



Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

Fall/Winter 2013



Professional Animal Retirement Center (PARC), Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. TID# 33-1020728.

For the *REST* of their lives.



“Millie” (standing) and “Top Cat” arrived on Labor Day. Black Pine doesn’t breed animals, so the first order of business upon arrival was to neuter Top Cat. Our thanks to Dr. Scott Taylor, Kendallville Animal Clinic, for volunteering his time and talents. The cats were reunited in a temporary habitat on October 10.

Tigers Everywhere!

Just two weeks after vacating Black Pine’s on-site temporary holding facility, more tigers arrived. “Top Cat” and “Millie” were brought to our attention in mid June when their owner, operating an unaccredited zoo in western Ohio, called to see if we could help. Like many similar facilities in Ohio, this owner is facing significant increases in operating costs required to comply with new laws. These include requirements for liability insurance coverage, micro-chipping of dangerous animals, and licensing fees. After seeking other sanctuary options, knowing it would be up to a year before Black Pine could possibly provide a long-term, permanent habitat for the cats to enjoy, we found no better alternatives available and agreed to accept the cats right away. They

arrived on Labor Day, September 2.

We now turn to our “Ohio tiger” project, a den building planned to accommodate up to a total of eight big cats. This expanded space was intentional as we fully anticipated more animals, particularly in Ohio, needing safe refuge in the coming months. We did not, however, anticipate the need materializing so quickly!

The first phase of construction required to house the four cats that arrived from Ohio in October 2012 cost just over \$50,000. With the two new arrivals, our goal now is to raise another \$30,000 to complete more outdoor habitats and indoor den caging (inside the already constructed building), as well provide concrete pools like those

provided to Taz, Ticha and Delilah this summer.

If you would like to contribute to this project, please designate your donation for the “Ohio Tiger Relief Fund” to ensure your gift directly benefits Top Cat and Millie. Thank you!

Resource Center Coming Soon!

We are ecstatic to announce another very generous gift from the W. Paul Wolf Family to fund the construction of an all-new multi-purpose resource center at Black Pine!

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“Thunder”, a 10-year-old bobcat, is the most recent arrival to Black Pine. He was surrendered by loving private owners who wanted to give him a better life after having to move him out of their home due to typical territorial behaviors. Thunder arrived in early October 2013.

Resource Center Coming Soon!

Continued from Front Page

Construction is scheduled to begin in early November on the W. Paul Wolf Family Resource Center. The 1,280 square foot building will be erected at the main visitor entrance to the sanctuary, and will fulfill a variety of needs.

Upon completion, all tour guests will be welcomed into this new indoor space, where program fees will be collected and orientations given, before setting out to explore the sanctuary and meet the animals.

Souvenir merchandise will be offered for sale year-round, rain or shine, in a new retail “gift shop” space. Guests will enjoy a wider variety of apparel, jewelry, and other gifts and souvenirs, with proceeds to help support our mission. No more battling the elements! No more extensive staff time and energy to unpack and re-pack merchandise in storage tubs every day of summer! We hope to also add a variety of quick, pre-packaged snacks for sale as well.

The W. Paul Wolf Family Resource Center will also include a room for staff and board meetings, a variety of educational programs that may include kids camps and intern workshops, and to serve as a resource library for staff, teachers, and others.

Black Pine’s limited storage space will be expanded with this project, too, which will help reduce operating costs by allowing more bulk purchasing options for many supplies. The existing gas station-style canopy where visitors have previously checked in for visitation and found souvenirs for sale will be incorporated into this new construction project to serve as a additional shelter for picnics and from the rain

when needed. A concrete patio will be added to that space. We thank the W. Paul Wolf family for their extraordinary contributions, including our commissary/volunteer center, public restrooms, added big cat housing, and for this latest legacy gift! resent! Their generous support not only helped us survive the most challenging time in our history during our Relocation Project in 2006, it is continuing to help us improve and grow into the future. We are truly blessed and very excited to keep you updated about this wonderful opportunity!

The Differences a Year Can Make

More animals have been given refuge at Black Pine since 2009 than ever before in our history, thanks to you! As of press time, Black Pine is now home to exactly 102 animals. Together, we are changing lives!

