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.
If we build it, will they come?

The Mane Match

Wow!! Thank you just doesn’t seem like enough for all you’re helping us accomplish. You met Bob Barker’s $150,000 match opportunity in just one month’s time! That’s amazing, and I’m so humbled by your generosity.

Please know how much I appreciate you being on this journey with us. Because of you, we’ll be able to welcome as many as seven lions home to the sanctuary. And Shanti Deva will finally hear her roars answered again.

How This Began

I’ve been communicating with Argentina for almost two years, since they made the compassionate decision to turn their zoos into eco parks. Their goal is to no longer house exotic species for display, which is a good thing.

But working with another country has been a slow, extremely frustrating process. They visited the sanctuary over a year ago to assure we’d be the best place for their lions’ relocation. We were thankful they chose us from all the sanctuaries they visited.

We stayed positive, assuming the logistics would all work out. It was important we build a new section of the sanctuary to accommodate the lions. And it needed to be done before cold sets in so they’d have comfortable, temperature-controlled bedrooms, too.

This was a huge project to take on. But hearing the lions’ history, I knew we had to make this dream come true for them.

We were already in the middle of rebuilding the Wildcat Pines area of the sanctuary. Nearly two dozen bobcats/lynx live there. It was a priority to move them back into their new and improved habitats as soon as possible, too.

I’m so thankful for all the help we received this summer from interns, volunteers and staff to get this done. It allowed us to concentrate on constructing the new lion area also.

You voted to name the lion area “Pride Prairie” and construction is progressing. We’ve also modified a few of our empty habitats that can be used temporarily, should we need them. Now, we just needed to wait for contractors to finish their parts and for the lions to arrive.

But the wait wasn’t over.

The Waiting Game

Running a sanctuary, I’m used to a roller coaster of emotions. But offering to help these lions from Argentina has really put me to the test. I’ve been holding up publishing this edition of UPROAR! Magazine in hopes the lions would be here by now.
It’s been endless delays. Their transport has been on-again, off-again so many times, I’ve lost track. There’s been difficulty translating necessary documents and permits. There’ve been so many authorities involved, and one doesn’t talk to the other.

They’ve told me three lions were coming. Then, they told me five were coming. Then, back to three. They told us a leopard was also coming, but now is not. It changes constantly.

I just keep saying, “Yes, we’ll help those in need.” But we have to be ready both physically and financially to do that.

I’ve learned we have to have a huge amount of patience with international relocations like this. It’s been very stressful though, trying to get everything ready in time…all while handling the day-to-day care of over 100 other cats we have here.

Maybe if I hadn’t seen photos of these lions, talked with their caregivers and learned their personalities, heard their life stories prior to ending up at the zoo…

Maybe if I didn’t feel like I know them…

Maybe it would’ve been easier to handle the emotional ups and downs.

But I already felt like they deserved a forever home, they belonged at The Wildcat Sanctuary. And now, even more so. That’s why each postponement felt like they could slip away.

**Kimba, Sofia and Gino—Buenos Aires Ecoparque**

I first heard about this lion family almost two years ago when we started communicating with the Buenos Aires Zoo. These two white lions, Kimba and Sofia, were born in South Africa and transported overseas to Argentina.

Kimba was born February 14, 2005. Sofia was born September 22, 2005. They both arrived at the Buenos Aires Zoo September 11, 2008, according to the zoo’s records.

Their son Gino was born at the zoo on New Year’s Eve 2015. Gino moved to his own enclosure when he was a year and three months old. It’s customary to separate males once they’re mature so they don’t become aggressive over the female.

Gino has congenital hypothyroidism, so will require lifelong medication. He’s also shorter than normal due to this condition.
Salteña and Chupino—Argentina’s Mendoza Zoo

Enfoque Animal, a local animal welfare group in Argentina is led by Geraldine Vidal. She heard we were accepting the lions from the Buenos Aires Ecoparque. She reached out to us, asking if we could possibly accept other lions in need of a home, too?

