

Cheyenne Mountain

Zoo Auxiliary

Zoo



Line

Volume 48 Edition 5

January, 2019

President's Message

By: Glenna French, President

Happy New Year Docents!

It is hard to believe that 2019 is already here. The beginning of the New Year gives us the opportunity to reflect on what was and look forward to what will be forthcoming. As we evaluate 2018, we can rejoice in all the wonderful happenings and also be humbled by those sad and difficult times that are the ebb and flow of life.

As we reflect on 2018, there were many events that had a big impact on the zoo family as well as the community. The two events that probably carried more media attention were Penny's brief life and the massive hailstorm. All CMZ animals, from the smallest to the largest, are all loved and given the special care needed and deserved even though they never make it to any news headline. There is a long list of those animals lost or transferred out in 2018 that never received any media recognition but will be remembered for their contribution to guest experiences at the zoo. When we think about that ebb and flow of life, there were many new births (just go check out the meerkats) and new animals being transferred in as well.

Just look at what the docent group did in 2018. As of this writing, the final numbers for the year are not available but through November, docents had logged in 4,068 service hours. Those hours will increase significantly in the spring when school tours start. The Auxiliary's proposed revenue budget for 2018/2019 is \$42,100 and as of the end of November, only \$2,100 needs to be brought in to make this goal. We know we will again surpass that goal by more than the amount needed because the auxiliary brings in more revenue during the spring with all the school tours booked. All docents are out there doing what they can to continue to support the zoo and to enhance the feeling of family for guests every day.

Now as we look forward to 2019, there are many exciting things that will be happening. First is the completion of the new aquatics building (Water's Edge – Africa). How exciting to think of hippos returning to their new habitat along with a new colony of penguins and other African animals to make this a special exhibit for guests to enjoy. Also, EdVenture will move into their new building as well. All the space in that building will make zoo camp more exciting for campers as well as afford room for more kid activities. Starting sometime in 2019, work will begin on the Vet Clinic giving more needed space for staff and visitors to the clinic.

For the Auxiliary this is a very special year. To think the Auxiliary has been around for 50 years! Also amazing is the fact that two of the founders of the CMZ Auxiliary are still very active members. Sally Goldstein and Ellie Solomon were part of the founding group. I wonder if they envisioned how the Auxiliary would develop over the years and that the organization would still be supporting the zoo with all the different venues now available. Thank you Sally and Ellie for being there to get this wonderful organization started and for helping make it what it is today. The celebration for the 50th anniversary will be held in the fall.

To help continue the growth and development of the Auxiliary, the 2019 docent training class begins with a Meet and Greet meeting on January 5th for all 15 new trainees. On January 12th their fun 10 weeks of training will begin. The CMZ Auxiliary is a popular volunteer organization as we also now have 12 applicants ready to start class in January 2020.

As we march into our busy springtime, I just want to first thank all of you for what you do every day to make the Auxiliary one of the best there is and for your dedication to the zoo. Part of making the Auxiliary run as a structured organization is the Executive Board and the Supplemental Activities positions. The 2019/2020

elections will be coming up soon. Therefore, if you are interested in being a part of the Board, please make that known to one of the present Board members. Again thanks for your commitment. *Glenna French*

2018-2019 Auxiliary Calendar

Meeting Times are 9:30 AM Training Times are 9:15AM– 4:00 PM appx. Education Committee Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 930 am in Safari Lodge ** Mandatory meeting **Bolded items - date or location has been changed.**

Jan 2019

| | | |
|----|---------------|----------------|
| 2 | Board Meeting | Safari Lodge |
| 9 | TE Meeting | Safari Lodge |
| 12 | IE Meeting | Library |
| 12 | Training | Safari Lodge |
| 19 | Training | Safari Lodge |
| 26 | Training | Safari Lodge |

Feb 2019

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|
| 2 | Training | Safari Lodge |
| 6 | Board Meeting | Safari Lodge |
| 9 | Jt. Meeting | Lodge at Moose Lake |
| | Potluck lunch with new trainees. 930-12:30 | |
| 9 | Training 1230-4 | Safari Lodge |
| 16 | Training | Safari Lodge |
| 23 | Training | Safari Lodge |

PROGRAMS

TE Program: Jan 9- Jason Bredahl, Animal Care Manager, and Dr. Sara Ferguson will talk to us about their trip to Uganda this summer and the translocation of Nubian Giraffe from Murchison Falls National Park to Kidepo Valley National Park.

