



President’s Message – Marianne Brooks

Dear Docents,

As we head into the fall season, I want to extend my gratitude for your continued dedication and passion for the zoo. I’m happy to see we’ve had great turnouts for our monthly docent meetings! It’s encouraging to see such strong engagement as we move into the months ahead.

A few reminders:

1. Uniform Update: Please remember that since it’s October, it’s time to put away your blue t-shirts and wear your green polo shirts. Also, we’ve had some docents not tucking in their shirts and need to do so to ensure we are “zoo crisp” and in line with zoo policy.

2. New Directories: Directories were available at the September monthly docent meeting. If you have not picked yours up, please pick up your copy in the DRC.

3. Construction Notice: Construction of the new road through the zoo is underway — it will create some disruptions, but it’s all part of the plan to make the zoo even better! To stay informed, I encourage you to check the zoo’s website frequently for the latest updates on the Elevate campaign construction.

Lastly, we are excited to welcome docents and volunteers from the Albuquerque BioPark on October 16. They will be here in the morning for a tour and finish up with a casual lunch. They are looking forward to being at our zoo and seeing all the wonderful things we have to offer!

Thank you for all your hard work and enthusiasm!

Marianne

Zoo Vision Statement

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



In memory of Than-Linh and Debbie, our white-cheeked gibbons, courtesy of Deborah Compton

DATES TO KNOW

Most meetings start at 9:30 a.m.

CECs at 9:30 a.m.

Education Committee at 10:30 a.m.

Oct 2	Board Meeting (Exec and Supplemental)	SL	
Oct 12	Docent Meeting	SL	
Oct 23	CEC	SL	
Oct 26	CEC	SL	
Oct 30	Education Committee	DRC	
Nov 6	Board Meeting	DRC	
Nov 13	Docent Meeting/Keeper	Appreciation Lunch	LML
Nov 20	CEC	SL	
Nov 23	CEC	SL	
Nov 27	Education Committee	DRC	
Dec 7	Holiday Party @ Marie Poyzer’s House, 2-5 p.m.		

~No Meetings in December~

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

Sep	Fall Recall (deadline 12/31/24; see Sept Zooline for info)	
Oct 23	Interpretative Ed CEC	SL
Oct 26	Interpretative Ed CEC	SL

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October 12 Docent Meeting

The general docent meeting on Sat., Oct. 12, will be held in the Safari Lodge. We continue to be flexible with the construction issues, the noise and, the sometimes, lack of Internet. Our featured speaker will be Kaylie Adams who has been doing her master's research work at our zoo. Her presentation is titled "A Story's Strength: How storytelling can influence engagement levels, attitudes, and emotions of zoo guests." She has been working with Basia Dann and we do hope to have Basia again as a guest speaker at a future meeting. This should be a very informative talk and beneficial for all.

Greta Johnson, President-Elect

CEC Information

We're off to a great start with the Fall Recall. Many docents have completed it and received a CEC Credit. If you haven't completed it yet, there's still time. The completion date is Dec. 31, 2024.

Mark your calendars for CECs on the following dates in the Safari Lodge:

- **Wednesday, 23 October, 9:30-11:30, or**
- **Saturday, 26 October, 9:30-11:30**

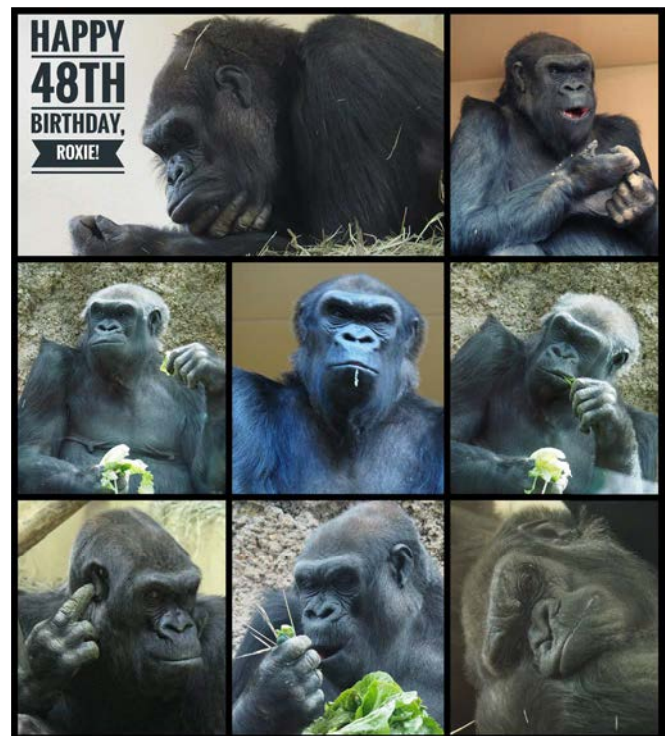
These CECs will continue our refresher of Interpretive Education principles and techniques with Brittanie Ford from the Edventure Department and Kaylee Adams, a graduate student from CSU each giving a 15–20-minute presentation on how to effectively use interpretive principles. During the second hour, we will break into small groups and brainstorm with each other on techniques to use during guest interactions at carts, BBY, Special Events, etc. Don't miss this unique opportunity to meet with other docents and exchange new ideas. The more we learn, the better prepared we are to share with guests at our beautiful zoo on the mountain.

