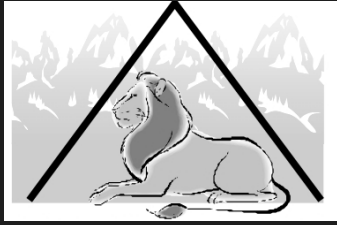


September/October 2008



VALLEY OF THE KINGS SANCTUARY & RETREAT

The Pug Mark

Sanctuary News

fall is upon us, can you believe it! This year seems to be passing with a blink of an eye. Much needs to be done with the fall rush to get things accomplished and we all are in winter mode. Never enough hours in the day and darkness falls earlier with each passing day. We are bracing for a brutal winter because of the bizarre weather patterns throughout the year. It is better to be over prepared than be at a loss in severe winter storms. Wind breaks, tarps, heated electric buckets in place, hay put up and supplies filling every nook and cranny. Our needs at this time are blankets, heavy outdoor electrical cords, treated 1/2 and 3/4" plywood and treated 2x4's.

We are always in need of kitty litter, bleach, paper towels, bottled water, shavings, any type of grain, dog and cat food the year round. A list of our usual monthly needs is as follows: each and every month we go through 5,000 pounds of different grain, 200 bales of pine shavings that are 50 pounds each (we use for the big cats and hooved stock), 600lbs of kitty litter, 750 lbs of dry dog and cat food for the wolf hybrids and small exotics, 300 small bales of hay, 80 pounds each (we use for the big cats and hooved stock) and twenty, 1,200 lb round hay bales for the big feeders. The grain we use is cracked corn, soybean meal, senior and regular

horse omoline, gamebird and dove feed, Mazurri brand Wallaby and Emus maintenance feed, goat, pig, llama and camel grain, rabbit pellets with papaya, alfalfa pellets, rice bran, calf manna, horse supplements and mineral blocks. We have many animals on medications and also prescription diets. We use KD dog and cat canned and dry, WD canine canned and dry and ID dog dry and canned. These items are purchased each month and are rarely if ever donated. The list goes on and doesn't include other expenses like

electric, service contracts for workers, diesel, gas and meat we purchase each week for special needs animals or when we run



short for all the big cats. The economy has us pinched and going into winter is not a good time to be short of funds or needs. We receive absolutely no State or Federal funding and survive solely on donations to feed and house all the animals in our care. All donations are 100% tax deductible. Please help ease our burdens by making a difference in the lives of the animals today. Thank You from the bottom of our hearts and God Bless you all!

Love and Extra big Hugs,
Jill, Jim and Animal Friends

Photographs in this issue by Chris Block, except where otherwise noted.

(Continued from page 1)

Overwhelmed by calls!

The past several months we have been overwhelmed by calls with people pleading for us to take their animals. **Please, we cannot take dogs and cats. We are not a domestic animal shelter and are not licensed for dogs and cats.** We have received rescue calls for domestic dogs and cats from as far away as Texas, Nebraska and Washington. People



are desperate and shelters are full all across the country. It breaks our hearts to hear of so many displaced animals but we have to stick to what we are licensed for and not risk the welfare of those in our care. Check with specific breed rescues or no-kill shelters locally and on the Internet. Many members are unaware we cannot take domestic dogs and cats so please spread the word, we would greatly appreciate it!

Sanctuary Update:

We have moved Misty the cougar up to the house to be with Boo Boo and so far all is well. Boo is thrilled to have a buddy and Misty is tolerating him well. Their rela-



tionship will take some time to blossom. Samson the lion, is now living in half of Kali's enclosure. We are waiting for the right time to put them together. So far, Kali is thrilled and thinks he is Togar and doesn't understand why she can't be with Samson. Samson on the other hand does not seem overjoyed at the prospect of having a friend and is very timid along the fence line with her. This relationship will take some time but we have high expectations for them to be introduced soon. Festus was moved to Misty's old enclosure by the wolf hybrids and his enclosure is being knocked down to be used for storage which we desperately need! The doves have been turned loose in the Peacock enclosure and are extremely happy. Their old area is being renovated for an extra room for Chaucer and Katia until we can afford to build them a new enclosure. Quite a few changes and more to come over the fall and winter months. We have been concentrating on giving the animals bigger and better areas and paring those who have lost Beloved friends.



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Palatine, IL 60074



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In loving memory of
Dennis Vance

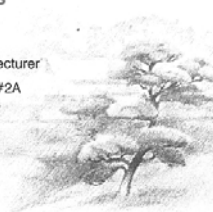


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Are you looking for a way to help the sanctuary financially, but don't know how? VOTK now accepts PayPal!

