What’s more beautiful than a sunset?

A sun setting behind Deborah-Ann Milette’s handsome serval!
Welcome from the President

My name is Jeanne Hall. I am the President of Phoenix Exotic. Our monthly newsletters are provided essentially for our members who may not have access to our website in an effort to keep our membership well-informed regarding organizational business and abreast of current legislation regarding private ownership.

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.”

In our monthly newsletters, you will also find information regarding husbandry, upcoming meetings, rescue, cage design, safety and much more.

If you wish to see any of our past copies of the newsletters, you may go to website, http://www.PhoenixExotics.org/. You can join the e-list at http://phoenixexotics.org/ and then click on the link for E-groups email list. ENJOY!

-Jeanne Hall

Letter From Editor

Our monthly newsletter is a compilation of articles and posts from the Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, Inc. E-List. We are limited in the print medium to select only a few items.

Any published submissions have been granted prior permission for publication.

Our thanks goes to the Associated Press for granting a non-exclusive license to reprint materials online for the purpose of this newsletter.

We encourage member participation by submitting stories and photos of your animals to us with your expressed written permission to use the material for the newsletters and website. If you wish to remain anonymous, just express it with your consent. Thank you!

-Rhonda Kiker

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I would like to join and support the Phoenix Wildlife Association. I understand that dues are for membership only and non-refundable.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at southzoo@aol.com
Rhonda Kiker

Living with Monkeys
Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association
Responsible Ownership Series #2
Raccoon unfazed by cop's Taser during wild chase
Submitted by (south zoo) Thu Oct 23, 2008

Dallas, (AP) – Police learned something during a frenetic burglary call to an elderly couple's home. Tasers don't work on raccoons. Police arrived with guns drawn after receiving a 911 call from an 85-year-old man who heard noises near his front door Tuesday night. Officers surrounded the house but pretty quickly, in the words of the police report, "determined the suspect was a raccoon."

In the meantime, the masked burglar apparently made its way into the house through the chimney. And that's when things got really interesting.

With officers in pursuit, the raccoon took off through the house, ripping up Venetian blinds, pulling down drapes, knocking over a lamp and toppling a flowerpot. Finally, Officer Daniel Ek tried to let it out the back door when the suspect apparently turned threatening. "While unlocking the back door, the suspect ran at Officer Ek," the police report says.

Ek used his taser, but the raccoon ran up the chimney with the stun gun's prongs in its back. An animal control officer tried unsuccessfully to flush it out with ammonia, homeowner Bill Hyde said in Thursday's edition of The Dallas Morning News.

A neighbor helped secure the front of the fireplace to keep the raccoon from returning. The next morning, when the neighbor returned to put a cap on the chimney, the raccoon had escaped. "He got away clean," Hyde said.

Reward offered in killing of wolf pup
Submitted by (south zoo) Thu Oct 23, 2008

Phoenix (AP) - A reward of up to $10,000 is being offered in the killing of a young endangered Mexican gray wolf in eastern Arizona.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said the 6-month-old wolf apparently was shot to death while standing along a dirt road about seven miles southwest of Hannagan Meadow. The wolf was found dead October 13.

The agency said that there was moderate hunting activity in the area at the time, and that the area also is a popular camping and hiking region.

Penalties for killing a Mexican gray wolf include fines of up to $75,000 and up to a year in jail.

Mexican gray wolves disappeared from the Southwest during the past century because of federal eradication efforts.

Russian children kill zoo kangaroo
Submitted by (south zoo) Thu Oct 23, 2008

Police in the southern Russian city of Rostov-on-Don say three children aged 10 to 12 have admitted killing a 10-month-old kangaroo at the city's zoo.

The kangaroo and several seagulls were killed over the weekend.

Rostov police spokesman Alexei Polyansky said today that the two boys and a girl admitted the killings. He did not say how the animals were killed, but Russian news reports said they were beaten.

Because the children are minors, their parents could be required to pay fines equivalent to the estimated value of the dead animals - 115,000 rubles ($A6,385).
The zoo’s deputy director, Nina Yevtushenko, said its other seven kangaroos are in a state of shock: “In contrast to people, they feel the pain of their relatives.”

**Animal that fatally mauled worker allowed to live**
Submitted by (south zoo) Thu Nov 20, 2008
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma (AP) - A big cat that fatally mauled a worker at a wildlife sanctuary won't be euthanized.

Thirty-two-year-old Peter Getz was mauled by Rocky the liger, a cross between a male lion and a female tiger, on Oct. 29 and died the following day.

Lori Ensign, the owner of Safari’s Sanctuary, says she has been told the liger will be able to live out his life at the park.

The park closed after the attack but will reopen on Nov. 29-30 to raise money to feed its animals through the winter. A news release issued by the park does not discuss its status beyond that.

Ensign says that Getz would not have wanted the park’s mission to cease. She says park officials will work to keep Getz’s dream alive through a renewed effort to educate people on the dangers of having exotic animals as pets.

**3 tigers escape circus truck in western Mexico**
Submitted by (south zoo) Wed Nov 5, 2008

By Mark Stevenson, Associated Press Writer

Mexico City, – Authorities says three tigers that had escaped from a Mexican circus truck were recaptured after police distracted them by throwing them chickens.

The local newspaper Cambio de Michoacan says the escaped felines holed up in house in the western city of Zitacuaro. When the tigers started breaking down the home’s fence, police lobbed them chickens to eat until a dogcatcher and the animals' trainer arrived.

