

President’s Message – Marianne Brooks

Dear Docents,

Mark your calendars for our annual Potluck on **Saturday, February 8**, in the **Lodge at Moose Lake**. At the meeting, our wonderful trainees will introduce themselves,

Dr. Lizzie will be our guest speaker, and you can catch up with fellow docents during lunch. Additionally, **Jeanie** will present information about nominations and the **Interest Survey** (formally called straw ballot) for the Executive Board and supplemental chair positions. Look for her Zooline article for more information.

I encourage you to consider nominating yourself or others (with their concurrence) for the Interest Survey and these important positions! It is a great way to get involved and help shape our auxiliary.

Exciting news—the Colorado Supreme Court unanimously dismissed a lawsuit filed by the Nonhuman Rights Project (NhRP) that sought to use habeas corpus to remove our African elephants from the zoo.

In other exciting news—we have a brand-new baby sloth now on exhibit in Scutes! This little one has already captured the hearts of staff and visitors alike, so be sure to stop by and say hello to our adorable new addition.

The docent private Facebook page is really taking off—it is the perfect spot to post interesting articles, fun zoo-related finds, or other items that may not be quite right for the Zooline or an all-docent email. If you are not currently a member of the group, we would love to have you join. Please feel free to email Judy Sondermann or me for an invitation.

Lastly, as we look ahead to spring, **Mac and Judy** are hard at work preparing for the upcoming tour season. With ongoing construction, they are taking extra steps to ensure things are as seamless as possible for docents. Your **flexibility** will be key during this time, and we greatly appreciate your patience and support.

Thank you for all you do for the zoo, the animals, and guests. Looking forward to seeing you at the potluck!

Warm regards, Marianne

Zoo 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

Most meetings start at 9:30 a.m.

CECs at 9:30 a.m.

Education Committee at 10:30 a.m.

- Feb 5..... Exec/Sup Board Meeting..... SL
- Feb 8..... Docent Meeting/Potluck .. LML
- Feb 22... CEC on Conservation LML
- Feb 26... Education Committee DRC

- Mar 5 Exec Board Meeting DRC
- Mar 12... Docent MeetingSL
- Mar 19.... Conservation CEC.....SL
- Mar 22... Conservation...CEC.....LCL
- Mar 26.... Education Committee DRC

Key:

- DRC = Docent Resource Center
- LML = Lodge at Moose Lake
- SL = Safari Lodge
- ** = Expected Attendance

CECs and TRAINING

- Feb 1, 8, 15..Zoo School SL
- Feb 22Conservation CEC...LML

- Mar 1, 8, 15.... Zoo School.....SL
- Mar 19.... Conservation CEC.....SL
- Mar 22...Conservation...CEC.....LCL

Note: CECs are available for Zoo School sessions (see page 7 of the December issue for the full schedule)

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Speaker for the February Meeting

Greta Johnson
President-Elect

Our speaker for the Feb. 8 meeting at the Lodge at Moose Lake, will be Dr. Lizzy Arnett-Chin one of our associate veterinarians. She will tell us about some of her interesting cases. And don't forget to stay for the luncheon!

Considering New Roles: It is Time to Think About Board Positions

Jeanie Baratono
Past President/Nominating Committee Chair

It is time to start thinking about the Auxiliary Board for 2025-2026. Shortly, I will be sending a brief description of the positions held in the Auxiliary. I will also send out a roster of the docents and what positions they have held. After that, I will send out an Interest Survey. This is a way for you to give back to the Auxiliary.

Please specify any positions you are interested in on the survey. Feel free to select more than one. At the February 8 meeting, I will have paper copies available, and I will be collecting the Interest Surveys through the month of February and into March. Shortly after the March 12 docent meeting, the Nominating Committee will meet to begin choosing the Executive Board that will be voted on at the May 10 and 14 meetings.

