



CAT TALES

The Exotic Feline Rescue Center

A National Leader in Exotic Cat Rescue and Care

A 501(c)(3) Organization

November 2007

University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine Helps Jafar

Earlier this year Jafar, a nine year old male tiger, developed an abscessed canine tooth, as dental problems are a frequent occurrence in exotic felines. While our staff veterinarian, Dr. Fred Froderman, is able to handle most of these unique needs and surgeries, some require specialized expertise.

In the past, Dr. Sandra Manfra-Maretta of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine has done the majority of our dental work. This has always meant taking the ailing cat to the University to receive treatment. Transporting a tiger 100 miles is a major undertaking, which is stressful to the cat, and is not always possible, even under the best of conditions. This time Dr. Manfra-Maretta and anesthesiologist, Dr. Stuart Price, agreed to come to the EFRC. This is the first time University of Illinois veterinarians have come to work in our onsite clinic.

In the case of Jafar, they made two trips to the EFRC with a two-week interval. During their first visit, x-rays were taken, blood work drawn, a complete physical examination done and the diseased tooth was drilled out and a temporary antibiotic filling was applied. On their subsequent visit two weeks later, Dr. Manfra-Maretta finished the procedure by removing the temporary filling and replacing it with a permanent filling.

We are very appreciative of the time and effort of Dr. Manfra-Maretta, Dr. Price and the others who helped as well. Doing procedures in our clinic allows us to better care for our cats with less stress. The experience was good for both parties and they have agreed to come back to help with future care.



Dr. Manfra-Maretta and Joe with Jafar



Jafar feeling much better after surgery

New Asian Leopard Cat, Chopper



Chopper, a male weighing just six pounds, is our only Asian leopard cat

Chopper took a long and strange route in his journey to his life-long home at the EFRC.

According to the limited information that we have, Chopper was born in captivity in the former Yugoslavia and imported into the United States. Upon his arrival in Miami, U.S. Customs officials seized him for lack of proper CITES documentation. He was then turned over to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, who held him for about a year while the legal process played out. We were then contacted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who air freighted Chopper to Indianapolis.

He was 18 months old when he arrived at the EFRC and weighed about six pounds. Like most Asian Leopard Cats he is very shy, solitary and reclusive. He is nocturnal and does not like to be approached by humans. Because of their nature they do not make good pets or zoo animals. In captivity they are often interbred to domestic cats to create the domesticated Bengal Cat.

We recently finished Chopper's new habitat, which is a major step in his beginning a better chapter in his life.

Progress Continues on New Food Processing Facility

Construction began in December 2006 on our new food processing center, a 40 x 60 foot facility. This much needed improvement will house our food processing, refrigeration and freezer units, food preparation area, storage and maintenance equipment for the EFRC. It will also remove this process from the front gate which as many of you know is not necessarily visitor friendly.

Since our inception in 1991 all of our meat processing has happened at the front gate, winter and summer, rain or shine. With winter approaching we are optimistic

that we will be able to start processing food there even though it is a long way from completion.

With the exterior shell of the facility now complete there are still many interior and equipment needs. Our cost projection to complete this project estimates an additional \$100,000 will be needed, \$40,000 alone for refrigeration. Once completed we will process 3,000 pounds of meat per day for our exotic cats.

Our needs list include the following:

- Refrigeration - freezer and cooler

- Plumbing and septic system
- Heating, cooling, ventilation
- Electrical
- Water proof interior partitions

With the successful completion of this project, we will have finished one of our most ambitious capital projects to date. We know we ask a lot at times, but this is truly important. If you can provide or know of someone who can provide materials, expertise or resources to help us finish this project please let us know.



March 2007

Slab and frame come together



July 2007

Walls and roof are up



September 2007

Inside with Jean and a guest

THANK YOU!
ALLERTON FOUNDATION
FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT
OF OUR
PENNSYLVANIA CATS IN 2007!

THANK YOU!
FREDERICK V. DAVIS TRUST
FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT IN 2007!

THANK YOU!
COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK
ASSOCIATION, INC.
FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT IN 2007!

Foundation Support Makes a Difference

Recently, the Allerton Foundation of West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, the Frederick V. Davis Trust of Boston, Massachusetts and the Columbus Zoological Park Association have made generous grants in support of the EFRC.

The Allerton Foundation's grant has been allocated to support our 18 cats from Pennsylvania, including a group of seven lions and tigers collectively named "The Munchkins" (see photo).

The grants made possible through the Frederick V. Davis Trust and the

Columbus Zoological Park Association will be used for unrestricted support, which is essential for the EFRC to meet its most pressing needs in caring for our 185 exotic cats.

Thank you to all three of these organizations for their interest and generosity in 2007! Your gifts truly make a difference at the EFRC.



