



President's Message

By: Jeanie Baratono, President

Greetings Docents,

It's been quite a busy fall at the zoo. Warm temperatures and no ice and/or snow contributed to the high numbers of guests. We sure could use some moisture though. Here's hoping by the time this edition comes out that we have gotten some snow!

October was the 2nd best October in CMZ history, with 61, 803 guests. 19, 127 of those were for Boo at the Zoo. That is behind 2016 numbers but we were averaging 70 degrees last year. Docents logged 106.5 hours for Boo at the Zoo. For those of you that worked Electric Safari I know you felt the record breaking numbers that came through our gates. The grand total was 48,229 guests. That initial week's weather contributed to that. Our busiest night was 4,396 guests. The previous record was last year with 3,833. There were several nights with attendance well over 3,000. There were 14,362 interactions with guests in the Loft. Docents put in 252 hours for Electric Safari. The lights were beautiful and I am still in awe that our grounds and maintenance folks create the sculptures, what dedication and talent!

There were 16 tours for the fall season with 111 docents educating 703 students about animals and conservation. We went to 9 schools on 17 safaris leading up to those tours.

Zoopeteers has been busy for October, November, and December. They had 20 venues, with 55 shows, 1,033 students, with 174 docents contributing to the fun. I believe every date is booked or close to it for January-March.

It was a busy fall for Big Back Yard as docents took over covering lunch in that area. For the fall season dedicated docents put in 302 hours. Chicken feeding in December brought in \$311 as compared to \$30 in 2016. YTD chickens have raised \$11, 410 nearly \$3,000 more than last year.

ZOOM docents kept busy with programs both on ground and off as well as lunch coverage in the Loft. September and October the ZOOM docents put in 619.5 hours, 201.5 for November, and 329.5 hours in December for a total of 1150.5 for the fall season. There are 5 docents training for ZOOM and 1 more coming up.

Now we look to the new year. A new crop of 15 enthusiastic docents are joining our ranks and by the time you read this they will be well on their way to learning about our very special animals and zoo. I hope you can come to class to meet them and to refresh your own knowledge and earn a CEC in the process. Come a little earlier or stay a little later and work the Making Waves station or another wonderful area of the zoo!

See you on the mountain!

Jeanie

2017-2018 CMZ Auxiliary Calendar

Meeting Times are 9:30 AM

Training Times are 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM appx.

Education Committee Meetings are held at 9:30 on the 4th Wednesday of every month in Safari Lodge.

**** Mandatory meeting. Bolded items - date or location has been changed.**

Feb 2018

3	Training	Safari Lodge
7	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
10	Joint Meeting	LAML
	Potluck Lunch with new trainees from end of meeting until 1:30 (12:30 for trainees)	
10	Training 12:30 – 4pm	Safari Lodge
17	Training	Safari Lodge
24	Training	Safari Lodge

March 2018

3	Training	Safari Lodge
7	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
10	IE Meeting	Library
10	Training	Safari Lodge
14	TE Meeting	Safari Lodge
17	Training	Safari Lodge
24	Make-Up Training Day	Safari Lodge

SCAVENGING FOR VULTURES!

Now is your chance to clean out your closets and drawers after the holidays for donations of your animal related clothing, knick-knacks, jewelry and stuffed animals. Then come look for new and different items to fill those spaces for the sale at the Joint IE/TE meeting on Saturday Feb 10th. We plan to set up Friday Feb. 9th at 2 pm at the Lodge at Moose Lake. Please begin tagging with a price that is in whole dollar amounts. Be sure to bring wads of cash on that Saturday to support conservation for vultures.

Please put these dates on your calendar. It's a win-win - a bit of cleaning after the holidays and the Conservation of Vultures celebrate. PLEASE PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR! Remember the set up Friday the 9th at the Lodge but the big event Saturday at our JOINT MEETING February 10th Scavenging For Vultures. Mark your calendars and begin gathering!

The money is put into an account for Jenyva to use for IVAD (International Vulture Awareness Day). It helps to pay for supplies needed for that day. Some money is donated to Vulture Conservation in Africa. We have the sale as a way of supporting the vulture conservation program and helping to raise awareness of their plight.

Poachers don't want hundreds of circling vultures pointing authorities towards recently killed elephants or rhinos, so they target the birds by lacing other animal carcasses with poisons. In South Africa, in just 15 years, the vulture population has dropped by 80 percent mostly through poisoning. In Namibia, more than 500 vultures were poisoned in just one incident. Vultures have a bad public image, but the truth is that they play a vital role in controlling disease. They have a unique digestive system capable of dissolving anthrax, botulism, and cholera. Basically, they eat disease. They control populations of blowfly larvae, rats, feral dogs, and other scavengers. They ultimately make the world cleaner and healthier. There used to be 80 million vultures in India, today, because of poisoning, there are only 12,000.

