



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

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

Letter From The President

Tanya Smith/Founder

Hello everyone. This has been one of the hottest and wettest summers I can remember. Help us by visiting; our June admissions were down by \$10,000. We feel it was due to the extreme heat and summer storms. TCWR needs to make that money up before winter is here. Come spend a little time enjoying the animals, staff, and interns. Fall at the Refuge is beautiful!

Make sure to join us for the Howl-O-Ween Spooktacular which will be held Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010. This is a great time to enjoy the cats at night for our only nocturnal viewing of the year. An optional "Trail of Terror" if you dare! There are many fun things that will be available for the younger children in your family to enjoy; costume contest, a hayride, concessions, storytelling and games. This is a fun fundraiser to help us through winter and it is a great time to meet the Turpentine Creek Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. Welcome to the newest member of our Board, Joseph Pat Joyce.

I hope each of you have gone on the website and signed up to receive our weekly blogs. The blogs are a great way that we bring what happens at the refuge to you in a short video format.

The leopard habitat is open and the cats love it. Thanks to everyone that had a part in making that a reality. Vada was rescued in 1995 and has lived his entire life on concrete. It was so wonderful to see him enjoying the grass. Our biggest challenge now is to get him to go into his lockdown at night so Spyke gets his turn on the alternating schedule. The leopards' den building is going to be so nice and warm when the cold weather gets here.

Our job is never boring. Every time I think things are going to calm down and we can do what we do best, take care of the animals, something so farfetched happens that spins us into a 90° turn. The Refuge is a true educational experience. The habitats are amazing, and with the expansion of the habitats come a lot of responsibilities we never realized. Most of these challenges we have been dealing with since the first habitat was built 1998. The most critical at this time is the tick disease, cytauxzoonosis (bobcat tick disease). Many of you might have heard of it due to your own cat, or a friend's cat, dying from this disease. Read more about what we have learned about this disease further into the newsletter. TCWR is taking major steps in preventing our Big Cats from contracting cytauxzoonosis by keeping the grass short and spreading tick dust to kill the ticks; and now we are looking at replacing our entire perimeter fence with a fence that can keep the raccoons, feral cats, opossums, etc. out of the Big Cat enclosures. These animals like to sneak into the animals cages and eat the meat that the Big Cats don't finish eating during the night. This causes a problem in many ways: the wild animals thrive due to the great diets we give the Big Cats, and these animals carry some diseases that can make the Big Cats sick or can also be fatal. TCWR combats most of these diseases by vaccinating the Big Cats annually to prevent them from contracting things like feline and canine Leukemia, rabies, etc. Unfortunately, at this time there is no vaccine for cytauxzoonosis. So a major effort to replace the perimeter fence is in the works. This endeavor will be expensive but we feel it necessary as a precaution. Please donate what you can to help keep our animals safe. We are projecting a cost of \$50,000 to replace the current perimeter fence.

I wish you all well and I hope that you realize how proud we are of you. Since 1992 you have believed in our mission and helped us get to where we are today. There is so much more that we can do on the 459 acres we have to develop so keep the faith and keep helping where you can.

Upcoming Fundraising Events

Howl-O-Ween Spooktacular!

October 30, 6-9 PM



2011 Calendars Available Now! Order Yours Today.

(See back page for order form)



Sierra September's Cat of the Month

New Leopard Habitats

By: Emily McCormack/Staff Zoologist and Volunteer Coordinator



It is the simplest things in life we all take for granted. We have the freedom to do anything we choose. Exotic animals born in captivity never have that freedom or that choice. The animals at Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge depend on you, the supporters, and us, the caretakers, to provide them with the closest thing to freedom. It's a simple thing, taking a walk through the woods and feeling the grass under their feet.

On July 17th, sponsors and supporters, Carla Yager and Tony LeCara opened the door for Spyke to take his first steps into his new habitat enclosure. Spyke, two year old male



black leopard, was a little hesitant of his new surroundings, but within minutes he was running up and down the enclosure enjoying his piece of freedom. On just the other side a few moments later, Nancy and Mark Hanneman, also supporters, opened the doors of another new enclosure. Santania, female spotted leopard, was the first one out, with Zambo, male black leopard, not too far behind. They enjoyed a taste of grass before exploring their new exhibit. Santania showed the about 100 onlookers just what a leopard is capable of as she ran straight up the side of their concrete lockdown building, turned, and leaped onto a log placed 10 feet in the air. Cheers came from the crowd and from the staff and interns who spent some of the hottest days of the summer finishing the enclosure with the anticipation of the leopards taking pleasure in their new homes. The new leopard lockdown building will provide our leopards with heat in the winter to keep them comfortable.