IE Meeting – January 12 – Courtney Rogers, RMW Animal Keeper. Will talk about her trip to India and her experience attending the Advanced Bear Care Workshop in Agra. The Workshop was sponsored by the Bear Care Group and Wildlife SOS India.

Joint Meeting Program - Feb 9 – Dr. Lisa Dadone, Vice President of Mission and Programs will make the presentation.

PLASTIC TRASH!!!!

I have been on a plastic trash reduction rampage as of late, probably like all of you. I have found several great new (to me) products that may be new to you as well. I have been impressed with the food wraps and produce bags that are made of fabric treated with beeswax. They work well, and can be reused. I have used my set for several months and they are as good as new. I purchased mine on-line and I have seen them for sale at Trader Joes. The other product I have tried lately is BARS of shampoo and/or cream rinse. I first saw them for sale at a local soap store. I have found similar products through a variety of on-line stores and most local soap stores seem to have them. Shop around to find the variety you like!!

On the topic of plastic pollution... my sister has recently published a children's book. It's a cute story about a girl who is concerned with all the plastic trash she finds on the shore. It is well researched and includes many facts, a glossary, references etc. My sister is the author as well as the illustrator, her name is Nancy Carlisle. The title is: Saving the Purple and Green. It's currently available on Amazon at this link: https://www.amazon.com/dp/0972955674/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_U__EurhCbD85JCDN

AND, IT GETS BETTER -- she is donating all the profits to environmental causes with profits from zoo family sales donated to the zoo!! On Amazon it sells for \$11.99 -- if you would like a copy, I happen to have some available for \$12/copy. (You save \$3.99 shipping - it doesn't go through Prime) Drop me an email and I will get one to you!!
Janet Carlisle



JOMOLHARI, BHUTAN TREK

On November 1st, I met a hiking group for the 0630 flight from Bangkok to Paro, Bhutan. The main focus of the 11 day trip, was 7 days of hiking the Jomolhari Trek. Our group of 9 people were accompanied by 2 guides, a fabulous cook, and numerous porters and horses. For me, it was luxury backpacking, having only to carry a daypack. Despite the lack of pack weight, it was a strenuous challenge traversing three passes of 16k, 15k, and 14k foot elevations.

Close to the Tibet border, the trail terrain quickly went from forest to high arid regions. At about 11k feet, yaks became a common site. The saddest sight was seeing a dying baby yak, abandoned by its mother. Nights at our higher elevations were cold, but days quickly warmed in the sun.

Unfortunately, we did not see a snow leopard. We were rewarded with coming near a herd of Blue Sheep. The correct name is a bharal and are a goat species. Bharals are a favorite food of the snow leopard and their conservation status is LC. Their coat sometimes has a bluish sheen, hence the name. I learned that the males and females both have horns, but the males horns grow larger. One of guides went up a hill and got a good photo of them.

Before and after the trek, we spent a few days in Thimpu (the Capital) and Paro. Everyone now seems to have a cell phone tucked into their traditional attire of gho (for the men) and kira (for the women). However, the Kingdom instills great national pride with their people. There are no traffic lights in the country and the people all seemed very kind. Their Buddhist belief says the three biggest sins are Anger, Ignorance, and Attachment. I think we can all learn from that.

Other sites in the towns included fortresses, monasteries, the giant gold Buddha, museums, and an archery practice (the National Sport). Our last day was hiking 2,000 feet up to the infamous Paro Taktsang, also known as the Tiger's Nest Monastery.