Charlotte Greene, CEC Chairperson

AMP Update (Animals, Missions, Programs)

- Baby red river hog born to first time mom "Finn" and dad "Gus" on August 29
- White Cheeked Gibbons "Debbie" and "Tanh Linh" were both euthanized due to late-stage kidney failure
- Black Footed Ferret "Samosa" moved to the Loft
- BBY has 12 new Buff Orpington chicks, and they are adorable!
- Skunk babies have gone to their new homes
- Gorilla "Roxie" is continuing to do well at 48! The average lifespan for female gorillas in human care is 39
- Gorilla "Goma" has been readily targeting at the glass in the indoor exhibit so guests can pose for a photo with him and see him up close

- The penguins have been training to swim on cue in the absence of the trout program and to create a better guest experience
- Rocky Mountain Goat kid "Tava" is recovering well after surgery for a broken back right leg and has moved back to his exhibit
- Grizzly bears are back in their home
- Mountain Tapir "Mochi" is loving his waterfall! He is enjoying standing under it with his back/rear end under the falls
- The colobus exhibit has added a new tire swing, and the monkeys are beginning training to go onto it during colobus show training times
- Hippos "Omo" and "Zambezi" have begun separation training to eventually live separately



A photo collage of Roxie, courtesy of Deborah Compton

Fall Safari and Tour Reminders

With Fall Safari/Tour Season in full swing, here are some quick reminders to help everyone dive back in:

1. **SignUpGenius:** Be on the lookout for upcoming SignUpGenius Safari and Tour Alerts to sign up.
2. **Substitutions:** If you can't do a Safari or Tour you signed up for, you must find a substitute and provide your substitute with all relevant information to take your place. Then, notify the Safari or Tour Coordinator of the change.
3. **Specific Requests:** If there is a particular Safari or Tour you would like to do, but were unable to sign up for, contact a docent who signed up for it and ask

if they might let you do it instead. Then, notify the Safari/Tour coordinator of the agreed-upon change.

4. **Tour Chair:** If you have never signed up to be the Tour Chair and are feeling a bit uncertain about what it entails, go ahead and take the leap and sign up. Tami will be happy to help you from there. It's easy and kind of fun! Branch out and try it!
5. **Tour Sign-Ins:** When you arrive for your tour, the sign-in sheet will be in the last kiosk, just as it was last year. Sign in next to your name. There will be lettuce there for you to take with you on your tour.
6. **Check in with Tour Chair:** A friendly reminder to be sure to give your tour numbers to the tour chair before leaving the area. She/He needs them to complete their paperwork.
7. **Safari Kit Contents:** Please ensure the required materials are in the assigned kit when you pick it up.
8. **Missing Items:** If Tour Checklist and/or Certification Sheets are missing from a kit, copies are in the tote bag on the shelf by the DRC door. If anything else is missing, please notify Amy (contact info below).
9. **Safari Kit Service Hour Credit:** To receive the 1-hour additional service credit for picking up a Safari Kit, you must use the equipment sign-out sheet on the desk in the DRC to sign the kit out.
10. **Other Safari and Tour Service Hour Credits:** Two (2) service hours are given for each Safari or Tour. The exception is if the Safari is out of town (40 miles or further). For out-of-town Safaris, an extra two hours will be given for travel time.

Safari-related issues/concerns: Contact the Safari Coordinator *Amy Momber*, 719-332-4643

Tour-related issues/concerns: Contact the Tour Coordinator *Tami Dickens*, 719-330-9236

Articles and Information of Interest

- Huge penguin chick 'Pesto' a social media heavyweight [Read Here](#)
- How trafficked cheetah cubs move from the wild and into your Instagram feed [Read Here](#)
- Is Wildfire Smoke Causing Birds to Tend to Empty Nests? [Read Here](#)

CMZA Zoline Information



Please send all submissions for the **November** issue — information, articles, pictures, etc. — to cmza.zoline@yahoo.com.
The deadline is Tuesday, October 22.
Thank you! *Joan Thorn, Editor*

