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[www.SafeHavenAnimals.org](http://www.SafeHavenAnimals.org)

# Safe Haven

# Screech



## Special points of interest:

- Be sure to come check out all of our new animals. Join us for our Open House Adventure Day on May 19th 2012.
- We are having a day camp this summer for teens interested in learning to work with animals from June 25th thru 29th.
- Volunteers are needed for our open house on May 19th. Contact Kim ([SafeHavenAnimals@aol.com](mailto:SafeHavenAnimals@aol.com) or 864-246-4425) if you have some time to help.



We provide educational programs for schools, scout troops, birthday parties and many other events. If you are having an event or know a teacher, troop leader or anyone else that might be interested please contact us for more information.

Safe Haven & Educational Adventures, Inc.

Volume 4, Issue 2

## Safe Haven's New Logo by Kim Chiswell

Safe Haven & Educational Adventures, Inc. has a new logo. The cougar representation was taken from a photograph of Tecumseh. He was here only a short time but his impact on our organization is immeasurable. I had the pleasure of meeting Tecumseh when he was just a cub being raised at Cooper's Rock Mountain Lion Sanctuary. I was there to help move him to his new palace home while he was there. It was Tecumseh and his West Virginia family that inspired me to start our own sanctuary so I was more than thrilled that he was going to retire with us. It took over a year to plan and prepare for his arrival and many volunteers putting in long hard hours. Every single person that met him was touched by his majestic power. He embodied everything we are about which is people coming together for a common good; to give these wonderful animals, no matter how large or small, a safe and happy home. To us it

was obvious that he should be represented in our logo. Misty Cobb of Cobblestone Promotions completed the design just days before he passed away. Tecumseh died on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 of complications due to a large tumor on his heart. He touched the hearts of hundreds of people over his lifetime so we decided that it was only fitting for his legacy to live on.



## Animal Highlights: Goliath Tarantula! By Mary Fancher

Imagine for a moment a spider the size of a dinner plate, having a hairy body, a decidedly nasty temperament, and capable of killing and devouring small birds. Something from a horror movie, perhaps? Actually, this would describe the *Theraphosa blondi* – the scientific name for the Goliath bird-eating tarantula, a sort of tarantula on steroids. Although the Giant Huntsman Spider, recently discovered in northern Laos, may be the largest spider in the world in terms of leg span, the Bird-eater is the most massive, capable of weighing up to six ounces which, if you think about it, is an awful lot for a spider.

The Goliath is found in tropical rain forests throughout South America where they

commonly live in burrows in the ground. Their eyesight is poor, despite the fact that they have eight eyes, and they depend on their sensitivity to vibrations on the ground to alert them either to danger or to the approach of a potential dinner. Often they spin their spider silk across the entrances to their burrows and wait for a small animal to brush against the strands, at which point the spider will rush forward to disable and devour their prey. This prey may include small rodents, bats, lizards, and even venomous snakes, although the Goliath Spider at Safe Haven is fed a more prosaic diet of crickets twice a week.

Despite its ferocious appearance, a bite from one of these spiders is not particularly dan-

## Goliath Tarantula cont'd

gerous to humans, the pain often compared to that of a bee sting. Like most tarantulas, however, when threatened, the Goliath will scratch away the hairs on its abdomen with its legs, causing the hairs to fly through the air and land on the transgressor. These are called urticating hairs and can be irritating to the skin, and especially the eyes.

Bella, the Goliath bird-eating tarantula at Safe Haven, is nowhere near the twelve inches that these arachnids are capable of achieving, but she has plenty of time to grow – Bird-eating spiders can live up to twenty-five years - plenty of time for her to reach her true goliath potential.



Above: Goliath Tarantula

## Who's New

We received 16 animals from a private collector. Included was a Blue & Gold Macaw, Indian Ringneck Parakeet, 3 Sugargliders, a Black Tufted-eared Marmoset, 2 Blue Tongue Skinks, 1 Common Boa, 3 Royal (Ball) Pythons, 1 Sulcata Tortoise, 1 Iguana, 1 Savannah Monitor and 1 Black-Throated Monitor. The marmoset has had to go through quarantine before being introduced to the others monkeys. Many of the animals were overweight but are doing very well.

Check us out on

Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/safehavenanimals](http://www.facebook.com/safehavenanimals)

## Coming Events

May 19	Adventure Day Open House
June 25—29	Teen Summer Camp
July 20	Beasts and Brews at <i>The Irish Pub</i>



Above: Jackie, our Amazon Parrot at her first education program at Pickens High School.

## Trivia Questions

What are the three largest tortoises in the world?

Answer will be given in the next newsletter.

Answers from previous question:

The hedgehog gets its name because it roots around under hedges and undergrowth for worms, snails and other insects. He uses a pig-like snout and makes sounds similar to pig grunts. Hedgehogs rely on their sense of smell and hearing to find their food because their eyesight is poor.

## Thank you!

We would like to thank our families, friends and volunteers for all of your hard work and support. Without you, Safe Haven would not be possible.

Honorable mentions:

Barbara Foster  
Mary and Paul Holland  
Dindy McDaniel  
Misty Cobb



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Safe Haven is a licensed, 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.

## Adventure Day!

**Saturday, May 19th**

**Join us anytime between 11:00 and 7:00**

Food  
Games  
Live Animal Encounters

**Admission is Free**

Raffle  
Bake Sale  
Animal Area Tours