



# CAT CHRONICLES

Sept., 2009

## Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge

A USDA Licensed Facility for "The Vanishing Breeds of Big Cats"

239 Turpentine Creek Lane

Eureka Springs, AR 72632

Email: [tigers@turpentinecreek.org](mailto:tigers@turpentinecreek.org)

Phone: 479-253-5841 Fax: 479-253-5059



### Note These Dates

**Oct. 3**

Welcome  
Eureka Springs  
Corvette Club  
Poker Run

**Oct. 31**

Howl-O-Ween  
Spooktacular

7-10 pm. This is the only  
night time viewing of  
the cats all year! See our  
website for more info.



**Carrie- Sept.  
Cat of the Month**

## Letter From The President

*Tanya Smith/Founder*

Hello fellow supporters and friends of Turpentine Creek. I have a lot to report so I will get started. The Turpentine Creek Native American Pow Wow, June 19-21, went great. The weather was perfect and we had many different tribes represented. Congratulations to the winners. The vendors were awesome again this year.

TCWR's 4th of July Extravaganza was the best ever. Four bands preformed on our stage starting about 4 PM then the fireworks began. It was the most organized July 4th event to date. The field was packed and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Please plan to join us on October 31 for our Howl-O-Ween Spooktacular at 7PM. This is the only night of the year that you can view the Big Cats in the blackness of night... see their eyes glow and feel their every move. There will be hayrides, costume contest, face painting, bobbing for apples, door prizes... fun for the whole family. Our trail of terror is a sure hair raiser. Come if you dare.

As TCWR grows it takes more dedicated people to care for the animals that we have saved. TCWR bought two previously owned double wide mobile homes (1998 and 1994) to accommodate some of our staff and interns - I am happy to report that we were able to replace the very old mobile home that some of our staff have lived in for years. This house was so old that we couldn't get insurance on it. The second one is being used for additional staff housing. TCWR spent a lot of time getting the homes remodeled and livable through the first part of August. This was quite the race to have them ready to live in by the time our new intern recruits arrived on August 13th. Our staff seems to work better with deadlines - so of course it got done.

More progress was made this summer. Some of you might know that TCWR applied for Extreme Home Make-Over and we have not been accepted to this date. We could wait no longer, our intern housing was/is in need of a major overhaul. TCWR has been so busy taking care of the animals that we sometimes forget about the people who have to live here to give that care. Improvements were made to the interns' homes: the bunkhouse received a new metal roof and some interior repairs; the cottage had the ceiling fixed, interior paint and a new porch. Some of the other intern housing received new porches, and the B&B/office and vet clinic also received a new metal roof. Most of this work was done by the dedicated staff that already works at the refuge, but

*President: continued page 2.*

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"Help Us, Help Them"

[www.turpentinecreek.org](http://www.turpentinecreek.org)

*(President: continued from page 1.)*

TCWR did have to hire Extra Mile Siding to do the roof work. These improvements have already made a difference in the staffs' and interns' morale and hopefully will save utility costs for the refuge in the future.

TCWR has also been in desperate need of a shop to work on vehicles that break down or need service. The shop will also provide a place to work on projects when the weather is bad. TCWR looks forward to having a place to safely store equipment, tools, maintenance supplies, etc. TCWR hopes this will extend the life of our equipment. The shop is being built as inexpensively as we can. We are using recycled materials wherever possible.

Thanks to everyone that supported the benches and pools for the big cats. That fundraiser has been a huge success, and the animals love the new enhancements to their living quarters. I am happy to report that we are continuing to work on the next habitat for our leopards. This enclosure will be the most expensive habitat to date. We still need help with this and other projects, so please donate what you can today. Thanks again for all you do to help. Until next time...



## Rescues

*By: Carrie Trudeau/Staff Biologist*

This summer has brought us three new rescues, all different species. On July 3rd, a gentleman from around Greenbrier, Arkansas, brought us a 12 year old female cougar named Angel. He told us he purchased Angel when she was a cub because “having an exotic pet was popular.” He bought Angel at a Lolley Brothers animal auction in West Plains, Missouri. Since the gentleman’s health started to fail, he decided to find the cougar a good home. Angel is in great condition and has already become comfortable with Refuge staff and interns. During his delivery of Angel, the gentleman mentioned to Tanya that he also had a black bear that he purchased at the same time as Angel. Tanya informed him that we happened to have a vacant bear enclosure and set up a time to rescue his bear as well.

