



# THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



They will never know freedom.  
Can they at least know compassion?

Summer 2011

## OPEN UP AND SAY AHHHH...



DR. BAILLIE, LEFT, AND DR. PLANTZ, RIGHT, MONITOR TITAN'S VITALS.

Try to imagine you're a Bengal tiger with a painful toothache. Now imagine you're the dentist who needs to perform a root canal on the 500-pound animal. It is not unusual for large cats rescued by The Wildcat Sanctuary to have dental disease that impacts their quality of life. Too often they have been fed inappropriate or unhealthy diets that result in these problems.

It can be very expensive and medically challenging to address advanced dental decay and most often private owners do not address these needs because of that.

The Peter Emily International Veterinary Dental Foundation, a 'Veterinary Dentists Without Borders' program, provides veterinary dental services to captive animal facilities and animal sanctuaries. All operations are conducted at no cost to the receiving nonprofit.

Specialists arrived from all over the country to donate their time, talents and the use of special equipment. They performed a marathon dental workday involving a tiger, Titan, and a cougar, Cody. Four root canals and six extractions were completed by the group of doctors.

Our own Dr. Baillie, Director of Animal Care for TWS, was on hand to provide anesthesia and monitor the animals while the dentistry was performed.

Our sincere thanks to everyone involved, for their kindness, compassion and generosity. This will make a huge difference in the quality of life for both Titan and Cody!



DR. BAILLIE, LEFT, AND VISITING DENTIST EXAMINE TITAN'S TEETH.

## 2011 MATCH PROGRAM BREAKS RECORDS

The results are in and YOU made this a record breaking year by raising \$122,141 for the cats! This is amazing and our largest fundraiser ever in the history of TWS. That means we can do more for the cats in our care and prevent future animals from needing sanctuary.

A special thank you to the people who initiated this year's Miracle Match by sponsoring the challenge:

**Peggy Fisher & The Stelter Company**  
**Joseph & Shirley Wolf**  
**Dan & Sue Schmitt**  
**Jennifer & John Simons**

And a big thank-you to our top donors:

**Altron, Inc.**  
**GAEA Foundation**  
**Karen Berg**  
**Lisa Coldor**  
**Donald Ludewig**  
**Audrey Beckstrom**

Thank you to each of you who participated - know that every dollar will benefit the Sanctuary in a very wonderful way!



## WE NEED YOUR VOTE BY JUNE 30TH TO WIN \$25K FOR TWS!

It's free, fast & easy!

We are now at #31 and need to be in the top 15 to win!

1. The fastest and easiest way is to collect power votes from specially-marked 12 packs and 20 oz. bottles of Pepsi and email the Power Vote codes to [cat@wildcatsanctuary.org](mailto:cat@wildcatsanctuary.org) and we'll do the rest! Send out an email at work or to your friends to have them collect power votes.
2. You can also text your vote to 106802 to Pepsi (73774) to vote from your cell. Standard text messaging rates apply.
3. Or vote on-line at:  
[www.refresheverything.com/twsinternbunkhouse](http://www.refresheverything.com/twsinternbunkhouse)



## SAVE THE DATE! JUNGLE BOOGIE OCTOBER 9TH, 2011

Join us for the 8th annual Jungle Boogie – a Roaring 20's theme – to benefit TWS. The event will take place on Sunday, October 9, 2011, from 4:30-10 pm at the Minneapolis Marriott West. Put on your zoot suit, flapper dress or best black and white, jump in your Model-T and get ready for a roaring good time! Enjoy the cocktail hour and jazz music as you discover the many treasures in our annual Jungle Boogie Silent Auction.

No prohibition this evening so pick up your TWS Serval White, the 5th in the series of Vintage Wildcat Wine, at our Gift Bazaar. Don't miss our Feed-a-Feline wall or bidding on an Art Deco piece and many other items at the Live Auction during dinner. The evening wouldn't be complete without the Fred Astaire dancers teaching us how to dance the Charleston along with some jazzy music.

**EARLY BIRD SPECIALS!**  
SAVE \$25 IF YOU PURCHASE  
BY JULY 15TH;  
AFTER JULY 15TH BUT BEFORE  
AUGUST 15TH FOR \$65;  
AFTER AUGUST 15TH \$75

**Sponsor/Table opportunities:** Sponsoring a portion of the evening or purchasing a corporate table is a great way to get your company's message out to our animal-loving guests. Sponsorships start as low as \$500 and include your logo in all our marketing materials, newsletters, website and at the event. Or purchase a Patron table of 10 for only \$800.

