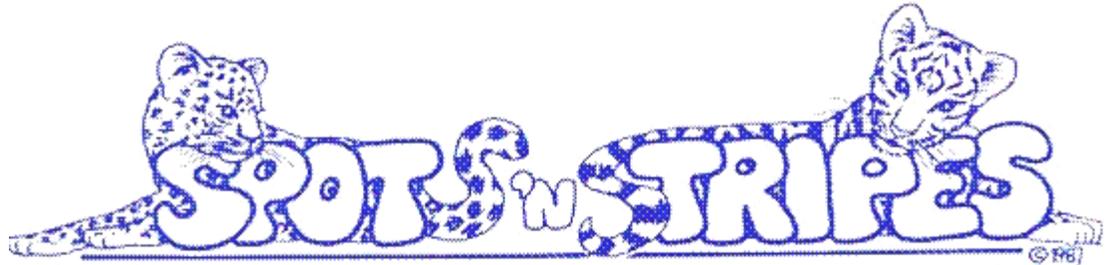


# EFBC's Feline Conservation Center



Summer 2015

Dedicated to the Protection and Preservation of Endangered Felines

## Researchers Return to EFBC-FCC for A.I.

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A team of animal research scientists from the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's Lindner Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife (CREW) continued their work with semen evaluations and artificial insemination (A.I.) research on wild cats at EFBC-FCC.

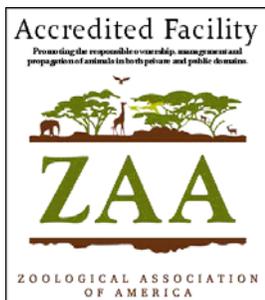


*Dr. Bill Swanson (left) and Dr. Jason Herrick perform artificial insemination on Kali the Fishing cat in EFBC's clinic.*

CREW Director and reproductive physiologist Dr. William F. Swanson and his team, including Dr. Jason Herrick, a senior scientist at the National Foundation for Fertility Research in Lone Tree, Colo., and post-doctorate researcher Lindsey Vansandt performed A.I. on Kali a Fishing cat. Kali's eggs were fertilized by sperm collected from Chimlin. EFBC-FCC's veterinarians Dr. Scott Weldy and Dr. Kristi Krause assisted in the procedures, controlling all anesthesia and the overall well-being of our animals.

Dr. Swanson is one of the world's leading experts in cat reproduction and has been successful in this technique. In 2011, he worked with the Beardsley Zoo in Connecticut in successfully impregnating a female Brazilian ocelot through Oviductal A.I. The kitten was the world's first born through the procedure.

Preparation for the EFBC procedure began 30 days prior with hormone treatment on Anny, a snow leopard, and Kali in order to produce viable eggs. New protocols were used with the hormone treatment to bring the females into ovulation in a less-invasive way.



*Continues on page 6*

## Donations

**GENERAL DONATIONS:** We have lots of special projects (and expenses) underway which are being funded through our general operating fund. Projects include renovations for the intern housing and our volunteer's trailer. We are also still working on removing the many dead trees we lost last year, and replacing them with new fast growing trees to provide much needed shade for our animals. We wish to extend a special thank you to the following who made general donations this last quarter: **Gene Bowan & Pam Rose, Martha Braun, Anne Calabrese, Vicki Collins, Bonnie Duehring, Jill Evensizer, Carol Fenwick, Linda Frank, Robert Fremont, David Gregory, Roberta Lotter, William & Maureen Riley, Harry Roesener,** In memory of **Paula Setnicky, Chris Tromborg, Bob & Patty Waidner, Rebekah & Wesley Ward,** and our "Lifetime Members" **Toni Chancellor-Adams and Margo Koss.**

**IN-KIND DONATIONS:** The donation of supplies, equipment and materials are always appreciated and helps EFBC reduce expenses: **Pam Rose** and **Gene Bowan** donated a futon couch/bed to the newly renovated intern housing and husbandry supplies to the facility. Pam is a volunteer here and also a great shopper. She is always keeping an eye out for items to donate to our raffles and Follies auction and we thank Pam and her husband Gene for their support.



We also want to thank our volunteers **Kim Blaquera** for donating a couch and matching love seat and **Carrie Alatorre** for donating a couch for the volunteer trailer. We also thank our volunteer **Christina Kulesza** for donating a kitchen faucet assembly to help with the renovations.

The members of **EFBC's Chapter of the American Association of Zookeepers (AAZK)** also helped out this quarter by donating new hoses and nozzles.

We also thank **John & Connie Ward** for donating a mounted bobcat display, as well as a tanned bobcat pelt and three skulls to our museum collection.

**RESTROOM BUILDING FUND:** A total of **\$398** was raised this quarter toward our goal to construct public restrooms, mostly thanks to the challenge made by our emcee **Eric Barkalow** at the April Twilight Tour. Our goal remains at \$75,000 and our total raised to date is \$8,703.