A week later, Scott and Tanya traveled to Greenbrier to acquire the 12 year old female named Sugar. The conditions that Scott and Tanya found were unsatisfactory. Sugar was housed in the middle of a junkyard, in a cage too short for her to stand up in. Her cage was full of mud and filth that had built up for nearly twelve years. After several hours of coaxing, Sugar reluctantly sauntered into the rescue trailer for the safe trip back to Eureka Springs. After her arrival, Sugar spent a few weeks in quarantine getting used to her new routine at the refuge. She has now been moved to the bear habitats next to Koda and is adjusting quite well.

On August 8th, we welcomed a male lynx named Khaki. Khaki was brought to the refuge by his former owner from Longview, TX. The 11 year old lynx had been neutered, declawed and had his canine teeth filed down. Khaki is a little thin and after a visit from our veterinarian we found he was covered in fleas and anemic. While Khaki was under sedation we were able to take his collar off. He is still a bit apprehensive towards the staff and interns, but we are confident he will adjust to refuge life quickly. Fall is a great time to come check out the changes and new arrivals at the refuge!



## TCWR Welcomes our Fall 2009 Interns

From left to right:

Allie Walsh – Mount Holyoke College – BS Biology – May 2009

Margaret Trunack – Delaware Valley College – BS Animal Behavior – May 2008

Mary Schlieve – Northland College - BS Veterinary Life Science – May 2008

Kellyn Kearney – Manhattan College – BS Biology – May 2008

Anayibe Ramos – Lehman College – BS Biology – August 2009

Amanda Lafferty – Michigan State University – BS Zoology – May 2008

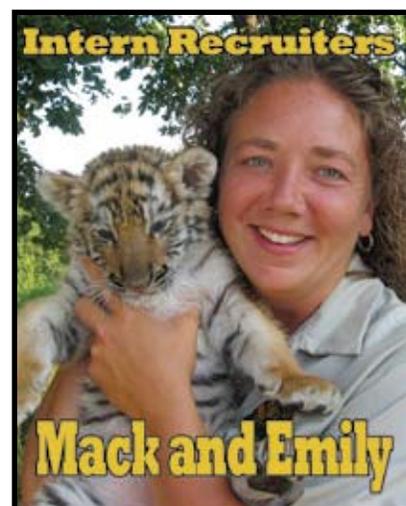
Ashley Bulla – Manhattan College – BS Biology – May 2009

Michelle Koprowski – SUNY ESF – BS Wildlife Science – May 2009

Kimberly Layman – Colorado State University – BS Zoology May 2008

Jarrett Sweeley – Coastal Carolina University – BS Marine Science/Biology–May 2008

Rachel Meili – University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point – BS Biology May 2009



**If you would like to know more about our internship program check out our website or email [emily@turpentinecreek.org](mailto:emily@turpentinecreek.org)**

## Gratitude and Education Along The Way

*By: Tanya Smith/Founder/President*

The intern program has been so beneficial to both TCWR and the students that have made their way here from whatever College or University they graduated from. This program provides qualified individuals who have a passion to work with animals, a real life opportunity to do so. The internship was conceived out of a need to have educated, responsible people who care about animals and give them the quality of care that they all deserve. It is a win-win situation for everyone, especially their future employers.

Thanks for giving TCWR 6 months or longer of your life. TCWR staff realized soon after its conception that it would take many people to operate this huge endeavor and that if we are not educating along the way then we are wasting our time. We are happy to report that across the country there are hundreds of TCWR interns now working with their degrees at zoos, as veterinarians, veterinarian assistants, in humane societies, as scientists, etc. There have been many occasions that these past interns cross paths in their jobs to find that at different times they were interns at TCWR. It is so exciting every time I hear one of their stories. TCWR is proud to be part of the process. Together we can make a difference, worldwide.

# Building Freedom

Emily McCormack/Staff Zoologist

Our four resident leopards are patiently awaiting their freedom. We have begun construction on the high-rise enclosure. The habitat is designed not only for them to run, but to climb and relax on benches and tree limbs 10 feet in the air. Like the cougar habitats, the leopards will have a full roof, enclosing these amazing climbers.

