



## President’s Message – Barbara Kalbli

Hello Docents,

BRRR...it feels like we’re in the depths of winter right now and Punxsutawney Phil did see his shadow, however, the days are getting longer, and spring will be here before we know it! Covid numbers continue to decline in a big way and schools are beginning to fill the slots for spring tours. I realize it has been quite a while since a lot of us have been “out there” doing our Docent stuff. It’s so easy to doubt one’s abilities and forget how much “you” have to offer. Remember, it’s just like riding a bike — it all comes back to you once you start to peddle. Please don’t hesitate to join in the ample opportunities for involvement offered by the Auxiliary!

In spite of a snowy morning and late start, the February Joint Meeting and potluck were a grand success. Marsha lined up an exceptional program — the “bear wise” presentation by Dee Ann Wilfong and Rebecca Zwicker was timely and well received. Their entertaining PowerPoint story of a relocation to a secret den on Pikes Peak for two orphaned bear cubs was a highlight for the audience. The ladies explained the tracking system that is being utilized to monitor the guys when they leave the den. Cute Valentine decorations and sweet treats added to a “lovely” atmosphere, thanks to Kim’s artsy touch. The tasty food (thanks to YOU), inclusion of the new trainees and wonderful conversations rounded out our special time together.

Our top-notch Tech Committee has been very busy. A brand-new spreadsheet (to replace BetterImpact) will be ready for an April start. Additionally, new (and improved) sign-in sheets for Carts, BBY, Penguins & Pelicans and Special Events will soon be available. The redesigned sign-in sheets are more concise and very user friendly. More to come soon from the Tech Committee...

## Barbara

### Vision Statement

*Every Kid, Every Time, Goosebumps!  
Every kid of any age,  
will have an experience for a lifetime  
with every visit.*



## DATES TO KNOW

*Meetings start at 9:30 a.m.*

Mar 2 .....Board Meeting ... Safari Lodge  
Mar 9 .....TE Meeting ..... Safari Lodge  
Mar 12 ....IE Meeting ..... Location TBA  
Mar 23 ....Education Mtg.... Safari Lodge

Apr 6.....Board Meeting ... Safari Lodge  
Apr 9.....IE Meeting ..... Safari Lodge  
Apr 13.....TE Meeting ..... Safari Lodge  
Apr 27.....Education Mtg.... Safari Lodge

May 4 .....Board Meeting ... Safari Lodge  
May 11 ...TE Meeting\*\* .... Safari Lodge  
May 14 ...IE Meeting\*\* ..... Safari Lodge  
May 25 ...Education Mtg.... Safari Lodge

**\*\* Mandatory Meeting – Elections**

## CECs and TRAINING

Mar 5, 12 .....Zoo School continues in Safari Lodge, **CECs available for some sessions – see list page 5**

Apr 2 CEC.... topic TBA.... Safari Lodge

**Note: Spring Fling due 3/31/22, see February Zooline for details**

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## TE Meeting on Wed., March 9 at 9:30 am

The speaker for the TE Meeting on March 9 at 9:30 am will be the one, the only, Stacey Graham presenting on Child Development and Education. We will be getting a timely refresher on age-appropriate presentations to children. This is just in time for the upcoming tour season. See you there at the Safari Lodge.

*Marsha Fogarty, President-Elect*

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## A Glimpse Back at the February Joint Meeting & Potluck



Today as I sat in the afternoon Zoo School class for a CEC, I kind of laughed to myself thinking the terms being discussed could describe what happened at this year's February Joint Meeting.

What firsthand lesson did we get? Was it the Law of Competitive Exclusion, "no two species (aka 2 groups of people) eat the same thing in the same place at the same time?" Was it Mutualism? We both were able to use the LML to benefit our programs. Or even Commensalism, one was benefited while the other was not harmed? Of course, I'm being funny, but if you weren't aware, there was some last-minute scrambling when we found out that a group of 90 kids plus chaperones had a WildNight Adventure (overnighter) scheduled Friday in the same room we were using for the joint meeting and potluck.

This was the kind of adversity that shows the positivity, resilience and cooperative attitude the Docent Auxiliary is known to have. A big thanks to Stacey Graham for all of her coordinating on our behalf! A big thanks to Marsha for arranging the program speakers to start 30 minutes later! If I tried to name individuals specifically I would surely leave someone out.

So to EVERYONE who pitched in... THANK YOU!!! The potluck was plentiful and delicious!

