



## **2013 Annual Report**

**Fiscal Year 01 April 2012- 31 March 2013**

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### **Mission Statement**

Lions, Tigers & Bears is committed to providing a safe haven to abused and unwanted exotic animals and to offering an educational forum that informs the public about the plight behind the exotic animal trade and what they can do to stop it.

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### **Purpose**

- Rescue a limited number of cats and other exotic animals that have been abused, confiscated, or are in danger of being destroyed for lack of a suitable home and provide them with a permanent home.
- Provide comfortable shelter, nutrition, health needs and caring attention to the animals currently in our care.
- Maintain a clean habitat for the animals using the highest safety standards.
- Participate with others to help promote legislation to ensure captive cats and other exotics receive responsible lifetime homes, prevent the breeding of captive Big Cats without special purpose and reduce the abuse that so many endure.
- Arouse community interest and awareness by educating the public about the plight of all exotic animals, both captive and wild, and by providing information about how we can help them survive.

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## **A Message from the Founder**

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This was a landmark year for Lions, Tigers & Bears (LTB). We were able to forward our mission and save the lives of so many desperate animals in need and broaden our educational scope by reaching out to more community groups and private individuals.

We were at the center of coordinating a massive rescue effort for 38 exotic animals in the state of Ohio, including lions, tigers, bears, wolves and mountain lions. These animals were provided a second chance after their private owners ran out of funds and had to close the gates of their "sanctuary". We provided medical care for each of these animals and helped find homes at reputable sanctuaries for them all. We did this in conjunction with the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) and reputable sanctuaries in five states who took in these desperate animals. The effort spanned 18 states and logged 12,155 miles. What an accomplishment it was! We were able to open our sanctuary to one of the rescued bears from this trip, Sugar Bear, a captive bred black bear destined for a canned hunt ranch. Luckily he has found permanent refuge at our sanctuary.

We had a successful year in fundraising and began a capital campaign for a second bear habitat to accommodate a California black bear who goes by the name of Meatball 210. Meatball 210 was found roaming the La Canada neighborhood of Glendale in Los Angeles County. He was trifling through trashcans, swimming in neighbors' pools and overall wreaking havoc on the neighborhood. Meatball 210 was taken away from the neighborhood twice and relocated to the Angeles National Forest. After a third reappearance in the same exact neighborhood, a full-fledged capture took place, helicopters and all. This infamous bear was then brought to our sanctuary for what was supposed to be a temporary visit, before he would be transferred to a sanctuary in Colorado. Due to restrictions in Colorado state law, this black bear is staying put. Which means we must build a second bear habitat to accommodate him, in keeping with the terms of our GFAS accreditation. Thus far we have raised \$250,000, thanks to the generosity and support of our members, friends and family such as you!

We also had a successful year with our annual special events and exclusive private events at our sanctuary. What a great way to enjoy friendly company, educate visitors, and raise funds to go towards the care and keeping of our resident animals. Both membership and visitor numbers continue to grow year after year! It is rewarding to see our continuing growth. It means that more and more people get to know our cause and understand the plight behind the exotic animal trade and what they can do to stop it.

This year has also been an exceptional year of upgrades on the ranch and with equipment acquisitions. The County of San Diego has been monumental in granting us the funds to purchase much needed transfer cages, restraint cages, and a walk-in cooler and freezer. Also through the generosity of our members and donors we were able to make upgrades to help the quality of life of our big cats by installing heated dens for our big cats and solar-powered misters for hot summer days.

So many great accomplishments have occurred throughout this year. I am pleased to share the details with you herein. Thank you all for your continuous support and dedication to our mission!

Sincerely,

Bobbi Brink, Founder/Director

## **Rescues**

This year we were able to save many more imperiled animals from across the United States. We opened up our sanctuary to four additional animals, each with their own unique story. LTB also played a major role in the rescue and relocation of 38 exotic animals from a defunct "sanctuary" in Ohio.

- We coordinated the rescue and relocation of 38 exotic animals from the state of Ohio and placed them in reputable lifetime sanctuaries in North Carolina, Mississippi, Texas, Nevada, and California. This was a massive relocation effort which spanned 18 states and logged 12,155 miles in total. We provided medical examinations and necessary care for each of these animals prior to their relocation.
- We provided one of these rescued animals, a black bear named Sugar Bear, a lifetime home here at our sanctuary. After a period of quarantine, he was released into the four-acre bear habitat with Liberty, Blossom and Delilah. They are all getting along nicely.
- A 5 year old California black bear who was captured by California Department of Fish and Game and deemed habituated was brought to our sanctuary in August for what was supposed to be a temporary visit until he could be placed at a sanctuary in Colorado. However, due to restrictions in the law, Meatball 210 was not able to be taken to that sanctuary. LTB has extended this bear's visit to a permanent stay and now is in the process of raising funds for a second bear habitat to accommodate this black bear.
- Adopted Chaos, a retired show horse from a private owner.



