



CAROLINA TIGER
RESCUE

The Paze Print

FALL 2023

Director's Desk

KRIS MARINO
Executive Director



Carolina Tiger Rescue was recently asked to provide homes for three Asian leopard cats that were part of a rescue managed by the SPCA in Texas. The conversations surrounding the rescue made me think about our first 50 years and what is still to come.

Through hard work and perseverance, over the past 50 years we have become one of the largest and most well-respected wild cat sanctuaries in the United States. We have rescued and provided forever homes to 112 animals from 20 different states and 2 additional countries, representing 14 different species.

While the Big Cat Public Safety Act, passed by Congress last year, has put restraints on the exotic animal trade and treatment of large

cats, the shift away from private ownership will take decades to complete, and it will not be the only challenge that we face.

We foresee a "small cat crisis" in the near future, wherein small cats, such as Asian leopard cats, servals and bobcats will be confiscated from questionable breeding facilities by organizations such as HSUS, SPCA and PETA. These small cats will need rescue, sanctuary and a place to call home. And just as we have done for the past 50 years, we will answer the call and give them the best lives possible.

Thank you for all that you do for Carolina Tiger Rescue.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer - Adopt an Animal - Be a Monthly Sustainer
Bring Friends for a Tour - Include the Cats in Your Estate Plan
Become a Business Sponsor - Become a Big Cat Dinner Club Member
Donate Items on our Amazon Wish List



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura (Lolly) Gasaway – President
Ruth Stalvey – Vice President
Aparna Ramabhadran – Secretary/Treasurer
Jay Baas
Chris Bush
Barbara Daniel
Mitch Haber
Kevin O'Dell
Nicole Robertson
Mary Szymkowski

STAFF

Kris Marino – Executive Director
Kathryn Bertok – Assistant Director
Lauren Humphries – Senior Keeper
Jordan Farrington – Keeper
Cara Vitale – Keeper
Kalyn Walker – Keeper
Angela Lassiter – Veterinarian
Madison Fales – Education Director
Alyssa Schuberth – Program Assistant
Maryssa Hill – Volunteer Coordinator

Susan King Cope - Development Director
Heidi Zangara – Donor Engagement Director
Beverly Clapp – Gift Shop Manager
Emily Cheney - Marketing & Dev. Assistant
Kyra Bucich – Manager of Finance & Administration
Nicola Goodman – Data Services Assistant
Tara Murphy – Campaigns Coordinator
Louise Orr – Communications Director
Brian Evans - Construction Assistant
Brandon Harper – Site Assistant

MEET ZOEY SERVAL

Age: 16-years-old
Rescued: 2013



Our cover girl, Zoey Serval, was rescued from a private home in Hendersonville, NC in 2013. Police found her in a crate in the backyard when they arrived to serve an arrest warrant for her owners. She was taken to a local veterinary clinic and fed spinach and corn, likely due to ignorance about what wild African servals need to eat to survive. When we picked her up, she was incredibly cooperative when she realized we had meat for her! Like all wild cats, servals are obligate carnivores and need meat.

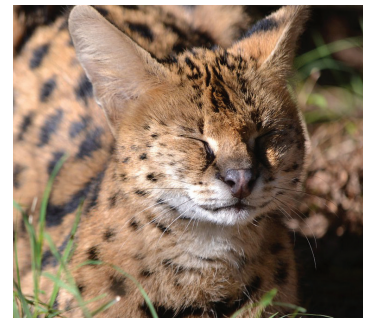
Despite her petite size, Zoey is full of spice! She always has something to say. Her nickname when she first arrived was "Sassy." She's an expert at camouflage and can often be found hiding in the grass right in front of you, but will always emerge for a chicken treat.

THE SMALL CAT CRISIS

Zoey is one of 18 servals at Carolina Tiger Rescue, the most of any species we care for. She, and many of our other rescues, are indicative of a small cat crisis occurring right here in the United States. The demand for exotic small wild cats like servals, caracals, bobcats, and lynx as pets is on the rise, driven by social media exposure and profit-seeking breeders. However, many owners are ill-prepared to provide proper care and suitable environments for these animals, often abandoning them after a few years. This trend has led to frequent incidents of escaped wild cats making headlines across the U.S., highlighting the serious consequences of keeping such animals as pets.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

1. Don't engage with the exploitation of "pet" wild cats on social media.
2. Educate others about appropriate pets.
3. Report illegal activity – while it's legal to own an exotic wild cat, it's illegal to own a native species like bobcats.
4. Support ethical sanctuaries.
5. Support legislation that bans the private ownership of exotic cats.