On July 20th, Vada, male black leopard, celebrated his 18th birthday by stepping out of the building into the grass for the first time. He couldn't have received a better birthday present. Vada and Spyke are sharing their habitat on an alternating day schedule.

Another legacy has been built at TCWR, and will be here to provide that taste of freedom for the leopards and many animals for numerous years to come. Thank you to all of our supporters who continue to make this mission possible. If we build it, they can run!



“Helping Us, Help Them” pays off for everyone involved. Santania, Zambo, Spyke and Vada have all told me to thank you for their freedom. TCWR supporters are the best!

Bear Shuffle

By Jessica Sims/Staff Biologist

There is no rest at Turpentine Creek. After the completion of the leopard habitat, we immediately started on the new bear lockdown that was added to one of the existing bear habitats. The two lucky bears that are going out to the new bear lockdown are Thunder and Harley. Thunder, a young male American Black Bear, is turning two-years-old in November and has become very popular with visitors who love to watch him play in his pool. He and Harley, an eight-year-old Himalayan Black Bear, have formed a fast friendship living next to each other in the compound and will continue to live next to each other out in the habitat. Harley came to the refuge in March of this year. We rescued him along with seven big cats and a Coatimundi from Predator World (now known as The Branson Interactive Zoo and Aquarium in Missouri). Thunder arrived at the refuge (along with Bam Bam, a young grizzly bear) in November of 2009 from Ardmore, OK. The owner was facing foreclosure and could no longer afford to care for two bears and nine tigers. The nine tigers went to a sanctuary in Indiana and Thunder and Bam Bam found a home at Turpentine Creek. Once Thunder and Harley are moved out into the habitat, a space will be open for Bam Bam to be moved

into the compound! Bam Bam will be turning three-years-old in December. Bam Bam's appearance in the compound has been much anticipated by the visitors here at the refuge that are eager to see the young male out of quarantine. Be sure to make plans to come and see Thunder and Harley in the habitat and Bam Bam in the compound. Although we have all the materials needed to complete the bear lockdown, donations are always appreciated for future habitats for the residents at Turpentine Creek.



Harley Bear



Thunder Bear

Raise the money - build the lockdown - move the bears - watch them play...



Please,
Donate
Today

Koda Bear

Research at the Refuge

Ivy Cooper/Staff Biologist

At Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge, we are being faced with Cytauxzoonosis or Bobcat's Disease. Cytauxzoonosis is a disease that is most commonly found in Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, but unfortunately seems to be slowly spreading beyond these three states. Cytauxzoonosis is caused by a blood parasite that attacks the red blood cells of the feline, originally thought only the domestic cat, but now we know it can affect Big Cats as well. The disease is transmitted via a tick from the bobcat to a domestic cat and even Big Cats and, unfortunately, is almost always fatal. When the disease occurs in a bobcat, a species native to much of the United States, it's a minor illness. The majority of bobcats recover in a short time and become hosts, or carriers, of the disease. Last year we contacted Dr. Leah Cohn, a professor and associate department chair of veterinary medicine and surgery at Missouri University and a leader of clinical research studying Cytauxzoonosis. We wanted to know what we could do to help her research this disease. In October Dr. Cohn and two of her colleagues, along with our vet, Dr. Ron Eby, came to the refuge to take blood samples from some of our cats. One really important aspect of Dr. Cohn's research is being able to grow and study the organism, learn its biology and structure, and one day be able to develop a vaccine and better treatment for this horrible disease. The treatment for domestic cats is mostly supportive therapies which include crystalliod fluids, prophylactic heparin, nutritional and nursing care, analgesia, and transfusions. These treatment options are very difficult and almost impossible to administer to a Big Cat; which makes treating this disease in Big Cats even more of a challenge. We are always looking for ways to improve the refuge and the lives of our cats; one way to help us better care for our cats is to renovate our current perimeter fence. We must have a perimeter fence that no small animals such as feral cats, opossums or raccoons can get through. We keep the grass cut and we also tick dust to keep the ticks and other bugs down, but we need to prevent other animals from bringing ticks into the habitat field and possibly infecting our cats. Like all projects at the refuge, we need our supporters to make this possible. We have received three bids to build the perimeter fence and the best bid so far is \$50,000. We know that this is a huge chunk of money during these difficult economic times but this project must be completed quickly. While we raise the money to build the new, impenetrable fence we cannot allow the cats to enjoy the freedom of their habitats and be subjected to a deadly disease. All of you have worked with us for the past 10 years to build habitats which provide a high quality of life for our furry friends. They deserve it! Those of you who are able, please, help us, help them. Call, email, or stop by with your contribution. There are many cats waiting in the "wings" who need saving. The future of all the cats living in people's backyards, basements, and garages, along with those suffering in filth and disgusting conditions, need all of us to continue with the Turpentine Creek mission... "To provide lifetime refuge for abandoned, abused, and neglected Big Cats." A tenth of a gram tick killed these beautiful creatures. Help us put an end to this desperate situation.



