



## 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

### Upcoming Fundraising Events

#### Pow Wow June 18,19,20



#### July 4 Independence Day Extravaganza



#### Zambo June's Cat of the Month

### Letter From The President

*Tanya Smith/Founder*

Spring is here, my favorite time of the year; the flowers are blooming, birds are singing, people are out and enjoying themselves in our beautiful town. The refuge is busy as always with things like animal and lawn care.

TCWR has completed the relocation of the 7 Big Cats and 1 bear from Predator World in Branson West, MO. I want to thank our staff and volunteers that took part in this endeavor. The work is just beginning as our effort is to provide the animals with the quality of life that they deserve. Food, water, shelter, clean cages, enrichment, habitats, love and respect are some of the items that we provide each animal we bring into our family. Think of the commitment and responsibility TCWR has when we do say yes to an animal in need. Most of the Big Cats in our care live long lives. In the wild a Big Cat is lucky to live 8 to 10 years. At TCWR most of the animals live twice that long barring they have no major disease. That is a great feeling when we know that we have made a difference in each individual soul we have saved.

I always try to think of a rescue from the animals' point of view. It is always exciting, fun and/or a bit scary for them and us. I am sure each animal has a different experience. I know that it has to be weird leaving the only home you have ever known and ending up at a new place with new neighbors and caretakers. Sometimes the animals adapt easily and sometimes not so easily. Health care, love and patience are provided to help in the transition.

Thanks to Bill and Nancy Plummer and Guy and Jan Evens for their hospitality while we visited May 7-9. Bill is our newest TCWR board member and he formed a committee in Wabash, Indiana. They did a fundraiser for the refuge in their area. The committee that was formed is TCWR's idea of how everyone can help and it doesn't matter your location. TCWR visited Peabody Retirement Community in North Manchester, and the Brickford Cottage in Wabash, IN, plus we had three sessions to introduce the refuge to animal lovers. What a wonderful time and a great group of people we met while we were there.

If you live in the KC area, sign up for the programming at the Mid-Continent Libraries. They are sponsoring us to visit June 7-11. You can preregister at [www.mcpl.lib.mo.us](http://www.mcpl.lib.mo.us) or go to your local library to sign up. Please show your support by attending. Make sure that you bring along any donations. Donated materials will be accepted.

Please come and visit whenever you can. TCWR continues to do what we can to care for unwanted and abused animals. TCWR can only continue our work with your help. Thanks!

# Rescues

By: Scott Smith/Vice President

In December Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge received an email from The Interactive Zoo and Aquarium (formally known as Predator World) in Branson West, Missouri. The email asked Turpentine Creek for help assuming responsibility for, and with the relocation of, 7 big cats, a bear, and a Coatimundi.

Soon after the email, Turpentine Creek staff members went to the facility to form a plan to move the animals. Due to the particular situation of the animals' cages it was soon discovered that we only had one choice; anesthetize the cats and the bear then physically carry each of them, one by one, to the rescue trailer. In the last newsletter we covered the rescue of Flip, a coatimundi and two white tigers Zeus and Zena.

As soon as we got a break in the weather the staff members of TCWR picked up the rest of the animals: three (orange) tigers named Chuff, Abigail, and Athena. Their trip to the trailer went just as the first two tigers' trip and they made it to the Refuge fine.

The weather continued to play an active role. The forecast predicted a window for another day of moving animals but it was soon found that the rain was not waiting. The temperature was 45 degrees so this move would require precision, accuracy, and speed, all while keeping the animals' safety in the forefront of each and every decision. Tsavo, a male African lion, was first to get his shot. He went down gracefully, was carried up the embankment to the skid loader, and taken to the rescue trailer where he was awake with his head up in just moments. Harley, the bear, was next and made the move just fine. He did require a second shot before being carried to the trailer and proceeded to awake a little slower as a consequence.

