

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Auxiliary Zoo Line



Volume 47 Edition 1

September, 2017

President's Message

By: Jeanie Baratono, President

Docents! I have been **THINKING ABOUT PALM OIL**. There's been quite a bit of discussion and confusion lately regarding the products we use in our cannolis so it's time for a refresher about palm oil, specifically products from sustainable plantations.

Palm oil is such a huge issue and the reason people are so passionate about it is that it affects something we all care deeply about—orangutans. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo has spent 5 weeks in Indonesia and Malaysia finding out as much as we could about the palm oil industry and how it affects orangutans and the planet. After talking with so many people that are on the ground and see the situation every day, CMZ made the decision to stop boycotting and start supporting the RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil). If companies are willing to join the RSPO they are headed in the right direction, and officially they are obligated to follow RSPO's principles and guidelines. There is more information on the RSPO on the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo's website.

Summarizing the Crisis.

- Supply and demand pressures are driving the production of palm oil up to an all-time high. Found in cookies, crackers, frozen dinners, shampoo, lotions, cosmetics, pet food, and many other products, palm oil is now the most widely produced edible oil. It is also found in a wide array of products sold in natural food stores, and is being used as a possible fuel alternative.
- Millions of acres of rainforest in Borneo & Sumatra are cut down each year to plant more oil palm. After logging rainforest habitat, palm oil companies often use uncontrolled burning to clear the land or peat swamp. In 1997-98 a devastating fire killed almost 8,000 orangutans in Borneo.
- Instead of using already cleared land, some companies choose to cut down healthy rainforest. They gain added profits from the timber and they can

ignore the regulations that sustainable plantations abide by.

- The increase demand for palm oil is fueling destruction of the rainforest where Sumatran and Bornean orangutans live. Estimates show that if something isn't done soon to stop the spread of non-sustainable palm oil plantations, orangutans and many other endangered species will go extinct.

YOU can make a difference!

- Shop responsibly. Use the Palm Oil Shopping App (available in Google Play or the App Store) when you go to the store. Support companies that have joined the RSPO.
- Write to your favorite restaurants and companies. Let them know that you care about orangutans and the environment, and that your concern is reflected in products you are willing to buy. Ask them to join the RSPO.
- Promote better labeling. Encourage RSPO companies to label products with the RSPO trademark. Ask them to indicate how much (%) of the palm oil is certified sustainable. Ask them to use only 100% segregated certified sustainable palm oil that is deforestation-free in their products.
- Go see wild orangutans. Your tourist dollars make the rainforests worth more standing than cut down for plantations. Check out Ecotourism.
- Spread the word to friends and family. Write to local legislators and the President. Ask them not to explore palm oil as a biofuel option.
- Write to Indonesian and Malaysian government officials. Ask them to preserve their precious natural resources
- Help with reforestation projects. Go to forests4orangutans.org for more information
- Buy orangutan art – 50% of each purchase goes to orangutan conservation.

CMZ has a team that meets regularly on this very subject and sends out guides and newsletters to keep us informed about what is going on with this important topic. All of this is available on the zoo's website. Check out the 'store' in Primate World, familiarize yourself with the area so that you can inform guests about this very important topic. *Jeanie Baratono*

IE PROGRAMS - TBA

FIELD TRIPS

Scheduled Field Trips for 2017-2018

Please RSVP for each event to: Joan Adkins joforhim@gmail.com.

2017 – 2018 CMZ Auxiliary Calendar

Meeting Times are 9:30 AM Education Committee meetings are held at 9:30 AM on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Safari Lodge. *Date / time/ or location change ** Mandatory Meeting

Sept 2017

6	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
9	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
13	TE Meeting **	Safari Lodge
16	Fall Fling	details to be announced but please recall the annual Autumn Woodsy event
23	Field Trip	Wild Horse Sanctuary

Oct 2017

4	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
11	TE meeting	Safari Lodge
14	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
18	CEC – Zoogeography	Safari Lodge
21	CEC – Zoogeography	Safari Lodge

Nov 1 CEC - Fall Recall Due Date

TE PROGRAMS

September 13 - We will have two programs for our September meeting. Two members of the zoo's palm oil team will present the first. They will provide an update on happenings in primate world along with additional information on palm oil. Marie Poyzer, Suzanne Twohig, Marsha Fogarty, and Mindy Mahler will give the second part of our program. They will provide a refresher regarding docent dress code, safari and tour signups and other requirements. **Remember** this is a **mandatory** meeting. This refresher gets us back into the groove of being excellent educators for the students and adults we serve.

