

EFBC/Feline Conservation Center

<http://www.wildcatzoo.org>

DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED FELINES WINTER 2006



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As founder of EFBC, I always look around and see all the things we have left to do. Then a visitor will comment to me about how much they enjoyed their visit, how happy the animals seem to be, and how the facility has grown. Their words make me realize how far we have come and how much has been accomplished with the support of our members. We have continually strived to excel in our programs for breeding, research, and education, and our efforts are making a difference in helping to insure the long-term survival of the World's wild felines.

Future plans include completing "Project Tiger", building habitats for some of the small cats in our exhibit area, do landscaping and walkways in our exhibit area #2, build an educational museum and library, build adequate public restrooms, and construct a maintenance building so we can do

welding and other projects indoors when the weather is poor.

It seems like a lot but I know we will get there. I hope when you have an opportunity to visit, you take great pride in what you have helped create, and continue to embrace our work.

Thank you for all your support and we all here at EFBC hope you have a wonderful Holiday Season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Joseph W. Maynard'.

Joseph W. Maynard, President

## CAT UPDATE:

In September we welcomed two more Pallas' Cats to our facility, and sent off Remus, one of the kittens born here last year, to Mountain View Breeding Center in Canada. The two new cats, Gobi and Princess, originally came from Oakhill Breeding Center who imported Princess and others from Mongolia. All are important new bloodlines for the captive Pallas' Cat population. Gobi was born to imported parents from the wild in 2003, and we are trying to introduce him to Lina, the female born here in 2005. Gobi is quite a character and has quickly become a favorite of the staff and volunteers. Princess is being paired with Yuri, a male born here at our facility. If everyone gets along we will have 4 pairs of Pallas' Cats for the upcoming breeding season – these small felines are highly seasonal breeders, with the female only coming into heat for a short time and all kittens born in late March through early May.



Amur leopard Freddi was returned to the Tallinn Zoo in Estonia, where we had received him from in 1999. He fathered two cubs here (Sasha and Ktusha), but then grew too aggressive with our females.

We are a temporary home to a young female cougar cub that we named Tejona. The California Department of Fish & Game gave us a call while the Day fire was going on in the Los Padres National Forest. This cougar had shown up on someone's doorstep near Ojai. Supposedly it was orphaned by the fire but she didn't act like a wild born cub. She was happy to eat cat food and chicken out of a bowl, and wouldn't eat a rabbit. It's likely she was illegally being kept as a pet and someone used the fire as an excuse to dump her. As she is too young to rehabilitate, she will have to remain in captivity.

## ADMISSION PRICE CHANGES FOR 2007

Starting January 1, 2007 our admission will increase. It has been the same since January 2000 when we first started charging admission. The new prices will be \$5 general, \$4 for age 60 plus, \$3 age 3-12, and free under age 3. Membership prices will stay the same, and still include free admission. A family membership (\$30), good for 2 adults and 2 children, will pay for itself in only 2 visits!

Memberships will continue to include reciprocal benefits at many zoos across the United States. An updated reciprocal zoo list is enclosed with this newsletter.



*Above: Tejona: Left, above: Gobi, Left, below: Princess*

## SPECIAL EVENTS – REVIEWS

We had a booth again at the Palmdale Fall Festival on October 14 & 15, and over 200 kid's faces were painted with either whiskers or a paw print. Over \$500 was raised and many flyers handed out! Thanks to Camille, Melany, Marie, Gail, Angie, and Renee for volunteering to staff the booth!

Kid's Day took place on November 18. This was the second year for this new fund-raiser, and it was an overwhelming success with nearly \$6000 raised. Over 200 children with adults attended. Kid's Day featured activities and events geared with kids in mind. There were activity tables, face-painting, an educational animal show, pony rides, Tiger Bingo, pin the tail on the tiger, and more! Kids' Day guests were treated to viewing



the center's feline residents in a more active state as they received enrichments ("toys") to pique their interest. One of the most popular booths had kids making the enrichments themselves – stuffing rosemary into cardboard tubes, peeling eggs, ripping up grass squares, and spraying scents onto a variety of items. The train ride into the back area to visit Caesar the tiger was very popular, with over 270 riders! Many thanks to all the extra people who came out to volunteer that day! We will be holding this event yearly on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.



*Camille and Gail at the Fall Festival*



**SPECIAL EVENTS - UPCOMING**

2007 Twilight Tours – the next event will be April 28, 2007. This will be your next chance to spend time in the back areas not open to the public during the day. The admission is still \$15 each and you must be 18 or older. As usual there will be a bake sale, a barbecue for \$5 from the Lancaster Rotary, and a raffle with many prizes! Other Twilight Tours will be June 16 and September 15.

Big Cat Bazaar – May 19 & 20 2007. This is a yard sale held at the compound where all proceeds go to the cats. You can donate any clean, sellable item but please, no clothing. Bring a carload by anytime we are open.

