



## President’s Message – Sue Sallee

Greetings Fellow Docents!

I hope all of you are well, enjoying our Colorado Springtime weather, venturing outside to enjoy the sunshine, and limbering up to come back on Zoo grounds as you are able!



As I started to compose my message, I had to ponder long and hard what to say as we approach the finish line of a challenging year. How could it be that another Auxiliary year will be coming to a close, an election over, and a newly-elected Executive Board soon to be in place? It was as if time passed us by while we were sheltered at home, disconnected from those we love, and missing our work as Docents at the Zoo. But we haven’t reached the finish line yet.

Processing all we experienced and what the future will hold will take time. But the light shines bright at the end of the tunnel, tours are trickling in and we have the rest of the month to end the year on a high note. I am so proud of all the efforts by so many dedicated Docents and especially to the Board to provide the leadership needed to keep the Auxiliary moving along. We have worked together brilliantly as a team, meeting 100% by Zoom each month. I am so proud of how each Board member represented all of you on your behalf and what we have accomplished despite the ever-changing restrictions that were placed upon us.

Sixty-eight docents logged on via Zoom to hear Dr. Liza and the Zoo staff present on three different topics on March 31st. The presentations focused on food sustainability and acquiring fish as a food source, Mashama’s stem cell treatment, and the bear cub release on Pikes Peak – were all very informative. The recording of these presentations will be shown after the IE meeting on Saturday, May 8th. For the TE meeting on May 12th, the Zoo staff will be doing a presentation via Zoom on that day. Be watching for the invite through Sign Up Genius and sign up for either of these meetings. Hope to see many of you there.

Here is what our dedicated Docents accomplished in the month of April:

A BIG thank you to BBY Docents and Cris Stoddard, Chair, for filling slots in BBY and providing duty-free lunch time for our zookeepers! Year-to-date total of 1,363 hours was logged by our chicken-loving Docents! Thank you, Tech Committee for launching *Better Impact* to start scheduling Docents with our newly adopted program. What a tremendous effort to set up the system and move forward with the scheduling of BBY Docents! Health checks are still in effect; check in at the Loft prior to your shift but stay tuned for future updates! Thank you BBY Docents who continue to “cluck” right along with Zoo guests who love to interact with Docents and of course the chickens!

Five carts remain open with NO advanced sign-ups required! Come and work a cart on whatever day and time you want! (Continued – page 2)

## DATES TO KNOW

All meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

May 5 ..... Board Meeting.....Zoom

May 8 ..... IE Meeting.....Zoom

May 12 ..... TE Meeting.....Zoom

**NOTE:** Dr. Liza or a Zoo staff member will present at the TE meeting!

May 26 ... Education Committee meets in the Canopy in the EdVenture Bldg.

*Run to the Shrine* will take place on both weekend days, May 15-16. There are limited number of slots are still available for Sunday, 5/16; save on registration fees through Monday, May 10.

**July 10 – SAVE THE DATE** for “Holiday in July” Docent Party at Marie Poyzer’s

*Stay tuned to your e-mails for further information about signups and docent work opportunities, and for other activities being scheduled.*

## Continuing Education Credits

**CECs must be completed by May 31 in order to count for the 2020-21 year.**

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**President’s Message – continued**

Thank you, Marianne Brooks, Cart Master, for all your work on the monthly sign-ups, keeping the carts readily available for us to use. Year-to-date for carts is 1,062.7 hours! What an accomplishment to hit the 1,000 hours mark before the end of May! What a great team effort that we have hit that mark! Keep up the great work coming onto Zoo grounds grabbing a biofact and interacting with guests! What a picture-perfect scene to see that happening again on Zoo grounds! Thank you for checking in at the DRC for your health check prior to going to your favorite cart!

ZOOM is busy, busy, busy with programs coming in daily! Thank you, Jeanie Baratono, for heading up the team effort, with a year-to-date of 2,966.75 hours! It is looking good that Zoom Docents will hit the 3,000 hour mark by end of May!! Great effort by all the Zoom Docents as they continue to interact with guests and intrigue them with the animals, train new ZOOM Docents and complete husbandry in the Loft!

Thank you to the Docents who continue to provide tours to help out EdVenture. This notorious group has contributed 270 hours year-to-date! Included in these hours are TE Docents who provided Docent led tours in the month of April! Another fantastic effort!

This month is the final month to log hours, complete CECs and renew your Zoo membership. Remember, 2 CECs and current Zoo membership are required to keep your Docent status active. Let’s shoot for achieving 100% participation to complete these 2 requirements and be ready to jump start our new year!