October 11 – Becca Frucht, Education Outreach Director for Chico Basin Ranch will join us and provide information about the 87,000 acre working cattle ranch. She will talk about life on the ranch, ranch philosophy and conservation efforts to keep the land and ecosystem healthy. *Glenna French*

September 23, 2017 Wild Horse Sanctuary tour. www.wildhorse.com - I have 13 that are on the list with 10 at the Cabin and 3 staying at the Hills Inn. We have already sent our deposit into the Sanctuary but if anyone would still like to join us, they can pay \$40 at the time of the tour.

November 17, 2017 - Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

<http://www.dmns.org/natures-amazing-machines/> This features the Amazing Machines explaining and depicting how animals are so adaptable because of how they are made. We need a minimum of 10 for a non-member group rate of \$12.50 for Seniors and \$15.45 Adults. (I talked with a representative and they recommended Friday afternoon which would be after school groups left and not as crowded). Plan on meeting at Walmart on 8250 Razorback Rd north side near Garden Center at 11am to car pool. Lunch On your own.

February 17, 2018 - Butterfly Pavilion- Denver, with lunch at White Fence Ranch afterwards. Price \$5. With \$1 coupon off online. butterflies.org. Whitefarmranch.com. Plan to meet at the Walmart on 8250 Razorback (on the north side near garden center at 9am, to car pool).

April 20, 2018 – Henry Doorly Zoo Omaha, Nebraska. www.omahazoo.com/ Spring Zoo Admission: March 15 – April 30 Adults (ages 12 and over): \$8.95; Children (ages 3-11): \$5.95; Seniors (65 and over): \$8.45; Children (2 and under): FREE

May 19, 2018 - Emu ranch in Rocky Ford, Colorado - Meet at Target parking lot on Lake Avenue to car pool at 9am. I have arranged a tour of their property for 11am. (This tour has been rescheduled so that we can see baby chicks hatched in April). Price: Donations appreciated. Lunch at Christine's: Recommended as best pie EVER! <http://christinesfinediningco.com/contact/421483>

Joan Adkins

“HOW TO” SIGN UP FOR DOCENT TOURS VIA E-MAIL!

Please read the following information/procedure on **how to sign up for docent tours**.

Sign-ups for Docent Tours for all the following seasons (Fall, Winter, Spring) will be announced and happen after Board Meetings and TE Meetings. If tours are not filled after these two meetings, an email will go out to fill the tours, on a first come, first served basis.

Please DO NOT REPLY to the Tour Alert announcement. A separate e-mail needs to be sent to Mindy Mahler with your request.
zoodocentmahler@gmail.com

Please use this format when sending a separate email to sign up for a tour:

1. In the subject line to zoodocentmahler@gmail.com indicate the type of tour, date and time.
2. Example: On the subject line: **AM TOUR, September 14, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.**

Message: **Please sign me up!**

(Please include your full name at the end of your message) (You could also indicate that you would be willing to be a tour chair!)

You will receive a confirmation that you ARE or ARE NOT on the tour via email.

A finalized list of docents for the tour will be emailed out to everyone.

Each docent will be responsible for making sure he/she is **certified to lead the tour**.

All docents will be responsible **for finding a substitute** if they are not able to make a tour signed up for. Please notify the Tour Chair (and Mindy Mahler, Docent Tour Coordinator...use email above) of your replacement.

Sign in Sheets will be in the Bell Tower again this year.

Wear the authorized Auxillary attire/uniform for your tour!

Thank you for all you do at CMZ! We want all visitors to have a great experience, and you are all wonderful animal ambassadors! Share your smiles and enthusiasm!
Mindy Mahler

PS: This year there are tour and safari sign-ups available already so you can sign up in person immediately following the Board meeting on September 6th – around 10:30 or so. In person sign-

ups will also be available after the TE meeting on September 13. After that sign-ups will be available via email.



PS You saw the picture of the day in the Gazette. Here is another and different view of the family. Mindy's husband, Mark was the photographer. Their backyard.

