



President’s Message – Jeanie Baratono

As we begin a new year, my wish is that we all come together as an organization. In my younger days, I made resolutions (which I never kept) but I always had hopes as the new year began. The Auxiliary is an organization made up of 132 opinions. Most are outgoing individuals who like to talk and interact. Sometimes we’ll agree and sometimes not. That’s okay if we are respectful and can come together as a group for the common good of the organization and most especially the Zoo. Sometimes we see something that we believe could be done in a better way or may view as a problem. It’s normal to wonder why things are done this way.

I challenge the docents this coming year to ask, “Do you know why we do _____ this way?” I still ask that of a long-term docent who I trust and even of staff sometimes. If you truly believe it is a problem that affects the organization, stop and think, “Can I think of a solution to this problem before I bring it to the group’s attention.”

Occasionally, it affects change and sometimes not. We all want the best for the Zoo, the Auxiliary, and each other. Thank you for all you did in December with 27 nights of Electric Safari during some very emotional times and challenging weather.

We Believe Statement

We believe because we cannot and should not agree on everything that we should focus on and work extra hard on the things we can agree on.



Juju by Deborah Compton

DATES TO KNOW

Most meetings start at 9:30 a.m.

CECs at 9:15 a.m.

Education Committee at 10:30 a.m.

Jan 3 Board Meeting DRC

Jan 10 ... Docent Meeting SL

Jan 24 ... Education Committee DRC

Feb 7..... Board (w/Supp) Mtg..... SL

Feb 10... Docent Meeting/Potluck.. LML

Feb 28... Education Committee DRC

Mar 6 Board Meeting DRC

Mar 13 .. Docent Meeting SL

Mar 27 .. Education Committee DRC

Key: DRC = Docent Resource Ctr, LML = Lodge at Moose Lake, SL = Safari Lodge

**** Mandatory Meeting. If unable to attend, contact the president or president-elect**

CECs and TRAINING

Training sessions start at 9:30 a.m.

Jan 13, 20, 27 Zoo School..... SL

Feb 3, 10, 17, 24..... Zoo School..... SL

Spring Fling coming in Feb..... Due 3/31

Note: CECs will be available for some Zoo School sessions (see page 6 of this issue for the full schedule).

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January Monthly Docent Meeting

Please join us for our monthly Docent meeting this month on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 9:30 am in the Safari Lodge. This month's speaker will be Scott Fortney, the Director of the Dermestid Beetle Colony Operations for the Zoo and the County Coroner's Office.

Marianne Brooks, President-Elect

CEC Corner

2024 has arrived! And with that, the days slowly start to get longer (slowly!).

It's time to consider who will step up to be the CEC Chair for the next docent year, starting in June. Straw ballots go out next month (that's when you put down some names of people you think would be great as chairs for the next docent year). You can nominate yourself! I'm happy to share information on what the CEC Chair does to anyone who reaches out.

We have a few new folks teaching at Zoo School this year. Come out and support them and earn a CEC by doing so. Check the schedule in this issue (or watch your email for it). If you need to brush up on some tour concepts, there are sections for that, too, like Evolution, Taxonomy, Mammalogy, Physiology, Biomes, and the Food Chain/Food Web, all of which happen on January 13 and 20. Attending Zoo School is a great way to meet the trainees, refresh on concepts that egg nog may have suppressed, and support the new instructors.

I have no book recommendations this month as I am preparing to teach the Felids and Primates sections this February. If anything, I am reading the updated 2024 Docent Training Manual, which should soon be available on the DRC computer if you didn't get to order a hard copy. Happy New Year!

Always be learning, Cris, CEC Chair

New Biofacts for the New Year!

The Grizzly cart will have a new biofact in January: an enclosed box with 4 bear claws in it (see pic). They are marked on the back. Also, we are replacing the missing penguin skull with a new one. Please let's keep this one for a long, long time.



And, at a request, I have placed a small flashlight in the giraffe cart. It is in a small cloth pouch that is stapled right inside the door. Most everyone has a light on their cell phone; it would be smart to just use that.

Greta Johnson, Cart Master

AMP Update (Animals, Missions, Programs)

Conservation: reported that 30 BFF were released at the Pueblo Chemical Depot and 14 BFF were released at Walker Ranch, east of Pueblo. Several staff members were able to participate in this release. The Palm Oil App has expanded to Australia and New Zealand with Singapore in progress and potential in India. There are 47,366 users worldwide. CMZ was given an award of excellence from the RSPO.

Adventure reported on many of their programs from toddlers to teens. Docents were given a budget of \$44,200 and we have exceeded that at \$56,497 and we still have spring tours coming up.