"The Munchkins"

Special Events Past, Present and Future

The fall of 2007 has been a busy and exciting time at the EFRC with several great special events which brought many new faces to the EFRC for first-time visits.

The inaugural EFRC Rescue Ride was on September 23 was a tremendous success thanks to the organization of Bill Barnes and the support of John James Custom Homes.

Other successful special events, both at the EFRC and around the state, this fall have included Fall Fest 2007, the Upland Brewery Black Leopard Fundraiser and our annual Pumpkin Party at the EFRC.

The success of each of these events plays a pivotal role in our ability to provide a superior level of care for our big cats. Thank you to all who have made a difference through their time and efforts.

As we move into late 2007 and early 2008, there are several upcoming events that will both put you in the holiday season

and benefit the EFRC.

Our Winter Wonderland extravaganza will be on display December 15, 22, and 29, beginning at 4:00 pm each day. Plan to bundle up and visit the EFRC as it decorated for the holiday season.

On January 19, 2008 the EFRC will present a special, marquee event, **“Saving the Big Cats Charity Auction”**. With thanks to Velda Benoit and her hardworking committee of friends and supporters, this event will be a major success. Through the generosity of Nancy Irsay, this event will happen at the Robert Irsay Pavilion located in Carmel, Indiana.



Over 100 motorcyclists visited the EFRC on September 23 for the first ever “EFRC Rescue Ride”, which raised over \$2,000.

For more information about these and other great special events, please visit our website and click on “Special Events” or “EFRC Auction”.

WWW.EXOTICFELINERESCUECENTER.ORG/SPECIAL

Pumpkin Party

Highlights!

Thank you to our nearly 200 visitors who came to Pumpkin Party 2007!

Thank you to Stephen McCloud for these great photos!



Upcoming Special Events

Winter Wonderland
Exotic Feline Rescue Center
December 15, 22 & 29, 4:00 pm

EFRC Educational Presentation
Cool Creek Park, Nature Center
2000 E. 151st Street, Carmel, IN
January 12, 1:00 pm

Saving the Big Cats
Charity Auction
The Robert Irsay Pavilion
Carmel, Indiana
January 19, 2008
3:00—6:00 pm

Is Our Wish List Getting Shorter? Sort of...

Many of you will recall not that long ago when vandals broke into the EFRC and stole our converted passenger van that we used to transport and rescue our big cats. While the van was found, it had been needlessly and senselessly totaled.

We are pleased to report that thanks to the generosity of several people the EFRC now has three vans that it can use to transport its cats when needed. Dr. Howard Mohler, Dave Snapp and Richard Ritter all saw our earlier wish list and each arranged for the EFRC to receive used, dependable vans. Thank you to all for your great and much needed response to this crisis.

Stories like this do happen, but they are not as common as you might think - especially with big ticket items, such as a van. While we are able to cross certain items off our wish list from time to time, other items readily take their place. It's just the way things seem to work.

If you have access to items that are on our wish list and have an interest in supporting the EFRC by arranging these materials or goods to be donated, please call the EFRC at (812) 835-1130. You should check with your tax professional regarding the deductibility of gifts of personal property or gifts made from business inventory.

Current Wish List

<i>Pickup Truck</i>	<i>Golf cart</i>
<i>Gator 4x4</i>	<i>Straw</i>
<i>Boomer Balls</i>	<i>Cement</i>
<i>Gravel</i>	<i>Plywood</i>
<i>Lumber</i>	
<i>Postage stamps</i>	
<i>Cedar chips</i>	
<i>Telephone Poles</i>	

WWW.EXOTICFELINERESCUECENTER.ORG/WISHLIST

The Nine Tigers Party

It was almost two years ago when we mailed a letter to our supporters which told the holiday story of the nine tigers. It is a great story for many reasons and worth reviewing from time to time.

The story goes that a group of nine tigers decided to throw a holiday party to celebrate the season and their friendships. The party was over a month away and it was agreed that each tiger would participate in providing the food for their party.

In the month leading up to the party, each tiger would collect an amount of food and deposit it in a large barrel near the center of

where they lived. On the day of the party, they would all enjoy a great feast. So, the month came and went and the day of the party arrived with great anticipation.

Each of the nine tigers gathered around the barrel, ready for their feast to begin. The alpha tiger came forward, removed the lid and knocked the barrel over. To the horror of the nine tigers, the barrel was completely empty.

In the past month, each of the nine tigers had found better things to do. They thought they could depend on someone else to do what was asked of them. They thought that

their contribution to the effort would not be missed. How wrong they were.

This story has a relevant theme as we approach the holiday season. The EFRC depends on your generosity to provide our cats with the best lives possible. Your gift, great or small, makes a difference. It's absence would be missed, much as the nine tigers learned.

We ask that you make the best gift you can consider as we near the end of the 2007 tax year. We are grateful for the generosity of so many and thankful for all that it makes possible for our cats.



