

Cheyenne Mountain

Zoo Auxiliary

Zoo



Line

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## President's Message

*By: Glenna French, President*

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The Cheyenne Mountain Zoo has made continuous improvements over the past ten years that have enhanced guests' experiences and helped increase revenue. These changes have made it possible for guests to have fun and exciting learning experiences each time they visit. Continued improvements and changes are essential to the viability of the zoo.

Change is a word that invokes many different feelings. It is ever present today however. What would the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo look like if it had not made significant changes since its beginning? Would it still be possible to be taking that little train from the Broadmoor to the Zoo with all 780,000 guests we now have? No it would not be possible. Just in my 9+ years as a docent there have been momentous changes – Encounter Africa, Scutes, Loft and Big Back Yard, Australia Walkabout, Mountaineer Sky Ride, Grizzly Grill, Zoo entrance change, animal behavior training began in all zoo areas, feeding lettuce to the giraffe instead of crackers, new Mountain Tapir exhibit, new eating venues – Elson's Place, Overlook, Pizza With a View, Cozy Goat and much more. Next summer there will be a new Aquatic Building and new offices for the EdVenture Department.

The auxiliary is an integral part in assisting with guests' experiences. As the zoo has improved, so has our organization. We may not be the drivers of this bus but we are important passengers who support the CMZ changes. We continue to change and grow to assist with the bus moving forward. So I want to take this opportunity to say thanks to all of you for being hard working passengers, for making time to help our guests read the map or share a "wow" moment or just ask them questions to help them feel they too are an important part of the our zoo world, the world where efforts are made to save

endangered species in the wild as well as to provide the best care possible for the animals in our care. As we are a part of these changes, we have to be aware that our organization must continue to make changes as well. As docents, we must remain flexible, we must be willing to listen and work with keepers to aid in giving guests the best possible experience. As we all know from our own involvement, this is not always easy because sometimes we feel we know best and that is when we have to remember we are the passengers, not the driver! As a part of the zoo organization, we must remain cognizant of our part and also make improvements to stay in line with the zoo's **Vision: Every Kid, Every Time, Goosebumps!** Every kid, of any age, will have an experience for a lifetime with every visit. We are part of the volunteers who give our time to make sure the greatness of CMZ continues.

The Auxiliary will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year. We have not remained a volunteer organization for that period of time by doing the same thing that was done 49+ years ago. So now we are continuing to make strides to improve the organization by becoming part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century's world of technology. We are taking our first steps in that direction through incorporating all our sign ups through the computer program **Signup Genius**. Thanks to Lynne Stefoniak for volunteering to be the first to use this program having docents sign up for lunch coverage in Big Back Yard. It worked and is still working. Since that initial start, Signup Genius is now being used for Special Events, Zoom, and still Big Back Yard. Next on board will be Safaris, Tours, and Zoopeteers.

Signup Genius training has now been given at both

the IE and TE meetings. It is important that every docent understands this program and is able to use it without difficulty. Remember there are no dumb questions, so please call, text, or email any Board member if something doesn't work for you. They will either help or put you in touch with someone who can help. For many docents computer usage is second nature but for many others it has become a new learning experience. When someone said, "You have to make sure cookies on your computer are turned on to get Signup Genius", my first thought was – I just eat cookies, what is she talking about. I am sure my grandchildren would have known what that meant immediately but I didn't. Therefore, please ask if you have questions or let us know if you aren't receiving these emails.

The following docents are the Administrator for each program:

**Big Back Yard lunch coverage** – Ann Marie Jackson

**Safaris** – Marsha Fogarty

**Special Events** – Nicole Livesay-Townsend

**Tours** – Mindy Mahler

**Zoom lunch coverage** – Lynne Stefoniak

**Zoopeteers** – Sue Sallee

**It is still necessary for you to find a sub if you cannot serve on the date of your signup. You will need to report the subs name to the corresponding administrator so they can make the change in Signup Genius for you.**

*Glenna French*

### CMZA CALENDAR 2018-2019

Meeting Times are 9:30 AM Education Committee Meetings are held at 9:30 AM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month in the Safari Lodge. \*Date/time/or location change. \*\* Mandatory meeting

