



President’s Message – Sue Sallee

Greetings Fellow Docents!

As the Auxiliary year draws to a close, what an incredible and unpredictable time this has been for all of us! Since this will be my last Zooline article as Auxiliary president, I want to thank all of you for the honor and privilege of serving the Auxiliary in this capacity. Special thanks and gratitude go out to each Board Member for their dedication to attend monthly Board meetings 100% by Zoom. All Board positions require a lot of time, energy, and dedication to make it all come together and work. Thank you to the Board for reinstating the Intern program, concluding our pledge of \$6,000 to the Vet hospital, donating to the Tiger Conservation Fund, setting up a Zoom account and approving Better Impact to update our recording system. Meeting virtually will go down as a historic first for the Auxiliary, especially using the popular reminder phrase of, “You’re on Mute!” Thank you again to this fabulous Board as they represented all of the Docents and worked diligently with me! I could not have gotten through the year without their support and dedication to keep the Auxiliary moving forward! On June 12th at our Joint meeting, we will give out Service Awards and recognize our IEs and TEs, as well as the outgoing and incoming Board members. At the same time, we will honor those Docents who are no longer with us: Melanie Frost, Diana Gantz, Glenn Carson, and Chuck Zeitvogel for their service. I will be turning over the president’s gavel to Barbara Kalbli, as she and her new Board begin another Docent year. There will be challenges presented as they realign and begin “anew,” so give each and every one of them your utmost and full support as they serve in their respective positions.

A highlight of our year was keeping Docents connected through Zoo presentations spearheaded by Dr. Liza, and Barbara Kalbli organizing excellent programs by Zoom. Dr. Liza’s Conservation messages on the black-footed ferrets, the bear cub release on Pikes Peak, food sustainability, and the monthly Vet updates on our animals kept Docent’s current. Bob Chastain welcomed us at several programs to inform us about the many facelifts that the Zoo will be undergoing to enhance guest experiences. Thank you, Bob, Dr. Liza and Zoo staff, for the wonderful presentations and keeping us connected as a Zoo family.

Thanks for the energy and passion by key Docents, working on Zoo grounds and behind the scenes, who provided opportunities for Docents who were able to come to the Zoo, work in Big Back Yard, Carts, and Zoom/Loft. Let’s look at what transpired during this incredible year.

Big Backyard opened first to allow Docents who were feeling “cooped” up to start earning hours. A big thank you to Cris Stoddard, Chair, for

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*Thanks for
“hanging in there”!*

DATES TO KNOW

All meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

June 2 Board Meeting ..Safari Lodge

June 12 Joint TE/IE Recognition Meeting and Box Lunch – In Person in the Lodge at Moose Lake

Other Important or Special Dates

July 7-9AZA Accreditation watch for the tips that are being sent out to help all of us prepare.

July 10*Holiday in July* Docent Party at Marie Poyzer’s. More information will be sent out by the Social Committee later in June.

Zoo Ball 2021 – virtual Gala, bidding online June 14-20, plus Trivia night June 17

Zoo Member Nights (5:30-8:30 p.m.) on June 23, July 15 and August 23. No reservations required.

Silent Nights (5:30-7:30 p.m.) on June 2 and Sept 11 only (reduced number of events)

Tails & Tunes (6-9:30 p.m.) on June 24, July 29, Aug 26 and Sept 30. For Adults 21+ only

Date Night Starlight Safari (6:30-8:30 p.m.) on June 5, June 25, July 3, July 17, Aug 7 and Aug 21. Adults 21+ only, some dates have wait lists.

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President's Message — *continued*

for providing monthly sign-ups, information on the chickens and up-to-date procedures. Most importantly, we were able to provide needed respite and duty-free lunch breaks for the Zookeepers. Thank you to all the BBY Docents working a total of 1,527 hours for the year! It was a "S-Peck-tacular" effort by all!