Bhutan was unlike anywhere I have ever travelled and was simply amazing! *Gisele Miyamoto*



NOTES FROM A ZOOM DOCENT

Many zoos do not have a program where docents interact directly with animals, and we are very fortunate to be able to have “hands-on” experiences with our education animals. Since CMZ’s Zoom program has animals ranging from invertebrates to small mammals, we have the opportunity to work with a variety of different animals. The training is done in a prescribed order, so docents become comfortable with the animals. Docents must be certified to handle each animal on their own, which is accomplished through supervised training, and when the docent is ready, he/she can request certification on that animal.

Handling animals is sometimes challenging – Pat Gray and I often joke that we can always count on Darryl, our blue-tongued skink, to pee and poop on us – Pat and I are not related, but we share the same last name, so Darryl has a dislike of Grays. Sometimes, it takes a while to overcome certain fears and prejudices to handle some animals. I was very afraid of snakes - as a child, I was almost bitten by a copperhead while playing in a friend’s yard, and when I was in the animal handling program at the Sacramento Zoo, it took me almost 3 months to become comfortable handling an extremely docile Pacific gopher snake (it’s called a bull snake in Colorado). After gaining more experience with snakes, they became some of my favorite animals to show to guests. I even learned to handle a baby alligator that had been confiscated, but when I became a Zoom docent at CMZ, it took me a while to get comfortable handling Terri, our Chilean rose-haired tarantula. Everyone goes at his/her own pace and comfort level with each animal.

Zoomobiles are always interesting and often unexpected experiences – birthday parties, carnivals, booths at different types of events, programs at military bases, animal encounters on Saturdays in the summer at Cheyenne Mountain Resort, as well as presentations at schools are some of the Zoom programs I have worked, and each one is different. One memorable program was a birthday party with reptiles – originally, it was supposed to be at the home of the birthday boy, but at the last minute, it was changed to a local community center in Castle Rock. When we arrived, the staff at reception advised us that animals (other than service animals) were not allowed in the center. It was snowing, and there was

no option to present the animals elsewhere, which we pointed out to the staff. Because we had only reptiles, and a tarp to cover the floor, we were able to persuade the staff to allow us to present the animals inside the center, so the party was a success.

Many of our Zoom animals have interesting back stories – Salopettes, one of our Tiger Salamanders, was found on zoo grounds during construction, and is now an education animal living in the Treehouse. Nisha and Sonali, our leopard geckos, were rescued during the Black Forest fire, but since the Humane Society was unable to locate their owner, we happily gave them a new home in the Loft. Ginger, our beaver, has a wood allergy and has a special diet. She also has a flair for interior design, as she redecorated her lodge with sod from her enclosure.

CMZ’s Zoomobile program is well known – I’ve worked programs in and around Colorado Springs, as well as events in Denver, Aurora, Parker, Castle Rock, Sedalia, and Thornton. It’s a privilege to be part of such a rewarding program, as the Zoomobile brings the Zoo to You! *Linda Gray*

Chobe went to visit Tujoh this last week of 2018. Unidentified but curious guest enjoyed the visit, too.

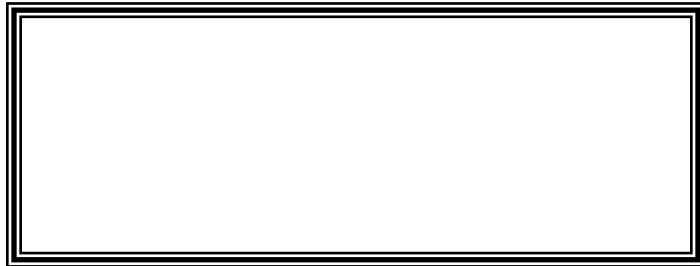


Photo courtesy of Jenyva Fox.



