A beautiful African Cape Parrot owned by Phoenix member, Julie.
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

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 __________________________

Please enclose check or money order.

Mail to Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association, PO Box 1132 Chehalis, WA 98532
(Note: We also accept payment by credit card or paypal. Please see ad page for instructions)
TO ORDER:
Send Check or Money Order to:
Phoenix Exotics Wildlife
Association
PO Box 1132
Chehalis, WA 98532

1 Copy $9.00
5 Copies $38.00
10 Copies $58.00
50 Copies $240.00

(Please include $2.95 for shipping/handling charges)

Also available on Amazon
@ http://www.Amazon.com

Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association Shopping!

T-Shirts in Goldenrod or White with Phoenix Bird logo are $12, $14 for XXL

Annual Meetings for years 2002-2006
DVD’s: $19.85 + $4.95 for shipping and handling
VHS: $25.95 + $4.95 shipping and handling

Payment can be made to:
Phoenix Exotic Wildlife Association
PO 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.

Payment may also be made credit card using VISA/MASTERCHARGE. Please list your name as it appears on the card, the card number and the expiration date of the card.

Please include:
Name and address
Quantity of items
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 southzoo@aol.com
Rhonda Kiker
Riding Out Ike on an Island, With a Lion
Submitted by (south zoo) Wed Sep 17, 2008
By Allen G. Breed

Bolivar Peninsula, Texas (AP) - Many years from now, a small group of Hurricane Ike survivors will probably still be telling the story of how, on the night the storm flattened their island, they took sanctuary in a church, with a lion.

The full-grown lion was from a local zoo, and the owner was trying to drive to safety with the animal when he saw cars and trucks stranded in the rising floodwaters. He knew he and the lion were in trouble.

He headed for the church and was met by a group of residents who helped the lion wade inside, where they locked it inside of a sanctuary as the storm raged.

The water crept up to their waists, and two-by-fours came floating through broken windows. But the lion was as calm as a kitten. When daylight came, everyone was still alive.

"They worked pretty well together, actually," said the lion's owner, Michael Ray Kujawa. "When you have to swim, the lion doesn't care about eating nobody."

Amid the destruction in places like Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston, where row upon row of houses were scoured from the landscape, seemingly impossible tales of survival have begun to emerge. Whether through faith or fate, luck or resourcefulness, dozens of people who stayed behind made it out alive, and have harrowing stories to prove it.

As of Tuesday, the official death toll from Ike stood at 47. Only 17 were in Texas Many of those were people killed by fires or generator fumes after the storm had passed. However, authorities held out the possibility that some victims were washed out to sea.

Among those who made it out alive was Kathi Norton, who put on a life jacket as the storm closed in on High Island, on the Bolivar Peninsula. She and her husband, Paul, knew the dangers of staying, and put their important documents, credit cards, money and cell phones into a plastic bag, and held on tight. All too quickly, the floodwaters rose and the house started to break apart. Through the gaps, they saw refrigerators, lawn mowers and hot tubs floating past. The deck broke away next. Then the roof started to buckle. "The whole floor was just opened out," he said. Norton grabbed his wife and headed for an outdoor staircase, escaping in time only because a flagpole kept the house from crashing down for a few precious seconds. "I look up, the house is coming on us," he said.

For hours, they sloshed around in 4-foot waves before finding themselves perched in a tree. They finally made their way onto someone's motor home, which then started to sink. They were able to cling to rafters of a nearby structure and hang on until daybreak. "We had to grab that staircase and float wherever it took us," the 68-year-old retiree said.

Willis Turner decided to ride it out on his wooden boat next to his house on Crystal Beach, also on Bolivar Peninsula, but the boat nearly capsized and he was saved by a rope his wife tossed to him. The two held on inside a home that she said "vibrated like a guitar string."

"It was like an atomic bomb going off. Right after the eye passed, whole houses came by us at 30 miles an hour, whole houses just floating right past," Turner said. "It was unreal. Unreal."

Turner and his wife awoke the next day to an island they no longer recognized. The first four rows of houses on the beach were washed into the sea. There were no more restaurants, no more gas stations, no more grocery stores. The neighborhood was gone.

