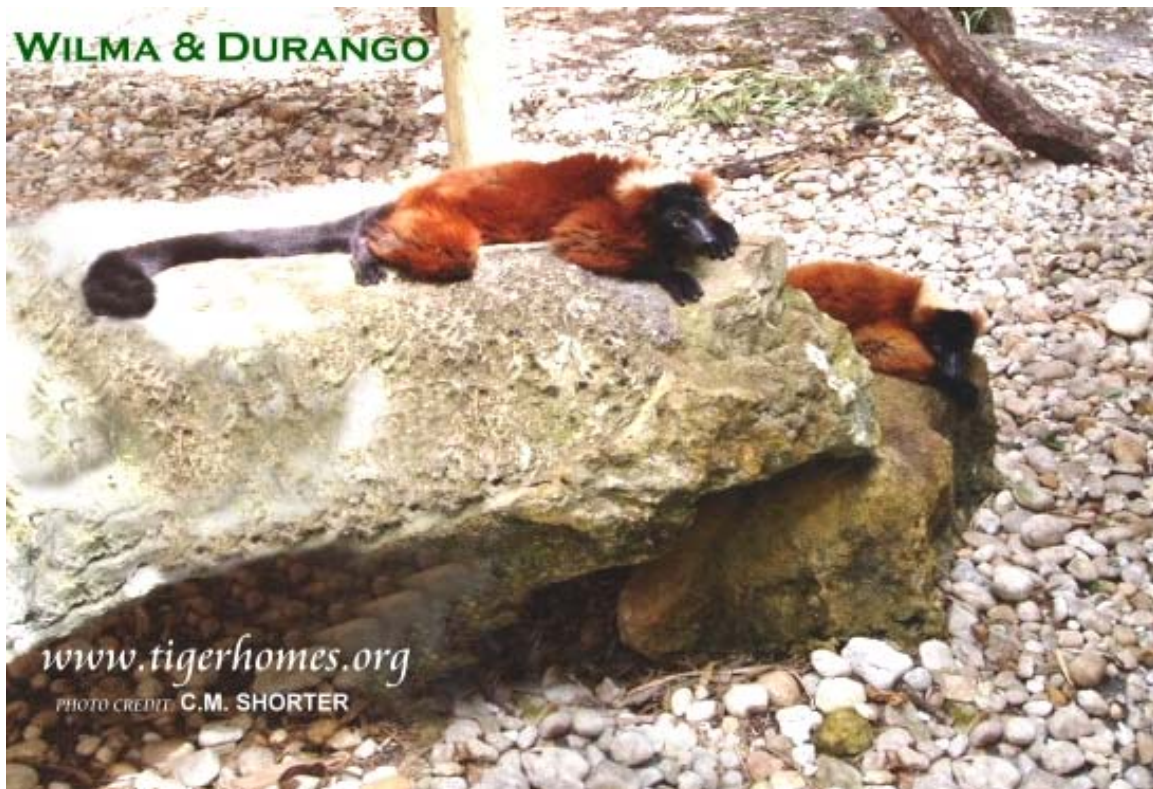


TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – RED-RUFFED LEMURS



Wilma & Durango, TigerHomes Red-Ruffed Lemurs

The Sanctuary is home to 4 species of Lemurs – the Black & White Ruffed Lemurs, the Brown Lemurs, the Ring-Tailed Lemurs and here we have Wilma and Durango the Red-Ruffed Lemurs. Native to Madagascar, these animals are all now highly Endangered Species. Much of their home range and forest cover in Madagascar has been destroyed. Lemurs are Prosimian Primates with a DNA not too different from our own human genes.

Through the last year the Red-Ruffed Lemurs were moved from this habitat. They kindly “lent” their habitat to the Sanctuary’s female baby African Leopard as she was acclimated to the surroundings. The Red-Ruffed Lemurs remained off-cam for sometimes and we just recently had the pleasure of seeing them again on TigerHomes Cams when Dave let them “borrow” the Black & White Lemur nursery habitat! Being flexible and generous are good traits to learn from our animal friends. Now they are home again and seem to be enjoying themselves quite a bit.

The Red-Ruffed Lemurs are the oldest animals housed at the Sanctuary. In the wild their life span can be very short – perhaps a few years but the average is 10-12 years. Wilma and Durango are now approaching 20 years of age and serve as a testament to the quality of life and care they receive here at TigerHomes.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – RING-TAILED LEMUR “Off-Cam”



Baby Ring-Tail Lemur is housed with Bijou, one of the first Lemurs that made its way to TigerHomes Sanctuary. They are housed in this habitat - one of the Sanctuary’s large off-Cam habitats. This little one was so curious about the camera it was really special to see her peering down from high up on her perch.