The Auxiliary is calling on you to step up and get involved. You play an important part in helping the Auxiliary evolve and move forward. Please consider how you can help with that process and in doing so support the mission of the zoo.

CEC Report

Charlotte Greene
CEC Chairperson

The Spring Fling is here. Working with Nicole Chaney, the Zoo Conservation Manager and Jan Hanley, we have produced a handout on Conservation. The Fall Recall helped us improve our skills in Making Connections through animal stories, anecdotes, and other interesting information. Now, let's work on our conservation messages. Read the handout on page 12 and fill out the Spring Fling Quiz on page 16. **The deadline is April 30, 2025.** You can send the completed quiz by email or snail mail.

To go along with the Spring Fling, we will have a General CEC on Conservation on Saturday, February 22, at 9:30am in the Lodge at Moose Lake. For the first part of the program, Nicole will present slides and videos and speak to us about the exciting and important programs with which our zoo is involved. During the second part, we will head out to WEA and PW. We will divide into

three groups and continue discussing conservation messages and how best to pass them on to guests. There might be an opportunity to go down below the hippo pools and see the incredible filtration system that helps with water conservation.

We have had 61 CECs awarded for the Fall Recall, 46 for the Life Cycle Tour Refresher in October, and 21 for Zoo School attendees and presenters. There are a few of you who have not completed any CECs yet. Some really great opportunities are available right now, so take some time and get your 2 CEC requirement completed.

Another terrific opportunity to refresh your knowledge and earn a CE Credit is by attending designated Zoo School classes. Check the December Zooline pages 7-9 for details. You must attend all the sessions marked and sign in on the roster to receive credit. Please remember that these training sessions are for the new class. During the instruction, hold your comments and questions. After the class, feel free to contact the instructor with any areas that need clarification.

The Library – Articles, Videos and Books of Interest

- [Brush-tailed bettong bouncing back from the brink of extinction](#)
This tiny bettong was over 90% extinct and now scientists are celebrating its continued recovery
- [Festival that showcases massive migration](#)
20,000 massive Sandhill cranes as they migrate from their winter habitat and set to return to Colorado
- [Four Lynx Illegally Released](#) Raise Concerns: Officials Blame 'Guerrilla Rewilding'
- [Giant Panda Steals Hearts at the National Zoo](#)
Experience the Charm: A Heartwarming Video Featuring Beloved Pandas

AMP (Animals, Missions, Programs) Update, Note: Zoo Family Only Information

- We have a new sloth baby! Mom and baby are now on exhibit in Scutes.
- Atka the moose still has his antlers and has loved destroying all the enrichment in his yard.
- Valens the snow leopard is now on exhibit in the south yard, he is doing much better with training.
- Yazhi the mountain goat is elderly and was losing weight, but with the addition of wheat grass for her, she is doing much better.
- Hippos Omo and Zambezi are practicing being apart – Omo now weighs 2000 lbs.
- WEA staff are training the lemurs in the Hippo Plaza for guests to see a lemur demonstration that will begin in the spring.

- Mashama the giraffe has been receiving acupuncture for his foot, and it seems to be helping.
- Mahali the giraffe is in hospice care – he is 21! – but is participating in hoof care treatments again.
- Tamarin Dot passed away due to heart failure, she was over 11 and the median age is 7.2 years.
- Chewy the tiger had a foot wound that was healed using laser therapy and foot soaks, which keepers trained him to do. All healed now.
- Lynx Kajika is on medicine for arthritis.
- Red River Hog Finn and Lemur Anja are both on birth control.
- Prehensile tailed porcupine Mocha has skin issues, after consulting with a dermatologist it was determined she has allergies.

Cartmaster Notes

*Janet Carlisle
Cartmaster*

It is cold outside, but you want to spend time at the zoo interpreting with guests, so where do you go?