For those who may not receive the Gazette newspaper, the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo has achieved an incredible level of recognition by earning GOLD awards in six different categories in the latest edition of *The Best of the Springs*. We can be especially proud that the CMZ won GOLD in the category of *Best Field Trip*, despite the absence of school tours for the past year. What a testament to what the Zoo and Docents have to offer to students! The Zoo also won GOLD in the category of *Best Day Trip*, beating out Breckenridge (which took Silver) and Buena Vista (which took bronze)!

EdVenture won top honors as the Zoo earned GOLD for *Best Place for Birthday* and *Best Summer Day Camp*. Rounding out the top prizes, Bob Chastain can be justifiably proud to have earned top honors as the *Best Nonprofit*, and as the most *Fun Way to Support Charity*. In addition, the Expert Picks chose the *Walk with the Penguins* in Water’s Edge Africa as top family friendly fun.

As we look forward to finishing the year on a high note, many of us venturing out to the Zoo, let’s remember to

keep the joy of serving one of the world’s most distinguished and well-loved zoos in our hearts as we spread the conservation message to visitors and guests from around the world. Take Care and See You At the Zoo!

Best, Sue

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**2021-2022 Executive Board  
RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF  
OFFICERS**



- President .....Barbara Kalbli
- President-Elect .....Marsha Fogarty
- 1st Vice President .....Greta Johnson
- 1st Vice-President-Elect .....Marianne Brooks
- 2nd Vice-President .....Judy Sondermann
- 2nd Vice-President-Elect .....Marie Poyzer
- Corresponding Secretary .....Kathy Kidd
- Recording Secretary .....Mac McPherson
- Treasurer .....Nancy Hochman
- IE Chair.....Ann Marie Jackson
- Past President.....Sue Sallee

Supplemental Chairs will be chosen soon and published in the June issue of Zooline. Our CMZA Organizational Chart is available on page Z-9 of the 2021 Docent Manual

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**2021-2022 Nominating Committee**

**Chair:** Sue Sallee

<u>Member:</u>	<u>1st Alternate</u>	<u>2nd Alternate</u>
Linnea McDonald	Sue Mayher	Doris Banks
Meg Fossinger	Sharon Ledlow	Carol Maynard
Jean McKanna	Cindi Carroll	Kaiti Poehlmann
Nona Hentschel	Jim Hunter	Susie Potterat
Lynne Stefoniak	Jeanie Baratono	Ron Capen
Charlotte Greene	John Kleiner	Ann Marie Jackson
Rick Jenkins	Cate Kelly	Mindy Mahler
Andrew Witherow	Mac McPherson	Gayle Irani
RaNae Duran	Joelle Shreves	Kathy O’Donnell

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**Treasurer’s Report**

The Operational Account at the end of March listed payments in March for office equipment and supplies, DRC cleaning and Animal Enrichment. The February ending balance was \$2,858.67.



The balance in the Restricted Account at the end of February was \$23,553.39. This includes payment of the third and final installment of \$2,000 in support of the CMZ Vet Hospital, and a \$1,000 contribution to the Tiger Conservation Fund in honor of Savelli.

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## 2021 RULES AND POLICY CHANGE

On April 7th the CMZA Board approved a change to Rules and Policies addressing TB tests in light of the change in the Zoo's Policy on this issue. The changes amend sections [25] Reinstatement, and [37]4. Under Appropriate Behavior. The current revised Policies are:

### Reinstatement [25]

1. A member of the Auxiliary who has resigned in good standing or has a status change to sustaining or inactive may be reinstated to active membership by renewing zoo membership, if it has lapsed, submitting proof of a current TB Skin test if required by the Zoo, and meeting training requirements to update docent skills as determined by the Education Committee.

### Appropriate Behavior [37]

4. TB Screening: All active members participating in Zoo activities shall be required to offer proof of annual TB screening, including the required follow-up reading, if required by the Zoo. Any docent who has resigned, been inactive, or sustaining and is reactivating membership, must also offer proof of current TB screening including the required follow-up reading, if required by the Zoo.

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## CEC Report

Big thanks to everyone for your participation in the CEC program this year. Almost all docents have completed 2 or more CECs to fulfill their annual requirement. We have had 82 docents complete the Fall Recall, 83 complete the CEC on Reproduction, 61 complete the Spring Fling and 52 complete the CEC on Conservation. These number may change as we still have another month before the end of the docent year.

