



# Black Pine Animal Sanctuary FOOTPRINTS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

FALL 2018



## Everyday Wish List:

Simple Green  
Dog food  
Eggs  
Stamps  
Copy paper  
Gift cards



## Holiday Giving Guide

Pages 4-5



## UPCOMING EVENTS:



### Turkey Day

November 24, 2018  
1:00-4:00 p.m.

### Animal Enrichment Day

December 15, 2018  
1:00-4:00 p.m.

### St. Catty's Day

March 16, 2019  
1:00-4:00 p.m.

## HEEEERE'S BENNY!

More than 30,000 people have passed by Benny's house at Black Pine, but due to the restrictions of a legal contract we were not allowed to introduce him, except to say "this is Benny, the baboon" if he happened to catch their attention. No signs at his house, he existed somewhat anonymously.

That changed on June 7 when the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) was granted permanent

custody of the animal. The twenty-something male baboon was formerly owned by Cynthia Huntsman, operator of Stump Hill Farm in Massillon, OH, notable as a breeder and providing live tiger mascots named "Obie" to Massillon High School.

Benny's long journey to this forever home began on May 4, 2016 when he and nine other animals were seized from the

roadside attraction by the ODA. Five tigers, two pumas, two baboons, and a chimpanzee were removed under allegations of violations of Ohio state statutes.

Stump Hill was among a handful of Ohio-based operations that fought against the changes in law that were brought about in the wake of the deaths of 48 wild and dangerous animals in October 2011.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

### ...BENNY (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

The “Zanesville Massacre” kicked off nation-wide outrage over a lack of laws to protect captive animals and public safety.

Black Pine, to date, has provided permanent refuge to six tigers, one black bear, a cougar, and the two baboons, all surrendered by Ohioans.

The changes that started in Ohio continue to move, albeit slowly, across the nation. Multiple other roadside zoos and breeding facilities have been forced to close over the past seven years, thanks in large part to the growing awareness of the general public about the

exploitation of animals and the threats captive, dangerous wild animals pose to public safety.

We thank all of our supporters, and voices for the voiceless, for helping us save and change lives!

Benny is, truly and finally, home for good.

### NEW PLANS FOR REPTILES

In 2017 we announced plans to expand the Reptile House, where space is limited for the sulcata tortoises and alligator.

As we began to review the construction estimates that began arriving towards the end of fall, we quickly realized the costs were going to far exceed our expectations. So the Board of Directors placed the project on hold until all possible options could be further explored.

As we look at the end of another summer season we want to assure everyone who has contributed to this project that your investments are safe and secure and remain earmarked for the purpose of providing a more spacious, lifetime habitat for Cocoa and Puff (the sulcata tortoises), and to ensure that Gus (the alligator) has all he needs for proper wintertime care.

While we are not yet prepared to provide many

details, we are able to announce that the Board of Directors has scrubbed plans to expand the existing building and instead approved a feasibility study to construct a new, dedicated tortoise building for the sulcata tortoises. This building will house the sulcata tortoises year-round and be designed to provide much more room for the animals during winter, as well as a permanent outdoor habitat well suited to the desert natives.

By moving the sulcata tortoises out of the existing building, the interior of that structure will be re-purposed for the best possible use of the vacated space. Coincidentally, in late May this year, the sanctuary gained more reptilian residents with the discovery of two red-footed tortoise hatchlings. (See page three for the full story).

With a lifespan of 30 to 50 years, additional habitat

work will need to be done to accommodate these new arrivals in the existing building.

Upon further analysis of best practices with regards to captive alligators living in the northern states, keepers have decided to manage Gus’s care more effectively in winter by enabling the animal to brumate, or enter a period of dormancy similar to hibernation. This is a common practice at many zoos and rescue centers.

Gus will live indoors in winter and his habitat and conditions will be altered to allow this natural process to occur, eliminating the need to expand his indoor quarters.

We plan to have more details about the full scope of proposed new construction soon. At press time, we are finalizing plans in order to gather quotes from contractors. Stay tuned!