#### Oct 2018

3*	<b>Board Meeting</b>	<b>Admin Bldg. Library*</b>
10	TE Meeting	Safari Lodge
13	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
17	CEC – Birds	Safari Lodge
20	CEC – Birds	Safari Lodge
20	Field Trip Wild Animal Sanc.	Keenesburg
31	Fall Recall is due	

#### Nov 2018

7	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
14	TE and Staff Lunch	Lodge at Moose Lake
11	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge 15-17
	Field Trip Basque del Apache & Albuquerque Zoo	

**Dec 2018** No meetings BUT--- 8 Holiday Party at the Poyzer's 2pm-5pm

## PROGRAMS

### TE PROGRAMS

**October 10** – Rebecca Zwicker will talk to us about Wolves.

**November 14** – is the staff lunch, don't forget and will be in the Lodge at Moose Lake. In honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Migratory Birds Act, Jenyva Fox will talk to us about the Act and those Feathery Migrators!

**IE PROGRAMS - TBA**

## SOCIAL NEWS

The Keeper/Staff luncheon will be held at the Lodge at Moose Lake on Wednesday, November 14th, following the monthly TE meeting. We will be having a meat lasagna and also a vegetarian option, there will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting for salads and desserts. Thank you for all the delicious dishes docents contribute for these events!


*Eileen Derry and Anne Wardrop*

## CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Hi Docents. Twenty Seven (27) blue directories are eagerly awaiting their new owners. They are located in the DRC, arranged alphabetically by first name. Please come pick them up so they go to their new loving homes!!! *Marie Poyzer*

## CEC NEWS

### GENERAL INFORMATION ON BIRDS

There will be another opportunity to earn a CEC this month by attending a class on Wed 17 Oct or Sat 20 Oct (the same information will be given both days). Continuing with our bird theme that we started in the Fall Recall, we will have 5 docents present general information on raptors, water birds, African birds, tropical birds and bird adaptations. Mark your calendar and join us in the Safari Lodge at 9:30 on either of the dates above for one CEC credit. No sign up or reservation needed. For more information contact your CEC board representative Charlotte Greene at [charcopolo@me.com](mailto:charcopolo@me.com) or call 719-475-1499. PS: Don't forget to complete and turn in your Fall Recall for a CEC credit by Hollow's Eve! 

## ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING RULES AND POLICY CHANGE FOR PRIVATE TOURS

**Private Tour Service Hour Change:** The CMZ Board approved the following change regarding the service hours to be credited for any private tour:

Each private tour is limited to **2 IE service hour credits and must be signed-in in the DRC on the day the tour is given.** Any additional time will be counted as volunteer hours to be turned in at monthly meetings or given to the Service Registrar by the docent giving the tour. Private tour service hours will not be calculated toward total hours until the completion of the required 15 hours in the docent's primary focus. After this requirement is met, all other hours in any combination of activities the docent is qualified to perform (Tour Educator, Interpretive Educator, Zoom, Zoopeteers and

Private Tours) will be calculated.

*Glenna French*

## MEET YOUR BOARD – BARBARA KALBLI

My husband & I moved to Colorado Springs on June 27, 2012...the height of the Waldo Fire. Ash was falling & it looked like an Inferno when we hit a crest into the Springs. Quite an introduction! We had migrated here from Cincinnati, Ohio, having recently retired from the field of Education...my husband had been a high school Special Education teacher for 25 years. In addition to teaching, I had owned my own business, worked for the airlines, and finished my career as a School Administrator.

I knew that I wanted to be involved with the community in a volunteer capacity and decided to train as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). I was sworn in and enjoyed the experience with the children who need someone to "speak for them," but thought the oversight was cumbersome.

We had maintained a family membership to The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens while our children were growing up and had many wonderful experiences there. After some introspection, I decided to seek out Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and became an Adult Volunteer. The Loft was under construction, so I started my duties in Aquatics. I cleaned the penguin's enclosure, did feedings, took data, helped with the training of the hippos (as in, tossing lettuce to one hippo to keep her distracted while the keeper worked with the sister) until the Loft was completed.

I met a couple of docents, while volunteering at the "first ever" World Giraffe Day & was encouraged to consider the docent training program. Because of prior commitments, that year didn't work out, but I did complete docent training in 2016, as a TE/IE. In addition to tours, I continue to volunteer in the Loft and enjoy doing animal outreach with ZOOM. Last year, Terry Pratt & I collaborated as Co-Chairs for the Social Committee. We easily bonded and truly

enjoyed being on the Board. This year, I will be assuming the position of 2nd Vice President, Elect under the tutelage of Suzanne Twohig.

