

Valley of the Kings Sanctuary & Retreat



New Member Guide



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Welcome to our family! As a member of Valley of the Kings Sanctuary, you are helping the animals in a very real way. Our organization is funded entirely by donations from good folks like you who want to take an active part in providing these animals with the love and care they deserve. We receive no federal or state funds and are solely supported by your donations. Without you, we could not be here; without you, most of these dear ones would still be suffering the terrible conditions they had to endure before we were able to rescue them. Thanks to you, we are able to make a home for them where they can rest and play, free of the abuse and neglect most once knew.

It seems these days everybody is short; not in stature, but short on finances, short on time. There are always those unforeseen expenses, stretching our already thin paychecks; demands on our time seem to be at an all time high. It is with this in mind that we feel blessed to have such dedicated members and volunteers. It is because we, too, have such unprecedented expenses that we most appreciate your donations. We feed over 1,000 lbs. of meat a day, and that's only part of our costs. In order for us to manage our budget, it's really important that members pledge a certain amount each month. Our ability to continue our work is dependant on our ability to make ends meet each month — a formidable chore in any household, but especially when there are scores of *very* hungry *carnivorous* mouths to feed!

We're also always in great need of volunteers to help us with the construction of new pens, and the maintenance of existing pens, buildings and grounds. You don't have to be star of "This Old House" to help out — there's *plenty* of work for both skilled and unskilled laborers! Please join a weekend work group and hear the lions roar their gratitude. We work every Saturday, from 1:30 'till sundown.

Thanks for your show of faith by joining us. Your reward will be knowing you're helping the animals have a better life.

Love & Hugs,
Jill & Jim & all the animals



FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions)

To answer some of the questions you may have about the Sanctuary, we have put together a list of frequently asked questions, or **FAQ**. If you have questions we haven't covered here, please feel free to ask.

Q: Why can't you release the animals into the wild?

A: Our animals are captive-born; therefore, they've never been in the wild. To place them there now, after a lifetime of depending on humans for their sustenance, would be cruel indeed. They have not learned to hunt for their own food and they would never be accepted into any family group of "wild" animals. They would become "rogues" and would almost certainly fall prey to the first poachers they encounter. To introduce these animals to the wild would be to sign their death sentence.

Q: Who runs the sanctuary?

A: Jill Carnegie, president and founder of Valley of the Kings, and her husband, Jim Tomasi, together run the sanctuary. They live on the premises and see to the day-to-day needs of all the animals. They are assisted on the weekends by a crew of dedicated volunteers.

Q: Can I visit the sanctuary?

A: Members are invited and encouraged to visit the sanctuary during visiting hours (after 1:30 on weekends). We are not open to the public, however, so please do not tell your friends to come visit (unless they are also members or are accompanied by you). We encourage members to make their visit a working visit; that is, after you visit with the ani-

mals, we urge you to participate in whatever work project is underway at the time of your visit.

Q: What kinds of work projects are there?

A: New pen construction; re-wire electricity; re-roof barn; gardening; pen cleaning; feeding; general farm duties

Q: What do the cats eat?

A: Red meat along with chicken and turkey. The local dairy farmers donate their dead cows and calves, which accounts for 60% of the cats' food.

Q: What happens to the cats after they die?

A: They are buried in our cemetery, complete with their pelts and all their parts. Members can visit them in life and after death.

Q: Do you breed the animals here?

A: No. We do not believe that would be in the animals' best interest. All of our animals are neutered or spayed.

Q: Do you ever find other homes for the animals?

A: No. They stay here for the rest of their lives. There is nowhere for them to go — no one is willing to make a lifetime commitment to them and meet their needs.

Q: Where do the animals come from?

A: Some are former "pets"; some have been confiscated by authorities; some are retired performers; still others are "surplus" from zoos.



Directions: How to Get Here



From Illinois and points south:

Take US 90 (NW tollway) to Rt. 47 (Huntley, IL.)

Take Rt. 47 north to Rt. 14 (Woodstock, IL.)

Turn left on Rt. 14; go through Harvard, IL and across the state line to Hwy 67. Turn left on Hwy 67; go to County K. Turn right on K to 1st intersection (Townhall Rd.). Turn right on Townhall Rd. We are the 1st farm on the right.

From Madison and points north:

Take US 90 south to Hwy 14.

Take Hwy 14 east to Co. K (outside Darien). Turn right on K. Go to 2nd full cross road (Townhall) — there's a tree nursery on the corner. Turn left on Townhall. We are the first farm on the right.

