



The Wildcat Sanctuary

UPROAR!

APRIL 2021 | ISSUE 28

Copper, bobcat

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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.

The Wildcat Sanctuary is a tax-exempt charity under the IRS code section 501c3, our federal tax ID number is 22-3857401.



The Wildcat Sanctuary
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Daisy, tiger

From the Founder



Our selfless staff

The snow has melted, and the sun is finally shining! It's been a long 2021 already, so I'm excited to welcome spring.

2020 was a challenge for us all, but 2021 has thrown just as many curveballs. It began with 21-year-old tiger Sabrina testing positive for COVID-19 despite our PPE protocol. During that time, several cats and staff also had symptoms.

While half the staff went home to quarantine, the remaining staff stayed on site to provide supportive care to the cats until their symptoms subsided. All cats and humans fully recovered, but the humans were physically and emotionally exhausted from the toll it took.

Then in January, we had a week of extreme weather. It was below zero for over a week and, on some days, it was -45° windchill. Luckily, our preplanning and back-up systems paid off.

We never lost power or heat and all of the cats remained toasty warm in their indoor bedrooms. Again, staff and interns worked extra hours in the extreme cold to ensure each and every resident was safe and comfortable.

As the snow began to melt and the seasons changed, it became a transition time for many of our older and compromised residents. We had to say good-bye to bengal Cooper, bobcat Stelter, servals Denali and Jaharah and cougar Vista. This took the biggest toll on our human caregivers.

Our mission and dedication have always been about the cats. But we can never forget it is the amazing staff, interns and volunteers who bring that mission and care to life.

They are the most amazing, selfless and compassionate people I've ever met. I am so proud of our team here at the Sanctuary! They give so much and ask for little in return. They amaze me each and every day. I know the cats and sanctuary are safe in their hands.

Please join me in sending a huge THANK YOU to such a wonderful and dedicated group of people! They, along with the cats, are the heart of the sanctuary. They carry out our mission every single day.

And we know all of YOU are right alongside them during their good days and their most difficult.

Our sanctuary family and community are an inspiration to me every day. I am forever grateful.

Tammy Thies
Founder & Executive Director



Wally, lion

Dash is growing leaps and bounds



What's ahead for Summer?



Nor pandemic, weather or rising material costs will slow us down in completing projects for our cats!

Seeing them enjoy a new habitat, new place to take a nap or escape the weather is the best thank you for our hard work.

Habitats

We've already excavated the grounds and removed compromised trees where a new **Hybrid Haven yard** will be built. These areas are specialized for single cats or cats that need extra attention. And we've made them

flexible enough to accommodate various cats, from bobcats to cougars or leopards.

These habitats will be roofed, featuring skywalks for vertical space use, caves and new trees for cover. Plus, each habitat will have its very own customized, heated, indoor bungalow.

Thank you to Trees for Tigers for helping fund the interior dynamic spaces!

Many cats will be receiving new, multi-level platforms to increase the space they can use in their free-roaming habitats. These provide additional places for naps in the shade.



A final yard in **Hybrid Haven** will be **torn down and rebuilt taller**. It will include skywalks to provide more vertical space for the little wild ones, too.

Animal Care & Education Center

We're so excited the **Animal Care and Education Center** construction will begin **this spring!**

Increased pricing and depleting supply chains postponed this project from last season. Though costs have increased, our need for this new center has as well.

Not only will this onsite hospital be a huge asset for the cats, but the new center will free up two current buildings onsite, too. This will allow us to enlarge the food prep area, provide more housing, and meet more of our ever growing needs.

Your support is still needed for this critical project! We hope we'll be able to announce an exciting matching opportunity this summer. Stay tuned!

Feel free to reach out to me at 320-245-6871 or my direct email at cat@wildcatsanctuary.org if you'd like to help.



Our Individualized Care

One of our strategic anchors is customized care for every cat. That may sound simple, but did you know it means added hours to each day and more expense to our bottom line?

But it is the **MOST IMPORTANT** thing we do!

No two cats are the same. They have different backgrounds, different behavioral needs and different health needs. It means putting our own emotions aside and doing what is best for the cat in each and every action and decision.

Here are just a few ways individualized care comes to life at the sanctuary:

Bedroom Design

Indoor room colors have been customized to mentally calm or stimulate the cat, depending on their needs.

