



**President’s Message – Jeanie Baratono**

What a busy October it’s been! We have never done as many tours in the fall as we have done this year. We are double! Since tours were up, so were safaris. Thank you to Tami and Jane for plowing through all of it and to all the docents who helped to fill those needs. In addition, thanks to Barb Haldorson for her organization in filling Penguin Awareness Day and Boo at the Zoo and again to all the docents who gave their time to fill those slots!

Now to the daily slots — BBY has lots of chickens and with good weather and school groups, come lots of guests! Thanks to those who helped in BBY, the Loft and P&P, and working carts. You are appreciated.

I hope you were able to make it to breakfast to listen to Bob as he gave updates and expressed his appreciation for getting through the summer season. Your board members are working for you. If something is broken or not quite right with an event or email or sign-ups, please let the appropriate person know. If you are unsure who that is, contact me and I will either point you in the right direction or handle it myself. We are all here to serve the zoo and try hard to do our best. Please give us the benefit of the doubt.

**We Believe Statement**

*We believe we can make the world a better place, and the work we do and the way we treat other people matters.*



*White-cheeked gibbon Tahn-Linh celebrating his 35th birthday on October 20, by Deborah Compton*

**DATES TO KNOW**

*Most meetings start at 9:30 a.m.*

*CECs at 9:15 a.m.*

*Education Committee at 10:30 a.m.*

Nov 1 .... Board Meeting ..... DRC

Nov 8.... Docent Meeting and Keeper  
Appreciation Lunch..... LML

Dec 2 .... Holiday Party @ Marie Poyzer’s  
House, 2-5 p.m.

*~No Meetings in December~*

Jan 3 ..... Board Meeting ..... DRC

Jan 10 ... Docent Meeting ..... SL

Jan 24 ... Education Committee ..... DRC

**Key: DRC = Docent Resource Ctr, LML = Lodge  
at Moose Lake, SL = Safari Lodge**

**\*\* Mandatory Meeting. If unable to attend,  
contact the president or president-elect**

**CECs and TRAINING**

*CECs start at 9:15 a.m.*

*Training sessions start at 9:30 a.m.*

Jan 6 ... Zoo School starts..... SL

Jan 13, 20, 27 .. Zoo School cont ..... SL

**Note: CECs will be available for some  
Zoo School sessions. Details yet to come.**

**CMZ Upcoming Special Events**

Dec 7....Electric Moonlight (5:30-8:30 p.m.)

Dec 1-3, 8-23, 25-Jan 1...Electric Safari  
(5:30-8:30 p.m.)

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## November Monthly Docent Meeting

Please join us on Wednesday, November 8 at 9:30 a.m. in *the Lodge at Moose Lake* for our monthly docent meeting. Our very own Dr. Jeff Oram-Smith will present on extinction, and we will honor zoo staff with an appreciation luncheon afterward.



*Marianne Brooks, President-Elect*

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## November Cannolis

We will be making cannolis on Saturday, November 11 at 9:30 a.m. I encourage anyone who hasn't done it to give it a try! It's a great way to get to know your fellow docents in a fun setting. Let me know if you want to help.



*Jean Bennett, Enrichment Chair*

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## CEC Corner

The mission to get CECs all caught up from the lost years (yea, that pandemic really threw a wrench into the works) is nearly complete. In October, we certified 15 people on the Endangered Tour/Safari and 8 on the Zoogeography Tour/Safari. That just leaves the Advanced Mammal Tour/Safari refresher this coming Spring.

Zoo School is right around the corner! Yes, you are just now planning your Thanksgiving meal but soon 2024 will be upon us. In January and February, there are opportunities to earn CECs at many of the teaching presentations. That schedule will be published soon. By attending select groupings of presentations, you will earn a CEC. You would be surprised at what you pick up by re-attending Zoo School; that firehose almost requires a second listen!

What's on the reading list for the holidays? For a lighter outing, I am reading Jonathan Meiburg's, *A Most Remarkable Creature: The Hidden Life of the World's Smartest Bird*, a fascinating look at the striated caracaras of South America, "handsome, social, and oddly crow-like falcons." The tale covers history, ecology, evolution, and information on these stunning birds. And yes, tapirs are even included as they show off their bellies to allow the caracaras a tasty snack of ticks and other bugs.

