



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



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

2009 Annual Report

The Wildcat Sanctuary celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2009. As we continue our work, we find strength in the lives saved, the amazing stories we hear every day and we are inspired by our goal in ending the captive wildlife crisis. Every wild animal we can keep from a life sentence in a cage is a blessing. And every animal that we can save from suffering is why we do what we do.

Thank you for your continued commitment and support, for the lives you impact and for all you do to help make our world better for humans and animals.



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY'S MISSION

TWS provides for the humane rescue and sheltering of unwanted, mistreated, and neglected privately owned wildcats that pose a risk to public safety. We do not buy, breed, trade or sell animals. TWS is committed to public education about the captive wildlife crisis; offering veterinarian training opportunities; and supporting legislative solutions to the public safety issues created by private ownership of wild animals.

TWS currently provides a home for life for 115 animals: 2 Bengal tigers, 3 African lions, 1 black leopard, 1 black jaguar, 18 cougars, 11 lynx, 13 bobcats, 17 servals, 1 caracal, 1 caraval, 2 jungle cats, 1 Geoffroy's cat, 4 dogs and 40 hybrid and domestic cats.

MORE WILD SPACES FOR WILDCATS

Cougar Cove was a construction priority for the year. The project will provide natural areas for 14 rescued cougars once it is complete. The heated central building was finished and includes 14 indoor stalls. Two outdoor enclosures were constructed with a total of 30,000 square feet of space for cougars. Pine trees were relocated into the spaces for naturalization. Concrete caves were built for shade and shelter, perches made to climb and even

tethered toys to play with. Mia, Max and Matty were the first to move in and they love their large new space. Castle and Vista were moved down and await the new cougar cubs joining them when they are a little larger.

With the cougars moved to their new home, space opened up to relocated cats that were in smaller areas. Two habitats were combined in the compound area to provide more running space for Raja and Liberty. Benson's bobcat group also doubled their space. Jasper and Cedar received an expansion on the end of their new habitat too. Young bobcats Henry and Haley moved into the compound next to other grown bobcats.

The Bengals received donated air condition units for their bungalows which will be installed summer of 2010. Several habitats received new perches and concrete caves to enrich the cats' lives. Tigers Titan & Lilly were finally introduced and received the best gift - A 20 x 20 foot pool complete with a rock waterfall.

Operant conditioning has become a crucial element in making these relocations go smoothly. Through the use of this conditioning, keepers are able to get nearly any cat into a transport crate or their feeding lockouts by simply rewarding the cats with their favorite treats.

As TWS sees success in ending the trafficking of exotic and endangered wildcats, we have drawn unwelcome attention from the breeders and dealers. We've received harassing calls and even threats. To increase security, we installed new surveillance cameras around the property and record all the footage. We also invested in better field radios for the staff.

A new transportation van was purchased for rescues and off-site medical procedures.



THE HUMAN SIDE

The economic slump resulted in a drop of volunteer support. But our regular on-site volunteers like Myk Hamlin, Barb Rein, Christine Dietsche and Nina Ritchie never wavered. Our permanent staff remained at three due to budget constraints but we were able to add a short term worker to help with fundraising. We contracted an independent financial audit on TWS' books and we passed with flying colors. Volunteer and Staff handbooks were updated to include current policies. The internship manual was revised to include more classes and training opportunities. The internship program received over 100 applicants for our four summer positions.



Below are staff gross wages before taxes:

Tammy Thies, Director	\$40,000
Trista Campbell, Senior Keeper	\$30,000
Alicia Ice, Keeper	\$24,000
Part-time Giving Coordinator	\$3,600
Board of Directors	(no positions compensated)

TWS had 48 volunteers in 2009 who clocked 14,222 man-hours in addition to staff, roughly the equivalent workforce of 7 full-time staff. The TWS volunteer recognition program continued where recipients are allowed to direct \$250 to the sanctuary project of their choice. Recipients included Jennifer Steinmueller, Barb Rein, Diane Palmersheim and Pamela Lammersen. Volunteer Coordinator Karen Pederson organized efforts for new volunteer orientation and volunteer days. Our group volunteer day program expanded and MLT Vacations, Navarre Corporation, MSB Globe University and the University of Minnesota's Feline Club all donated a day of service to the Sanctuary.

A Domestic Animal Care volunteer position was created to help care for the ever growing domestic Bengal cat populations at TWS. This enables the domestic animals to get more human attention and enrichment. Christine Dietsche, Nina Ritchie, Barb Rein, Julie Heifort and Diane Palmersheim went through the day-long training course to help provide animal care to this group.