**Puff, a sulcata tortoise, looks out from a shelter in his summer yard. The proposed site for a new tortoise habitat would provide a more arid, desert-like space for him and Cocoa. A capital campaign is in the early stages of planning.**

## WELCOME HOME, KODA

Most calls we receive asking us to give a pet fox a permanent home come within a few months of acquiring the animals. Foxes are, no doubt, cute. As they mature they become less social, more destructive, and very territorial.

Koda, a female red fox, had an owner who put up with those challenges for eight years before reaching out to us recently. The owner's motivation this time was a landlord who said the animal had to go. Koda had escaped an outdoor enclosure multiple times.

Koda is at the sanctuary now, and once cleared from quarantine, will be housed in a habitat adjacent to three other red foxes.

We are grateful for the privilege of giving Koda a forever home and are committed to continue to advocate and educate in hopes that captive breeding of foxes as pets will be a thing of the past.

Red and gray foxes are not domesticated animals, whether raised in captivity or not. These wild canines cannot be protected with any surety against rabies, which makes them a threat to public safety. Keeping them as pets is a direct threat to their wellbeing, too, since it is not uncommon for animals who bite to wind up euthanized in order to test for rabies.

With millions of dogs needing homes, we do not



**Koda, a female red fox (standard color), was released from quarantine to her new, permanent habitat on October 9. She immediately grabbed a toy and climbed a wall. We think she'll be settling in just fine!**

condone keeping wild canines as pets.

## DENTAL MISSION IMPROVES LIVES

Black Pine hosted a fourth dental care mission on August 18 made possible by volunteer veterinary professionals locally and with the Peter Emily International Veterinary Dental Foundation (PEIVDF).

Four patients were examined and underwent dental procedures in an effort to improve their overall health and longevity.

Bushido, a 20-year-old African serval, benefited from a procedure called a composite restoration. This process rebuilt a partial,

decaying canine tooth with a new, fully formed tooth.

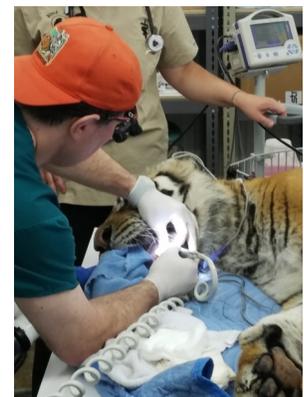
Taz, a 21-year-old tiger, received two root canals and had one decayed, non-essential tooth extracted. The elderly cat also had multiple non-dental procedures completed that have given him the best chance possible for pain-free golden years.

Another tiger, Nefertiti, had a gingivoplasty to re-shape the gum tissue surrounding a tooth that had been fractured below the gum surface. The broken tooth portion was also removed.

Other patients examined, and treated under the care of an extraordinary crew of seven volunteer veterinarians, included a black bear, monkey, and kinkajou.

We want to thank the entire crew from the PEIVDF, Kendallville Animal Clinic, Conley and Koontz Equine Hospital, Westside Animal Hospital, and Black Pine Animal Sanctuary.

It truly does take a village of caregivers. Thank you for partnering with us!



**Barron Hall, DVM, FAVD, Dipl. AVDC, owns Animal Dental Clinic in Vienna, VA. Dr. Hall and a team of volunteer professionals travel the nation to help captive wildlife. This was Dr. Hall's fourth mission at Black Pine with the Peter Emily International Veterinary Dental Foundation.**



# Holiday Giving Guide

**Use the order form on Page 6!**



## 2019 BENEFIT CALENDAR

Enjoy nearly 30 full color photos of the animals, plus reminders of animal birthdays, special events, and more! Wall calendar is 11x14" when hanging and is spiral bound.

**\$20.00 ea.**



## BLACK PINE & WOLF DEN GIFT CARDS

Gift cards can be redeemed for anything we offer, including merchandise in the Wolf Den Gifts & Things, admission to visit the animals, guided sanctuary tours, special events, and Park Pal memberships.

Cards can be re-filled and used indefinitely, similar to

a credit card, and there is no expiration date.

Each card comes in a gift card holder.

Give the gift that gives twice—every purchase helps save and improve more lives!



**Minimum \$10.00**

## INVESTING IN SUSTAINABILITY



**Black Pine's Lead Keeper team, from left: Erin Keenan, Kelsey Woosley, Jordan Hartleroad, and Kelsi Nicholson. The team expanded to four full-time positions in August 2018.**

At the beginning of the year the animal care team expanded to four paid lead keepers.