**Silent/Live Auction items:** We are in need of unique auction items such as restaurant, theme park, theatre and other gift certificates, destination/travel packages, sports tickets and memorabilia, original art submissions, gift baskets, jewelry, art deco items, etc.

**Raffle tickets:** If you would like to help us sell raffle tickets, please contact Julie at [julieheifort@msn.com](mailto:julieheifort@msn.com). Raffle tickets are \$5, the Grand prize is \$500. Sell at least 25 tickets and you'll receive a wonderful Sanctuary gift!

Call 320-245-6871 or email [cat@wildcatsanctuary.org](mailto:cat@wildcatsanctuary.org) for more information.

It will be the Cat's Meow!



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



**Mission:** Provide natural sanctuary to wild cats in need and inspire change to end the captive wildlife crisis.

**Vision:** Help create a world where wild animal sanctuaries are no longer needed.

### Staff

**Tammy Thies**  
Founder & Executive Director

**Christine Dietsche**  
Programs & Volunteer Coordinator

**Trista Campbell**  
Senior Keeper

**Alicia Ice**  
Lesser Cat Keeper

### Board of Directors

**Dr. John Baillie**  
Director of Animal Care

**Dr. Courtney Blake**

**Jeffrey Hoogerhyde**

**Rachelle Wood**

**Gail Plewacki**  
Communications Director

**Sarah Sederstrom**  
Treasurer & Secretary

### Volunteer Leads

**Myk Hamlin**  
Grounds & Maintenance

**Susan Timmerman**  
Direct Mail & Newsletter

The Wildcat Sanctuary  
PO Box 314  
Sandstone MN 55072

320.245.6871

*WildcatSanctuary.org*

**Ways to Support TWS:**  
Sponsor / Volunteer / Donate

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

I want to share some really exciting news with you – our supporters! TWS reached \$500,000 in donations in 2010! This is a major milestone for TWS and we could not have done it without all of you. Thank you!! You can view our 2010 annual report online at [WildcatSanctuary.org](http://WildcatSanctuary.org).

Over the last eleven years together we have grown from a backyard vision to a premier sanctuary in the United States. We are now home to over 125 wildcats and have facilitated rescue and placement of over 1,300 animals. Our advocacy work has changed laws in Minnesota and Iowa as well as federal legislation, specifically the Captive Wildlife Safety Act. Our Awareness & Outreach booths have reached thousands of people and our Keep the Wild in Your Heart, Not Your Home program has inspired future generations.



Most importantly, there are less tigers living in corncribs, less cougars in horrific conditions and less exhibitors breeding for profit. Cats like Lilly the tiger, who once lived in a 10 x 10 corncrib, now have a new life. After 14 years, Lilly was finally rescued with your help. She now knows compassion and lives in a wild space with her best friend, Titan. Even with all that we have accomplished, there is still so much more we can do together and today is the first step.

The Board of Directors and the staff have been working on a strategic plan to guide the work ahead of us. All of our work is positioning TWS to be more proactive vs. reactive. The work we do as a sanctuary is so extremely important but we know the solution does not lie in providing sanctuary to all the cats in need. Instead, our role is to decrease the number of animals in need of sanctuary in the first place. So for cats like Lilly, it would mean not having to wait 14 years to be rescued. This is a lofty goal and as you can imagine, it will take a lot of work.

We have revised our Mission and Vision Statements. Our current statements described our services but not necessarily the impact we want to make. The new statements reflect our core of what we do and what we feel compelled to try and accomplish.



**New Mission:** Provide natural sanctuary to wildcats in need and inspire change to end the captive wildlife crisis.

**New Vision:** Help create a world where wild animal sanctuaries are no longer needed.

In addition to revising our mission and vision, we have outlined 6 key initiatives for the next 5 years:

1. Continue to be a premier animal sanctuary.
2. Become a stronger resource to Minnesota and the Midwest by playing a more active role in the community.
3. Launch the No More Wild Pets national campaign.
4. Focus on prevention through education and inspiring change in future generations – both human and animal.
5. Build awareness for TWS and the cause.
6. Expand Friends of TWS to increase advocates.