CMZ Auxiliary ZooLine
January, 2019

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2019 CMZA DOCENT TRAINING SCHEDULE

Only trainees are to attend out of classroom sessions

CEC Credit - you must attend both morning sessions # or both afternoon sessions # to get 1 CEC credit

Orientation - Jan. 5, 2019

| | | | |
|-------|------|---|---------------|
| 11:00 | 2:00 | Orientation for Trainees: Meet & Greets trainees only | |
| | | Manual, Nametags, Directories | |
| | | Photos for the directory | |
| | | Expectations of Trainees and for Trainees | |
| | | History of the Zoo | Cris Stoddard |
| | | Snack Sign-Up | |
| | | Lunch | |

Session 1 - January 12, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|---|---------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:45 | Explanation of Docent Roles (Carts, Tours, Safaris) | Stacey Graham | |
| 10:45 | 11:00 | Break | | |
| 11:00 | 12:00 | Explanation of AM Tour and Safari | Kathy Kidd | |
| 12:00 | 12:30 | Lunch | | |
| 12:30 | 2:00 | Basic Mammology | Nancy Hochman | CEC |
| 2:00 | 2:15 | Break | | |
| 2:15 | 3:45 | Taxonomy, adaptations, and evolution | Nancy Hochman | |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Information for next week | | |

Session 2 - January 19, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|---|--------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:30 | Characteristics of Ungulates | Jean McKanna | CEC |
| 10:45 | 11:00 | Break | | |
| 11:00 | 11:30 | Giraffe keeper talk | Keeper | |
| 11:30 | 12:30 | Characteristics of Elephants, Rock Hyrax and Subungulates | Jean McKanna | |
| 12:30 | 1:00 | Lunch | | |
| 1:00 | 2:00 | Characteristics of Rodents, Armadillo, Sloth, and Hedgehogs | Cate Kelly | CEC |
| 2:00 | 2:15 | Break | | |
| 2:15 | 3:00 | Characteristics of Marsupials | Sue Gross | |
| 3:00 | 3:45 | Elephant Barn Visit | Keeper | |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Review quizzes and information for next week | | |

Session 3 - January 26, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|--|-------------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:00 | Characteristics of Carnivores | Cris Stoddard | CEC |
| 10:00 | 10:15 | Break | | |
| 10:15 | 11:45 | Characteristics of Cats | Cris Stoddard | |
| 11:45 | 12:15 | Lunch & prepare tiger enrichment | | |
| 12:15 | 1:15 | Characteristics of Wolves and Bears | Ann Marie Jackson | CEC |
| 1:15 | 1:30 | Break & walk to Tiger habitat | | |
| 1:45 | 2:30 | Tiger keeper talk & enrichment & walk back | Keeper | |
| 2:45 | 3:45 | Characteristics of Ferret/Otter, Skunk, Meerkat, and Coati | Judy Sondermann | |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Review quizzes and information for next week | | |

Session 4 - February 2, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|--|-----------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:00 | Characteristics of Primates | Judy DeGroot | CEC |
| 10:00 | 10:15 | Break | | |
| 10:15 | 11:15 | Characteristics of Lesser and Greater Apes | Andrew Witherow | |
| 11:15 | 12:15 | Primate World & Making Waves visit | Deborah Compton | |
| 12:15 | 12:45 | Lunch | | |
| 12:45 | 1:45 | Characteristics of Old World Monkeys and New World Monkeys | Art Schwall | CEC |
| 1:45 | 2:00 | Break & walk to Monkey Pavilion | | |
| 2:00 | 2:45 | Monkey Pavilion talk and visit | Keeper | |
| 3:00 | 4:00 | Characteristics of Lemurs and Marmosets/Tamarins | Judy De Groot | |
| 4:00 | 4:15 | Review quizzes and information for next week (uniform order forms) | | |

Session 5 - February 9, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|--|---------------|--|
| 9:30 | 12:00 | Joint IE/TE Meeting | | |
| 12:00 | 1:00 | Loft BBY | Lynne & Cris | |
| 1:00 | 1:15 | Break (or just walking downhill) | | |
| 1:15 | 3:15 | Hours Requirements IE vs TE ARV vs AM Signing In | Cris Stoddard | |
| 3:15 | 4:00 | Order uniforms | | |

