March 2008
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Issue 81

A Phoenix member’s beautiful Wolf!
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 March. 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_________________________
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
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

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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:
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 cathsphorher@metrocast.net
Cathy Freeman-Spohrer
Secretary, Phoenix Exotics
2008 Annual Meeting a Success!
By President, Jeanne Hall

Well, this annual meeting was a very interesting experience.

As usual, we planned on a bit of entertainment added to the mix to make the education and information presented by our guest speakers well worth the trip for our attendees.

But, we added a new wrinkle to the tried and true format. We changed our focus.

In years past our focus has been on the issues faced by the exotic community and related groups and issues - Rights, problems, solutions, shared issues and mutual concerns. A great focus and well worth the time and effort to present the data to our members and the public alike.

This year, we altered our focus to the wider field of the entire community and specifically targeted those who hold the future in their hands, the children.

We decided to hold the meeting right here where our main office is located, Chehalis, the county seat for Lewis County, Washington. We were fortunate to have a meeting space made available to us in a well-known community fixture here in Chehalis, The New Yardbirds Mall, not a big fancy hotel, not a business meeting place, a “people” place. Our owner/manager of Yard Birds/Shop-N-Kart is well known for his community involvement and went way beyond anything I would have expected in facilitating our meeting, even piggy backing promotion for the event in his full-page ad in the local paper.

Bob and his staff helped with set-up provided us with tables, chairs and anything else we needed. All this, in spite of disastrous losses in the recent flooding. A food vendor in the building was set up in time to provide for the crowd, humans in kangaroo and yardbirds bird costumes were greeting kids in the general mall area not unlike they would see in Disneyland, only these figures were home-grown. I can't praise Bob and his staff enough.

The local paper, The Chronicle, did a wonderful article on our Saturday event the Thursday prior with great writing and wonderful pictures. An event coverage article is in the works. We were also given Public Service Announcement spaces in other media outlets.

The Optimist Club provided refreshments. They also assisted in getting word out about the meeting by helping me with planning, handing out flyers, getting flyers posted and taking over complete management of the refreshments area.

Our speakers were incredible, absolutely incredible. To have both Washington State Representatives Debolt and Alexander on the same stage saying such kind things about Phoenix and recognizing the importance of protecting our rights was a high point for me personally. Everyone knows how much Phoenix members have invested in protecting rights throughout the years. It was great to have our local legislators speaking to the public and enjoying the event and being accessible to their constituents.

Our Science section was excellent and covered
areas of great import. We hope to be able to make some of these available in some format on the web very soon.

Subjects were covered from public health to caring for your new pet reptile and lots in between.

Our speakers on animals included lots of birds, snakes, turtles, other reptiles and the rare and beautiful Binturong (bearcat). The bearcat is one of the local mascots so it had a very special significance to many.

We also had presenters with literature Manning tables representing wild cats and birds and other animals. We had a number of live animal presentations with one whole wall of incredible birds. Julie put together a number of fabulous bird presentations. You really had to be there to believe it. The diversity of information presented as well as the birds themselves were enough to keep anyone mesmerized for the full day all by themselves!

PNWHS, Pacific Northwest Herpetological Society brought an enormous tortoise that wandered around allowing the kids to get up close and personal. Absolutely delightful!

Sasquatch was scheduled to display the binturong, python and cobra but ended up with that and an additional fascinating display of more snakes, with helpers to provide lots of show-and-tell with touchy-feely kid fun.

Our animal communicator Shirley Scott was busy nearly all the time and was a big hit with the crowd. Additionally, Shirley does interesting artwork. She presented Sasquatch with a piece of framed art, which incorporated some of the snakeskin he had shared at last year’s meeting.

Our 4H presenters were excellent, providing animals to touch, information, pictures and all sorts of fun. Shelter cats, ready for adoption, were made available and two were adopted to new homes! I have had a long-term association with the 4H photographers who have used my personal exotic cats as models over the years. I was given a delightful and emotional surprise when I came upon an excellent large print of my cougar Jake, who passed away the day after last year’s PE annual meeting, prominently displayed among the photos. This print and other photos were given to me as a gift at the end of the event.

As often happens, the best-laid plans went a bit askew, resulting in our setup taking up the time allotted for our first three presenters. But, we made up the lost time and were able to get two of the three into the line-up at the end along with an additional bird presentation and one from a 4H’er demonstrating how to draw a cartoon dog. The only presentation that we missed was the one on wild cats, but an informational table was manned on the subject.

Dave Coleburn’s Predators of the Heart Presentation was an enormous success, as usual. Dave and his helper Dan were joined by attendees in showing off the animals. It’s difficult to say what was the biggest WOW. This professional stage show has been a hit in schools and churches for a number of years now. Having our meetings here in Washington allows Dave to attend and wow the crowds with his excellent exotics.

Special mention goes to the three young cougars that made an appearance and the incredible King Cobra who impressed everyone!