The opening of Carts was a phenomenal effort by Marianne Brooks, Cart Master. She completed a biofact inventory, removed biofacts with fur and hair, posted sign-ups and came up with health guideline protocol. Thank YOU, Marianne, for the opportunity for Docents to educate guests with stories and interesting biofacts to create indelible impressions and meaningful Zoo experiences. Marianne was also instrumental in getting monthly sign-ups via Sign Up Genius dropped and signing in right at the cart, two Docents working a cart, and easy open cart locks. Total hours for the year at carts were 1,150.2. Outstanding! Great job everyone!

A big shout out and thank you to the ZOOM/Loft Docents and Chair Jeanie Baratono for heading up the team, contributing 3,285.25 total hours for the year! Their work reached new heights, as they interacted with guests, connecting them with animals, trained new docents, and completed various lofty animal husbandry tasks, working under Bean (literally!).

Thank you to the Docents who supported EdVenture this year by providing tours, some during evening hours and on freezing nights. This group of dedicated Docents, plus TEs giving tours that are starting back up again, logged in 397.25 hours for the year. Thanks for supporting Stacey Graham and the EdVenture team!

Another group to make this year fantastic were the Enrichment and Popcorn Docents keeping our animals happy and well fed. These groups faithfully popped corn and filled cannolis as often as they could. Thank you to all the Docents who contributed food items for the cannolis. The Zookeepers and animals thank you for providing this enrichment.

The Tech Committee chaired by Gayle Irani with members Cris Stoddard, Kathy Kidd, and Linnea McDonald, did an outstanding job through their hard work to get Better Impact approved by the Board. Thank you to this great group who, with additional help from Meg Fossinger, got Better Impact installed, assisted Docents in creating their individual profile pages, and started sign-ups for BBY and the Loft. What a tremendous team effort to make this an incredible year!

With Spring in the air, we look forward to the start of a new year, Zoo Accreditation on July 7th-9th, school tours, training of new docents, Special Events, Zoopeteer Programs, and other opportunities your new Board and leadership team will be introducing, after a year-long

hiatus. It already looks like we are on our way to another outstanding year!

Thank you for your patience, phone calls and emails to encourage the Board and me to continue to move forward. It is apparent that our goal to keep the Auxiliary connected and part of the Zoo family was accomplished, despite the pandemic. We were able to survive, get along (unlike a certain elephant and rhino we know), and yes, thrive due to a phenomenal group of Docents doing what we love best – working and being at the Zoo! It was an incredible year like no other.



Thank you again for the memorable opportunity, honor and privilege of serving as President of the Auxiliary. Take care everyone! See you around the Zoo!

Best Regards, Sue

Docent Summer Uniform Attire



During the summer months the Zoo-approved blue T-shirt may be worn with the docent nametag. Summer blue T-shirt timeline approved by the CMZA Board is May 31, 2021 through the end of September 30, 2021. Khaki colored pants and/or khaki shorts, mid-thigh or longer (and longer than the safari jacket hem) are to be worn.

Docents are to adhere to the CMZ "Zoo Crisp" standard at any level, including "clean, good quality garments, pressed or wrinkle-free...with shirts tucked in." For further uniform information, see the CMZA directory pp. 9-10.

New Service Hour Year Starts June 1st

Service hours for the 2021-22 year can be earned from June 1, 2021-May 31, 2022. There are opportunities to start earning your hours at the Zoo! Carts are available for sign up, and watch your email for Big Backyard (BBY), Special Events and more!



Uniform Order Distribution

Uniforms and name tags will primarily be distributed at the "Holiday in July" party on July 10.

If you would like to receive your order before that date, please email Susie Gross to arrange for delivery of your order to the DRC.



**Save the Date:
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

We have an all-school tour coming on the morning of Friday, September 24 and will need 60-70 Tour Docents. Please mark your calendars.

Summer Tour, Safari and ZOOM Dress Code

As blue T-shirt weather is here, please remember to wear your **GREEN** shirts when giving a tour or a safari. It's okay to wear tan shorts, whose length is mid-thigh or longer, instead of long pants.

ZOOM docents must wear the **GREEN** shirt when doing a program on or off Zoo grounds. ZOOM docents may wear the blue shirt when working in the Loft or in Scutes.

Additionally, please check and follow organizations' rules regarding masks when in their buildings. Thanks.