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is such a unique place. The sense of family with staff & volunteers is amazing. I have spoken to docents who are visiting our zoo from other areas of the country....they are always astounded that we “actually get to touch our animals.” When we have out-of-town guests, I am always so proud to share with them a very special experience - a trip to the only Mountain Zoo in the US!

## TIDBITS

Tidbits from the EdVenture department that you might want to share with guests:

- Teri (Chilean rose hair tarantula) is the oldest animal in BBY. She is 20 years old! Female tarantulas can easily live over 20 years, whereas males may not make it to 5.
- Laredo (Rio Grande turkey) is the oldest living Rio Grande Turkey in human care right now. His hatch date is 2001! Turkeys typically only live to be about 9 years old.
- Ginger is allergic to almost all types of wood and grasses. It would not be “normal” for a beaver to eat sweet potatoes or bananas in the wild, but because Ginger is limited to just two types of wood, we supplement her diet with fruits, veggies, rodent blocks, and moose chow.

**PS from Editor:** Teri was donated to the Zoo by our fellow docent Wendy Seglem! She used to be a family pet and has been a super animal for Outreach programs ever since!

Thanks to Caz, we have more photos from World Elephant Day!



Prehensile tongue courtesy of Lynne Stefonik and her grandson. We do this because we can see the Zoo and these creatures through new eyes every time. Our own, goosebumps!

## LYNX IN COLORADO

The lynx lives in North America and Eurasia. It is found in dense subalpine forest and willow-choked corridors along mountain streams and avalanche chutes, the home of its favored prey, the snowshoe hare. For the lynx, the typical

hunting strategy is patience, stalking prey or crouching in wait beside a trail. Often the surprised quarry is overtaken and dispatched in a single furious bound. Lynx also eat some carrion, and capture ground-dwelling birds (like grouse) and small mammals. Lynx are active throughout the year; their huge hind feet help them move across heavy snow.

Lynx sightings in Colorado were rare in 1973, with them believed to be extirpated in Colorado by the late 70's. In 1999 the Colorado Parks and Wildlife department launched an ambitious wildlife reintroduction program, the Colorado Lynx Reintroduction Program, to reestablish wild lynx here. Cats were captured in Canada and Alaska and released into the remote San Juan Mountains in southwest Colorado. During a seven-year period, 218 of the Canuck cats, were introduced. Monitoring radio- and satellite-collars tracked the lynx as they slowly established breeding populations in the San Juan's and expanded their range into Summit County and other parts of Colorado's high country.

Based on breeding surveys, monitoring results, and completion of the program's original goals, CPW declared the Lynx reintroduction a success in 2010. Today, an estimated 150-250 of the tufted-eared cats now roam Colorado's backcountry.

### About the Lynx

- Large, bob-tailed cat
- Three feet long
- Black-tipped tail is about one-eighth the total length, and only about half the length of its huge hind foot
- Weight varies from 20 to 30 pounds
- Coat is grayish with obscure spots
- Magnificent ear tufts may be nearly as long as the actual ears!

**The lynx is easily confused with its more common and more widespread relative, the bobcat. However, they have a few obvious differences:**

- **Size:** The lynx is slightly larger than the bobcat. The lynx's tail is relatively shorter and its hind foot is much longer (greater than 8 inches, versus less than eight inches in the bobcat).
- **Coloring:** Lynx have grayish fur and less prominent spots, while bobcats have reddish fur.
- **Ear Tuft:** Only lynx flaunt a conspicuous ear tuft.
- **Tail:** Lynx's tails have a solid black tip, while bobcats' tails have a black tip broken with a reddish band. *Dawn Brizeidine*



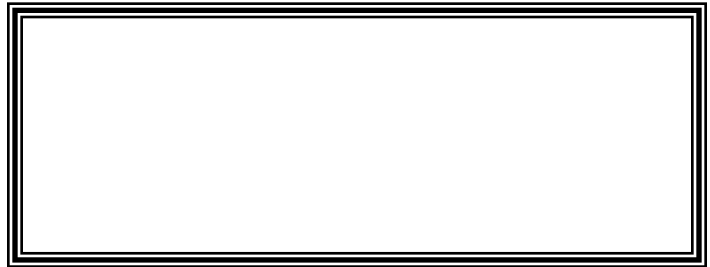
Photos courtesy of Deborah Compton.