Meatball 210 at Lions, Tigers & Bears

## Habitat Improvements

We made several additions to our current habitats and began fundraising for a second bear habitat to accommodate Meatball 210, and any future bears in need of rescue.

- We installed three solar powered temperature controlled misters for the big cats to keep them cool on those hot summer days here on the ranch.
- Through the generosity of our donors, we were able to install heated floors in all of the big cat dens. These heated floors were initially proposed to help ease the pain of Raja's arthritis, but will also be beneficial to any other big cats in need of the soothing heat.
- Constructed two additional bear bedrooms to accommodate our new arrivals, Sugar Bear and Meatball 210.
- Raised over \$250,000 for our second bear habitat.



## **Expansion of Educational Programs**

Education is a major aspect of our mission here at LTB. Informing others about the perils of the exotic animal trade and about the animal victims that are part of this plight is monumental to achieving our over-all goal. Our accomplishments this year include:

- Constructing an educational kiosk to present informational videos for visiting members and guests .
- Continued hosting Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and school groups, providing them with educational field trips to our sanctuary.
- Increasing membership numbers as well as the overall number of visitors to the sanctuary.

## **New Equipment Acquisitions**

LTB benefitted greatly from new equipment purchases through the generous support of grants from the County of San Diego Neighborhood Reinvestment Program as well as the County of San Diego.

- One medical restraint cages was donated by Las Patronas.
- New animal transfer cages donated by County of San Diego District 3 Neighborhood Reinvestment Program (\$39,200)
- Obtained a generator for our main building and emergency back-up
- New walk-in cooler and walk-in freezer granted by the County of San Diego Neighborhood Reinvestment Program (\$32,000)

## **Advocacy**

On behalf of LTB, Bobbi Brink supported exotic animal protection legislation at both the state and federal level. This legislation will help regulate exotic animal ownership in our country. Currently, there is very little regulation for private owners of exotics and there is no federal registration system set in place to keep track of captive exotics in our country. Ohio was especially hard pressed to change their legislation after a man in Zanesville, Ohio released dozens of exotics from his private collection and then committed suicide.

- Ohio Senate Bill 310 went into effect, and Bobbi Brink was part of the initiation process of this legislation. The new bill will mean that there will finally be a system set in place that prevents private breeding and sets standards to regulate exotic animal ownership. , s.
- Bobbi Brink worked with Buck McKeon, Loretta Sanchez and Tippi Hedron in support of federal bill HR4122 and walked the halls of the capital in Washington DC to garner support among other legislators.

## **Fundraising**

LTB had a successful year of fundraising. Along with our annual Wild in the Country gala, , we hosted numerous private events throughout the year. We raised two-thirds of the funding needed for a second bear habitat Every dollar that comes in goes to the care and keeping of our resident animals, as well as towards future animals in need of rescue. Our donors are the major driving force behind helping us to continue to rescue and provide lifetime care to all of the animals at our sanctuary. We could not do it without them.

- Numerous events throughout the year: Easter Egg Hunt, Mother's Day event, Wild in the Country, Father's Day event, Member's Only Wine Tasting, Sleepover's, and the Christmas Festival.
- Wild in the Country alone raised over \$119,820.
- Raised \$250,000 towards a second bear habitat for Meatball 210, and future bears in need of rescue.
- A beneficiary of an ongoing tax fundraiser by Brent Hoag, CPA, who matches up to \$2,000 in tax-filing services from new clients.

## **Awards and Memberships**

LTB was honored with numerous awards throughout the year including accreditation status, and several Congressional and state awards. These awards recognize the quality work we are doing to save the lives of animals facing the perils of the exotic animal industry.