With the new entrance, the first stop might be WEA. You can always spend time interpreting penguins, even if you have not signed up for a Penguins & Pelicans shift. The new penguin chart is located in the cabinet in the penguin building or in the cart notebooks. The public loves to see the "love connections" among our little flock! Just sign your hours in the WEA notebook.

Next stop could be the Hippo or Primates buildings—both nice warm buildings. Any building with animals is an opportunity.

It is easy to steer clear of the Loft if you are not a certified Zoom docent, but you can wander in and interpret there as well. Same with budgies! Do not forget Scutes and of course, the Elephant barn.

Another spot to find warmth—both the Grizzly and Otter viewing areas have warming stations—just push the button and those infrared warmers really do the trick!

For additional warm up, don't forget that docents get half price hot drinks (or food) and free regular coffee and/or cold drinks with your refillable cup. A chilly day at the zoo is great—enjoy!!

If you have not seen the new raccoon habitat yet, it is very nice and just downhill from the expanded grizzly area. To honor and better interpret our three new raccoons, I've recently added a new biofact for everyone to enjoy: a raccoon pelt. You can find it in the bear cart.

Remember: Have fun at our zoo and keep helping people to fall in love with our animals!!

Mary Humphreys, a long-time docent, passed away

*Submitted by Kathy Kidd
CMZA Corresponding Sec*

Mary Humphreys passed away on December 25, 2024, at the age of 95. As an elementary school teacher, Mary guided over 1,000 five-year-olds on their educational journeys.



She was also an author, having published two books: "The Cog Train to the Zoo" and, with Dona Bymaster, "The Rest of the Story, 1937-2006," detailing the history of the train route from the Broadmoor Hotel to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.

After retirement, Mary generously dedicated her time to volunteer work. She was part of the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Docent program from 1986 to 1995 and sustaining membership from 1995 to 2012. Her volunteer activities also included the McAllister House Museum, Fountain Creek Nature Center, Good Shepherd UMC Food Pantry, Kentucky Red Bird Mission, and New Mexico McCurdy Mission.

Mary's legacy of kindness and love will echo in the hearts and lives of those she touched forever.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and everyone who knew and loved her.

[Read the entire obituary here](#)

Time to order Docent Uniforms

Michael Stein

It is time to refresh our uniforms! Whether you need new products or replacements for older ones, now is the time to place your orders.

IMPORTANT: The deadline has been adjusted to ensure trainees receive their uniforms before the end of class. All orders must be submitted **NO LATER THAN FEB 8**.

Please make all checks payable to CMZA. Allow a week for mail delivery, or you can drop off your orders during class any Saturday up until Feb 8. Orders received after the joint meeting on Feb 8 will be too late.

You previously received an email from Michael with the order form. Links to the uniform options are on Page 17.

Do not be disappointed—send in your order soon!

Welcome to the Team: 2025 Class of Docent Trainees

Joelle Shreves
VP Education

I am proud to introduce our 2025 docent class! Seasoned docents, whenever you spot our new docent trainees at the zoo, please extend a warm welcome and share your valuable insights. Your support is truly invaluable to them!

Kay Beim

I have been a widow for about 3 ½ years and am a mother of three grown children and three grandchildren. I moved to Colorado Springs 10 years ago. I am earning an Applied Science for Photography associate degree at Pike Peak State College. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is one of my happy places. I love to come here to photograph the animals and share what I have learned while attending keeper talks throughout the zoo. I have always been interested in becoming a docent but never knew how to get into the program until this past year. The opportunity to apply kept presenting itself whenever I was scrolling through Facebook and after talking to a docents at the zoo, I decided to apply and hopefully join this group of amazing people.



Amber Chapman

I've always had a deep love for animals, and I've been lucky enough to share that passion with others throughout my career. As a teacher at Woodland Park Secondary School, I work with amazing students who need

a little extra support. I'm currently finishing my master's in special education and am always looking for new ways to inspire a love of learning. I previously spent eight years as a docent at the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, and I am excited to bring my experience and enthusiasm to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.