Due to leopards being the smallest of the “big cats” family, the wire for the habitat will be 4x4 and 2x4 panels. Using the smaller wire increases the overall cost of the habitat. We are also including a building for the leopards’ lockdown area. Vada, our 19 year old male leopard, was moved indoors this past winter where he had constant heat (and a blanket). The leopards do not grow a winter coat like the tigers, and need warmth in the cold months. We provide heaters on the others’ dens, but it isn’t a very cost efficient way to continually try to heat the outdoors. So, not only will the building provide them with comfort in the winter months, it will also be beneficial for the refuge electric bill. The addition of the building brings the funding higher than our previous habitats. Also, the cost of metal has significantly increased.

The total cost of the leopard habitat will be approximately \$50,000. Currently, we have raised about \$12,600, and we are purchasing supplies and building as the donations roll in. It would be amazing to see another supporter step up and help us complete this project before it turns cold again. Our last 8 habitats, which provide 29 of our current residents’ freedom, were fully sponsored by several remarkable people. Donate today and help Vada, Spyke, Zambo & Santania get their freedom. If You Build It, They Can Run!



*This photo shows the welding trailer ready to go. We have a lot of work to do on the new enclosure for the leopards. We need volunteers and funding.*



*Spyke is shown here in the trailer draped over a bench built for his entertainment. Imagine him in the open air habitat draped over an old tree limb. I can't wait.*

## An Angel for Styx

By: Laurie Vanderwal, Staff Zoologist

Styx, the tiger, is a cat with a guardian angel. We highlighted his health issues in a previous newsletter, but there have been some new and exciting events in his life. Styx was rescued in the spring of 2006 and although lean, he seemed to be in relatively good health. Not long after his rescue, we started noticing him vomiting his food and having digestive issues. After consulting our vets at St. Francis Vet Clinic, Styx was diagnosed with exocrine pancreatic insufficiency. This basically means that his pancreas is not producing enough enzymes to digest his food properly. Dr. Wilkinson suggested feeding raw cow or pig pancreas in addition to his regular diet to provide the extra enzymes that Styx needs.

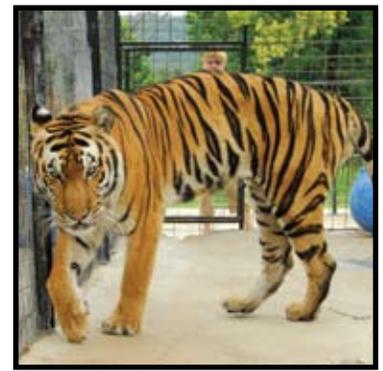
Initially, we were able to acquire this raw pancreas from local butcher shops in the area and it began to help. Styx’s vomiting was dramatically reduced and he started to put on more weight. Unfortunately, our source for the raw pancreas began to dwindle and eventually stopped entirely. The other option for Styx is purchasing pancreatic supplements, a dried pancreatic extract in powder form, which is quite costly. We estimated it would cost around \$300/week to treat Styx, but in early July his guardian angel arrived.

Terese Mansell, the president of the National Enzyme Co. in Forsyth, MO, sent an email asking about Styx’s condition and offering to help. We were all so excited to hear this news and after a quick discussion with Dr. Wilkinson, Terese and NEC donated both pancreatin (an animal-based enzyme) and bio-core Optimum (a combination powder

to improve over-all digestive health) to try with Styx to see if there is any improvement. We started Styx on the supplements as soon as they arrived and noticed a decrease in his vomiting within the first week. We are monitoring him very closely and there may still be some dosage adjustments, but we now are optimistic that he will improve even more and become a much healthier cat.

The refuge extends a HUGE thank-you to Terese and the National Enzyme Company for helping Styx. It is through this type of generosity and caring that Turpentine Creek is able to help so many needy animals. If you, your business, or company can help in any way please contact the refuge.

Help us, Help them.



*Styx is sure looking good. On your next visit make sure to say hello to him.*

## 2010 TCWR Calendars

# On Sale Now!

Order yours by filling out the form on the back or from our web site.