It takes countless people working together to carry out this mission. We watch in awe every day of the year as teams of paid staff, volunteers, interns, donors and others who support us in this community come together to carry out the daily husbandry needs, address maintenance needs, plan and man fund raising events and activities, discuss more animals in need, educate visitors, and generously contribute the funds needed to keep saving and changing lives.

The past year has been extraordinary for the number of lives changed, new habitats completed, and milestones acheived. Our thanks to the hundreds of individuals and businesses that made it all possible! We simply could not do what we do without YOU!



“Josey” is one of two servals that are enjoying the REST of their lives at Black Pine. She arrived in late February 2013.

Milestones

October 2012 - We welcomed “Fiero”, a “silver” color red fox. Fiero, a product of captive breeding for the fur and/or pet trades, was recovered by an officer with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Apparently homeless, and at risk in a residential neighborhood at lake in Whitley County, IN.

We welcomed “Roxy”, a female “arctic marble” color red fox

surrendered by private owners in Tennessee.

“Meira”, a female cougar surrendered in 2011, was relocated into her all-new permanent habitat beside male cougars “Joey” and “Johnny”. The two-story climbing area is helping her get much-needed exercise and lose weight. The habitat was made possible through support from Meshell Schloss, as well as skilled labor from J&L Construction.

November 2012 - Volunteers from Ivy Tech Community College in Fort Wayne, after weeks of preparation of base materials, spent a long day assembling custom-made metal frame and fire hose hammocks for the black bears. This wonderful gift of time and talents enabled the bears to enjoy restful sleep for nine straight weeks over the winter, a true blessing for the aging animals! Donor C-Henry Steel and area fire departments provided materials, and skilled faculty and staff members provided welding, painting, assembly and installation.

December 2012 - Our first-ever Holiday Wish List for the animals was a great success, thanks to too many supporters to list! They generously made a number of wishes come true by purchasing a variety of toys, treats, and other enrichment items and supplies needed to keep the animals healthy, both



“Betsy” and her fellow resident black bears found their new hammocks comfy! The aging bears hibernated for what was very likely the first time in their lives, with full bellies and a safe home, for nine weeks of winter. The hammocks were the products of a volunteer project.

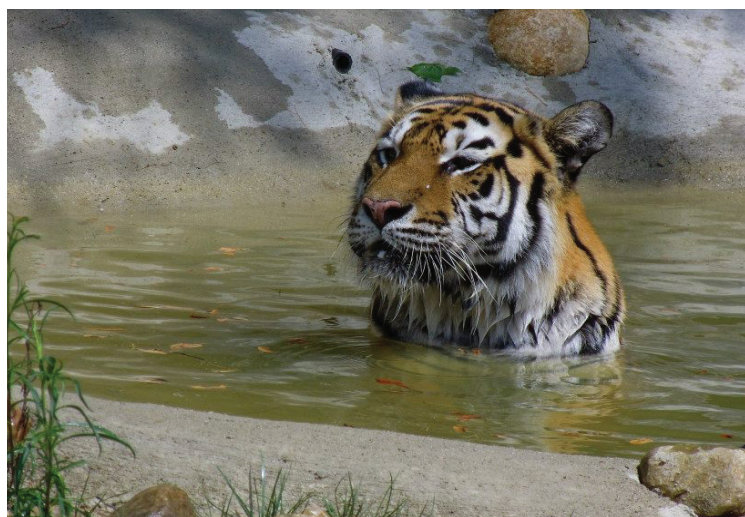
emotionally and physically! The residents have been reaping the rewards for months!

We bid farewell to “Nanook”, a gray wolf. Nanook’s suffering from a fast-growing inoperable tumor ended when he was put to rest while his heartbroken keepers were at his side. Volunteers Lin and Brad Staats donated hand-crafted memorial crosses so we can commemorate Nanook and others who have passed. In 2014 we hope to engage volunteers in clearing the memorial grounds and putting up more crosses in memorium.

February 2013 - We welcomed “Mamie”, a 22-year-old female black bear. Mamie was surrendered by a private owner in Ohio who kept the bear in a tiny corn crib in his back yard for 22 years. She was bred nine times to sell her cubs for profit. Betsy’s House provided her a new forever home.

