



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



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

Spring-2011

BOBCAT GETS INNOVATIVE HIP SURGERY



DR. LEVINE DISCUSSES TRACTOR'S SURGERY.

Tractor the bobcat came to TWS in 2001 when his owner surrendered him. They attempted to keep Tractor as a pet in a suburban, Burnsville, MN home.

Keepers noticed his left hip was a bit swollen and he appeared to have difficulty walking. Our vets at Cedar Pet Clinic Lake Elmo in Minnesota examined him and took x-rays. These were then reviewed by Dr. Levine of Veterinary Surgical

Specialists and it was determined that Tractor had very severe arthritic changes in both hips. This is most likely due to hip dysplasia, a congenital genetic malformation of the hip joint. After discussing his diagnosis with Dr. Baillie, we decided to proceed with surgery in January. Dr. Levine said that the surgery is designed to decrease the pain perception while restoring comfortable movement. Every year, a portion of the medical care for the residents of TWS is provided through the generosity of Cedar Pet Clinic Lake Elmo. Dr. Baillie is the Sanctuary's Medical Director.

Because it was a very cold and snowy January, Tractor was placed inside our warm indoor quarantine to recover. If you would like to donate to Tractor's care or if you would like to sponsor this sweet boy, visit our website and click on the Sponsor-a-Wild-One button.



TRACTOR IS DOING REMARKABLY WELL AND RECUPERATING INDOORS. SOON HE WILL BE REUNITED WITH HIS MATES.

A WINTER TO REMEMBER...



Despite the way we feel about the cold and snow, TWS residents got out and enjoyed mother nature's enrichment at every opportunity. At top, three cougars explore a fresh snowfall; center, George, a lynx, is oblivious to the cold with his dense fur coat; bottom, Lilly, tiger, gets silly playing with her ball.

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

The new tigers from Texas have definitely added color (and stripes) to the landscape of The Wildcat Sanctuary. They all have enjoyed the snow, ongoing enrichment and are excited to see their new spaces in Wild Woodlands. This will be our largest undertaking yet. It will include 10 free-roaming habitats with water features, hills, landscaping, hammocks and more. It will also include a central building with 14 indoor areas for the cats.

Because of wonderful supporters like you and a dedicated staff, progress has exceeded my expectations this winter:

- ◆ 10 acres have been excavated
- ◆ 2050 feet of perimeter fence has been installed
- ◆ The roads and driveways are in
- ◆ The 36 x 60 heated slab for the animal building is complete
- ◆ Construction of the building is underway
- ◆ Two 5,000 square foot habitats are almost ready

But we still have a long way to go before all the new tigers can call Wild Woodlands home. Each single tiger will have a minimum of 5,000 square foot of space. Tigers living together will receive over 10,000 square feet. This will be the largest open space these tigers have ever experienced.

Sadly, in captivity, the USDA only requires 'enough space to stand up and turn around.' Technically, that means a 10 x 10 cage would be considered 'adequate' for a tiger. Yet, in their natural habitat, tigers live in thick forests and tall grasses. They roam territories of up to 400 square miles and love to swim in cool streams. No matter how large an enclosure we provide, it will never replace their natural habitat. But with your support, we can provide the next best thing ---wild open spaces at a compassionate sanctuary.

Habitats are just one of the many things that we provide for our rescued residents. Through the generosity of **Cedar Pet Clinic Lake Elmo** and Dr. John Baillie, our cats receive the best of preventative and veterinary care. Dr. Baillie also serves on TWS' board as our Medical Director. Learn more about the amazing work they do at www.cedarpetclinic.com. Bedding is critical to our cats, especially in the cold winters and damp spring. **American Excelsior Company** graciously donates all the bedding for our animals, aspen wood shavings.

Our big cats receive wholesome diets of muscle, organ meat and vitamins. **Nature's Variety** donates kibble and raw food for the Bengal Cats that have inflammatory bowel disease or special needs.

Thank you to these generous supporters and many more including **PCML Photography, Cat Care Clinic, Wrap City Graphics and Rock Art Imagery**. We could not accomplish our life-saving work without the generosity of these organizations. Please support those who support the animals.

Tammy Quist Thies
Executive Director



EVEN THOUGH SWIMMING SEASON IS A COUPLE MONTHS AWAY YET, SIDNEY IS DETERMINED TO PRACTICE FITTING HER WHOLE BODY INSIDE HER SWIMMING POOL. WE THINK SHE'S GOING FOR 'TOTAL SUBMERSION' ON THE FIRST HOT SUMMER DAY! SIDNEY IS A HAPPY FEMALE BOBCAT AT TWS WHO LIKES TO MAKE HER OWN FUN.