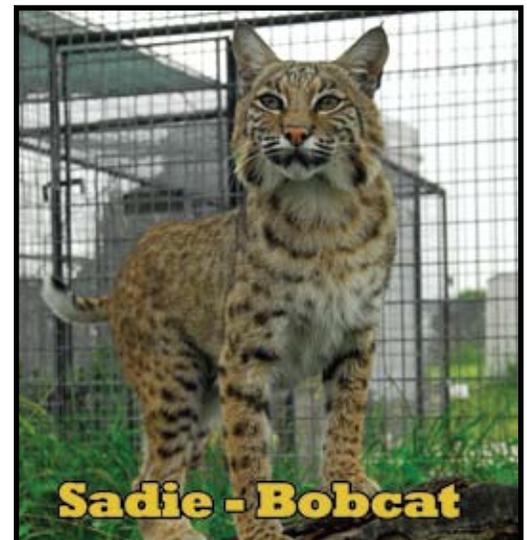


## A new rescue and a new species

*By: Ivy Cooper/Staff Biologist*

We are always happy to welcome new rescues to our family at Turpentine Creek. Khaki is a very exciting addition, because he is a Canadian Lynx. We now have eight species of cats at the refuge. Often people mistake a bobcat for a lynx, but there are a few differences. The Canadian lynx lives in coniferous forests near rocky areas, bogs and swamps in Canada, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. The Canada lynx has very thick, light brown or gray fur with light black spots. The Canadian Lynx is a little larger than the bobcats weighing from 17 lbs. to 24 lbs. They have large ears with long black tufts at the ends and a pronounced ruff around its face. They have short tails with a black tip, unlike the Bobcat's tail which is white

on the underside. The lynx has long legs with big paws that work like snowshoes and distribute the lynx's weight, helping it move in the snow. The lynx is solitary and territorial. They mostly hunt at night and 75% of their prey is the snowshoe hare; the lynx can climb trees and will wait on a branch for prey to pass. Please take the opportunity to visit our new lynx at the refuge.



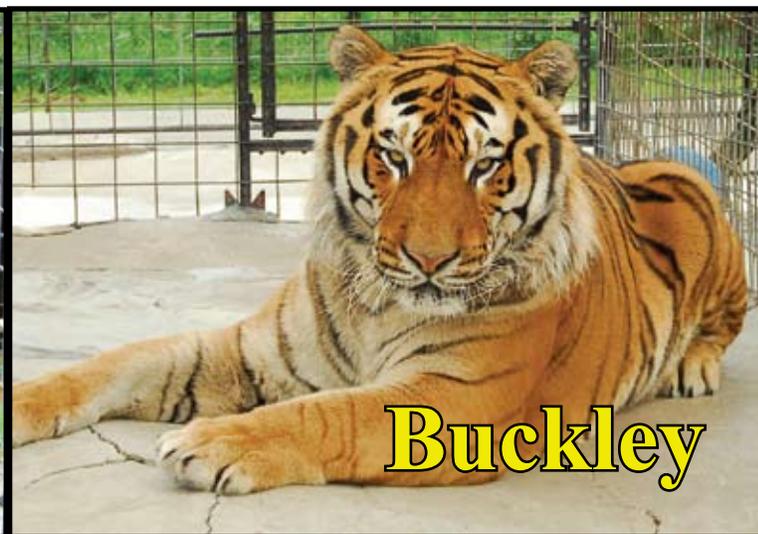
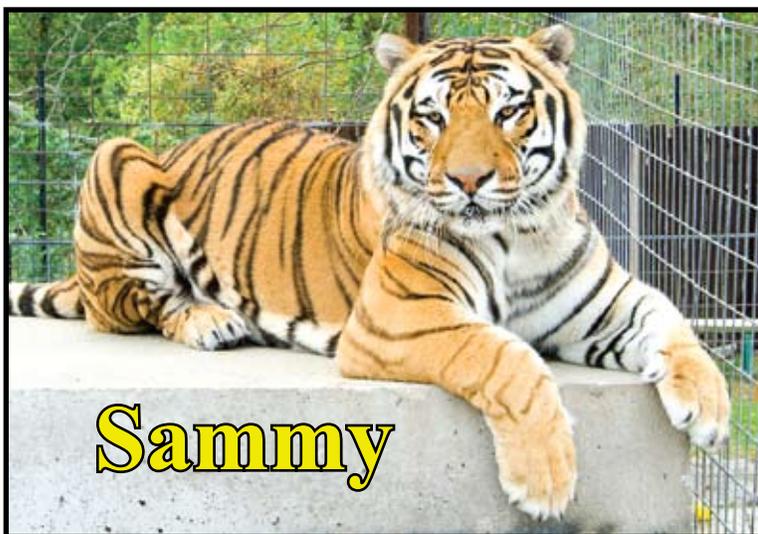
# Remembering Boone County