Simultaneously, Magic, a female leopard, took her nap like a pro and was placed into a smaller containment and carried to the back compartment of the rescue trailer. The staff waited patiently for the three to ready themselves for the short trip to the Refuge. Upon their arrival they were unloaded and absorbed into the Refuge family.

Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge does all it can to help every animal. During the time we took in these animals we received calls on 23 more, most of them from Texas. These fortunate animals did receive homes elsewhere, but adequate homes are getting harder to find as more animals find themselves in need. Please continue to donate and visit the refuge each time you have a chance. We hope to be able to say "yes" as often as we possibly can - and that depends on you, TCWR supporters.



*This photo shows TCWR staff and interns carrying Athena. She weighs about 350 - 400 pounds. Not too bad. When it was Tsavo's turn to make the journey to the trailer it took a few more people to lift his 700 pounds!*



Magic

Chuff



Tsavo



Athena



Abigail



# Happy Birthday!

By Jessica Sims

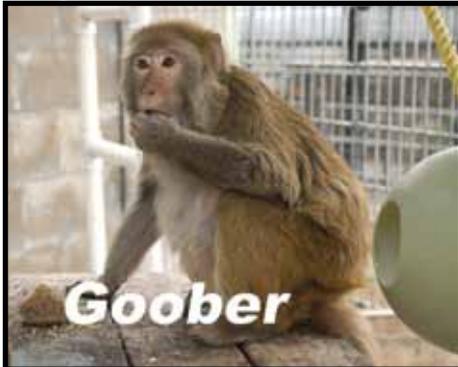


On April 15, we celebrated Vain's 20th birthday!! Vain is a much-loved tiger here at Turpentine Creek. Following in Vain's footsteps is one of our more well-known tigers, Loretta. Loretta will also be turning 20

this year on June 26. Vain and Loretta are our two oldest felines here at the refuge. Tigers in the wild live on average 10-15 years in the wild and can live up to 20 years in captivity. In the case of tigers in the wild, injuries, sickness, and starvation can result in death. However, due to vet care and daily meals, our population of tigers here at Turpentine Creek live to be quite old. In addition, we have another special resident here at the refuge that is even older than Vain and Loretta and even



some of our interns: Goober! Goober is the only primate that resides here at TCWR. Goober is a rhesus macaque monkey that will be celebrating his 24th birthday on October 19 this year. The average life span



of a male rhesus macaque in captivity is 15-20 years while in the wild these monkeys rarely live past 15 years old. Another large carnivore that you can view at the refuge is the American black bear. Our cinnamon-colored black bear, Coco, is the oldest bear that resides here at the refuge. Coco turned 19 years old on February 14. American black bears have an aver-



age life span of 18 years in the wild and 25-30 years in captivity. July will see another birthday for a black leopard that is possibly one of our visitors' favorite cat, Vada. Vada's 18th birthday will be celebrated on July 20. Very little is known about the life span of leopards in the wild but in captivity, it has been reported that leopards can reach up to 21 years old. Come out and celebrate your favorite cat's birthday and we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to these old-timers!



## 12th Annual TCWR Pow Wow

Father's Day Weekend - June 18 - 20  
Gates open Friday 3pm.

Saturday and Sunday gates open at 10am



### Weekend Festivities Include:

Inter-Tribal Dance Contest, Singers, Artist, Crafters, Food, Live Wildlife Exhibits.

### Adopt or Sponsor an Animal

TCWR relies on our adoption and sponsorship programs to offer the animals the highest level of care possible. If you would like to get involved today, complete the form on the back of this newsletter. Thanks so much for your support.

## Fire hose enrichment

Ivy Cooper/Staff Biologist

At the refuge we are always looking for new and fun ways to provide enrichment for our animals. About 2 years ago we wanted to build platform benches in all of our existing habitats; they provide shade and give the cats the opportunity to be off the ground. The benches also give the animals another place to mark as their own; the cats sharpen their claws on the benches and mark them with their scent. Like most big endeavors at the refuge, it took many generous donations by our supporters and time and planning by the keepers. We needed materials for 16 large benches that the lions and tigers can lay on. The cats love these benches and spend a lot of time relaxing on them. In many other facilities old fire hoses are used to make hammocks and other structures. Fire hoses are a great material because they are very versatile and durable; we can build hammocks, make toys and use them to hang other enrichment toys.