ANIMAL CARE

As we said good-bye to the special cats who had passed this year (Hope, Nokomis, Murray, Sheena, Heineken & Samantha), we welcomed new cats that desperately needed sanctuary: cougars Andre, Noah, Carlo and Langley; Serval Jaharah; bobcat Cedar; hybrids Ledger, Ty, Cooper, and Jasmine; and domestic cat Remoh.



Cats made new friends as careful introductions took place. Tigers Titan & Lilly are together at last. Bobcat Cedar moved in with Jasper, a lynx. New arrivals Ty and Ledger bunked with Luna, Abby, Jasmine #1 and Milo.

Our enrichment program gained even more momentum with the help of the keepers and interns. Residents received several new items such as PVC candy canes, essential oil scents, toys on covered garage springs, and lines for additional mobility and interaction. Turkeys were provided on Thanksgiving and wrapped goodies were given at the holidays. All animals at the Sanctuary receive enrichment several times a week to keep them stimulated and happy.

Several veterinary procedures were performed by Dr. Baillie, Dr. Blake and Dr. Swanson. Annual exams took place on all scheduled cats. Titan, a tiger, four cougars and one domestic cat were spayed and neutered. Andre, a cougar, received routine exams and radiographs for his metabolic bone disease and is doing well. Rascal, a 12-year-old Geoffroy's cat, continued treatment for his heart worm. Maui, a snow Bengal, received corrective knee surgery performed and donated by Veterinary Surgical Specialists. An x-ray machine was donated by Pacesetters Medical Imaging & Twin Cities Orthopedics which allowed us to take on-site radiographs for many cats. Dr. Susan Swanson donated a blood chemistry machine and an anonymous donor contributed dental equipment and several other supplies for the clinic.

GROWING SUPPORT

TWS continued to bring our message to more individuals. Increased efforts were made in direct mail campaigns, social networking pages and off-site educational booths. Foundation gifts were still at an all time low given the economy, but we did graciously receive grants from the Ahimsa Foundation, Friends of Flicka, On Shore Foundation, Inc, The Mahley Family Foundation, Mr. Karle G. Estes Foundation, and The Patchwork Charitable Foundation, The Sheldon V. and Carroll C. Brooks Foundation, and an anonymous donor.

The Wildcat Sanctuary participated in the launch of MnGive.org and raised over \$14,000.

Susan Timmerman designed our printed newsletter and general appeals while Christine Dietsche worked hard on our Sponsorship program to get all 115 residents sponsored. TWS' website was updated by Sonja Lien to include our YouTube channel with several videos of our cats and day-to-day life at the Sanctuary. Our site had an average of 2100 visits per month. Keepers Trista Campbell and Alicia Ice did an amazing job bringing TWS to its supporters through these videos. A Facebook Fan page was implemented to bring up-to-date news to over 700 supporters.

TWS continues to expand events to meet our supporters face to face. Events in 2009 included the TWS' 10th Anniversary Birthday Bash, Jungle Boogie, Titan & Lilly Together Forever Party, Wildcat Wonderland, Pumpkin Pawfest and a Sponsor Parent Celebration.

The Sanctuary was featured on Fox News in Duluth. Local news stories covered the rescue of Cedar a bobcat and the orphaned cougar cubs. Several news stations aired photos of the cats playing with their holiday gifts.

Director Tammy Thies taped a special for Animal Planet called Fatal Attraction which emphasizes why wild animals do not make good pets and featured Titan's story. The show will air in early 2010.

EDUCATION/LEGISLATION

Our college internship program continued and included four full-time summer interns for three months. Along with daily chores of feeding and building, the interns took courses and tests administered by the keepers. They also went on field trips to the Wildlife Science Center, The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Audubon Center of the North Woods and the Great Lakes Aquarium to learn how other organizations are working with animals.

TWS wants to end the need for big cat sanctuaries, but until that day comes we are involved daily in assisting other sanctuaries. We mentor other groups on habitat structure, husbandry and the application process for accreditation.

Educational presentations were given by volunteers and interns to Rotary clubs, boys and girls scouts as well as schools. Education booths were set up at county fairs and expos. TWS hosted a Vet Student Seminar where students learned about the common problems of keeping

wild animals as pets and the procedures commonly performed.

TWS participated in a food study with Nature's Variety. The study was conducted on several Bengal cats with Irritable Bowel Disease (which is unfortunately common in hybrid cats) to determine if a raw diet could help alleviate this condition.

A Teacher Toolkit was designed to help educate K-5 students on keeping the wild in their heart, not their home. The program will be launched in 2010.

CATS IN NEED

With your help we are winning in the battle for compassion! We have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of unwanted big cats in the last year. Unfortunately, we are seeing an increase in hybrid cats as well as orphaned wildcats. In 2008 TWS had to turn away more than 241 unwanted cats and in 2009 it was down to 176.