Enjoy the most wonderful time of the year and happy holidays to all,

*Cris, CEC Chair*

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## Animal Update (October)

- Gorillas Goma and Asha bred twice (for the first time ever) in September after Asha solicited Goma for about three days straight
- African penguins Biggs and Percy and Ichaboe and Spheniscus have been moved into the chick-rearing area for penguin breeding season
- All trout in the penguin pool are now gone
- Perching and a tree bridge are being built in WEA for Hercules, the ring-tailed lemur to be closer to guests
- Red-necked wallabies Gidgee and Katt both gave birth this month and their joeys are continuing to thrive
- Guinea pig Irma passed
- Domestic ferret Harley Quinn was humanely euthanized due to bone cancer
- Tree kangaroo Som came in from San Diego, while tree kangaroo Tristan moved to Denver Zoo to meet Pearl for a breeding recommendation
- Alligator Tommy had the first successful blood draw from his tail
- Grant's zebra Wembe moved to Atlanta Zoo for an SSP recommendation
- Alaskan moose Atka is in rut and sparring with many enrichment items that are safe for him
- Leopard cubs Mango and Basha are exploring all three leopard yards
- Prehensile-tailed porcupine Mocha has new outside digs
- Two striped skunk babies have moved to their new homes
- 15 chickens joined BBY
- Motus Tower is up and running in the Loft



*Who needs potato chips when you have autumn leaves to munch on? by Deborah Compton*

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## EWASO Lions Presentation

I didn't realize Cheyenne Mountain Zoo has been a supporter of EWASO Lions for 10 years! This organization's mission is to conserve lions and other large carnivores by promoting coexistence between people and wildlife in Kenya. Their conservation landscape includes three protected areas (Samburu, Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserves) and 11 Community Conservancies.



The name comes from the EWASO River — the only source of water in Kenya. The area is semi-arid with no fences and 80% of wildlife live outside the national park and are not protected. Climate change has greatly affected the grasslands and with the severe drought, there is no food for the prey and therefore no food for the carnivores. Lions have resorted to killing livestock (sheep and goats) — the people's source of livelihood.

As pastoralists who depend on their livestock for survival, losing even one animal is devastating with far-reaching consequences. Many farmers choose to retaliate against the carnivores via lethal means — guns, spears, or poison. Ewaso Lions knew they had to first address the local community's desire to protect their livestock and livelihoods before they could show them why lions are important for a healthy ecosystem. As prime homemakers and livestock caretakers, Samburu women come into regular contact with wildlife as often as the men in their community. It was for them Ewaso Lions created the Mama Simba (or "Mother of Lions") program, to give women a role in protecting lions while learning how to live peacefully alongside wildlife.

Ewaso Lions has a Warrior Watch program to give the local men, the Samburu Warriors, an opportunity to build on their traditional role as community protectors by also serving as ambassadors for lions. As ambassadors, they not only protect villages from lion conflicts but also teach friends and family how to co-exist peacefully with them. Ewaso Lions also started the Lion Kids Camp to teach children to respect wildlife and train them in the skills to be the next generation of park wardens, safari guides, and wildlife biologists.

Dogs are very important in the community to safeguard the livestock and to scare the wildlife. There are 800 roaming dogs that belong to community members. Rabies is a problem with dogs, wildlife and people. Canine distemper is also a problem, especially for wild African painted dogs. Jessicah, our speaker, is the only veterinarian who has begun vaccinating dogs and cats. She also is beginning a mobile vet service to vaccinate animals, along with showing films to the community and visiting schools.

What a great privilege to have her ask to speak to the docents! And here is a great article to go along with

what we learned: "Where people live in harmony with lions" <https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20210913-where-people-live-in-harmony-with-lions>

*Jeanie Baratono, President*

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## Safaris and Tours and a Huge Thank You

Thank you to the docents who answered the call to support our fall classroom safaris and tours. The all-school tour with 342 students in September was a huge success! A



special thanks to Jane Emerson-Brown, tour coordinator, Tami Dickens, safari coordinator and Mac McPherson, VP Outreach Elect for their efforts to fill all our safaris and tours. Teacher/chaperone feedback has been positive, expressing how special our docents are to provide these valuable educational experiences for their students. The schools' need for tours aligned to grade-level standards has again come back strong after the pandemic, despite budget challenges, limited availability of bus drivers, and difficulty in securing approval of field trips. The Outreach Team appreciates all you do to support the Auxiliary and the CMZ mission!