Judy Sondermann and Jeanie Baratono



Save Our Birds – Flip the Switch

Note: this information was summarized from an article in the May 26, 2021 Cheyenne Edition, written by Ava Johnson, a Biological Technician for the City's Trails, Open Space and Parks program.

During bird migrations, spring or fall, birds are sensitive and vulnerable to outdoor lights found in cities and around homes. You can help birds save their energy for these vital trips by reducing lighting that confuses, detours and distracts them from their long journeys.

Here is some basic information from Lights Out Colorado and BirdCast about what to do to help during migration periods:

- Turn off all non-essential lights from dusk until dawn each night, including outdoor landscape lighting
- When lights must be on inside the home, close the blinds or curtains
- Angle lights down to shine at the ground, and use warmer color lights
- Use timers and motion detectors or sensors so that lights are only on when you need them.



Go to these websites for more great ideas and information:

- <https://idacolorado.xyz/lights-out-colorado/> and
- <https://birdcast.info/>

Animal Enrichment Wrap Up

Hello docent friends! As this is my last submission as Enrichment Chair, I want to sincerely thank everyone for their generous donations and support of animal enrichment. The program could not exist without your generosity.

First, I would like to thank Sherry Cripps, who embarked on this 2-year journey with me. As brand-new docents in 2019, we had no idea what we were getting into; or at least I didn't. Thank you all for your patience as I climbed the learning curve.

Second, I would like to thank all the docents that made cannolis for the past 2 years. I enjoyed the camaraderie and getting to know you all better. I will continue to come and make cannolis when I can to continue our friendships. Many thanks to the docent popcorn poppers, as well, for keeping us equipped with popcorn for the cannolis.

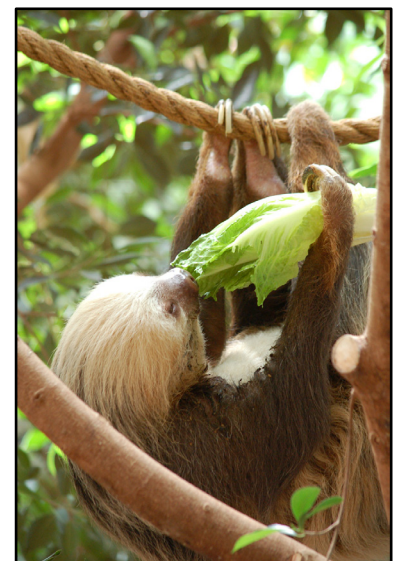
Last, but certainly not least, I want to thank all the docents for their generous donations over the last 2 years for cannolis and the Valentine's Day fundraiser. You all made a large difference in the lives of our beloved animals at the Zoo. I am sure you will all be as supportive and generous with the new Enrichment Chair.

As always, we need PAPER TOWEL TUBES. There is a plastic bin in the DRC for these. The Loft can use BOXES and BAGS of any size so bring them to the DRC and the Enrichment Chair or team member will ensure they get to the Loft. BBY can use EGG CARTONS since the new hens will be laying even more eggs as the weather gets warmer.

I will contact the animal departments this month and provide them with the request form for any large enrichment items that might be needed (Animal Enrichment Fundraiser, which used to be the Valentine's Day Fundraiser). The forms are due 15 August and fundraising will be from September through mid-November if a submission is received and approved by the Board.

Thank you again for all your support and I look forward to seeing you all at the Zoo.

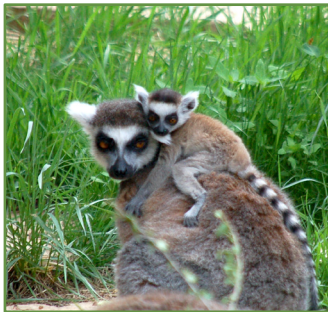
*Kathy O'Donnell,
Enrichment Chair*



Animal Update (April 2021)

- 8 of our 10 SSP Black-Footed Ferret females have been paired. First due date is May 27th. The remaining 2 will be in a week or two.

