

December 2007



VALLEY OF THE KINGS SANCTUARY & RETREAT

# The Pug Mark

## Sanctuary News

We cannot believe the year has gone by so fast. Months whirl past like falling leaves and it's hard to catch your breath sometimes. Experts say time and the world have sped up and we truly believe that!

We all are in a rush to get things done before the snow and cold come in January and stress levels run high in trying to finish these necessary projects each and every fall. Vince Kuzara, Andy Carlson and Chris Block moved Seva's old house into the bear enclosure as Kumah has decided she will not use the main bear hut. We have no idea why, but think it has a lot to do with senility and old age related issues. This was a huge undertaking as the house had to be completely dismantled, rebuilt and put together again in a bear proof way. We are ever so grateful for Vince and the volunteers who put forth this extra effort for Kumah, because not using a bear house could have been a death sentence for this old bear in winter's extremes.

Kashie and Ieshia did not work out being housed together and Kashie has since been moved back to her original enclosure. Kashie was deathly afraid of the lions being so close and associated little Ieshia with them, she could not overcome her fears. Our hearts go out to Ieshia as we still hear her cry for Nook each night. Her grief process is with a very heavy heart for her beloved friend of 23 years. We were praying she and Kashie would accept one another and tried everything to help them. Now we are frustrated as we really don't have another candidate we feel would be a suitable match for her unless we get a call for a quiet old grandpa tiger needing

a home.

We are praying 2008 will be a great year for all of us and we look forward to the new year with great enthusiasm. Please visit the Sanctuary during our quiet winter months, especially with fresh fallen snow — it truly is a different world and the photo opportunities are unbelievable as the animals romp and play with each other. The big cats act completely different from laying around in the oppressive heat of summer months, and it is truly a joy to just sit and watch them



**Czar**  
(photo courtesy of Jayne Rohleder)

play. Happy Holidays and a bright New Year!

Love and Xtra Big Hugs,  
Jill, Jim and Animal Friends



## Items needed

In the Spring and summer of 2008 we will have a huge fencing project under way. We need new perimeters and need to fence in the entire property of VOTK. We need lots of used telephone poles and, believe it or not, used highway guard rails. The guard rails are worth their weight in gold for hoofed stock pastures and will last a lifetime. Most counties sell them for \$1.00 per foot or are happy to just get rid of them. Any condition, please make calls — we need to start making a stash now. We want everything in place to start as soon as the weather breaks in the Spring. Call your power and

light companies or if you see telephone poles being replaced in your area, stop and talk to the crew! Many will donate as a tax write off and we will need a mountain of poles and guard rails!

Other items are new or used 9 gauge or heavier, 8 and 10 foot high chain link rolls and 12 to 18 foot long heavy metal poles. We are planning on moving a mountain in 08', the year of new beginnings! Please help and search for these items for us. Some can even be found at old job sites, as much of the chain link is hauled off to land fills or sold for scrap and most is in mint condition!

### Creative Pathways

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Bill Delaney

Intuitive, Spiritual Teacher, Lecturer

9348 S Orchard Park Circle #2A  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

414-304-7282

will773.1@netzero.net



Lay back and relax,  
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### In Memory of Yummie

(photo courtesy of Chris Block)



The printing of this newsletter  
was donated by the good folks at

**Vance Printing**  
**Beloit, Wisconsin**

**608-362-2049**

In loving memory of

Dennis Vance



Are you looking for a way to help the sanctuary financially, but don't know how? VOTK now accepts PayPal!



PayPal is a **secure** internet-based way to send and receive money. All you need is an email address and a credit card. Anyone can use PayPal to buy gift shop items, buy or renew memberships, or donate money to the sanctuary.

To use PayPal, simply log onto [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com). You will have to set up your own personal PayPal account (it's free), then click on "send money". Enter our email address [info@votk.org](mailto:info@votk.org) for general contributions to VOTK or to donate to our **special moving and construction fund**. Enter the amount you wish to send. You can pay either with a credit card or checking account.

The sanctuary will then get an email, informing them of your donation. It's a quick and easy way to make a difference to the sanctuary, even if you can't make it up to see us every weekend!!

*If you write us a check for a donation, please note on the check whether it is for our moving fund or for general fund.*

HELP US TO GIVE THE ANIMALS ALL THEY DESERVE AND MORE BY CREATING A SAFE HAVEN AND TRUE SANCTUARY FOR ALL ETERNITY.