- African penguins Ichaboe and Spheniscus' eggs were infertile, letting re-clutch.
- Gorillas Goma and Asha were seen breeding multiple times.
- Ring-tailed lemurs Maky and Elo transferred to Brevard Zoo, and Hercules is training to leave lemur island.
- All 12 skunk babies now live at their new zoos.
- Magpie Pecan Pie is starting to come out of his enclosure in the Loft.
- Domestic rat Cheerio was euthanized after complications from face injuries.
- Guinea pigs Farrah and Phillip passed from old age.
- Domestic ferret Blizzard lives in the loft with Alfred Pennyworth and Cyclone.
- New trial feeder in giraffes so they can forage naturally rather than waiting for keepers to come with food — also being done with penguins (live fish). Trials with meerkats and the heat and elephants foraging and the mud wallow. Keepers are trying a ramp with guinea pigs and training WEA birds, crowned cranes and Von der Decken hornbills for a bird show come spring.
- All 3 beavers are coming out of the enclosure and stationing — first step for walking the zoo (see pic).



Squash on her first walkabout on 12/6/2023. Keeper Alia Cooper had the honor of walking her around. Squash seemed to do well although Alia had to block her a few times from reaching the moose pond.

Vet Report: immobilizations took place checking for kidney issues on sloth Boscoe and the armadillos; all were clear.

Apes got their flu vaccines and when they were examining JuJu the gorilla for her kidney issues, Asha presented herself too for her exam.

Dr. Eric is studying giraffe hearts and finding new ways to examine Tut, our tiny Egyptian Tortoise. We will hear much more from Dr. Eric at the February meeting. The elephants had their exam and are now on diets.

Amy Schiltz reported for The International Care and Conservation of Giraffes. We ran 3 giraffe care workshops, 2 at CMZ and 1 in England. There is an ongoing study of wild giraffe hooves to continue learning the best ways to care for the giraffes that are in human care.

Upcoming Field Trips

Email or text me if you want to attend any of the field trips. You will be able to sign up for the Butterfly Pavilion and Albuquerque BioPark Zoo at the January and February docent meetings.

***Sunday, January 14 at 1 pm (leave Colo Spgs at noon):
Downtown Aquarium, Denver***

The public aquarium boasts more than a million gallons of underwater exhibits that highlight fascinating ecosystems around the world. It houses over 500 species of animals, the interactive Stingray Reef touch tank, Aquarium Restaurant, Dive Lounge, the Nautilus Ballroom and amusements for the entire family. With a full-service restaurant, an upscale bar, a fully equipped ballroom, aquatic and geographic exhibits and shopping, Downtown Aquarium has it all! There is also a 45-minute behind-the-scenes tour, which includes views of the filtration systems, animal food preparation area, and more. You will experience a unique view of the sea turtles and sharks as you gaze into our Under the Sea and Sunken Shipwreck exhibits from a new perspective!

- Entry only: adult \$17, senior (65 and over) \$16
- Entry + behind scenes tour: adult \$36.50, senior \$35.50

Early dinner in Denver for those who want to stay:

<https://www.aquariumrestaurants.com/downtownaquariumdenver/default.asp>

Monday, March 18: Butterfly Pavilion

6252 W. 104th Avenue Westminster, CO 80020

<https://butterflies.org/> — \$14.95 for adults, \$12.95 for seniors (65+) lunch in Westminster

April or May Albuquerque BioPark Zoo, Aquarium and Botanical Gardens

Plus, possibly the Turquoise Museum, New Mexico Museum of Natural History, and Petroglyph National


Monument. A survey will be coming out through the Auxiliary email to evaluate interest.

