A tortoise cruising around from Dave Colburn’s Predators of the Heart!
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 June. 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 ____________________________
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

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

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

Now available online at http://www.Amazon.com with a beautiful glossy, color soft cover!

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!
Photos confirm sighting of cougar
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat May 17, 2008

Omaha (AP) - Game officials on Friday confirmed the sighting of a mountain lion in northeast Nebraska last weekend. The first confirmed sighting since 2004.

Tom Welstead of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission said commission experts in Lincoln had checked his report and a photograph and agreed that what Ron Olson had seen Sunday was indeed a mountain lion.

Olson, who lives in Verdigre, said he had been hunting mushrooms in the Lazy River Acres area of Knox County, between Verdel and the Missouri River. “I was walking this trail I had made, hunting for mushrooms, when I came across a deer carcass that hadn’t been there before,” Olson said in a Norfolk Daily News story Thursday. “I kind of looked around and didn’t see anything. When I turned around, just to my left, there stood a mountain lion.”

Olson was between the cat and its kill, he said, but it just walked away.

He hiked back out of the woods and found his brother, Rich Olson, and a friend, Rodney Kemp.

They took a game surveillance camera back to the spot, set it up near the carcass and left. When they returned on Monday, the camera had taken four photos of the cougar.

“By the look of the pictures, he’s a big one,” Rich Olson said. “That’s a full-grown whitetail doe he’s chewing on.”

Welstead, who is northeast Nebraska’s manager of the commission’s wildlife management section, said he talked with two of the men as part of the confirmation protocol and sent the photos to Lincoln along with his report.

It’s not his first report of a cougar, which are interchangeably called mountain lions, pumas, panthers or catamounts in various parts of the nation.

“I’ve received lots of reports,” he said. “I think most of those are false reports. Many of them I don’t find any evidence at all, I can’t prove them right or wrong.

“The last one that we can verify was the cougar that we had to shoot in South Sioux City about three years ago.”

On Nov. 23, 2004, a Dakota County sheriff’s deputy shot and killed a 120-pound cougar that was perched in a tree on the northwest edge of South Sioux City.

Cougars once roamed over much of what became United States. Despite modern man’s encroachment and the loss of habitat, experts say, cougars still range from the Yukon in Canada to the Andes in South America.

Sam Wilson, non-game mammal and fur bearer program manager for Game and parks, said the first modern confirmation of a Nebraska cougar sighting came in 1991. Confirmations have hit 51 since the vast majority in the Wildcat Hills and Pine Ridge areas of the Panhandle.

The cats seen in Nebraska likely came from South Dakota, Wilso Wilson said, but could also have come from the other bordering states of Wyoming and Colorado.

Wilson said the total of 51 could be misleading...
because the same animal could have been sighted more than once.

The South Dakota Black Hills cougar population climbed rapidly through the 1990s, he said, to the saturation point. In 2005, the state began to allow limited hunting of the cats.

South Dakota game officials say about half of the adult females in the Black Hills give birth each year, adding 62 to 78 lions to the population.

The department’s 2008 estimate of the Black Hills cougar population is 280, 70 more than last year’s estimate of 210.

The current estimate includes 33 to 43 adult males, 90 to 114 breeding females and 97 to 127 dependent young.

The older, dominant male cougars evict the younger males from their territories, Wilson said. The younger ones must then look elsewhere for mates.

“If they head east, they just keep running because there aren’t any females,” Wilson said, because the females’ ranges can overlap their mothers’.

Sometimes the males’ searches lead them into the dangers of civilization.

Biologists have confirmed that a cougar shot to death by Chicago police last month got there by way of Wisconsin. More tests are being done to confirm whether he came from South Dakota.

In November 2005, a 100-pound male was found dead along Interstate 80 near the Gretna-Louisville exit west of Omaha.

In October 2003, a 108-pound male was found walking through a park deep inside Omaha city limits. It was captured after being hit with a tranquilizer dart and wounded by a shotgun blast.

It was taken in by Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo and remains there, a zoo spokeswoman said Friday.

**SoCal fisherman who stabbed sea lion gets probation**
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat May 17, 2008

(AP) - A fisherman who admitted to stabbing a sea lion that apparently took bait from his fishing line was sentenced Thursday to three years of probation.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Carla Woehrle also ordered Hai Nguyen, 25, of Garden Grove, Calif., to serve 200 hours of community service. He had faced up to one year in prison and a $20,000 fine.

Nguyen pleaded guilty in November to a misdemeanor count of illegally taking and attempting to kill a marine mammal, admitting that he violated the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act. He said he meant to scare the sea lion away but never intended to kill it.