The Fall Recall, CEC on Conservation and Spring Fling will remain available until the end of May. Also, a big thank-you to all the docents who prepared the handouts, edited the material and helped with the quizzes. I've enjoyed my job as CEC Chairperson. It's certainly kept me in touch with everyone and has also provided me with an opportunity to continue learning about our animals, conservation and how to work with our guests.



Chewy playing with his ball



As we open more and more activities, I hope to see everyone at our beautiful zoo on the mountain.

Charlotte  
Greene,  
CEC Chair



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## Tours and Safaris!

Yea! After over a year with no tours nor safaris, a few organizations are venturing outside and allowing field trips and safaris. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

1. If you are giving a prescribed tour, you should review the tour information and suggested routes in the manual. (The docent manual is available on the Auxiliary website as well as in Better Impact.)
2. Likewise, be sure to review the Safaris and double check the Power Points before going to the school.
3. For Safaris, students should not touch hair, hide, fur, nor feathers. Please show and describe them, but let's not touch at this time. Whether or not other biofacts are touched is up to each individual docent.
4. Remember to bring ID with you when doing a Safari.
5. Additionally, some schools have different restrictions currently in place that may require Safaris to be held in locations other than the classroom. (At least one school is hoping to hold their Safari in an outside area.). Please make sure you check with the teacher and let them know what equipment you'll need (screen, computer, projector, etc.) prior to your arrival so you can be prepared for whatever circumstances may arise.
6. **Please sign the health assessment sheet located in the front of the tour sign-in notebook which will be in the Bell Tower.** (Also, make sure you sign in on the tour sheet in order to receive credit!)
7. Tour groups are slightly smaller this spring than we've had in the past. This is to allow for a bit more social distancing.
8. The Zoo is following El Paso County guidelines in terms of COVID. This means that masks are currently required indoors for anyone over 10 years old. You can ask, but not require, students and chaperones to wear masks outdoors. Children under 10 do not need to wear mask.
9. Additionally, no more than 50 people (including chaperones, but not docents) may come in during an assigned tour group time. If a tour group has more than 50 people, they will have two entrance times assigned to them, and they still get the full tour (1 hour for C & C and 1.5 hours for all other tours.)

(Continued – page 4)

**Tours and Safaris – continued**

10. Tours need to go with the flow of traffic. Groups may not “cut” the line at Water’s Edge Africa or other exhibits. There are 2 exceptions to this:



- a. If you are going to Primate World and not Water’s Edge, you may go around the groups, through Water’s Edge, to get to Primate World.
- b. When you are at the giraffes, find a place for your group to feed the giraffes, then, using the door code, get your lettuce and have them feed.

(You can also get the lettuce before your tour even starts, and thus be ready to go when you get to the giraffes.)

11. We will try and keep you abreast as El Paso County Covid restrictions change causing zoo policies to change.



If you have any questions, you can contact Judy Sondermann (2<sup>nd</sup> VP), Marie Poyzer (2<sup>nd</sup> VP Elect), Jean McKanna (Tour Chair), or Gayle Irani (Safari Coordinator).

**Animal Enrichment Information**

Hello docent friends! I hope you are all doing well, getting vaccinated and feel like returning to the zoo. I also hope that you will come make cannolis with us!



***CANNOLI MAKING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 AT 0930 IN THE DRC***

One way you can still help the Zoo is to donate enrichment items. The Zoo wish list can be found at <https://www.cmzoo.org/support/materials-wishlist/>

If you have something to donate, but do not want to go to the DRC, email me at [rorrydoggie@gmail.com](mailto:rorrydoggie@gmail.com) and I will pick it up.

For cannolis, Big Backyard and the Loft, we need:

- PAPER TOWEL TUBES
- EGG CARTONS
- TOILET PAPER TUBES
- BOXES OF ALL SIZES
- PAPER BAGS OF ALL SIZES



I look forward to the time we can all meet at the Zoo and socialize together. Until then, stay healthy, safe and happy.

*Kathy O’Donnell, Enrichment Chair*

**Animal Update (March 2021)**



Happy 30th Birthday to Goma, the gorilla! A wonderful birthday party was held for him!