To our new trainees, you got to see your training in "human" example! 😊

*Kim Katalin, Social Chair*

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## Animal Enrichment

Many thanks to the February Docent Cannoli Crew and one spouse: Anne Wardrop, Jean Bennett, Marsha Fogarty, Kathy O'Donnell, Diane Brewner and Ron Solomon, who helped with prepping the cannoli bags.

Most of the paper rolls brought to the DRC have one end closed. So appreciate this!

*Ellie Solomon, Enrichment Chair*

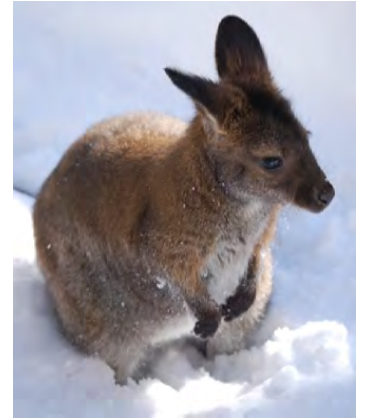
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## Protocol for Unexpected Cancellations

Following is the protocol for unexpected cancellations prior to an assigned shift. Stacey alerts:

- Loft: will contact Docent(s) signed up for shifts in Loft & BBY
- Austin Kennedy: (if any Starlight Safaris are scheduled) will contact Docents
- IE Chair: will contact Docent(s) scheduled in Penguins & Pelicans\*
- Dawn Moon: will contact Docent(s) scheduled for ZOOM Program
- Special Events Chair: will contact Docents scheduled for Events\*
- 2nd VP: will contact Docents scheduled for Tours\*



Docents can always feel free to contact the Zoo if there are any doubts.

*\* If the IE Chair, Special Event Chair, or 2nd VP are not reached; contact the Auxiliary President (as a backup).*

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## Articles and Information of Interest

- World Wildlife Fund: Take Our Fun Wildlife Quiz <https://bit.ly/3sq1zf2>
  - Newsweek: Grizzly Bears Make Yellowstone Wolves Behave in Unexpected Way, Study Finds <https://bit.ly/3pmRmhl>
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## Straw Ballot Reminder



**LOOK ME IN THE EYE AND TELL ME WHY YOU HAVEN'T MAILED IN YOUR CMZ STRAW BALLOT!**

**Due: SATURDAY, MARCH 19**

To: Sue Sallee, 2445 Wimbledon Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80920

*Sue Sallee, Past President*



## Animal Update

(December 2021 & January 2022)



- Grizzly bear “Emmett” – trained for voluntary dremelling of his claws
- Amur tiger “Chewy” – has been given several voluntary hand injections for immunotherapy treatment for allergies
- The entire wallaby mob and tree kangaroo were given their rabies vaccines through hand injection

• Von der Decken’s

hornbills “Karl” and “Dahlia” are building relationships with each other and the WEA keepers. Keepers have successfully started Dahlia on voluntary scale and crate behaviors

- We have changed the way we feed and enrich our lion groups (most food is now delivered through enrichment devices, finding hidden meat in the yard/dens). This is an attempt to increase their activity and decrease undesirable activity (pacing). We have seen a decrease in pacing and observed the lions spending more time actively searching for food and engaging their environment in new ways. All lions have become more skilled at removing their food from enrichment devices and are engaging in enrichment activities more often
- African lion “Aslan” is the first lion at CMZ to receive 100% of a Covid vaccine
- Amur leopards and snow leopard received 100% of a Covid vaccine
- Amur leopard “Anya” is behaving normally, and keepers are working towards restarting intros between her and Amur leopard “Anadyr”
- Curly haired tarantula “Mrs. Frizzle” and Greenbottle blue tarantula “Merriam Webster” cleared quarantine and moved to Treehouse
- Mexican wolf “Bluestem” shipped out to a facility in Mexico on a breeding recommendation
- Keepers successfully trained Alaskan moose “Atka” to place his back right foot on a block and are able to apply honey heal to a hoof crack. He was trained for the use of a Dremel on that hoof to further treat the crack and some improvement is being seen
- Twin lemurs “Elo” and “Anja” were successfully crated for the first time in order to receive immunization injections
- African grey crowned cranes “Tagi” and “Inzi” are voluntarily training to get on a podoscope so the keepers can observe the bottom of their feet
- Hippopotamus “Zambezi” was trained to stand for over 8 minutes to receive laser treatment therapy
- Siamang “Rahisia” is almost fully weaned from her mother “Eve” and as a result is spending a lot of time either hanging on dad “Wayan” or practicing climbing and swinging around on her own
- All peacocks are in winter holding
- Baby hippopotamus “Omo” has started eating more solid foods (bananas, pears, hay) and has approached keepers to receive snacks
- Mexican wolf pack is separated into two groups, males and females, during breeding season
- Hippopotamus “Omo” and warthog “Alexander” are developing quite the “friendship.” They are frequently seen looking for each other at shared fences, gates and mesh. They interact with each other by sniffing, following and licking each other through barriers
- Meerkat “Mayhem” was causing issues with his family mob and keepers suspect he was trying to improve his position in the hierarchy. He was moved to the EA meerkat enclosure to introduce him to our pair of females “Mojita” and “Clementine” with the hope they can create a more peaceful mob
- Abyssinian hornbills “Petrie” and “Layla” were successfully introduced and now live together 24/7 in the ARV basement. Keepers are happy to see Petrie have a friend after being alone for a long while and Layla is a little ham – always trying to play with him
- Black-tailed cribo “Walker” cleared quarantine and can be seen in Scutes Family Gallery
- Horticulture has placed vertical posts for the future second quills loop that is being added to the porcupine exhibit
- WEA keepers are continually improving our hippo baby proofing as baby “Omo” grows and is starting to become more independent