JULY FINANCIAL REPORT

Restricted Account: In July the profit from King Soopers reloads was 652.75. Keep using your cards!! Money from Sustaining and Inactive Docents is starting to come in. Ending balance in the Restricted Account \$25,201.39.
Budget Account: \$187.31 was spent from DRC/Office Equipment for DRC cleaning, the copier, and a much needed carpet cleaning. \$14.98 was spent on popcorn supplies and \$7.84 on a cart notebook and pen holders. Operating Budget ending balance was \$4,110.38

If you wish greater detail of the July report, email me and I will send it to you.

Nancy Hochman

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

This month the featured keeper is **Eleanor Knox** from Primate World. Eleanor always wanted a job in wildlife conservation. When she saw how much zoos contribute to animal conservation and realized that she could work directly with animals every day she knew zoo keeping was the perfect career.

Eleanor completed university in Australia where she grew up and started interning/volunteering at a couple of small zoos there. Her husband is American so they decided to move to the US a few years back. She interned and got her first job in Oregon, then when a position came up in Primate World she applied and was successful. They moved to Colorado and love it here!

There is not a typical day in PW, there can be so much variation depending on what comes up. Generally they

do lots of training and enrichment, lots of interactions with guests, as well as the usual feeding and cleaning. One of the biggest challenges is keeping the animals busy and motivated – thinking of ways to keep primates mentally and physically active for longer periods of time can be tricky. It's nice when some of the simplest enrichment, like a new sheet, keep them entertained. Another continual challenge is engaging guests and getting out conservation message of sustainable palm oil understood. It is a fairly complex topic and it can be hard to get the message across quickly and effectively.



Eleanor and Eve (photo by Deb Compton)

CEC NEWS PLUS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

October 18 and 21 - Zoogeography refresher and exam to qualify for tours.

Each class will meet at 9:30 in the Safari Lodge. CEC credit given for attendance.

January 13 and 17th CEC class on Water will be offered from 9:30-11:30 in the Safari Lodge on the 17th. The class on the 13th will immediately follow the IE meeting – approx. time at 11. Better estimate will follow.

One CEC credit will be earned for attendance.

Plus on Saturday December 2 we will offer a CPR certification class. Certification by the American Heart Association will be given at the completion of

the class. Expected cost is \$25. The class will be from 2 to 3 hours and you must let me know if you want to attend. Please let me know (**Susan Potterat**) if you are interested. My phone is 719-632-3120 and my email is sbpotterat@yahoo.com

The Fall Recall is also included in this edition of Zooline. Successful completion gives you a CEC credit. **Sue Potterat**

MEET YOUR BOARD

This month the featured docent is the 1st Vice President, **Sue Switzer**. Sue's first volunteer experience was when she was 14 years old. In the summer of 1966, the City of Colorado Springs, began "Pollywog Park", a day camp for the developmentally and physically disabled at Prospect Lake. She was a "counselor-in-training" for 4 years until she became a paid recreation leader at \$1.73 per hour! Sue worked at the camp during summer vacations and became the camp director upon graduation in 1974 from the University of Northern Colorado, with a degree in Special Education.

Sue worked for the City of Colorado Springs and Colorado Springs Utilities for 31 years and retired in February 2003. For the first 8 years she worked for the Parks and Recreation Department and she transferred to the Human Resources Department, where she finished out her career as an employee relations specialist,

Sue knew she wanted to be associated with an animal related organization for her first volunteer experience during retirement. Her friend, Nancy Lewis, was on the Zoo Board at that time and told her about all the great things the docents did at the zoo. She started out as a volunteer in May 2003, cleaning exhibits and preparing diets. Sue has fond memories of cleaning the indoor hippo pool and the budgie exhibit in the old Bird and Reptile Building (Scutes). Glenn Carson interviewed her in the fall of 2003, and "Zoo School" began the following January, under the leadership of Greta Johnson and Patsy McAteer. Nancy Hochman was her mentor.

Sue's favorite animals are Kasai and Zambezi, our hippos. She can hardly wait for them to return to their new home!! She is also fascinated by the Long-tailed Grass Lizards in Scutes.

Sue also volunteers at the Colorado Springs Assistance League and the Therapeutic Recreation Community Partners, and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Zoo. **Jeanie**

EdVenture Updates

The Bees Are Here!!

