

Zoo**Line**

Volume 48 Special Summer Edition

JULY 2018

President's Message

By: Glenna French, President

What a fun and exciting end of the year Joint Meeting! The Social Team set the theme with the Lodge at Moose Lake decorated for a celebration – and the fun began. It was time to welcome the 2018 new docents who brought with them a lot of enthusiasm and determination after completing their 10 weeks of training and then getting certified in all required areas plus 20 service hours. No wonder they were ready to discard their temporary badges for their permanent ones. Congratulations to the newest auxiliary members as well as the entire auxiliary. What a year! Docents hit a home run. This is the auxiliary's 49th year. The years just seem to get better due to the hard work and dedication everyone puts in to help the Cheyenne Mountain become the 4th Best Zoo in the US. Just review a few of the contributions made this year by the auxiliary:

Membership – 99 Active Docents ('TE/IE – 34; IE/TE – 44; IE – 21)

Volunteer Hours – 10,342.50 – 90 docents; IE – 3,916.95 – 109 docents; Tours 1,728 hours – 912 docents touching 8,389 students at 18 schools; Safaris – 142 given to 3,380 students at 47 schools – Total volunteer hours 21,571.45 (this is equivalent to 10.37 full time staff positions and a 'donation' of \$520,690.14 (hourly rate of \$24.14)

Special Events – 238 docents contributed 736.5 hours

Zoom – 28 docents worked 3,421 hours on Outreach, BBY and Loft events

Zoopeteers – 32 docents performed 458 puppet roles for 1,998 hours for 3,396 students

Education – 15 new docents trained; 6 CEC's were offered with 195 docents participating

TE Programs – 9 presented; 5 Field Trips; 9 IE Programs given

Cannoli – 3,565 made by 147 docents; Docents contributed over \$1800 for Animal Valentine's Day

Financial Grants - \$1,262.00

A big thank you goes out to the entire Auxiliary for making this an amazing year.

This also seemed to be the year of the "babies". We could develop a baby tour and have an enormous following starting in ARV with our newest giraffe, Penny. As you know, Penny has had some issues that are being taken care of by the Vet Staff and keepers. We would leave this beautiful new giraffe stopping to see the new meerkat pups before going on up the hill to Australia to watch Poppy "pop" in and out of her mother's pouch. Next a stop -- Wolf Woods to watch those six wolf pups beginning to explore their world while their mother tries to keep them safe and teach them how to be a wolf. Oh, so much to share with zoo guests. It continues as we move on down the hill. As we walk to Primate World we pass by the construction of the new Aquatic building with thoughts of our girls returning in about a year. Maybe a male will come with them and eventually a hippo baby. Moving on to Primate World where guests have enjoyed watching the antics of little Ember for the

past 3 ½ years. They can now witness the care, development and the antics of the zoo’s newest primate – Sumagu’s beautiful baby, Kera! How magnificent it is to be a part of these exciting times and to be able to share with zoo guests.
Glenna French



Kera photo from CMZ FB page



Jeanie’s gift, another work of art by Katie Poehlmann



2018 Docent Graduates!

CMZ AUXILIARY CALENDAR 2018-2019

Meeting times are at 9:30 am. Education Committee meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am in the Safari Lodge. **** Mandatory meetings**

*** Date or Location Change**

August 2018

1	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
11	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge

September 2018

5	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
8	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
12**	TE Meeting	Safari Lodge
29	Field Trip	Chico Basin Ranch

October 2018

3	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
10	TE Meeting	Safari Lodge
13	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
20	Field Trip	Wild Animal Sanctuary

PROGRAMS

IE MEETINGS: August 11 – TBA – check your CMZAUX emails. *Ann Marie Jackson*

TE MEETINGS: September 8 – 2 programs, a tutorial on Signup Genius by Lynne Stefonik and then Cris Stoddard will walk us through sign in policies (not signup, but sign in) for carts, tours, special events, special tours, DRC, etc.

