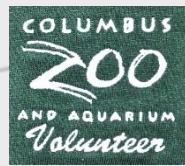


June 2023

The Columbus Zoo and
Aquarium Volunteer
Newsletter

ZooNews





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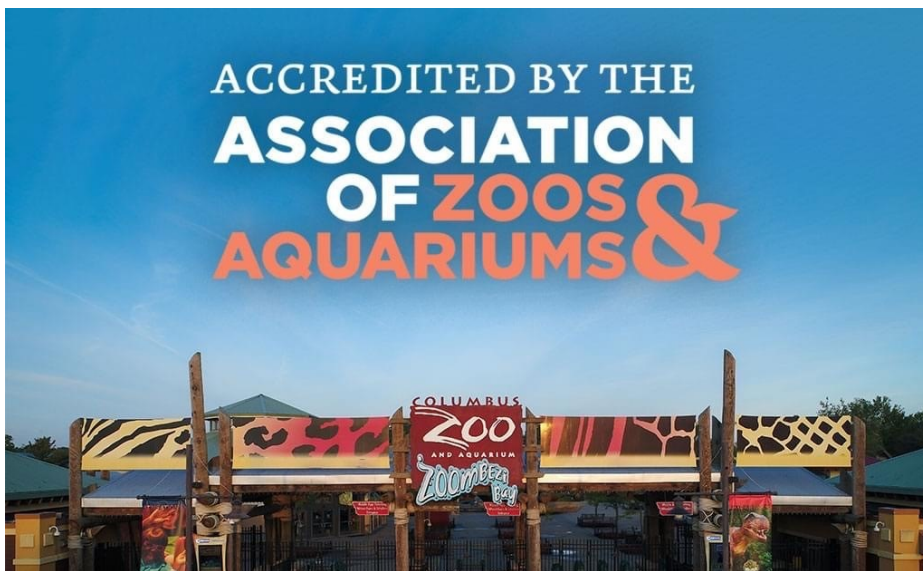
SALLY RUDMANN

The mission of ZooNews is to promote awareness, education, preservation and conservation of our natural world.

To submit an article, please email us at: cbuszooneews@gmail.com

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FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Summer is in full swing at your Columbus Zoo, and if Memorial Day weekend was any indication, it is going to be a busy summer season. Attendance hit nearly 40,000 visits over the holiday weekend, which was up 7% compared with last year. This was also the busiest

Memorial Day weekend since 2017. Our guests this summer will enjoy new dining options, our amazing weedy sea dragons, and hopefully a ride on our adventure sky wheel, the largest Ferris wheel in the entire state.

Behind the scenes, we are working on a major renovation and expansion of our indoor bonobo habitat, which is why we have closed that area off. This work should be finished by next summer. We are also focused on finishing the design and engineering work for our reimagined North America Trek experience. As I have shared, this is our largest project since Adventure Cove, and will completely transform much of our existing North America region. Along with new habitats for our trumpeter swan, river otter, bald eagle, black bear and Mexican wolf, we will have interactive features for kids, a new restaurant, and we will showcase several of our critical conservation programs in the new Ohio Center for Wildlife Conservation. We are very excited about what North America can become, and fundraising is progressing nicely, with nearly 75% of the \$40 million funding in place. If any of you are interested in learning more about how you can participate in this campaign, please feel free to reach out to any member of our Philanthropy team.

I look forward to seeing you around the Zoo this summer, and thank you for your commitment to our mission, your time is our treasure.

Tom Schmid, President/CEO

Communiqué

As the summer season begins, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your unwavering dedication and commitment to our Zoo. Your passion for wildlife, conservation, and creating unforgettable experiences for our visitors is truly inspiring.

Together, we have the opportunity to make this summer season an extraordinary one for both our animals and guests. Your enthusiasm and willingness to go above and beyond will undoubtedly contribute to our purpose of having a positive impact on people, wildlife, and wild places locally and globally.

Through engaging visitors with your knowledge and passion, your contributions play an invaluable role in creating magical moments for all who visit our Zoo. There are many new resources and opportunities for our guests this year, from viewing the amazing behaviors of the weedy sea dragons, to riding the new Adventure Sky Wheel, to enjoying the new food and retail options, to planning their Zoo visit on our new website, to using the new app to navigate their day at the Zoo, and so many more! Writing this, it is apparent that we have been busy preparing for this season, and it has the potential to be the best yet!

As we embark on this summer adventure, let us continue to prioritize safety for all and the wellbeing of our animals, promote conservation efforts, and ignite a sense of wonder and curiosity in each visitor who walks through our gates.

We are grateful for each and every one of you who generously offer your time, skills, and compassion. Together, let us make this summer season a time of learning, joy, and transformative experiences.

Thank you for being an integral part of our Zoo community.

Wishing you a remarkable and fulfilling summer season!

The Volunteer Team,

Ginger, Carole, Mary, Kathy and Rachel



The Wind Beneath Bald Eagles' Wings

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium began its important journey supporting both wild and non-releasable resident bald eagles in 1964 with the arrival of Georgina. This was just one year after populations in the lower 48 states reached the all-time low of 417 known nesting pairs. It would be several more years before the bald eagle would be listed as “endangered” under the Endangered Species Preservation Act in 1967, which was the precursor to the Endangered Species Act.