Hyperion Chinaware

I am 24, and a zookeeping student at PPSC. I moved here from Michigan in 2022 and now live with my partner and our two cats! I wanted to be a part of the docent program because I've always been passionate when it comes to learning about animals, as well as sharing that passion with others. I look forward to getting to know everyone as we continue learning together throughout our docent journey!



Maria Clifford

I was born in Mexico City, Mexico. I came to the USA when I was 4 years old. I grew up in Southern California in a farming town called Chatsworth. I graduated with a nursing degree and have now practiced nursing for 47 years. The last 5 years, I was an educator. I am married to Dr. Larry Clifford (retired podiatrist), and have 4 adult children, Zack, Jacob, Lucas, and Rachael. I am blessed with 13 grandchildren.



Currently, I work at Penrose Hospital in the Perioperative Care Dept. I prepare patients for surgery. My husband and I have been coming to Colorado Springs for almost 10 yrs. On our first visit to COS as an outing, we bought the family membership for the Zoo. We had a magical visit. I fell in love with this Zoo. We bought the grandparent membership before we left because we wanted to come to the Zoo whenever we came to COS. We have brought out-of-town guests and family to the Zoo and always made wonderful memories. As I began to prepare to retire from nursing, I thought about what I wanted to give my time to, and I was fortunate to meet one of you amazing docents. I realized I have always sought out the different zoos in all the cities I have lived. I love being outdoors and I love teaching. I am excited to be starting this new chapter of my life.



Andrea Fackler

I've been in Colorado Springs for 4 years, while my husband lives in Warner Robins, GA, with our almost 14-year-old Cocker Spaniel, *Pidge*. I have been in the Air Force for 21 years and am

stationed at Schriever Space Force Base. I have 2 associate's degrees, a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in information systems technology and am currently a Junior at Brigham Young University – Idaho working on another bachelor's degree in applied business management. I also love using the Fahlo app and currently track 3 sloths, 2 penguins, 2 manatees, a red wolf, a mountain gorilla, a giraffe, and an elephant.



Jen Filonowich

I've lived in Colorado Springs for 34 years, but I am a Colorado Native. I have been happily (for the most part) married for 33 years. We have two adult sons and a lovely daughter-in-law. A funny fact is that my oldest son and his wife met at the zoo while they were JZKs. It is no surprise they live on a farm in South Carolina with 7 goats (two recently born), 40 or so chickens, 9 turkeys and some quail. We have always been a "critter" family,

having cared for frogs, bearded dragons, various snakes, hamsters, guinea pigs and even hissing cockroaches. Currently, we are the lifetime caretakers for a Hermann's tortoise (who is currently in hibernation) and a 4-year-old Japanese Chin. I am a semi-retired educator and spend a lot of my time reading, writing, and painting watercolor landscapes. I am excited to start this next part of my journey.

Lorraine Fishman

I grew up in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, and moved to Colorado in 1989. My husband and I have lived in Colorado Springs since 1990. We have two adult children who also reside in Colorado Springs. I was an educator for 35 years, 33 of those teaching military children at Fort Carson. I retired in 2022 and enjoy volunteering in a Kindergarten class. My hobbies include daily walks, knitting, reading, card making, skiing, and supporting a local philanthropy organization. As a docent, I look forward to sharing and educating zoo visitors about the animals at the zoo, the conservation efforts supported by the zoo and promoting its unique qualities. I hope to make the guests' experience a positive one and for them to leave, having gained some new knowledge as well as a newfound respect for wildlife and conservation.



Lisa Heckel

I've lived in Colorado most of my life and in Colorado Springs since 1993. I recently retired after 10 years in various community college positions with a focus on healthcare education. A few years ago, I had the summers off, and I became more familiar with the zoo and fell in love. I treasure the experiences the zoo provides for our community and our visitors and becoming a docent will enable me to contribute. Volunteering has been a big part of my life for many years. The activities I continue to support are as trail staff coordinator for the Pikes Peak Challenge to support the Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado; as a turtle hospital volunteer at Sea Turtle Inc in South Padre Island, Tx; and as a cat foster for Safe Place for Pets.