Raja in his usual pose



Big Boy in the snow

New Habitats and Renovations

A fundamental priority of the EFRC is to provide our cats with the best possible living environment through enriched habitats. This important task begins with habitat construction and maintenance. Almost all our new acquisitions require a new habitat to meet their long-term needs. New cats are temporarily housed in smaller enclosures and are then moved to larger, permanent habitats as construction is completed on each. The construction and renovation of habitats is an ongoing and never ending process.

Three new habitats have been recently finished and they house: Ebony (black leopard), Nickers (bobcat) and Chopper (see photo on front page).

A major renovation has also occurred for Bubbles, a spotted leopard. We have tripled

the size of his enclosure and increased the height adding several elevated platforms. Substantial improvements and renovations have been made on several other enclosures including a 40 percent enlargement of space and other enhancements for Sinbad (black leopard). A tiger enclosure has been converted to a habitat for a leopard, which includes seven vertical levels. Structural improvements have also been made for Paris (ocelot) and Tika (bobcat).

These important additions to our facility represent our belief that these cats should live in enhanced environments while enjoying the safety and security of living at the EFRC.

We try to provide habitats that give our cats grass, water, foliage, climbing towers, trees, toys, and most of all space and provide them

with stimulating and interesting activities.

We will continue to make steady progress in this area as our circumstances dictate and our resources allow. While capital projects such as our food processing center represent one-time expenses, the need to build new habitats will always remain if we wish to rescue more deserving cats.

With the average cost of a typical habitat running close to \$25,000, the maintenance work we perform to upgrade and improve our existing habitats is a good investment in the long run.

Thank you for all you do, and all you make possible through your annual support of the EFRC.



Living together at the EFRC is so much better, as Kisa and Max (left) and Majae and Boipelo (right) clearly demonstrate!

Schoolchildren Visit the EFRC Thanks to Duke Energy: You Can Help Too!

While educating the public about exotic felines has always been a major tenant of our mission, it is especially rewarding when children come to visit the EFRC and learn about big cats.

Thanks to a grant we received from Duke Energy, several groups of schoolchildren have taken field trips to the EFRC this year at a reduced rate. We have also been able to do numerous off-site seminars thanks to this funding.

If you are interested in bringing your school or civic group to the EFRC for an educational outing, please call us for more information.

Conversely, if you or your company would like to help fund more educational programming, please let us know!

We thank you, in advance, for helping to make this important part of the EFRC a reality.



Sinbad (male black leopard)

Stay the Night at the EFRC

Have you ever wondered what our cats do after dark? You can learn the answer to that question by booking our guest room for an overnight stay.

Our guest room "overnight experience" is a wildly popular experience among our friends and supporters. The cost of this extraordinary opportunity is \$120 per evening through the end of April. In the months of January and February, the room is discounted during the week (Mon-Thur) to \$100 per night. Beginning May 1 the price will increase to \$150 for any evening.

Our guest room features a private entrance, bathroom (shower and tub), a queen size bed, microwave, refrigerator and coffee pot.

During the evening our cats become more active and vocal than they are during the day. In addition to receiving a tour of our facility as a part of this package deal, you will also have access to

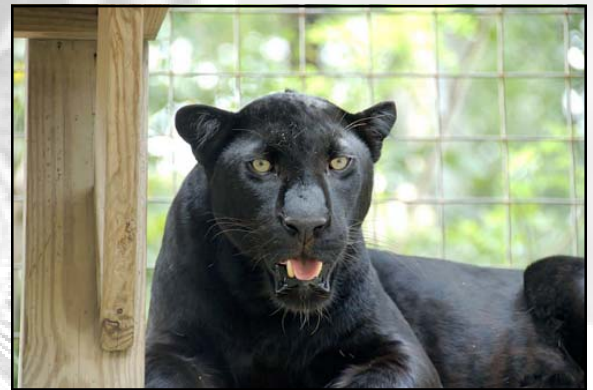
many cats not usually exhibited to the public as you accompany our keepers to restricted areas of the EFRC to see an additional 80 cats!

For more information, please visit our website or call (812) 835-1130.

The overnight experience package is for adults only. We do not allow pets on site at any time.

This make a great holiday gift for the animal lover in your family!

Brumby (photo at right) and Pauli Ann (female cougar) live together in a habitat adjacent to the guest house.



Get In the Holiday Spirit!



The EFRC online gift store is bursting with merchandise well-suited to be the perfect holiday gift for your exotic cat-loving friend or family member.

Go to our website and browse our selection of EFRC t-shirts, books, hats and other items to find the perfect gift. Shipping and handling is free!

To guarantee your merchandise arrives on schedule, we ask that you complete your holiday order by December 18, 2007. Please call for rush deliveries after that date.

We accept Visa and Mastercard at our secure online gift store.