*Barbara Kalbli from CMZ Mission and Programs Update (reported February 8, 2022)*

## Teaching Conservation to Kiddos



The Education Committee has revised the ARV Poaching Station, renaming it the Conservation Station. The station card will be updated in the Elephant/Rhino cart and the Education Manual will be updated to reflect the changes next year. Let's take a look at the changes.

First and foremost, the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo seeks to connect kids of all ages to the animals at our zoo in the hope that such connections will inspire people to care about conservation. It's important to frame conservation messages in a positive manner. No one comes to the zoo to be bummed out, so an emphasis on the negatives is not exactly a 'goosebump' moment. By renaming the Poaching Station to the Conservation Station, the message is now about the importance of the animal to the ecosystem and the positive ways in which our zoo plays an important role in conservation and veers away from framing everything as killing, death, destruction and sorrow.

Second, the line "96 elephants a day are poached in Africa for their tusks" has been removed from the card. The 96 Elephants campaign was introduced in 2013 by the Wildlife Conservation Society to inform the public about the dire effects of poaching and to bring together NGOs, citizens and governments to stop the illegal trade of ivory. Our zoo and other AZA zoos supported the campaign. I still have a magnet the zoo gave out for 96 Elephants! The campaign was wildly successful. In 2016, the U.S. Federal government banned the sale of ivory in the United States. China promised to do the same that year. Also in 2016, the END Wildlife Trafficking Act was passed in the United States, the most significant anti-wildlife trafficking legislation, ever. Since then, the Wildlife Conservation Society has removed the 96 Elephants campaign from

their website, while still supporting field conservation efforts in 60 nations.

Importantly, we also want to follow good pedagogical standards for speaking to children; their development varies in stages by age. Recently, Stacey Graham, Director of EdVenture, commented about second graders (5 to 7 yo)...

*Remember – these kiddos have only been alive for a VERY short period of time. Some of them have only been walking and talking for 2 years! Trying to give them heavy information is too much. We want them to love the animal and the environment – and they won't understand what it means to be poached OR that the biofact is actually part of an animal.*

Stacey suggested we approach our tours and conservation messages by talking to children about elephants in general and asking what they have in common with them. For example, an elephant has an important job in the wild (pick one to discuss: ecosystem engineer, seed disperser, etc.), do you have any jobs at home? Highlight the special jobs elephants play in nature – and that if they cannot do those jobs, then the environment is no longer healthy. Stacey also plans to lead a training in March on all the developmental milestones of kiddos and how they relate to conservation messages: stay tuned!

For grades 5 and higher, you might let the tour know the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo has partnered with the Tsavo Trust to help protect elephants and rhinos in the largest national park in Kenya. Using both aerial surveys and ground patrols, Tsavo Trust helps prevent poaching in an effort to keep these iconic animals around for future generations. One of their programs is 'aerial reconnaissance' or flying in small aircraft to monitor the elephants below and to be able to catch illegal activities. You can learn more about the Tsavo Trust at <https://tsavotrust.org>.

Lastly, we can also emphasize the good work our zoo does in Africa to help conserve elephants and rhinos (and more!). Reminding tours about Quarters for Conservation at this station is an important way to spread the conservation message, and it's a fun activity to choose an animal at one of the kiosks and pop your token into it.

Here are some outtakes from my conversation with Stacey...

