

REGION NEWS—ASIA QUEST

Summer is nearing an official end and most schools are back in session. Thanks to the many volunteers who worked in the region and the Asia Quest Aviary this season. Your help is always greatly appreciated.

Greater one-horned rhino Brian will leave Columbus in late September and go to the Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha, Nebraska, so be sure to say your goodbyes before then. His presence will be missed.

In mid-August, four azure-winged magpie chicks were born in the **aviary**. Swing by and check them out when you get a chance.



The **Pallas' cats** will be switching locations at some point in the future. Moose has already moved to an outdoor enclosure inaccessible to guests behind the elephant and rhino building. Tiina and daughter Kaarina will move to the main Pallas' cat habitat and Rooster will move to the basement.

September will be **Asian elephant** breeding season at the Zoo. All three females will be cycling and may breed. Elephant specialists who were in Columbus for a meeting examined our females and found them to be reproductively healthy. Hopefully staff have romantic music and low lighting on standby.

Malayan flying fox Fay passed away at the end of July with mobilization problems.

Our congratulations to Asia Quest Animal Care staff member Sarah Kirkman on the birth of her new son. The little bundle of joy arrived in August.

REMEMBERING MALAYAN FLYING FOX FAY

Photos courtesy of Cindy Wesney

REGION NEWS—AUSTRALIA & THE ISLANDS

Construction on the renovation at the **kangaroo** barn has been completed, and the **kangaroos** are loving it. This renovation allows for more indoor space as well as for the outdoor holding yard. If you come through the walkabout and see few **kangaroos**, they may be taking some time to enjoy their new space.

Our **lorikeets** were off exhibit for a few days while the indoor flooring in that exhibit was being replaced. By the time you read this, the lorikeet garden should be open again.

Our AEV **otter** boys are doing great. As you will recall, they had been coming to Australia and the Islands periodically on play dates and liked it so well that they decided to move in. They share exhibit space with Dash and Flounder. The six boys have indoor/outdoor access so you may not see all of them outside at the same time. AEV boys Yin and Yang are 10 years old, and Marley and Willie are 4 years old.

Our **African crowned crane** chicks recently left for a new home. That leaves mom [Frankie] and dad [Felix] in the Congo Aviary.

All the other animals in the region are doing well.

Summer is winding down to a close, but the animals still look forward to your visits, so come on “Down Under” to the Australia and the Islands region.



Photos courtesy of Jane Cirigliano

REGION NEWS—CONGO EXPEDITION

To clarify something that was mentioned during a conservation discussion, Gorilla Doctors are supported by the Columbus Zoo's Partners in Conservation (PIC). Speaking of PIC, their main fundraiser, the Rwandan Fete, is coming up on Sept. 30. Hope to see you there!

Sully **gorilla** continues to be a great mom and the infant loves to grab at things, especially Sully's face. The rest of the group is doing great and both troops are enjoying time outside!

There's a new girl in town! Kibibi, a 9-year-old female **bonobo** from the Jacksonville Zoo, joined us in early August. Kibibi is full of spunk and has settled in quickly at her new home. She's our matriarch's granddaughter and, just like Susie, she loves boomer balls! Kibibi is a training rockstar and has already allowed staff to record blood pressure readings. She also presents her hip to be touched with a blunted needle like a champ.



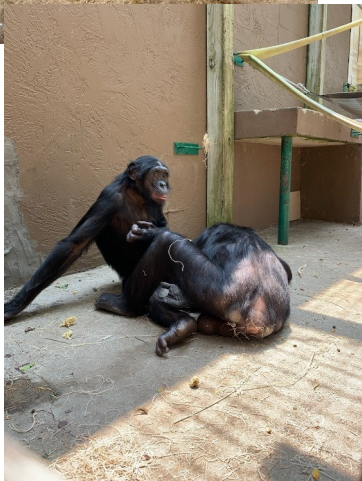
Bonobo Kibibi



The bonobos are enjoying different substrates for enrichment. Keepers covered the playroom with shavings and other rooms with mulch and deep hay. Nesting and foraging have never been so exciting!

Attached are photos of the playroom, room 3 with deep hay and Donnie grooming Kibibi.

The **colobus monkeys** are continuing to do really well and are viewable in their yard. They're learning new training behaviors in addition to getting some new, fun enrichment items!