Lion Gino has a blue room to help calm his neurological condition. Lions Kimba and Sofi have bright yellow rooms. Since they're hesitant about being locked inside, this makes their rooms feel larger and more welcoming.

Diets

Diet preparation takes several hours and four people every day to customize each bowl for each cat!

Whether it's boneless meat for those with teeth or dietary

constraints, different size cuts for different size cats, or specialized vitamins and customized supplements for those needing support, we cater to each individual.

We provide a variety of diets for cats who have different tastes, and to keep mealtime interesting. Frozen treats and bone enrichment are created for cats who need to lose weight, but don't want to skip mealtime.

Pain Management

A pain management plan for each cat in need doesn't end with pain medications and joint supplements. We've added laser therapy to help relieve joint pain for so many of our arthritic cats.

Many of our cats are on specially designed mobility programs to encourage them to move and walk. Motion is the best medicine.

For instance, 26-year-old lion Shanti Deva has caretakers assigned to take daily walks with her around the fence line. This helps her joints and, when she's up, it also stimulates her to drink from her water bowls. That supports better kidney function.



Andre and Carlo, cougars



Shanti Deva, lion

Mental Stimulation

Mental stimulation is key to a healthy cat. We keep cats mentally healthy through our enrichment programs, operant conditioning, and mergers that give them companionship of their own kind.

Our staff is always busy customizing each habitat to the specific cat's needs. That may include enlarging building and guillotine doors so older cats don't have to bend down to enter or exit. Where needed, we add stairs for those who need a bit of help.

We create multi-level platforms and skywalks for active cats. And our shyer cats have hiding spaces they love, like caves, trees, and outside dens.

In short, no two habitats are the same. And no habitats stay the same. We're always adding new and exciting features.

The result—cats who are not just living, but thriving, at the sanctuary!

You can help support our individualized care for each cat through our **SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM** or our **MONTHLY PRIDE PROGRAM**.

As a bonus, if you sign up before April 30th—your support will count towards our **MIRACLE MATCH** fundraiser, too!

Visit WildcatSanctuary.org for more information.



Gino, lion

Make a gift at
WildcatSanctuary.org



Mansa and Leo, lions



Small but Mighty



Bonzai, F1 bengal



Sky, bobcat



Ashes, bengal



Bell, African serval



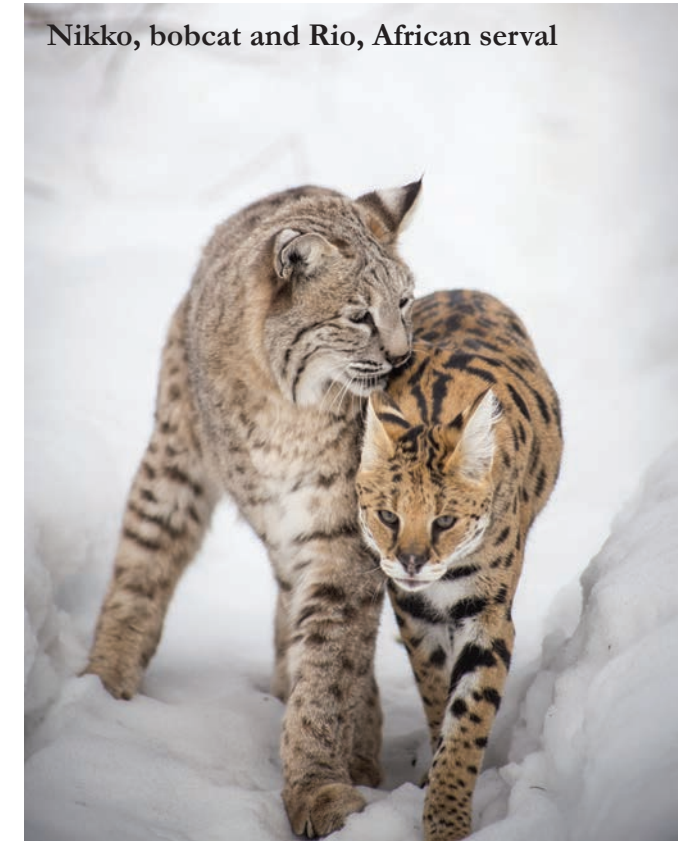
Shybear and Benny, bengals



Bosco, African Serval



Love, Savannah



Nikko, bobcat and Rio, African serval



Lupita, F2 savannah



Safiya and Bengie, hybrids

For their future

It's been 20 years since I founded The Wildcat Sanctuary. Time goes by so fast and yet so slowly, all at the same time. I'm often asked, "What would happen to the sanctuary if something were to happen to you?"