## GoodSearch News

GoodSearch has just launched another program to increase funds to help participating organizations (VOTK is one of them). When you shop online a percentage of your sale goes to your favorite charity. So the next time you're looking for a computer, books, shoes, clothing, or ?, go to GoodSearch first. No username or password is required, but every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause with donations that average around 3% of the sale but can exceed 20% of the sale. Please spread the word! <http://www.goodsearch.com>.

## Saving Dogs Web Site!

Did you know that, [www.dogsindanger.com](http://www.dogsindanger.com) is a web site for dogs for whom time is running out at kill shelters. The animals posted have countdown clocks showing the days, or hours until their deaths are set. This is a nationwide program and there is also an "In Memoriam" wall of images of dogs that didn't find a home in time. Four million dogs are put to death each year by injection or gas in the United States. Please adopt, don't buy! Please email this organization and ask them to include cats, birds and small animals as well. Ask them to please don't limit the web site to just dogs. Billions of animals wait for homes in our disposable society and animals rescued are so appreciative of new owners and a safe forever home environment.



**The Sanctuary can now accept Visa and MasterCard. We take major credit cards at the gift shop, or over the phone for donations or memberships, and at all fund raisers. We are thrilled this service is now available to our members and prospective members.**

☐ Master Card

☐ Visa

☐ Discover

**Card Number:**

**Expiration Date**

**Signature**

**Name (printed)**

**Address**

**City/State/Zip**



## Letters from Members

*Dear VOTK,*

*I don't know how I can thank you and the folks at VOTK enough. My Grandchildren are in love with the Sanctuary and want to come back again. That's the best news I could hear. Andy was unbelievable with the kids. He made the tour so interesting and personal for them. We won't be able to get back until the Spring but just to let you know our thoughts and prayers are with Jim, Jill and all the wonderful people involved with VOTK.*

*Sincerely,  
Sandy Rozsypal*

*Dear Jill and Jim*

*Please accept our heartfelt sympathy on the loss of beautiful Nook.*

*Lance and Mary Duesing  
Franklin, Wisconsin*

*Dear Jim, Jill and All Friends of VOTK,*

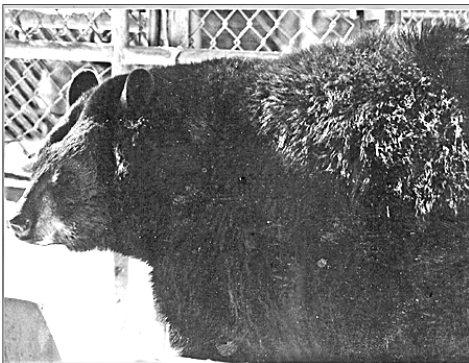
*It is with great sorrow that we read your recent newsletter telling the beautiful story of Nook's life passing. I can't imagine the sadness you all felt on his last day. Jill, you have been blessed to know and love these animals to the extent that you can. What incredible memories you have and your eloquence in telling Nook's story is beyond belief. I was privileged to be able to feed him fresh chicken legs a few times and knew he was special, but didn't know or remember that he had been with you all of his sweet life. May God and St Francis of Assisi keep you All safe, warm and happy.*

*Peter and Catherine Dhein  
Brookfield, Wisconsin*

*Dear Jill, Jim and Friends,*

*I have been a lifetime member and supporter of VOTK for many years. I used to be able to work at the Sanctuary on weekends. Did I say work? It was never work for me, I loved every moment I was there with the animals. I have always admired and respected what you have done to help God's creatures in the tremendous way you and your loved ones care for these less fortunate (or used to be!) animals. God bless all of you for what you do. I always look forward to the Pug Mark, even when it brings me news like the tremendous loss of Nook and other residents of the Sanctuary. Over the years illness and (monkey wrenches) in life have not allowed me to volunteer as I used to do. Now my company is transferring me to Florida and I must go, but I will always support financially as much as I can and will always pray for the world of VOTKS. I love you all and you are always in my prayers. God Bless and keep you.*

*Love, Lee (Olivia) Bubacz*



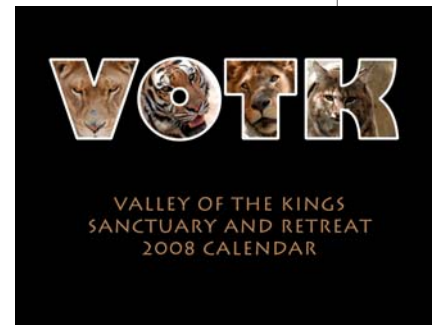
*Photos of Ymmie, except where otherwise noted, are courtesy of Jill Carnegie.*

