



A 501(c)3 Organization

CAT TALES

The Exotic Feline Rescue Center

A National Leader in Exotic Cat Rescue and Care

April 2007

New Food Processing Center Will Represent a Major Facilities Upgrade

When the EFRC was founded in 1991 it made good sense to locate the food processing center near the main entrance to our facility, as it provided local farmers with an easy approach to deliver their deceased livestock. Today, with nearly 21,000 visitors in 2006, this once convenient location is less practical for many reasons.

The first thing many of our guests have seen in the past is a cow or other deceased animal being butchered, which doesn't leave the kind of first impression we wish to present.

Thanks to the generosity of EFRC supporter Dave Morris, who has provided the frame and valuable construction expertise, the EFRC has started construction on a new food processing center, away from its main entrance. It will be capable of handling the needs of feeding nearly 200 exotic cats approximately 3,000 pounds of meat per day.

The old food processing center fell victim to the elements through the passing of each year, as it was not an enclosed facility. With the projected completion of the new food processing center later in the year, this will no longer be an issue, as it will be completely enclosed.

While the completion of this new facility will

represent a major improvement to our infrastructure, there are still many large needs that the EFRC staff are working to meet with this project.

It's been a concern these past few years that our freezers will quit working while they are full of meat, which would be disastrous. This concern is derived from the fact that our two current units are well past their prime and in need of replacement. To underscore this fact, they both recently underwent repairs. The projected cost to purchase two, new commercial freezer units is \$15,000.

With the pouring of our concrete foundation in the late winter (\$13,000) and the frame nearing completion, the EFRC still needs to address many aspects of this project, including: siding, roofing, interior walls, plumbing, water, septic, electrical, heating, cooling and refrigeration.



Construction continues this spring on our new food processing center.

Like many of the projects we undertake at the EFRC, the completion of our food processing center will be driven by the generosity of our friends.

Thank you for all you do and make possible at the EFRC. We hope to complete this project as soon as possible and will continue to update you on its progress via *Cat Tales*.

Max and Kisa Are Now On the Main Tour!



In late 2006, Max and Kisa were moved from their temporary enclosure near the guest house to a larger, more diverse enclosure that is located on the main tour route.

When they were first introduced, like many couples, they were a little nervous and awkward with each other. Fortunately they both were still quite young and they have adjusted very well to living with each other.

Max is now closing in on a healthy 300 pounds and Kisa is showing a remarkable level of improvement in her health and weight from the time she was placed at the EFRC.

Come and see them chase, tackle and play with each other on the main tour!

THE EXOTIC FELINE RESCUE CENTER



Giving Big Cats a Second Chance

New Website Up!

In early March the EFRC launched a redesigned website to include many new features previously unavailable. About the only thing that didn't change was the address!

The new format not only provides many new pages, but it's also serving as a primary means of communication with our loyal friends and supporters.

Features of the website include:

- A gift shop to purchase EFRC merchandise;
- EFRC-E News, a timely online bulletin you can receive via email;
- The ability to make a gift to
- the EFRC with your Visa, MasterCard or PayPal account.
- An updated list of events;
- Archived editions of *Cat Tales*;
- Stephen McCloud's great photos of our cats.

We hope you will take a moment to visit us online and spread the word amongst your friends.

As of the beginning of April, we had attracted slightly over 36,000 visitors to the site, which we think is pretty good for our first month.

www.exoticfelinecenter.org

New Cats at the EFRC: Santasia, Seminole and Coo

The number of requests the EFRC received in 2006 to rescue new exotic felines unfortunately continued to far outpace our ability to do so. From the start of November through the end of December we were asked to take 32 new cats.

The EFRC and its staff continues to be amazed and saddened about the pervasive nature of exotic cat ownership and abuse in the United States.

The root of the problem is that exotic pets are seen by a certain segment of the population as being desirable to have as pets. This is a grave mistake that is being fueled by exotic cat breeding for profit in "puppy mill" situations. This represents exploitation at its worst.

Speaking to this point is the fact that of all the cats the EFRC has ever accepted, only two were born in the wild.



Santasia

Good things do come in pairs, as Santasia and Seminole are two tigers who came to us from Ohio.

They were being housed in a populated area, near a school and without a perimeter fence.



Seminole

In continuing to accept new cats as we can, the EFRC is proud to announce the rescue of three cats since the publication of our last newsletter. Two tigers, Santasia and Seminole, and a cougar named Coo.