The largest calls we received were for tigers and the new domestic hybrids (Bengals, Chausies and Savannahs).

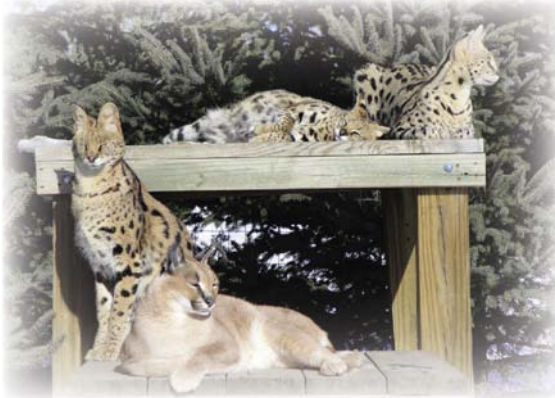
Tigers	38
Lions	3
Cougars	22 (50% were wild)
Lynx	1
Servals	6
Bobcats	7
Bengals	76
F1-F3 Hybrids	23



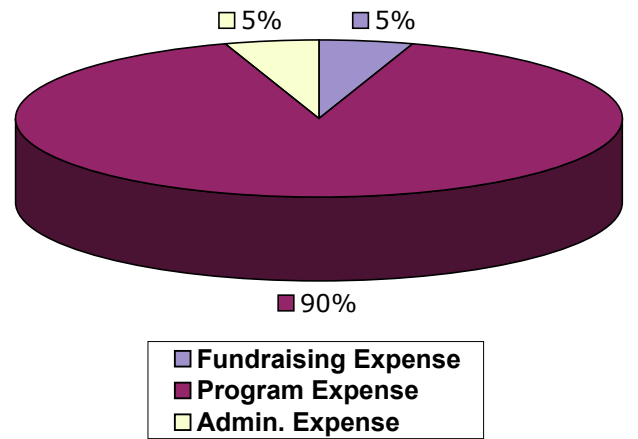
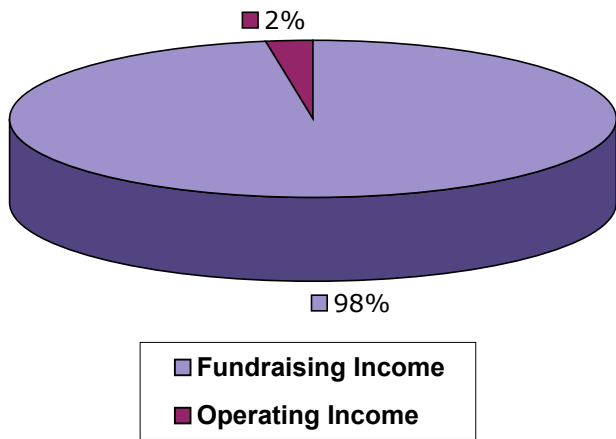
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THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY FINANCIALS FOR 2009



The Wildcat Sanctuary (TWS) education programs are free to schools, camps and civic groups. We realize operating income when groups give donations for our presentations or travel expenses. The rest of our income is donated by like-minded individuals who believe these animals deserve dignity and compassion.

TWS is a leader in the sanctuary industry yet we operate on one of the smallest annual budgets of any big cat sanctuary in the country. This means we work hard to make every dollar count. We can proudly say that 90% of contributions go directly towards our mission and caring for the animals. Only 10% is used for fundraising and administration purposes.



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TWS PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT 2009