I'm humbled that so many of you think I am the Sanctuary. I may be the founder, but there is so much more to the Sanctuary than just me.

Sustainability has always been a core focus for me and our leadership team. I've always wanted the sanctuary to live on past me. It's about the cats!

My heart is with them and that means ensuring their future is secure and they'll always have a place to live peacefully.

When I began the sanctuary at 28 years old, the first thing I did was take out a life insurance policy with the sanctuary as the beneficiary. That's how important the future of The Wildcat Sanctuary has always been to me.

Today, we have many more layers in place for sustainability and succession.

- **A minimum of a year of operating costs saved** in the bank as a safety net for the 100 plus lives we care for.
- **Insurance on key leaders.** In case something were to happen, this would allow us time to fill key positions thoughtfully.
- **A strong and independent board of directors** accountable for our financial transparency, ethics and overall governance.
- **A leadership team in place** including Operations Director, Donor Services Manager and Animal Care Manager. We continue to recruit and grow management and leadership positions within the organization.
- **A strong Development Plan and staff** to ensure donations meet the needs of operations and donors know where their gifts are being spent.
- **All staff, board and interns support our mission 110%.** This is the most critical piece to ensuring The Wildcat Sanctuary will always be true to our mission, vision and strategic anchors.

You can be a part of building a sustainable future for the cats. Join our **LEGACY PRIDE!** It's the most special and personal way to help the cats. Leaving your legacy ensures their future! Join 125 generous others who have already joined our Legacy Pride.

The Best Gift of All



You can ensure your love of animals continues beyond your lifetime by including The Wildcat Sanctuary in your estate plans.

Learn more at
WildcatSanctuary.planmylegacy.org/
or call us at 320-245-6871

*Gifts of \$25+ received
12/14/2020-3/21/2021*

In Honor & In Memory

In Honor

In honor of Audrey Beckstrom's Birthday
Cheryl Nystrom

In honor of Barbara Sharpe & Rosalind Annen
Paula Nelson

In honor of Barbara Sharpe at Christmas
Rosalind Annen

In honor of Barbara Thies
Melissa Thomas

In honor of my husband Dave Anderson's birthday
Caitlin Anderson

In honor of Constance Schey
Kathleen and Robert Organoivic

In honor of Dash
Lisa Lungwitz

In honor of Elyse Donnelly, my God Child
Debra Cole

In honor of George J. Annas
George Annas

In honor of Jan's birthday! Love, Rich
Richard Yazinka

In honor of Jill Hovey
Jill Hovey

In honor of Julie Hanan
Kathy Dean

In honor of my 2 cats, Lily and Willow, my large family of cats at TWS, and in memory of my 5 Civil War cats
Paula Johnson

In honor of Gina Gathje
Meredith Rogers

In honor of Jeanne Willis-Long and Terry Wagner
Bonnie Masi

In honor of John & Kim Rowe for Christmas
Michell & Arlie Johnson

In honor of Julie, Paul, and Margot
Matthew Boris

In honor of Kande Larson's Birthday
Elizabeth Eide

In honor of Kimberly Phelps Birthday
Rebecca Planer

In honor of Lauren Lynn. Happy Birthday!
Cynthia Boatright

In honor of Leo Janiksela
Sally and James Hammes

In honor of Linda Collins
Amanda Collins

In honor of Lynn Meier who loves your Sanctuary
California Community Foundation

In honor of Maggie Waters' Uncle Paul
Sheila and Jacob Waters

In honor of Marilynne Roberts
Bobbi McAdoo

In honor of Beth for Christmas
Elizabeth Cooper

In honor of my 15-year-old daughter
Mahin Hamilton

In honor of my cat Boris
Fulvia Bowerman

In honor of my furry baby, Shakira
Dawn Isackson

In honor of my Mother, Roberta Badger-Cain
Anna Shook

In honor of my niece Zoe Loder
David Loder

In honor of Paula Nelson and Rosalind Anron
Barbara Sharpe

In honor of my son, Jake Kallen--may his deep love of tigers bring comfort and joy to your Big Cats
Lisa Altamirano