In every case the EFRC looks at the circumstances of the request and the current living conditions of the cats in question. Even when a cat presents a strong case for intervention, it is not always possible due to the cost of each rescue and the lifelong commitment of resources to that cat.

The EFRC estimates that with nearly 200 exotic cats currently at the EFRC, the cost to support each



Coo

A beautiful female cougar, Coo was seized by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources from an unlicensed owner who had purchased her, at auction, for \$125.

one is approximately \$2,000 per year.

In continuing to accept new cats whenever possible, the EFRC has continued to develop enclosures in its "new" section of the facility. In 2006 we completed construction on three large, habitats and 11 smaller ones. As each new enclosure is developed it presents an opportunity to either move recently rescued cats to a permanent home or to relocate other cats to habitats that better meet their size and needs. All of our habitats include grass, climbing structures, water and shade.

Come and meet Santasia, Seminole and Coo!

2006 End-of-Year Results

EFRC Wish List 2007

January 1–December 31, 2006	
Expenses	
Labor	\$149,564
Vet Care	\$13,245
Animal Food	\$11,926
Livestock Pickup	\$21,339
(fuel and labor)	
Straw	\$1,201
Fuel	\$5,591
Building Supplies	\$51,569
Equipment	\$11,937
Postage/Office	\$5,041
Merchandise	\$27,244
Printing	\$13,283
Employee Medical	\$4,659
Licenses	\$510
Accounting/Legal	\$3,148
Cat Transfer	\$4,036
Insurance	\$5,442
Other	\$13,117
Clinic Mortgage	\$15,114
Line of Credit	\$21,713
Total	\$379,679

January 1–December 31, 2006	
Income	
Sponsorships	\$15,050
Memberships	\$29,825
Gifts and Grants	\$105,185
Merchandise	\$17,863
Fundraisers	\$23,364
US Fish & Wildlife	\$22,951
Gate Receipts	\$156,983
Farm Income	\$1,668
LOC Withdraws	\$22,357
Total	\$395,246

12–15 passenger van	Pickup truck
New laptop computer	Golf cart
Gator 4x4	Straw
Ladders	Cement
Gravel	Plywood
Lumber	Telephone poles
18 gallon Rubbermaid tubs	Stamps
Colored and white paper	Gasoline generator
Wheelbarrow	Chain saw
Lawn mowers	Hammers
Portable laptop projector	Bolt cutters

In 2006 the EFRC was able to accomplish a great deal thanks to the efforts and generosity of our loyal friends. Thank you for making what we do possible.

As you can see from the figures on this page, our needs have also continued to grow at a pace nearly equal to our resources. In 2006, like many people, the EFRC struggled with increasing energy and fuel prices, which trickled down to effect everything from our own usage to what we pay for deceased livestock pickup, merchandise and equipment.

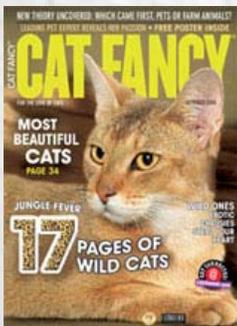
We also saw a noticeable increase in 2006

in our own building expenditures, as we pushed ahead with new enclosures and maintenance on our current infrastructure.

We are looking ahead to a great 2007, as our fundraising successes of the past year have our hopes aimed at reducing some of our current debt load, while continuing to add enclosures when possible. It is always difficult to turn away an offer to accept a new, deserving cat, but it is a reality that we cannot say “yes” all the time.

We hope you find time in your schedule to visit with us in 2007. There are many good things happening at the EFRC and we look forward to your continued interest and involvement.

EFRC and Cat Fancy



The EFRC was included in a feature story in the October 2006 edition of the national magazine *Cat Fancy*.

In its story “17 Pages of Wild Cats”, the telling article looked at

the issues and organizations that are involved in the care and rescue of your house cat’s big brothers and sisters. In addition to helping to tell the story of the EFRC, the magazine featured many photos from our resident photographer Stephen McCloud.

“This was certainly a wonderful opportunity for us to reach an audience

beyond the borders of Indiana” said Jean Herrberg, Assistant Director of the EFRC. Herrberg, a certified teacher, is also responsible for the EFRC’s outreach and education programs.

“We appreciate that *Cat Fancy* chose to help tell our story” Herrberg stated. “This kind of exposure and external validation makes a difference.”