We welcomed “Josey”, a one-year-old African serval, surrendered by a private owner in West Virginia. Just weeks after her arrival, Josey had to endure surgery to remove a foreign object ingested prior to her arrival to Black Pine. She fully recovered and now lives with “Hoss” and “Bushido”.

April 2013 - Employees of Weigand Construction in Fort Wayne chose to complete a volunteer service project at Black Pine, and in one day completed an all-new outdoor tortoise yard for “Cocoa” and “Puff”, sulcata tortoises. The animals thrived all summer long and enjoyed the opportunity to graze on the vast grassy lawn and soak up the sun’s rays. This was their best summer ever!



Donations to the Ohio Tiger Relief Fund enabled “Ticha” (above), “Taz” and “Delilah” to move into their new habitats, featuring native trees, grasses, wildflowers, and deep pools of water, in late August 2013.

Exclusive photos of Black Pine residents!



events, including annual beer

\$20.00 each, S&H included.

Secure donations accepted online 24/7

www.blackpine.org

DONATE HERE

deductible gift.

Go to www.blackpine.org to help more animals.

4x8" \$50.00 or 8x8" \$100.00

Engraved brick pavers can be purchased as a gift; in memory of a family member, friend, or pet; to commemorate a birthday, anniversary, graduation, retirement; or for anyone or any occasion worthy of remembering!

Businesses may add a brick to our pathway as a form of advertisement, to express their support of our charitable mission to provide animals refuge for the REST of their lives! Use the blocks below to indicate what you would like engraved on your brick. Bricks will be installed in early 2014!

4x8" bricks can accommodate up to three lines of text upper and/or lower case:

[illegible]

8x8" bricks can accommodate up to six lines of text. Use these three additional lines to complete up to six lines total:

[illegible]

Park Pal Memberships

Becoming a park member makes good economic sense and helps ensure exotic animals that have been the victims of human arrogance and error enjoy refuge for the REST of their lives! Each membership entitles the bearer to free general admission for one year, 10% off all merchandise purchases, and an e-Bulletin subscription to remain updated on all upcoming events and opportunities!

Circle One:

Businesses & Organizations	
Platinum "Great Ape" Lifetime Membership issued in your choice of name and 30 free guest passes.	\$5,000 and up
Gold "Big Cat" 10-year Membership issued in your choice of name and 20 free guest passes.	\$1,000 - 4,999
Silver "High Flyer" 5-year Membership issued in your choice of name and 15 free guest passes.	\$500 - 999
Bronze "Guardian" One-year Membership issued in your choice of name and 10 free guest passes.	\$100 - 499
Families & Individuals	
Junior Pal One-year membership and junior sponsor kit issued to one person age 0-9.	\$22
Individual Pal One-year membership issued to one adult (age 10+)	\$30
Couple of Pals One-year membership issued to two adults (age 10+).	\$55
Parent Pal One-year membership issued to one adult and their dependent children (under age 18).	\$60
Family of Pals One-year membership issued to two adults and their dependent children (under age 18).	\$75
Grandparents & Pals One-year membership issued to two seniors and their grandchildren (under age 18).	\$75

Please feel free to enclose your own handwritten request or instructions, and/or copy this page as needed.

Your gifts are tax deductible!

Calendars _____

Memberships _____

Donation _____

Brick _____

Total Enclosed _____

Special purpose, instruction? _____

☐ Please check this box if you do not wish the recipient to receive e-Bulletins.

Recipient(s)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Telephone # _____

E-mail Address: _____

Bill to Name

☐ Same as above

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

(Made payable to PARC, Inc.)

Charge: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Acct. # _____

Expires _____ 3-digit security code _____

Billing Zip Code _____

Signature _____

Mail completed form to:

**PARC, Inc.
P.O. Box 02
Albion, IN 46701**



“Bandit”, a coatimundi recovered several years ago by animal control from the streets of Indianapolis, was given a new “desert-like” habitat thanks to Eagle Scout candidates Joe Becker and Kable Coyle (pictured in background.)