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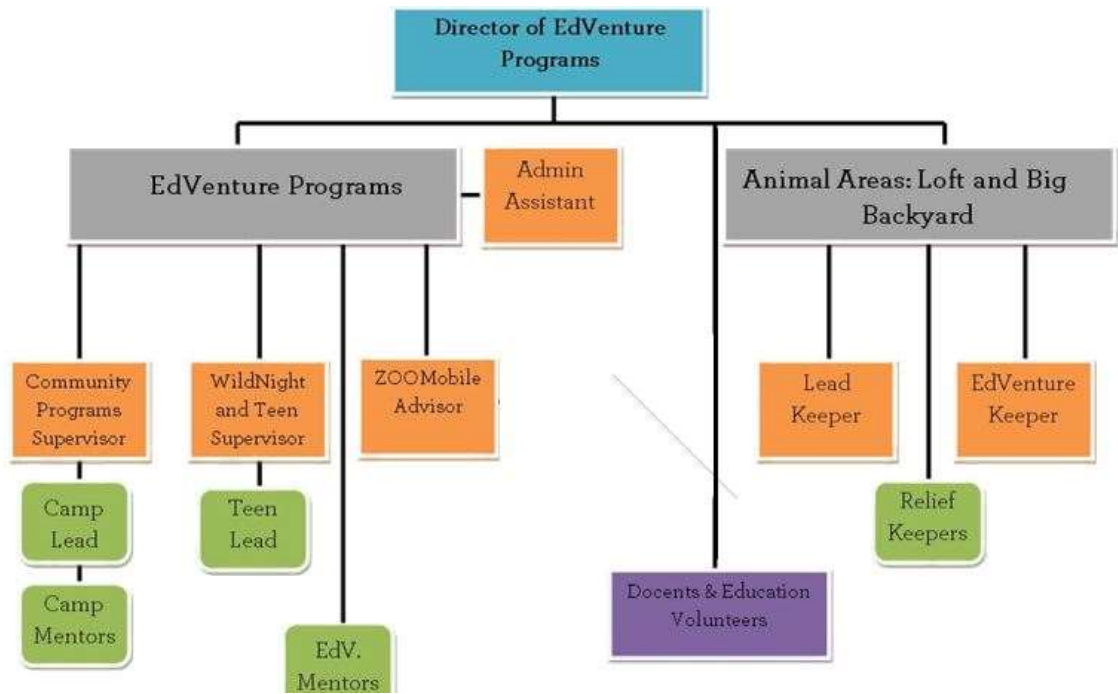


# EDVENTURE UPDATES

## Who's Who In EdVenture?

It seems a lot of folks think that our EdVenture Department is just a small handful of folks that make the department run, but did you know that there are almost 30 of us? We might have a small building, but we are not a small team! Did you also know that you, as docents, are a branch of our EdVenture Family Tree? That makes our educational team nearly 160 people strong! Some of you have probably seen the tree, below, but I wanted to share with you all exactly what our department looks like and who fits where.

Here is a breakdown of that family tree (Docents are in purple):



Now that you know that, here are the employees and their positions that make up this tree:

### Office Staff:



**Brittinie Ontiveros**  
Admin. Assistant



**Austin Kennedy**  
WildNight and Teen Programs Supervisor



**Kate Kelly**  
Community Programs Supervisor



**Stacey Graham**  
Director of EdVenture Programs

## Animal Care Staff:



**Jenny Diaz**  
Lead Loft Keeper



**Lauren Phillippi**  
ZOOM Advisor



**Kevin Pellow**  
EdVenture Keeper



**Bryce Oberg**  
EdVenture Keeper



**Alia Cooper**  
Relief Keeper



**Jacklyn Watson**  
Relief Keeper

Our team also includes a healthy handful of part time staff that are really the back bone of our department. They lead programs like birthdays, WildNights, camps, tours, and more! What you won't see included here is that Dr. Liza is my direct contact as the VP of Mission and Vision, EdVenture falls under her umbrella (and Bob is her direct report from there).

Please be sure to say hello or ask questions to any of these folks the next time you see them!

Stacey