So remember the set up on Friday the 9th of February at the Lodge and the big event on Saturday the 10th at our Joint Meeting. Looking forward to our meeting. *Merril Boruchin-Spielman*



Joel Sartore photo of the Cape Vultures of the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo published in National Geographic January 2018

PROGRAMS

Joint Meeting – February 10 – Dr. Liza Dadone, Vice President of Mission and Programs will be the presenter.

March 14 – TE Meeting – Amy Schilz, ARV 1 & 2 and Commissary Animal Care Manager, will share her experiences working with the keepers at the Belize Zoo. Judy DeGroot recently visited that Zoo and she will also talk about her experiences at this unusual zoo.

Look for email about upcoming IE programs.

ENRICHMENT CANNOLI SCHEDULE- 2018

Following Board Meeting
-February
-June

Following I/E Meeting
-March
-May

Following T/E Meeting
-January
-April

ENRICHMENT NEEDS

Paper towel rolls (crimp one end if possible); dried fruit to include raisins, dates, apricots, etc.; and unsalted nuts. *Lisa Forbes*

SOCIAL EVENTS



Let's go bananas for our joint IE/TE meeting on Feb 10th! What better 10th! What better way to top off a robust agenda, Vulture agenda, Vulture “Scavengering”, and finding out the results of our enrichment project; aka “Primate Passion” than with a delicious lunch! It will be a “Pot Luck” and we would greatly appreciate your donations to fill the table. We are asking, not mandatory, that A-M (Last names) bring desserts for this event and N-Z (last names) bring savory items to share. See you at the Lodge at Moose Lake!

Theresa Pratt and Barbara Kalbli

DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Restricted Account: Highlights from December: Total profit from King Soopers reloads in December was \$398.83. Keep using your cards!! Year to date grocery reload profits from both King Soopers and Safeway is \$3,223.59. Income for the Valentine Animal Project was \$535. Ending balance in the Restricted Account \$28,433.97.

Budget Account: Highlights from December: DRC cleaning, copier expenses and social purchase of plates. Operating Budget ending balance \$1,332.14

If you wish greater detail of the December report, email me and I will send it to you.

Nancy Hochman

IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2018/2019

During the next several months, we need to begin thinking about who will serve on our board for next year. At the February joint meeting, I will be handing out straw ballots to all docents. I'm asking you to consider serving on our board. In February I will send out job descriptions to everyone so that you understand the duties and responsibilities for each position. If you feel you are qualified and would like to serve the auxiliary in this capacity, please put your name on the ballot. If you know someone who would be terrific in one of our board positions, please talk to him/her and encourage serving on the board. If you get a "yes" answer, place the name on your straw ballot.

You will have the month of February to think about and consider you or another docent as a prospective board member. At the March IE and TE meetings, I will collect the straw ballots with your nominations. Following that, the nomination committee will meet and prepare the slate of officers for the board.

The April Zooline will publish the ballot of officers and at the May meetings we will vote the ballot. In addition, at the May meeting you will vote the ballot for the election of the Nominating Committee for next year. The nominating committee will count the ballots and announce the results during the meeting. The results will also be published in the June Zooline.

Thank you for considering opportunities to serve on our board of directors. *Sandy Flynn*

SERVICE HOURS

Happy Valentine's Day, everyone! It is hard to believe our busy 2018 tour season is just around the corner, along with the mad dash to complete the required docent hours by May 31st. Now seems the perfect, and appropriate, time to review basic sign-in

rules and hour requirements to help us make it through this hectic season stress free.

Please remember in order to receive service hours you must sign in the appropriate log book at the station you are working. Unfortunately, if you fail to sign in you will not receive credit for those service hour(s) worked. Pages 6 and 7, in the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Auxiliary 2017- 2018 Directory are worth reviewing. Here is where you should be signing in around the zoo for specific areas:

- Big Back Yard log book is located in Big Back Yard barn.

- DRC IE hour log book is for private tours (no family members) and Special animal observations (when no formal sign in sheet is available). Remember "walk and talks" do not count as IE hours. This log book is located on the desk in the DRC.

- Carts each have a log book that contain both regular IE sign in sheets (white) and special event sign in sheets (red). So, please, sign in on the red pages only when you are working a special event and choose to sign in at a cart, instead of the bell tower or DRC special events log book.

Just remember, no matter where you sign in for a special event, only sign in once.

- Special event sign in log books are located in the DRC and the bell tower. Or, as stated previously, you can sign in on the red pages located in the log books in the Biofact carts.

- The Loft has two separate log books, one for Loft hours and one for Scutes hours.

- The suitcases that contain biofacts for Grizzlies, the Lion Pelt, and Making Waves also contain sign in log books. These three suitcases are located on the shelves just inside the door of the DRC. Do not confuse the Making Waves schedule, found on the clipboard in DRC, with the log book in the Making Waves suitcase.

- Tour docents should sign the log book, located in the bell tower, prior to tours.

- Safari docents should sign the log book located in the safari kit that they check out.

- ZOOM docents should follow the ZOOM program's established sign in procedures.

- Zoopeteers should follow the Zoopeteer program's established sign in procedures.

