

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Auxiliary Zoo Line

Volume 48 Edition 1

September, 2018

President's Message

By: Glenna French, President

Greetings Docents, This article is dedicated to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo staff.

The feel of fall is in the air and summer is coming to a close. It has been a wonderful, enriching summer but also a sad and inspirational one. Through all of the happenings this summer, we once again learn what resilience, dedication, and fortitude the Zoo family has. Their focus is always to take the best care possible of all animals in their care and enhance guests' experiences by as much interaction with them as time allows. This was continued to be demonstrated with the love and care given to Penny during her short life. She will always be remembered and tremendously missed. Her life from the beginning and until the end was shared with the nation. Through the videos the zoo shared with the nation, Penny, Bob Chastain and the entire zoo family became conservation ambassadors. Everything shared regarding Penny's life exhibited what makes the CMZ one of the best in the nation.

On August 6th the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo was once again challenged when a major supercell thunderstorm developed in minutes and dropped 3 to 4 inch hail stones on the facility. The staff has been trained to know what to do when disaster hits and they did their job. We have heard the details of what happened during that storm and the sad fact that five animals were lost and some guests and employees were injured. However, what we haven't really heard is the actions that were taken again by the zoo family to press into action to make sure all guests and animals were in safe, secure areas. We haven't heard that despite the loss of their own vehicles, the staff stayed to get organized and start working to reopen the zoo as soon as possible. They exemplified determination, strength and willingness to do whatever was asked of them to get the job done and they did it. By Thursday, August 9th when I went up for a meeting, there wasn't really any immediate evidence that this storm happened. As I went up the hill, however, the storm's story began to become

real. Skylights covered with blue tarps or plywood, trees shredded, and all those employee cars covered with tarps and plastic. That really hit hard. To think that all these employees had to find a way to home, to get back to work the next day and to work extended hours without any complaints. What a tribute to the zoo. This is the family the Auxiliary is here to support, to assist where and when we can, and to assist in helping make their job a little easier. To all the zoo staff, the Auxiliary is grateful for all of you. For the lack of better words, THANK YOU, you're the BEST! *Glenna French*



CMZ AUXILIARY CALENDAR 2018-2019

Meeting times are at 9:30 am. Education Committee meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am in the Safari Lodge. **** Mandatory meetings * Date or Location Change**

September 2018

5	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
8	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
12**	TE Meeting	Safari Lodge
29	Field Trip	Chico Basin Ranch

October 2018

3	Board Meeting	Safari Lodge
10	TE Meeting	Safari Lodge
13	IE Meeting	Safari Lodge
20	Field Trip	Wild Animal Sanctuary

Reminder that tour signups are available immediately after the Board Meeting on September 5th

TE PROGRAMS

TE MEETINGS: September 12 – 2 programs, a tutorial on Signup Genius by Lynne Stefonik and then Cris Stoddard will walk us through sign in policies (not signup, but sign in) for carts, tours, special events, special tours, DRC, etc.

October 10 – Rebecca Zwicker and WOLVES! (Oh, the program is about Wolves, she probably won't be bringing any to the actual meeting).

Nancy Hochman

IE PROGRAMS - TBA

FIELD TRIPS

September Field Trip is to **Chico Basin Ranch** and family and friends are welcome.

Date: September 29, 2018

Time: 8am to 11am. Ranch closes at 12noon.

Price: \$10.00 per adult; \$1-2 per child

Attire: You do not have to be in uniform unless you choose to but will need good shoes for uneven terrain. Please let me know if you are willing to drive and how many you can take with you in your car. Will car pool at 7am from: Loaf N Jug at 6857 Space Village Ave 80915 (1 hr. drive)

Please **RSVP by September 27th** as we need to have a head count for the Ranch.

October Field Trip Date: October 20, 2018

Place: The Wild Animal Sanctuary

2999 County Road 53
Keenesburg, CO 80643

As docents we know, no dogs allowed. Website is <https://www.wildanimalsanctuary.org/>

Price: Adults—\$30.00; Children—\$15.00 (age 3 to 12)
Seniors 70+ -interested in becoming an active supporter at some level can visit without charge. Costs:

Active current Supporter of \$200.00 to the Sanctuary- Free Plus 5 guests.