October 10 – Rebecca Zwicker and WOLVES! (Oh, the program is about Wolves, she probably won't be bringing any to the actual meeting).

Nancy Hochman

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT FREE GUEST PASSES

Patty Mussone reminded me that there are free guest passes available to docents (10 per docent). Bob Chastain, on behalf of the Zoo, awarded these to us at the Appreciation Breakfast this spring. They are also gifted in honor of our 4th Best Zoo in the US recognition by USA Today's Ten Best Readers' Choice. If you haven't picked up your passes yet, go to the DRC. It is summer, you have company. You have friends or relatives you forgot to get a birthday or host or anniversary gift for. Go get those passes. By the way, they have run out of tickets twice but should have a new stash available now.



Photo by Caz Oswald of Kiah and Poppy. Just another reason to pick up those guest passes. These children grow so fast.

FIELD TRIPS

2018-2019

Greetings fellow travelers: I'm going to give you the dates so far for our 2018-19 so that you can add them to your Calendar. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Act, several of these excursions are directly related.

Saturday—SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 - Chico Basin Ranch, 22500 S. Peyton Hwy. Colorado Springs, Co. 80928

Price: \$10 per adult; \$1-2 per child. (Age 6-18)

Bird Banding starting at 8am to 11am. Ranch closes at 12 noon.

Saturday, October 20, 2018 -Wild Animal Sanctuary 2999 Count Road 53, Keenesburg, Colorado. 80643.

Price: \$30.00 per adult; \$15.00 per child (age 3-12); Active member- free plus 5 Docents

You can have lunch in their cafe or bring your own.

November 15-16-17, 2018 - FESTIVAL OF CRANES - Bosque del Apache, Socorro, New Mexico

12 mile auto tour loop with observation decks -5 hiking trails off of loop - Cactus garden with 80 species.

Free entrance with Federal park pass or

\$5.00 per car.

Also hope to arrange:

ABQ BioPark in Albuquerque, New Mexico on way home.

March 8,9,10, 2019. - 35th Crane Festival - Monte Vista, Colorado (More info to come)

Saturday, April 6, 2019 - RAPTOR CENTER Pueblo, Colorado

Birds of prey Program: 9-10 - Walk around area:
10-11 - Picnic lunch: 11-12 - Visit number 2
PUEBLO ZOO: 12-2 *Joan Adkins*

MEMBERSHIP

The 2018 class is quickly filling up so now is the time to act!

If you know someone who loves and cares about animals, is passionate about our zoo and would be interested in sharing information about conservation and how we all can make a difference – we would love to talk to them!

Encourage them to call us or email us for more information. They can also go online to cmzoo.org-click top right on Get Involved – then choose the Docent yellow tab.

There are also business cards in a blue box in the desk in the DRC. Take 5 or 6 and come back for more if you run out. Jodi Schmitz 596-3735 jodyhome2019@gmail.com; Marcia Morris 598-9744 mkmorris10@msn.com

CART CHANGES

As a result of ongoing problems with having the Australia cart located under the sink in the closet in Budgies, the cart has been moved to Scutes where it is located under yet another, but much less leaky container - the Box turtles. Glenn has installed a knob for easier access. Here are photos to assist you in locating the box. Once you have opened the panel you should see our cargo box. The cargo box has one of our locks on it so unlock it as you do the other locks. Once you have the biofacts you need, put the **relocked** cargo box back, push the panel back in place and make sure it is closed tight.





OUR VELVETEEN GIRAFFE TAIL

By Amy Schilz

As you know, our 200th baby giraffe, Penny, born on June 4th, was found splayed out in her stall on Wednesday morning, June 13th. Since that time, our team had been trying to both get her on the bottle, as well as try to come up with ways to get her back with Muziki so she could nurse. Essentially, we needed Penny to get nutrition in her; either from us or from her mom.

On Thursday evening, we decided we were going to focus solely on bottle feeding. We thought that would be her best chance at not reinjuring her legs.