These additional lions were in less-funded and defunct zoos. The cats had a history of being privately-owned, malnourished or confined to circus crates before being rescued by the local zoos. And now they needed to be rehomed again...this time to provide them the best life possible once and for all.

Of course, I agreed. But what we didn’t know, until a few weeks prior to their scheduled arrival, is that Salteña is 26 years old. When I saw her photo, I knew she was geriatric. Hearing her past story broke my heart.

But we have to make sure transporting her is in her best interest, especially at her age. The Argentina veterinarian will be in the best position to make that decision soon, we’re told.

Chupino looked well in his photo. That’s why I was surprised to find out he’s 25! I’ve requested vet exams on both lions prior to transport in order to assure the long flight and drive won’t be too much for them.

Last, but not least

As of this writing, there are two more lions we’ve agreed to take in from La Plata Zoo in Argentina. This male and female live separately at two different locations. I’m hoping to get more information about them soon and arrange for their arrival before mid-November.

And now that there seems to be an end in sight for this long relocation process, Mother Nature’s throwing hurricanes in the mix. Just when I thought we could actually plan for the lions’ arrival, there’s always something else I realize you just can’t control.

When I hear people say they want to start a sanctuary, I know they have no idea what it really entails. There are more emotional upheavals than I can possibly describe. I can now add international rescues to that list!

This will be a long journey for the lions, just as it’s been a long journey for us trying to get them here.

Be sure to keep following our Facebook page for more up-to-the-minute updates on this saga. And do sign up for our enewletters at www.bit.ly/TWSenewsletter so I can keep you informed that way, too.

Thank you again for being a part of this journey, and for supporting me and all of us here at the sanctuary as we try to provide forever homes for so many. Without you, quite honestly, none of this would be possible. And I never forget that.

Tammy Thies
Founder & Executive Director

Ps. I look forward to sharing more details about each and every one of the lions that now or soon will call The Wildcat Sanctuary home.
Become a sponsor parent at WildcatSanctuary.org
Exhale! Finally, I can breathe a sigh of relief. Kimba, Sofia, Gino, Salteña and Chupino arrived safely.

After a day of loading, a 9-hour flight from Argentina to Miami and a 38-hour drive, the anticipation was making our hearts skip a beat. Our primary concern was for the eldest lioness, Salteña.

When the two semi-trucks pulled in and we heard Salteña roaring her displeasure for the trip, tears began flowing down my face. Years of planning all led up to this – giving a new life to five lions.

Salteña and Chupino were unloaded first and brought into our quarantine areas. At first, they were too shy to leave their transport crates. But, it didn’t take long for both to emerge and begin exploring their indoor and outdoor areas. Our hearts melted as Salteña curled up in the soft straw in the sun and took a long, well-deserved, cat nap. Chupino chose to play with his toys, rub all the pine trees and mark them as his.

Next was Gino. He was quiet and calm in his crate. As a teenager, he was a little less confident about leaving his transport crate than the others. He waited for everyone to leave before he slowly took his first few steps out. He strategically surveyed the habitat, taking his time to take everything in. Tigress Sabrina was thrilled about her new neighbor, while lioness Shanti Deva made sure
to tell him she is still alpha of the pride.

Kimba and Sofia were last. They had no problem darting out of their transport crates to explore their new home. Kimba went directly up to the building and stuck his head in to see what was inside. Sofia climbed the rocks before finding Kimba on the other side of the habitat. They were both so happy to find each other, having been separated for the trip. They curled up in the tall grass together and enjoyed being able to finally rest.

The humans had a very long worthwhile day! A day in the making for several years. We couldn’t have asked for an easier unload. Our hearts were filled with such joy and relief, seeing how quickly all the cats are adjusting to their forever home here. That’s not always the case.

Chupino hasn’t stopped roaring about his affection for Salteña, while she dismissed his advances through their shared wall. Salteña’s favorite spot is her heated building and straw bed – who can blame her after living in a dark, cold cage for so long.