In Galveston, Charlene Warner, 52, weathered the storm with her landlord and a neighbor in...
the apartment above her own. "It felt like an earthquake, the rumbling and the rocking of the building," she said, smoking outside a shelter in San Antonio. "Everyone was praying. "It was so terrible. All I could say was, 'Lord, please don't kill me. Forgive me for what I done,'" Warner said, as a tear rolled down her cheek.

After the storm, she and neighbors waited for rescue, but no one came. The water receded, leaving a layer of muck filled with snakes. But with no water, no electricity and a shrinking supply of food, Warner decided to go for help, sliding her way across the goo a block and a half to the fire station.

Firefighters took her and neighbors to a spot where they could get on an evacuation bus. She arrived at a shelter in San Antonio with her purse stuffed full of personal documents and cigarettes, and one spare outfit that she washed and drip-dried on a railing Tuesday. "I lost everything. What you see with me is all I have," she said. "I have never seen anything like that in my life. I'll never ride out another storm."

Cheryl Stanley said she and her husband, Tom, wanted to evacuate their Galveston apartment before the hurricane hit but couldn't. Their son, Casey, has cerebral palsy, and the three live on the third floor. When they tried to leave, the elevators were turned off, and they couldn't carry Casey down the stairs. "It was horrible," Cheryl said. "The building was shaking all night."

A few hours into the storm, Casey said he didn't feel safe in the bedroom, so they moved him to the living room. About three hours later, the ceiling in his bedroom collapsed. "Thank God, we got Casey out of there," his mother said.

After the storm passed, paramedics carried Casey downstairs. And neighbors carried the wheelchair.

At the Baptist church on Bolivar Island where the lion spent the night, Richard Jones, a shrimper, said he wasn't afraid of the beast. "That little old fella is just as tame as a kitten," Jones said.

After the storm passed, the lion's caretakers fed it pork roast to keep it happy.

National Guardsmen dropping off food and water lined up Tuesday in the choir loft to get a glimpse of the lion, and the soldiers jumped back when the lion looked up from its perch on the altar and snarled.

Jones said he hadn't stepped foot in a church in the 40 years he has lived on this spit of land. And he wasn't ready to call his survival divine intervention. "I drink beer and chase women, gamble, cuss," Jones said. "You can't call that religion. I'm either too good, the devil won't have me, or I'm so bad the Good Lord won't take me. That's a good toss-up."

**Animal Liberation Front claims Scio mink release**

Submitted by (south zoo) Fri Sep 12, 2008

Portland, Oregon (AP) - The Animal Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for releasing hundreds of mink from the S&N Fur Farm in Scio.

The activists wrote a communique to The Oregonian newspaper saying they released as many as 150 mink in Thursday's raid.

Ranch owner Ed Sandberg confirmed Monday that 215 mink were set free after someone cut a hole in his fence, but 177 were recovered.

The communique said the action was inspired by releases last month in Jordan, Utah, of 600 mink and 6,000 mink in Aldergrove, British Columbia.

Last April, the ALF struck the Jefferson Fur Farm in Oregon, releasing 53 mink. All were recovered.

Fur industry officials say captive mink seldom survive in the wild after animal-rights extremists release them.
Two escaped leopards caught south of Reno
Submitted by (south zoo) Fri Sep 12, 2008

Reno, Nevada (AP) - Washoe Valley residents are resting a little easier today after animal control officers captured a pair of black leopards on the loose south of Reno.

Washoe County Regional Animal Services originally responded to a call about a large black dog on the roof of a home in the valley east of Washoe Lake.

When they got there, they found not a dog, but a leopard on the roof. As they were preparing a tranquilizer gun, they found a second cat there. Both were put to sleep and transported to animal services.

State Wildlife Department spokesman Edwin Lyngar says the cats are exotic pets that apparently escaped from the home of their owner.

The owner’s name has not been released, but has come forward to claim the animals. They're being held until the owner builds an improved enclosure and secures all the necessary permits.

Zoologists capture first photos of okapi in wild
Submitted by (south zoo) Fri Sep 12, 2008

By Nancy Zuckerbrod, Associated Press Writer

Zoologists have captured the first photos of the okapi in the wild, saying Thursday they offered evidence that the animal once mistaken for a unicorn has managed to survive war and poaching in a park in a lawless swath of Congo.

The doe-eyed animal, which can be found in zoos worldwide, is a relative of the giraffe but has zebra-like stripes on its legs and rear.