Marmalade will turn 6 months old in September! She's very bouncy and learning how to play with big brother Jif. She's also exploring more things on her own and loves to sit in the food tubs as she eats. Jif is now a whopping 10 pounds of energy. He seems enthusiastic about having a fun sister to jump around with and wrestle. It's probably fair to assume the adults also enjoy that the two of them can now play.

Photos courtesy of Libby Nolan

The **okapis** continue to tolerate the construction noise well. During the week, they will have access to yards Y1 and Y2 throughout the day depending on noise levels, which will allow them to retreat inside if the noise bothers them. They should be viewable in Y3 every day. After recent unsuccessful breeding sessions between El Jewar and Damisi, plans are in the works to begin breeding Damisi with younger male Matoke. However, if the latter pairing does not produce favorable results, keepers may give Damisi and El Jewar more opportunities to breed again.

The **orangutans** are staying busy. Chelsea and Keith are training the orangutans on blood draws and awake cardiac ILR's. The orangutans (as well as Chelsea and Keith) are being star pupils. All are being patient and learning.

We all know Khali and Sulango love spending time in the yard. Dumplin does too but she appears to enjoy the cooler days better. She's been a little more eager to venture outside lately. Make sure when you visit the orangutan area to look both inside and outside as well as high and low. You never know who you'll see where.

A lot of thought was given to World Orangutan Day that took place on Aug. 19. The celebration that was held in honor of our three adorable redheads and orangutans everywhere was wonderful!

The **mandrills** have had a great summer! Izzy continues to grow up right before our eyes. She can be seen romping in various substrates in the indoor habitat or hopping around the yard with Bernard usually close by. Speaking of Bernard, his first birthday this fall is fast approaching. Stay tuned for party details. The mandrills will continue to frequently have access to the indoor habitat due to the bonobo construction project so, if you don't see them in the yard, make sure to peak through the window.

The **leopard** boys are doing well. As summer winds down, you'll likely see them enjoying the cooler weather by taking cat naps up high in their yard.