A Bad Winter Equals a Busy Spring



Renovation work continues on Lester's (lion) habitat

In the fall weather forecasters were predicting the worst winter in 10 years for central Indiana. While major snow accumulation did not materialize until February, the EFRC and the rest of central Indiana did experience a tremendous amount of rainfall, freezing and thawing for the better part of four straight months. While our cats did just fine, many of their enclosures were not as fortunate.

Hardest hit were our oldest enclosures, such as Lester's (lion) habitat, which required that we completely rebuild his climbing tower. In addition to this construction, work has been required on ten additional climbing towers and ten den boxes.

We were forced to replace a higher than normal number of telephone poles, which serve as the posts in our habitat fence construction, as well as a large section of perimeter fence. With all the rain, freezing and thawing, we also encountered major drainage issues in five habitats, which required 60 tons of gravel to fix.

The harsh weather and long-term wear and tear has also caused us to replace six large water tanks for our cats, with an additional eight still in need of being

replaced.

We have always prided ourselves on the first-rate experience we provide for our exotic felines and it all starts with making sure their habitats are both safe and provide everything they require to lead the best possible life at the EFRC. Many of the cats we have rescued have come from deplorable living conditions and we believe it is essential to provide them everything they need to thrive at the EFRC. All of this begins with those who make what we do possible.

EFRC Leopard Facts



Kiki

- Number of leopards living at the EFRC: 23
- Life expectancy in the wild: 8 to 10 years, up to 20 in captivity.
- Average size: Males range from 80 to 200 pounds, females between 60 and 130 pounds.
- Scientific name: Panthera pardus.
- Leopard myth: black leopards are commonly referred to as black panthers. There is no such felid species as a panther. A black panther is in reality a black leopard.
- Main Predator: man

Evening Roar — June 23 & August 25

Thank You to our Foundation and Corporate Supporters in 2006

2006 was a terrific year at the EFRC due, in large part, to the generous support we receive from our friends, foundations, organizations and corporations. We'd like to thank the following groups for supporting our efforts in 2006.

Advantage Engineering, Inc.

AT&T Community Giving Program

Avrum Katz Foundation

B.C. Porter Inc.

Brehob Corporation

Clark Charitable Trust

The Columbus Zoo

Duke Energy

E.M. Coots Funeral Home

Express Print and Ad Specialties

Good Search

Hip Hop Diner

Huntsville High School

Ms. Vivian's Bed & Biscuit

One Source Rentals

PAAWS Inc.

Pfizer

Quality Fence

Silverstone Pet Inc.

State Employees Community Fund

Sycamore Engineering

Therapy on Wheels

Union Hospital

Vincennes Radiology

While we made every attempt to recognize all of the organizations that made gifts in 2006, we realize mistakes do happen. We apologize if we mistakenly omitted your name!

Upcoming Special Events

With spring blooming around central Indiana, the EFRC is gearing up for several special events with our friends. In addition, we have listed the off-site events where we will be this spring and summer. We hope to see you often!

May 5: Pet Fest 2007, Indiana State Fairgrounds, open to the public from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

May 12: 5K Run/Walk Through the Jungle, sponsored by the Wabash Valley Road Runners. Join us for this fun and healthy way to see the EFRC. 9:30 am registration, 10:30 am start.

June 2: Scales and Tails Fest, Indiana State Museum, this event will celebrate animals of all kinds and includes pet welfare education. Open from 11:00 am—4:00 pm. For more information contact Dave Fox, dfox@dnr.in.gov

June 23: Evening Roar, a fun event that has become so popular, we now do it twice! Receive a special “all-access” tour of the EFRC and enjoy wine and hors devours as our big cats start their evening roar. Adults age 21 and over only. \$40.

July 14 & 15: Pet Expo, White River State Park, hosted by Indianapolis Pet Quarterly.

July 28: Summer Safari 2007, a fun, family-friendly event to see the EFRC and our big cats while the foliage of the summer makes you feel as if you are on safari! \$20 per adult, \$10 per child.

August 25: Evening Roar, a fun event that has become so popular, we now do it twice! Receive a special “all-access” tour of the EFRC and enjoy wine and hors devours as our big cats start their evening roar. Adults age 21 and over only. \$40.



King



Max

www.exoticfelinecenter.org/special.html



Monica



Gabby



Chika

EFRC FACTOID

Cougars are the largest species of felid who purr.

