



EFBC/Feline Conservation Center

<http://www.wildcatzoo.org>

DEDICATED TO THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF ENDANGERED FELINES Fall 2010

Welcome to new members!

We have had a surge in memberships, and we would like to thank both those new members and our continuing members for the support they have shown. It is this community that allows us to exist, and we never forget that. Please keep doing what you have been, spreading the word that we are out here working toward a better world for felines. A special thank you to Westways (AAA) - our Twilight Tour attendance in June broke a new record, and we expect that record to be broken on September 18th, at our final Twilight Tour of the year.



Patrons admire Poncho (jaguar) at play.

Did you know? The EFBC-FCC has had 12 successful births of (arguably) the most endangered subspecies of large feline in the world, the Amur Leopard, and currently we are

also the only facility in North America aiding the Persian Leopard captive breeding program. Other successes are: The most births of the Pallas's cat in North America, the most genetically diverse line of Fishing Cat and North Chinese Leopard, and perhaps the most diverse number of felines currently assembled in one facility. It has been a long road to get where we are, and with a secure member base we can plan for the future. We have many plans for that future, some exciting like tiger breeding, and some as simple as quality public restrooms. Both require a lot of money, so we thank you all once again for whatever you have been able to give us.

Persian Leopard update:

It has been reported that there are less than 1000 Persian leopards now existing in the wild, most in Iran. This is disturbing news since this highly adaptable animal once roamed throughout the caucuses region. This is the same region the Caspian tiger once called home. Caspian tigers



Kiana (Persian leopard) is housed off display, and seems to be stress free and content.

went extinct in captivity in the 1970's, and were extinct in the wild some time before that.

New research has confirmed what we have been saying to visitors for years: The Persian leopard is the largest of the leopard sub-species. Some skulls have been found that rival female tigers in size.

Many of you will recall Kiana came to us from France in August 2009, and is the only female Persian Leopard in North America. We are in the process of getting a mate for her, and you will be the first to know when he arrives. There are approximately 106 individuals of this sub-species in captivity world wide.



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Ktusha and Sasha were both sired by Freddi. Ktusha is now living at the Granby Zoo in Canada, and Sasha is in Louisiana. At left, his new offspring in Tallinn, Estonia.

Amur leopard in the news! Freddi (Amur Leopard), who lived for several years at the EFBC-FCC and sired two cubs, has been amorous once again now that he has returned to Estonia. Sandy Masek visited him recently and was pleased to see his face in the local media touting his new offspring.



Sandy and Joe were surprised with this well deserved honor.



Titanium Sponsors at Follies, with Joe & Sandy.

Lifetime achievement awards:

Sandra Masek - Treasurer, General Manager

Sandy began her time here at the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound as a volunteer. Upon moving here full time in 1994 to become the general manager she (perhaps unknowingly) took on a more than full time job keeping this place running. She is the treasurer handling accounts receivable & payable, day to day operations and all membership services, all inventory for both the gift shop and facility, human resources and payroll as well as contracted labor, grant writing, and raising cubs/kittens from birth (a 24/7 job). Yes, Sandy does it all! For many years she put together the Follies event largely on her own, but now allows a committee to help. The cats she hand raised still look forward to seeing her many years later, a quick refute to anyone who thinks animals don't have emotions.

Joe Maynard - President and Founder

Joe Maynard has dedicated his life to the protection and preservation of endangered felines ever since he acquired his first leopard cub in 1970.

The research he did then led directly to the founding of the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound's Feline Conservation Center, and his



Follies speakers Dr. Jim Sanderson and Constanza Napolitano.

leadership has built it into what you see here today. You can travel worldwide to facilities engaged in the conservation breeding of captive felines and chances are they will know who Joe is. Most importantly, what he helped build will endure

for future generations to learn about these felines and will inspire people to help preserve them in the wild.



Sandy poses with Platinum sponsors at Follies.

Follies Review:

Dr Jim Sanderson was our guest speaker, and is the founder of the Small Wild Cat Conservation Foundation. (www.smallcats.org) The mission of the Small Wild Cat Conservation Foundation is to ensure the survival of small wild cats and their natural habitats worldwide. The foundation supports the work of conservation partners by putting together donors and supporters with the active field partners. His field partner Constanza Napolitano, PhD. also gave a presentation on the Guigna, a small South American Cat that she is helping to preserve in the wild.

Founder and Director of Wildcats Chile (www.wildcatschile.org), Napolitano has worked with different wild cat species and human-felid conflicts in Chile since 2004. She has obtained various scholarships and awards which have lead her to conduct scientific research projects and social context initiatives jointly in pursuit of wild cat conservation in Chile. She is part of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group and IUCN Species Survival Commission. She is currently finishing her doctoral research in Conservation Genetics of the Guigna, a threatened small wild cat, at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago, Chile & at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, Canada.