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.

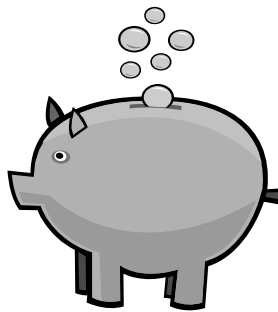
To use PayPal, simply log onto **www.paypal.com**. You will have to set up your own personal PayPal account (it's free), then click on "send money". Enter our email address **info@votk.org** for general contributions to VOTK or to donate to our **special moving and construction fund**. Enter the amount 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.

PayPal®



The Sanctuary can now accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. We take major credit cards at the gift shop, over the phone for donations or membership, 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

Donate your used vehicles

We are looking for two and four wheel drive trucks, dump trucks, trailers (Gooseneck or pull behind), cars, boats, campers, RV's, all-terrain vehicles, farm and lawn tractors any size to be donated to the Sanctuary to use or raise funds to help the animals.



If we receive enough vehicles, we will have an auction day. All vehicles donated are tax deductible to the fullest extent. We ask that they be in good shape and road worthy. Any make, model or year. We have volunteers that can pick

them up. Please ask your friends, family and relatives; this fundraising idea has a huge potential.

Contact Mary Bashford at 773-631-3142 or the Sanctuary at 262-736-9386.

In Memory of Jara

On September 21st we had to put Jara one of the three brothers, to sleep. He had liver failure and went downhill very quickly in a period of just a few weeks. His illness was very sudden and he did not show any weakness until a few days before we let him go. The three brothers came from the Duluth Superior Zoo in Minnesota, when they were six months old and have been with us for eighteen years. Satchel and Jasper miss their brother and the three have always been inseparable. Jara always came for treats but was wary of his human friends. His whole life was dependent on his brothers and that bond could never be penetrated by friendship with a human. He was an awe-

some sight to behold as are his brothers with full thick manes from the top of their heads all the way to the full extent of their bellies.. Satchel and Jasper appear to be in excellent health at this time. We are watching them for signs of illness as 19 years seems to be the end of the line for most lions. The two remaining are strong in personality like Jara and weakness is not in their vocabulary. They are proud, regal creatures and we honor them for who they are. Please enjoy them for the time they have left and let's hope the two will have a few years yet. The three brothers have been sponsored by Lake Louise Middle School in Palatine, Illinois for many, many years. Each year the

kids make the boys Valentines and we decorate there enclosure and watch them play! They spend hours knocking them down, rolling, licking and playing tag with the Valentines. Even as they have grown old, the young at heart always, comes out to play. It is the highlight of the year and they look forward to that yearly tradition. Jara is now with his parents; we know they were waiting for him at Rainbow bridge, together once more for all eternity. After we put him to sleep I looked up at the sky to say a silent prayer and there on the side of the sun was a rainbow smiling back at us. Jara was home.



Special Thanks

Special Thanks to **Dr Chris and students** for neutering Roary one of the big lions in the ten pen.

Roary decided to pick on one of his brothers and rather than separate him out, neutering was the best option. Everyone gets along now and harmony has been restored among the lion family. We are dealing with age related issues and he was being relentless to his brother. In the past we have had to neuter some of the other males to curb their aggressiveness which works very well. Roary's mane will

now fall out and he will soon look like one of the girls due to lack of testosterone.

Special Thanks to everyone who made Obie's Birthday party a success and special thank you to **Bob Black** and his wife **Shirley** for making goulash and chili! It was a beautiful day and those who came had a great time.

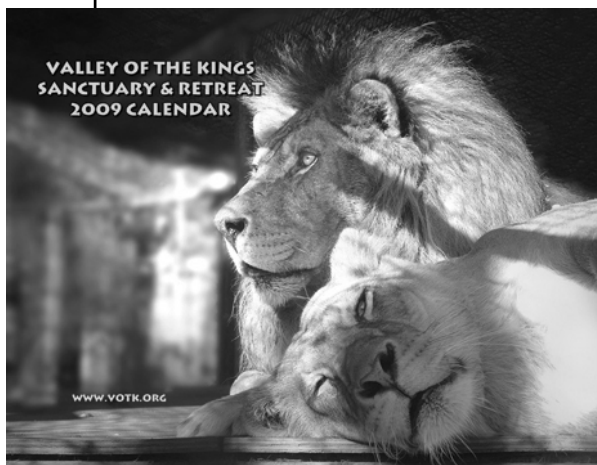
Special Thank you goes to **Jon Mullany** for fixing all our small engines, repairing things and general maintenance. He has been a

Godsend and we are blessed to have a wonderful man like Jon on staff!