*Sue Sallee, VP Outreach*

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## Field Trip Memories and News

Two docents and friends spent the night in Springfield, CO, to witness the Equinox solar alignment that occurs at sunrise in Crack Cave. The sun's rays fall precisely on ancient markings on the cave wall only twice a year on Equinox morning for about 12–15 minutes. The group dined Friday evening then went in search of tarantulas but none were to be found. The group arrived at Picture Canyon Saturday at 5:30 a.m. (after a short detour to someone's compound thanks to Apple Maps). The canyon sunrise was stunning and the light on the glyphs was magical. Following the solar alignment, the group hiked to two more sites to see incredible petroglyphs. Leneha, from Canyon Journeys, was very knowledgeable about the glyphs and the ancient people who traversed the canyon. It was a wonderful trip except for the lack of tarantula encounters. We seemed to be the only ones who didn't see them!



*Sunrise at Crack Cave and the entrance to the cave*



*Light falling on the petroglyphs at sunrise*



*Buffalo*



*Woman giving birth*

***The field trips for January through April 2024 are below. Final dates will be coming soon...***

**Mid-Jan: Downtown Aquarium, Denver**

<https://www.aquariumrestaurants.com/downtownaquariumdenver/default.asp>

The entertainment and dining complex features a public aquarium boasting more than a million gallons of underwater exhibits that highlight fascinating

ecosystems around the world. Downtown Aquarium houses over 500 species of animals, the interactive Stingray Reef touch tank, Aquarium Restaurant, Dive Lounge, the Nautilus Ballroom and amusements for the entire family. With a full-service restaurant, an upscale bar, a fully equipped ballroom, aquatic and geographic exhibits and shopping, Downtown Aquarium has it all! \$16 pp and dinner in Denver for those who want to stay.

**Early March: Butterfly Pavilion**

6252 W. 104th Avenue Westminster, CO

<https://butterflies.org/> \$14.95 for adults, \$12.95 for seniors (65+) with lunch in Westminster

**April: Albuquerque BioPark Zoo, Aquarium and Botanical Gardens.** Possibly the Turquoise Museum, New Mexico Museum of Natural History, Petroglyph National Monument

*Kathy O'Donnell, Field Trips*

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### **AZADV ON MY MIND**

What is AZADV? Good question. It stands for the Association of Zoos and Aquarium Docents and Volunteers. They have an annual conference, generally, and this year it was in Oklahoma City. Five docents attended the conference, Marsha Fogarty, as past president, officially represented the auxiliary as a delegate the week of October 2–8.

**AZADV'S VISION STATEMENT:** Empower public commitment to conservation of our natural world.

**AZADV'S MISSION STATEMENT:** Supporting our members' education, connection and inspiration to strengthen understanding of and commitment to zoo and aquarium conservation goals.

As you can see, this Vision Statement and the Mission Statement align nicely with all that is stated in our zoo's Mission Statement and We Believe Statements. Meeting with a group of very like-minded individuals is very empowering. There were docents from all over the country at this conference.

The conference has generally outstanding pre- and post-events that consist of trips to area zoos or other parks or local sites. This year the pre-conference trips went to the National Tall Grass Prairie Grasslands and afterward, to a lunch to hear a national speaker from Nature Conservancy, which helped establish the Tall Grass Prairie National Grasslands. The delightful lunch and inspiring speaker all took place at The Prairie Woman Restaurant and shops in Pawhuska, OK. On the second day, a trip was made to Skeletons, Museum of Osteology in Oklahoma City, followed by a visit to the OKC National Memorial Museum, honoring the memory of the horrific bombing of the Murrow Federal Building in OKC in the 90s.

A delegate's meeting was held on Wednesday night and the Conference got down to business on Thursday with a Keynote Speaker and a member social that night. Friday was Zoo Day where we all wore our uniforms and were guests of the OKC Zoo with many behind-the-scenes opportunities. Presentations and a banquet were held on Saturday to wrap up the conference along with chances to learn from other docent/volunteer groups.

A post-conference tour on Sunday saw participants going on an outstanding visit to the Tulsa Zoo where their docents and the zoo wowed participants.

In November, we will make a presentation on why joining AZADV is a great opportunity for our members, and we encourage you to consider it. Any petty complaints you have about our organization will seem small compared to the challenges other docents have around the country. Docents and volunteers are doing good work, but they are not always supported by their zoos. This always makes me glad to come home to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and the good work we do to fulfill our Mission Statement!

