

Welcome to the 20th annual Fabulous Feline Follies



Saturday, August 15, 2009

Hosted by the Exotic Feline Breeding
Compound's Feline Conservation Center

Rosamond, California

Message from the Follies Committee

Welcome and thank you for attending the 20th Annual Fabulous Feline Follies. We appreciate your continued support over the last 32 years of our on-going efforts of feline propagation and preservation. We couldn't perform this mission without the people who put in countless hours of dedicated hard work and people who provide the funds to ensure our mission succeeds and continues through these tough economic times. We are happy to say that while many facilities and zoos are having to down-size, we are continuing to grow and flourish. Our feline family also continues to diversify with the new breeding pair of snow leopards and the soon to arrive Persian leopard breeding pair.

This year we draw you into the **“Lure of the Jungle”** and encourage you to take the time to appreciate the incredible diversity of the last remaining jungles. Something about the raw wildness of the jungle has drawn people for generations, beckoning them to discover its secrets such as the popular fiction stories like the Jungle Book & The Heart of Darkness. Part of this, I believe, is due to the vast unknown species hidden in the rainforests and the incredible discoveries being made there everyday. More than half of the world's estimated 10 million species of plants, animals, and insects live in the tropical rainforests. Unfortunately, the vast resources that rainforests hold are being rapidly depleted by timber companies and agriculture. It is estimated that 1.5 acres of rainforest are lost every second and 137 plant, animal, and insect species are being lost every single day. This is 50,000 species being lost every year! At this rate scientists estimate that nearly 80-90% of the tropical rainforest ecosystems will be destroyed by the year 2020.

So what does this mean to the average person? There are some very practical losses. For instance, the Amazon rainforest, which covers over a billion acres, produces over 20% of the world's oxygen, without which global warming will increase at an incredible rate. We also may be losing out on new and potentially important food crops. At least 80% of the developed world's diet originated in the tropical rainforest such as oranges, bananas, tomatoes, corn, potatoes, rice, yams, CHOCOLATE, and coffee, not to mention great spices like ginger, pepper, vanilla, and sugar cane. Additionally the rainforest has a virtually untapped medicine cabinet. The U.S. National Cancer Institute has identified 3000 plants that are active against cancer cells. Seventy percent of these plants are found in the rainforest. In fact, 25% of the active ingredients in today's cancer-fighting drugs come from organisms found only in the rainforest. Harvard's Pulitzer Prize-winning biologist Edward O. Wilson put it very distinctly several decades ago, which still holds true: “The worst thing that can happen during the 1980s is not energy depletion, economic collapses, limited nuclear war, or conquest by a totalitarian government. As terrible as these catastrophes would be for us, that can be repaired within a few generations. The one process ongoing in the 1980s that will take millions of years to correct is the loss of genetic and species diversity by the destruction of natural habitats. This is the folly that our descendants are least likely to forgive us for.”

EFBC, along with your support, is helping to preserve some of the world's wonders through our conservation and propagation efforts. It is now more important than ever to preserve what's left for future generations. Thank you for your commitment to helping us with feline conservation and preservation efforts to try and turn back the tide of extinction and save some the world's most charismatic carnivores.

-Misty Hailstone

DIAMOND JIM'S CASINO

BOB BURGUM

**Tournament/Promotions Director
Assistant General Manager**

Phone: (661) 256-1400 x 132

Fax: (661) 256-6278

BobB@avradionet.com

P.O. Box 670, Rosamond, CA 93560

Exit 14 Freeway @ Avenue "A"

COMPLETE PACKAGING SUPPLIES

P.O. Box 6893
Burbank, CA 91510-6893
Fax: 818-365-6610

818-361-5776

Jerry Gadwood
Sales Representative

Lic # 262497 C-13

Bonded & Insured



Larry Purcell

President

42251 N. Sierra Hwy.
Lancaster, CA 93534

661-948-2623
Fax: 661-723-3930

LANE SCAPES

Landscape Design Studios

Magda Lane
Landscape Designer

lanescapes@roadrunner.com

Call 818.826.8616
Off 818.505.8657

TOBOCO TRADERS "WORLD BAZAAR"

Exotic Gifts & Treasures

(760) 375-4311

135 N. Balsam St.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
toboco@ridgenet.net

Marilyn Toborz
Richard Toborz
Owners

Simple Tribute

Halley Olsen Murphy
Funerals & Cremations
FD1067

Elaine M. Heitman

MANAGER
FDR 1511
eheitman@stei.com

44802 Date Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93534
Phone 661 942-1139
Fax 661 723-5587
Cell 661 816-5669