From Milwaukee:

Take I 43 toward Beloit to Hwy 14. Exit south (left); go through the town of Darien to Hwy K. Turn right on K. Go to 2nd full cross road (Townhall Rd.) It borders the end of a tree nursery. Turn left on Townhall – We are the first farm on the right.

**Honk your horn and show your membership card at the gate to get in.
Saturday or Sunday, after 1:30 P.M.**

Other Attractions in the Area

Although visiting VOTK will no doubt be the main focus of your trip, there are other sites to see and things to do in the area. Here is a list of just some of these attractions:

Lake Geneva

- ◆ Water Sports
- ◆ Hotels and Inns
- ◆ Fine Dining
- ◆ Shopping
- ◆ Antiques
- ◆ Specialty shops
- ◆ Spa's, health club
- ◆ Bike paths
- ◆ KFC
- ◆ Burger King
- ◆ McDonald's



Fontana

- ◆ Boat Rentals
- ◆ Swimming
- ◆ The Abbey
- ◆ Hotels & Inns
- ◆ Antiques
 - ◆ Spa's
 - ◆ Golfing
 - ◆ Bike paths



Delavan

- ◆ Airport
- ◆ Lakelawn Lodge
- ◆ Golfing
- ◆ Horseback riding
- ◆ Roadstar 8
- ◆ Antiques
- ◆ B&B's
- ◆ K-Mart, Shop-Ko
- ◆ Delavan Family Restaurant
- ◆ Shoney's
- ◆ Pizza Hut
- ◆ Burger King
- ◆ KFC
- ◆ McDonald's
- ◆ Taco Bell



Walworth, Sharon, Harvard

- ◆ B&B
- ◆ Antiques
- ◆ Burger King
- ◆ Ace Hardware & True Value
- ◆ Ice Cream
- ◆ Pizza
- ◆ Big Foot Inn
- ◆ Subway
- ◆ Coffee Cup Restaurant



The “Grounds” Rules: What You Need to Know While Visiting the Sanctuary

Visiting the Sanctuary is a privilege we extend to our members. You must understand, however, that we are not a “zoo”. We are here for the animals; they are our primary concern. Until you visit here, you’ve probably never been so close to exotics. It is an awesome experience. To make your visit a happy experience for you, your family and for the animals, we must enforce certain rules. **These are not just guidelines.** Failure to comply with these rules can result in expulsion. Thank you for your cooperation.

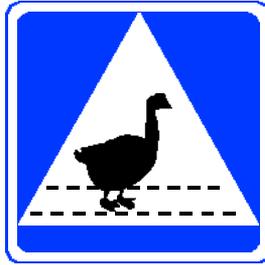
- **Visiting Hours** are Saturday & Sunday: 1:30 p.m. until sunset; **closed on holidays.**
- **No drugs or alcoholic beverages** permitted on grounds.
- No pets allowed.
- No children left unattended.
- No guests (non-members) admitted unless accompanied by a member with a valid membership card. Members may bring up to 3 guests per visit; please do not let your guests roam around — stay with them at all times.
- **No smoking** in any of the buildings or near the animals.
- **No parking on Town-hall Rd.** or outside our perimeter fence.
- No parking in front of truck with “JES EX” license plates. We use this vehicle for errands and picking up stock.
- **No feeding of treats unless accompanied by a Senior Volunteer.** Only fresh, cold raw chicken, turkey or beef may be fed. Absolutely no pork or fish is to be fed to any animal at the sanctuary. If you have a question about treats, ask a Senior Volunteer. Those who violate



this rule will be expelled from the Sanctuary and membership will be canceled. *No one under age 18 may feed the animals. No one under age 12 is permitted behind the feeding barriers.*

- **No running** near the pens.

- Receptacles for garbage, glass, aluminum and plastic have been placed at locations throughout the grounds. **Please use the appropriate receptacles.**



- **Do not touch or try to “pet” the exotic animals.** They may seem tame, but they are wild animals and can cause harm.
- No teasing or aggressive gestures towards the animals; this behavior can result in losing your membership.

- **Do bring your camera** — the cats love being the center of attention!

- The house is private; please do not come in unless invited.
- The “Porta-Potty” is the only facility available for members; please do not presume to use the bathroom in the house.
- If you have keys, **be sure to lock immediately** after passing through a gateway. Do not leave it open for others to come through. If you do not have keys, you may go behind locked gates only when accompanied by a Senior Volunteer.