Current State Laws Regulating Ownership of Exotic Animals

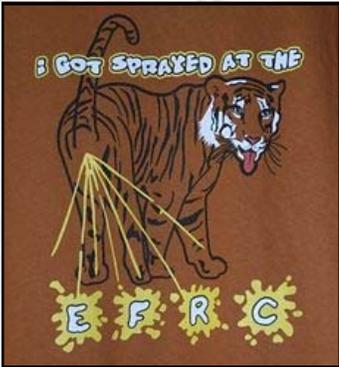
13 states have a ban on the private ownership of exotic animals (Alaska, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Tennessee, Utah, Wyoming and Vermont).

8 states have a partial ban on the private ownership of exotic animals, which allows private owners to legally own certain species of exotic animals, while prohibiting others (Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska and Virginia).

14 states require the owner of the exotic animal to obtain a license or permit from the relevant state agency to privately possess the animal (Arizona, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Texas).

15 states have no license or permit requirements, but may regulate some aspect thereof, or have no state statute governing the issue (Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin).

2007 T-Shirt Designs Have Arrived!



Whether it is for you or a friend, the 2007 EFRC t-shirts are here!

If you have ever been sprayed while on tour, most likely by Raja, try our "I Got Sprayed at the EFRC" shirt.

Our classic 2007 "tri-cat" design features (L to R) Otis, Parker and Leroy.

These shirts, and many others, are available for purchase both online via our new gift store and at the EFRC.

Please remember the proceeds from our EFRC merchandise sales goes directly toward helping our big cats.

Thank you!

Kashka: A Good Life Lived at the EFRC

The life of a circus tiger is genuinely a cruel and terrible existence. For the first 14 years of her life, Kashka (pictured at right) traveled around the country, packed into a cramped cage and lacked the very basic elements of a tiger's natural environment. In 1997 she was brought to the EFRC to live out the rest of her life.

Kashka, at the age of 23, recently died after spending

nearly ten years of a better life at the EFRC. In the wild, the average life span of a tiger is between eight and ten years.

It is always difficult when we lose a cat, but the staff at the EFRC takes some solace in knowing Kashka's time at the EFRC provided her with so many of the things she was lacking while in the circus. We will miss her greatly.



Kashka



**Thank You to
the
Tony Stewart
Foundation
for their support
in 2007!**

The "Southern Belles" enjoy a nice afternoon of sunshine.

EFRC 2007 TAX YEAR GIFT COMMITMENT FORM**Annual Membership Levels**

Pride Membership - \$10,000

Lion Membership - \$5,000

White Tiger Membership - \$2,500

* Adopt-A-Cat! - \$1,500

Tiger Membership - \$1,000

Leopard Membership - \$500

Cougar Membership - \$250

Lynx Membership - \$150

Serval Membership - \$50

* Sponsor-A-Cat! - \$50

Bobcat Membership - \$25

Thank you for your support of the Exotic Feline Rescue Center. Your commitment will help to provide the best possible life for our exotic cats.

The EFRC is a 501(c)3 organization and all gifts are tax deductible to the full extent of the law and annual limitations.

All checks should be made payable to the EFRC.

* If you are adopting or sponsoring a cat, please note the species or the specific name of the cat you prefer, if known.

Species or name: _____

Yes, I will support the EFRC with a gift of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please remove this form and return it in the envelope provided. Thank you!

Make your gift online @ www.exoticfeline rescuecenter.org

IRA Direct Transfer in 2007

Thanks to the Pension Protection Act of 2006, charitably-minded individuals over age 70 1/2 can directly transfer up to \$100,000 from their IRA to qualifying 501(c)3 organizations in 2007. So who will benefit from this opportunity?

- Individuals who are required to make withdraws but who do not need the income (counts toward RMD).
- Individuals who live in states where a charitable deduction is not available for state tax purposes.
- Individuals who do not itemize and make a charitable gift in the amount less than the standard deduction.

For more information please contact Jason Petrovich, EFRC Board of Directors.

jpetrovich@depauw.edu

Estate Planning

A great way to create a personal legacy at the EFRC is to consider naming it as a charitable beneficiary of your estate plan. Gifts such as these represent the future of what is possible at the EFRC.

In addition to knowing your commitment will make a difference in the lives of our exotic felines, a planned gift might also have tangible benefits to you in the form of a possible reduction in federal estate taxes. We encourage you to speak with your financial advisor and tax professional prior to making an decisions, as each personal situation varies.

If you would like more information about including the EFRC in your estate planning process please contact Jason Petrovich, EFRC Board of Directors.

jpetrovich@depauw.edu

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THE EXOTIC FELINE RESCUE CENTER



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