Sally: DOB 05/14/85
DOD 06/03/02

Tasha: DOB 10/17/97
DOD 07/04/09

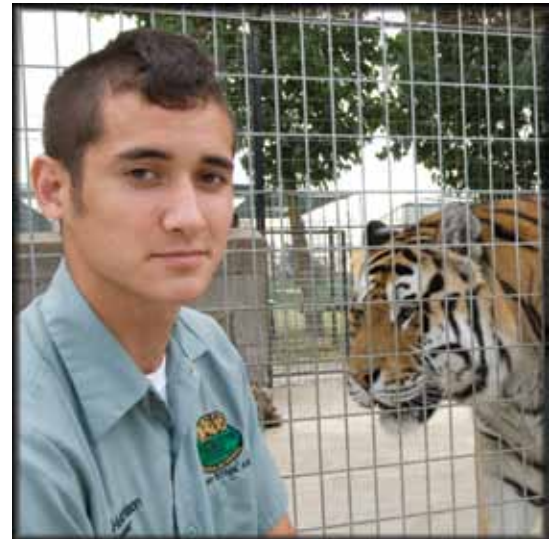
TJ: DOB 10/21/00
DOD 07/06/10

Tom: DOB 10/01/96
DOD 07/10/10

Volunteer Spotlight

Scott Smith/Vice President

Jace Hutchison started volunteering at the refuge in December 2009. While driving his brother from his home in Huntsville, AR, to Eureka Springs to go to school he passed the refuge almost daily. After visiting, he asked how he could volunteer. Emily McCormack, TCWR's volunteer coordinator, had no problem finding a place for Jace in the refuge's busy schedule. "Super Jace," as Chelsea, a former intern calls him, really loves all the animals as is evident through his hard work and dedication. He currently volunteers Monday thru Friday but will have to cut back a bit soon to weekends only. Jace is attending the U of A (Go Razorbacks) this semester, studying linguistics. Upon graduation Jace is going into the Navy. Jace chose to have his photo taken with Ziggy, his favorite tiger. If you would like to get involved in our volunteer program email Emily at emily@turpentinecreek.org.



