



President’s Message – Nancy Hochman

Greetings docents and Welcome to 2020!

I hope everyone experienced a wonderful holiday and had a chance to participate in Electric Safari. I’m sure all of you know we reached the highest ranking we have ever had in USA TODAY’s 10Best Readers’ Choice for Best Zoo Lights in the United States! Electric Safari ranked in **THIRD PLACE!** Congratulations to grounds and maintenance, and all who planned and put together this incredible display.

We owe a great big thank you to Marie and John Poyzer for hosting our holiday party. Kim and Eileen were real troopers setting up beforehand and cleaning up once the festivities were over. The holiday party is always a wonderful opportunity to get together and celebrate the season, plus seeing we actually do wear colors other than khaki and forest green! At the party, we were finally able to recognize Sally Goldstein for her 50 years of service. Sally and Ellie Solomon have been here from the beginning and always represent the best of the Auxiliary. The Zoo also gave Sally and Ellie special recognition. Look for their zoo tiles, in honor of their 50 years of service, on the wall before you enter the elephant barn. They are on the left-hand side, furthest from the door (at least for the moment).

We are off to a great start with the new Trainee class, and Cate has everything totally in hand. With the beginning of training come many opportunities to earn CECs by attending a variety of sessions. See your December Zoo Line for dates/sessions that apply. The new 2020 Education Manual is out. However, it may not be available immediately online. The zoo’s website is having a major revamping so although Stacey has the PDF file ready to upload to the website, it could be a bit before it appears. Meanwhile, there is a 2020 hard copy of the Education Manual in the DRC on the dresser. Feel free to make copies of any new information you want. Please remember not to remove the manual from the DRC.

The new year is bringing a great opportunity to ten docents from CMZ and ten docents from the Milwaukee County Zoo. They will be heading to the Belize Zoo in mid-January. Keepers Amy Schilz from CMZ and Katie Kuhn from MCZ have arranged the trip and great things are planned, including birding at sunrise, touring the Belize Zoo, the Chaa Creek Butterfly Farm, the Maya site of Xunantunich, learning about the Jaguar Rehabilitation Program, visiting the Community Baboon Sanctuary, seeing the caves of St. Herman’s Blue Hole National Park and much more. Those lucky docents going from CMZ are Jeanie Baratono, Marianne Brooks, Merril Boruchin-Spielman, Dawn Brizendine, Deborah Compton, Charlotte Greene, Nancy Hochman, Gayle Irani, Kathy Kidd and Kathy O’Donnell. Stacey Graham also will be coming as well as several keepers. *(continued next page)*

DATES TO KNOW

Meetings start at 9:30 a.m.

- Jan 8 Board MeetingSafari Lodge
- Jan 11 IE Meeting..... **Library**
- Jan 15** TE Meeting.....Safari Lodge
- Jan 22..... Education Mtg .. **Safari Cabin**

- Feb 5 Board MeetingSafari Lodge
- Feb 8 **Joint IE/IE Meeting** featuring
 Scavenge for Vultures
9:30-1:30 Lodge at Moose Lake
- Feb 26 Education MtgSafari Lodge

- Mar 4..... Board MeetingSafari Lodge
- Mar 11.... TE Meeting.....Safari Lodge
- Mar 14.... IE Meeting..... **Safari Cabin**
- Mar 25.... Education MtgSafari Lodge

CECs and TRAINING

CECs start at 9:30 a.m., unless noted

- Mar 18 & 21 CECSafari Lodge
- Apr 15 & 18..... CECSafari Lodge

Class of 2020 Training

- January 11 through March 14
- March 21 (only if needed as make-up day)
- Saturdays .. 9 am-4 pmSafari Lodge

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President's Message continued – Nancy Hochman

January at the Zoo tends to be a rather quiet month as there are few tours. However, there are still lots of things going on. Check with Kathy O'Donnell for enrichment possibilities. There are always items the animals can use to arouse their curiosity and keep them stimulated. There is nothing like watching the primates tear into cannoli treats or watching other animals explore their enrichment. When a warm weekend sneaks in now and then, come up and grab a biofact or two and chat with our guests. People are always delighted to learn about our animals. Zoo visitors genuinely soak up information and individual tidbits about our animals and are grateful to find people at the zoo to answer their questions. Docents can make their visit a better experience...so come up and hang out at the zoo!

See you on the hill!

Nancy

Monthly Program Information

TE Meeting January 15

January's TE Meeting will be in the **Safari Lodge** starting at 9:30 a.m. January's program will be a presentation on palm oil and CMZ animals in Primate World. Eleanor Knox, animal keeper, and members of the Primate World team will be presenting. See you all there on January 15!



Other Notes

Because the **January 11 IE** meeting is to be held in the **Library**, there will not be a scheduled speaker. The **February 8** meeting will be held in the **Moose Lodge**, and **will be a combined IE/TE meeting**. Dr. Liza will be the key speaker.

Cannoli-Making Schedule

Hello fellow docents! Thank you for all of the support you provide to the animals through enrichment. Please read on for upcoming ways you can help.