Keeper's Corner

Many of our small cats have been rescued from private owners and backyard breeders. New owners are given little information about how to care for their exotic animals and are ill-advised on the requirements to care for these cats.

Simply purchasing a cat from these breeders perpetuates the exotic pet trade. These cats are usually not fed a proper diet and as a result can suffer from metabolic bone disease and other ailments. We focus on transitioning them to a whole carcass diet, where they will be fed muscle meat, bone, skin, select organs and appropriate vitamins.

They are often nervous and can take some time to adjust to a new environment. They can develop behavioral issues and OCD habits when kept in small spaces without adequate stimulation.



It's also common that cats are declawed. Declawing a cat removes the bone down to the first knuckle and can impact the cat's

mobility and behavior. Animals kept in crowded conditions also usually have fecal parasites and can easily spread viruses amongst one another.

For these reasons, any animals arriving at Carolina Tiger must go through a quarantine period to ensure we can treat any ailments they may have. It takes time to reassure the cats that the remainder of their lives will be much better. Unfortunately, only a small portion of exotic small cats make their way to reputable sanctuaries.

But for the cats that make it to Carolina Tiger, any medical condition they have will be treated, they will be fed a healthy diet, and they will have a habitat to live in suiting their personality with grass, sun and enrichment. They will have a peaceful and caring home for life.

Lauren



From Left to Right: Senior Keeper Lauren Humphries, Keepers Jordan Farrington, Kalyn Walker, and Cara Vitale

YOU make the difference!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our dedicated volunteers and our five exceptional 2023 summer interns who collectively contributed to making this summer truly fantastic!

Amber Farmer was honored as our 2022-2023 Volunteer of the Year, a well-deserved recognition. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our Volunteers of the Month for the summer season, including Anne P. (June), Larry C. (August), and Heather E. (September). Additionally, our summer interns were nothing short of remarkable, devoting their time and effort to grasp the intricacies of animal care at the sanctuary and significantly assisting our dedicated animal care team. Though we miss them dearly, we send our best wishes for their future endeavors.

Learn more at www.CarolinaTigerRescue.org/get-involved



CAROLINA TIGER RESCUE MINI-BITES

Bite-sized stories to catch you up on what's happening at Carolina Tiger Rescue!

Two new partnerships raise money for the Sanctuary



Carolina Tiger Rescue has exciting news with two new partnerships. We have continued our collaboration with Clouds Brewing for the second beer in our Predators Not Pets series, Roman's Golden Ale. One dollar from every can sold will be donated back to the sanctuary. We have also teamed up with Sanctuary, a clean fragrance company, which will donate twenty percent of proceeds from their Malayan tiger-inspired fragrance to support our mission of saving and protecting wild cats, both in captivity and in the wild.

Carolina Tiger Rescue assists with newly published research



Earlier this summer a new research paper from NC State, authored by one of our former animal care interns, was published that proves the devastating effects of declawing big cats. We were proud to collaborate in a small way with Dr. Adam Hartstone-Rose and his team to help produce this research. Carolina Tiger Rescue has a longstanding relationship with Dr. Hartstone-Rose. In addition to research collaborations, our high school campers visit his lab at NC State every summer to learn more about the important work they're doing.

Wild tiger numbers on the rise



In 2010, global wild tiger numbers were at a critical low of 3,200. Collaborative efforts by 13 tiger range countries set a goal to double this population by 2022. The latest estimate now stands at 5,574 wild tigers, a remarkable 74% increase since 2010. While this is a significant achievement, it highlights the urgent need to protect tiger habitats. A strategy focused on 22 priority tiger landscapes aims to secure and expand habitats, reduce human-tiger conflicts, end exploitation, and provide sustainable funding. This recovery underscores the importance of continued support and investment in tiger conservation globally.