In 1975, the Zoo welcomed George, a male from Seattle. Together these two would go on to produce five surviving offspring. Once Georgina passed away, George and Barbara, a new female arriving in 1992, would produce sixteen more surviving eaglets. Bald eagles bred and reproduced offspring at the Columbus Zoo between 1979 and 2005. In this 26-year span, 27 eaglets hatched with 21 surviving. Of those surviving eaglets, 20 were released into the wild to help support wild eagle populations.

The zoo’s fledglings were reintroduced into the wild using one of two methods over those years. The first was “wild fostering”, where an eaglet born in human care is transferred into an existing nest to be raised by a wild pair. The other method is referred to as “hacking”, which involves placing older eaglets on an artificial nesting tower near an environment where repopulation is appropriate and viable. These towers allow eaglets to be fed without seeing humans until they are of fledgling age, when a door to the tower is opened and they can begin learning to fly. The tower is available to them as shelter and supplemental feeding is provided until the eagles no longer need the support and move off on their own. You can learn more about this process by visiting the



Hacking Tower in East Tennessee

American Eagle Foundation’s website, with whom the Columbus Zoo staff partnered to release seventeen of the twenty released eaglets.

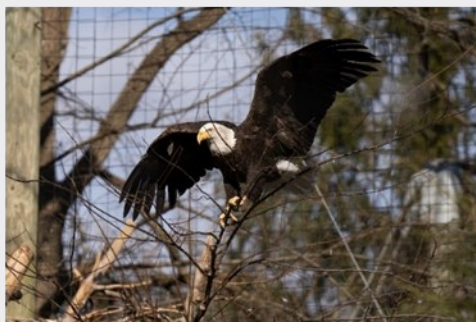


During this time, with the efforts of many, wild bald eagle populations were on the rise. In 1995, bald eagles were reclassified to “threatened” in the lower 48 states. By 2007, with an estimated 9,789 nesting pairs, bald eagle populations were considered recovered to the point where the species was removed from the list of threatened and endangered species altogether. Bald eagle populations continue to rise and their story is now considered one of the most well-known conservation success stories of all time. Although no longer listed,

Curious about eagle hacking? Visit American Eagle Foundation web page:

<https://www.eagles.org/what-we-do/repopulate/eagle-hacking/>

Continued on page 5



bald eagles are still protected federally under The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

With the tremendous rebound, the need for breeding and release of eaglets was no longer necessary. However, the Zoo continues to support the species by providing home to non-releasable eagles. Here, these individuals are able to act as ambassadors for their wild counterparts and spread the message of conservation. Our three current bald eagle residents allow guests to see these magnificent birds up close and experience exactly why the species was worth saving!

Cheyenne came to the zoo at the beginning of 2006, at around 1 ½ years old. She has an injury on her left wing, but that did not stop her from being described as the more “dominant” over then habitat-mate, Barbara. Barbara passed away in early 2012. Sioux made her way to us with another female, Shawnee, in July of 2012. Sioux is missing her eye and Shawnee had a wing injury, which required modifications needed to be made to the habitat to accommodate their unique mobility issues. New perching and nesting sites were added and by August 2012, all three girls were cohabiting together well.

Zuni joined the convocation (term for a group of eagles) in January of 2013 by way of the Ohio Wildlife Center. In August of the prior year, she had been hit by a vehicle while dining on a carcass along I-77. Wildlife officers were able to contain her and transport to the OWC’s wildlife hospital, where she received care for a fractured coracoid

bone, similar to a human collarbone. After months of care and observation, it became clear that Zuni would not be able to fully recover from this injury and could not be released. All four would continue to live together until the passing of Shawnee in 2019.

Our three current female bald eagles can be hard to tell apart in the habitat, but here are some tips: Cheyenne has bands on her left and right legs, Sioux has only one eye, and Zuni has no obvious distinguishing physical markers. Animal care staff say there is a hierarchy amongst the girls, but it does seem to fluctuate and it is hard to figure out who is the top eagle at any one particular time. The three seem to enjoy the habitat conflict-free, utilizing the many perches and nests available.

Enough so that a couple of years ago, two of the eagle girls paired up and actually produced eggs. According to Headkeeper Josh Keller, “This is a natural thing that can happen with birds (think chickens), but was something we hadn’t seen in quite a number of years.” Animal care staff had to climb up in the nest to pull the eggs and replace them with fake eggs to ensure that no wildlife would predate them. All of those eggs were obviously infertile, since no male was involved. However, occasionally one of the wild male bald eagles stops over from the river to hang out with our girls. These visits remain strictly social, however.

The staff rebuild the nests almost every year, since our resident eagles cannot fly very well. They collect branches

Continued on page 6

from the moose after they've stripped all they desire off and tie them together. "Usually someone spends almost half their day in the nest while everyone else brings them bundles of sticks. The [animal care staff member] in the nest then works on intertwining all the branches together and makes it into a nice bowl shape so the eagles can hunker down in inclement weather," says Josh. "This is definitely not a job for those scared of heights!"

Animal care staff work to enrich the eagle habitat in other ways, too. Josh recounted how about 15 years ago, a lower shelter was added to the habitat in case the eagles did not want to share the lower nest. He added, "No eagle ever used the lower shelter until this past winter! One eagle. One time. 15 years. We like to say it was worth it." Although our current eagles are not particularly brave when it comes to enrichment and have limited interaction with it, they are still offered a variety of items including animal hair, antlers, shaving piles, herbs, and diet wrapped in paper.