Kimba was known as the assertive lion, while Sofia was very standoffish. That all changed when they had a larger area to explore and could be fed outdoors, as well as inside. Her former caretakers were amazed and so happy to see this positive change in her.

Gino found the highest platform in his habitat and chooses to survey everything around him in a cool, hipster manner, while neighbor Shanti Deva doesn’t seem impressed.

We can’t thank YOU enough for making this possible for them - and us! Hearing lions carol once again alongside Shanti Deva makes the sanctuary feel whole again. This pride is very different than Aslan’s original pride, but is just as special in so many ways!

I look forward to sharing news about each and every one of the lions. Especially as we complete Pride Prairie, the new lion area you’ve helped make possible for them.
The call came in that 10 exotic cats were in need of rescue after their owner was hospitalized for a drug overdose.

The conditions of the house, from an African serval and nine Savannah cats scratching, defecating and urinating, left them no choice but to condemn the house.

Even though we’d just taken in the five lions from Argentina and I was out of town at the Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance conference, I immediately agreed to help all the cats.

I was informed the Savannah cats already had a place to go. But placement was still needed for the serval.

He was described as a 4-5 year-old male, who was very frightened and hissing. No other information was known, including his name.

That evening, he arrived at the Sanctuary still scared and unsocialized. He appears in good condition and has a healthy appetite.

He will receive an intake exam this week where we’ll determine if he’s intact or declawed. We suspect that he may have been bred with the Savannas.

Thanks to your continued support, we’re happy we could help this boy. His world was just turned upside down.

I’ve decided to name him Zambuca, after the very first African serval I ever met. It’s a strong name and will fit him perfectly once he gains his confidence back.

Welcome to your forever home Zambuca!
Tigers

Caesar
Wild at Heart Date: 9/2/2015

Callie
Wild at Heart Date: 9/2/2015

Daisy
Wild at Heart Date: 5/19/2017

Dimitri
Wild at Heart Date: 10/19/2016

Ekaterina
Wild at Heart Date: 9/21/2010

Griffen
Wild at Heart Date: 10/19/2016

Jeremy
Wild at Heart Date: 11/13/2014

Logan
Wild at Heart Date: 9/2/2015
We don’t know every cat’s exact birthday, so we celebrate their Wild at Heart Dates— their first day at The Wildcat Sanctuary.
Cougars and Lions

Andre
Wild at Heart Date: 10/8/2009

Aspen
Wild at Heart Date: 1/21/2016

Blaze
Wild at Heart Date: 1/21/2016

Carlo
Wild at Heart Date: 10/17/2009

Castle
Wild at Heart Date: 7/30/2006

Donoma
Wild at Heart Date: 5/22/2008

Langley
Wild at Heart Date: 10/17/2009

Liberty
Wild at Heart Date: 3/26/2008
Noah
Wild at Heart Date: 10/17/2009

Raja
Wild at Heart Date: 12/10/2007

Snow
Wild at Heart Date: 12/5/2015

Storm
Wild at Heart Date: 12/5/2015

Tasha II
Wild at Heart Date: 3/27/2012

Vista
Wild at Heart Date: 7/30/2006

Chupino
Wild at Heart Date: 9/22/2018

Lions
Lions cont. and Leopards

Gino
Wild at Heart Date: 9/22/2018

Kimba
Wild at Heart Date: 9/22/2018

Salteña
Wild at Heart Date: 9/22/2018

Sofia
Wild at Heart Date: 9/22/2018

Leopards

Shanti Deva
Wild at Heart Date: 12/21/2006

Shadow
Wild at Heart Date: 9/2/2015

Shazam
Wild at Heart Date: 12/21/2006
All cats leave paw prints on our hearts.