IN MEMORY OF:

IN MEMORY OF KAREN QUIST
FROM SCOTT & TAMMY THIES AND TWS

IN MEMORY OF JAMES MULLEN FROM CLAUDIA & JACK DAVIS

IN MEMORY OF MY PRECIOUS KITTY, HAPP ANN
FROM SONJA WILLIAMS

IN MEMORY OF JERIMIAH & CHESTER FROM SHELIA ROBERTS

IN MEMORY OF MOLLY
FROM JAMES GRACE & THOMAS GRUND

IN MEMORY OF TESSIE FROM LORI & MIKE BRAUN

IN MEMORY OF EWA FROM KENT SAUNDERS

IN MEMORY OF PUFFER AND TINKER FROM MARGARET MURPHY

IN MEMORY OF O'JA FROM THERESE FRANCIS

IN MEMORY OF RILEY FROM DENISE & JEFF GORDIEN

IN MEMORY OF DANA MILLER FROM MILDRED MILLER

IN MEMORY OF TAYLOR FROM BROOKE MANLEY

IN MEMORY OF SCOTT ALLEN FROM CINDY OLSON

IN MEMORY OF SILLY FROM MICHELLE FRIESSEN

IN MEMORY OF ANGEL FROM DEBORAH DESARMEAUX

IN MEMORY OF EILEEN HOGAN MILLER FROM BROOK MANLEY

IN MEMORY OF KEN ORTTEL
FROM STEVEN & LYNNE KLUZ, R.J. SMITH, INC., THOMAS & MARY
MAY, JUDY MAYER, MARY CADE, RALPH TALBOT, CHARLES VEIMAN,
MICHAEL & TONI SMITH, SHIRLEY & DANIEL FAIRBANKS,
KATHLEEN SCHOCINSKI & DUANE VIZENOR, HAROLD MATSON,
ALAN NEMCHIK & CHRISTINE BOES, ROBERT & LYNELL ANDERSON,
BL MEDVECKY, GILBERT & MARJORIE WATSON,
MARIANNE HAGMAN AND MANY MORE FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

IN HONOR OF:

IN HONOR OF CHRISTINE DIETSCH & ERIC NELSON
FROM CHRISTINE SANGUINET

IN HONOR OF SAMANTHA NICHOLS FROM JANE NICHOLS

IN HONOR OF SUSAN TIMMERMAN'S BIRTHDAY
FROM CHRISTINE SANGUINET

IN HONOR OF ROSALIND ANNEN FROM PAULA NELSON

IN HONOR OF HEATHER COTTON FROM JESSICA SHUBEN

IN HONOR OF SUSAN TIMMERMAN'S BIRTHDAY
FROM KEITH TIMMERMAN

IN HONOR OF DAWN PERAULT FROM CANDACE & MICHAEL SHIELDS

IN HONOR OF JOANNE WEAVER - STROH FROM KAREN WEAVER

IN HONOR OF DIANE PALMERSHEIM FROM JANELL TRAVIS

IN HONOR OF PAULA NELSON FROM ROSALIND ANNEN

IN HONOR OF MRS. MAE RUIZ FROM MELBA HIRES

IN HONOR OF OSCAR NORGREN FROM MILDRED MILLER

IN HONOR OF MADELYN CLAIRE ESPERUM'S GRADUATION
FROM BRENDA VAUGHN

IN HONOR OF MARGARET KAYSER
FROM LISA KAYSER-GRANT & JOHN GRANT

IN HONOR OF ROSALIND ANNEN'S BIRTHDAY FROM CAROL JOHNSON

IN HONOR OF CRAIG MILLER'S BIRTHDAY FROM PAUL MOSS

IN HONOR OF BARBARA GISLASON'S BIRTHDAY
FROM MARILYNNE ROBERTS

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

DONATIONS LISTED ARE AS OF 3/21/2011.
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT SUBMISSIONS.

PASSAGES

We lost our beloved Jazzie to cancer in March. Jazzie was a very special 16-year-old snow Bengal. She was very timid around strangers and unfamiliar sounds but once she knew you, she would show her boisterous side meowing for attention and love. As soon as you started petting her, she would drool in pure bliss. Becoming Jazzie's friend took time and the staff would often watch bird TV with her and listen to music in an effort to win her over.

She wanted nothing to do with other small cats and therefore settled in as our on-site hospital cat. Even being very shy, she was never afraid of the big cats. When a sick lynx or lioness was temporarily in the hospital, she welcomed their company and would go introduce herself. As she grew older she knew exactly what she wanted

and how to get it. The timid cat we once knew turned out to be the queen of her castle and she wanted everyone to know it. We sure did...and loved her for it. Seeing our residents grow emotionally is the most fulfilling gift. Watching them grow older is sweet sorrow. Jazzie led a long life. We love you Jazzie - may there only be big cats with you now!





MOTHER'S DAY IS MAY 8TH!

Surprise the mother in your life with a sweet photo card with this image of Kitty and the quote. With a donation of just \$25, we'll send you or a loved one this beautiful card in time for Mother's Day.