VALLEY OF THE KINGS SANCTUARY & RETREAT

East Compound

Horses: F
Pony: CH
Donkies:



Tigers
ZIPPER
and
SAMANTHA

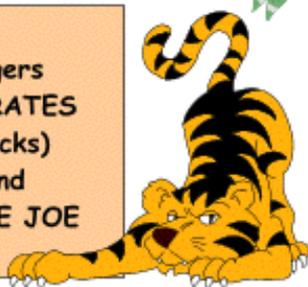
VOLUNTEER/
STORAGE SHED

NEW CEMETERY

Golden Tabby
Tiger
JASMINE

Tigers
SOCRATES
(Socks)
and
KOKIE JOE

Goats:
Lilly and Friends
Geese
Ducks
Sheep: Flower



Tiger
BRUTUS

Tigers
ELECTRA, CHELSEA, CZAR

Tiger -- TIMMY

MAP

Animal to Animal, Friend to Friend

Guinness, Cody, Reuben James
OW and MONCHIE



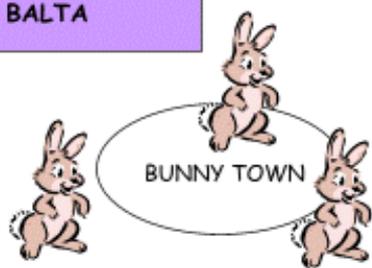
Woolies
ALPHA AND HARLEY
RUSTY AND LOKI



Wolf / Dog Hybrid
ECHO

Wolf / Dog Hybrid
IAMAN, KATCHINA
And ROGUE

Wolf / Dog Hybrid
BALTA



BUNNY TOWN

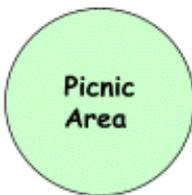
Lions
BO and OOPS
k.a. Tubbie and Huggie
A.k.a. The Cuddlebugs



Volunteer Staff

Lions
PUMPKIN
SNICKERS
KARI

Lions
The Ten Pen
MISKA
ROARY
ASLAN
FESTUS
KIVU



Picnic Area

Note: Not to scale...
Subject to change

Map courtesy of Sally Smith

Liger
NOOK
and
Tiger
IESHIA

Small
Cats

(See
Names/
Species
Below)

Chester - Serval
Leah - Jungle Cat
Homie - Hybrid
Kimba - Jungle Cat
Kali - Bobcat
Busa - Serval

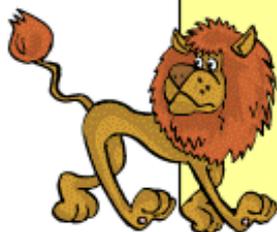
Bears
YUMMIE
VINNIE
KUMAH



Lions
The Three Brothers
SACHEL
JARA
JASPER

Gift
Sho

Cemetery



Lions
The Family
Togar
Simber
Jundra

Picnic
Area

JAPPA / SHERA (lions)
TRIO / KUBWA / KASHI (tigers)

Cougars
PENNY
NEKO
PENNY TOO

Leopards
DARREN
SAMANTHA

Jill and Jim's Home



Retirees!
Jaguar
CHLOIE
Lion
SHOWKA
(in house)

West Compound



Wolf
NADIA

Cougars
PICKLES, CHICAR
and VENICE

Cougars
BOO BOO and
TATIANA

Lions
JONA and
CHAUCER

Cougar
KIA

Lion
MAJO

Lion
KATIA

Inside the gate to
these cages or in the
Barn is
Off Limits to Tours!
Senior Volunteers
Only!
Thank You!

Barn

Tigers

Tigers

ELI
and
ALTI

SAMPSON
And
GOLIATH

Calves

Why? Because
animals may be
recuperating or
new or just don't
like crowds!

WORKING
LOT

Pigs
BABE & PETUNIA
JUMPER - Cow



What To Bring / Wear / Do on Your Visit To VOTK

What to wear:

The keywords are: casual comfort. Work clothes are always *de rigueur* at the Sanctuary. Wear washable clothes, because no matter what you do on your visit, you're likely to go home with dirt, mud, cat hair, dog hair, horse slobber, or all the above! In winter, be sure to bundle up well — it gets very cold in Wisconsin farmland, and the only way to get out of the cold is to go into one of the outbuildings, which are unheated for the most part. In summer, wear cool, light fabrics. As cold as it gets in winter, that's how hot it can get in summer! A word of caution: do NOT wear red or khaki-colored garments. Some of our cats have been abused by "trainers" who wore these colors and this sometimes evokes fear and rage — especially when worn by men. Be sure to wear shoes that are comfortable; shoes you won't mind getting some mud on. In fact, it's best to wear work boots on muddy days. You may also want to bring work gloves. Please do not wear perfume or cologne.