The species was unknown to European scientists until a century ago. It is thought to have inspired claims of unicorn sightings by Victorian-era explorers, said Noelle Kumpel, a conservationist with the Zoological Society of London, which released the photos.

The photos were taken by cameras set up in the Virunga National Park by the zoological society and conservationists in Congo after okapi tracks were spotted there a few years ago.

The animal's stripes are sometimes called "come follow me stripes," because their bold pattern is believed to help young ones follow their mothers through the forest. Each animal's stripes are unique, like fingerprints.

The okapi is only known to exist in Congo, primarily further north in Ituri Province's Okapi Wildlife Reserve. There, they are difficult to spot because they are shy and usually only move around in couples. Virunga officials say before the okapi was captured on camera, it was not known whether it still roamed the park.

The photos also indicate the animals are more widely distributed in the park than was previously believed. "We've managed to get pictures of three separate individuals, and we've also got a picture of one roaming around at nighttime and actually foraging, which is the first evidence of this behavior," said Kumpel.

Scientists previously believed okapi fed only during the day, she said.

Virunga, near the Rwanda and Uganda borders, is also home to some of the world's last remaining mountain gorillas. Part of the reserve is still occupied by Congolese and Rwandan rebels, who have hidden in its dense forests for more than a decade and used parts of it as bases to launch attacks.

Kumpel said the one other known photograph of a wild okapi showed only a leg.

The okapi is threatened by poachers who want to sell its meat, Kumpel said. The okapi could become extinct in the park soon because of poaching and the effects of the fighting between rebels and government forces on conservation.
efforts, she added.

Earlier this year, the Zoological Society photographed another shy mammal, a pygmy hippopotamus, in Liberia. That animal had not been photographed there before, scientists said.

**Family donates $1 million to Des Moines Zoo**
Submitted by (south zoo) Fri Sep 12, 2008

Des Moines, Iowa (AP) - Des Moines lawyer Elizabeth Kruidenier and her family foundation have given $1 million to the Blank Park Zoo Foundation.

The gift is part of a fundraising effort to expand and renovate the Des Moines zoo. Plans call for expanding the 23-acre zoo to more than 103 acres with walking trails, new exhibits and rides.

The Kruidenier family has donated to many Des Moines area projects, including the city's library, art center and civic center.

**Property rights began with animals**
Submitted by (lioneuy) Thu Aug 21, 2008

The first things people "owned" were animals such as dogs, cattle, horses, sheep and llamas.

Centuries before people settled down and claimed land as property they traveled with their herds or followed the game with their dogs, or other animals.

When they decided to settle down and farm, it also started with animals. The purpose of raising grass/grain was to feed the herds and, by extension, themselves.

Had animals never been taken as property, we would still be wandering primitives, scratching a living as we roamed. Animals started us on our upward march.

In centuries past many species were domesticated that are not common to today's idea of working, food, or "pet" species. This does not make them any less valid. Conquest and other factors just made it that way. The victors' idea was imposed.

But without animals we would never have developed civilization, settled down, developed trade, rights, etc. They all stem from those wild animals our ancestors adopted as theirs.

This principle has always been the basis of freedom and rights.

In recent history, the concept of animals as property was so important that taking someone's horse was life and death. Someone who lost his horse in the old West could die before reaching safety. Horse and cattle thieves were routinely executed. An owner could shoot anyone caught rustling his animals. People understood the seriousness of the right to own and protect animals.

But now that right is under attack. The whole idea of property is being undermined. The government now controls your land, what you do with it, whether you get to keep it.

And now they want say over what animals you own. They want to tell you whether you can own them, whether they can be intact, whether you can breed them, what breed they may be, what species.

Soon you will have no property rights. It will all be government privileges, to be granted or denied at the whim of some bureaucrat or politician. They will be able to tell you what you can own, where you can live, what you can do.

Your kids are next. In many areas they already tell you what you can/cannot teach them, how THEY will indoctrinate them, etc. They will decide what is best, not you. You will be their serf, their subject. Your own kids will turn you in if you stray. The PETA Youth will rule.

Unless you start fighting. Now.
Highlighted In This Issue:

- Riding Out Ike on an Island, With a Lion
- Zoologists capture first photos of okapi in wild
- Property rights began with animals