	Admin	Fundraising	Program	Unclassified	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
4000 - Donations					
4005 - Individual Contributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	239,837.95	239,837.95
4020 - Corporate Contributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,299.37	9,299.37
4025 - Contributions In Kind	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,250.64	40,250.64
Total 4000 - Donations	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>289,387.96</u>	<u>289,387.96</u>
4200 - Fundraising Income					
4225 - Jungle Boogie	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,088.50	44,088.50
4230 - Events	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,155.00	3,155.00
Total 4200 - Fundraising Income	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>47,243.50</u>	<u>47,243.50</u>
4500 - Foundation Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	124,379.93	124,379.93
4700 - Merchandise Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,017.95	16,017.95
4800 - Interest Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.51	2.51
Total Income	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>477,031.85</u>	<u>477,031.85</u>
Cost of Goods Sold					
4999 - Cost of Goods Sold-Gift Shop	3,728.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,728.49
Total COGS	<u>3,728.49</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,728.49</u>
Gross Profit	-3,728.49	0.00	0.00	477,031.85	473,303.36
Expense					
5000 - PERSONNEL					
5032 - HSA Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5010 - Salaries & Wages	3,100.97	3,100.95	94,145.89	0.00	100,347.81
5015 - Payroll Tax Expense	190.78	283.67	7,202.15	0.00	7,676.60
5020 - Unemployment Tax Expense	336.96	0.00	108.04	0.00	445.00
5025 - Worker's Comp Insurance	173.76	173.75	1,969.19	0.00	2,316.70
5030 - Health Insurance	283.99	283.37	3,215.02	0.00	3,782.38
5035 - Continuing Education/Staff Dev.	0.00	0.00	549.52	0.00	549.52
Total 5000 - PERSONNEL	<u>4,086.46</u>	<u>3,841.74</u>	<u>107,189.81</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>115,118.01</u>
6000 - PROGRAM					
6005 - Dues, Subscriptions, Membership	0.00	0.00	230.00	0.00	230.00
6010 - Food Expense	0.00	0.00	18,436.87	0.00	18,436.87
6015 - Misc. Program Expenses	0.00	0.00	725.00	0.00	725.00
6020 - Repairs & Maintenance - Equip	0.00	0.00	4,090.80	0.00	4,090.80
6025 - Rescue Costs	0.00	0.00	1,153.91	0.00	1,153.91
6030 - Supplies	0.00	88.46	18,053.85	0.00	18,142.31
6035 - Volunteers	0.00	0.00	856.59	0.00	856.59
6040 - Vehicle Expense	0.00	0.00	10,088.82	0.00	10,088.82
6045 - Utilities Expense	0.00	0.00	17,087.27	0.00	17,087.27
6050 - Vet Expense	0.00	0.00	22,298.85	0.00	22,298.85
Total 6000 - PROGRAM	<u>0.00</u>	<u>88.46</u>	<u>93,021.96</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>93,110.42</u>
6500 - FACILITY					
6505 - Building Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	0.00	16,292.68	0.00	16,292.68
6520 - Internet	267.92	267.92	535.84	0.00	1,071.68
6525 - Property Tax	0.00	0.00	1,823.20	0.00	1,823.20
6535 - Telephone	1,163.60	217.65	435.32	0.00	1,816.57
6540 - Utilities	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Total 6500 - FACILITY	<u>1,431.52</u>	<u>485.57</u>	<u>19,187.04</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>21,104.13</u>
7000 - FUNDRAISING					
7100 - Event Expense	0.00	2,784.30	0.00	0.00	2,784.30
7106 - Jungle Boogie Expenses	0.00	20,073.67	0.00	0.00	20,073.67
7120 - Mailing Expenses	0.00	10,444.83	14,715.44	0.00	25,160.27
7130 - Marketing	0.00	3,946.06	624.29	0.00	4,570.35
7150 - Web Design	0.00	62.55	0.00	0.00	62.55
Total 7000 - FUNDRAISING	<u>0.00</u>	<u>37,311.41</u>	<u>15,339.73</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>52,651.14</u>
8000 - GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE					
8005 - Accounting	3,194.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,194.64
8010 - Audit	7,262.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,262.15
8015 - Bank fees	1,252.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,252.39
8017 - Credit Card Fees	0.00	3,767.11	0.00	0.00	3,767.11
8020 - Board/Meeting Expense	5.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.16
8027 - Donations	260.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	310.00
8030 - Insurance	1,216.52	0.00	6,893.60	0.00	8,110.12
8035 - Interest Expense	2,092.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,092.39
8040 - Legal Fees	0.00	0.00	549.00	0.00	549.00
8050 - Office Supplies	152.43	152.43	1,727.52	0.00	2,032.38
8055 - Postage	1,078.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,078.71
8058 - Software	264.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	264.10
8060 - Taxes - State	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Total 8000 - GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	<u>16,803.49</u>	<u>3,919.54</u>	<u>9,220.12</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>29,943.15</u>
Total Expense	<u>22,321.47</u>	<u>45,646.72</u>	<u>243,958.66</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>311,926.85</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-26,049.96	-45,646.72	-243,958.66	477,031.85	161,376.51
Other Income/Expense					
Other Income					
Gain/Loss on Sale of Asset	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Total Other Income	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Other Expense					
misc	0.00	0.00	0.00	309.14	309.14
Total Other Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>309.14</u>	<u>309.14</u>
Net Other Income	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-309.14</u>	<u>190.86</u>
Net Income	<u>-25,549.96</u>	<u>-45,646.72</u>	<u>-243,958.66</u>	<u>476,722.71</u>	<u>161,567.37</u> *

* NET INCOME USED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HABITATS, BUILDINGS, ETC.