

The Exotic Feline Rescue Center
2221 E. Ashboro Road
Center Point, IN 47840



Lauren

The Exotic Feline Rescue Center

The EFRC is a **501 (C) 3** Organization that was founded in 1991 dedicated to the rescue of exotic felines.

Our **MISSION** is to provide permanent homes for exotic felines that have been abused abandoned, or for some reason have nowhere to live out their lives, while educating the public about these beautiful cats.

The EFRC:

- Neither buys nor sells cats
- Gives animals a home for life
- Provides stable social groups
- Provides enhanced environments
- Provides the best veterinary care

CAT TALES

Cat Tales, is published by the Exotic Feline Rescue Center, a nonprofit sanctuary for exotic cats.

EXOTIC FELINE RESCUE CENTER

2221 E. Ashboro Road
Center Point, IN 47840
812-835-1130
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Visit our website:

www.exoticfelinecenter.org

DIRECTIONS

FROM I-70: 4.5 miles south of I-70, exit 23 (Brazil/Linton) on State Road 59. Turn left at the Ashboro Church and go 2.5 miles east on Ashboro Road.

FROM BLOOMINGTON: Take State Road 46 west about 35 miles. Three miles past Bowling Green turn right onto 200 E. Go 1/2 mile and turn right onto Ashboro Road.

WISH LIST

Straw
Golf Cart
Gator
Gasoline
Ladders
Cement
Gravel
Plywood
Lumber
Telephone Poles
Postage Stamps
Projector (for power point presentations)
Colored paper 20 or 24 wt.
Van
Riding Lawn Mower
Wheelbarrows

COME VISIT US

Visitors Always Welcome
OPEN:
Tuesday - Sunday
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
CLOSED MONDAYS

Exotic Feline Rescue Center

Cat Tales

Volume 22

501 (c) 3 ORGANIZATION

Winter 2006

9 TIGERS

In the past week we have received three calls asking us to take nine tigers.

- An irresponsible and unprepared private owner/breeder with three tigers in Florida
- A veterinarian given the responsibility of dealing with three adult tigers
- The NY Department of Environmental Control with 3 young tigers

The logistics and expense of transporting as well as lack of adequate cage space prevented us from taking the Florida tigers.

Funding and cage space also kept us from taking the tigers from the veterinarian in northern Indiana. We were told they had spent their lives in circus cages and he was going to euthanize them if he could not find a home.

We did agree to take the three young tigers from the NY DEC. They had been illegally brought into the state by a formerly licensed exhibitor who bought them presumably illegally from a so called sanctuary near Lafayette, Indiana. The state of NY agreed to pay for transportation, the tigers were small enough that we could deal with them without building any new cages, and we have a long prior relationship with federal and state authorities in New York.

Two of the three young tigers are still unnamed. They are both male and about 5 months old.

We have no idea about the fate of the other six tigers. We wish we could help them. The three who came here now have a chance for a good life.



New arrivals

EFRC Expansion to Continue in 2007; Phase IV Strategic Plan Implemented

Since its founding in 1991 the EFRC has been in a perpetual state of growth and expansion to meet the incredible demand for its unique services. In continuing to meet the needs of so many unwanted, abused and neglected exotic felines today, the EFRC has become one of the largest USDA licensed rescue centers in the United States.

We unfortunately turn down requests every week of the year to take cats because of our own space and resource limitations.

In an effort to secure the future of the EFRC and all of its exotic residents the Board of Directors recently discussed the development of additional land that is currently not in use. The strategic plan that emerged from these discussions, Phase IV, has several key tenants in addition to adding more space for the rescued exotic cats.

The process and this plan are about securing the future of the EFRC and the cats that live here. We hope other people, and perhaps a foundation or two, are as excited as we are when it comes to this plan.

While we have made some early progress by recently adding new habitats, the pace of Phase IV will be dictated by the timing of the funds that are available. This is the largest project we have ever undertaken in every way imaginable. We have projected the total

Happy Holidays From
EFRC Staff and Volunteers

need to be right at \$200,000, which is a very large figure for us.

The need for a comprehensive long-term initiative to effectively manage the growth and success of the EFRC becomes apparent when you consider that in 1996 the EFRC cared for 32 exotic cats. Today there are 195 exotics cats that live at the EFRC, a ten-year increase of over 500%. That figure tells the story of how many exotic cats are in need of qualified, lifelong homes.

Special Events a Great Success!

This fall's Evening Roar was a terrific event that attracted 128 guests. We also had very successful Fall Fest and Pumpkin Party. Thank you to all for coming out for these great events. We'd like to also extend a special thank you to all of our volunteers and staff who went the extra mile in preparing food, hauling tables and chairs and, in general, being the ones who made these events huge successes for the EFRC.

If you could not attend these events you missed fun filled educational tours, good food and other cat loving people. We were encouraged to see both so many familiar faces and so many first-time visitors!



Evening Roar

Winter Wonderland December 2006

We will be having our last special event of the year during the month of December. Please plan to dress warmly and join us for this event. The dates for this fun, family event are December 16, 22, 23 and 30. Each tour begins at 4:00 pm and the cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 per children 12 and under.

WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR 2007 EVENTS

Lesser Known Cats at the EFRC: Ocelots, Servals, Bobcats, Lynx

Everyone can recognize a lion or a tiger, as they represent the largest and most widely known species of big cats. Of the 195 exotic cats at the EFRC, there are 38 lions 100 tigers, collectively representing 71% of our total cat population.

However, could you correctly pick out an ocelot? How about a serval, bob cat, or lynx? These species of smaller exotic felines all reside at the EFRC, and our visitors often ask "what is that?"

Servals are one of several species of small to mid-sized African cats. In the wild a serval has an average life expectancy of between 8 and 11 years. It has several distinguishing physical traits, which include long legs, a small head and large ears, and both stripes and spots. Servals are excellent climbers and jumpers and reach a full grown weight of between 25 and 30 pounds, with males being slightly larger than females.

While there are four servals who call the EFRC home, you might have a difficult time spotting them in their habitats, as servals are shy and elusive, especially with humans.



Serval - Mirage

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We want to assure all of our supporters that we do not share our mailing list including sponsorship and membership information with any other organization.
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OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

One of the issues that helps to drive the private ownership of exotic cats is a lack of understanding and education by the general public. Every year the EFRC accepts cats that are either given to us or seized by the law enforcement from private owners.

An important aspect of the job performed by the staff of the EFRC is education about exotic felines. We do many programs every year for schools, civic groups and large private parties. The primary goals of the programs we offer are to educate the general public about exotic cats, explain the perils of private ownership and to benefit the cats who currently live at the EFRC.

Special tours are available on site at the EFRC and this has proven to be very popular with school groups on field trips. A benefit of scheduling a specific group for a tour of the EFRC is that they can experience these exotic cats in a very natural environment, as each habitat is unique and includes foliage, water, and other enrichment appropriate for the cats living there.

In addition to scheduling groups to visit the EFRC for educational tours, presentations about the EFRC can be arranged off site. We have a power point presentation about the EFRC and the plight of exotic cats. Each program is planned to meet the needs of the group.

If you are interested in scheduling a group to tour the EFRC or would like to plan for a presentation please call Jean at 812-835-1130.

GUEST QUARTERS

Come stay at the EFRC. Guest quarters accommodate 2 adults. No children and no pets are allowed. Watch tigers, a leopard and a cougar from your window. See other cats that are not on the regular tour. Have access to the grounds during times normally closed to the general public. Want more information? Call: 812-835-1130

THANK YOU

We want to thank everyone who has given time, materials, and money to help care for these deserving cats. Without your help it would not be possible. Our existence is dependent upon your continued financial support.

Thank you Sandy and Jack Meyers (USDA licensed facility) for housing three of the rescue cats from last fall while construction was being completed.

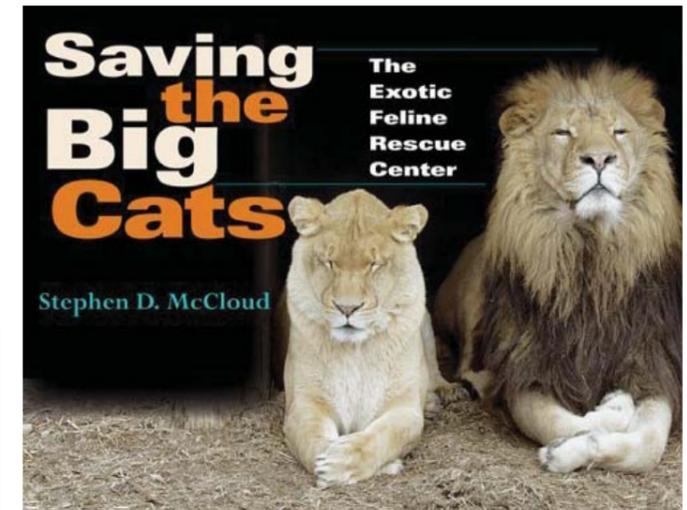
Thank you to the Avrum Katz Charitable Foundation and the Michael K. Lindsay Charitable Gift Fund for their generous gifts to the EFRC.

Saving the Big Cats by Stephen McCloud

Stephen McCloud spends many solitary days at the EFRC with his camera. The rewards of his patience and skill can be seen in his recently published book *Saving the Big Cats: The Exotic Feline Rescue Center*.

Featuring over 100 of the EFRC's exotic felines over 88 colorful pages, McCloud's book captures the essence of these great cats and the horrid tales of their lives before coming to the EFRC.

McCloud's work, published by Quarry Books and the Indiana University Press, is available for purchase at the EFRC. The cost of the book is \$39.95 and \$4.00 shipping and handling. A portion of every sale will benefit the EFRC.



This book is a great gift idea for the cat lover in your family

DESPERATELY NEEDED.

As many of you know the van we depended upon to transport our cats was stolen and totaled. While the insurance company did pay some we can not afford to replace it. This is a vital piece of equipment needed by the EFRC for rescue and transport for veterinary care when the procedure can not be done in our clinic. We need a van that we can drive across country without the worry of a break down or without having to rent a van each time transport is needed.