Erin Keenan and Kelsi Nicholson were hired on part-time at the beginning of 2018 and their roles were expanded to full-time at the end of August. They joined Jordan Hartleroad and Kelsey Woosley.

Erin hails from Wisconsin

and holds a BS in Zoology and a BS in Liberal Studies. She was previously employed at Wisconsin Big Cat Rescue and gained extensive experience as a volunteer at zoos and domestic animal facilities.

Kelsi, a former BPAS intern, has nearly completed a BS in Psychology with a minor in Biology. She was previously

### NEW DESIGN! VEHICLE MAGNET

Made in the U.S.A!  
Our custom-designed vehicle magnet is the highest quality available and features images of Trouble the bear, Africa the lioness, Taz the tiger, and Beo the wolf. And that leopard coat pattern you see is from a

photo of China, the Asian leopard.

All are beloved Black Pine animal residents enjoying the REST of their lives.

Each magnet comes individually packaged with use instructions.



\$8.00 ea.

### BPAS ENGRAVED! STAINLESS STEEL STRAW & BRUSH SET



BPA-free stainless steel straw is FDA-approved, and eco-friendly!

Each straw is engraved with "Black Pine Animal Sanctuary" across the top bent portion. Brush included.

\$6.00 ea.



### CUSTOM-DESIGNED

#### BPAS PORTABLE POWER BANKS

Handy, portable "bank" charger for your cellphone and other USB-operated devices.

Each bank charger features a striking tiger image and "Black Pine Animal Sanctuary", which both

light up when you use the bank. USB-Universal cord included.

Available in your choice of: Neon Green, Blue, Black or Red.

\$25.00 ea.

### ...INVESTING (CONTINUED)

employed at the Indianapolis Zoo, at a veterinary clinic as a veterinary assistant, and completed an internship in native wildlife rehabilitation.

Jordan is a graduate of the Vet Tech Institute and volunteered at BPAS for three years while employed by NIVES, a local emergency veterinary clinic.

Kelsey, a former BPAS intern, has nearly completed a BS in Biology, and completed two other zoological internships.

There is nothing more important, in our opinion, than investing in a highly qualified, dedicated animal care team. If you agree, we want you to know that gifts made to the **Nala Memorial Staff Fund**, a

quasi-endowment fund established to help secure and retain high quality employees, is a great investment into our sustainability.

Consider a year-end, tax-deductible gift to the Nala Memorial Staff Fund.

Gifts may be made online or by mail using the form on page six of this publication.



Established upon Nala's death in 2013, the Nala Memorial Staff Fund offers a way to contribute to the hiring and retention of professional staff.



Holiday Giving Guide

Use the order form on Page 6!



# Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

## Exotic Animal Rescue ~ For the rest of their lives!

*Legally incorporated as Professional Animal Retirement Center (PARC), Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization*

### Holiday 2018 Order Form

(This form may be copied as needed.)

PARK PAL MEMBERSHIPS	
Individual Pal .....	\$50 <input type="checkbox"/>
One-year membership for one person age 10 or older	
Couple of Pals .....	\$75 <input type="checkbox"/>
One-year membership for two adults (age 10 and older)	
Parent Pal .....	\$60 <input type="checkbox"/>
One-year membership for one adult and their dependent children under 18 years of age	
Family of Pals .....	\$99 <input type="checkbox"/>
One-year membership for two adults and their dependent children under 18 years of age.	
Grandparents & Pals .....	\$99 <input type="checkbox"/>
One-year membership for two seniors and their grandchildren under 18 years of age	

**Membership benefits offer free general admission for one full year, plus 10% off souvenir purchases, e-Bulletin subscription, and direct mail updates.**

Bill to Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Check this box if you DO NOT wish to receive our e-Bulletin updates.**

Ship to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

### ORDER SUMMARY:

Qty	Item	Amount Due
___	2019 Benefit Calendar(s) @ \$20 ea .....	\$_____
___	Gift Card(s) at \$_____ .....	\$_____
___	Paw Magnet(s) @\$8 ea .....	\$_____
___	Stainless Straw Set(s) @\$6 ea .....	\$_____
___	Portable Power Bank(s) @\$25 ea .....	\$_____
	Color Choice _____	
___	Membership (Select at left) .....	\$_____

Add my additional donation(s) designated to:

- Annual Fund (unrestricted) .....
- Nala Memorial Staff Fund .....
- Veterinary Fund .....
- Capital Projects Fund .....

**TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Instructions:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Info:

- Check or money order enclosed.
- Circle One: MasterCard    Visa    Discover Card

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

For internal use only:

- Reg    Card    Index    LGL    VR    Ship

**IN MEMORIUM**

The following have been honored and remembered with gifts to Black Pine from November 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. We thank all who have honored their memories and wishes.

(If you note any omissions, please forgive us, and feel free to notify us so we may honor them. Thank you.)



*Susan Allen*

*Donald Klawitter*

*Chuck Thaler*

*Betty Lash*

*John Witte*

*Susan Lehman*

*Todd Thaler*

*Rosalie Wilson*

*Terry Clemons*

*Peggy Oetting*

*Corliss Decker*

**A MAY DAY SURPRISE**

On May 27, during morning wellness checks, a lead keeper saw some unusual movement out of the corner of her eye. She was at the red-footed tortoise habitat in the winter house.

Sure enough, after a double-take, she discovered not one, but two new tortoise hatchlings.

The adorable, tiny red-footed tortoises were the result of the very sneaky nesting work of their mother, who was able to lay and bury her eggs in a way that kept them well hidden.

Incubation is about 125 days, on average, so eggs had been laid sometime in

January. Upon discovery, immediate corrective actions were taken inside the habitat to help ensure no more nests can be hidden away.

The hatchlings were quickly taken to Dr. Pat Funnell, Black Pine’s volunteer reptile and avian veterinarian, for an exam.

Dr. Funnell ordered some specific nursery care for the youngsters and they are doing very well.

Red-foot tortoises are an endangered species native to northern South America and very common in the pet trade.



**Two red-footed tortoise hatchlings will soon be in permanent residence. The youngsters have not yet been named.**

Black Pine will provide the animals with a lifetime of tender loving care. With the changes planned for reptile habitats (see story on page two) all four red-footed tortoises will enjoy updated accommodations in the coming year.

**SHAPING LOCAL WELFARE LAWS**

You can join us in helping to shape local animal welfare protections! Your gifts to our annual fund directly influence our ability to invest resources into making changes, here and throughout the nation.

As a result of an initial

meeting with the Noble County Commissioners in April 2018, we participated in the drafting of a new Animal Welfare Ordinance to help address many of the gaps in local laws to protect captive animals and public safety.

Support our efforts by making recurring gifts automatically. Set up your giving profile today at

**[www.bpsanctuary.org/how-to-help!](http://www.bpsanctuary.org/how-to-help!)**

Help save and change lives!



**This horse was a catalyst for our request for Noble County to draft a new local animal welfare ordinance .**



# Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

1426 W. 300 N.  
P.O. Box 02  
Albion, Indiana 46701  
(260) 636-7383  
www.blackpine.org  
TID 33-1020728



For the *REST* of their lives.

## QUARANTINE UPGRADES COMPLETED

Continuous improvement is part of the culture at Black Pine, made possible thanks to investments in the mission by people who share a passion to provide animals the best life possible.

Through the continued generous support of Rosema Construction and the Phil Marquell family, we are now able to help animals in need more efficiently and effectively.

Earlier this year, Rosema Construction completed some significant upgrades to our quarantine facilities.

The remodeling project included the addition of a

wall that split an existing space into two distinct areas—one, a new permanent den space for Eragon, a tiger, and the other, an isolated area for quarantine of new arrivals and recovering patients (see photo at right).

The upgraded quarantine area is adjacent to Dr. Sam's Clinic and includes two fully insulated, heated indoor spaces. An outdoor habitat space is also attached.

The space was used for the first time to service the arrival of Koda, a fox (see story on page three).

We greatly appreciate the



Two new, indoor quarantine spaces with attached outdoor habitat are fully insulated and heated, making it possible to expand quarantine and recovery services for animals year-round.

continued support of Rosema and the Marquell family—and all of our sponsors. Thank you!