## Fall, Winter Wish List

- ♦ Heavy duty, outdoor extension cords.
- ♦ 3/4" and 1/2" treated plywood 8x10 sheets of plywood.
- ♦ Brown, heavy duty Canvas tarps, all sizes up to 24 ft wide x 60 ft long semi-trailer tarps
- ♦ Heated buckets all sizes and heated small bowls.
- ♦ Blankets and towels.
- ♦ Gravel and sand.
- ♦ Insulation, Pink thick board kind.
- ♦ 2x4's and 4x4's treated and untreated.
- ♦ Used vehicles to sell and raise funds.
- ♦ cars, trucks, boats, trailers etc..
- ♦ Dry dog and cat food, any brand.
- ♦ Paper towels, bleach, dish washing liquid.
- ♦ Any brand Canned and dry cat food.
- ♦ Dog, cat treats and toys.
- ♦ Pet crates and carriers.
- ♦ Aluminum cans and cell phones (for recycling)
- ♦ Funds to pay bills and purchase food for the animals.

## 2008 VOTK Calendars Are Here!

The 2008 VOTK calendars have arrived and are selling like hotcakes. Get your orders in now, before they're gone! You can purchase them from the VOTK gift shop for \$20. Or send a check for \$20 for each calendar (plus \$4 for shipping/handling for the 1st calendar + \$1 for each additional calendar) to the Sanctuary.



*Send checks to*

Valley of the Kings Sanctuary W7593 Townhall Rd Sharon, WI 53585

**Preview available at**

**<http://www.spokalendargirls.com/projects.html>**

**Remember — each calendar you purchase helps the animals.**

## In Memory of Umie "Yummie" Bear

**U**n September 27th my favorite bear, Yummie, died of a sudden heart attack.

The bears had been eating us out of house and home to store winter fat and all appeared very healthy and active. On the day Yummie died, Jim and I were picking up geese at a USDA facility in Wau-poon when we received the sad call. Volunteers had been passing the bear enclosure all morning and nothing was out of the ordinary; the three bears were busy eating and doing bear things. A short while later they noticed Yummie laying in the main area of the enclosure and realized she was not breathing. We discovered she had an undiagnosed heart condition due to old age and her death was very sudden — she never knew what happened. If you have to go, in our opinion, that is the best way. She was never sick a day in her life and would have been 24 years old in January.

Yummie came to us as a four month old cub. She was born to a very old bear that did not have enough milk and the breeder did not want to spend the time raising her so she was

sent to us. Yummie thrived and was very spoiled. We would go for daily walks as she grew and she sure loved her bottles! You see when you feed a

bear, you need at least 4 to 5 bottles of milk. As they finish one you better have the next in your other hand and ready to go in the mouth of a hungry cub or you're going to get bit every time. Baby bears are extremely impatient and will be as obnoxious as they can possibly be at feeding time.

Yummie would climb up my leg and scream for her bottles as I made them, then follow me to her favorite chair, crawl up unto my lap and was as happy as could be with me feeding her. After she got her fill she would cuddle and snuggle into my arms and fall fast asleep as I rocked her. Those memories are very precious to me as I loved my Yummie as much as she loved me.

One day we were called to northern Wisconsin to pick up a leopard and I had to leave Yummie, with apprehension, in the care of my two sons and a neighbor. I had her bottles ready and prayed all would be well! Upon our return, we were greeted at the door with an extremely upset bear, both my sons and the neighbor in tears and total chaos! Yummie refused to take her bottles from them

and terrorized the three every moment I was gone. When Yummie saw me, she scurried up my leg, then little bear hugged me as tight as she could and made nummy noises as I held her and warmed her bottles, whimpering the entire time, wanting to be comforted and so happy to have me home. I never left Yummie in the care of anyone else after that; it was obvious I was to be the only person in this little bear's life, and she made no bones about letting everyone know I was hers.

I used to make her steaks on the grill and her favorite thing besides steaks were artichokes, oranges and grapes. She very carefully would put one grape at a time on the back of the opposite paw to eat. As an adult she

would rest her back along the fence for scratches and beg for fresh grass I picked each day. My heart sank the day Yummie died as the volunteers weren't sure which bear had died and all the way home I prayed it wasn't my

Ummie Yummie. I couldn't bear the thought — not so soon after Nook's passing.