We got a few donated and were able to build hammock benches for our up coming leopard habitats and our existing bobcat habitats. The bobcats love these woven hammocks and are frequently seen laying tummy up on them. We have found some interesting ways of using the fire hoses online and this past week made a woven ball of fire hose. This woven ball took 3 people about 3 hours to construct which the cats were able to destroy in about 30 minutes. The tigress, Wally and the lioness, Lisa Dawn are seen in the podcast playing with this toy.

Inside the woven part of the ball are two 10-inch coils of fire hose; Lisa Dawn and Wally were able to pull these coils from a space that was about ½ inch large. Later that day we gave the outside woven part of the toy to our newest bear, Harley. He enjoyed carrying it around and tried many times to see what was inside the ball. We needed more fire hose to build hammock benches and the St. Louis City Fire Department made this possible. They donated so much that we had to send our truck and trailer to pick up about 5 pallets of fire hose. It just goes to show that you can donate more than money to help us enrich the lives of our cats.



*Kizi and Boo Boo relaxing on their comfortable firehose bench. We continue to find ways to enrich the lives of the animals at the refuge. Thanks for your donations.*

## The Roar of a Lion

Laurie Vanderwal/Staff Zoologist

For many visitors, hearing the lions roar is the highlight of a visit to the refuge. Tsavo, our newest lion, has made this experience even more exciting. Since he has arrived, the caroling (multiple lions roaring together) at the refuge has increased significantly. Tsavo likes to “talk” and is always able to get at least a few of the eight other lions “talking” as well.

Only four species of cats have the ability to roar. Non-roaring cats have a hyoid bone in their throat, but in the lion, tiger, leopard and jaguar this structure is not solid bone, but an elastic ligament. This elasticity allows for vibration and results in the roaring vocalization. Of these four species, the lion has by far the loudest and most significant roar measuring as loud as 114 decibels (a jackhammer measures around 100 decibels). It has the force to raise a cloud of dust off the ground and can reach up to 5 miles away, as opposed to tigers that can only be heard at a distance of 2 miles.

In the wild, lions will roar to warn and alert the rest of the pride of dangers. At the refuge, we have seen this warning roar during veterinary procedures. When we are attempting to give an injection with our pole syringe

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*Willy, a lion rescued right here from Arkansas, had a hard time getting used to a newcomer, Tsavo, a recent rescue from West Branson, Missouri. During a recent full moon the lions were exceptionally vocal. Their caroling kept overnight guests and staff members listening throughout the night, anticipating their next song. Arkansas' infringement on Africa's exclusive right. You have got to experience this!*

# The Value of Training

Carrie Trudeau/Staff Biologist

It has always been a long term goal of the staff here at the refuge to implement a training program, and recently that plan has been put into action. The goal of training the cats here at TCWR isn't to perform tricks or provide entertainment. Eventually the training techniques we use will help us to provide better veterinarian treatments, easier and stress free transport of animals, and overall superior big cat management.



Laurie Vanderwal, staff zoologist, and Ivy Cooper, staff biologist, are shown in this photo with Zeus. Zeus has responded well to training as demonstrated here. While observing, it is obvious that both Zeus, Laurie, and Ivy really enjoyed the training session.