Their regular diet consists of fish, rats, and a rotation of chicks and quail. They receive additional food enrichment, such as smelt and liver. They also receive a daily supplement called Vitahawk, which is a nutritional supplement meant for birds of prey to help replace nutrients lost in frozen foods. The eagles' diet is offered on the large platforms in the habitat for two reasons. The first is that eagles are opportunistic feeders in the wild – they will fish on their own, but easier options are often utilized. With some of their injuries, staff want to ensure they are able to successfully find and eat the diet. The other reason is to ensure that any unwanted outside predators are not able to take advantage of the offered meat.

In the spring of 2022, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife completed its annual bald eagle nesting survey. Using the data they collected, they estimated 824 eagle nests within the state. Although populations are on the rise, there are still threats to their population including avian influenza, lead poisoning from ingesting meat contaminated with spent ammunition from hunting, habitat loss, and collision with man-made structures. By introducing Zoo visitors to our three amazing girls and sharing their individual stories, as well as the story of the species' recovery as a whole, we can continue to help support bald eagles – both wild and in human care.

—Jess Armstrong

American Eagle Day—June 20, 2023

Sources:

Nikki Smith & Josh Keller, Animal Care Staff

Assorted archived volunteer newsletters, thanks to the Newsletters Index on the Volunteer Portal

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"BALD EAGLE BREEDING POPULATION STATUS 2022", October 2022, ODNR ([baldeaglereport2022.pdf \(ohiodnr.gov\)](https://ohiodnr.gov/baldeaglereport2022.pdf))

Photos of our eagles courtesy of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

Photo of hack tower from the American Eagle Foundation web page: [American Eagle Foundation | Protecting and Caring for Bald Eagles and Other Birds of Prey](https://www.aefoundation.org/protecting-and-caring-for-bald-eagles-and-other-birds-of-prey)

Where are the Bonobos?

At the April 2023 Kickoff Meeting, we learned that the bonobo area would be closing for about one year while a new building is being built for the bonobos. The entire current bonobo area is now closed off, and visitors are bound to ask where the bonobos have gone. Congo curator Audra Meinelt was happy to share the details about where they are living until their new home is complete.

The bonobos are now living in what was previously referred to as the old gorilla building, which includes the area that formerly housed the orangutans. They have seven bedrooms in the old gorilla area and three rooms, including a day room, in the former orangutan area. This actually gives them more indoor space than they have now and they have access to plenty of fresh air and sunshine in a small-off view outdoor area. Audra emphasized that nothing will be changing in terms of how the keepers manage the bonobos. Training, breeding, fission-fusion and day-to-day interactions with the staff are all unchanged.

Although the bonobos and the gorillas cannot routinely see each other, they can hear and smell each other. Since the gorillas now shift through the area where the bonobos are living, the keepers expect that this might take some getting used to. There is some visual access when the gorillas move to and from the habitat or when doors between the buildings are opened.

Visual barriers are in place, and as you might have already seen, the staff has taken this as a good time to

add some improvement to the indoor gorilla rooms as well. There are new visual barriers, including moveable firehose curtains, to give the gorillas the ability to be out of sight of the public and each other if they choose.

The bridges that connect the rooms are now opaque. New vertical spaces have been created by high hanging fire hoses. New hammocks and additional firehoses are in place to allow for more climbing and swinging.

Audra is happy to report that the bonobos settled right in to their new living quarters and are doing fine. The hope is that the new bonobo building will be ready next May. We will not routinely be able to see the bonobos until then, but Audra has revealed that there will be a few scheduled times over the next year or so when docents and volunteers will be able to sign up for a “meet and greet” with a keeper. We will be able to see the bonobos and ask questions of the keeper. Stay tuned for more information!

Thanks to Congo curator Audra Meinelt for the information in this article.

—Kathy Goldsmith



What About the Hogs?

The red river hogs moved to Denver in October of 2022. It was determined that the indoor accommodations there would be even better for their wellbeing. The hogs are doing great in their new home. There are other hogs nearby, and the hogs have adjusted well. These individuals will not be returning to Columbus, but we may have hogs again when the Congo is updated in the future.



HOO-KNEW?

Lorikeets

Did you know that lorikeets sometimes sleep on their backs with their feet straight up in the air?



Asia Quest

Did you know that male muntjacs have antlers that grow back each year? The size depends on species and age!



Plants and Pollinators

While visiting the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Zoombezi Bay, or Safari Golf Club, you may have noticed large areas around the parking lots and northeast of the golf course entrance where the grass has been removed and the ground tilled.

So, what's going on? You're watching sustainability and conservation in bloom!

The Zoo is making a significant contribution to reestablishing native prairie growth with perennial plants that produce pollinator-friendly habitat containing nectar and pollen for honey bees and wild pollinators, including hummingbirds and the monarch butterfly.

The Zoo's pollinator habitat project began in 2021 in partnership with the [Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund](#). Seed planted in an initial test plot within the Zoo's Polar Frontier region.

The project has expanded to include a partnership with the [USFWS - Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program](#) (Service), who also provided seed and helped till many of the areas on the mounds around the parking lots and along Powell Road that were planted this winter and are growing well. Seed from both the Service and the Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund have been planted and will produce almost 10 acres of new prairie at the Zoo and just under 1 acre at the entrance of Safari Golf Club located across the road. There are three pollinator habitats at our Zoombezi Bay water park!