*Steven Vargas/Staff Biologist*

The Boone County rescue has the reputation of being one of the most horrid and filthiest rescues in the history of the refuge, and it all started with a simple phone call. Back in May of 1996, Turpentine Creek was contacted by the Boone County sheriff's department about a trailer they had in their possession. This trailer, which was originally only thought to have had a couple of cougars, actually contained 10 big cats that needed a new home, and Turpentine Creek was delighted to help.

The twenty foot horse trailer contained a variety of different compartments of different sizes, with cats in each of them. A tiger and a leopard were kept locked in the overhead compartment, while two tigers were in separate 6X6 foot cages. A lion and leopard lived in the middle section of the trailer. Unfortunately the leopard had passed before Turpentine Creek had arrived, possibly due to starvation. Inside a nearby barn was a cargo drum in which a cougar resided. The drum was so small that he barely could turn around. Today this drum sits outside of the gift shop as a constant reminder of the cats that came from Boone County. In the back of the trailer lived another tiger along with her two cubs. All the cats were bone skinny, except for the two cubs who were fed by the nutrients provided by their own mother. After weeks and weeks of living in these revolting conditions the trailer developed a stench unlike no other. It reeked worse than spoiled milk that has been sitting out on a hot day.

Today the two cubs are all grown up and ready to experience freedom Turpentine Creek style. Due to current vacancies and a couple of cat rearrangements, we were able to create some space in our habitat field for Sammy, named after Sam Walton, and Buckley Butterfield, named after Butterfield Elementary, to experience the joys and comfort that comes with walking on soft grass. Being raised by their mother, Trish, they developed a wild side that's unpredictable and unmatched. Although they are two of our most rowdiest cats at the refuge they are loved by many. So next time you visit be sure to stop by and say hi to Sammy and Buckley. Please donate to the habitat fund.



**Fall/Winter Special!  
Monday-Thursday Only**

**All Lodging is \$115/night (usually \$150/night)  
You Must Call 479-253-5841 to Book Today!**

**Africa In The Ozarks! Reserve Your Room Today. [www.turpentinecreek.org](http://www.turpentinecreek.org)**

In past years you may have had a hard time finding availability in our guest rooms on the dates you desire. To address this problem we have added five more lodges for a total of eight choices, each very different and all close to the animals. To enhance our reservation services we have made it possible to book your room online at your convenience. You may, however, pick up the phone and call our main number (479-253-5841). Weekends are still in high demand so book your room early. Through the years we have listened to our supporters express their desire to stay on the Refuge property and submerge their minds in the serenity the animals drive into the soul. Sitting on the porch or lying in bed with a window cracked you can hear the lions caroling all night. As guests exit they are quick to mention how life-changing and unforgettable their experience was. Spend the night with us on your next visit. Quality of life is defined by our experiences. Staying on the property with the animals is an experience your family will cherish always.

**"Help Us, Help Them"**

[www.turpentinecreek.org](http://www.turpentinecreek.org)

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# Sponsor or Adopt an Animal Today

## Adoption Program

<b>Small Animal or Bird</b>	<b>\$75/yr.</b>	<b>Small Animal or Bird</b>	<b>\$500/yr. or \$50/mo.</b>
<b>Small Cat or Monkey</b>	<b>\$75/yr.</b>	<b>Small Cat or Monkey</b>	<b>\$750/yr. or \$75/mo.</b>
<b>Cougar or Leopard</b>	<b>\$90/yr.</b>	<b>Donkey</b>	<b>\$1000/yr. or \$100/mo.</b>
<b>Lion, Tiger, Bear, or Donkey</b>	<b>\$100/yr.</b>	<b>Cougar or Leopard</b>	<b>\$1800/yr. or \$180/ mo.</b>
		<b>Lion, Tiger, or Bear</b>	<b>\$2000/yr. or \$200/ mo.</b>

Certificates make great gifts!