In honor of my wife Sheri who loves all animals and who misses our Siberian Max every day since he left us far too soon.
Robert Helgeson

In honor of my sponsor cat Ramsey on Valentine's Day, the Sanctuary's furriest love butt!
Constance Perenyi

In honor of Paula Nelson at Christmas
Rosalind Annen

In honor of Randi Helgrim
Richard Distad

In honor of Richard and Janice
Nick Smith

In honor of Tammy
Sandy Rakestraw

In honor of Tamzin Brown
Garth Harvey

In honor of Julie Hanan, a remarkable woman, and in memory of her mother Peggy Belt, as well as Julie's fur family, Murphy and MacKenzie who have recently crossed over the rainbow bridge. We love you!
Rick and Diane Pajot

In Memory

In memory of Adrian Helgeson
Randi Helgeson, Karen Angell, Claudia Brockhaus, Vickie Lachelt, Julie Manatt, Phil Manz, Denise Maxwell, Jerri Smith, Ann Stensland, David Woods, and Marie Sorensen

In memory of Aslan and Asha
Michele Zaichuk

In memory of cats and their families we served.
Pets Remembered Cremation

In memory of Darlene Keeney
Helen Donaldson and Kathleen Harmer

In memory of Gully
George and Elizabeth Naylor

In memory of Cooper
Cynthia Barkman and Ron Caruso, Nancy Bolin, John Carter, Lawrence Danner, Daria Dzura, Kacy and Kevin Egan, Terri Guillasas, Paula Johnson, Lauren Lynn, Carla McRorie, Joan Oprian, Roger VanDerlip, Susan Warner, Paula Drechsler, Patricia Saphier

In memory of Horus, my sweet baby
Suzanne and Paul Gorte

In memory of Dean Busse, a dedicated and skilled volunteer who gave so much to the animals and the people of TWS. Your legacy of kindness will live on in all the wonderful perches and skywalks that you and Sue made for the cats.
From the Wildcat Sanctuary

In Honor & In Memory cont.

In memory of Jaharah
Joan Oprian

In memory of Frodo - a very loved furbaby of Sven and Jean Eelma
Jim and Debbie Matthees

In memory of all the cats that have owned me
Hollida Wakefield Underwager

In memory of Copper, River, Panda and Suzie
Nancy Bolin

In memory of Cub, my warm sweet little kitty who brought so much happiness-miss you!
Marisa Hinnenkamp and Therese Super

In memory of my beloved friend and pet of 22 years, Kevin!
Amber Faulkner

In memory of our Siamese cat, Calo, who passed away from FIP on 21 Feb 2021.
Jeanne Frazier-Milton

In memory of Precious, Mitty, Pretzel, Juno, and Pippi
Nora Hunt

In memory of Becky Baskett's father, Jerry
Lisa Sinna

In memory of Jerry Baskett, and in honor of his amazing daughter, Becky
Aly Schilling

In memory of Judah
Nancy and Ernie Lee

In memory of Katy, Calvey Joe, Lucy, Oliver, P Sam, Heidi, Jody, Marmalade, Sandy and our dog Willy
Geraldine Kothe

In memory of Mikko
Kelly Schmidt

In memory of Mitsie
Linda Lezy

In memory of Mohan
Nathan Fazakerly

In memory of Mrs. B Pants
Sue Rogers

In memory of my parents Charles and Ann Champ
Lisa Champ Paluck

In memory of Mickey
Carla McRorie

In memory of my co-pilot in life whom I lost too soon, Bernard Sakraida
Geraldine Kothe

In memory of my dear cousin, Susan Hobmann, who was born this day 68 years ago, but who passed away last year.
Apuleius Hillier

In memory of my late husband William E. Wolf
Maria Wolf

In memory of my sewing buddy—Madeline.
Jim and Debbie Matthees

In memory of my Valentine
Charlene Riordan

In memory of my very beloved husband David Davis who passed away in December.
Ann Davis

In memory of Octavian
George and Elizabeth Naylor

In memory of O'Malley
Paula Johnson, Susan Kern, Pamela Lammersen, Virginia and Joseph Leary, Marjorie Lulay, Nancy Bolin, John Carter, Janet and Dan Davis, Daria Dzura, Larry and Rita Iverson, Lynn Meier, Roger Morris, Sharon Osgood, Bonnie Reiland, Everit Terhune, Colleen Wancenried