Photo courtesy of Cindy Wesney

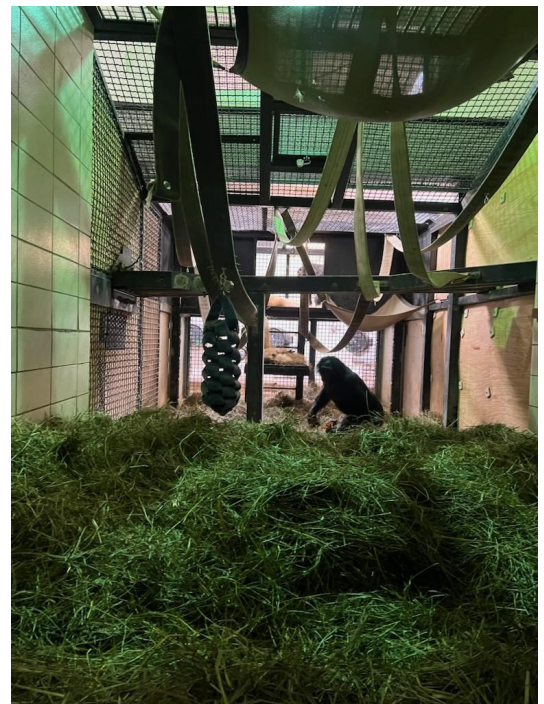


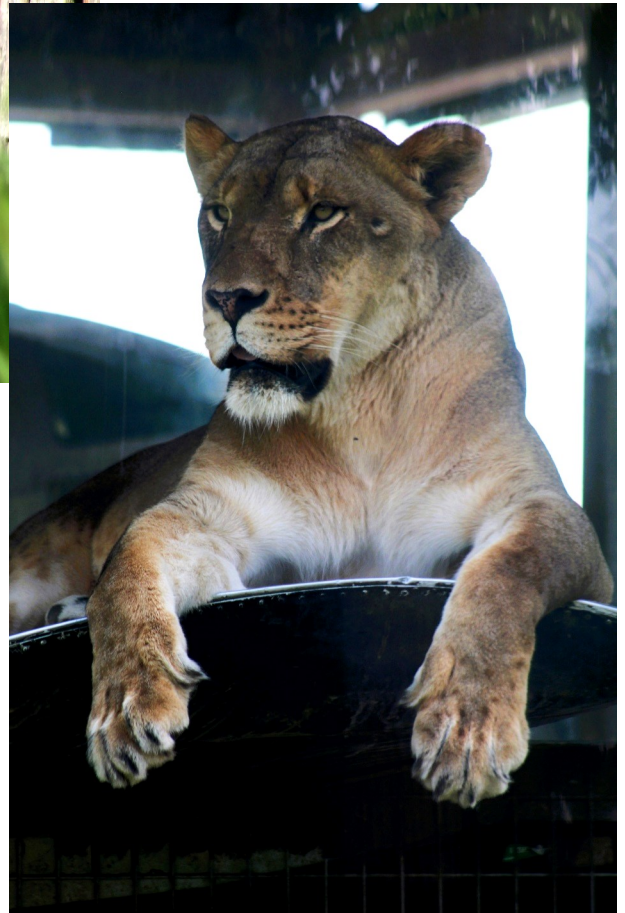
Photo courtesy of Libby Nolan

REGION NEWS—HEART OF AFRICA

There is not much to report right now but know that all of the animals are doing well. With kids going back to school, activity within the region should start slowing down.

Savanna tours will end for the season after Labor Day weekend. It is hard to believe that's almost here!

Staff are once again looking forward to doing indoor **giraffe** tours, which are already posted on the Zoo's website. Be sure to check them out!



Photos courtesy of Cindy Wesney

REGION NEWS—NORTH AMERICA

Trumpeter swan Sloane was “feeling his oats” this year by showing some protective behaviors around his habitat and Stella, especially around breeding/nesting season. This has subsided now that we are almost into the fall season. Work is starting on the swans’ temporary habitat that they will live in during construction. This will be the opposite pond near the moose boardwalk.

Mexican wolves Storm and Winter got their first real carcass feed! While they weren’t eager for the large crowds that it generated, they definitely enjoyed their first experience receiving deer. Keepers are hopeful to continue this as long as they have a supply of deer legs to offer.

By the time this update comes out, Lambo (**Hampshire sheep**), Circe and Sybil (**Angora goats**) will be down at **My Barn**. Circe and Sybil are sisters and came from the same farm that we received Phoebe from many years ago. Meanwhile, housing a Hampshire sheep is a first for My Barn. As soon as Labor Day is over, the petting yard will go down to weekends only. Staff greatly appreciate all the docents and volunteers who assisted in the petting yard this summer.

Keepers added a small training “window” in the **lynx** hotwire, so you might see them along the train tracks doing training sessions in the afternoon.

Black bears Joan and Stevie seem to have worked out most of their differences and are now spending quite a bit of time together.

We are about to enter **moose** Bert’s first rut season and staff are anxious to see how he responds. Bert will be in the bull yard as soon as he sheds his velvet and the girls will be in the big moose yard.

Our **reindeer** girls are tired of summer and are looking forward to fall/winter temperatures. Staff are hopeful to add some new additions to our herd in the coming months, so stay tuned!



Photo courtesy of Cindy Wesney

Polar bear Aurora is enjoying more alone time away from Lee and will be moving into her den toward the end of the month. Those changes are based solely off of her behavior; staff take their cues from her.

Brown bear Brutus is having a small bout of health issues again. Keepers and vet staff are keeping a close eye on him and he is improving. Both boys will start consuming large amounts of food as they head toward torpor.

Planning just added some new shelves to the **arctic fox** habitat and took out the old crates. The foxes seem to love their new vertical space.

The **river otters** and **wolverines** are doing well.

Cougars Cal, Poppy and Goldie just celebrated their 3rd birthdays! Keepers created some great enrichment for them to gleefully destroy.

A few birds have been or will soon be added to the **Dr. Bernard Master Aviary**, including two catbirds, one goldfinch, one song sparrow and an orchard oriole.

Eagle Cheyenne continues to spend time on the ground and is being watched closely. Staff plan to do exams on all of our eagles when it is time to move them for construction purposes since they so rarely have hands on them.



Photo courtesy of Tiffany Rummer

REGION NEWS—SHORES

Our **flamingos** have finished with their breeding/ nesting season and have started molting.

The **penguins** recently moved back to their building following pool repairs.

We completed physicals on all **manatees** last month.

Unfortunately, our **white spotted bamboo shark** died.

Our **female Northern flat-tailed gecko** had calcium deposits around her neck that had hardened and were removed.