Please review your IE or TE status. Keep in mind if you are an IE docent (certified after May 1997) you must complete least 15 service hours as an IE manning a biofact cart, ARV Tour stations, LC Tour stations, or Big Back Yard. The additional 15 required hours may come from any combination of activities you are qualified to perform (IE, TE, ZOOM, and Zoopeteers).

If you are a TE docent (certified after May 1997) you must complete a minimum of 15 hours service as a TE doing tours, tour stations, and safaris and may earn the additional 15 hours in any combination of activities you are qualified to perform (IE, TE, ZOOM, or Zoopeteers).

So until you have completed the required 15 service hours in your chosen designation of either IE or TE, the other service hours you have completed will not be credited to you. But once you have completed your 15 required IE or TE hours, all service hours you have performed will be credited for your annual totals. Many docents seen confused about this so if you have additional questions, contact me.

My goal is to accurately record everyone's service hours. However, if you find any mistakes, please, contact me so I can corrected them. Thank you for your cooperation!! This tour season promises to be as lively as the falls special events so we docents are bound to busy as beavers. *Deborah Compton*

EDVENTURE UPDATES

Costa Rica Adventure

Well we made it back safe and sound from our Costa Rica adventure- all ten teens as well as Austin and myself made it back in one piece and in good spirits!

For those of you who may not know- we selected (through an application process) 10 teens who have been in our program for at least a year to spend ten days in Costa Rica. The main goals are to immerse

teens in another culture, see eco-tourism and conservation in action, and participate in some pretty amazing adventures. And since they are zoo teens, we are trying to spot animals everywhere we go. Based on this criteria, this trip was a HUGE success!

The first 4 days were spent in the Monteverde region, basically the cloud forest. And though it was their dry season, it rained daily and never got much warmer than about 65. This region is truly spectacular- it is as green as green can be and there is always a light fog mist rolling through the dense jungles. Wildlife is abundant and diverse in this region and we were lucky enough to see sloths, snakes, toucanets, agoutis, coatis, and tons of insects to name a few. While we were in this region we spent time learning about local sustainable agriculture (coffee is very important- and delicious- in this area), migration of insects, and the importance of creating biological corridors. Though this first half was very informative, we also were able to squeeze in night hikes, zip lining, horseback riding, and jungle tours into the mix to make sure we were hitting the adventure target too.

The second half of the trip was near a town called Dominical, on the western coast and only about a mile from the shore itself. The climate here was very hot and VERY humid- but that meant that the ecosystem and its inhabitants would be different as well. Here we were able to spot animals like howler monkeys, white face capuchins, more sloths, toucans, tons of basilisk lizards, and of course- insects. We were even able to catch a quick glimpse of a peccary!! Our time here was much more relaxed, we spent quite a bit of time by the pool and exploring the jungles on our own. We visited a local animal sanctuary, went kayaking through mangroves, zip lining (yes, again), and visited the ocean.

The kids were truly amazing- their maturity, intelligence, and passion was something that was noticed by everyone who came in contact with us. Our driver spent the whole time with us, and he said he had never seen teens like this before. Austin and I were truly impressed and proud to be able to travel with such amazing young adults- the ten days with ten teenagers is definitely work, but at least it is

enjoyable and we all walked away feeling empowered by each of them. It is safe to say that another Costa Rica adventure will be on the docket in the future. I have TONS of photos, so if anyone wants to see more or hear more, just let me know!
Thanks, Stacey Graham



KEEPER SPOTLIGHT

Bailey Jones

The keeper spotlight this month is Bailey Jones from the Australia/Scutes Family Gallery (SFG) area of the zoo. Here are her words:

My driving force for becoming a zookeeper was to help others grow to love and appreciate every animal on this planet for the important role that it plays. Letting guests see our animals for the incredible and

complex creatures that they are instead of 'scary, gross, or icky' creates a ripple effect farther reaching than I can fathom. This is what I live for and what drives me to continue in this field; giving hope to the future of our natural world.

My journey led me to CMZ through luck and timing. My first word as a child was 'bug' and I grew up loving and caring for a wide variety of animals (mostly invertebrates and reptiles of course). I was applying to graduate school for a masters in animal physiology with my research to focus on the energetic tradeoffs that insects make to live in high alpine environments. I decided volunteering at the zoo in the meantime sounded fun. It wasn't long before I had decided that CMZ was where I wanted to be. I was lucky enough to be at the right place at the right time and became full time. It's been a dream come true.

I began volunteering in February 2014. I was hired in August 2014 as a keeper assistant. I became a full time keeper in January 2015.

SFG/AUS is always full of surprises and so there isn't a truly typical day. I can be assured that my day will either include soaking, weighing, feeding, training, cleaning (SFG) or cleaning, feeding, training, shifting, keeper talks (Australia)

My greatest challenges are trying to get in as much time training with the animals as possible during my day and trying to connect as many guests as I can to the animals that I love.

I think it would be great if we had docents around to interpret what our animals are doing for our guests. Someone that is able to talk about the individuals that our animals are so that we can connect to even more guests.





CMZ Auxiliary ZooLine
February, 2018

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