April Johnson

I am a long-time animal lover with a huge passion for conservation, connection, and kindness. Being a part of this incredible docent program means I get to weave all those loves together to help people understand how vital and important our role is as humans to help the animals. When not trying to look at all the toe beans in the animal kingdom, I work as an Associate Narrative Director making big budget video games. I also teach hot yoga and bake great vegan lemon bars.

Mary Moore

I am originally from Illinois but have been in the Springs for the last 6 years. I first visited Cheyenne Mountain Zoo for the Electric Safari and was impressed by the integration of the natural environment of the mountain into the animals' habitats. I am the type of person who is so interested in every subject that it is hard to pick just one to focus on. I have a degree in urban studies, a degree in philosophy, and currently work in accounting. However, over the years I realized that the one subject I naturally gravitate to and spend most of my free time on is environmental conservation. As a lover of animals, I want to conserve their natural spaces, so they can thrive. After many years of contemplation, I decided to take the leap and go back to school for a degree in biology and a career change. I wanted to join the docent program to immerse myself in what I am learning and gain knowledge of these animals to better help protect them and their habitats in the future. I have also been looking for a community and ways to give back, so this was the perfect opportunity! I am so excited to be a part of this program and the zoo's lasting legacy.



Mary Norman

I cannot wait to dive into my role as a CMZ Docent. I have always had a passion for animals of all kinds, and I'm eager to expand my knowledge about conservation and caring for large animals. After retiring from a career in technical sales and engineering, I really missed the teaching and interacting with my customers. I am busy volunteering at my church and have previously led tours at the University of Texas and Compassion International. I am really looking forward to engaging with both adults and kids, and I love the flexibility that comes with this volunteer role.



Pam Peters

I am very excited about the opportunity to become a CMZ docent. I am on my second retirement, and this one looks like it is going to stick. I first retired from the Air Force, where I worked in Computers and Communication Systems. I had an opportunity to teach at the Air Force Academy while I was active duty and liked that so much that after retiring from the Air Force, my second career was as a college professor. I retired from teaching in 2022, and it has been a whirlwind since, spending time doing what I enjoy — hiking, quilting, traveling, and volunteering in our community. I love animals and have been volunteering for special events at the Zoo, which is where I heard about the docent program. I have been a docent before at other places and I enjoy sharing knowledge with people, so this seems like a perfect fit. I look forward to learning more about the CMZ and all the animals and being part of the docent program.

Mary Sisko

I was born in Colorado, and I've spent all my life between Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. I have been in Colorado Springs since 2019. I work in the tech industry (for Microsoft as a support engineer). I also love martial arts and go to karate a few times a week. I have always loved animals, especially invertebrates (even more specifically: insects and arachnids)! I wanted to be a docent to be closer to the animals and meet new people. I work from home, so it is another good way to get out of the house. It also, in a way, feels like doing something meaningful to reconnect with nature after spending most of my days sitting at a desk and staring at a computer screen.



Rebecca Whittaker

I am a Colorado native. I was educated in California where I married and raised my son. I returned to Colorado in 2008, divorced, and recently retired from nursing after a 38-year career I loved. While I enjoyed sleeping in and working in my yard, I noticed the house was quiet and maybe even lonely. Friends

suggested pets. I pictured my home filled with the love and affection of dogs and cats, and fur and squeaky toys and puppy pads and dirty litter boxes. When I heard about a 2025 class of CMZ Docents trainees, I decided to try challenging my brain to learn about the animals at the zoo. With luck, I will adopt the big cats and the bears and the orangutans.