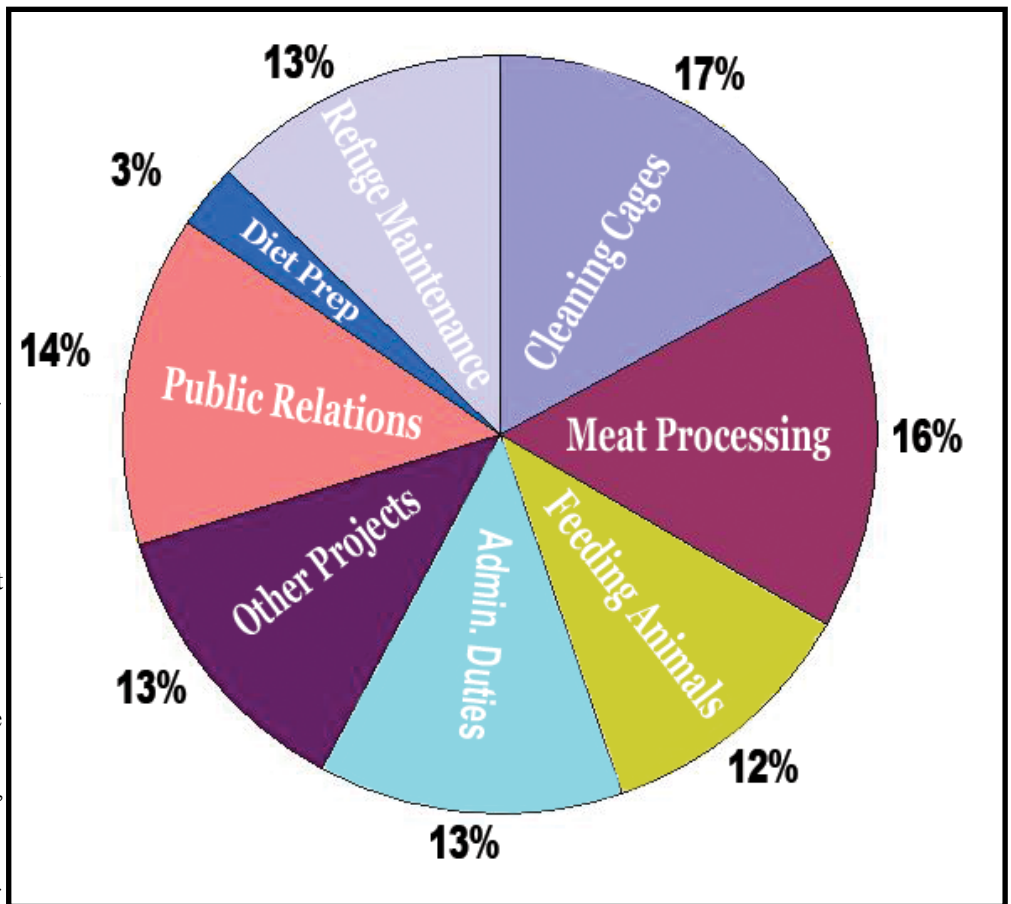
That Week Flew By

Steven Vargas/Staff Biologist

Many guests who come to the refuge are astounded by all the hard work that comes with caring for 135 animals. On an average day you may only see us cleaning enclosures and feeding the animals, but there are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes that keeps Turpentine Creek running.

Work at the refuge starts at eight am and goes on until six pm in the evening; therefore, in a normal work week there are a total of 1249 labor hours for 28 employees and interns. Just about 17% of those hours are spent on cleaning and only around 12% are actually spent on feeding. Food processing, which includes transportation of meat, sorting, and rendering, is second highest to cleaning at 16% while 13% is used on refuge maintenance such as fixing waterlines, maintaining current habitats and enclosures, as well as other general maintenance duties. Administrative tasks (13%) includes everything from updating medical records, handling donations, advertising, and much more. Habitat construction, lawn care and other various projects can be grouped in the category of other projects (13%). There are other categories that are not mentioned in these figures

such as rescuing and vet visits. One thing to note is that it doesn't take everyone to clean in the morning, to feed or even to process meat; there are a lot of people working out of sight making sure that everything is running smoothly.



Interns - Fall 2010

New Arrivals:

Listed from top, left to right:

Trevor Guidinger - Washington State University - BS Zoology/Psychology - May 2010

Kyle Jorgensen - Humboldt State University - BS Zoology - May 2009 - Second Internship

Sylvester Martinez - U of Ill - Urbana-Champaign - BS Integrative Biology - Dec. 2008

Elise Johnston - Loyola University Chicago - BS Anthropology - May 2010

Kurt Carney - Iowa State University - BS Animal Ecology - May 2010

Diana Hollingsworth - Southern Illinois University - BS Zoology - December 2009 (Second Internship)

Matthew Sellers - Oklahoma State University - BS Animal Science - May 2010

Melissa Shelton - Wright State University - BS Biology - May 2010

Jennifer Brenneman - Missouri Western State University - BS Biology - May 2009

Sarah Loutsch - Salisbury University - BS Biology - May 2010

Jordana Todd - Salisbury University - BS Biology - May 2010



Tigger G - My Story

Ghost Written By: Steven Vargas/Staff Biologist

I was born on a farm, but it wasn't a typical farm with horses and pigs and those things that go moo; instead it was a tiger farm. I barely remember my parents or my siblings, I was taken away at such a young age. One thing I do remember from my childhood were these two animals, which I discovered later to be humans, purchased me for a measly \$500. They named me Tigger and took me to their home. They built me this awesome playground with a barn to hide in on those cold raining days. I had a perfect view with plenty of food, you could say I was living the good life, but everything changed when I turned two.