Snacks for the animals

- ◆ the cats: [Note: you **must** be supervised by a senior volunteer when feeding any of the animals.] Please bring only cold, fresh *raw* chicken & turkey. [If it's too old for YOU to eat, don't even think about giving to the cats.] Please use a cooler to transport these snacks, to ensure the good health of the cats.
- ◆ other animals: the dogs enjoy dog biscuits; apples and carrots for the horses; marshmallows for the bears.

Snacks for yourself

As noted earlier, we have no snackbar, so bring your own refreshments. Picnic tables and a grill are located near Zipper and Samantha's enclosure.

Camera and/or videocam

Yes, it's OK to take pictures but please, no flashbulbs. We'd love to have you share some of your best pictures with us — we'll publish them in our monthly newsletter, The Pug Mark.



Tools

Bring your toolbox on workdays and join a work party!

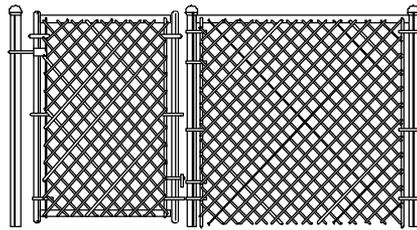
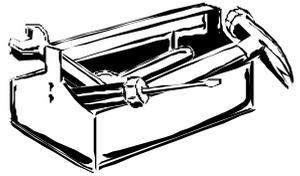
Other stuff you might want to bring

(depending on the season):

Sunglasses, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, handiwipes, earmuffs, rain gear

What to do

If you want to join a work group but are not sure what to do or whom to talk to, look at the work board in the main barn. Senior volunteers will keep this board updated with information on the current work projects, where they are being done, and who is in charge. We encourage you to volunteer your time and skills, no matter how limited your time (and/or skills) might be. Don't feel that if you can only put in an hour or two here and there it's not worth it. It *is* worth it! For example: when we finished up Zipper & Samantha's enclosure on a Sunday night in '95, we transferred them just before dark. Another half-hour and it would have been too dangerous to move them, and we would not have had enough people to move them



for another week. A mere 3 days later, Alti and Eli came in from Florida. That single hour that somebody put in made the difference between them getting a happy home with us or taking their chances elsewhere!

Ye Olde Campfire

After sundown on special workdays, we have a campfire. This is a very special time to re-

fect on the hard work we've done and to enjoy each other's company. Everyone brings a dish to pass and we have a great time. Won't you join us?



To “Zoo”, Or Not . . .

Valley of the Kings (VOTK) Sanctuary is a safe haven for many animals. Think of it as a “retirement home” for animals who have had a long and difficult life. Not all our animals are old, but all deserve the special care and respect we owe to our human elders. To help you make the most of your visit, we’d like to point out the differences between our organization and a “zoo”.

Most zoos have full paid staffs. They are designed to try to make money. To do this, they work hard to attract paying crowds by concentrating on amenities to make the peoples’ visits happy and memorable. They may have beautiful gardens, clean rest-rooms, restaurants and snackbars. The animals are the primary attraction; they are there to be on display for the people to see.

At VOTK, the people are there for the animals, not the other way around. We have no paid staff, only a corps of volunteers who endeavor to make life more comfortable for the animals. Since caring for the animals consumes all our resources — both manpower and monetary — we cannot therefore provide the cheerful park-like setting folks come to expect from a zoo: no ice cream stands; no gift shop; no heated or air-conditioned indoor displays. What we do offer is an environment where the animals’ needs come first. Our driving force is a love for these animals who, after all, never asked to be born in captivity; who were never meant to be caged all their lives, but who, for their own safety, must now live in enclosures, dependent on humans for their every morsel of food. With this focus in mind, we sincerely hope you will enjoy your visit and come back often.



Sponsorship

You can have a special relationship with one of our animals through “adoption”.

SMALL MAMMAL SPONSORSHIP: \$25 a month - OR - \$125 for 6 months - OR - \$250 annually

SERVAL, COUGAR, or BEAR SPONSORSHIP: \$50 a month

LEOPARD SPONSORSHIP: \$100 a month - OR - \$500 for 6 months - OR - \$1000 annually

LION, TIGER SPONSORSHIP: \$200 a month - OR - \$1000 for 6 months - OR - \$2000 annually



How to Contact Us

Our Mailing Address is:

W7593 Townhall Rd. Sharon, Wisconsin 53585-9728

Phone: 262-736-9386 (voice) 262-736-2020 (fax)

e-mail: info@votk.org

web: <http://www.votk.org>