Eurasian Lynx

Aria
Wild at Heart Date: 4/29/2018

Leisha
Wild at Heart Date: 7/9/2005

Canada Lynx

Kitty
Wild at Heart Date: 5/28/2005

Ramsey
Wild at Heart Date: 2/22/2007

Shalico
Wild at Heart Date: 8/28/2006
Bobcats

Archer
Wild at Heart Date: 3/6/2017

Athena
Wild at Heart Date: 7/12/2007

Autumn
Wild at Heart Date: 9/15/2016

Baby Jenga
Wild at Heart Date: 5/23/2003

Bella
Wild at Heart Date: 9/16/2010

Belvedere
Wild at Heart Date: 10/6/2016

Benson
Wild at Heart Date: 7/6/2006

Brianna
Wild at Heart Date: 8/2/2012
Claud  
Wild at Heart Date:  
7/5/2006

Copper  
Wild at Heart Date:  
3/12/2017

Francis  
Wild at Heart Date:  
10/6/2016

Haley  
Wild at Heart Date:  
7/13/2008

Harley  
Wild at Heart Date:  
8/17/2010

Henry  
Wild at Heart Date:  
7/13/2008

Luna  
Wild at Heart Date:  
8/24/2017

Mondovi  
Wild at Heart Date:  
3/23/2018
Our **SPONSOR-A-WILD-ONE** program lets you feel a special connection to our cats—from a safe distance! As a Sponsor Parent, you’ll receive the personal story of your sponsored wildcat along with photos.

Sponsor a cat today at WildcatSanctuary.org
Serval & Caracal

Bosco
Wild at Heart Date: 11/17/2001

Cleo
Wild at Heart Date: 4/25/1998

Denali
Wild at Heart Date: 7/6/2006

Jaharah
Wild at Heart Date: 12/1/2009

Lizzy
Wild at Heart Date: 4/25/2005

Mesa
Wild at Heart Date: 1/4/2005

Mufasa
Wild at Heart Date: 11/4/2000

Morocco
Wild at Heart Date: 11/4/2000
Nunda
Wild at Heart Date:
3/24/2005

O’Malley
Wild at Heart Date:
3/30/2002

Phoenix
Wild at Heart Date:
3/24/2005

Rio
Wild at Heart Date:
1/4/2005

Sebastian
Wild at Heart Date:
7/21/2006

Scarlet
Wild at Heart Date:
1/25/2018

Aurora
Wild at Heart Date:
7/9/2015

Caracal
F1 Bengals

The cats will live at The Wildcat Sanctuary the rest of their lives. Unlike a dog or cat with a traditional family, being a wild animal, our cats have a family of sponsors – a family you’re invited to join!

Become a sponsor parent at WildcatSanctuary.org
Ella – Safari
Wild at Heart Date: 6/6/2017

Dream – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 5/31/2006

Eddy – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 10/7/2017

Ella – Safari
Wild at Heart Date: 6/6/2017

Harley
Wild at Heart Date: 5/6/2017

Cooper – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 9/15/2009

Bengie – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 6/7/2018

Benny – Marbled
Wild at Heart Date: 12/17/2008

Adrian – Silver
Wild at Heart Date: 6/1/2012

Bengals
Bengals continued

Indie – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 11/8/2006

Maui – Snow
Wild at Heart Date: 2/24/2006

Max I – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 6/22/2006

Nala – Cheetoh
Wild at Heart Date: 10/7/17

Sebastian – Marbled
Wild at Heart Date: 11/15/2010

ShyBear – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 2/13/2007

Spartacus – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date: 4/6/2008

Tahiti – Melanistic
Wild at Heart Date: 7/3/2006
Kashmir
Wild at Heart Date:
10/6/2003

Tara – Snow
Wild at Heart Date:
10/8/2007

Tiger – Spotted
Wild at Heart Date:
7/21/2006

Ty
Wild at Heart Date:
1/5/2009

Chausies

Make a gift at WildcatSanctuary.org
Savannahs

Andre
Wild at Heart Date: 7/2/2016

Diego
Wild at Heart Date: 6/4/2010

Hilo
Wild at Heart Date: 6/6/2008

Kona
Wild at Heart Date: 11/12/2012

Ledger
Wild at Heart Date: 3/4/2009

Leo
Wild at Heart Date: 6/18/2016

Maximillion
Wild at Heart Date: 2/11/2017

Safiya
Wild at Heart Date: 4/26/2018
Remoh
Wild at Heart Date: 5/14/2009

Cookie
Wild at Heart Date: 10/4/2017

Cookie, dog
The Mane Attraction was a Huge Success! Thank You!