May 2013 - The surprise birth of a kinkajou to long-time residents “Chu” and “Mishka” shocked, yet delighted keepers at Black Pine. A healthy baby girl named “Oopsie Daisy” touched many lives before she became ill and passed away in late August after suffering an adverse reaction to vaccinations. Daddy Mishka was neutered before he and Chu were reunited to live out the REST of their lives with co-habitant “Mickey”, a galagos.

Black Pine was selected to benefit from the proceeds of May Fest in Fort Wayne this year. Volunteers led by Sue Sells put on a gigantic art show, sale, and silent auction. They recruited a number of talented area musicians and other artists to help raise over \$3,000 for the animals! Dozens of people and businesses contributed items. The host venue, Calhoun Street Soups Salads and Spirits (CS3), graciously hosted the event. CS3 went on to sponsor both our wine tasting and beer tasting events in 2013 as well.

The drought of 2012 left the new black bear habitat, Betsy’s House, lacking grass and other natural enrichment, but thanks to additional support from the habitat sponsor, Meshell Schloss, as well as the generosity of Country Landscapes from Ligonier, IN, flowering vines, berry plants, and new trees were added and the habitats flourished this year. The bears had a wonderful, enriching summer living like bears should!

June 2013 - We bid farewell to beloved “Nala”, a 20-year-old lioness who found permanent refuge at Black Pine when she was just four months old. We said goodbye to Nala while she slept soundly, under anesthesia for an examination that confirmed cancer growing throughout her body. A hand-crafted, donated wooden cross has been placed in her honor and memory, a gift from volunteers Lin and Brad Staats.

July 2013 - Volunteers from Serenity Bath and Kitchens in Fort

Wayne spent a day at Black Pine and kicked progress into high gear on the all-new Ohio tiger habitats. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, the project’s delays were overcome and the cats were able to be moved in and enjoy the new habitats long before summer was over.

Volunteers gave a facelift to the habitat formerly occupied by “Nala”, the 20-year-old lioness who passed away in June. Volunteers installed a window and all-new, improved shift door to enable “Sammie”, the 17-year-old Indo-Chinese tiger that arrived at Black Pine in October 2012, to enjoy grass under his feet for the first time in his life!

August 2013 - “Delilah”, “Taz”, and “Ticha”, tigers that arrived in October 2012, moved into their all-new habitats, made possible by the donations of over 140 individuals, families, and businesses, and with a very generous \$25,000 matching gift from the W. Paul Wolf Family. The tigers, all in their teens, now live among trees, grass and wildflowers for the first time in their lives, and can enjoy a swim in their pools to cool off on hot summer days.

Volunteers stepped up again, determined to finish “Gus” the alligator’s outdoor yard before cooler weather arrived. The excellent work of skilled contractors that installed a huge in-ground concrete pool was further enhanced when some dying trees were removed, grass was planted, and habitat containment fencing was erected. The 9’ long alligator took his first swim ever outdoors on August 21, 2013.

Upcoming Events

Animal Enrichment Day
Saturday, December 28, 2013

Lions, Tigers & Hot Rods
Saturday, August 16, 2014

Cats ‘n’ Cocoa
Saturday, February 15, 2014

Roar ‘n’ Snore
Saturday, September 6, 2014

Opening Day 2014
Saturday, May 3, 2014

Lions, Tigers & Beer!
Saturday, October 4, 2014

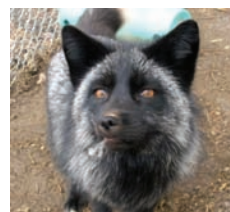
Wine in the Pines
Saturday, June 21, 2014

Howl O’Ween
Saturday, October 25, 2014

Summer Fest
Saturday, July 26, 2014

Animal Enrichment Day
Saturday, December 27, 2014

Don’t miss out! Buy a 2014 photo calendar, with pre-printed reminders!



Call (260) 636-7383 or visit our website for details!

www.blackpine.org
Follow the “Visit Us” menu options

September 2013 - We welcomed "Top Cat" and "Millie", two three-year-old tigers surrendered by a small, unaccredited zoo in Ohio. Black Pine is their third and final home. They will reside in temporary housing until we reach our goal of \$30,000 to add on to the recently completed "Ohio Tiger" habitat project where Taz, Ticha and Delilah now live.