Michele Benoit-Koski

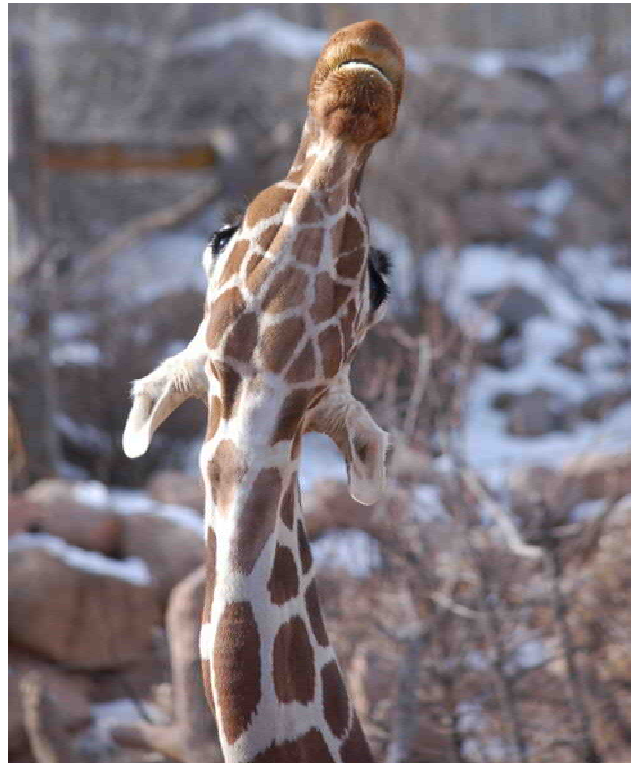
I moved to Colorado Springs a year ago, after living in Florida for several years, and most recently, Montana. I am originally from Connecticut, where I met my husband, Brian, and we raised our two children, Jonathan, and Georgia. As an outdoor enthusiast, I enjoy hiking, camping, and spending time in nature with my two dogs, Mowgli, and Jeeves. I chose to volunteer as a docent at CMZ because I can combine my love for wildlife along with my experience as a high school teacher to educate visitors on wildlife conservation and inspire their love for nature and animal conservation.



Antics at the Zoo



Warm and Fuzzy: Ferrets sharing sweet moments in a basket. Courtesy of Alia Cooper



Amani the giraffe, affectionately dubbed "The Diva" by her fans, is easily recognized by her dramatic head rolls. Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



*With the grace of a sloth, the determined Bean shows that slow and steady effort leads to success.
Courtesy of Susan Hoxie*



*Four of our cherished chickens enjoying the Big Back Yard.
Courtesy of Deborah Compton*



Asha, Baka, the Mexican wolf, and the Rocky Mountain goat experiencing the magic of various snowy days. Courtesy of Deborah Compton



Giraffe Shenanigans: Freshly out in the yard, the keepers are skillfully bribing these giraffes to stay out. Notice the drawbridge is still up! Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



*The Fab Five penguins, making every waddle count. It's their world, we're just living in it.
Courtesy of Shery Rix*



Manny, the degu—a small, social rodent native to Chile. They are known for their friendly and active nature. Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



Axolotl The extraordinary "Mexican walking fish" known for its regenerative superpowers and eternal youthful charm. A kid's favorite. Courtesy of CMZoo



Thirsty Goma—the Western Gorilla getting a drink from a favorite keeper. Courtesy of Deborah Compton



Beezler's has a dilemma— Indulge in the crunchy delight of her favorite browser or bask in the warm embrace of the winter sun? Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



We are all overjoyed to welcome our little sloth, happily nestled in the treetops with mom. Courtesy of Jeanie Baratono



High above, the Orangutan surveys the world below—a majestic vantage point. Courtesy of Deborah Compton



A ring-tailed lemur stands watchful— alert to the guests' arrival. Courtesy of Deborah Compton



Ouray—the majestic bald eagle reigns with unrivaled vision and power. Courtesy of Deborah Compton