**FABULOUS FELINE FOLLIES:** We are accepting donations of silent auction items for our 26th annual Fabulous Feline Follies fundraiser on Aug. 8. Contact 661.256.3332 for more information. **See page 5** for more details on the event and how to attend.

## Cats of the Quarter: Jaguarundis Maya & Aztec

“Is that a cat?”

That’s one of the most popular questions we receive from visitors when they see Jaguarundi sisters Maya and Aztec.

The short answer is, yes.

Jaguarundi (*Herpailurus yagouaroundi*) are small cats found in North, Central and South America. They are considered most endangered north of Panama in Central and North America. In South America, their populations are not necessarily threatened, but could become so, according to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

In North America, the Jaguarundi is found in South Eastern Texas. According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife the cats are found in brush country in Cameron, Hidalgo, Staff and Willacy counties. Numerous sightings are reported each year. The Texas Parks and Wildlife indicate the clearing of Rio Grande Valley brushlands threatens to destroy the Jaguarundi’s habitat in Texas.



*Baby Maya*

Though “jaguar” is part of the Jaguarundi’s name, there is little these small cats have in common with their big cat cousins, which are also found in the same areas of the Americas. .

The Jaguarundi’s physical characteristics have earned it the nickname “otter cat,” since they have unusual weasel-like features. They have small heads and low



*Sisters Aztec (left) and Maya are Jaguarundis, found in Central and South America.*

set ears, a long flat tail and a long low set body. They are one of the only solid-colored wild cats in the world. This includes their ears, which is unusual since most wild cats have a white or black spot on the back of their ears.

Maya and Aztec were born on May 15, 2006 and came to EFBC-FCC when they were just shy of one-month-old. They were born at Project Survival’s Cat Haven in Dunlap, Calif. Their parents were imported from Brazil. The two are prime examples of the range of coloring found in this species. Though born in the same litter, Maya is reddish in color, while Aztec is darker brown. Other colorings include gray and red-dish-yellow.

Jaguarundi habitat occurs from the western and eastern lowlands of Mexico, all the way to southern Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and south through central Argentina. They are predominantly a species that stays in the lowlands, though they have been found in higher elevations in Colombia.

They are found in open and closed habitats, including the Monte desert, semi-arid thorn scrub, resting, swamp and savanna woodland to primary rainforest. Even in open areas, the cats stick to areas with vegetative cover. They are mostly terrestrial, but can move about easily in trees as well. Their diet consists mostly of small mammals, birds and reptiles.

## Rotary Club Donates at Spring Twilight Tour



The first Twilight Tour of 2015 took place on April 25. Approximately 394 Visitors came out to see the cats, enjoy raffle prizes and more. The event raised more than \$10,000 for the facility.

Once again, the great members of the Rotary Club of Lancaster (pictured above) provided our Twilight Tour patrons with a delicious BBQ and also presented EFBC with a general donation of \$750. The Lancaster Rotary has been supporting our organization for many years and we are always grateful for their continued support. The second Twilight Tour of 2015 took place on June 20.

## Military Appreciation Days at EFBC-FCC



Active duty U.S. military members and their immediate dependents enjoyed free admission to EFBC-FCC over the Memorial Day weekend for Military Appreciate Days, May 24 and 25. It was a way to say thank you to the men and women in uniform for their service. EFBC-FCC is located in Rosamond, which is adjacent to Edwards Air Force Base and many military members from there took advantage of the two-day special. Approximately 343 active military and their dependents visited over the two days. Left: Visitors check out Tiga, the Malayan tiger.





# 2015 Fabulous Feline Follies 26th Annual Dinner & Fundraiser



**Tickets: \$75**

**Sponsorship**

**Levels:**

**Titanium - \$2,500**

**Platinum - \$1,000**

**Gold - \$500**

**Silver - \$300**

**Bronze - \$200**

**Casual attire**

**EFBC's Feline Conservation Center  
Saturday, August 8, 2015  
5 PM**

Join us for an evening of food, fun and friends on the grounds of the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound's Feline Conservation Center. The evening starts with no-host cocktails and mingling with animal ambassadors. Guests can bid on silent auction items and view EFBC's feline residents in their enclosures throughout the evening. Dinner is buffet style and includes a vegetarian option. Door prize and raffle drawings and special entertainment will round out the evening.

Continued from Page 1



Dr. Bill Swanson (lower center) performs A.I. on Kali while Dr. Kristi Krause (left) and Dr. Jason Herrick (right) look on. INSET: Swanson inseminates Kali.



“The fact that researchers are always requesting to come to EFBC to further their work is a tribute to our high standards of animal care and the excellent physical condition of our felines,” said EFBC-FCC Director Joe Maynard.

Along with Chimlin’s semen samples, the team also collected samples from other male cat residents, including Fin (Fishing cat), Booker (Black-footed cat), Athos and Fath (Sand cats), Bam Bam (Persian leopard) and Serrano (California Cougar). The samples will be stored with CREW’s CryoBioBank.