As all the twists and turns life can bring, my heart sank and tears flowed when I saw my beloved Yummie was the one. The two other bears, Vin-nie and Kumah seemed to understand Yummies passing and took it in

*(Continued on page 7)*



**Yummie & Jill out for a walk**





In beloved memory of **Tica**, a beautiful saddlebred lost to complications of "Cushings" disease. Owned and loved by **Mary Kuszewski**.

Memories last a lifetime,  
**Kathryn Hert**

### In Memory of Innocent Lives Lost

Thoughts and Prayers to everyone, human and animal, affected by the southern California wild-fires and to all the animals that were left behind to perish. Rescue workers tried to save as many lives as they possibly could. How depressing to have a call for 9 horses and only have room for 7 on the trailer. How does one decide who shall live and die in that kind of urgent situation with flames licking at your trailer and you



have less than 20 minutes to load and get out? The anguish of leaving animals behind had to be heart breaking knowing their fates were sealed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the rescue personnel who went above and beyond. The devastation in many areas on our planet is becoming larger and larger each year. Daily prayers by

millions are needed to heal Mother Earth and bring us to a new beginning and understanding for all that live and breathe on our entire planet. If any species are to survive, major

changes in the way we live, recycle, use power and fuel and watch out for each other, knowing the universe has a plan for each and everyone of us for a better world and bright future.

Jill, Jim and Animal Friends

## Special Thanks

Special thank you's to all who helped with our painting restoration projects of 2007:

**Dave Powell, James and Lisa Winter, Pat Bergquist, Gretchen S. Gabriel, Janice Zera, Sue Rainer, Nancy Krcmar family, Claudia Loewenthal-Miller, Don and Becky Redell, Nannette and Jacob Boinski, Edward Bendickson, Carol Ahrens, Elizabeth Ciszewski, The Eric Holby Family, Nicholas J Mulligan Family, David S. Bond, Pat Benson, Lance and Mary Duesing, Marcella D. Savage, Nancy L Sheppard, Miri Osborne, Susan Bond, Harold and Petie Cherney, Dolores Schleser** and anyone I may have forgotten.

All these wonderful people made a big difference in changes at the Sanctuary this year and we thank each and every one from the very bottom of our hearts. Many of the buildings were painted, restored and some new roofs on animals houses were able to be completed. We will continue on in 08'!



*(Continued from page 6)*

stride. They didn't seem to mourn her passing nor act like they missed her. It was a quiet understanding between the

two and they instinctively knew she was in a better place. My heart is sad without my Ummie Yummie Bear. The years fly by like moments and it's so hard to come to terms with one's passing, be it animal or human. We all need to cherish each and every moment and love all that is around us each and every day. For everything



**Smarter than the average bear**

in our daily life is an extension of each and every one of us on this planet we call home, Mother Earth. All our hearts, animal and human, are connected as one to flow in perfect harmony and love. We need only to appreciate and understand one another and live life to its fullest. We can never take any life for granted.

**Stephan Levy**, with the **Top Cats Hog Chapter** from the Chicago area, and **Jo Giovannoni**, with **CityLimits Harley Hog** chapter from Palatine, Illinois organized a two-group motorcycle ride on October 20th and raised \$1385.00.

**Randy Lounds**, with his group, **The Elgin Harley Hog Chapter** raised \$905.00 on Sunday October 21st.

**George and Felicia Gettler** had a booth at a Washington County Pet Show for VOTK October 20th and raised \$264.00.

What a great weekend with these wonderful events to help the animals. We thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts who made these events possible and successful!

**Sanctuary Visiting Hours:  
Saturdays and Sundays 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Tours at 2:00 and 4:00 Saturdays and Sundays only. Workdays are every Saturday from 10:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. If you want to help make a difference in the lives of the animals, please consider joining our Construction Crew. For information regarding construction projects or general volunteering opportunities, please contact the Sanctuary at 262-736-9386

**Sanctuary is closed on holidays. We are not open to the public.  
Members must have valid membership card.  
(Sorry, we cannot accept new memberships at the gate.)**

***We're on the web!***  
**[www.votk.org](http://www.votk.org)**



**VALLEY OF THE KINGS SANCTUARY  
& RETREAT**

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