*The younger ones (5-7) — are really learning about themselves and how they fit into the world. It is going to be really hard to connect them to poaching, since that is not part of their lives. They are starting to develop a love and appreciation for nature, so telling them that people are killing elephants is not going to help them care more, it might push them farther away. They are also at*

*a pivotal developmental milestone where they feel more empowered with their new independence. This is a good tool in their education, as they are eager to participate and answer questions.*

*The older kiddos (8-10) — are really starting to think about the "why's" of the world. But, it's better for them to ask the questions instead of just telling them. These kids are typically excited about working together and creating teams — maybe you could give them the piece of hide or bracelet and ask them to work together to figure out which animal the items came from. They also do not do well with "doom and gloom," giving them positive information will allow them to feel more empowered and able to help. The negatives make them feel helpless or disengaged.*

*It's really not until 4th/5th grade that kids are developmentally able to really think about the impact of actions and how they play a role in the big picture.*

The spring tour season is upon us! Try out the new conservation message the next time you're on an ARV tour. See you out there!

*Cris Stoddard, on behalf of the Education Committee*

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### CMZA Zooline Information



Please send all submissions — information, articles, pictures. etc. — to: [cmza.zooline@yahoo.com](mailto:cmza.zooline@yahoo.com).  
**The deadline for the April issue is Monday, March 21.**

Thank you, Linnea McDonald & Joelle Shreves, Editors

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## 2022 CMZA CEC OPPORTUNITIES at ZOO SCHOOL – March Schedule

**This schedule shows only the CEC opportunities. Please arrive 15 minutes early for morning CECs.**

CEC Credit – you must attend both morning sessions # or both afternoon sessions # to get 1 CEC credit  
 You will get 1/2 CEC credit for attending 1 CEC session in a morning or an afternoon.

### Session 9 – March 5, 2022

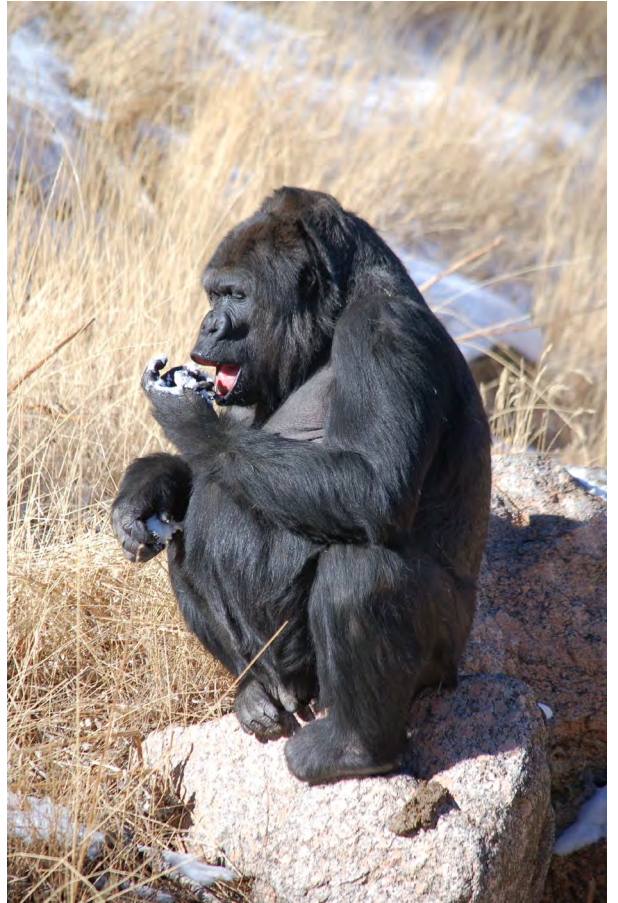
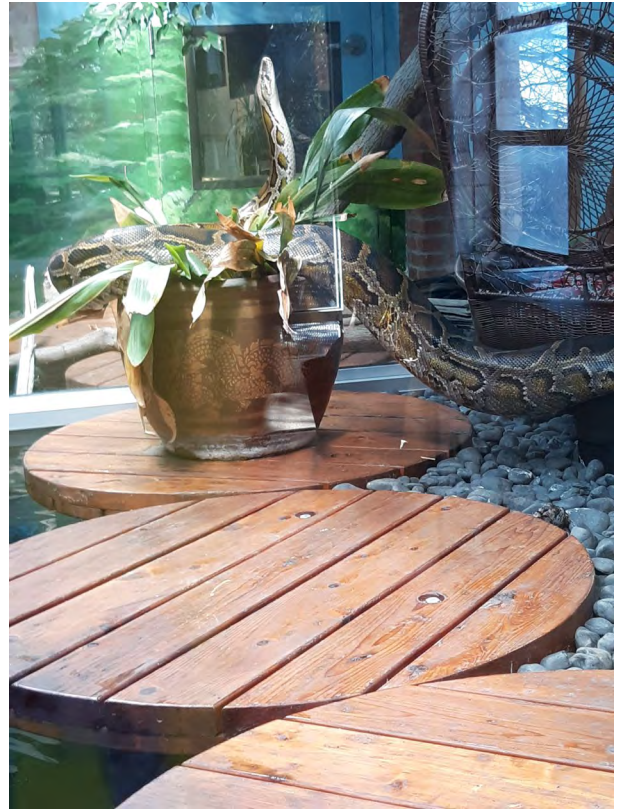
9:15	10:15	Ecology of Wolves and Bears	Cate Kelly	CEC
10:15	11:15	Ecology of Primates	Andrew Witherow	CEC
12:45	1:30	Ecology of Ferret/Otter, Skunk, Meerkats	Judy Sondermann	CEC
1:30	2:30	Characteristics of Birds	Charlotte Greene	CEC
2:30	2:45	Break		
2:45	3:45	Ecology of Birds	Charlotte Greene	CEC