Kali’s response to the treatment was excellent and she produced numerous follicles. We are hopeful she will have healthy babies at the end of her 63-70 day gestation.

Our snow leopard pair Zach and Anny have been together for quite some time now and although we have witnessed numerous breeding activities a pregnancy has never resulted. Unfortunately an examination of Zach’s sperm showed he is infertile.



Samples from Black-footed cat Booker were among the many taken by the team.

Now that we have this information, we can plan A.I. of Anny in the future, using either banked frozen sperm or sperm from our newest snow leopard arrivals, Sanjiv or Karim.

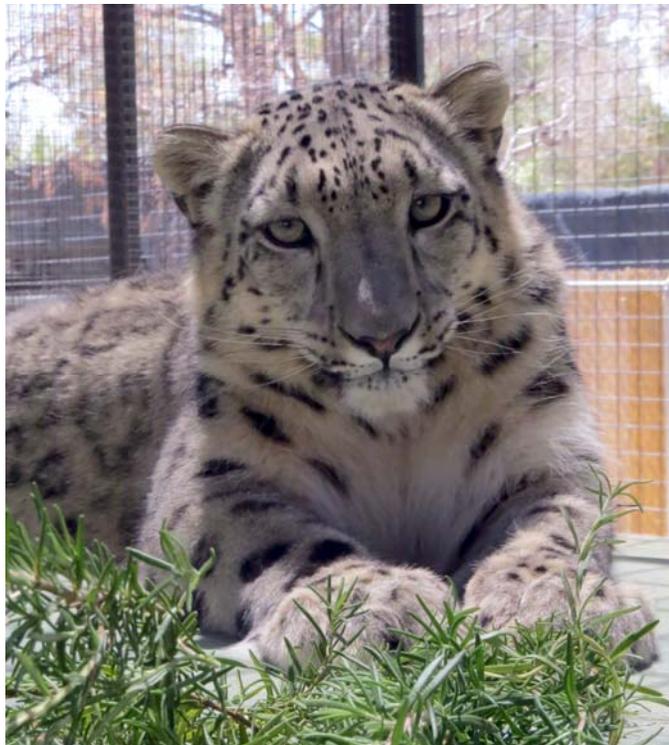
EFBC’s Feline Conservation Center mission is breeding and preservation of endangered felines and, over the years, research teams have come



The team, Lindsey, Bill, and Jason, utilizes the electroejaculator to collect semen samples from Zach the snow leopard.

to the facility to conduct not only artificial insemination, but also in-vitro fertilization in our residents.

A.I. is performed in zoos around the world and has been successful in several other endangered or threatened species, including the Magellanic penguin, black-footed ferrets, giant pandas, the white-naped crane and the Przewalski’s horse. Researchers have also reported some success with elephants.



Karim the Snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*) enjoys an enrichment of fresh rosemary.

# Stay Connected!

Visit [www.wildcatzoo.org](http://www.wildcatzoo.org) for the latest on new arrivals, births and construction projects.



You can join our **Google Group** e-mail list at [groups.google.com](http://groups.google.com)

and search "EFBC-FelineConservationCenter" (no spaces).

Our **Facebook Fan Page** is "EFBC's Feline Conservation Center." Like us today!



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

- \$2,000.00 LIFETIME\*\*
- \$1,000.00 V.I.P.\*\*
- \$500.00 PATRON\*\*
- \$100.00 ASSOCIATE
- \$75.00 SUPPORT
- \$40.00 FAMILY
- \$40.00 FOREIGN (Individual)
- \$25.00 INDIVIDUAL (U.S. Only)
- \$150.00 WALK OF HONOR

**\*\*Indicates payment plan: 50% down, balance of 50% due in 90 days.**

Enclosed is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal  Gift  
All memberships are Annual except Lifetime

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Gift For (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Walk of Honor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your deductible contribution to  
EXOTIC FELINE BREEDING COMPOUND, INC.'S  
FELINE CONSERVATION CENTER  
3718 60th Street West, Rosamond, CA 93560

Phone (661) 256-3793 Fax (661) 256-6867 <<http://www.cathouse-fcc.org/>>

Visit us at [www.wildcatzoo.org](http://www.wildcatzoo.org)



Goldie the Fishing cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*).

*SPOTS & STRIPES* is published quarterly by the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound's Feline Conservation Center for members. For questions, comments or suggestions, contact 661.256.3332.

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**SAVE THE DATES!**

<b>Twilight Tour</b>	Sept. 26
<b>Feline Follies</b>	Aug. 8
(Note: Facility closed during regular business hours that day.)	
<b>Kids Day</b>	Oct. 17

## 2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

EXOTIC FELINE BREEDING COMPOUND'S



FELINE CONSERVATION CENTER

Shop Online:

[www.cafepress.com/wildcatzoo](http://www.cafepress.com/wildcatzoo)

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661.256.3793 voice, during operating hours

Rosamond, CA 93560

3718 60th Street West

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