As a present my human parents decided to get me a mate, and he was a site for sore eyes. He was so massive that there was hardly enough space in my playground for the both of us. They called him Ziggy and he was an unwelcome guest, but as time went on he won my heart and Ziggy and I had many young together.

After several years of birthing young for our owners, my human parents decided to move and Ziggy and I were not part of the plan. Instead we were being shipped to an exotic place called Turpentine Creek where we would meet many new friends like us. I was getting too old and my babies were being born unhealthy therefore I became invaluable to my owners.

When moving day had finally come, a white trailer with several humans in tan shirts and olive pants came and took us away. I was not happy; I didn't want anything to do with these humans and their animals. All I wanted to do was to go back home and if I didn't get what I wanted I was going to make things difficult.

About a month after our big move, I became a mother to my last lovely boys; my new human caretakers were very surprised. As for me, I was scared and frightened; the thought of raising two little boys in this place was overwhelming. The humans at Turpentine Creek thought it was best if they raised them. They did such a wonderful job raising my boys: I see them now every day running around playing with each other. My sweet little BB King, my rambunctious Mack.

Although these humans took care of my two little boys when I could not, I just couldn't trust them. Anytime they passed by I made sure they knew it, but all that changed the day I got sick. I never met humans who were so devoted, they stood by my side day and night and all I could think of was how rude I was to them. That's when I changed, I started giving them another chance. After all it seemed like they actually cared. From that point on I was able to enjoy life. Although I still live in the compound, one day I would like to move into a habitat were I can be free as a tiger should be.



Africa In The Ozarks! Reserve Your Room Today. 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

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Sponsor or Adopt an Animal Today

Adoption Program

Small Animal or Bird	\$75/yr.
Small Cat or Monkey	\$75/yr.
Cougar or Leopard	\$90/yr.
Lion, Tiger, Bear, or Donkey	\$100/yr.

Certificates make great gifts!

Sponsor Program

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

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.



Two and a half years ago we put on the wish list below that we were in need of a large air compressor. ABC block out of Little Rock, Arkansas, filled that need recently. They delivered a fantastic compressor that is big enough to grow with our needs. A huge Thanks goes out to these fantastic supporters.



Things My Caregivers Need ...

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prayers 2. Donations 3. Cleaning Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trash Bags Household Cleaners Paper Towels Toilet Paper Latex Gloves 4. Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hose Clamps Hose Nozzles Kline Wire Pliers Welding Rods (6011-1/8") Concrete Forms Common Hand Tools 5. Caging Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black and Gray Spray Paint Lumber - New or Used Rebar 3/4 - 1" Pipe and Welded Wire 6. Office Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laminating Sheets (3-5mil) Tape - Regular and Packing Epson Glossy Paper Laptop Computer Copy Paper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Landscaping Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top Soil Mowers - Gas Powered Stihl Weed Eaters Landscape Timbers Grass Seed - Ken. Blue Tick Killer 8. Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wood Splitter 4x4 Vehicles Road Grader 9. Vet Care Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panacur Dewormer Large Load Washer/Dryer 10. Animal Enrichment Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 |
|---|--|

In Memorial – Mrs. Elinor Johnson

She simply loved Jello, one of our white Pygmy goats, sponsoring him for many years. Over the years we received small notes with her donation(s) thanking us for sending his recent photos and telling us how much she enjoyed receiving them.

Mrs. Johnson passed away on July 3, 2010. But with an exceptionally generous bequest to us in her Will, she continues to support her beloved Jello and all of the animals at Turpentine Creek.

Thank you so much, Mrs. Johnson. We are extremely grateful for your generosity and we extend our sincerest condolences to your family and friends.

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



Wyoming is Cat of the month for October. Adopt or sponsor him Today.

Or Current Resident

ORDER FORM 09/2010

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
	Unrestricted Donations To Help The Cats	
	2011 Calendars \$10.00	
	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.	
	Replace Perimeter Fence - Any Amount	
	Total Contributions	\$