I could go on and on about the meeting. What was planned as a meeting with a mix of informative speakers and interesting entertainment actually turned into a very large public event. In fact, the food vendor couldn’t get the food fixed fast enough! He was slammed with business. The crowd was large enough to actually change the meeting/event dynamics. Our normal mix of attendees is quite willing to

(continued page 6)
move from event to event in an orderly manner. Visiting the booths and displays during breaks and returning to seats for the next presentation. Well, we quickly outgrew our seating capacity and the crowds were content to move about the room visiting displays rather than sitting for a speaker. The number of people and animals talking competed with the speakers and we became a multi-ring "event" instead of just a meeting long before noon! But, event or meeting, this shindig was being put on for the public and turning into an event wasn't a bad thing. It is impossible to hold a business meeting in such an atmosphere though, so our annual business meeting will be rescheduled, as we did not get any PE corporate business done.

This year's event/annual meeting was a delightful surprise! The work of many went into its creation and our staff was tireless in making the event happen and run smoothly even when the demands were well in excess of expectations. Attendees stepped in to take up the slack in a number of places and some of these folks have become new members too.

The acoustics in the room made it difficult to hear our speakers and we hope to correct that problem for next year. Recording this year's event simply became impossible, but one of our speakers/staff had a set up that may result in some portions having been recorded which we can put to use!

Based on our sign-in sheets, the crowd was somewhere between 1200 and 1500. Even with 6 people manning the doors at times, we were unable to keep up with getting everyone signed in and a number of sign-ins represented 5 or more adults and kids. We had lots and lots of kids big and small, young and old!

Bottom line. We did accomplish our goal for the meeting this year, Community and Future.

Thanks much to all who made this event possible!

Looking forward to next year!

Jeanne Hall - President
Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association

Wyoming welcomes wolf delisting
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat Feb 23, 2008

Cheyenne, WY- (AP) - Public officials are welcoming news that the federal government is delisting the gray wolf.

Governor Dave Freudenthal (FREE'-den-thawl) says the announcement signals that the state's work has paid off and Wyoming is ready to manage the wolves. He commended the state Game and Fish Department and the state Legislature for supporting the agency.

Game and Fish Director Terry Cleveland says his department is ready to assume management of wolves in Wyoming. That includes working to minimize conflicts between wolves and livestock and wolves and people. As part of that, the state plans to complete rules for wolf hunts in the next few months.

Free Ride for Exotic Pets
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat Feb 23, 2008

Miami, FL (AP) -- Miami Metrozoo is offering amnesty for exotic pets that are too difficult to keep at home.

State wildlife officers will accept any exotic or illegal pet brought to the zoo on Saturday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., no questions asked.

The pet amnesty day is an attempt to discourage owners from simply releasing exotic animals into the wild, where they can threaten native animal populations.

Veterinarians also will be available to implant reptiles with microchips that can be used to identify the animals if they get lost.
About 60 pets were handed over to the state during similar pet amnesty days in central Florida last year.

**Animal rights group: USDA should investigate tiger escape**
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat Feb 23, 2008

Honolulu- (AP) - The animal rights organization PETA says the escape of a tiger at the Honolulu Zoo violated the Animal Welfare Act.

They have called on the U.S. Department of Agriculture to investigate the incident.

Lisa Wathne of PETA says the act requires wild animals to be handled safely and their enclosures are to be secured at all times.

The zoo's 245-pound Sumatran tiger, Berani, was discovered wandering around an unsecured area just before the zoo's opening Thursday. Officials say a zoo keeper accidentally left two gates unlocked, allowing the tiger to escape from its enclosure.

City services director Sidney A. Quintal says the mistake was unintentional, and the zoo makes every effort to follow guidelines about the health and welfare of animals in captivity.

**Couple share house with 600 animals**
Submitted by (south zoo) Sat Mar 08, 2008

Breaux Bridge, La. (AP) - Brett and Lori Matte of Breaux Bridge have a lot of rescued pets in their house and yard. They figure there are about 600, ranging from an African Desert Fox to tiny possums known as sugar gliders.

Many of the pets are exotic, the Mattes have a license for exotic animals. As part of that, they have to follow the same rules as zoos. Each animal has a specific diet, and the Mattes keep a detailed log of which one eats what and how much.

They don’t have any cats and dogs, but are happy to suggest where people to take them.

To help with the $12,000-a-year animal food bill, the Mattes offer zoo-style adoptions in which people pay to feed a specific animal and get a fancy certificate.

Some of the non-exotic pets are available for permanent adoption if the right home is found.

They Mattes also have what they call a little zoo on wheels. Their "Zoo-Zoom" will take 17 to 25 animals to a party for the party-goers to look at, touch, and learn about.

**PE Annual Meeting (Business portion)**
Submitted by (President) Tue Mar 4, 2008

We are working on scheduling the business portion of the Phoenix Annual meeting. Currently, March 15th looks to be a workable date. Most likely this will be a lunch meeting around Seattle.

The agenda is being put together and will be posted here shortly. This meeting is to cover the business we did not get to at the Feb 23rd meeting.

Jeanne
Highlighted In This Issue:

- 2008 Annual Meeting a Success
- Wyoming welcomes Wolf de-listing
- Couple share house with 600 animals!