Nguyen was arrested in July in Newport Beach after witnesses told police they saw him stabbing the 6-foot-long sea lion with a steak knife. The animal was taken to the Pacific Marine Mammal Center in Laguna Beach, where staff found the knife had pierced the sea lion’s heart. It was later euthanized.

Nguyen’s attorney, Robert Viefhaus, said his client regrets the incident and felt the verdict was fair.
Deputy kills large animal outside residence
Submitted by (jtsmith) Thu May 22, 2008

Neosho, (AP) - A large, black animal, either a jaguar or a leopard, that apparently either lost its way or was dumped by someone, was shot and killed by a deputy after a woman reported the animal pawing at her door.

Corporal Donn Hall of the Newton County Sheriff's Department responded Monday to a call from a woman saying a ‘black panther’ was on its hind legs at her door, said Capt. Richard Leavens. When Hall got out of his car, the animal charged at him.

"He fired on it and wounded it," Leavens said. "It ran past him to the end of the driveway and then came back at him." When the cat charged a second time, Hall fired additional shotgun blasts and then pulled out his .45-caliber handgun. "It took several shots with that to get one that took effect," Leavens said. Hall was not injured.

The department called an officer from the State Conservation Department, who said the animal's species was not immediately clear. It appeared that the cat was unaccustomed to living in the wild, the officer said.

"This most likely was a kept animal that either had been dumped out or had gotten away," Leavens said. The animal's claws had been surgically removed. He said there was speculation the animal might have been on the loose in the wake of the recent tornado damage in the region.

James Dixon, a wildlife damage biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation, said the animal, which weighed about 50 pounds, appeared to have been well-fed, even fat, perhaps from having been kept in a cage. But its stomach seemed empty, which might explain its behavior, he said, "He could have just been coming around looking for a handout," Dixon said. "Who knows what it was thinking?" Dixon said more research is needed to determine what the animal is, but he said it's either a leopard or a jaguar.

Leopards are native to Africa and Asia, with black leopards found in Africa. Jaguars are indigenous to South America, Central America and certain parts of the southwestern United States. But black jaguars are practically unheard of in the United States.

Dixon said it will require skull and teeth measurements to ascertain the species. Tissue samples could be taken if those measurements are not conclusive, he said.

Big, hairy pig attracted gawkers in southwestern Wisconsin
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat May 17, 2008

Viroqua, Wisconsin (AP) - A steady stream of vehicles pulled along the shoulder of the road to get a look at it: an enormous, hairy pig that apparently had been hit by a vehicle.

Large populations of the hard-to-find feral animals are thought to live in southern Vernon and northern Crawford counties.

The animal was found five miles south of Viroqua on Highways 14/61 yesterday morning. It appeared to have been dragged from the center of the road, and it had a severe head wound.

Andy Sherry of Viroqua was one of the gawkers. He wanted to see if it had any tusks, but he says if there were any,
someone else got to them before he did.
The Wisconsin Department of Natural
Resources considers feral pigs an exotic
species that poses of threat to the
environment and to agriculture. They can be
killed by anyone with a small game license at
any time of the year.

**Illinois woman wants her exotic cat back**
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat May 10, 2008

Carrollton, Illinois (AP) - Authorities in Central
Illinois have seized an exotic cat from a
woman who was keeping it as a pet without a
permit.

Tammy Ruehl of Carrollton says she wants
her African serval back. She says the cat,
named Max, has been with her since it was a
kitten.

Serval resemble small cheetahs with
oversized ears. In Africa, they live mostly
solitary, nocturnal lives on the range, eating
rodents, birds and reptiles. They are about the
size of a small dog.

Ruehl says
authorities took the
animal on
Tuesday, telling
her they were
sending it to the
Illinois Department
of Agriculture. She
says she received
a $75 fine.

Carrollton Police
Chief Mike Kiger
says the state had
the right to
confiscate the animal.

**Exotic cat still missing from MI sanctuary**
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat May 17, 2008

Muskegon, Michigan (AP) - An exotic African
cat remains missing after it and a bear

escaped from an
animal sanctuary in
Muskegon County.

The serval and the
bear escaped April
28 or 29 from the
West Michigan
Society for the
Protection and Care
of Animals shelter
in Egelston
Township.

Volunteers from the shelter located, tranquilized
and recaptured the bear on Tuesday, said Mary
Dettloff, a state Department of Natural
Resources spokeswoman.

Dettloff said earlier that the serval, a meat-
eating predator, might be a threat to small
domestic animals such as chickens or cats. But
shelter co-owner Brenda Pearson tells The
Muskegon Chronicle that the escaped serval
has been de-clawed and likely would eat only
small rodents.

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**Welcome Summer!**
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Photos confirm sighting of cougar
- Deputy kills large animal outside residence
- Illinois woman wants her exotic cat back