*Marsha Fogarty, Delegate for CMZA*



*Charlotte Greene, Marsha Fogarty, Joan Adkins, Nancy Hochman and Sharon Ledlow attended the conference*

### Articles and Information of Interest

- Record amount of bird deaths in Chicago astonishes birding community, [Click here to read](#)
- Humans still have the genes for a full coat of body hair, [Click here to read](#)
- Jurassic-era 'extremely rare fossils' discovered in Utah, a milestone in US paleontology, [Click here to read](#)
- 21 species removed from endangered list due to extinction, officials say, [Click here to read](#)
- Billions of crabs went missing around Alaska. Scientists now know what happened to them, [Click here to read](#)
- Haunting Sounds Made by World's Largest Living Thing Recorded, [Click here to read](#)

- The plastic-eating bacteria that could change the world, [Click here to read](#)
- Video: How sloths survive, thrive as nature's couch potato | 60 Minutes, [Click here to watch](#)

### CMZA Zooline Information (DEC Issue)

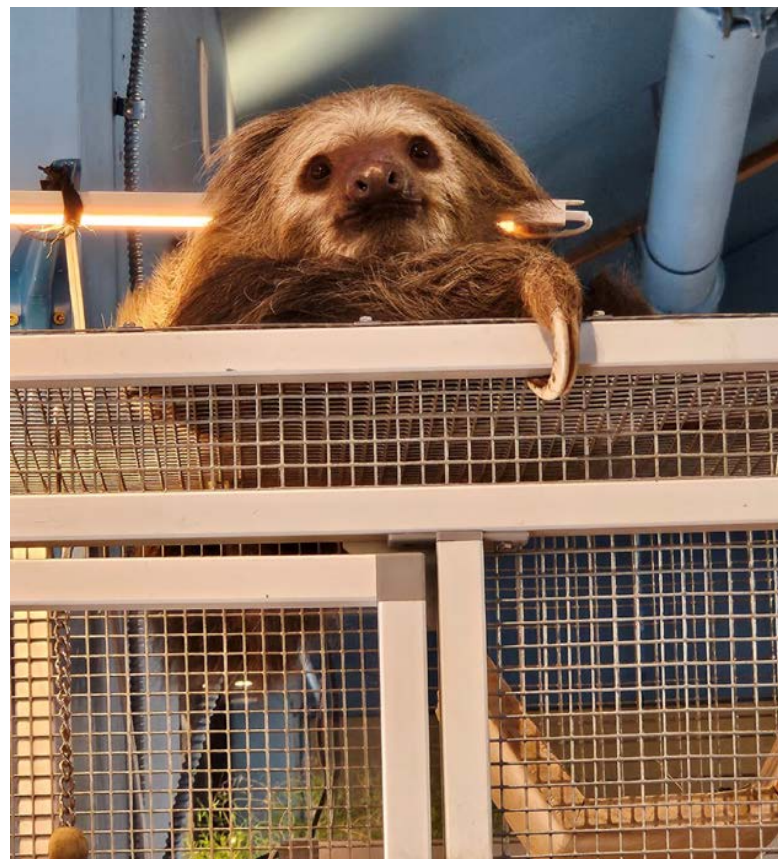


Please send all submissions for the **December** issue — information, articles, pictures, etc. — to [cmza.zooline@yahoo.com](mailto:cmza.zooline@yahoo.com).

**The deadline for the December issue is Monday, November 20 to accommodate for the Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you!**

*Joelle Shreves and Bailey Southard, Co-Editors*

### Zoo Photos



*Bean exploring, by Jeanie Baratono*



*Patsy McAteer meeting Bean, by Jeanie Baratono*



*Omo participating in enrichment with zoo guests during behind-the-scenes tour, by Deborah Compton*



*Veiled Chameleon Girl George shedding, by D. Compton*



*Flashback to Ember as a baby (she turned 9 October 29), by Deborah Compton*



*Damian the emu, by Susan Hoxie*



*Sumatran orangutan Baka Keri, by Deborah Compton*



*Carrot the Corn Snake, courtesy of Leah Capezio*



*Unknown cattle egret (the colored feathers indicate he/she is in breeding mode), by Susan Hoxie*



*Marshmallow chicken (the best her head feathers have looked in a long time), by Susan Hoxie*



*Muscovy ducks Francisca and Athena share space with Mochi the mountain tapir, by Susan Hoxie*



*Pink-backed pelicans Plato (back) and Pandora (front) having a quiet (for them) moment, by S. Hoxie*



*Asha, Juju, Sumagu and Ember all celebrated their birthdays in October, by Deborah Compton*



*Shelducks (in Australia Walkabout) Conch (left) and Scallop (right with the white “eyeliner”) — females have white around their eyes, males don’t — by Susan Hoxie*