FINALLY!! We said a while ago (what seems like ages ago now) that we would soon be getting honey bees back into the hive in the Big Backyard Tree House. We had one colony all set to move in, and the day before they got here.....the queen died and the colony had to be restarted and acclimated to a new queen. As we all know....sometimes it can take awhile to get comfortable to a new leader. Well, after weeks of acclimating and rebuilding combs, our honey bees were cleared for transport and delivered to us on August 18th.

Mike and Sandy Halby run a “Bee School” in Colorado Springs and help teach people how to have their own backyard bee hive, the allowed Jenny Diaz to attend the program and set us up with a thriving hive. They also provide education colonies, like ours, to places like Bear Creek Nature Center. They are a wonderful couple and have been in the “bee biz” for the last 18 years.



Moving the bees in took about 20 minutes total. Mike carefully slid frames out of a small hive box, Sandy sprayed the bees down with a little water (so they wouldn't fly away), and then slid the frames into our observation hive. Kevin and I stood back and watched as there were LOTS of bees in the air- but it was a truly fascinating experience!

Make sure you visit our honey bees the next time you are in Big Backyard! And be sure to look for the queen- she has a very obvious white dot on her abdomen.



Stacey

Enrichment

From our hands to their mouths.

We had a very fun and seriously productive hour making cannoli following the I/E meeting in August. I hope you will join us:

- Following the T/E meeting in September
- Following the I/E meeting in October
- Following the T/E meeting in November
- While there are no planned meetings in November the animals still need us. We'll come up with a day that works best for you as we get closer.

We use 150 paper towel rolls and 100 toilet paper rolls per month. I desperately need paper towel rolls and non-dyed packing paper. Please consider bringing to the DRC (we crimp one end of each roll, if you want to help in this way by doing prior to dropping off).

From Eleanor Knox, Senior Animal Keeper (Primates):

Our intern Ashton Ashbury has actually just finished up her semester with us and took these pictures for us while on the job.

“We use cannoli to give us an easy and safe way for guests to feed our great apes - usually during Defining Moments or paid animal encounters.”

2017 FALL RECALL

Completing this quiz fulfills one of two required CEC requirements for the year; please complete it by 1 November 2017 -- either email it to me (Susan Potterat) or mail it to my home address (sbpotterat@yahoo.com or 2901 Country Club Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80909) **PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THIS OR I WILL NOT KNOW WHO SUBMITTED THIS RECALL!**

1. TRUE OR FALSE QUESTIONS:

- A. An emu is flightless because it lacks wings Circle one: T F
- B. Of all birds only chickens have teeth T F
- C. Convergent evolution is where organisms which are not closely related independently evolve similar traits T F
- D. The number of prey animals outnumbers the number of predator animals by a ratio of 10 to 1 T F
- E. Giraffes blood pressure readings and heart beats are twice that of healthy humans T F
- F. All felines have retractile claws T F
- G. There are more species of fish than all species of reptiles, birds, amphibians, and mammals combined T F

2. It's said that observing eye placement in animals provides cues about lifestyle. Discuss the differences between giraffe and lion eye placement and the advantages each provides.

3. Give 5 differences between Old World and New World monkeys:

4. The colobus monkey has eyes in front of his head; this binocular vision suggests a hunting lifestyle. Why does this principally primary consumer seem to defy the "Eyes in front: I hunt. Eyes on the side: I hide" saying?

5. Give 6 differences between reptiles and amphibians:

6. DEFINE AND, FOR EACH TERM, PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF AN ANIMAL FOUND IN OUR ZOO:

- A. Precocial:
- B. Nictitating membrane:
- C. Perissodactyl:
- D. Keystone species:
- E. Graviportal:
- F. Cheek pouches:
- G. Aposematic:
- H. Cursorial:
- I. Brachiate:
- J. Ectothermic:

7. Name 5 differences between African and Asian elephants:

8. Define food chain and provide example of a food web in the following:

- A. Savannah:
- B. Alpine Tundra:
- C. Desert:

9. Snow leopards, Mexican gray wolves, and colobus monkeys all have tails, yet these tails serve different functions. What are these functions?

10. Name 8 contributing factors to species becoming endangered:

Your Name:

Date:



CMZ Auxiliary ZooLine

September, 2017

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



Tristan (Judy Schlei)



August enrichment (Lisa Forbes)