All training is performed outside the animal enclosure. The first stage of training involved a clicker, one you can find at any pet store. Each time the trainer clicked, the cat was presented a piece of treat meat. After several minutes of this, most cats easily associated the sound of the click with a reward. Once this was established, we moved up to target training. The target, (in our case is a three foot long ½ inch PVC pipe with a tennis ball stuck on the end) was presented and the cat was required to touch the target with their nose. Obviously for most cats this is a natural instinct. Once the cat performed this, they heard a click and were given the treat. After a while the cat knew they must perform a task, in this case touch the target, in order to get a click sound, initiating the treat. Now, several cats have progressed to where they will do more complicated tasks. Each full time staff member chose several cats to begin clicker and target training. For the beginning phases of training, cats were chosen based on personality, willingness to participate, and eventually on how valuable the training would be to that animal. For example, Zoologist Emily McCormack chose to work with black leopard Spyke,



This training session is with Brody, an african lion. Staff members Laurie Vanderwal and Steven Vargas are working with Brody to get him to stand up against the fence so they can inspect his paws. On this particular day he decided he was not going to stand on his hind legs.

because of his spunky personality. His interactive nature allowed Emily to quickly train Spyke to touch a target. His willingness to go to a target will be valuable by helping us to get him into a transfer trailer when he needs to be transported. Zoologist Jessica Sims chose to train Alex the cougar because she is especially food motivated. She taught Alex the “up” command. This allows us to get a great view of Alex’s feet to look for foot problems and eventually trim her claws if needed. I personally have been training Angel the cougar. She has been trained the command “down”. She lays down on command, and I have worked in “over,” in which she rolls on her side. This helps us get a view of her belly and under all four legs. This could be valuable in a vet exam if Angel has problems associated with her declawing or her age in the future. Several other cats are also involved in this training program, and as they advance they will be taught many different things that will help us to give them a better life. (Examples are presenting their side for easy drug administration, opening their mouth for visual tooth examinations, etc.) This program is one more way the caring staff is providing optimum care for the animals TCWR rescues.

**TCWR offers behind the scenes photoshoots. Contact Scott Smith to reserve your date today! [scott@turpentinecreek.org](mailto:scott@turpentinecreek.org)**

While visiting the refuge, watching the podcast, and reading our weekly blog you’ve seen great photos taken without the bars in view. You too can have the chance to take awesome photos of the animals without bars. Our photoshoots start each day at 8 am. Get signed up today!

*Lion Roar (cont. from page 4)*

and a lion sees this activity, they will roar and alert the other cats. The rest of the refuge cats understand this warning and hide in their dens making it more difficult to administer the necessary injection. Lions will also use a warning roar before inclement weather. They can sense a change in barometric pressure and will roar and carol significantly before a storm front arrives.

Roaring is also heavily used in establishing territory by deterring trespassing by neighboring prides as well as within a pride to claim dominance. This is seen at the refuge on a smaller scale. We do not have established prides, but a new lion coming into the population will cause changes in behavior of the other lions. The first night Tsavo was in the compound area, Willy (another male lion) was very agitated. When Tsavo roared, Willy would pace and roar back as if threatened by this new lion entering his territory. By the next day, the hierarchy was established and Willy had settled down; now the two will roar back and forth to each other regularly.

Lion communication is complex and research continues to reveal the intricacies of roaring. To hear for yourself, come to the refuge and listen for the dominate roars of Tsavo, Willy, and all the rest of the lions at Turpentine Creek.

## 13TH ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY EXTRAVAGANZA

**Notice: No Fireworks Allowed  
In Eureka Springs City Limits**

**Turpentine Creek invites everyone to come to a beautiful, safe place to have fun with your family leagally shooting fireworks and celebrating our nation's birth to the sounds of family-friendly music. When hundreds of people get together with common interest the outcome is a good time. Celebrate our Nation's birth by joining everyone at Turpentine Creek this Fourth of July! Check our website ([www.turpentinecreek.org](http://www.turpentinecreek.org)) for more info about this event.**



*Each of the five safari lodges has its own private deck with an expansive view. The magic of Eureka Springs is just minutes away.*



*All the units are uniquely designed to match separate geographical regions of Africa by world renowned artists D. Arthur and Lisa Wilson.*

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

TCWR has eight lodging 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 Cat or Monkey</b>	<b>\$75/yr.</b>
<b>Cougar or Leopard</b>	<b>\$90/yr.</b>
<b>Lion, Tiger, Bear, or Donkey</b>	<b>\$100/yr.</b>

Certificates make great gifts!