Feline Follies – August 18 2007  
 Kid's Day – November 17 2007

**HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS:**

There are many ways you can support your favorite felines and give gifts at the same time! How about a gift membership, \$20 per individual



*Kid's Day 2006- Animal Show (top 2), coloring table. More photos next page!*



More Kid's Day photos (left) Tiger Bingo, Touch & Feel, making enrichments, train ride to the back area; (top) Pin the Tail, pony rides, Caesar enjoying his enrichments

or \$30 per family? We also have engraved bricks on our Walk of Honor for \$150. Cat adoptions start at \$40 a month. You can purchase all kinds of items (clothing, ornaments, tote bags, pillows, calendars, posters) with our cats' pictures on them through our Cafepress site, . And of course don't forget our Amazon ( ) and igitve ( ) affiliate programs, each of which cost you nothing to use – just order online through our links and we receive a percentage of the purchase.

## **VOLUNTEER POSTERS AVAILABLE!**

We now have a 12" x 18" poster to recruit more volunteers, you can pick one up in the gift shop if you have a good place to display one. In addition to animal care volunteers we also have positions for people to work as docents – just interacting with visitors while we are open. This will appeal to those not physically able to perform animal care duties, as well as those interested in shorter volunteer hours. You have to be a minimum of 17.

## **CAT NEWS:**

### **INew York Times, October 2006**

Using the same clandestine routes as immigrants and drug smugglers, male jaguars are crossing into the United States from Mexico. Four of the elusive cats have been photographed in the last decade in the formidable, rugged mountain ranges of southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. Conservationists are developing incentives to stop hunters in Mexico from killing the big cats. Cameras have been set up near the border to monitor jaguar comings and goings and, inadvertently, the movements of drug runners. Some environmentalists are pressing federal officials to declare parts of Arizona and New Mexico critical habitat for jaguars. But local ranchers and many jaguar experts say such a move is unnecessary because the animals show no signs of breeding here. And then there is the fence. If the Border Patrol builds a 700-mile barrier in the region to deter illegal immigration, the natural corridors used by jaguars and other migratory wildlife will be cut off. It's likely the cats travel back to a jaguar breeding area 130 miles south of the border in a remote region of Sonora. In 2003, a Mexican conservation group, Naturalia, bought a 10,000-acre ranch called Los Pavos and established the first protected habitat for jaguars in northern Mexico.

Naturalia estimates there are 100 to 150 jaguars in the region, including females and cubs. Females tend to stay local, whereas males will migrate up to 500 miles. The Northern Jaguar Project, based in Tucson, is helping Naturalia increase such jaguar protection in Mexico. The group hopes to raise \$2 million to buy a 33,000-acre ranch next to Los Pavos. The current owner un-apologetically believes in killing jaguars.

The jaguar project is now in the process of setting up trip cameras in many more adjacent ranches. Ranch owners and their cowboys will be paid

handsomely for each photo of a jaguar. More than 20 jaguars have been killed in the past three years between the Los Pavos sanctuary and the United States border. Moreover, other wealthy Americans are buying ranches on the Mexican side of the border with the aim of protecting the natural corridors used by jaguars and other wildlife in entering the United States. In all, almost a million acres in Mexico have come under some level of jaguar protection in the last couple of years in a patchwork of conservation ranching. However if the Border Patrol built an effective barrier in the mountains where jaguars cross into the United States, you could kiss the jaguar goodbye.

## **DONATIONS:**

Gift donations to our general operating fund helps EFBC with those unexpected expenses that always seem to arise. It also helps us complete cage renovations and purchase special treats for the cats. We thank the following supporters for their general donations: Chad Cieslik, Harriet Crawford, Sandra Price, John Muir Social Science Class, Julita Jones, Vicki Collins, Corrine Wilson, Maggie Caldwell-Smith, Ifeoma Ikenze, M.D., and Russ & Karen James.

A special thank you to Larry Purcell, Sav On Fence Company in Lancaster for donating all the new small cat breeding cage panels and many other fencing supplies. Thanks Larry!!



"Photo above)" A special thank you also goes out to the employees of Deluxe Financial Services of Lancaster who held a special fund-raiser for us and donated \$500.00 as well as much needed cleaning supplies.