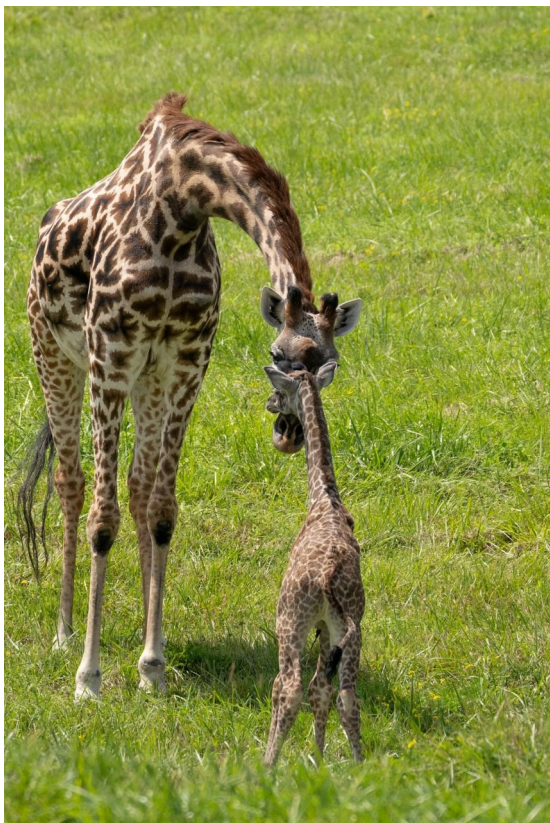


Photos courtesy of Cindy Wesney

REGION NEWS—THE WILDS

The big news from The Wilds is a new giraffe calf [a female] born to Savannah and Raha on August 17.

They will be at the barn due to pending construction out in pasture but will eventually be seen on our Wildside tours.



Photos courtesy of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

REGION NEWS—WILD ENCOUNTERS

Wild Encounters experienced its first Zoom on Aug. 1 as a newly named area. There were presentations on training and enrichment by Katie Stevens and about pinnipeds and the Marine Mammal Center by Shea Eaves.

The Adventure Cove Deck is now open until 4:30 p.m. daily.

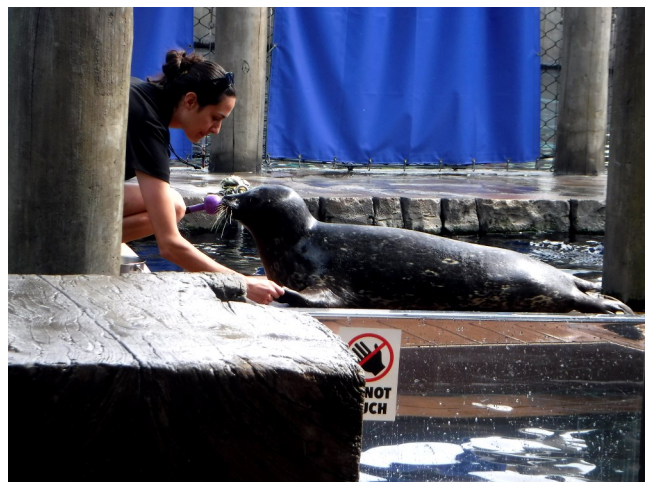
As part of the Block & Roll enrichment event in August, the pinnipeds received ice treats and the public augmented it with a gelatin toss at the invitation of supervising trainers. In the Watering Hole, the **hyenas** discovered an ice-treat feast as they romped around the yard. During the same weekend, the pinnipeds also sampled a new treat of fish juice ice treats.



In Animal Encounters Village (AEV), the **Asian small-clawed otters** have moved across the Zoo to Australia and the Islands. New resident Junebug, a **Virginia opossum** from the Ohio Wildlife Center, made her Enrichment Day debut to investigate her ice treats. Junebug survived an auto collision that fatally injured her mother and necessitated the amputation of part of Junebug's tail. Stop by AEV and watch Junebug explore her new habitat.

Coming soon for AEV guests will be a **cabybara** experience featuring our two big rodent boys that can be booked in advance.

Catch the weekend presentations of Training Tales that now feature Hillie, Ferris, Sloane and Keaton **harbor seals** galumphing their way to the stage. Dictionaries define galumphing as “to move with a clumsy, heavy tread.” It is suggested that author Lewis Carroll used the word in 1872 to describe the actions of a character in *Through the Looking Glass*, perhaps creating the word by splicing “gallop” and “triumphant” together to describe this movement.



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Davis

Nana, a frequent Training Tales participant, has reached a weight of more than 700 pounds.

Don't miss our final Zoom presentation of 2023 on Sept. 19!