If you've ever been a part of CMZ's brainstorming events, you know that we can come up with some pretty crazy, inventive schemes. During drills or practice escape exercises, Bob encourages us to be creative in how we solve problems. For example, if you can't see around a corner in an escaped animal drill, you could pull the rear view mirror off a car, duct tape it to a stick, and slide it through the sky lights to get a good visual. Needless to say, thinking outside of the box or coming up with crazy ideas is taught, practiced, and encouraged here.

So, when we got into a bit of a pickle with Penny's eating, we got to work. We brainstormed different things that might encourage her to take a bottle. We tried goat milk with a regular bottle. It was pretty obvious that she didn't like the goat milk. We knew she liked her mom's milk.....so what better to give her than that?

We decided to try to train her mom to let us milk her. We'd had the ultrasound panel installed for touching her sides and belly safely, so why not try touching her udder?! Jason was able to get a little bit into a cup, but we weren't able to get enough to actually feed her.

What little we got, though, allowed us a few small wins. One being that we could taste it (when I say "we", I mean Jason and Dr. Marjorie). We found out that it tasted more like cow milk than it did goat milk, which was good information. The second thing it did was allow us to put a small amount on the nipple of the bottle to try to get her to put it in her mouth.

We tried that, and Penny seemed to like the smell of her mom a lot. Jason tried giving her the bottle, and she sniffed all over where he had been touching Muziki during her training session. She seemed really interested in his shirt and arm where he'd been touching Mom. She did also smell the nipple, but didn't actually suck on it.

At this point, we really, really needed her to take that bottle. We thought that if she really missed her mom, we could give her Mr. Mom. Bob put on our World Giraffe Day mascot: a giraffe costume. We thought she might be more comfortable taking milk from a giraffe, so Bob tried to feed her while being a giraffe. Side note: We're not that crazy, it has worked in other species! But, unfortunately, it did not work for Penny.

It was around 11pm when we decided to revisit the giraffe husbandry manual. There were a few options listed out there to try to get a giraffe baby on a bottle. One of them was a towel that smelled like mom, one of them was a wet wash cloth they could chew on, and one of them was a taxidermy giraffe tail.

Rachael and Diana had already rubbed some towels on Muziki earlier in the day. We had those on standby in the stall. We had some wash clothes, and DeeAnn had brought down an entire tote of different bottles and nipples we could try. The one thing that was missing? A taxidermy giraffe tail.

We'd seen the amazing work that our docents have done with our zoo guests over the years with their docent cart. I knew they had a stash of giraffe biofacts in the cart by the lettuce hut, so I ran out to check to see if they had a giraffe tail. I got out there, and found the cart perfectly and safely LOCKED UP.

Keep in mind that it was 11pm, super dark, and we were running on little sleep. I went back and told Bob that the cart was locked, but that I knew we had bolt cutters at African lions. He said it was ok to go and get them, so I did. When I got back to the barn, we grabbed flashlights and went out to cut the lock.

Man oh man, did we find giraffe treasures! We thought about the giraffe hide that was in there, but it had a smell we didn't think Penny would like. We searched through bags and bags of different items and were about to give up when we saw it: a perfectly stored giraffe tail.

At this point, Bob was tired. He'd been at the zoo the night before with Penny, too. We talked about what the job duties of the night would be if he left, and I knew that my number one goal was to get that baby eating from the bottle.

After Bob left, I found a black nipple in the tote. I slipped it in between the giraffe tail hairs, and let her play with it. She immediately loved the tail hairs! She started chewing and mouthing them, occasionally hitting the nipple. She'd mouth the nipple and then spit it out and go back to chewing on the hairs.

Then my brain started putting puzzle pieces together from all the things we'd learned that day.

1.) She doesn't like goat milk, stick with the whole cow milk. 2.) She liked Jason's shirt after he touched Mom, and mouthed it. 3.) The husbandry manual said that they like washcloths. 4.) She doesn't like the rubber nipples but didn't mind the black one slipped into the giraffe tail hairs.