New faces around the Sanctuary



Beverly Clapp
Gift Shop Manager

(919) 542-4684 x 3002
BeverlyClapp@
CarolinaTigerRescue.org



Brian Evans
Construction Assistant

(919) 542-468 x 3008
BrianEvans@
CarolinaTigerRescue.org



Madison Fales
Education Director

(919) 542-4684 x 3021
MadisonFales@
CarolinaTigerRescue.org



Jordan Farrington
Keeper

(919) 542-4684 x 3005
JordanFarrington@
CarolinaTigerRescue.org



Brandon Harper
Site Assistant

(919) 542-4684 x 3008
BrandonHarper@
CarolinaTigerRescue.org



Alyssa Schuberth
Program Assistant

(919) 542-4684 x 3020
AlyssaSchuberth@
CarolinaTigerRescue.org

Leap into the new year!



Our 2024 calendars have arrived! This beautiful calendar features 13 stunning photographs of Carolina Tiger Rescue's residents of past and present. Some of our most compelling rescue stories throughout the years are told in this special edition of our yearly calendar which features tigers Rajah and Kaela on the cover. Monthly animals include Nitro Tiger, Tarzan, Sebastian and Sheba Lions, Star Cougar, and more!

shop.CarolinaTigerRescue.org

All proceeds from calendar sales and other gift shop purchases go toward operating costs.

NOVEMBER 28, 2023: GIVING TUESDAY

This year, funds raised on Giving Tuesday will be for WiFi access around the Sanctuary. This will drastically improve our existing education programs like virtual tours and live streams, and allow us to monitor animals as necessary.





CAROLINA TIGER
RESCUE

Carolina Tiger Rescue is gearing up for an exciting milestone as we prepare to celebrate our 50th anniversary throughout 2024. With five decades of service to the protection and care of wild cats (and more), this celebration will not only commemorate the organization's remarkable achievements and growth but also serve as a reflection on the numerous lives we have changed through our rescue efforts. This celebration will be an opportunity to honor the past while eagerly anticipating the next 50 years, filled with continued dedication to the welfare and conservation of wild cats everywhere.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024:

50TH ANNIVERSARY BLACK TIE & TAILS BALL
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION (FALL)
SPECIAL MERCHANDISE IN GIFT SHOP
2024 CALENDAR
& MORE!

CAROLINA TIGER RESCUE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF RESCUE, EDUCATION, & ADVOCACY

EARLY BIRD TICKETS
AVAILABLE NOW



Black Tie & Tails Ball | Saturday, February 24, 2024
Washington Duke Inn | 3001 Cameron Blvd. Durham, NC

This year's Black Tie & Tails Ball promises to be an evening of cherished memories and lasting impact as we come together to celebrate 50 years of Carolina Tiger Rescue's unwavering dedication to carnivore rescue, education, and advocacy.

Immerse yourself in an atmosphere of elegance and savory culinary delights that will set the stage for delightful conversations among friends, both old and new. Our silent and live auctions promise exclusive opportunities to acquire extraordinary items and once-in-a-lifetime experiences, all while supporting the animals at Carolina Tiger Rescue.

Can't make it to the event? You can bid on items from home!



Carolina Tiger Rescue
1940 Hanks Chapel Rd.
Pittsboro, NC 27312

919.542.4684

info@CarolinaTigerRescue.org
www.CarolinaTigerRescue.org

Non-profit Org
Presorted
US Postage
PAID
Permit #1910
Raleigh, NC

Tours and Important Dates

DAYTIME TOURS:

*Year-round, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
Get tickets online.*

*Holiday tours, private tours, specialty tours,
virtual tours, field trips, and
volunteer opportunities available.*

TWILIGHT TOURS:

Returning Spring of 2024

GIVING TUESDAY

November 28

WORLD WILDLIFE CONSERVATION DAY

December 4

BLACK TIE & TAILS BALL

February 24, 2024



Pepper Asian Leopard Cat

**Your support allowed us to rescue four servals and three Asian leopard cats
this summer. Thank you! Learn more at:**

www.CarolinaTigerRescue.org