Session 6 - February 16, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|---|----------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 9:45 | ECO Tour Safari Overview | | |
| 9:45 | 11:15 | Ecology vocabulary, definitions, biomes, etc. | Nancy Hochman | CEC |
| 11:15 | 11:30 | Break | | |
| 11:30 | 12:30 | Ecology concepts | Nancy Hochman | |
| 12:30 | 1:00 | Lunch | | |
| 1:00 | 2:00 | Food chain | Nancy Hochman | CEC |
| 2:00 | 2:30 | Mini ECO tour | | |
| 2:30 | 2:45 | Break | | |
| 2:45 | 3:45 | Plant/animal relationships | Lynne Stefonik | |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Review quizzes and information for next week | | |

Session 7 - February 23, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|---|--------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:30 | Physiological systems | Jean McKanna | CEC |
| 10:30 | 10:45 | Break | | |
| 10:45 | 12:00 | Ecology of Ungulates | Jean McKanna | |
| 12:00 | 12:30 | Lunch | | |
| 12:30 | 1:15 | Ecology of Marsupials | Susie Gross | CEC |
| 1:15 | 1:30 | Break & walk to Australia | | |
| 1:30 | 2:15 | Australia keeper talk | Keeper | |
| 2:15 | 3:15 | Ecology of Rodents, Armadillos, Sloths, and Hedgehogs | Cate Kelly | |
| 3:15 | 3:45 | Signup for tours | Mindy Mahler | |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Review quizzes and information for next week | | |

Session 8 - March 2, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|--|-------------------|-----|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:45 | Ecology of Cats | Cris Stoddard | CEC |
| 10:45 | 11:15 | Lion keeper talk & lion cart | Keeper & Cris | |
| 11:15 | 11:30 | Break | | |
| 11:30 | 12:30 | Ecology of Wolves and Bears | Ann Marie Jackson | |
| 12:30 | 1:00 | Lunch | | |
| 1:00 | 1:45 | Ecology of Ferret/Otter, Skunk, Meerkat, and Coati | Judy Sondermann | CEC |
| 1:45 | 2:00 | Break | | |
| 2:00 | 3:15 | Ecology of Primates | Rick Decker | |
| 3:15 | 3:45 | Cart cards review | Cate Kelly | |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Review quizzes and information for next week | | |

Session 9 - March 9, 2019

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|--|----------------|---------|
| 9:15 | 9:30 | Information and announcements | | |
| 9:30 | 10:30 | Characteristics of Birds | Jean McKanna | CEC |
| 10:30 | 11:15 | Ecology of Birds | Jean McKanna | |
| 11:15 | 12:15 | Hornbill visit (at Safari Lodge) | Keeper | |
| 12:15 | 12:45 | Lunch | | |
| 12:45 | 1:30 | Characteristics and ecology of Invertebrates | Barbara Kalbli | CEC |
| 1:30 | 1:45 | Break | | plus |
| 1:45 | 2:45 | Characteristics and ecology of Amphibians and Reptiles | Cris Stoddard | CEC |
| 2:45 | 3:00 | Break | | or plus |
| 3:00 | 3:45 | Characteristics and ecology of Fish | Janet Carlisle | CEC |
| 3:45 | 4:00 | Review quiz and information for next week | | |

Session 10 - March 16, 2019

| | | | |
|-------|-------|---|---------------------------|
| 9:15 | 9:45 | Information and announcements & test review | |
| 9:45 | 10:45 | ZOOM Zoopeteers BBY Special Events | Lynne, Sue, Cris, Nichole |
| 10:45 | 11:00 | Break | |
| 11:00 | 12:30 | Sample tours (AM & ECO) | |
| 12:30 | | Potluck with mentors and instructors | |

March 23, 2019

Makeup day if necessary