## Sponsor Program

<b>Small Animal or Bird</b>	<b>\$500/yr. or \$50/mo.</b>
<b>Small Cat or Monkey</b>	<b>\$750/yr. or \$75/mo.</b>
<b>Donkey</b>	<b>\$1000/yr. or \$100/mo.</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>

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.



## Things My Caregivers Need ...

### 1. Prayers

### 2. Donations

### 3. Cleaning Supplies

- Trash Bags
- Household Cleaners
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Latex Gloves

### 4. Tools

- 5hp/50ga Air Compressor
- Hose Clamps
- Hose Nozzles
- Kline Wire Pliers
- Welding Rods (6011-1/8")
- Concrete Forms
- Common Hand Tools
- Lowes Gift Cards

### 5. Caging Materials

- Black and Gray Spray Paint
- Lumber - New or Used
- Rebar 3/4 - 1"
- Pipe and Welded Wire

### 6. Office Supplies

- Laminating Sheets (3-5mil)
- Tape - Regular and Packing
- Epson Glossy Paper

Laptop Computer

Copy Paper

### 7. Landscaping Items

- Top Soil
- Mowers - Gas Powered
- Weed Eaters
- Landscape Timbers
- Grass Seed - Ken. Blue

### 8. Equipment

- Wood Splitter
- 4x4 Vehicles
- Road Grader

### 9. Vet Care Items

- Panacur Dewormer
- Large Load Washer/Dryer

### 10. Animal Enrichment Items

- 3" Sch 40 PVC Pipe w/Caps
- One Foot or Longer
- Garage Door Springs
- Climbing Grade Carabiners
- 1" Hemp Rope
- Cedar or Pine Shavings
- 10oz. Burlap Sacks
- Used Newspaper

### 11. Volunteers

Just as with people, our cats grow older and their time under our care is not infinite. Our cats can live anywhere from 10 to 25 years, and often times their start to life was in undesirable conditions. Our mission as a lifetime refuge is to provide our animals with the ability to thrive while they are here. Knowing that an animal has a limited time with us doesn't keep us from showing compassion for them until they are gone. This is why our adoption/sponsorship and enrichment programs are so important, especially for our older cats. Even if you adopt a cat for one year, a year of comfort and fulfillment could make all the difference. Donate to our cats today, and know your support allows all our animals to prosper, young and old alike. Thanks for your support.



*Turpentine Creek needs your help. Choose one of our animals to sponsor or adopt. These programs allow tigers like Tom (above) to live a "free" life.*

**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



*Kudy is July "Cat of the Month". TCWR is open everyday. Visit soon!*

Or Current Resident

**ORDER FORM**

**06/2010**

It is through your direct support that 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**

Name	
Address	
Email	

**Method Of Payment**

Credit Card #	_____
	Exp. Date _____
	3 digit security code _____
Personal Check	Check # _____
	DL# _____

Qty.	Donations And Purchases	\$Amount
	Dontations, any amount. Please help.	
	Habitat Fund (Help build the animals freedom.)	
	Memberships: Family \$50/Single \$30 Visit the refuge as often as you like for one yearly fee.	
	Animal Adoptoins: Small Mammal/Bird \$75 yr. Small Cat/Monkey \$75 yr. Cougar/Leopard \$90 yr. Lion/Tiger/Bear \$100/yr.	
	Animal Sponsor: Small Mammal/Bird \$500/yr. Small Cat/ Monkey \$750/yr. Cougar/Leopard \$1,800/yr. Lion/Tiger/Bear \$2,000/yr.	
	Sponsor An Entire Habitat: \$20,000/ea.	
	Animal Enrichment Toys: Any Amount	
	<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$</b>