- Became accredited by the distinguished Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS)
- Became a member of the Combined Federal Campaign of Los Angeles
- 2012 Alpine Chamber of Commerce Organization of the Year
- Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition presented by Congressman Duncan Hunter
- Certificate of Recognition from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors by Dianne Jacobs
- California Legislature Certificate of Recognition for 2012 Alpine Organization of the Year signed by Assemblyman Brian Jones
- State of California Senate Certificate of Recognition signed by Senator Joel Anderson
- Ranch & Coast Magazine's Readers Choice- Best Non-Profit in San Diego

## **Board of Directors**

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Along with a dedicated staff of volunteers, the mission of Lions, Tigers & Bears is carried out by the following team:

- **Bobbi Brink**, *Founder, President and CEO*
- **Mark Brink**, *Chief Financial Officer*
- **Julie Schuettenhelm**, *Vice President*
- **April Schumsky**, *Secretary*
- **Jackie Smith**, *Member*
- **Dr. David Judy**, *Member*

## Financials

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**LIONS, TIGERS & BEARS**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**MARCH 31, 2013**  
**(Summarized Totals for 2012)**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u> 2013	<u>Total</u> 2012
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 33,266	\$ 131,938	\$ 186,957	\$ 83,980
Prepaid expenses	3,663		3,663	
Inventory	11,400		11,400	9,800
Petty cash	606		606	
Total Current Assets	70,688	131,938	202,626	93,780
Property and equipment, at cost				
Leasehold improvements	1,064,837		1,064,834	987,214
Furniture and fixtures	282,915		282,915	110,639
Vehicles	111,234		111,234	23,173
Total Property and Equipment	1,458,983		1,458,983	1,121,026
Less: accumulated depreciation	(396,405)		(396,405)	(314,073)
Property and Equipment, net	1,062,578		1,062,578	806,953
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,133,266</u>	<u>\$ 131,938</u>	<u>\$ 1,265,204</u>	<u>\$ 900,733</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$ 27,773	\$	\$ 27,773	\$ 11,951
Accrued payroll	1,787		1,787	3,729
Sales tax payable	341		341	
Notes payable, current maturities	9,162		9,162	
Credit card payable				11,716
Total Current Liabilities	39,063		39,063	27,396
Long Term Debt				
Notes payable	27,660		27,660	
Related party advances	19,000		19,000	19,000
Total Liabilities	85,723		85,723	46,396
Net Assets	<u>1,047,543</u>	<u>\$ 131,938</u>	<u>\$ 1,179,481</u>	<u>854,337</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 1,133,266</u>	<u>\$ 131,938</u>	<u>\$ 1,265,204</u>	<u>\$ 900,733</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**LIONS, TIGERS & BEARS**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013**  
**(Summarized Totals for 2012)**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total 2013</u>	<u>Total 2012</u>
<b>Public Support and Revenues</b>				
Contributions	\$ 173,714	\$ 216,451	\$ 390,165	\$ 295,880
Contributed services and materials	279,744		279,744	88,220
Gift shop sales	24,759		24,759	
Fundraising	147,774		147,774	91,639
Grants		95,424	95,424	45,503
Memberships	117,872		117,872	55,677
Merchandise				14,878
Special events revenue	23,983		23,983	22,190
Special events expenses	(13,001)		(13,001)	(11,128)
Net special events	<u>10,982</u>	<u>311,875</u>	<u>1,066,720</u>	<u>602,859</u>
 <b>Revenue</b>				
Dividends and interest	29		29	18
Other revenue	7,845		7,845	
Loss on sale of asset	(7,000)		(7,000)	
	<u>874</u>	<u>874</u>	<u>874</u>	<u>18</u>
 <b>Released from Restriction</b>				
Capital additions	209,467	(209,467)		
 <b>Total Public Support and Revenue</b>	<u>965,186</u>	<u>102,408</u>	<u>1,067,594</u>	<u>602,877</u>
 <b>Expenses</b>				
Program costs	525,131		525,131	298,299
Fundraising	62,241		62,241	45,857
Administration	135,681		135,681	118,068
Merchandise	<u>19,397</u>	<u>19,397</u>	<u>19,397</u>	<u>13,128</u>
 <b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>742,450</u>	<u>102,408</u>	<u>742,450</u>	<u>475,945</u>
 <b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<u>222,736</u>	<u>102,408</u>	<u>325,144</u>	<u>126,932</u>
 <b>Net Assets Beginning</b>	<u>824,807</u>	<u>29,530</u>	<u>854,337</u>	<u>727,405</u>
 <b>Net Assets Ending</b>	<u>\$ 1,047,543</u>	<u>\$ 131,938</u>	<u>\$ 1,179,481</u>	<u>\$ 854,337</u>