Special Thank You also to **Larry Fabian** for rebuilding the Raccoon enclosure, making name signs and helping with construction projects. We have been short staffed and Larry's extra hands have really made the difference in necessary fall projects.



2009 VOTK Calendars are here!

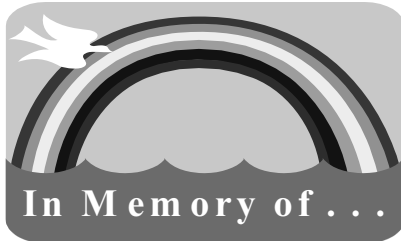


The 2008 VOTK calendars have arrived and are selling like hotcakes. Get your orders in now, before they're gone! You can purchase them from the VOTK gift shop for \$20. Or send a check for \$20 for each calendar (plus \$4 for shipping/handling for the 1st calendar + \$1 for each additional calendar)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

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

Preview available at
www.spokalendargirls.com/projects.html

Remember — each calendar you purchase helps the animals.



In beloved memory of **Cody Jensen**, the sweetest Lab that ever lived, and **Abigail Jensen**, the funniest Rottweiler ever. Both were loved very much by their human Mom, **Kristen Jensen**.

In Beloved Memory of **Jan Helgeson**, member of VOTK who sadly passed away in July.

In memory of **Pest**, Egyptian Temple Cat, born on the banks of the Nile half way between Karnak and Luxor Temple. I had him from the day he was born until the moment his faithful heart stopped. He trusted me to the bitter end. I adored him. He took sixteen years, four weeks and six days of my life with him. Forever and Always with Love, **Carol Meyer**

From our Members

Dear Jill and Jim and all at VOTK;

Thank you for all that you do for those beautiful animals. I very much admire your strength and spirit. I wish there were more people in this world like you and your volunteers. Thanks again! You are wonderful!

Donna Thompson
Rockford, Illinois



Avon fundraiser for Valley of the Kings.

Kathy Bilskey will be taking orders for Campaign 24. All orders must be in by November 17, 2008.

Great Products! Terrific Cause! What are you waiting for?

See www.votk.org/whatsnew.html for more info

Items Needed for Winter

We are once again in need of **blankets, blankets and more blankets**. Many of the animals are very appreciative of fresh fluffy blankets for their dens and houses. They insulate and keep them warm and snuggly. It would be impossible for us to get through the winter without donations of these much needed blankets. Thanks!



VALLEY OF THE KINGS SANCTUARY

Yes I want to give a VOTK membership to a very special friend.

I am enclosing \$ _____ for:

- _____ 6-month Membership(s) @ \$60 each
- _____ 6-month Family Membership(s) \$75
- _____ 1-year Membership(s) @ \$120 each
- _____ 1-year Family Membership(s) \$150
- _____ 6-month Senior Membership(s) @ \$30 each
- _____ 1-year Senior Membership(s) @ \$60 each
- _____ Please send a gift card to announce my gift.



I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____ for _____

Gift to:

Name: _____

Gift from:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Please mail this form, along with your check, to:

VALLEY OF THE KINGS SANCTUARY W7593 Townhall Road Sharon, WI 53585-9728

☐

Please check here if you require a receipt

Something special for the 2008 holiday season from VOTK.

With the purchase of each gift membership, your friend or loved one will receive one of our beautiful 2009 calendars. In the packet will be a Xmas card, newsletters and membership card. Many will be thrilled at the beauty of the calendar and the photos can be framed to be enjoyed for many years to come. It is a wonderful way to share our mission and give a gift that keeps on giving the whole year through.

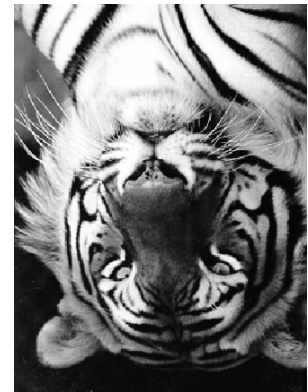
**Sanctuary Visiting Hours:
Saturdays and Sundays 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Tours only at 2:00 and 4:00 Saturdays and Sundays. Workdays are every Saturday from 10:30 a.m. till 5:00 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.)**

*Please note: There is a charge of \$10 per person each time you visit with more than one guest.
Additional single visit passes may be obtained by mail order only!*

***We're on the web!*
www.votk.org**



***Dedicated to the rescue and refuge of abused,
abandoned, injured and retired exotic animals.***

**W7593 Townhall Road
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