Each pollinator site is planted with as many as 40 different grass and wildflower varieties that are native to Ohio and the surrounding states, including wild rye grasses, sedges, milkweeds, Joe Pye weed, black-eyed Susan, coneflowers, goldenrod, asters, and many more.



- The seeding plan will result in different heights and bloom times to attract animals throughout the season. As they prosper over time, it may take several years to fully develop the areas, and they will change slightly from year to year. The Zoo's Horticulture Department also seeded annual wildflowers at the edges of each area to provide color throughout the summer. The annual seeds were included in the seed mix from the Service to promote flower color even the first growing season. During Earth Day celebrations at the Zoo, children planted seeds from native plants, alongside the Delaware County Master Gardeners Club, that will be transferred to one of the plots once they develop roots.

Butterfly gardens have been promoted for more than 30 years to help revive the declining population of monarch butterflies. Additionally, the focus on the decline of bee populations, particularly honeybees, has come into focus

Conservation Message

Preservation of living species with focus on those that live on nectar and pollen. These native prairie areas reduce the amount of grass that needs to be mowed, saving not only time and money but reducing carbon emissions.



Today, the terms “butterfly garden” and “pollinator garden” are synonymous as they both contain native plants that will attract and support species that rely on nectar and pollen. The Zoo has even hosted a butterfly garden next to the Manatee Coast building for many years! This area was planted with other native shrubs and perennials to promote longer blooming time and add more diverse plants species.

A 2015 White House report on the health of honey bees and other pollinators estimates that one-third of our food crops require help from animal pollinators, including fruits like apples, blueberries and cherries; vegetables like squash, melons, and tomatoes; almonds and other nuts; and crops such as alfalfa and soybeans. These pollinators are also needed for 90 percent of flowering plants. The report further states that habitat loss, disease, and use of pesticides is responsible for the decline in the populations of bees, butterflies, birds, and

other pollinators that include moths, beetles, bats, and flies. The Task Group also identified goals to reduce honey bee losses, increase the population of monarch butterflies, and restore pollinator habitat.



The Zoo’s pollinator garden initiative supports the purpose to make a positive impact on people, wildlife, and wild places, as well as the goals of the National Pollinator Task Force. These goals are supported at the federal government level by congressional funding and efforts by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources

(ODNR) and organizations such as the Pollinator Partnership also support the expansion of pollinator habitat.



Individuals are encouraged to support the health of pollinators by planting their own pollinator gardens. Information on the species to plant and how-to guidelines can be obtained from the listed references. Be sure to check out them out to get started!

—Harvey Castner
and Stoyan Iordanov, Horticulture Manager

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5. US EPA pollinator efforts, www.epa.gov/greeningepa/pollinator-protection-epa
6. Pollinator Partnership Regional Planting Guides, www.pollinator.org/guides
7. Ohio Department of Natural Resources, <https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/education-training/wild-ohio-harvest-video-library/outdoor-skills-and-activities/create-a-pollinator-plot>

Suggestions for Interacting with Guests with Special Needs

When encountering people with a variety of sensory and/or physical needs, there are some tips that might make these encounters more comfortable for both volunteers and guests.

Elise Naticchia, an intern in Education under Becky Nellis, Director of Curriculum and Partnerships, offered some insights that you might find helpful when interacting with individuals with sensory needs. She emphasized that what is most important is simply not to avoid these encounters - both you and the guest will benefit!



SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERACTING WITH VISITORS WITH SENSORY NEEDS OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

- It is important to relax and remember that no matter what “differences” you may perceive, all our guests are just people, at the Zoo to have a good time. As with all our guests, a smile is the best approach.
- Someone with autism or developmental disabilities might avoid eye contact, but it does not mean that they are not listening.
- Fidget spinners and other adaptive devices may actually be helping someone concentrate even if seems like a distraction.
- Simple, direct language is usually effective - idioms or sarcasm might be misinterpreted.
- We can familiarize ourselves with the materials in the sensory bags that are available from guest services, and be aware of the “headphone zones” in the area we are working. The communication board, developed by Elise, can be an aid when communicating with people with language or speech limitations.
- Speak directly to the individual first - the caregiver can then assist if the guest does not understand.

SUGGESTIONS FOR INTERACTING WITH VISITORS WITH PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS

The following list is adapted from the document “Suggestions for Interacting with Individuals with Physical Limitations” developed for our staff by Dr. Cassie Beam ODT/OTR/L and Dr. Ariana Chism ODT/OTR/L during their fieldwork at the Zoo under Becky Nellis.

Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

- Before speaking, gain the attention of the guest you are addressing with a visual cue or a light touch
- Ask how they prefer communication (written, text, reading lips)

- Make sure to be in a well-lit area with your face not obscured
- Repeating may be necessary. Make sure you are understood

Blindness and Visual Impairment

- Introduce yourself when approaching and speak directly to them
- Speak clearly, and at your normal pace and volume (avoid the temptation to raise your voice)
- If offering assistance, wait for permission and offer arm or elbow
- If providing instructions or directions, be very specific and concise

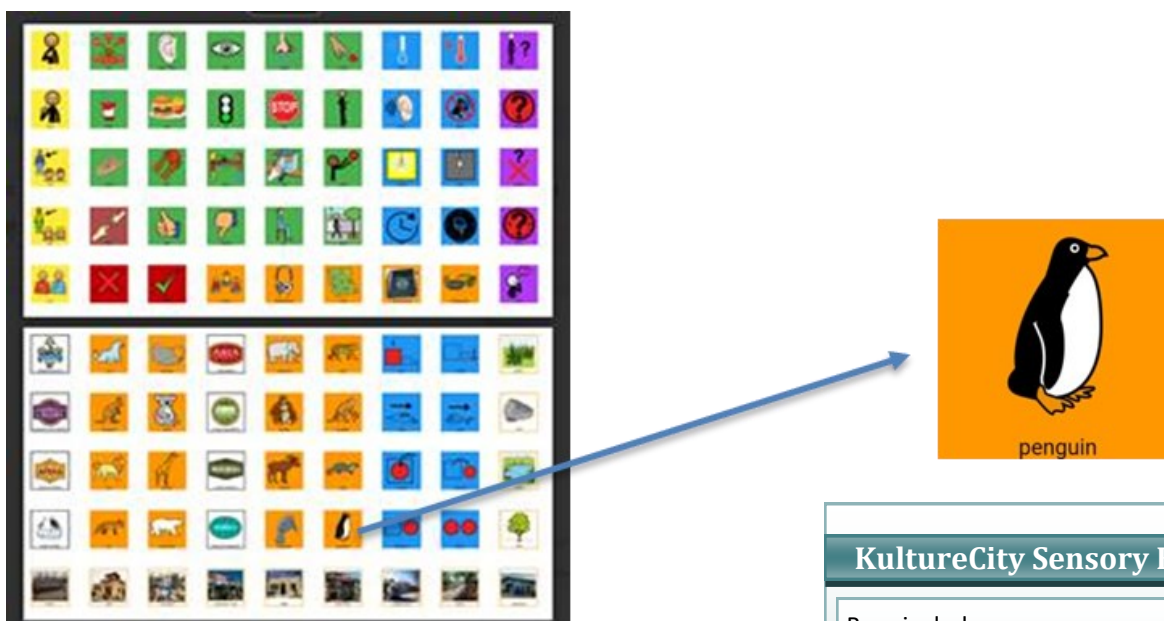
Wheelchair Users and Mobility Limitations

- When speaking to a guest with a mobility aid (wheelchair, scooter, walker, etc.) make sure you are at the same eye level
- The mobility aid is part of the guest's personal space – be mindful and do not grab or lean
- When giving directions, be mindful of distance and physical obstacles (stairs, curbs, steep hills)
- Ask for permission to help beforehand – often they have a different way of completing a task

Thanks to Becky Nellis and Elise Naticchia for their help with this article.

— Kathy Goldsmith

Example of 2 pages of the Communication Board



KultureCity Sensory Bags

Bags include:

- Noise-reducing headphones
- Sunglasses
- Fidgets
- Visual Cue Card



A Tale of Tails



Which land animal has the longest tail and which animal has the largest tail? If you answered a giraffe at 8 feet and a blue whale at 25 feet you know about tail size.

Some animals such as the lynx, ape, bear and sheep have very short to seemingly no tails because they hold no survival value for the species. We humans have tails in utero until 31 to 35 days when the 'tailbone' or coccyx becomes three to five fused vertebrae that help us stay upright when seated. Other mammals with longer tails use them several ways: balance and navigation, defense and attack, communication, nourishment, comfort and mating rituals.

Balance and Navigation —Tails help these animals move quickly and efficiently.

The common basilisk or Jesus Christ lizard uses its tail for balancing in the treetops, but when it drops to water below to evade predators this tail, which is 75% of its body length, is used like a paddle to propel it across the top of the water at about 5 feet per second. The cheetah's tail is muscular, flat and about two-thirds of its body length. It is used as a counterbalance, helping it make twists and sharp turns as it pursues prey. The fox uses its tail for balance for running and as a counterbalance when it pounces.

Tails can propel an animal in an environment in which it is hard to move. Fish move their tails side to side to move and twist to change direction. Marine mammals like sea lions and manatees move their tails up and down when moving through the water, to the surface to breathe and sometimes to move on land.

Hummingbirds use their tails as rudders for stability and control as they maneuver. Fork-tail flycatcher tails, at about 16.5 inches long or about three-fourths of their body length, allow for speed. They are the fastest small birds alive, able to reach speeds of 65 mph.

Partially and fully-prehensile tails of arboreal new world monkeys such as squirrel and spider monkeys and those of binturongs act as a fifth arm or leg, helping them move through trees and grab fruit thus avoiding ground-based predators. In the case of tree pangolins and opossums, tails help them climb and balance and even hang from limbs. Some animals like kangaroos use their tails when grazing and as a third leg when "kick-boxing."



Defense and Attacking—Tails can protect animals and confuse and deter predators.

A scorpion uses its tail to deter predators but also to poison prey. Rattlesnakes rub their keratin chunks together to warn predators, and skunks' tails stand on end as well as use coloration to warn predators. The bands on a raccoon tail help camouflage it. The eight-banded armadillo can bring its tail and head together to form an armored ball. The wombat's short tail and its hard padded behind make it difficult for predators to grab it as it sits head first in its burrow.