- 16 African Penguins were moved back down to their modified exhibit and exploration has begun! They are enjoying swimming, exploring the outdoor beach, and are visible to guests when inside.
- Mountain Lion Koda fractured his rear left leg on March 1. A team of vets and surgeons from CSU performed surgery on March 3rd. A plate and some pins were placed on the fracture. Koda will be resting approximately 6-8 weeks. As of April 4<sup>th</sup>, he was on week 5 and healing well and moving around the dens. He is receiving enrichment 2 to 3 times a day to keep him busy and mentally stimulated. Keepers have been spending quality time with him several times a day for training and enrichment.
- Mountain Tapir Cofan was diagnosed with kidney stones and his entire kidney removed in a joint surgery between CSU vet team and CMZ. He has recovered well and has been enjoying the warm weather in the yard again.
- Water’s Edge keepers successfully trained an ultrasound behavior with hippo Kasai in 3 days as she was showing signs of late term pregnancy. Her signs were quite a surprise to keepers as she had not been “in contact” with Biko. Ultrasounds were performed twice with no evidence of a fetus. Keepers are beginning ultrasound training with Zambezi as well.
- Giraffe BB received her first two voluntary injections this month. She is starting to learn prerequisite behaviors for hoof care (targeting and backing up) in the training stall.
- Heidi Eaton retired from CMZ! She worked in Primate World for over 26 years and will be missed!
- Elephant feeding encounters continue to be a hit with guests, followed by guests feeding Budgies with seed sticks!



*Sue Sallee, April CMZ Mission & Programs Report*

*Nora the Chuckwalla “on vacation in Egypt” outside Scutes*

## Articles and Information of Interest

- Citizen-science helps in latest USFWS bald eagle count, an article from the Cornell Lab All About Birds website - <http://bit.ly/baldeaglepopulation>
- Endangered Condors return to California <http://bit.ly/condorsinCA> You will have to register with *The Guardian* to read the article but you are not required to subscribe or pay.
- Nat Geo article about invasive species in Florida. If you don't subscribe to National Geographic, you may be able to view this article on a one-time basis. <http://bit.ly/floridainvasivespecies>

## June Zooline Deadline

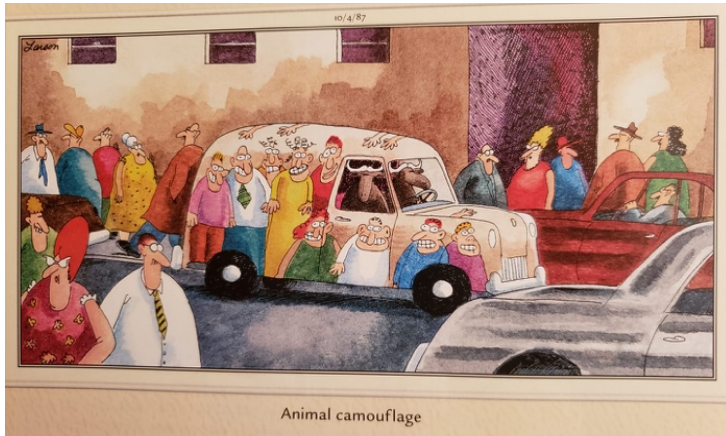
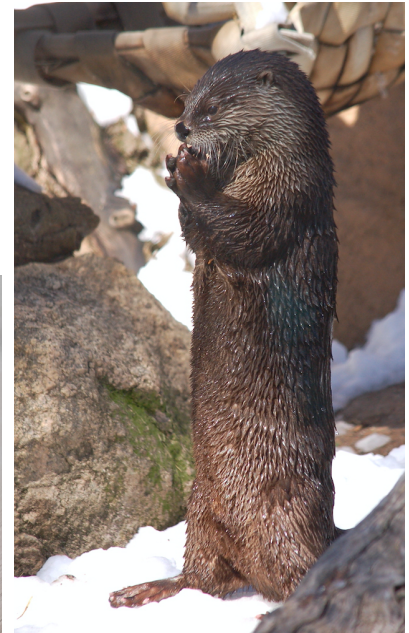


The deadline for the **June issue is Friday, May 21**. Please send all submissions – information, articles, pictures, etc. – to [cmza.zooline@yahoo.com](mailto:cmza.zooline@yahoo.com) Thank you!  
*Linnea McDonald & Joelle Shreves, Editors*

## Animal Pictures



Above: Katt, Matilda's joey  
 Right: Otter snacking



Animal camouflage

Gary Larson cartoon, 10-4-1987



L to R: Hoosier; Kingsnakes Snowman (L) & Zoot (above) use their exercise boards; Great Horned owlets at Colorado Springs School



## Credits

- On page 1, giraffe mother and baby from the CMZ website; page 4, picture of Goma and pictures of the new Q4C kiosks courtesy of CMZ
- From Jeanie Baratono: on page 4, Nora; this page, Snowman and Zoot
- From Susan Hoxie: page 3, Chewy; this page, Hoosier, Katt and Otter
- From Linnea McDonald: page 1, Lynx; this page, Great Horned owlets
- Gary Larson cartoon sent by Lovice Riffe