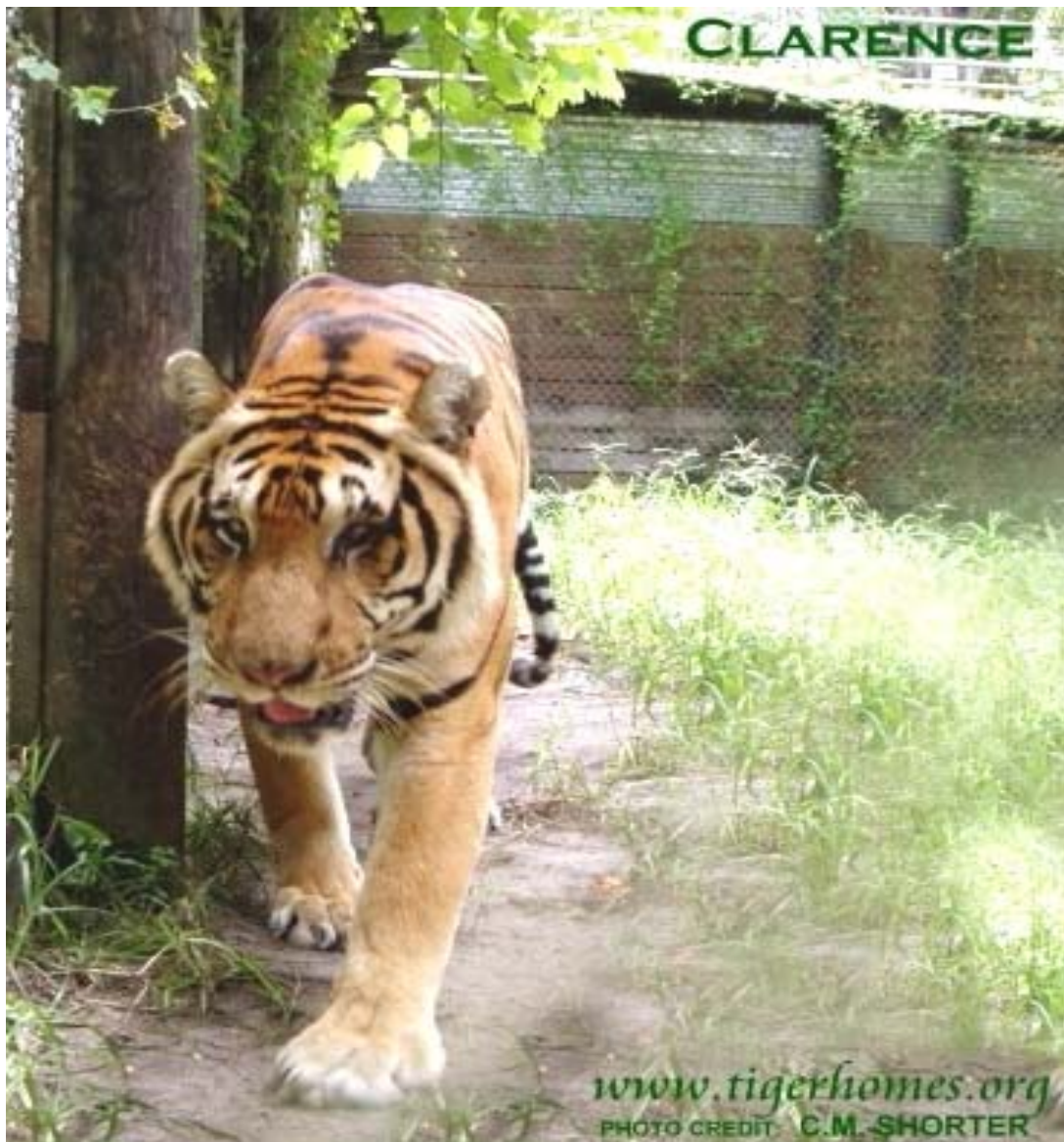
With additional member support, it is hoped someday we will be able to see all of the animals at TigerHomes on Cam.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – AFRICAN LIONS



The afternoon was ending and King would NOT turn around! He was very busy doing nothing! Actually he had found something that really held his interest and was in the process of inspecting. The sheer size of the African Lions is amazing. Princess was chasing butterflies but is quick to charge to make her stand – she is usually the first to come to greet you. She is ever watchful, and stands ready to defend her territory FIRST which is the same natural behavioral instincts exhibited by female lions in the wild.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – BENGAL TIGER HABITAT



Clarence is the largest tiger at TigerHomes Sanctuary. It is more than impressive to stand face to face and see an animal that weighs in between 700-800 lbs. Talk about sheer power! With tail included he reaches almost 10 feet in length. Clarence, for all of his size with his wonderful disposition has earned the name of "Gentle Giant".