We had a wonderful time at Jungle Boogie this year with almost 200 event attendees! This time with our donors is so special. We absolutely love to celebrate the past year’s accomplishments and look ahead to our future - together!

This year’s theme, The Mane Attraction (as you can tell by the pun) was in honor of the Argentina Lions that were recently retired from a life among skyscrapers in a city zoo. They arrived at their forever home in Sandstone just a few short weeks before the event. It was such a joy to see everyone’s excitement around this historic rescue!

Special thanks to our event and table sponsors, RE/MAX Results, MyPillow, The Mary L Kenzie Foundation, Sue & Dan Schmitt, Pets Remembered Cremations, Roaring 20’s, Purrfect 10, Ray & Rita Quist of RE/MAX Results, Lion Backers, and Daily’s & Friends. We’re so proud to have so much support! Thank you!

During dinner, special recognition was given to Claudia Brockhaus and Bob Barker and the DJ&T Foundation for the extraordinary efforts to help the lions this year. Welcome to the Lion Pride!

Thank you to everyone who attended, donated a silent auction items, bought raffle tickets, or helped spread the word! Jungle Boogie was a huge success this year!
Thank you to our Event Sponsors:

Other Sponsors and Supporters:

The Mary L. Kenzie Foundation
Sue and Dan Schmitt
Roaring 20’s
Purrfect 10
Ray & Rita Quist
Lion Backers
Daily’s & Friends
PCML Photography
Patrick Clancy Photography
Aerial Imagery Media
Bill Van der Hagen Photography
Jana Rosa Arts

[Images of sponsor logos]
Castle, cougar

Aurora, caracal

Nikita, tiger

Aria, Eurasian lynx

Shalico, Canada lynx and Morgan, bobcat
In Honor & In Memory

In Honor

In honor of all of my wonderful pets over the years.
Ruth Conley

In honor of Amy Carlson’s and Aaron Moe’s wedding celebration!
Ford Bell, Angela Benson, Chad Boysen, Holly Buchanan, Zuzanne Fenner, Rachael Hampton, Andrea Hazard, Olukemi Ilesanmi, Joe Liz Mefford Neota Moe and, Kermath Ward

In honor of Arlo, the tabby who found us on Thanksgiving a few years ago and stayed with us until he passed.
Lizbeth Dobbins and Jon Leonard

In honor of Marlibeth Cliffe
Dore Dokos-Loewenthal

In honor of Cookie
Carol Ann Smith

In honor of David Allen
Kathy Dahlberg

In honor of Dr. Joanne Kamper
Andrea Solomon, Jody Schendel, Ann Delgehausen

In honor of Eddy
Cindy and Scott Wetzel

In honor of Elizabeth Eide’s birthday!
Kande Larson

In honor of Emma Shook
Anna Shook

In honor of Gigi the cat
Penny Cody

In honor of Gwen Chriss’ Birthday
Carolyn Krinke

In honor of Auntie Gennie. Happy Birthday!
From Lucy, Liam, Tigger, Dutchie and Zona, Molly Kelly

In honor of Peggy’s birthday from the Stelter Family
Nora Stelter

In honor of Jan Moore Rea’s birthday
Marcia Palmitier and Laruen McInerney

In honor of Judy Tull’s birthday
Karen Gelvin

In honor of June’s birthday
Rebecca Plemmons

In honor of Kerry Jo Marshall
Kimberly Akre

In honor of Mike Leibow
Neva Becker

In honor of my 60th birthday!
Robin Beiler

In honor of my cat Kefira (little lioness in Hebrew)
Elizabeth Calleja

In honor of My dad, Adrian S Helgeson
Randi Helgeson

In honor of my daughter Elizabeth’s birthday
Sandra West

In honor of Paul Crecca who is passionate about saving the beautiful wild cats and who inspired me to feel likewise.
Marie Brown