The long-tailed grass lizard's tail helps it balance as it moves along the tops of the grass. It has natural weak spots in its tail so it will break off if a predator pounces

Continued on page 14

on the tail. Many times, the tail wiggles and distracts the predators. The glass lizard with a tail that is two-thirds of its 4-foot body also breaks off as happens with green iguanas, bearded dragons and some other lizards.

Communication—Tails help warn others and let them know emotions.

A cat may flick its tail showing agitation, let it loll showing it is relaxed or stand it up and puff it (think Halloween cat) to show fear. A dog or wolf uses its tail to show its place in the pack : held high to show the animal is tense and alert or the alpha, drooping to show it is upset, curled between its back legs to show submission or to indicate being the omega. Many animals such as deer flick their tails up straight or smack them on the water surface as beavers do to show danger and warn others. A rabbit flicks its short tail as a soundless warning and uses it to escape predators. Its white underside confuses predators as it zigzags, and being short, it is hard to grab.

Nourishment and Comfort—Some animals store fat in their tails, curl up with them or use them to avoid pests.

Turtles store fat in their tails but also use them for mating. The male uses his to lift the female's tail and expose her cloaca. The turtle also uses it for movement, balance and stabilization. The sea turtle uses its tail to level the ground after laying its eggs.



A fox, squirrel and Arctic fox will curl its tail around it for warmth and protection from the elements.

Giraffe and other hoof stock use their long tails that have tufts of hair at the ends to swat flies and deter other pests.

Mating Rituals and Marking Territory—Some animals have tails to attract a mate, to mark territory when looking for a mate or to deter competitors.

Bobcat, lynx, fox and coyote use muscles to raise the hair on their tails and to squeeze a protein from a gland there to spread on trees and other areas to mark their territory

Birds of paradise have elaborate tails with about 28 inches of tail on the 39-inch bird. The tail is profuse in feathers and color but takes time to untangle to fly and flee from predators.

These amazing appendages come in various sizes and forms, and perform many functions.

—Juliann Breeding

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Guests, especially those who have not been to the Zoo in a while, often marvel at the size and scope of Zoo operations. These quick facts should cover the most frequently asked questions of this genre.



Zoo Size—Total Acreage: 610 acres



East Zoo: 145 acres (includes Entry Village, Adventure Cove, Rides at Adventure Cove, Zoombezi Bay, Conservation Lake, Asia Quest, North America, Heart of Africa and Polar Frontier).



West Zoo: 25 acres (includes Shores and Aquarium, Australia and the Islands, Waters Edge Events Park and Congo Expedition).



Golf Course: 200 acres.

2022 Attendance - 2,025,402

Employees - 298 full time employees, 1944 seasonal employees

Parking - 5711 parking spaces, 113 ADA spaces.

Animals - 651 species and sub-species, 7599 specimens including the mussel facility, excluding corals.

Memberships – 89,599

Water Habitats - Manatee Coast - 250,000 gallons, Discovery Reef - 90,000 gallons, Polar Bear - 167,000 gallons, Brown Bear - 42,000 gallons. Adventure Cove - 370,000 gallons. 919,000 total gallons.

Conservation Projects – 69 conservation projects, 6 emergency projects supported in 24 countries

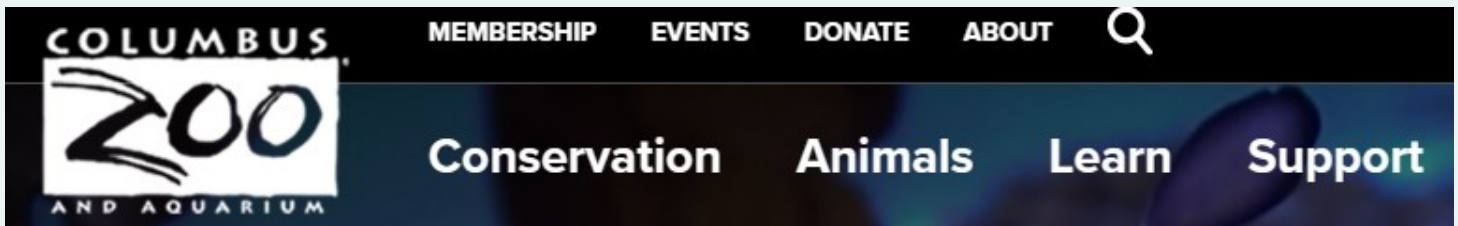
Zoo Poo: 1859 tons of manure, used bedding and food scraps sent to composting in 2021, 3.72 million pounds annually.

Volunteers: **Adult Volunteers**—253; **Docents**—261, **Divers**—26.