12 minute video will be shown after arriving at the Sanctuary.

Lunch: They have a new facility with the Lion's Den Cafeteria and the ice cream shop in the Welcome Center. If you want to bring your lunch, please let me know and they do have refrigerator space if notified ahead of time.

Time: Meet at 8am to arrive at 10am. It is a self-guided tour approx. 2-3 hours and it is 3 miles long. Wear comfortable clothes.

Travel time is approximately: 1hr 45min

Car pool from Walmart northwest parking lot opposite garden center. 8250 Razorback Rd Colorado Springs, Co 80920

Please RSVP and note if you can be a driver and how many you can take in your car. Joan Adkins

CMZOO ANIMAL "TID-BITS"

Long-term docents may already know these "tid-bits" or stories that can be shared with guest to help enhance their zoo experience. As I receive new ones from keepers, I will share those in future Zooline articles. If any of you have some stories regarding our animals, please send me that information and it will be included as space permits.

- Khalid the giraffe does voluntary chiropractic adjustments and physical therapy stretches. He is trained to touch his nose to his tail on both sides and hold it for ten seconds.
- Khalid also loves to kick things. He plays with a giant soccer ball; he kicks traffic cones and crushes boxes for fun.
- Some of the giraffe eat green beans. Others will spit them out back onto their keepers.
- Abuto's name means "the hidden one" in Swahili. He was hiding for the first couple of days after he was born, but was eventually seen on the remote camera system.
- All of the lions love to rub in elephant poop. Keepers carry the poop over and put in on their nice clean floors just to make the lions' day.
- Emmett and Digger, our grizzly bears, eat their peanuts differently – Emmett likes to eat the whole peanut, shell and all, whereas Digger will shell the nuts on his paw.

- Both grizzlies are “left pawed”. They primarily use their front left paw to splash, crack nuts, flip sticks, pick teeth and pick marrow out of bones.
- Kaya, our female mountain lion, prefers her meat grape size, not too formed and by way of tongs. If we give her a pile of meat she won’t eat it.
- Tahoma’s name means “at the water’s edge in Navajo. He has never been a swimmer, more of a wading moose & had to be trained to go into his pool when he first came to CMZ.
- Red River hogs just love to eat but favorites include dried fruits, nuts, ice treats, peanut butter, and any kind of fruit...the list could go on and on.

Red River hogs love anything they can rip up! Favorites include grain bags and cardboard boxes. They also enjoy food pastes, boomer balls and browse. *Glenna French*

BIOFACT UPDATE

Docents, the summer update of the biofacts being used by CMZA is finished. The Biofact Notebook is on the desk in the DRC. The notebook is divided into a number of categories so you should be able to easily locate any of the biofacts we have.

One category lists everything by Class. Only the Class of Mammals is broken down into Orders. As an example, if you need a primate skull, go to Mammals and then to Primates to find what you need. Biofacts are also listed by location....Cabinet A, Cabinet B, Cabinet C, etc. They are listed by Safari Kit, Tour Station Kits, Carts and Cargo Boxes plus the Cart Shed. There is a list telling you which are CMZA biofacts and which are CMZ biofacts. Most items are where they were last year. Just as a reminder, biofacts are never to be borrowed from Safari or Station Kits.

Some important changes: the biofacts that were in the Aquatics Cart are now in Cabinet B on shelf 5. If you use any, please return them to the same cabinet and the correct shelf. Both of the Station biofact boxes for the Life Cycle Tour are in Cabinet D on the top shelf. One LC Station box is labeled Loft because it is used outside the Loft. It contains bird biofacts. The other LC Station box is labeled Australia because it is used in Australia. It contains frog and snake biofacts.