Kitty is a female Canadian lynx that was rescued at a very young age by a woman who saw her being mistreated. She became part of their family and was provided good care. But when they relocated for work, the laws in the new area did not permit Kitty. They did a lot of research into facilities and finally made the decision to place her at our Sanctuary. We're now happy to have her as part of our family. Kitty is a very gentle soul - a perfect model for our Mother's Day program.

*'Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while
...but their hearts forever.'*

MOTHER'S DAY ORDER/DONATION FORM

- Please accept this general donation of \$ _____
- I would like to order _____ Mother's Day cards @ \$25 each for a total of \$ _____

(Please feel free to photocopy for multiple orders)

THIS GIFT IS FOR:

First & Last Name

Street Address:

City, State, Zip

Check here if you would like this gift mailed directly to the recipient.

THIS GIFT IS FROM:

First & Last Name

Street Address:

City, State, Zip

Phone: _____

Check here if you would like this gift mailed directly to you.

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

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



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



The Wildcat Sanctuary is a 501c3 organization.
Tax ID# 22-3857401

Orders must be received by **May 1st** to guarantee delivery by **May 8th**.
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

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT: CASTLE AND VISTA

Vista, along with her brother, Castle, were illegally taken from the California wilderness in 2006. It took the efforts of several people and organizations to help find a home for these two. Since they were exposed to people at such a young age, releasing them back into the wild was not an option. The Wildcat Sanctuary opened its doors to them and has been their home ever since. It was obvious right away that Vista had a severe neurological problem. It is most noticeable when she walks. She has low stability and often falls or trips when she is walking. However, Vista is very strong willed and doesn't let her disability get the best of her. Castle is very much the protective brother, always looking out for her. They now live in our Cougar Cove area with over 5,000 square feet of wild space to call home. One of Vista's favorite things is her giant fire-hose hammock. Whether snuggling in it with Castle or just resting by herself, you can tell she enjoys it very much. One of Castle's favorite spots is on his man-made rock. Usually in the afternoons we find him soaking up some rays and taking a much-needed nap.



Vista is a very happy-go-lucky cat even though her life has not always been happy or lucky. While her brother has never really come to trust humans, Vista's trust has grown tremendously. She now stays in her indoor room when staff is in and even eats in there while we watch. Another thing that Vista is really fond of is seeing other cougars. If ever we have to wheel a cougar by in a crate, Vista chirps like crazy at them. They also make a funny cackle call to the keepers when they are inside. We aren't exactly sure what that call means but they seem to like to do it. We are very glad to give Castle and Vista a home for life but we wish they could have grown up in the wild like nature intended. At least here at The Wildcat Sanctuary they can be wild at heart.

WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH TWS

Don't forget to sign up for our weekly newsletter to receive news and photos. Drop us an email to add your name: cat@wildcatsanctuary.org

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

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Fri-Sun April 15-17 - Midwest Mountaineering Spring Expo
 Sat April 30 - AHS Walk for the Animals
 Sun May 1 - May Day Powderhorn Park
 Sat-Sun June 25 & 26 - TC Pride Loring Park
 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

APPROPRIATE PET PROGRAM FEATURED RESCUE GROUP

SHAR - Since 2006, **Safe Hands Animal Rescue (SHAR)** has rescued and re-homed over 1200 dogs abandoned in high-kill shelters in the rural south. They are a small, no-kill, volunteer-run organization.



With no physical shelter, they can only rescue as many pups as they have foster homes. When you foster a dog, you are *literally* saving a life. **SHAR** provides all the vet care, food, crates, etc...all you need to add is the love! And because of the foster program, they get to know the dogs' personalities very well and can then match them to the perfect home.

Currently they have an amazing group of pups and dogs ready for adoption! All have been neutered or spayed, have their shots and are ready for a loving home. You can view adoptable companions at PetFinder.com. Not ready to adopt? Consider fostering and save a life!



VISIT THE SHAR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.SAFEHANDSRESCUE.ORG



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WildcatSanctuary.org

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Vet care for TWS residents is provided by:



Cedar Pet Clinic of Lake Elmo
www.cedarpetclinic.com
651-770-3250

MIRACLE MATCH UPDATE!

Don't forget to donate before April 30th when your gift will be doubled. Several special donors have generously come together to match all donations received by The Wildcat Sanctuary by April 30th!!! Thank you Peggy Fisher and The Stelter Company, Joseph & Shirley Wolf, Dan & Sue Schmitt and many others. The Simons have donated another \$3,500 dollars on to the match for a total of \$28,500. Please help us maximize this wonderful gift!

HELP NEEDED

We are always looking for volunteers with skills and interest in social media, public relations, and education. Volunteer orientations are coming up soon! If this fits you, please contact volunteer@wildcatsanctuary.org.

RAJA AND LIBERTY, COUGARS, ENJOY A VIEW ACROSS THE SANCTUARY AND BASKING IN THE SUN FROM THE HIGH POINT IN THEIR ENCLOSURE.