Contributors to this year's Fabulous Feline Follies event were:

BRONZE - Donations of \$200+

Alice Bickers - Los Angeles
Louis Allred, Sr. - Rosamond
Diane M. Citron - Santa Monica
Katz Kreations Photography - Ventura
Halley Olsen Murphy, Funerals & Cremations - Lancaster
Jeff & Ann Conrad, Georgia

SILVER - Donations of \$300+

In memory of Steve Rendes, former EFBC Director, by Irene & Cherylenee Rendes - Fullerton
Sav-On Fence, Larry Purcell - Lancaster

PLATINUM - Donations of \$1,000+

AAZK-EFBC Chapter
Steven M. Crutchfield - Virginia
Susan Lozier & Ian MacLeod - Nebraska
George & Joan Paulikas - Palos Verdes
Scott & Nicole Pearson - Cheviot Hills
Tahoe Translation Group - Nevada

Titanium Sponsors - Donations of \$2500+

Mary Marlowe - Los Angeles
Diamond Jim's Casino - Rosamond
Garner Holt Productions - San Bernardino
Eric Barkalow & Nancy Vandermey - Altadena

Silent Auction and Raffle Donors:



Dennis Hopper (kangaroo) roamed the tables. Zoo to You provided the quality animal ambassadors.

Larry Purcell, Sandy Masek, Trina Ray, Scott & Nicole Pearson, Nancy Vandermey, Eric Barkalow, Camille & Jerry Gadwood, Julian & Katharine Donahue, Kristi Krause, Mike & Lori Brethour, Lori Hands, Betty Platero, Donna



The sale of silent Auction items help fund important projects.

Cohen, Yvonne King, Pam Rose & Gene Bowan, Chris Fawkes, Debra Bernard, Fox Films Entertainment, American Humane Film & TV Unit, Leslie Simmons, Don Patterson, Laura Maluccio, Dee Westlund, Antelope Valley Fair, Gibbon Center, Antelope Valley Country Club, DreamWorks Animation SKG, Kim Blaquera, Katz Kreations Photography, Irene & Cherylenee Rendes, Catherine Horan.

Kid's Day: November 20, 2010

Bring the family! Create enrichments (Toys) for the felines, go on scavenger hunts, ride the train (Small fee) to see the tigers and support the cats on this fun-filled day. Face painting, pony rides, and animal entertainment shows will round out the action so there will be something there for kids of all ages.

We are now accepting sponsors for this event. Sponsors will receive a sign at the event and recognition in the winter newsletter. Please consider asking your union, employer, or other group to help fund this event.

Summer interns:

My name is Katie White and I am 21 years old. I am currently a senior at Mount Ida College in Newton, MA studying veterinary technology.

During my senior year I have to complete 6 internships in whatever animal fields I desire. Since a child I have been fascinated by tigers and other exotic cats so the EFBC's feline conservation center was a great choice! I had



Our three summer interns, left to right, Shamli Malik, Kathryn White, and Natalie Nabechima, helping with Amur Leopard Sebastian's chemotherapy treatment for sinus cancer.

visited the center in late December 2009 and fell in love and knew I had to do an internship. Since I've been here I've learned more than I ever thought I would and had an experience of a lifetime. Where else can you get chuffed by a tiger or get splashed by a jaguar? Though my entire internship was amazing, learning about Pallas's Cats was definitely a highlight. These little creatures are very unique and I had never heard of them before. Their defense of freezing like a rock will bring a smile to anyone's face. It's remarkable that such a place exists with only the help of others who feel a passion about these cats. What is being done here is incredible and has changed my views about conservation and exotic cats. I plan to share all I've learned with others in the hope that one day there will be more places like this. Though I am quite sad to have to leave the EFBC I know I will be back to help out where I can.



Boris (Pallas's Cat) can sometimes be seen by visitors. His enclosure is next to Julian (Margay).

My name is Nathalie Nabechima, I am 24 years old and by the end of this year I'll be a Veterinarian by the University of São Paulo, in São Paulo, Brazil. I came a long way to work with these animals as an intern for the past 3 months, and I can safely say I have never had an experience like this. Getting to be this close to big (and small) wild cats was surreal. I remember thinking on my first day: "No way I'll ever remember all these cats!" But eventually, I did... It took me a couple weeks, but I finally saw that no two cats are the same. Their looks and even their personality are as unique as ours. Now I know each and every one of the cats that live here, their names, their personalities, their cages, their bowls, and their medicines. Like how Masha, one of our Amur Leopards, unlike other leopards, loves her showers during the summer. And how Kai, one of our Fishing Cats, loves to come out and play with her pool balls inside her little pool the moment we turn our backs to leave. It has been amazing to get to know and fall in love with them. I have never been a cat person, but then again, I've never known cats this well. This place, its employees, volunteers, employers, and its philosophy have taught me so much. It makes me feel safe that there are places like this that are devoted to animals the way I want to be. It makes me feel like I'm not crazy for wanting to save them and that I'm not alone in this fight. After this, I'm going back home. I'll work with marine animals in a zoo, graduate, and then it's a whole new chapter for me. I'll never forget the people, the things I've seen and learned here, and I will dearly miss all of this.