We are coordinating 20 people or families to jointly sponsor each animal. This program is fun for the family and comes with a Free Family Membership! You can visit as often as you wish for an entire year. You also receive a certificate with a photo of your adopted animal.



## TCWR's New Web Site

Turpentine Creek has launched a new web site. The new site has everything in one place. You can read our blogs, watch podcast, and buy TCWR merchandise. You also can access TCWR's facebook, myspace, twitter, and youtube sites all from one convenient place (on every page)! The address has not changed. It is still [www.turpentinecreek.org](http://www.turpentinecreek.org).



TCWR thanks Walmart, Walmart Neighborhood Market, Sam's Club and LDI for their continued support through meat donations.



Here is Tanya feeding Ringo. Feeding time is a must-see event.

## Things My Caregivers Need ...

### 1. Prayers

### 2. Donations

### 3. Cleaning Supplies

- Trash Bags
- Household Cleaners
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Latex Gloves (25 pair/day)

### 4. Tools

- 8"-10" Bench Vise
- Metal Chop Saw and Blades
- Solvent Tank
- 5Hp/50 Gal. Air Compressor
- Hose Clamps
- Hose Nozzles
- Skill Saw and Blades

- Welding Rods (6011 - 3/32)
- Concrete Forms
- 16-20 Ton Jacks
- Common Hand Tools
- Lowes-Home Depot Gift Cards

### 5. Caging Materials

- Black & Gray Spray Paint
- Lumber (All Sizes - New)
- Rebar (3/4-1 Inch)
- Metal Roofing
- Water Pools For Cats
- Donations For Pipe and Wire

### 6. Office Supplies

- Compact Copy Machine
- Laminating Sheets (3&5 Mil)
- Packing Tape
- Scotch Tape

- Epson Glossy Paper
- Laptop Computer

### 7. Landscaping Items

- Top Soil
- Sod
- Mowers - Gas Powered
- Weed Eaters - Gas Powered
- Landscape Timbers
- Grass Seed - Kentucky Blue

### 8. Equipment

- Welder - Gas Powered
- 4 X 4 Vehicles
- Road Grader

### 9. Vet Care Items

- Panacur Dewormer

## Bequest Your Best

It is important to the staff of TCWR that our mission continues to thrive without us, the people. The mission was designed to be long-lived and continue for future generations. For this to happen we need your help. As you are making preparations for your estate, consider helping the animals at TCWR. What you can't take with you can help these Big Cats.

**Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge**  
**239 Turpentine Creek Lane**  
**Eureka Springs, AR. 72632**

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit No. 20  
 Eureka Springs, AR



Carrie is the Sept. "Cat of the Month"

Or Current Resident

**ORDER FORM** **09/2009**

It is through your direct support that the Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge is able to provide quality care for all the animals. Your contribution for the Family Adoptions, Sponsorships, Natural Habitats, and Unrestricted Donations are all Tax Deductible under IRS Code #509(a)(2) as described in Section #501(c)(3) of the IRS Regulations. Our tax number is 71-0721742. Mailing address: 239 Turpentine Creek Lane, Eureka Springs, AR. 72632. 479-253-5841 www.turpentinecreek.org.

**Personal Information**

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Personal Check	Check #
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<i>QTY.</i>	<i>Donations And Purchases</i>	<i>\$ Amount</i>
	Unrestricted Donations To Help The Cats	\$
	Habitat Fund (To Build Big Enclosures)	\$
	Leopard Habitat Fund - Goal \$50,000 Fund Entire Habitat \$20,000	\$
	2009 Family Adoptions (name of animal _____)	\$
	2009 Sponsorships (name of animal _____)	\$
	2009 TCWR "Greatest Stories Ever Told" CD - \$30/ea.	\$
	2009 Six Months Of Podcast Videos \$15.00	\$
	2009 Family Membership (\$50.00)	\$
	2009 Single Membership (\$30.00)	\$
	2010 Calendars (\$10.00) + \$5.00 S&H	\$
	<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$</b>