SPONSORS

TITANIUM - Donations of \$2,500+

Mary Marlowe - Los Angeles, CA

Diamond Jim's Casino - Rosamond, CA

Eric Barkalow & Nancy Vandermey - Altadena, CA

PLATINUM - Donations of \$1,000+

AAZK-EFBC Chapter - Rosamond, CA

Complete Packaging Supplies - Burbank, CA

Steven M. Crutchfield - Gainesville, VA

Susan Lozier & Ian MacLeod - Omaha, NE

George & Joan Paulikas, Palos Verdes Estates, CA

Scott & Nicole Pearson - Los Angeles, CA

Barbara Clifford - Reno, NV

SILVER - Donations of \$300+

In memory of Steve Rendes, former EFBC Director, by Irene & Cherylrenee Rendes, CA

Sav-On Fence, Larry Purcell - Lancaster, CA

BRONZE - Donations of \$200+

Diane M. Citron - Santa Monica, CA

Jeff and Ann Conrad - Athens, GA

LaneScapes Design, Magda Lane - Studio City, CA

Toboco Traders, Richard & Marilyn Toborg – Ridgecrest, CA

Halley Olsen Murphy, Funerals & Cremations - Lancaster, CA



**Welcome to the 20th Annual
Fabulous Feline Follies
"Lure of the Jungle"**

5:30 PM - Cocktail Reception, Animal Visitors courtesy of David & Anita Jackson - Zoo To You. View our cats and enjoy close encounters with a wide variety of visiting educational animals. Bid on silent auction items, purchase raffle tickets (\$5 each, 5 for \$20) and extra door prize tickets (\$1 each)

6:30 PM - Door prizes awarded, must be present to win. Dinner begins (buffet style). Emcee will call table numbers

7:30 PM - Program and Presentations

8:30 PM - Raffle winners drawn (\$1,000 grand prize), silent auction winners announced

Our emcee this year is Eric Barkalow

Gift shop open all evening

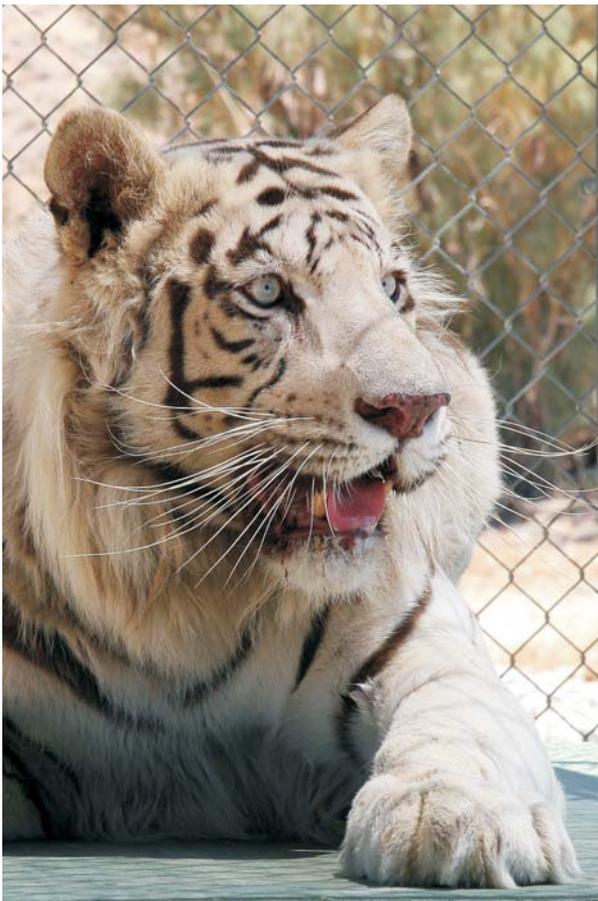
Souvenir Jungle Juice Glass

Purchase our Orange Ocelot or Pandora Punch (non-alcoholic) to take home a hand-painted glass as a souvenir!

Also available - your favorite drink in one of our speciality glasses.



Silent Auction and Raffle Donors



Gail Lyon - Mitie Burmese, Sandy Masek, Earl & Nagin Cox, Alan Mootnick, Kay Hopkins, Shawn Medovitch, Scott & Nicole Pearson, Pam Rose & Gene Bowman, Nancy Vandermeij & Eric Barkalow, Camille & Jerry Gadwood, Mary Jane Sesto, C&C Service, Dr. Scott Weldy, Joe Weatherly, Natalie Green, Albert Thacker, Betty Platero, Suzie Richey, Leslie Simmons, Bettye Kozlowski, Irene & Cherylrenee Rendes, Domingo's Mexican & Seafood Restaurant, Carolyn Duke, Alexandra Gonzalez, Skyler Gonzalez, David - In Need Of Canvasas, Elaine Heitman, Antelope Valley Fair, A-1 Rentals, Don Patterson, Magic Mountain, Hurricane Harbor, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Slade, Costco, Cat Fancy Magazine, Clear Chanel - Jet Hawks, Linda Reynolds, Diamond Jim's Casino, Three Little Fish, Dr. Kristi Fisher, Zulu Nyala