His companion is Gypsy within this habitat. Of course, there is male rivalry and the Big Cats can hear, see and smell the other males. Spraying, scent marking and territory patrols are very important to their sense of well being. It is very nice that in habitats the size of the ones built for them at TigerHomes they have the opportunity to use these natural instincts.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – BENGAL TIGER HABITAT



This is a photo of Gypsy, the Sanctuary's female Bengal Tiger and companion to Clarence. Gypsy was very busy taking a nap when we first arrived! She stretched full body and with one quick pounce she moved completely across the stall. One of the first things you notice about all the Tigers at the Sanctuary is the way they move very quickly without making a sound. For their size their movements are very sleek and silent, a trait which helps them when hunting prey in the wild.

These Bengal Tiger stalls are off-cam immediately next to the primary Bengal Habitat and the animals are free to go between. The area you see here extends from the Main Barn on property. Each Bengal Tiger has their own personal "stall". The concrete floor is cool and this area provides a safe haven & shelter from the rain and sun whenever the Tigers choose to use it. The comfort of the animals always comes first at TigerHomes.

Sideboards run the full length of the interior and the Tigers often rest on these elevated platforms. This barn breezeway provides Dave an interior access corridor and serves as an excellent way to monitor the animals close up from this side of the habitat. The Main Barn stalls also serve as animal transfer/relay stations when routine exams need to be made or in the event work is being done in the habitat.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – RING-TAILED “RAISINS”



Part of the treasure of going to visit TigerHomes is taking treats for the Lemurs. Raisins happen to be one of their very favorite foods! Dave spread them around for the Ring-Tailed Lemurs to “discover” and they seemed to really enjoy finding them.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – RING-TAILED LEMUR HABITAT



"HANGING WITH LEMURS"

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – AFRICAN LEOPARDS



TigerHomes Sanctuary's African Leopard – Sampson or should we say "Professor Sampson" a name recently given to him by one of the Sanctuary's Gold Sponsors! Even though Sampson is seen here in the distance, you can see the interior structure of the "Howdy Habitat" recently constructed.

Sampson has been with the Sanctuary since the first days of its inception. Until now he was a solitary animal. Dave added this temporary divider to allow Midnight, the Sanctuary's female Black African Leopard to be introduced slowly to Sampson as a companion animal. If you look closely, you can see Midnight in the adjacent habitat keeping a close eye on her new friend!

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – AFRICAN LEOPARD HABITAT



Midnight getting ready to give one of her famous "Leopard Lunges" ~ YIPES!



Midnight playing "Hide & Seek"



Feeding Stations are installed in all of the Big Cat habitats and used occasionally. Dave much prefers "tossing" their food to them allowing the Big Cats to catch it and make a quick job of devouring their "chow". From the close-up here, you can see the solid construction of the habitats.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – FLORIDA PANTHER – “REBATE”



Working through the years with so many domestic animals, it is a treasure to see the really Big Cats -Tigers & Lions up-close. But it is the Florida Panthers that give me a sense of “wild familiarity”. The Florida Panther’s heads are smaller and rounder and they are much smaller in overall size than the Big Cats weighing in at 100-120 lbs.

With eyes of blazing Gold, they are just breathtaking. Their coats are short and compact and glisten in the sun. Florida Panthers also have exceptionally long tails. Rebate was the first to greet us. His female companion, Nevada was sound asleep on an elevated platform found under cover of the Working Barn overhang which gives them both cool afternoon shade.

TIGERHOMES SANCTUARY – “GOLIATH” – South African Boerboel



Now we have a special treat and also the newest member of TigerHomes Sanctuary. Goliath! Goliath is at 4 months, 55 lbs. of PUPPY. He is a male of the breed “South African Boerboel”. Goliath was donated to the Sanctuary by one of Dave’s very good friends. Similar in appearance to a Bull-Mastiff, this dog is more structurally sound with differences in head shape, pasterns, and over angulations. The South African Boerboel Syrian ancestry lineage dating from 700 BC and back to Babylon during the days of the Persian empire.

Goliath is being groomed as a “working dog” for the Sanctuary. Many South African Farmers keep Boerboel’s on property as their temperament is very docile yet turns instantly to ferocious if a family member is threatened. Goliath will serve the Sanctuary and Dave well and he now too has found a permanent home.

Needless to say 55 pounds of puppy with the softest fur coat you ever felt and “puppy-dog eyes” is very precious. Have to say Max, the Sanctuary’s “top dog”, an Alaskan Husky enjoys taking Goliath under his “paws” for now. One day Goliath will outweigh Max by no less than ~100 lbs~!