, named Bokito, was eventually barricaded inside a restaurant, Rotterdam police spokeswoman Yvette de Rave said. She said at least two people were injured in the incident which happened on Friday.

Zoo spokeswoman Lilian Jonkers said Bokito was shot with a sedative dart and recaptured. It was not immediately clear how the black-backed male managed to climb the high stone walls surrounding his enclosure. "He got over the moat, which in itself is remarkable because gorillas can't swim," zoo director Ton Dorrestijn told reporters. "He got onto a path for visitors and started running and went at full speed through tables and diners at the Oranje restaurant."

Dorrestijn said four people were injured, including one woman with a bite wound, as the gorilla dashed through the zoo and restaurant, NOS radio reported.

Eyewitness Robert de Jonge told NOS radio he did not see the gorilla escape but began following it shortly afterwards, as he saw people running and screaming that an escaped gorilla had grabbed a woman, and he tried to help.

"I saw the beast running through the park with a woman behind him, him grabbing her forearm," De Jonge said.

At a distance of around 30 metres he saw the gorilla lie down near the woman and then heard her scream.

"He bit her, or I think he bit her, because when he stood up his mouth was covered in blood," De Jonge said.

De Jonge said he then stopped to tell arriving police what had happened and ran with them as they traced the gorilla to a nearby restaurant terrace within the zoo.

The zoo was packed with visitors as many Dutch took advantage of a national holiday. "Everyone was in panic, running away, screaming, wailing, screaming kids running around ... kids without parents - it was a total drama," De Jonge said.

Photos from the scene showed children cowering in their parents' arms as the gorilla loped past.

People tried to hide inside the restaurant and were trying to bar the door, but fled as the gorilla approached, De Jonge said. Bokito then punched through the glass door and ran inside. "They were all in panic, the animal too I mean, and all the people ran outside the restaurant, and zoo personnel were running up and they were able to keep the animal inside by barricading the doors with garden furniture and things."

De Jonge said he later saw the woman who was bitten "covered in blood" but walking unaided, and he said her injuries were probably not life-threatening.

AP
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Border fence threatens wildlife
- Ban Wagon by Robin Taylor
- King Kong gone wrong and on the run