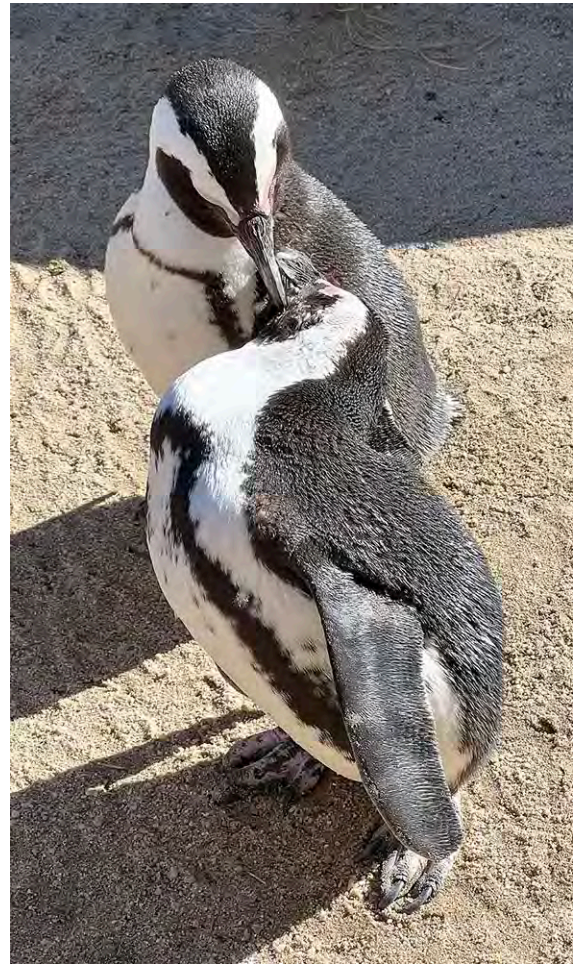
### Session 10 – March 12, 2022

9:30	10:15	Characteristics and ecology of Invertebrates	Barbara Kalbli	CEC
11:30	12:00	Lunch		
12:00	1:00	Characteristics and ecology of Amphibians and Reptiles	Charlotte Greene	CEC
1:00	2:00	Characteristics and ecology of Fish	Janet Carlisle	CEC

**March 26, 2022** – Makeup day if necessary

Zoo Photos





**Photos Courtesy of...**

**Page 1:** Red river hog Pinto enjoying the snow, from Susan Hoxie

**Page 2:** Tim Tam “enduring” the snow from Susan Hoxie

**Page 3:** One of our lions from Barbara Kalbli and one of our grizzlies, from Joelle Shreves

**Page 6:** (clockwise from top left) Slate, a chinchilla in the Loft enjoying her valentine enrichment from Jacklyn Watson; Mr. Slithers (new Burmese Python in Scutes) from Jeanie Baratono; and Asha, one of our gorillas, eating snow and then one of our Amur leopards from Susan Hoxie

**Page 7:** (clockwise from top left) Hoot (Hootenanny), our ambassador animal screech owl from RaNae Duran; grooming penguins and then Plato the Pelican, patrolling his territory during nesting season from Linnea McDonald; and Tim (a red-footed tortoise) getting some outside time for a meal from Susan Hoxie