During 2011, we have already made great strides in our new communication tools. We launched a new website that is quickly becoming a destination to learn ways to help end the captive wildlife crisis. You can read the latest keeper blog, catch up on wildcat news, read all the residents' stories or learn how to become an advocate. Please visit it at [WildcatSanctuary.org](http://WildcatSanctuary.org)

Programs Coordinator, Christine Dietsche, designed new brochures to help educate the public about our programs.

- Wild at Heart – TWS' Brand Brochure
- No More Wild Pets
- Volunteer Program
- Legacy Pride

Thank you for your ongoing faith and support as we work towards a day when wild animal sanctuaries are no longer needed.

Tammy Thies / Executive Director

To read Lilly's story, go to [WildcatSanctuary.org](http://WildcatSanctuary.org)

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: SUSAN TIMMERMAN



Susan has volunteered for TWS for over 10 years and has contributed in so many ways to our organization. She helped build our first dens, worked fundraising events and managed the Sponsor-a-Wild-One Program. Nowadays Susan can still be found up on a ladder building enclosures or working at an Awareness

& Outreach booth. She designs the newsletter and other direct mail pieces. Susan also wrote a beautiful memorial about Meme, the first tiger resident at TWS, which is published in the book *Good Grief* by Sid Korpi.

“I became involved with TWS after I met Tammy speaking for a woman’s group. Instantly I was disturbed by the stories of the residents she cared for, and by what was really going on with captive wild cats. How could I not get involved? Today, ten years later, I’m nevertheless astonished by the fact that it is still legal to order a baby tiger off the internet and have it delivered to your door. When I speak with the general public, I see the shock on their faces when they hear that fact and it reminds me of how it all started for me.”

“What this group of people can accomplish is nothing short of miraculous – the hardest working group I have ever met. It’s an honor to have been a part of something this big and life-altering (for the animals and myself!) for over ten years. Tammy often says we hope to see the day when sanctuaries are no longer needed and I couldn’t agree more.”

“When I started volunteering we were a small but well-organized sanctuary with 20 cats in Isanti...”

(To read the complete article, please go to: [wildcatsanctuary.org/support-tws/volunteer/](http://wildcatsanctuary.org/support-tws/volunteer/))

## JOIN OUR LEGACY PRIDE

TWS relies upon our members and supporters to help us build and maintain proper facilities, provide health care, quality nutrition and qualified staff. Because TWS receives no public funds, we must look to individuals, such as yourself, to support the animals and provide a legacy for their future. By joining our Legacy Pride, you can make a major gift during your life and/or beyond. You can either designate your gift for a specific program or project, or make a general contribution which will be used to support all of TWS’ programs and services.

The Wildcat Sanctuary is grateful to our supporters who have already advised us of their intentions to provide for the animals by making a planned gift.

To request a brochure or join our Legacy Pride, please call 320-245-6871 or email the Sanctuary.



### *Did you know?*

The smallest cat at TWS is Willow, a 5 lbs. Bengal cat; the largest is Titan, a Bengal tiger who weighs almost 515 lbs.



## Ask the Vet:

*How do you know what breed or size of dog is suitable for jogging?*

**Dr. Baillie says:** The exercise is great for dogs! If your dog runs out ahead of you, or keeps up beside you, then the dog is doing fine. But work up to distances gradually, like a person would. Of course, on very hot and humid days your dog may not fare as well and it’s best to leave them home. If the dog falls behind or slows down then you should too. Never run a puppy or a very old dog and watch out for hot pavement and concrete in the summer, it can burn their pads. Letting a dog get in a lake or pond to cool down is fine but be careful of shallow warm ponds with algae blooms. Make sure you both get plenty of water before, during and after.

Another warm weather concern is for pets left in cars during summer months. Even with windows partially open, the temperatures can reach fatal levels in a matter of minutes. It is not restricted to cars in direct sunlight. Cars will overheat even on cloudy days and in the shade. Best rule: just don’t do it!

Vet care for TWS residents is provided by *Cedar Pet Clinic of Lake Elmo* [www.cedarpetclinic.com](http://www.cedarpetclinic.com) 651-770-3250

## IN MEMORY OF:

IN MEMORY OF MAX  
FROM BRIDGET A. BOELLNER

IN MEMORY OF SHARON J. PROFANT  
FROM HER LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS

IN MEMORY OF SHARON J. PROFANT  
FROM JOHN FARROW & TAMARA ANDERSON

IN MEMORY OF SHARON J. PROFANT  
FROM MLT VACATIONS

IN MEMORY OF MARTY KOLLER  
FROM CARL & EILEEN ADAMEC

IN MEMORY OF JEREMIAH HEZEKIAH EZEKIEL  
FROM SHEILA ROBERTS

IN MEMORY OF FLOWER  
FROM ERIKA TOTH

IN MEMORY OF HAPPY ANN  
FROM SONJA WILLIAMS

IN MEMORY OF SHARON JOY FRANLINI  
FROM TRACY WHARTMAN

IN MEMORY OF CAROLINE BEAUDIN  
FROM DENA, JENNY & NANCY

IN MEMORY OF FRED ROBERTS  
FROM MARILYNNE ROBERTS

IN MEMORY OF JULIE HINTON AND HER CAT, PATCHES  
FROM DAWN PERAULT

IN MEMORY OF KAREN RUTH BORTNICK  
FROM LOUIS BORTNICK

IN MEMORY OF GRAY GUY  
FROM ARLENE HOFFER

IN MEMORY OF WOLF & TOM  
FROM ILSE DIETSCHKE

IN MEMORY OF PETER  
BELOVED CAT OF MICHAEL FINKEN

IN MEMORY OF MAX FRIEDMAN  
MAX THE COUGAR'S NAMESAKE  
FROM LARRY & JULIE HANAN

## IN HONOR OF:

IN HONOR OF SUSAN LAPE ON HER GRADUATION  
FROM TARA HALL & ERIC DIETRICH

IN HONOR OF RILEY AND CIEGA'S FIRST BIRTHDAY  
FROM JO MARTINSON

IN HONOR OF MELBA HIRES  
AN AVID ANIMAL LOVER AND RESCUER

IN HONOR OF AUDREY BECKSTROM AND CHERYL NYSTROM

IN HONOR OF GWENN CHRISS' BIRTHDAY  
FROM MAEVE KELLY

IN HONOR OF ROSALIND ANNEN'S BIRTHDAY  
FROM SUSAN HOWARD

IN HONOR OF MY UNDERSTANDING PARENTS  
BILLY & PEGGY BELT  
FROM JULIE HANAN

IN HONOR OF ELIZA SUNDERMANN'S BIRTHDAY  
FROM MARY McGEHERAN

DONATIONS MAY BE MADE ONLINE  
OR BY MAILING YOUR CHECK TO TWS.

DONATIONS LISTED ARE AS OF 6/10/2011.  
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT SUBMISSIONS.



*Did you know?*  
TWS is home to over 125 animals.



### WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH TWS

Don't forget to sign up for our weekly newsletter to receive news and photos. Sign up on our website.

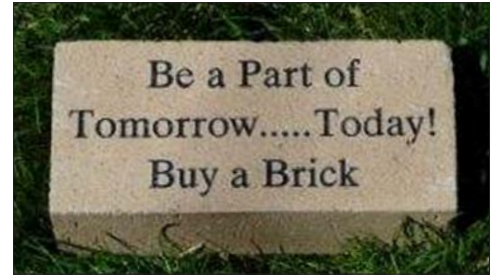
- Find us on Facebook and get the latest updates!
- Follow us on twitter: [twitter.com/wcsanctuary](https://twitter.com/wcsanctuary)
- See videos at: [youtube.com/user/wildcatsanctuary](https://youtube.com/user/wildcatsanctuary)
- Visit our Ebay store

# TWS COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS AND BENCHES

Purchasing a commemorative brick or bench is a perfect way to honor or memorialize family, friends or pets. For as little as \$100, you or a loved one can be a permanent part of the Sanctuary you love. Bricks will be customized with your copy and placed in the Memorial Garden near Tiger Splash. Or opt for a bench under the new pavilion where we pay homage to all the residents who have passed through our lives.

Celebrate family, children, grandchildren, marriages and special events. Or create a lasting memorial for a loved one or beloved pet. These are very unique gifts, perfect for any occasion.

- 4" x 8" Commemorative Brick — \$100.00
- Commemorative Bench — \$550.00 for one line  
(Additional lines can be engraved for \$100 each line)
- 1 line on a shared bench — \$200.00



**All proceeds go towards the care of our residents!**

- 
- Commemorative Bench \$550
  - One line on a shared bench \$200
  - Commemorative Brick \$100
  - Add'l line of copy \$100 each

Copy: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check enclosed
- Please charge my Visa or Mastercard \$ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept this general donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Name as it appears on card

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address Phone #

- Please:  Mail me a receipt     Email me a receipt     No receipt necessary

Mail your check or payment option, along with this order form, or a copy of, to:

**The Wildcat Sanctuary PO Box 314 Sandstone MN 55072**

Please note that bricks and bench lines need to be purchased in bulk, therefore, your order today may need to wait to be produced with a batch. Entire benches can be produced as soon as you place your order. We will send you a photo via email of your brick/bench once it arrives. Your purchase will help care for the animals at The Wildcat Sanctuary by providing food, enrichment, enclosures and much more.