Boy Scouts Joe Becker and Kable Coyle, with support from many donors, fellow scouts, and their parents, completed two habitat projects. The young men managed the relocation of the cotton-top tamarin habitat to make room for construction of an all-new coatimundi summer house. Once "Bandit" was moved into his new, more desert-like home, his vacated habitat was prepped for the arrival of "Thunder" a 10-year-old bobcat. Joe and Kable completed these projects to earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

October 2013 - Ligtel Communications and Noble REMC generously donated their services to begin work to greatly enhance Black Pine's safety by enabling use of cameras for security and surveillance of the compound 24/7, and eventually live streaming video feeds for internet users. The project is funded by a \$12,000 grant awarded by the Lush Cosmetics Charity Pot program.

We welcomed "Thunder", a 10-year-old male bobcat, surrendered by private owners in northeastern Indiana facing the challenges of a territorial scent marker.

We are so pleased to have saved and changed so many lives over the past year. We have sadly disappointed many others and know of even more, right this minute, needing help. We were able to assist in placing a sulcata tortoise, domestic kitten, several parrots, an elderly Burmese python, boa constrictor, alligator, and an iguana to good homes elsewhere, to name just a few. We learned that black bears we were asked to rescue, but could not accommodate, found permanent homes at other sanctuaries around the nation. We are continuously amazed at the volume of need for permanent refuge for these amazing animals.

As we look ahead to 2014 and beyond, there are many ways your support can help. We dream of a new year-round structure to better accommodate the parrots and improve the lives of the primates who now share their space. We hope to improve accessibility for visitors by upgrading pathways from uneven loose gravel to paved surfaces. More animals will bring more new construction. Your support is crucial to our ability to carry out this mission. Every dime, every volunteer hour, every in-kind donation helps!

How to Designate Your Dollars...

Undesignated donations are deposited into our "general fund" for use for to cover the general (predictable) costs of annual operations that are budgeted year to year. You may



Black Pine's animal population has increased by nearly 20% since 2006. Unpaid student interns like Amy Belcher (above) and volunteers help us keep costs down. Even so, some gaps occur that require seasonal increases in the number of paid employees. Donations to the "Nala Memorial Staff Fund" are used as needed to help fill those gaps.

also, however, choose to designate gifts for other specific purposes, such as these:

"Mamie Black Bear Fund"

Donor Meshell Schloss established this fund upon the arrival of Mamie, the sixth American black bear to move into Betsy's House. Bears consume a lot of food, and donations to this fund are used to help cover any shortfalls that may occur specifically related to the needs of the six bears.

"Nala Memorial Staff Fund"

Donor Meshell Schloss established this fund recognizing our need to add to the paid staff roster from time to time. These funds help us reduce risk by enabling us to hire qualified, experienced temporary keepers, and may help us eventually add to the full-time paid staff roster as the fund grows.

"Ohio Tiger Relief Fund"

Gifts to this fund will be used to complete indoor den caging to accommodate up to four more big cats, and add outdoor habitat space to enable Top Cat and Millie, tigers that arrived on Labor Day 2013, a permanent, spacious new home.

Use the order form enclosed to send your gift or donate online at www.blackpine.org!

For more options, including Black Pine's Endowment Fund, contact Linda Yerick at the Noble County Community Foundation at (260) 894-3335.

Black Pine Animal Sanctuary



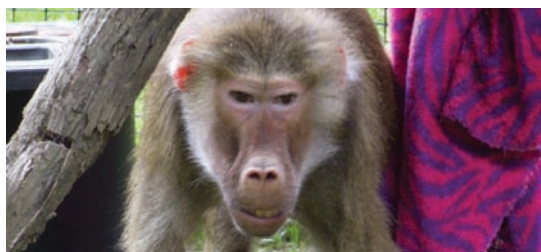
P.O. Box 02
Albion, IN 46701



Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

For the **REST** of their lives.

We do not buy, sell, breed, trade or seek out animals, or use them for commercial purposes or gain.



Your contributions are tax deductible!



2013 Holiday Giving Guide **INSIDE!**

Visit our website at
www.blackpine.org
to see our
Holiday Wish List
of items for
the animals!