In honor of Rylie and her lifelong passion for wildcats!
Cheree Chabot

In honor of Shara Scott’s birthday
Leona Sousa

In honor of Tammy Thies’ Birthday
Sue Quist, Jean Pastor, and Joan Pastor

In honor of Tico, Noel and Rambutan - Best Feline Friends Forever
Dore Dokos-Loewenthal

In honor of Diablo Guapo
Vicki Todaro

In Memory

In memory of Amanda
Lee Ann Melborg

In memory of Cooper
Peggy Smith

In memory of Berdell A. Schmidt from her friends at The Wildcat Sanctuary
Jean Johnson and Eileen Seena

In memory of Astrid
Tony Tambasco

In memory of Aunt Ro, beloved Godmother and friend
Matthew Bohn

In memory of Berdell A. Schmidt
Jean Johnson and Eileen Seena

In memory of Bob Henzler of Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Etta Hensler

In memory of Buddy and Simon
Richard Rees

In memory of Coco, Winnie, Abby, Lucky, K.C., Timothy, & Roscoe. In Honor of Katie, Comet, Adam,& Zeke
Beverly Carlson

In memory of Diablo Guapo
Vicki Todaro

In memory of Don Thornton, best dad, husband and cat dad
Sally and Mary Thornton

Judy Royal and Helen Deignan

In memory of Fuzzy
Janet Hoben

In memory of Patches, Tiger, Lily, Mischief and Cali
Maggie Bell

In memory of Jack, my late cat roommate
Janice Campbell

In memory of Joan M. Milles
Glen Yakel

In memory of Kandy S. Smith
Kathy Higgins

In memory of Libby
Joan Oprian

In memory of Mathilda
Virginia Pansch

In memory of Mimi Fisher, Step Mother of Peggy Fisher and Larry Stelter, and “Gracie” their beloved cat
Jerry and Lori

In memory of Misha
Stephanie Boudreaux, Grace Calderwood, Donna Chachko, Scott Cowden, Fran Cox, Paul and Michele Crecca, Daria Dzura, Wayne and Georgia Gillespie, Kim and Joel Meline, Patti Petruch, Linda Pflaster, Gail Plewacki, Kristin Rhoden, Jackie Smalley Bithell, Lee-Anne Thomson, Stephanie Wittenberg, and Constance Perenyi
IN MEMORY OF LIBBY—
Our silent soldier, you were brave to the very end and your sweet and strong presence will be missed. May you and Tractor march together again in your new wildlife.

IN MEMORY OF MISHA—
You were with us since the beginning and alongside me for the start-up struggles. You were so patient and a good teacher. I, and all the animals of TWS, have you and many other founding cats to thank. You are in our hearts forever.

In memory of my beloved Floyd who was a lion at heart
Sarah Harrington

In memory of my feline friends that have passed on: Claudius, Tiberious, and Vesta
Eirik Rasmusson

In memory of my sweet George
Kande Larson

In memory of my cat Kimba

Elizabeth Calleja

In memory of Susan Carrato
Tony Carrato and her friends at The Wildcat Sanctuary

In memory of William
George and Elizabeth Naylor

In memory of Willow
John Higgins, Marjorie Lulay, Kim and Joel Meline, Joan Oprian, and Stephanie Wittenberg

For $25, make a memorial or honorarium gift at WildcatSanctuary.org.
Save the Date

Caretaker for a Day & Night
Tour of The Wildcat Sanctuary

Leopard Shadow paw print for $100+ donations

$10,000 ............ The Wildcat Sanctuary Match of your donations

$500 ............... Golden Ticket daily drawing for pre-scheduled donors

$500 ............... Golden Ticket drawing every 10 minutes

$1000 ............. Golden Ticket hourly drawing

$10,000 .......... Golden Ticket end-of-day drawing

email: info@wildcatsanctuary.org or phone: 320-245-6871