Item Donations

The zoo has a wish list on their website at <https://www.cmzoo.org/support/materials-wishlist/>. If you have any of the items, bring them to the DRC and I will make sure the zoo gets them. If you want a donation receipt, please leave your name with the item(s) and I will obtain a receipt for you.

WE STILL NEED: paper towel rolls (with one end closed), dried fruit (including raisins, Craisins), Cheerios, boxes (cardboard and paperboard) and pasta
WE NO LONGER NEED: egg cartons, paper bags, and toilet paper rolls

Cannoli Making

Colobus are back on the cannoli list and primates are getting double what they received in the past. Clearly, cannolis are loved by the animals and keepers. Below is the **REVISED** schedule for making cannolis. The date changes are in **January and April** so docents that attend the TE meetings can help as well.

Wednesday, January 15 (after TE meeting)

Saturday, February 8 (after IE/TE meeting)

Saturday, March 14 (after IE meeting)

Wednesday, April 8 (after TE meeting)

Saturday, May 9 (after mandatory IE meeting)

Saturday, June 13 (after mandatory IE/TE meeting)

A big thank you to our popcorn poppers and docents who helped make cannolis from August through December this year.

Cannoli makers

Marianne Brooks
Kim Bunch-DeCou
Sue Corcoran
Sherry Cripps
Sandy Greenspoon
Janie Levis
Mindy Mahler
Linnea McDonald
Jean McKanna
Ellie Solomon
JoAnne Warren

Popcorn Poppers

Eileen Derry
Glenna French
Marie Poyzer
Mack Silvertooth

Valentine's Day Fundraiser

Thank you, thank you to everyone who generously donated to the fundraiser!! I hope you enjoyed receiving your chicken note cards (thanks to Cris). I gave mine to my friend with her retirement present and she loved it. I will be at all of the January meetings with Jean's Chicken Box if you wish to make a donation: January 8 Board meeting; January 11 IE meeting; and January 15 TE meeting – the last chance to donate.



I wish you all a healthy and happy new year and I look forward to seeing you at the zoo!

Kathy O'Donnell, Enrichment Coordinator

Social Events Update & Save the Date

A special thank you to Marie Poyzer and her husband, John for hosting the CMZ Holiday party on December 7! There was plenty of food and drink for everyone and such a festive time! It also was a special moment for Sally Goldstein as she was presented with a gift for having served fifty years.



On another note, please ‘Save the Date’ for our **Joint IE/TE meeting on February 8 (9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) in the Lodge at Moose Lake.** This also will be a wonderful time to get to know the 2020 class! There will be sign-ups for salads and desserts at the January meetings.



Thank you, Kim Bunch-DeCou and Eileen Derry

Top 5 Biofact Handling Tips

As a reminder, following are the top five biofact handling tips:

1. Don't let guests hold biofacts – docents should keep physical control at all times!
2. Guests with dirty hands should not touch biofacts.
3. Return biofact to correct container for that biofact.
4. Fold pelts with hair/fur side in and tanned side out.
5. To prevent damage, don't force pelts into their container or into carts.



Marianne Brooks

Find the Typo — Just for Fun

In reviewing the manual for the 2020 edition, some interesting errors were discovered that had been resident for years and that no one had seemingly ever noticed. These are not words that have been misspelled, but real words that somehow replaced other words or were included incorrectly. Likely, there are others throughout the 141,000+ words in the manual, but these were the ones found this time around. They have been corrected for the 2020 edition but if you want to go on a short scavenger hunt, look carefully on these pages in the 2019 manual to see if you can find the mistakes. The answers will be published in the February Zoo Line.

- Page I-15 (Scutes section): 2 mistakes close together
- Page R-11 (Primate section)
- Page S-1 (My BBY)

Scavenging for Vultures is almost upon us!

Mark your calendars for the big **Scavenging for Vultures** event on **Saturday, February 8**, at our **JOINT MEETING** at the Lodge at Moose Lake. And please continue gathering your animal-related clothing, knickknacks, jewelry, stuffed animals — virtually anything animal-related — you wish to donate!

- **Bring donations, priced in even whole dollar amounts, by Friday, February 7 at 2:00 p.m. to the Lodge at Moose Lake**
- **Shop on Saturday, February 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Lodge at Moose Lake**



If you can't bring your donations on Friday, February 7 at 2:00 p.m., contact Caz at 930-8380 or Merrill at 651-2881 at least one week ahead and they will arrange to pick up your donations.

Then, be sure to bring lots of cash with you on Saturday, February 8, to buy some new and exciting animal-related things while donating to support vulture conservation! Come early to shop and get the best selection!

We have the sale to support the vulture conservation program and help to raise awareness of their plight. 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 and some money is donated to vulture conservation in Africa.

It's a win-win! A bit of cleaning after the holidays, picking up some neat stuff, and helping the conservation of vultures while also helping to support IVAD.

See you at the Joint Meeting on Saturday, February 8!

Cool Vulture Facts: A group of vultures is called a kettle, committee, or wake. The term kettle refers to vultures in flight, while committee refers to vultures resting on the ground or in trees. Wake is reserved for a group of vultures that are feeding.