—Nancy Mulholand

Sources: Columbus Zoo staff



Where to find information about the Zoo

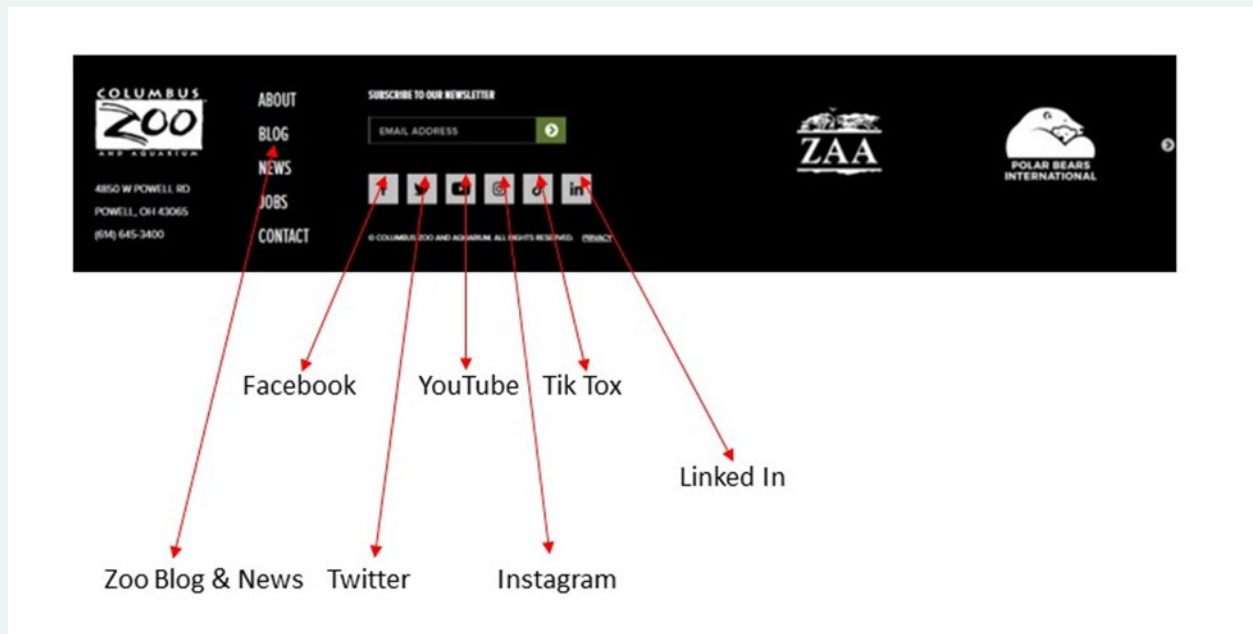
There are many places to find information about the Zoo and Zoo animals that has been created by the Zoo.

Volunteers can access the **Volunteer Portal** with many options such as:

- General information
- Region information
- Animal Contact Information
- Newsletter and Region News
- Zoo Information
- Calendar
- Links
- Important information

Zoo Web Page

At the bottom of the **Zoo Web Page** there are places you can go for information. When you click on the icon you go there. Likewise, there is a similar page on **The Wilds** web page.



The **Beastly Banner** is a place to find information about the Zoo. <https://www.columbuszoo.org/beastly-banner>

Press releases are under **News** on the Zoo web site. <https://www.columbuszoo.org/news>

Be sure to check-out the **Zoo Blog** on the Zoo web site.



Association of Zoo and Aquarium Docents and Volunteers

Have you considered joining Association of Zoo and Aquarium Docents and Volunteers (AZADV)? <https://www.azadv.org/>

The mission is: “Supporting our members’ education, and inspiration to strengthen understanding of and commitment to zoo and aquarium conservation goals.”

Membership is reasonable: (1 year: \$20; 2 years: \$38; 3 years: \$54)

Benefits of membership include:

- Educational Opportunities
- Reciprocal Admission
- Private Facebook Group
- Conferences

Speaking of conferences ...

There are many benefits to attending the annual AZADV conference.

- Learn about the challenges and opportunities that zoos and aquariums are facing, and how your efforts can make an important impact.
- Conference speakers are industry leaders with years of experience in zoo and aquarium advocacy and conservation.
- Any AZADV member can share their knowledge with conference attendees by leading a presentation.
- The conference provides many events and activities for interacting with fellow members.
- Annual activities include silent auction, raffle, and Zoo Day, which gives members behind-the-scenes access to wild animals and marine life.
- Additionally, there are also organized pre and post trips to other zoos, aquariums, conservation facilities, and places of local interest.

This year the conference will be in Oklahoma City. Two CZA docents, Steve Hancock and Cathy Shade, are on the planning committee, so it’s sure to be better than ever. Check it out, mark your calendar and join us in Oklahoma City in October.

— Cathy Shade



<https://www.azadvconferences.org/2023-oklahoma-city>



Congratulations to the 2022 Docent Class on Receiving their Red Lanyards!

Judy Brandt

Genise Lipscomb

Sheila Campbell

Alice Marteney

Jane Cirigliano

Dennis McNulty

Mary Coridan

Tammy Presutti

Nancy Crowell

Kip Price

Beth Davies

Phil Ross

Drina Gentry

Jennifer Schick

Rick Gleim

Mike StClair

Sherry Hay

Carol Stroemer

Judy Hoover

John Wagner

Janelle Janowiecki

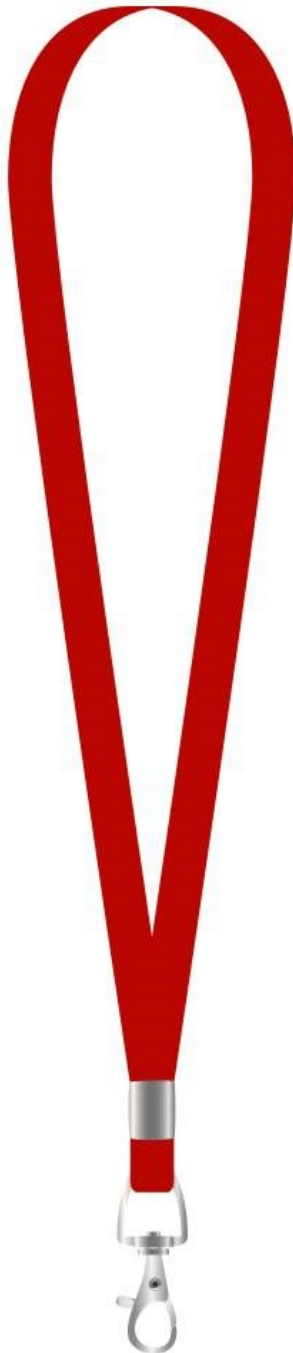
Dawn Wendorff

Amy Jimison

Sandra Wilson

Beth King

Avah Wirz



Lead and inspire by connecting people & wildlife.