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT: SIERRA

Sierra, a Bengal tiger, came with Ekaterina, another tiger, as part of a big cat rescue from Wild Animal Orphanage. Prior to WAO, they originated from an exploitive breeder in Ohio. It took the combined efforts of the USDA, undercover agents and concerned citizens seven years to shut down the Siberian Tiger Foundation. This breeder charged the public to pet adult lions and tigers that were declawed, defanged and chained down to a platform. During this time, the USDA investigation included eight allegations of attacks on visitors in an eight month period.



They are wild animals and it is a real shame that they were forced to be anything but that. At TWS, Sierra loves to lounge in her fire hose hammock or play hide and seek in the pine trees with roommate Ekaterina.

The truth about white tigers: White tigers are a sub-species of Bengal tigers and not albino or Siberian species like many people think. White tigers occur after breeding two Bengal tigers with a recessive gene that controls coat color. It has been said the entire captive white tiger population originated from one single white tiger and has been inbred ever since. In order to retain this recessive gene, roadside zoos and breeders must continually breed father to daughter and father to granddaughter and so on. This inbreeding has caused many genetic problems with tigers such as cleft palates, scoliosis of the spine, mental impairments and crossed eyes. Many of the cubs that are born either in zoos or by breeders have to be 'disposed' of because they are malformed at birth. Breeding white tigers has caused a giant surplus of regular golden colored tigers in the private sector across the world because most litters still have several orange tigers. Out of a litter of cubs, the breeders will keep the white cubs that bring more money on the market, and the euthanize, inhumanely destroy or neglect the cubs that do not meet the color requirement.

### *Did you know?*

The youngest cat at TWS is Sebastian, a 1-year-old Bengal cat; the oldest is Layla, a 19-year-old Bengal tiger.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

TWS Awareness & Outreach booths will be participating in the following events over the summer. Plan to stop by and see us!

- Sat-Sun June 25-26 - TC Pride - Loring Park Minneapolis
- Sat July 16 - Hopkins Raspberry Festival - Marketplace Craft Fair
- Sun July 17 - Hopkins Raspberry Festival - Grande Day Parade
- Sun July 17 - Bastille Days Uptown Mpls
- Sun Aug 7 - PAWS on Grand Ave St. Paul
- Sat Aug 13 - Sandstone Quarry Days
- Sat-Sun Aug 27-28 - Renaissance Pet Festival
- Sat-Sun Aug 27-28 - LOLA Art Crawl
- Sun Oct 9 - Jungle Boogie - Roaring 20's

## APPROPRIATE PET PROGRAM FEATURED: MNSNAP

The mission of MNSNAP, **Minnesota Spay Neuter Assistance Program**, is to end the suffering and death of homeless animals due to pet overpopulation by providing high-quality, affordable and accessible spay and neuter services to Minnesota shelters, rescue organizations and the companion animals of the low-income community. MNSNAP is a 501(c)3 non-profit charity that relies entirely upon donations to provide services. The more donations they receive, the more animals they can save. By offering low-cost sterilization to local rescue groups, the groups can then save more animals because they incur fewer expenses.



Overpopulation and over-breeding of wild cats is the cause of the captive wildlife crisis. So is the case with domestic animals. The Humane Society of the United States estimates that shelters euthanize 3-4 million cats and dogs each year.

Why spay/neuter? Sterilized pets live longer, healthier lives; pets are less likely to stray and are more loyal; decreases the risk of aggression in dogs and spraying/marking in cats; saves on vet bills; and, most importantly, reduces the number of pets killed in shelters.

Remember to do your part - spay or neuter your companion cat or dog! And support MNSNAP for the fantastic work they are doing to reduce our overpopulation of domestic pets.

Visit the MNSNAP website for more information:  
[www.mnsnap.org](http://www.mnsnap.org)



## THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY

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Sandstone MN 55072  
*WildcatSanctuary.org*

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LEFT TO RIGHT: BOSCO, ZEPHO AND MUFASA IN A CAT-CUDDLE SESSION.