My name is Shamli Malik and I have come from New York. I look forward to graduating from the University of Connecticut with a bachelors' in Animal Science in 2011. My curiosity and passion for wildlife has brought me to this incredible facility, and I want a career in Veterinary Medicine. I was never really a cat person until I came here. I have fallen in love with each and every one of these amazing creatures. From the glowing look that the Pallas's cats give me to listening to the fierce roar of a tiger, I have learned that every cat has a unique personality. I have become acquainted with the unique habits and interests of many of the cats. For example, Cisco loves his daily baths in his tub and once Kalaj has a box big enough for him to fit in he never gets out. The list can go on and on. Along with learning the husbandry skills required to maintain a safe and healthy environment for the cats I have become interested in the conservation aspect. I am particularly intrigued by the severity of endangerment of many of these felines. It is important for people to understand that without the preservation and care the EFBC/FCC provide, beautiful animals such as the tiger and Amur leopard could disappear off the face of the earth. I



Diners enjoyed the meal alfresco, with the sun setting.

will take the knowledge I have gained here as an intern and continue educating people all around me. I someday wish to contribute to the medical care and protection of endangered felines.

New Dates:

Plan ahead for 2011!

April 23	Twilight Tour
June 18th	Twilight Tour
September 17	Twilight Tour
August 13	22nd annual Fabulous Feline Follies

Kids Day - November 19, 2011.

When disaster strikes, it is good to have a back up plan. When gas prices rose, we could not get our cat's food (chicken, meat, fish, etc.) delivered, so we built a large freezer to accommodate a larger order. When the economy dove, our members stepped up, keeping the money constant. When lightning struck in late July 2010, striking a tree and



This baby bobcat came out to join the guests at the Feline Follies, courtesy of Zoo to You.

putting the power out, generators were fired up. Unfortunately, our large freezer wouldn't come back on line right away. Back up plans made that an inconvenience, not a catastrophe. With a refrigerated trailer on site and a new loading bay, the frozen food was moved to a safe area, and daily operations were not seriously impacted. It caused employees, interns, and volunteers to go that extra yard once again, and we want to thank them all for that, as well as you, the supporting members. Some of the progress around here is not always visible, but it is constant.

Raffle Winners:

The winner of our 50/50 raffle drawing on June 19th was Dale Shreve of Goleta, CA. His prize was \$1,565.00 and Dale generously donated \$500.00 back to EFBC's Sevastian Medical Fund. Thanks Dale!

The winners of our first place \$1,000.00 Follies raffle was Robert & Marjorie Templeton of Los Angeles, CA. Members since 2002, they donated all of the prize back to EFBC to continue our work. Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Templeton.

Project Tiger:

We will be starting work on the artificial rock walls in cage #2 shortly thanks to a grant received from the Healey Foundation for \$7,000.00, donations from Scott & Nicole Pearson of \$1,500.00, and Bonnie Mierta & Al Borissenko of \$1,000.00, all this last quarter.

General Donations:

This quarter we began deferred maintenance on our "L" area located in the upper part of our public exhibits area thanks to the support of our general operating fund. Areas are receiving new wire and support beams, paint, den boxes, and clean fresh dirt.

Thanks to: James Wilhemson \$1,000.00, Toni Chancellor-Adams \$500.00, Vicki Collins, Chris Tromborg, Monika Ritter, Lisa Edmondson, Sophie McIntosh, David & Martha Gregory, David Forward, Mary Judge, Gearld Bandy, Jim & Anne Cole, Robert Barkalow, and Lisa Hill for supporting our general operating fund this last quarter.

Non Cash Donations:

Guy Powell of Nevada saw in our last newsletter the need for a pulse oximeter and came through for us. Thanks Guy, it works great! Mike and Maryeann McMullen have been providing our felines with fresh meat bones and they love them. Thanks guys! Thanks also to Debbie Wilder and Jason & Andrea Wells for providing much needed cleaning supplies.

Sebastian:

Our young Amur leopard is still with us and continues receiving his chemotherapy. His blood work had showed a decline in his white cell count and he has been experiencing more frequent nose bleeds so we worked with the oncologist to adjust both his medication and frequency of administration. The latest procedure, at the end of August, seemed to have helped his white cell count as it has increased slightly. The vets are very diligent in making sure he receives his medication and he continues to show no adverse personality side effects. Sebastian's plight has touched the hearts of many. A special thank you

to Barbara Clifford who donated \$700.00 toward his care this last quarter.



**Ralph's shoppers!!!!
NPO #82845**

**Please go on-line and re-sign up!
They reset on September 1,
so even if you have signed up before,
you need to do so again.**

**Start at our website when shopping on line
as well, and you will donate to us with no
cost to you!**

Amazon, Igive, and CafePress all support us!

Wish List

Large food prep table (stainless steel)

Industrial refuse containers

New electrical supplies

Golf carts (electric)

Pulse oximeter units