In memory of Julie Hanan's mother, Peggy Belt
Sandra Fleischman

In memory of Pixie and In Honor of Lucy and Marley
Pete and Jodi Roth

In memory of Rama
Anne Tonolli

In memory of Richard A. Playter
Michele Hill

In memory of Scarlett O'Hara, Margaret Owen Thorp's beautiful little girl
Randi Helgeson

In memory of Spott, Tigger, Pusser, DaveCat
Laurel Schweigert

In memory of Susan J. Lozier
Ian MacLeod

In memory of Tallulah our black cat
Deborah Zanish and Daniel Danielson

In memory of Stelter and of my dear Scarlett who also crossed the bridge this week. May they be kind to each other on the other side.
Margaret Owen Thorpe

In memory of Stelter, with acknowledgement of all the others who are not as lucky to escape the fur industry. Thank you, TWS, for giving Stelter and Brianna an opportunity to live wild at heart.
Constance Perenyi

In memory of Stelter
John Bailor, Judith Brauch, Candace Cunningham, Janet and Dan Davis, Eileen Dulin, Daria Dzura, Kacy and Kevin Egan, AnnMarie Fischer, Peggy Fisher and Larry Stelter, Paula Johnson, Marjorie Lulay, S. J. McKusick, Margaret McNeal, Carla McRorie, Melissa Milford, Judith Mindrum, Joan Oprian, Margaret Owen Thorpe, Marsha and Henri Pache, Linda Pasicznyk, Bonnie Reiland, Susan Roberts, Everit Terhune, Joanne Wells, Cassandra Weldon-Faulkner

In memory of our little wildcat, Quigley
Cassandra Weldon-Faulkner

In memory of the third anniversary of the death of my father, Theodore Sodergren, who was a big fan of the work you do at the Sanctuary
Steven Sodergren

In memory of Vista
John and Yvonne Baranick, Robert and Bridget Boellner, Paula Johnson, Virginia and Joseph Leary, Marjorie Lulay, Constance Perenyi, Everit Terhune, Nancy Bolin, John Carter, Janet and Dan Davis, Daria Dzura, Larry and Rita Iverson, Lynn Meier, Roger Morris, Sharon Osgood, Bonnie Reiland

In memory of Williard Beauchaine
Wade W Beauchaine

In memory of Zelda, Daisy, Dolly and Zoe
Lorna Anderson

In memory of Zoe
Vicki Poels



Cooper, we were so lucky to have you in our lives. May you make as many friends in heaven as you did here on earth.



Jaharah, we're saddened you left us so suddenly. But we're thankful we could help you again, when you needed us most.



O'Malley, your strong presence will always remain. Please share your confidence with others that need it along your new journey.



Stelter, enjoy the newly found freedom you so deserved. You will never have to know confinement again.



Vista, you are proof that physical limitations do not define an individual, their spirit does.

Full memorials can be read at
<https://www.wildcatsanctuary.org/in-memory/>

A THOUGHTFUL WAY TO GIVE

Honoring Loved Ones



Honor a beloved pet or celebrate a friend or family member with a special In Honor or In Memory gift.

Recognition Opportunities include:

- Your gift listed in UPROAR magazine
- An inscribed brick or bench in our Memorial Garden

For information, call 320-245-6871
or visit bit.ly/DonateTWS



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



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— Ways You Can Help —

Generous supporters have offered to

TRIPLE YOUR DONATION

the final weeks of our

MIRACLE MATCH campaign!

If you **donate before April 30th**, your donation will go **THREE** times as far supporting the cats we rescue.

Please don't miss this amazing opportunity — and you may **win a BEHIND-THE-SCENES tour**, too!

No matter the size of your donation, you'll be entered to win this unique chance for an in-person or virtual tour to meet the cats you love.

So hurry and donate before time runs out!

WildcatSanctuary.org

email: info@wildcatsanctuary.org

phone: 320-245-6871

Miracle Match



Your donation TRIPLED before April 30

TRIPLE THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATION

\$25 **Becomes** **\$75**

\$50 **Becomes** **\$150**

\$100 **Becomes** **\$300**