Some of the Safari Kits have new biofacts thanks to suggestions from Marsha Fogerty and Marie Poyzer. There are new biofacts in the CLZ kits thanks to a donation from Bob Emmons, a former docent. Thanks to Glenn, the Grizzly Box is up and running. There is now a brown bear and a black bear skull in the Grizzly Box, good for making comparisons.

While it is very important to put biofacts taken from the DRC back in the correct cabinet, box if necessary and shelf, the large plastic boxes in the Cart Shed seem to move from shelf to shelf at will. The shed isn’t big, so as long as the label is facing out so the box designation can be read, the shelf placement isn’t that important.

Please come to the DRC, glance through the Biofact Notebook and see the biofacts we have. Learn where they live and take a couple out for the public to enjoy. Have fun with them, *Nancy*

NEW ZOO BABIES THAT YOU MAY NOT SEEN IN THE NEWSPAPER

Our female Asian Forest scorpion had babies the last week of July! She had at least 18 babies! At this time she may still be housed on exhibit - but separated from her mate, Dumpling. She is a staff only animal for her care, as we want to give her time to rest and "protect" her babies-- Look at the defensive stance in the photo. You can tell she's being a good mom so far!

The babies are miniature versions of the adults, just without a hard exoskeleton. She will carry them on her back until they are old enough to start crawling off and go on their own after their first molt (about 50 days).

The plan right now is to let Donuts raise her offspring, and reach out to other Zoos to see if they need scorpions in their collection too! *Lauren Phillippi and Lynne Stefonik*



“Sprinkles” on donuts!

MEMBERSHIP

The new class is full! 15 strong! Plus there are people on the waiting list for next year’s class! Even so, still remember to recruit likely future docents. Cards are in the DRC on the desk so take 3 or 4 and have them ready as needed. We all have friends retiring soon and

looking for a new joy in life, and friends with extra time that they would like to spend away from their day jobs! Also, a reminder, if you are thinking of giving away an article of our docent uniform, remember this should not be given to the public - places like the ARC or Goodwill, etc. -it should first be returned to the DRC in case another docent can use it or, if too worn or if it is personally labeled with your name, return it to the zoo for use in Primates or somewhere else within the zoo. It should not be available to the public to wear at their discretion. After all, they weren't docents, were they? They need to earn their pass to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, just like we did! *Jody Schmitz*

IE ON GROUNDS FIELD TRIP

On July 14, after the IE meeting, a group of docents was lucky to get to take a tour of the ARV basement - located beneath the giraffes. Jenyva was our tour guide, and shared many interesting facts with us. A slightly scary spiral staircase led down to an extensive area with many enclosures. These enclosures are used to house many animals overnight, but would also be used to house many more animals in the case of a wildfire. The building is fitted with a sprinkler system on the roof. We were lucky enough to meet Neshar, our beautiful Eurasian Vulture, also with unfortunate wing injuries, and also met the Hornbills. It would be nice if we could find a way to build both species proper enclosures; they are sweet birds, they make drumming sounds, and it would be great for the guests to be able to enjoy them. Most of the animals were up in their outdoor enclosures for the day, but we also got to meet the African Gray Parrot, Raider... He imitates the training clicker sound so is probably annoying to both Keepers and Giraffe. There is also a nice break room for the humans, and also an area with an entire wall filled with enrichment toys.



WORLD ELEPHANT DAY

Sunday August 12 was World Elephant Day. Yes this was less than a week after that huge hail storm. Zoo Staff had us up and running again. We had a really good turnout of

docents for all the activities. Encounter Africa was full of tables with bio facts and bowling and painting with your trunk among other things. Having three or four people at the painting activity really helps it go much smoother! It was so neat to see both kids and adults-alike learning about how we can save our resources, and help save elephants in Africa, even though sometimes we feel like we're so far removed. It's nice to know that we can make a difference! *Caz Oswald*



And thanks to Deborah, another eyewitness view of August 6th – safely indoors at the new coffee house and with her visiting mom. Deborah's new car as a result of June hail, was one of the many hundreds of totaled cars that day.