Ever watchful on the horizon, meerkats stand tall as the vigilant guardians of their mob. Courtesy of Deborah Compton



*Red River Hogs–Finn and baby Tumbo small, enjoying a leisurely afternoon snack together
Courtesy of Susan Hoxie*



Aysan, the mama sloth, relaxed contentedly with her precious new baby nestled close. Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



Behold Atka– the Alaskan moose–flaunting a splendid new set of antlers! Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



*One of our proud Mexican wolves stands vigilant, a symbol of the wilderness in the heart of the city.
Courtesy of Sheryl Rix*



*Magnificent Sumagu Sumatran Orangutan
Courtesy of Deborah Compton*



*Lucky and Kimba, our beloved grand dames of the African elephant family, enjoying their enrichment time.
Courtesy of Susan Hoxie*

Fond Farewell to the Giraffe Statues

Taking in one last look at the beautiful giraffe statues that added charm and elegance to the plaza.

Courtesy of Susan Hoxie



Docent Uniforms Links

Michael Stein

There have been a few questions regarding the new uniform items. I have included pictures of each of the latest items at the links below. Please note the cost of the items on the website does not reflect the cost for CMZA. Any specific details (material, washing instructions, etc.) concerning these items can be seen at the Tayco website: <https://taycoscreenprinting.com/>

[JST56 Sport-Tek® Waterproof Insulated Jacket: Note - this item is unisex.](#)

[88181 CORE365 Men's Origin Performance Piqué Polo:](#)

[78181 CORE365 Women's Origin Performance Piqué Polo:](#)

[88191 CORE365 Men's Origin Performance Long-Sleeve Piqué Polo:](#)

[78191 CORE365 Women's Origin Performance Long-Sleeve Piqué Polo:](#)

[Port Authority Brushed Twill Cap](#)

CMZA Zooline Information Reminder



Send in your submissions—whether it is information, articles, pictures, or ideas for articles to appear in the March issue to:

cmza.zooline@yahoo.com. The deadline for submissions is **Saturday–February 22.**

Thank you!

Joan Thorn, Editor

CONSERVATION HANDOUT

SPRING FLING 2025

*Provided by Nicole Chaney
CMZoo Conservation Manager*



The zoo definition of conservation is: **Protecting, preserving, and restoring wild places and the species that live in them.**

We have four conservation programs at CMZoo:

1. Quarters for Conservation (Q4C) Legacy Projects-tier 1
2. Ongoing Conservation Projects-tier 2
3. Member Vote Projects-tier 3
4. Emergency Funding-tier4

Read on for more information about each program.

PROGRAM 1

Q4C (Quarters for Conservation)

Q4C (Quarters for Conservation) is CMZoo's main program. The zoo website gives the following information about Q4C:

“Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is committed to the preservation of the Earth and its wildlife. Beyond living green ourselves, our ongoing wildlife conservation projects and our Q4C initiative, we are committed to spreading the word about how each and every one of us can make a difference in the health and sustainability of wildlife and wild places.

Each visit to our Zoo directly supports wildlife conservation. With 75 cents in tokens from each admission, Zoo guests help fund our long-term conservation projects at our Quarters for Conservation kiosks. Since this program started in 2008, this program has raised more than \$5 million for field conservation.

Here's how Q4C works.

- Projects reflect species represented in CMZoo's collection.
- Each project has a dedicated kiosk at the front entrance.
- Kiosks reflect strong long-term partnerships with field-based organizations working to save these species.
- 75 cents from each admission ticket goes towards these projects.
- Guests receive three tokens, which represent three quarters.