So, I wet a tiny corner of one of the wash clothes that had been rubbed on Muziki. I cut a tiny hole in it and slipped it over the black nipple. I put the black nipple on a tiny bottle she couldn't see behind the giraffe tail hair, then let her chew on the hair.

She started calling when she could smell Mom on the towel, and kept nuzzling around and sucking on the tail hair. She finally got the washcloth in her mouth and got milk!!! She was so excited that she literally ripped the nozzle off the bottle and milk went EVERYWHERE. She kept sucking on my arms and ears trying to find more milk.

I ran downstairs and got more milk, but thought that if she was that hungry and she knew I had milk that she might take it from the bigger bottle, and she did. We repeated the same steps but with the bigger nipple that she couldn't break off, and within seconds she was drinking from the bottle. My whole body started shaking; I'm not sure if it was from excitement, relief, or from holding a bottle up so long.

I called Jason and texted Bob right away. Jason was here in a flash with more milk, even though it was midnight and his shift didn't start for two more hours. He took over feeding for me since my arms were so tired.

And that is the tale of the tail. It really did help save Penny! She's been eating like a champ ever since.

As a side note, giraffe tails are being sold as fly swatters or souvenirs for tourists in Africa. This is not the only reason giraffes are being killed, but it's definitely one of them in some countries. If you're ever in Africa, please pass them by and don't purchase them. As wonderful and as helpful as our docent cart tail was, giraffe tails belong on giraffes!

(Editor's note: I have long called this biofact, the Velveteen Giraffe Tail because, like the rabbit, it has been loved so much that most of its hair has been worn off. And now it probably is lacking a few more hairs as a result of the rescue mission. We are all worried about Penny's future, but regardless, the zoo world has already benefitted from her sweet existence. That tail has shown us a way to feed young animals when, for many reasons, they cannot nurse from their mothers. And that tail, actually a Zoo biofact, is a biofact we docents have kept and used for decades! And all these

years later it is a teaching tool in a way we never expected! By the way, the lock on our cargo box was replaced the next day by Glenn Carson. Oh and I guess we now know why Amy wanted to go back to a more daily hands-on role at our Zoo. Thanks, Amy)



Jason Bredahl telling the tale of the tail. Rachael Hahn and Jeremy Dillon at mom duty.

NEW EATING VENUES AND CHANGES

As most of you know having watched the construction, we now have an additional place to eat. **Pizza With A View** has opened and offers a variety of oven-fired pizzas as well as other snacks including a fennel and apple salad. Did you know that The Overlook is now the **Rocky Mountain Barbecue Company**? Well it is and features local products. For instance the meat is all sourced from within 200 miles of the Zoo. There is also a new coffee shop and I don't know where it is but it is called **The Cozy Goat**, so that is perhaps a clue I need to follow up on – hmmm maybe underneath that wood-fired Pizza oven?

A thanks to Cris Stoddard for submitting photos from the pre-opening celebration at Pizza With a View. She writes: Many docents attended the pre-opening of the new pizza parlor across from the Grizzly Grill and Lodge at Moose Lake on the evening of Thursday, June 7. We were joined by many happy staff and volunteer faces and enjoyed all the yummy new treats, amazing views and terrific hospitality. Many of us loved especially the 'Fig and Pig' pizza that was brought to our tables; this delicious gourmet pizza was topped with figs and prosciutto and a dollop of arugula. The dessert pizza was another hit: Nutella, powdered sugar and lemon zest!

If you didn't make it to the pre-opening, be sure to stop by for a sample when it officially opens and let our guests know we have another delightful place at our zoo to enjoy a 5 star meal. *Cris*





CMZ
AUXILIARY
ZOO LINE

SUMMER 2018

Lovice D. Riffe, Editor
Cheyenne Mountain Zoological Society
4250 Cheyenne Mt. Zoo Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80906