From the editor. This was a difficult summer filled with joy and then the opposite, joy with the birth of Penny, our 200th giraffe calf born here, her health problems and her loss. Then, the sadness, the hail storm that killed animals, injured guests and staff, and caused so much damage, and the sad loss on August 31, of Uzuri.



YOUR NAME _____

2018 FALL RECALL Birds at CMZ

Completing this quiz fulfills one of two required CEC requirements for the year; please complete it by 31 October 2018.

This is the Year of The Bird sponsored by The Audubon Society, National Geographic, Bird Life and The Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It is the 100th Anniversary of the Migratory Bird Act. I've put together a few questions about the birds in our collection. You may fill out the form and email it back to me, make a paper copy and mail or hand it to me or just make a list of the answers and get it to me by 31 Oct 2018. One CEC will be given for a completed quiz.

Charlotte Greene charcopolo@me.com 719-475-1499

This CEC quiz is about the birds at our CMZ. All answers can be located on zoo signage or in the Manual.

BIRD SHOW-There are four species of birds in the bird show, African Grey Congo Parrot, Helmeted Guinea Fowl, Domestic Dove/Pigeons and Ground Hornbills.

1. At what time and where do the keepers do the bird show every day?

We have one African Grey Parrot named Raider in the show

2. The African Grey Parrot has the intelligence of a _____ year old child and the emotions of a _____ year old child.

We have 5 Helmeted Guinea Fowl, 3 males and 2 females. The two in the show are named Gizmo and Gonzo.

3. The Helmeted Guinea Fowl young are called _____.

We have about 18 domestic pigeons. The star of the show is named Flash.

4. Pigeons were domesticated more than _____ years ago.

We have 2 Southern Ground Hornbills and 2 Abyssinian Ground Hornbills.

5. The Abyssinian has a _____ which arises above the skull at the base of the bill in a short high curve. The Southern digs for its food and is vulnerable to _____.

ARV-We have four species of birds in ARV; East African Crowned Cranes (2), Helmeted Guinea Fowl (5), Cattle Egrets (14) and Vultures (2 Cape Griffon and 1 Eurasian Griffon)

6. The Guinea Fowl are called helmeted because they have very few feathers on top of the head but do have a _____ on top which comes in various sizes.

7. Baby Crowned Cranes can run as soon as they hatch so they are _____ not altricial. Crowned Cranes have great adaptations for spotting predators in the tall grasses, long _____ and _____. They also have excellent _____ vision.

8. Cattle Egrets eat _____ while sitting on large, grazing animals. They also follow big ungulates and tractors because the movement disturbs their _____.

9. Vultures can eat carrion because their _____ can kill bacteria, fungi and viruses. Vulture feathers for IE cart talks can be found in the _____ cart.

TAPIR EXHIBIT- We have one species of duck from South America in the Mountain Tapir exhibit, Muscovy Ducks (2).

10. Muscovy Ducks don't swim much because of underdeveloped _____ glands. They don't quack but communicate by _____ wagging and lifting and lowering their _____.

AUSTRALIA WALKABOUT- We have four species of birds in Australia; Budgerigar or Budgies (200), Cockatiels (30), Emus (2), and Shelducks (2).

11. The budgies come from Australia and _____. Both are the same species but the ones not from Australia are a _____ taller and _____ ounce heavier.

12. A cockatiel is a _____ cockatoo. It has an _____ yellow crest of feathers on its head.

13. Emus are ratites which are birds with a flat breast bone and no keel. Ratites are unable to _____. The _____ of the species builds the nest, incubates the eggs and tends the chicks for 5-7 months.

14. Shelduck females can be distinguished from males by a white ring around their _____ and at the base of their _____. New ducklings are grouped in a _____ and tended by one adult.

SCUTES- One bird species in the outside enclosure at Scutes, a Barn Owl.

15. The Barn Owl has a big heart-shaped _____. They are found on every continent except _____.

ROCKY MT WILD- We have four species of birds in RMW; Bald Eagles (2), Rio Grande Wild Turkey (1), Hooded Merganser (1) and wild Mallards (they are not in the manual because they are not zoo owned animals, but there is signage about them).