EFBC Feline Conservation Center is:



DIRECTORS

Joseph W. Maynard, President
Larry Purcell, Vice President
Sandra Masek, Treasurer
Nancy Vandermey, Secretary
Camille Gadwood, Public Relations
Jeff Conrad, D.V.M., Director
Nicole Pearson, Esq., Director
Robert Slade, Director

STAFF

Sandra Masek, General Manager
Melany Marotta, Lead Keeper
Roena Ross, Keeper
Lori Hands, Gift Shop
Cindy Sparks, Gift Shop
Mitch Yost, Maintenance



VOLUNTEERS

Carrie Alatorre, Eric Barkalow, Kim Blaquera, Lauren Cooke, Debbie Crosthwait, Brittany Furr, Camille Gadwood, Misty Hailstone, Duwayne Howell, Missy Koop, Lauren Kreisberg, Gail Lyon, Andre Poliakoff, Deneb Maine, Vanessa Pearson, Laurie Peters, Pam Rose, Leslie Simmons, Kat Skeen, Megan Smith, Nancy Vandermey, Richard West, Silvia Wolff

We are always looking for more volunteers!

Keep up to date on our new arrivals, births, and construction projects on our web site, www.wildcatzoo.org

Not receiving our quarterly newsletters? Become a member today! Admission to our facility and select other zoos nationwide included, as well as a 10% discount in our gift shop.

As we celebrate our 20th annual Fabulous Feline Follies, we reflect on how this event has changed over the years as our facility has grown. From formal events held in hotel ballrooms in Lancaster, to a tent in our dirt driveway, and finally to a celebration held in the middle of our favorite felines, enjoying our beautiful landscaping and lighting. We thank those who have helped us add all these improvements, and we look forward to finally completing Project Tiger and having more reasons to celebrate!

Past Felitarians:

Dr. Scott Weldy	Dr. Jim Sanderson	Cherylrenee Rendes
David & Anita Jackson	George & Joan Paulikas	Pat Quillen
Pamela Gray	Nancy Vandermey	Steve Rendes
Jerry Gadwood	Dr. Patrick Morris	Richard & Jakki Baker
Ron Wildermuth	Larry Purcell	Julie Abraham
Mark Purcell	Betty White Ludden	Randy Miller

**Our speaker this year is Dr. Jim Sanderson
“Small Cats: The Big Picture”**

Felitarians are those people who have made a difference, specifically in the area of our mission: to protect and preserve the world’s endangered felines.

Dr. Sanderson was honored with our Felitarian award in 2007 in honor of his dedication to the small wild cats of the world. He founded the Small Cat Conservation Alliance in 1996 (www.smallcats.org) with the mission:

“to ensure the survival of small wild cats and their natural habitats worldwide. This mission is achieved by identifying high conservation value populations of the most threatened small wild cats, understanding and mitigating threats to these populations, and then monitoring these populations over the long-term”

Dr. Sanderson recognized that much of the research performed in the past focused on the big, well-known wild cats, and that many small cats were edging closer to

extinction without basic information, such as their geographic ranges, even being known. Finding small cats in the wild is much harder than finding large cats or other carnivores, and the species are often misidentified by local populations.

The first step is to locate places likely to have the small cats being studied, then to



identify local students or field workers who are interested in working on a degree program involving conservation. SCCA supplies the students with camera traps, accompanies them into the field, puts out cameras, and helps identify potential partners to keep the students going. Dr. Sanderson's repeated experience is that the students are keen to produce results and keep the cameras running.

By involving local partners from the start, there is a much greater chance of a sustainable project being established. Rather than a foreign researcher swooping in for a few years and then leaving, SCCA strives to ensure an ongoing conservation program with local researchers.

Which South American wildcat is which? Many local populations lump them all together. (answer - ocelot, geoffroy's cat, margay, onchilla (aka tigrina))

Colleagues within the Wildlife Conservation Network (www.wcn.org) have demonstrated the effectiveness of establishing a permanent base of operations, to work with local communities

and to monitor populations of wildlife. Creation of a permanent conservation and monitoring station for many small cats, such as the Andean cat and Pampas cat, has been severely handicapped by a lack of knowledge of just where the animals are found. These species are often unknown even to those who live near them. Establishing a base of operations is critical not only for the study of these felines, but also to establish their worth to the community

SCCA's primary priorities are for the most endangered small cats:

- (a) Andean cat
- (b) Bay cat
- (c) Flat-headed cat
- (d) Fishing cat

In addition, SCCA works with partners on these small cats:

- (a) Chinese mountain cat (recently identified as a subspecies of wild cat)
- (b) Guigna
- (c) Marbled cat
- (d) Margay
- (e) Pallas' cat



The Andean cat is the most threatened cat in the Americas and is listed as Endangered by the IUCN Cat Specialist Group. Found in the high Andes of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, and Perú, the Andean cat lives in one of the harshest and most inhospitable environments on earth. The Andes contain some of the world's largest reserves but because these reserves were created long after people inhabited these areas, small villages are widely scattered in many reserves just as they are throughout the high Andes. Today, the Andean cat shares its habitat and often its prey with humans.