On December 15th our foster parents Mike and MaryeAnn McMullen hosted a holiday party for all

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Exotic Feline Breeding Compound Incorporated, Feline Conservation Center is a not for profit, 501 (c)(3) public benefit corporation dedicated to the preservation and propagation of rare and endangered felines through breeding, research, and education. EFBC/FCC is run by an active Board of Directors which governs policies, procedures, and the direction of the corporation. Directors and officers receive no compensation for their services, nor retain any personal interest in any portion of the assets of the corporation. Officers are elected at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors and serve a term of 3 years.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joseph W. Maynard, President

Larry Purcell, Vice President

Sandra Masek, Treasurer

Nancy Vandermey, Secretary

Camille Gadwood, Director of Public Relations

Nicole Pearson, Esq., Director

Bob Slade, Director

Jeff Conrad, D.V.M., Director

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

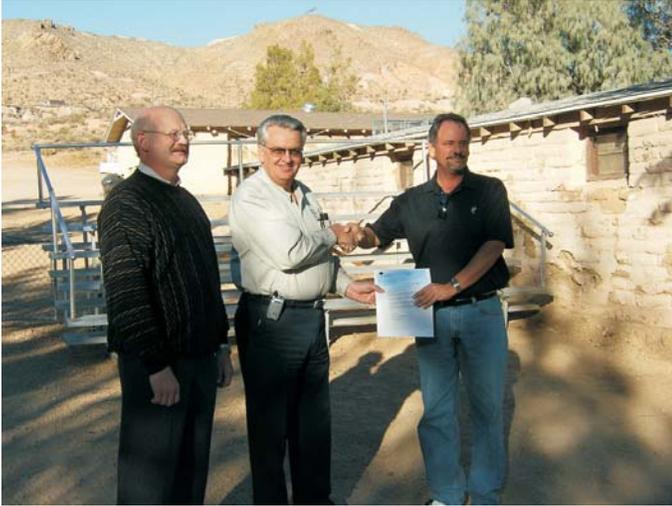
Audited financial statements for the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound Inc., Feline Conservation Center fiscal year ending September 30, 2006 are now on file. The following are highlights of our annual report. For copies of the complete financial statements, please send a self-addressed #10 envelope and a check for \$5.00 postage and handling to: EFBC/FCC, 3718 60th Street West, Rosamond, CA. 93560.

Total assets:	\$1,220,343
Total liabilities:	\$ 42,496
Net assets:	\$1,177,848
Total support and revenue, including non-cash donations:	\$ 422,583
Program service expenses:	\$ 310,385
Administrative and fund raising expenses:	\$ 31,859 (7%)
Total expenses:	\$ 342,243
Excess (deficiency) of support and revenue over expenses:	\$ 80,339

the staff and volunteers at EFBC. The food and drink was wonderful and everyone at EFBC appreciated their kindness.

Mike and MaryeAnn McMullens also donated cases of whole chickens and cases of meat bones for the cat's enrichment.

Ivan & Sherilyn Hanstad also donated cases of whole chickens for the cat's Holiday dinners.



*Larry Purcell receiving the check from the Boeing representatives*

Linda Zimmerman, another EFBC foster parent, saw our wish list and donated a washing machine and a brand new refrigerator.

Thanks to Jon Kishi and Nicole Vasquez for also donating refrigerators for our DPC.

Cleaning supplies are always appreciated and we thank Gail Lyon, Girl Scout Troop #623, Girl Scout Troup #10, and Wanda Vernon & James Leonard for keeping us well supplied. Thanks all!

Another special thank you Dr. Doug Coward, Animal and Bird Hospital in Mission Viejo, who donated a nice x-ray unit and film developer. Donations like this insure that our feline family receives the best possible medical care.

On December 7th representative from the Boeing Employees Community Fund presented Larry Purcell (EFBC's Vice President) with a check for \$2850.00 to concrete the Staging/lecture area for our school group tours. We have been wanting to concrete the area for some time now, and thanks to this grant the children will no longer have to tolerate sand blowing in their eyes. A special thank you to Gerald Bandy who

contacted the Boeing Palmdale division and helped make this grant possible.

### WISH LIST

Landscape materials, plants and trees  
(8x8x16 concrete block, re-bar, cement)  
New electrical supplies  
Golf carts (electric)

### VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER – NANCY VANDERMEY

I started volunteering at EFBC in the fall of 1991 when I first moved to the Antelope Valley. Even though I now live in Altadena and have an 80 mile one-way drive, I am still here volunteering on Sundays - 15 years later. My involvement with EFBC has grown over the years, and even though cleaning the cats and developing personal relationships with them is my #1 pleasure, I also design and maintain the web site, am the designated photographer for EFBC, and joined the Board of Directors and serve as Secretary. I married fellow volunteer Eric Barkalow last year who shares my passion for the cats, and loves traveling to far away places as much as I do. My

greatest accomplishment is that everyone knows that Maggie the Margay loves me, that Teshi the Serval gets fluffy-tailed when he hears my voice and anticipates receiving a banana treat, and the Fuzz the Ocelot looks forward to my home grown garden green beans. I make dinner for the cats every Sunday and I love how they stare at me as I walk around the facility. Of course, helping to raise the cubs is an incredible experience. That's Yanna and LiMing in the photo with me - North Chinese leopards born here on February 26, 2006.