CEC Report

As a group, we are off to a blazing start on our Continuing Education Credits for this year. The Fall Recall on “CATS” (the ones at CMZ, not the musical) was



completed by 47 docents. Our first classroom presentation on “Storytelling” had four super presenters, Janet, Tami, Jane and Yours Truly. A total of 62 CECs were earned.

At our second class, Advanced Mammal Tour Refresher/Certification presented by Ron, Nancy H., Jim, Don H. and Jean, 66 CECs were earned. Also, 28 docents followed one of the four practice tours and 25 completed the quiz.

A Zoom Refresher was given by Kevin, a Loft keeper, and 18 docents received a CEC for attending.

Up to this point, we’ve already learned many interesting facts to use in our work but the best is yet to come. You can earn CECs at many of our Zoo School Saturday sessions. Just check the Training Schedule Class of 2020 for presentations you want to attend and qualify for credit. Remember, **you must SIGN-IN** to receive credit and also attend the complete session. The classes will be filled with great review information as well as new details to add to your tours and cart talks. You’ll also be able to observe and meet the Class of 2020. *Notes: Please be respectful and arrive on time. Also, just be a sponge and absorb the lecture. The classes are for the newbies and they are the ones who need to interact with the presenter. If you have the answer to a question, a point to make, a correction or a question, hold it until after the class and talk with the presenter.*

Charlotte Greene, CEC Chairperson

Linking Your King Soopers Card

In order for the Auxiliary to receive the rewards from your purchases at King Soopers, your card has to be linked to the Auxiliary’s community rewards program. This does not affect your gas card points.



If you already have a King Soopers account:

- Go to the King Soopers official site www.kingsoopers.com
- Click on My Account and put in your password
- On the left side of the screen, click **Community Rewards**

- Search for Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Auxiliary or our organization number, which is **BC371** (either of these will work)
- When search comes up, click **Enroll** (if you don’t go down and click on enroll it won’t link your account to the Auxiliary’s rewards)

If you don’t already have a King Soopers’ account but have a loyalty card, these are the instructions to create an account:

- Go to the King Soopers’ official site www.kingsoopers.com
- Click on Welcome/Sign-in pull-down and click Sign-in
- At the bottom of the page on the left, click **Create an Account** (you will need an email address to create an account)
- Create a password for this account
- Enter the number of your loyalty card found on the reverse side of the card or if you have your phone number as an alternate ID you may use that number instead of the loyalty card number
- Don’t forget to go all the way to the bottom and click “**Create an Account**” located on the left side
- Once that account has been created, click on **Community Rewards** on the left side of the page
- In the search box, put in Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Auxiliary or our organization number, which is **BC371** (either will work)
- When search comes up, click **Enroll** (if you don’t go down and click on enroll it won’t link your account to the Auxiliary’s rewards)

If anyone needs assistance, Nancy Hochman, Marcia Morris, Marie Poyzer, Susie Gross or Glenna French will be happy to help.

CMZA 50th • Docent Memories

Gar Puryear

I was in the 2010 class. I was giving a tour and as we approached the giraffe exhibit, I was talking about their long 18-inch tongue and how they used their tongue to strip leaves from trees. We were feeding crackers at that time. As I was demonstrating the proper way to feed, I was nose to nose with a giraffe when she sneezed in my face. My glasses and face were covered with giraffe spittle and food and you know where the giraffe area is located relative to the balance of the Amazing Mammal Tour. The kids had fun with me for the next hour. I will always love giraffes.

Carol Royse

Zoo school training taught me to arrive early for any event I might be working. Therefore, I arrived very early for working Electric Safari at the aquatics building. The



zoo was very quiet when I arrived. In fact, walking up toward aquatics no one was in sight. Near the entrance to the path to aquatics a big warming fire had been lit. It was also the night of the full moon. I stood by the fire watching the full moon rise, when suddenly the wolves began to howl. I stood alone, entranced, for many minutes warmed by the fire, watching the moon, and listening to the music of the wolves!

Ellie Solomon

Many years ago, before we had a winter uniform jacket, I was taking a third grade on a General Mammal Tour. I was wearing my own new beige car coat. We were approaching the outside area of the Feline House, which is now the Monkey House. I encouraged the children to get close to the African male lion. He was pacing alone. I was in front of the group, so happy to be close to the lion. All of a sudden, the lion turned so his rear was in front of me and proceeded to spray my entire new jacket. It was extremely cold, so removing my jacket was not an option. The children thought this was the funniest and neatest thing that ever happened. I managed to finish the tour, a bit soggy, but I learned a good lesson. With open grating, one doesn't get too close to a pacing lion. The good news is the jacket was washable, and it cleaned up perfectly in the washing machine.

Picture This



Even though Zoopeteers stay hidden behind the curtains, they still show their zoo pride on their socks!

Photo credit to Judy Sondermann

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CMZA Zoo Line Information

Please send all submissions — information, articles, pictures, etc. — to cmza.zooline@yahoo.com. Deadline for the February issue is **Friday, January 17**.

Thank you — Linnea McDonald & Joelle Shreves, Editors