CMZ Legacy Q4C Projects

Amur Tiger: Less than 600 in the wild in Russia and China Giraffe

- Primary threats include poaching and habitat fragmentation and loss.
- Partnership with GCF, Giraffe Conservation Foundation
- Anti-poaching, snare removal, ranger support and vet support in Uganda
- Conservation translocations

African Elephant and Black Rhino-Protecting the Last Super Tuskers

- Main threats are poaching for ivory and horn.
- Partnership with Tsavo Trust
- Anti-poaching aircraft, ground patrols and ranger support
- Community conservation and education

Panamanian Frogs

- Main threat to amphibians is chytrid fungus, which has spread globally.
- 12 species have been brought into quarantine facilities to keep them safe.
- Being bred for eventual re-release and chytrid-resistant research

Black-Footed Ferrets/Saving a Species on the Brink of Extinction

- Only ferret species found in the Americas.
- Plague and prairie dog eradication programs are main threats.
- Only 18 remained in the mid 1980's.
- CMZoo has been breeding and releasing BBFs since 1991
- 1/2 stay in the breeding program and 1/2 are released into the wild

Orangutans and Palm Oil

- Main threat is habitat loss due to non-sustainable palm oil plantations.
- Partner with Hutan to support reforestation projects in Malaysia.
- Don't boycott, use sustainable palm oil.
- RSPO is the Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil
- PalmOil Scan is a global shopping app developed by CMZ and WAZA
- CMZ's Palm Oil Coordinator lobbies companies to use 100% sustainable palm oil.

Wyoming Toads

- Most endangered amphibian in North America
- Found in the Laramie Basin of Wyoming
- Main threats are habitat loss and chytrid fungus.
- Considered extinct in the wild in the 90's until reintroduction efforts began.
- Partnership with US Fish and Wildlife Service
- CMZoo releases both tadpoles and adult toads.
- Goals, to have offspring in the wild and build chytrid fungus resistance.

PROGRAM 2

Ongoing Conservation Support

This includes previous, strong, long-term partnerships with field-based organizations and a demonstrated track record of effective work.

African Vultures: Rescue, rehab, and release

Okapi: Agroforestry and community conservation

African Penguins: Rescue, rehab, and release

PROGRAM 3

Member Vote Grants (Staff Driven)

This program gives the zoo flexibility to try out new partnerships, projects and geographical regions that impact our community. It helps the staff with engagement and professional development. Over the years, members have voted for local program support for black bears, spotted owl, migratory birds, clean waterways, greenback cutthroat trout, pollinator gardens at schools and flammulated owl. Members have

voted international support for African lions, crowned cranes, pangolins, Asiatic black bears, pancake tortoise, okapi, reforestation in Borneo, orangutan rehab, mountain tapirs and Malaysian wildlife.

Other key points:

- \$75,000 dedicated each year from Membership revenue.
- Staff propose projects for a species in CMZoo’s collection, a local species or local resource.
- A committee evaluates the choices.
- Members vote and the TOP 3 get funded.

PROGRAM 4

Emergency Funding

This program gives the zoo the ability to act fast and be effective. It does not rely on a Member Vote timeline. The species do not necessarily have to be represented in the zoo’s collection. Ideally, they are projects that other AZA institutions are helping to fund as a community effort.



MEMBERS:
Have you cast your vote yet?

Help us allocate your \$75,000 to the conservation projects you're most passionate about supporting.



CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN ZOO
Way Beyond Watching

Check your email for a members-only link to vote!

SPRING FLING 2025 CONSERVATION QUIZ

1. Write out the Zoo definition of conservation (found on the website).

2. Name the four programs CMZoo offers for conservation.

3. What year was Q4C started?

4. How much money has Q4C earned for field conservation?

5. Write a short paragraph on a conservation program for which you are passionate.

6. Choose 5 (or more) of the following and write a short conservation message you can give to guests for each of the following areas. (Example: At WEA, “turn off the water when brushing your teeth then back on to rinse”).

African Rift Valley	
Encounter Africa	
Australia Walk About	
Scutes	
Asian Highlands	
Rocky Mt Wild	
Big Back Yard	
Loft	
Water’s Edge Africa	
Primate World	