Zoo Photos



Docents making cannolis with new masking/gloving protocol to keep the animals safe, courtesy of Debbie Might



Samosa, our BFF ambassador in the Loft, courtesy of Jeanie Baratono



One of our beautiful peacocks strutting his stuff, courtesy of Debbie Might



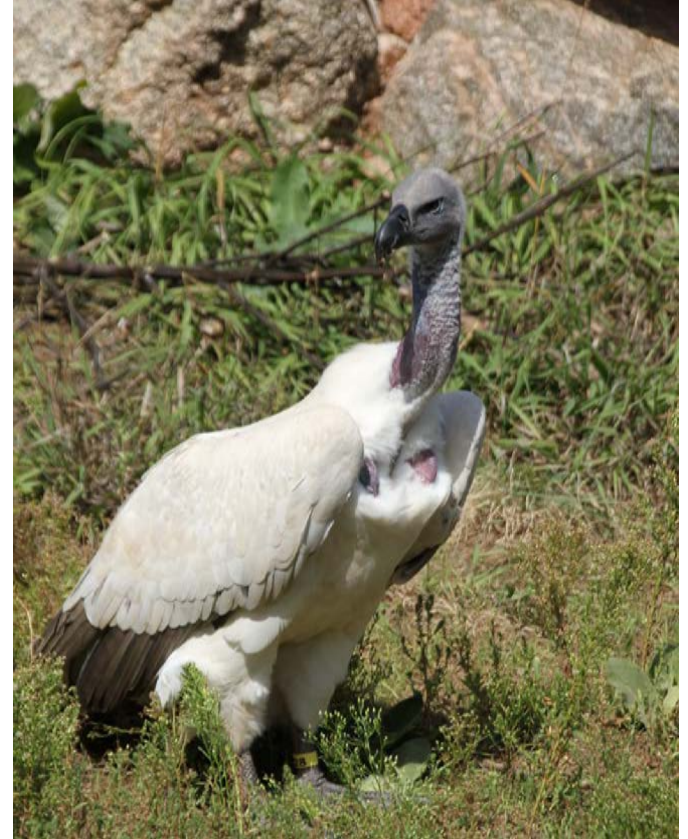
Just what is our gorilla holding? courtesy of Joan Adkins



Hubble being cute, courtesy of Susan Hoxie



Gus being nosy with his enrichment ball, courtesy of S. Hoxie



Our vultures (Hedwig and Godric) on International Vulture Awareness Day, courtesy of Susan Hoxie



15 of our 16 penguins waiting for 9:30 a.m. breakfast, courtesy of Susan Hoxie



Marvelous Beezler, courtesy of Susan Hoxie



Jody Schmitz working the IVAD Lucky Dip game, courtesy of Jeanie Baratono



One of our grizzlies in their newly remodeled habitat, courtesy of Deborah Compton



Red panda Cora, courtesy of Deborah Compton

CMZA Animal Stories: Rocky Mountain Wild

Grizzly Bear: IUCN – Least Concern

Digger	<p>Male, Wild Born in 2005, weighs approximately 775 lbs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digger likes peanuts but not the shells. He will use his lips to remove each shell and use his paw as a plate • Digger sometimes uses his back feet to catch fish in the pond because he does not like getting his ears wet • He will use just about anything as a pillow from tree branches or comfy rocks to hay piles or Emmett • Digger is slightly larger than Emmett and has darker fur and shorter nails
Emmett	<p>Male, Wild Born in 2005, weighs approximately 750 lbs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmett has longer nails than Digger but has learned to present his nails voluntarily through a fence where he has a choice to touch a running Dremel to file his own nails • “Yoga bear” is a natural behavior Emmett first displayed where it looks like he is practicing yoga. Keepers encouraged this behavior with positive reinforcement. Once Digger saw, he joined in with his own “yoga bear” • Emmett is extremely food motivated and is the most likely to perform taste tests • When Emmett does not like a certain food, he spits it out on the back of his paw and flings it to the side

Backstory for the Grizzlies: They were born in or around Glacier National Park in MT, from different mothers. As yearlings learning to take care of themselves, both were making choices that made humans uncomfortable. At the time, Montana had a “three strike” rule. Each time the boys were relocated, they got an ear tag as an identifier and when they ran out of ears to tag, they ran out of strikes. They both ended up at a wildlife rehabilitation center near Helena, MT, and were introduced to each other there. Because they were relatively young, Montana officials felt they would be able to adjust to life in human care. They arrived at CMZoo just before the opening of Rocky Mountain Wild in 2008. The CMZoo keepers like calling them “opportunistic bears” as opposed to “nuisance bears” in that from a bear’s perspective, an opportunity might look great but may not be appreciated by nearby humans.