16. Bald Eagles feed primarily on _____. They have a _____ year life span and weigh between _____ and _____ pounds. They became our National Symbol on June 20, _____.

17. The Rio Grande Wild Turkey is about _____ feet tall at maturity. Their preferred roosting tree is the _____.

18. The Hooded Merganser dives for its food and has _____ to cover and protect its eyes. Like other diving ducks, its legs are set further _____ than surface ducks.

19. Wild Mallards use the pond in the moose exhibit. This spring they had ducklings and created havoc when mom took them over to Ginger's beaver pond. The Loft keepers rectified

the situation and calmed a very upset beaver. Write one interesting fact about Mallards.

_____.

LOFT- We have four bird species in the Loft; American Kestrel (1), Eclectus Parrot (1), Tawny Frogmouth (1), and Raven (1). All Loft birds are used in ZOOM Programs and are handled by the keepers and qualified ZOOM docents.

20. The American Kestrel is the most common falcon in North and South America except in heavily wooded areas. The male is _____ smaller than the female.

21. The Eclectus Parrot is found in the tropical rain forests in three areas; _____, _____ and _____. Its strong curved _____ is adapted for _____. It is also used for cracking _____ and hard _____.

22. The Tawny Frogmouth from Australia looks like an owl but is in the same family as the _____ and _____. The inside of its mouth is brightly colored and may attract _____ when gaped open.

23. Ravens have one of the _____ brains of any bird. They are capable of using _____ and can mimic _____ from the environment including _____ speech.

BIG BACK YARD- We have two species of birds in BBY; Chickens (20) and Rio Grande Wild Turkey (1).

24. Twice a day there is a chicken _____ from the coop to the yard in the morning and from the yard to the coop in the afternoon. In Colorado Springs it is legal to have up to _____ chickens in a yard.

25. Laredo, the BBY turkey is the oldest living of his kind., The typical life span is 8-9 years and he has _____ that.

ZOO GROUNDS- We have numerous Blue/Indian Peafowl that have the run of the zoo. They winter in the garden house or the quarantine building so their feet won't freeze. Also numerous wild birds can be seen and heard enjoying our beautiful zoo grounds.

26. The iridescent colors of the Peafowl come from _____ and _____ of light on the layers of feathers. Peafowl have been domesticated for over _____ years, but can still be seen in the wild in _____ and _____.

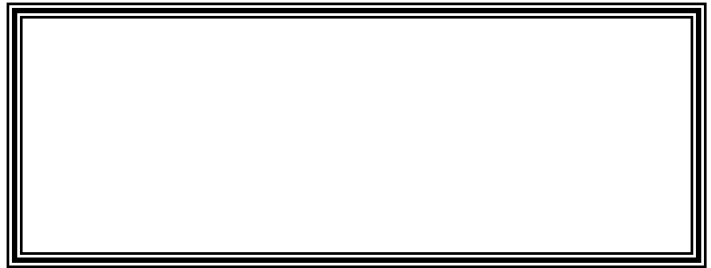
27. List the wild birds that you have seen or heard at our zoo.



CMZ Auxiliary ZooLine

September, 2018

Lovice Riffe, Editor
Cheyenne Mountain Zoological Society
4250 Cheyenne Mt. Zoo Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80906



Motswari died on August 6, 2018 – a result of a violent, but natural event. Motswari was a 14 year old Endangered Cape Vulture who had lived at our Zoo and was cared for by her wonderful keepers since she was just about 7 months of age. She came here due to a collision with a power line that destroyed one of her wings. She was just getting to prime breeding age. Her life span could reach 50 and more years of age. Motswari is a Tswana word that means “Keep and Conserve”. Tswana is a native language of South Africa, Botswana and neighboring areas. The root is Bantu and it is one of the 11 official languages in South Africa. There was but one Motswari. **IVAD is September 1st**. Even if you are not signed up to work stations, come and help at stations or anywhere in the zoo or come and just talk to guests about these wonderful creatures, and about Motswari, too. **(This photo was from the internet.)**