Many thanks and happy holidays from everyone at the EFRC.

EFRC 2007 GIFT COMMITMENT and MERCHANDISE 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 \$ _____

**SAVE A STAMP
MAKE YOUR GIFT ONLINE**

Available EFRC Merchandise

Short Sleeve T-Shirts (\$20): Size _____

Cougar ___(gray/cobblestone) Lion ___(brown/black) Spotted Leopard ___(black) Tiger Eyes ___(forest green) White Tiger ___(lt blue)

Tri-Cat ___(lion, tiger & cougar on yellow)

Long-Sleeve T-Shirts (\$25): Size _____

Cougar ___ (gray/cobblestone) Lion ___(brown) White Tiger ___(lt blue)

Sweatshirts (\$30): Size: _____

Cougar ___ (gray/cobblestone) Spotted Leopard ___(black) Lion ___(black) White Tiger ___(lt blue) Tiger Eyes ___(forest green)

Hats (\$15): Lion ___(green) Cougar ___(black) Tiger ___(tan and black) **2008 Calendar (\$15)** ___

Keychain (\$3): Spotted Leopard ___ Cougar ___ Lion (f) ___ Lion (m) ___ Lynx ___ Black Leopard ___ Tiger ___ White Tiger ___ Bobcat ___

Ocelot ___ Serval ___

Magnet (\$2): Spotted Leopard ___ Cougar ___ Lion (f) ___ Lion (m) ___ Lynx ___ Black Leopard ___ Tiger ___ White Tiger ___ Bobcat ___

Ocelot ___ Serval ___ Asian Leopard Cat ___

Max the Tiger Car Ribbon (\$5): ___ **EFRC Lion Iron-On Patch (\$3.50):** ___ **Saving the Big Cats book by Stephen McCloud (\$39.95)** ___

Shipping & Handling for mail/phone orders: \$4 book, \$3 shirts, hats & calendars, \$2 car ribbon & \$1 for all else. Mail and phone orders, checks only please. Online ordering is available with Visa, Mastercard and PayPal.

Name: _____ Total Enclosed: EFRC Gift \$ _____

Address: _____ Merchandise \$ _____

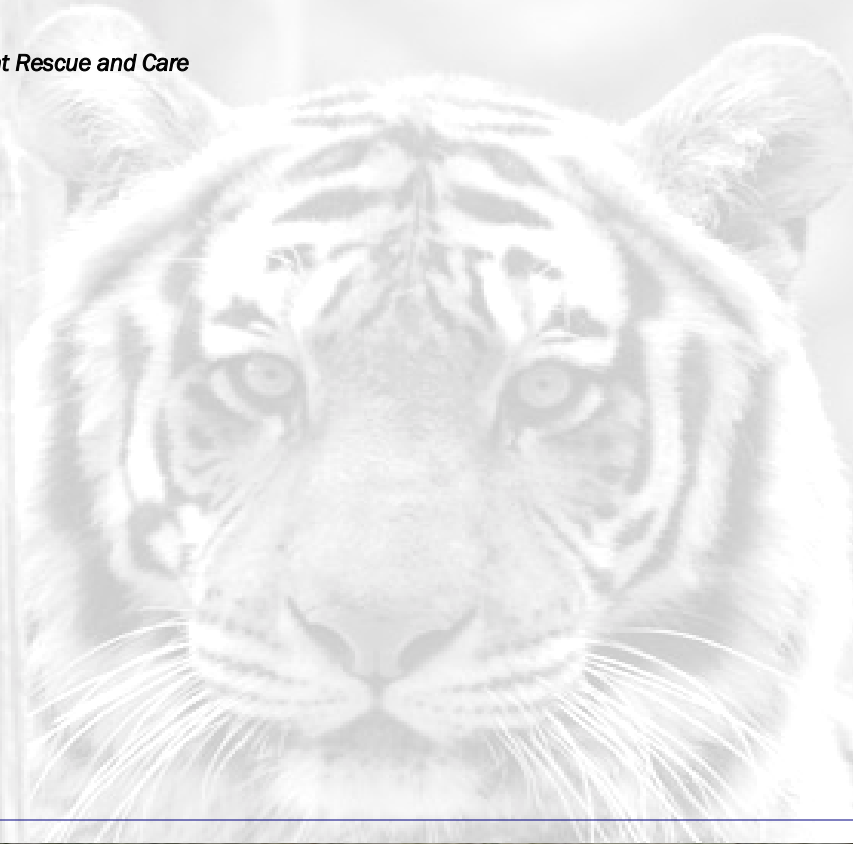
Shipping \$ _____

E-Mail: _____ Total \$ _____

MERCHANDISE ORDERS FROM OUR WEBSITE SHIP FREE!

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

A National Leader in Exotic Cat Rescue and Care



THE EXOTIC FELINE RESCUE CENTER