Andean cat conservation must address five principal threats: First, indigenous people attribute supernatural powers to wild cats. These powers can be harnessed by killing the cat, decorating the desiccated carcass, and prominently displaying the dead cat. This would not be a problem were it not for the fact that Andean cats show no fear of people and are easy to approach and kill. Second, in some areas people eat mountain viscachas, the principal prey of the Andean cat. Third, some of the world's largest mines operating year-round in the high Andes have the potential to destroy large areas of prime habitat and require vast quantities of water. Fourth, introduced species such as the European hare in Argentina may be facilitating a population increase in other carnivores that compete with Andean cats for food. Lastly, global warming is causing rapid loss of glaciers whose waters maintain the only feeding areas of mountain viscachas.



Dr. Sanderson, villagers, and decorated dead Andean cats

Engaging the local people in high-value conservation areas is essential to ensuring the survival of the Andean cat. Collaboration and co-operation across national borders by government agencies and independent groups, such as the Andean Cat Alliance, have raised the awareness of the conservation needs of the Andean cat. However, long-term data regarding the status of Andean cat populations remains as elusive as the cat itself. To date, only one Andean cat has ever been radio-tagged.

No Andean cats are exhibited in any zoos and no individuals have ever been born in captivity. Lack of knowledge of present population trends and lack of understanding regarding the impact threats are having on the Andean cat continue to thwart the creation of effective conservation strategies. Creating an effective threat mitigation program depends on the establishment of a permanent, long-term monitoring program that collects information on population trends in different regions within the geographic range of the Andean cat.



Leopard cat caught in a camera trap on the island of Sumatra, misidentified by field researchers as a fishing cat.

The Andean Cat Alliance has printed and distributed education material in several areas in the Andes to bring the plight of the Andean cat to local schools. By winning the hearts and minds of children, it is hoped that a future for the Andean cat can be secured. Through education programs it is hoped that ancient belief systems will be recognized for what they are, not replaced, but simply to be less destructive to Andean cats, pampas cats, and pumas.

Education programs as are implemented today are directed at the next generation and so deal with only a fraction of the first threat: indigenous people kill cats. It is hoped that the children will change the behavior of their parents. Such education programs make no attempt to directly alter the mind set of adults who are responsible for killing cats and for hunting the Andean cat's prey, mountain viscachas, to feed their families.

To actively mitigate two of the above five threats and to monitor the impact of introduced species and global warming requires permanent, long-term presence at several select sites in the altiplano of all four range countries. To mitigate the impact of mining, partnerships with mining companies throughout the altiplano should be pro-actively undertaken. Allies within the industry should be considered when discussions begin with other companies. The impact of peer pressure should not be underestimated. For example, mining companies in Chile are obligated by federal law to have an active environmental program. Several large multi-national companies have demonstrated their interest in wildlife conservation generally, and Andean cat conservation specifically.

An effort to create the first permanent Andean cat conservation and monitoring station is already underway, see details and updates at www.smallcats.org. The agreement between Corporacion Nacional Forestal (CONAF), Fundación Biodiversitas, and the SCCA allows the construction and operation of a station at San Pedro de Atacama, Chile. Hopefully, this will be the first of several such stations throughout the altiplano of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, and Perú that will attract students and scientists from all over the world. It is hoped that through such activities jobs opportunities will come to local communities whose vested interests will then serve conservation of the Andean cat and its habitat.



This event was made possible with the help and support of the following people and businesses:

Follies Committee: Eric Barkalow, Misty Hailstone, Gail Lyon, Melany Marotta, Camille Gadwood, Nancy Vandermey, Sandra Masek, Kim Blaquera, Larry Purcell (chairman). With additional help from Joe Maynard and others.



Sponsor plaques by Bill & Andy Meyer, American Data Plates, Lancaster, CA.

Printed materials provided by Bohn's Printing, Lancaster, CA.

Catering provided by Tastee's Catering, Lancaster, CA.

Cocktail service by The Golden Cantina Restaurant, Rosamond, CA.



Our newest residents are featured throughout this program, from snow leopards to white tigers to baby bobcats and jaguars!