- Ring-tailed lemur
Rogue gave birth to a baby on April 26th. Both mom and baby are doing amazing! Baby is nursing well and clinging to mom. Hercules, the father is very curious about the baby and Rogue let him get close enough to see and smell it.



- Red River hog Zena gave birth to a hoglet born on April 24th. Both baby and Mom are doing well. The baby is strong, healthy, and nursing well.
- A Scarlet King snake came in from North Carolina.
- On May 6th, a Bald eagle was transferred in from the Memphis Zoo.
- The Steller's Sea Eagle transferred in from the Denver Zoo on May 7th. Right now, they are waiting to find a permanent placement.
- Keepers are in the process of training Mahali, the Giraffe, for shoes to give him added support and monitoring him.
- Red River hog Ari just celebrated her 19th birthday! Keepers are working hard to adjust her diet for a higher calorie and more palatable items, due to some less interest in her diet food.
- African Penguins are training on their podoscope which allows keepers to get a weight and foot check without any physical intervention.
- Porcupine Kale has been using her quills in the Sky loop this month and providing many "Is that supposed to happen?" moments, and even prompting a few radio calls asking if RMH is aware that one of our porcupines is "out" of her exhibit!
- Wyoming toads went into hibernation on April 20th. They will come out June 2nd for breeding around June 6th-10th.
- ARV1 & ARV2 started zebra and giraffe introductions in the main giraffe yard this month. So far all is well.
- Mexican wolf pack is back together after being separated during breeding season, due to no recommendation to breed wolves this year. Luna, Hope, Shadow, Bluestem, and Uno were all overly excited to have Navarro and Phoenix back in the main exhibit. Uno was the most excited and greeted the boys with many hops and spins of joy!

- Hippo Zambezi is training well in her voluntary ultrasounds and checking for pregnancy status.
- Animal Encounters are going well with elephant feeding being the most popular followed by Budgie seed sticks!

Sue Sallee, May CMZ Mission & Programs Report

Treasurer's Report

The Auxiliary fiscal year ended on April 30 (aligned with the Zoo's fiscal year). The year-end Operational Account balance was \$2,188.67. April payments were made for office equipment and supplies, Internet access and software, DRC cleaning, Zooline supplies and Animal Enrichment supplies.

The balance in the Restricted Account at the end of April was \$24,967.39. There were no expenses or income for this account in April.



Articles and Information of Interest

- From *Science Daily* – coffee pulp waste helps forest recovery: http://bit.ly/coffeepulp_reforestation
- Science Friday audio podcasts cover a wide range of science-related topics in each week. Many previous episodes are available online and can be listened to on your computer or tablet. <http://www.sciencefriday.com/episodes/> Hover over and click the "Learn More" button for 4/9, 4/30 and 5/28 to find, select and listen to just the sections on Giraffes (4/9), The Future of Plastics and Pollution (4/30), and the replay of an interview with Jane Goodall (5/28)
- Digital Photography Review Comedy Wildlife photos. This annual contest features animals in unusual situations. It's still open for submissions, but some of the best entries so far can be found at: <http://bit.ly/DPRcomicwildlife>

Can't Log Into Our Docent Area on CMZ Website?

If you're having trouble accessing the protected "Active Docent" area on the CMZoo.org website, try changing the search engine you use to get to the website.



Bing may cause problems. Yahoo, Google, Safari, Firefox & DuckDuckGo mostly work well, but your individual computer system set-up might need to use something different than your usual search function. You can usually change your search engine by accessing the Preferences for your browser once you open it up to access the Internet.

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Photo Credits

- On page 1 and page 2: pictures of sloth and elephant/rhino courtesy of Sue Sallee
- Page 4: Mantis the 4-toed hedgehog, courtesy of zookeeper Alia Cooper
- Pictures contributed by Susan Hoxie: page 3, Marty McFly and Chalupa; page 4, Rogue with baby; this page, Atka & Bahati

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July Mid-summer Zooline Deadline

The deadline for the **July issue is Wednesday, July 14**. Please send all submissions – information, articles, pictures, etc. – to cmza.zooline@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Linnea McDonald & Joelle Shreves, Editors