An officer at the state police office in Zitacuaro says the tigers were loose for less than an hour. The officer was not authorized to be quoted by name. The big cats were recaptured Wednesday and taken to a local police station where they were held until their owner agreed to pay for the chickens and damage to the fence.

**Cheetah gets loose on Delta flight**
Submitted by (south zoo) Fri Oct 31, 2008

Atlanta, Georgia, (AP) - A Delta baggage worker got a bit of a fright when she opened a jetliner's cargo door and found a cheetah running loose amid the luggage.

Delta spokeswoman Betsy Talton said Friday that two cheetahs were being flown in the cargo area of a passenger flight from Portland, Oregon, to Atlanta a day earlier when one escaped from its cage.

Talton said the airline summoned help from an Atlanta zoo. Experts rushed to a closed airport hangar and tranquilized both animals and took them back to the zoo.

Talton said the airline is now working to get the big cats back to their owners. She declined to identify the owners, citing Delta’s privacy rules.

The good news for passengers: The cheetah did not damage any of their luggage.
Rare blood transfusion attempted on tiger cub
Submitted by (south zoo) Mon Nov 17, 2008
By Gavin Rabinowitz & Ramola Talwar Badam

New Delhi, (AP) - Veterinarians carried out a rare blood transfusion in an attempt to save a 7-month-old wild tiger that had been attacked and beaten by angry villagers in central India.

The female cub received the emergency treatment late Sunday after blood taken from captive adults was airlifted to the zoo where the cub is being cared for, said Bimal Majumdar, the chief wildlife officer in the region. He said it was the first time a transfusion had been given to a tiger in India.

The cub, which doctors named Juhi after a fragrant white flower native to India, was still in serious condition Monday at the zoo in the city of Nagpur, some 530 miles (850 kilometers) southeast of New Delhi, he said. India’s wild tiger population has plummeted to just some 1,500, down from about 3,600 six years ago and an estimated 100,000 a century ago. Shrinking habitats have brought them into conflict with farmers and poachers have killed them for their pelts and body parts, which are highly prized in traditional Chinese medicine.

Juhi and her sister were rescued two weeks ago from villagers who tried to kill them, fearing they would go after their children and cattle. The cubs also appear to have been abandoned by their mother. "The cubs were in bad shape at the time they were rescued. They were starved," said Majumdar. "The villagers had also beaten them with sticks so they were injured as well."

While the other cub Jai, or Victory, responded well after being brought to the zoo, Juhi’s condition deteriorated.

On Sunday, veterinarians treating the cat discovered that her hemoglobin levels had suddenly dropped to a dangerously low level and decided the only way to save her was to carry out a blood transfusion.

They sent a request to the Sanjay Gandhi National Park in Mumbai, where doctors tranquilized two healthy adult tigers and drew three-fourths of a pint (350 milliliters) of blood from each of them. Four hours later the blood reached Nagpur, said Vinery Jangle, the park’s head veterinarian.

Jangle, who oversaw the transfusion, said she remained uncertain whether it would prove successful because only rudimentary tests were done to determine whether the donor blood matched Juhi’s type. "The blood grouping procedure is critical, but in India there has been no work done on blood groups. There are no studies on blood types and wild tigers," she said, adding that she was unaware of a transfusion being performed on a tiger elsewhere.

Transfusions for rare animals can be difficult because blood types and antibodies vary from species to species, according to the Web site of Brown University’s Division of Biology and Medicine. While rare, transfusions have been done in the past on turtles, pandas and a baby elephant at Western zoos, which sometimes bank an animal’s own blood in case it needs a transfusion, the Web site said.
Pandurang Munde, the Mumbai Park’s director, said it was worth the risk. "We needed to save the young one's life. If the hemoglobin was low, there was only one remedy: blood transfusion," he said.

The cub was on a saline drip and cameras had been installed in her enclosure so they could monitor her around the clock, said Majumdar. "She is still not in good shape," he said. "So we have our fingers crossed."

Ramola Talwar Badam reported from Mumbai.

**Pet violations could become crimes**
Submitted by (south zoo) Thu Oct 23, 2008

Yuma, Arizona (AP) - Yuma County supervisors want further review of a proposed amendment of a county ordinance that could change some pet violations from civil to criminal offenses.

The board decided that the issue needed additional discussion, and moved to gather more information on the proposed change before holding a public hearing on it.

The proposed change would affect ordinances that govern the restraint of animals and barking dogs in the county's unincorporated areas.

**Jogger runs mile with rabid fox locked on her arm**
Submitted by (south zoo) Wed Nov 5, 2008

Prescott, Arizona (AP) - With a fox locked onto her arm, an Arizona jogger ran a mile to her car, where she was able to dislodge the animal, throw it into the trunk and drive to a Prescott hospital. The Yavapai County Sheriff's Office said the fox, which later attacked an animal control officer, tested positive for rabies.

The unidentified Chino Valley resident told deputies she was on a trail Monday at the base of Granite Mountain when the fox attacked, biting her foot. The woman said she grabbed it by the neck when it went for her leg and it latched onto her arm.

Thinking the fox was rabid, she wanted to make sure it didn't get away so she ran to her car, where she was able to pry open its jaws, wrap it in a sweat shirt and toss it into the trunk.

The woman is receiving rabies vaccinations, as is the animal control officer.
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Cheetah gets loose on Delta flight
- Animal that fatally mauled worker allowed to live
- Rare blood transfusion attempted on tiger cub