2023 Adult Volunteers



Ellee Achten	Holly Hall	Nicole Neher
Paola Alamo-Andujar	Miriam Hall	Adam Oseas
Kimberly Baum	Fran Hanson	Darla Peelle
Virginia Bischert	Alexis Holsinger	Shelly Reed
Mindy Burwell	Mary Horton	Noel Schmitz
Theresa Caudill	Marilyn Jones	Katherine Silvius
Kristin Cavallaro	Craig Kauderer	Payten Slatunas
Lynn Childers	Karie Kirkpatrick	Susan Sonderman
Robert Crabb	Christopher Kopp	Andrew Spiker
Clayton Croom	Megan Lencke	Megan Stewart
Vanessa Eastwood	Mike Liddy	Laura Trommer
Dana Erdei Flenner	Sharon Lucas	Kevin Trueblood
Shawn Evans	Rhonda Luetje	Alexis VanKlingeren
Lynne Flower	Joan Manter	Karen (Kari) Vaughn
Erin Gerardi	Linda McClintock	Laura Voitovich
Melanie Gilroy	Ted Meisky	William Wood
Crystal (Criss) Graham	Michele Miller	Cheryl Worley
Joshua Griffin		Laura Yaroma

VOLUNTEER HOURS AWARDS

Total hours volunteered from January 2012 through December 2022 (length of Volgistics tracking)

2022 Awards (Awarded April 2023)

DOCENT JACKET

Linda Castner

Suzi Pfening

Susie Gray



BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR FOR 10

Kathy Goldsmith

Christina Hochreiter

Lana Lowary

Michael Slicen

Pam Hancock

Marilyn Houck

Brenda Baldinger

1000+ HOURS PIN

Sarah McCabe

Lynne Messner

Kevin Skehan

Jane Price

Phil Ross

Larry Smith

Ric (Mac) McGiffin

Valarie Pittsenbarger

Sharon Grossman

Maureen Casale

Pat Adams

Larry Gartley

Leeann Poindexter

Barbi Kealy

Linda Yost

Shawn Kovacik

Arnold Berger

Karen Moldenhauer

Charles Daily

Don Hamilton

Dennis McNulty

Michael StClair

Susan Messina

Drina Gentry

Tammy Presutti



Lead and inspire by connecting people and wildlife

750+ HOURS

John Gruenbaum	Robin Murphy
Hannah Cox	Jeffrey DeShon
Sara Stahler	Sherry Hay
Lindsay McKinley-Day	Sandy Kanaan
Paula Lombardo	Kenneth Tramel
Mary Rose	Kip Price
Mary Wagner	Mary Ann Hudyk
Wendy Lowe	David Marhover
Beth King	Diana Evans
Sarah Cline	Deanna Johnson
Robyn DeRosa	Patricia Morgan
Linda Meuser	Susan DeLong
Amy Ferguson	Kelly Hanlin
Jeana Price	Judy Brandt
Phil Ross	



500+ HOURS

Jane Cirigliano	Lindsey Gallagher
Sally Stein	Wilson Stein
Judy Hoover	Laurie Kaps-Keller
Mary Ellen Denney	John Barry
Nancy Sterling	Jean Mitchell
Tom Murphy	Kathleen Hartley
Ann Almone	Amy Jimison
Pat Burger	Janice Hall
Fred Colby	Olga Medvedkov
Matthew Gerardi	Sheryl Weaver
Carrie Williams	Carol Roy
Sandra Wilson	Linda Butler
Carley Petch	Rick Gleim
Karen Downing	Ann DeMuth
Mary Coridan	Kip Price
Judy Brandt	

250+ HOURS



Lori Sheppard	Nancy Crowell
Katherine Morton	Ryan Burky
Christine Hirschfeld	Sandra Aukeman
Sharon Dunn	Kathleen Willis
Blake Sherry	Tammie Gorsuch
Tom Berkemeyer	Lisa McMullen
Thomas Mastin	William Knight
Mary Mastin	Wendy Gries
Carolyn Van Dusen	Lynne Browning
Thomas Welch	Kristen Seiber
Monique Judy	Cheyenne Severence
Genise Lipscomb	Dee Rush
Jan Simek	Mary Pat Simmers
Judy Schmitz	Mike Gingras
Georgia Brown	Jacob Fitch
Bridget McDaniel	Judith Gardiner
Fred Habenschuss	Debra Gates
Keri Kotchounian	Michael Worley
Marcia Bennett	Carene O'Connor
David Kieffer	Alice Marteney
Jerry Olmstead	Linda Miller
John Zimmerman	Elizabeth (Beth) Davies

Taylor Stone