Kathy O'Donnell, Field Trip Coordinator

Articles and Information of Interest

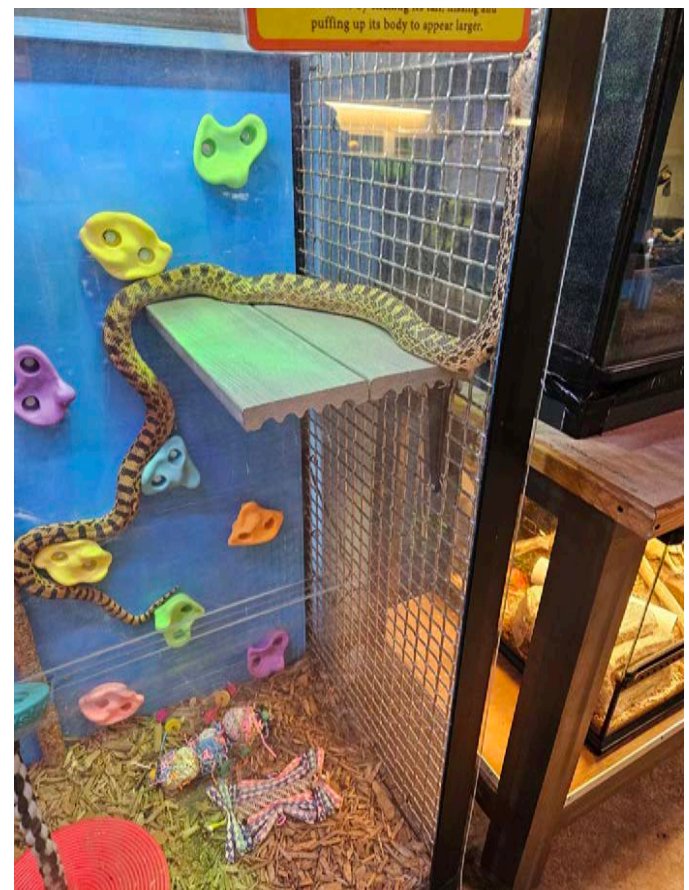
- The Endangered Species Act at 50: "The most dazzling and impactful environmental feat of all time." [Read Here](#)
- Feds want to hunt one kind of owl to save another kind of owl. Here's why. [Read Here](#)
- Wayward wolf gets help in finding mate after odyssey across two US states. [Read Here](#)
- Endangered species list grows by 2,000. Climate change is part of the problem. [Read Here](#)
- Two men indicted for illegal killing, trafficking of eagles from Montana. [Read Here](#)

CMZA Zooline Information (JAN Issue)

 Please send all submissions for the **February** issue — information, articles, pictures, etc. — to cmza.zooline@yahoo.com. **The deadline for the February issue is Monday, January 22.** Thank you!

Joelle Shreves and Bailey Southard, Co-Editors

Zoo Photos



Rustle the bullsnake, by Jeanie Baratono



Sumatran orangutan Kera, by Deborah Compton

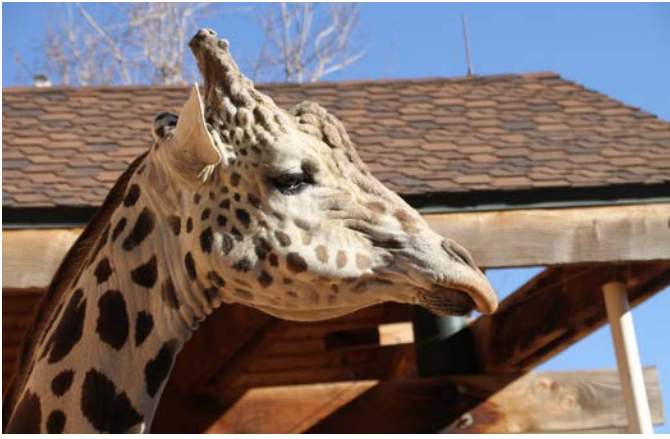


Slate the chinchilla, by Alia Cooper



Gus playing with enrichment, by Susan Hoxie

Mark Steinberg and Debbie Might visited the Oldest Zoo in the World in December, the Schonbrunn Tiergarten/Vienna Zoo, which opened in 1752 on the grounds of Schonbrunn Palace. It is smaller than CMZ and quite unique to have historic buildings and be part of a palace. They had quite a few animals and birds CMZ doesn't. Mark and Debbie specifically took a CMZoo pin to give to someone/anyone who was involved with the zoo. They gave it to a zoo volunteer (pictured); they are strictly information people (he had heard about docents before, but they don't have them there).



Magnificent Khalid, by Susan Hoxie



White-cheeked gibbons Tahn-Linh and Deb, by D Compton



Lemur inflatable for Electric Safari, by S Hoxie



Sloth inflatable for Electric Safari, by S Hoxie



Peacock inflatable for Electric Safari, by S Hoxie

2024 CMZA DOCENT TRAINING SCHEDULE

Only trainees are to attend out-of-classroom sessions

CEC Credit - you must attend the entire block (orange or blue) to get 1 CEC credit

Revised 11/30/2023

Session 1 – January 13, 2024

9:15	9:30	Information and announcements		
9:30	10:30	Taxonomy and evolution	Jeff Oram-Smith	CEC
10:30	10:45	Break		
10:45	11:30	Adaptations	Jeff Oram-Smith	CEC
11:30	12:00	Lunch		
12:00	1:00	Basic Mammalogy	Nancy Hochman	CEC
1:00	1:15	Break		
1:15	2:15	Physiological systems	Jean McKanna	CEC
2:15	2:30	Break		
2:30	3:45	Field trip to Vet Clinic (trainees only)	Staff	
3:45	4:00	Review and Information for next week		

Session 2 – January 20, 2024

9:10	9:15	Information and announcements		
9:15	9:45	Invertebrates	Kimber Lopes	CEC
9:45	10:00	Break and walk to Elephant Barn		
10:00	10:30	Elephant Keeper talk (trainees only)	Keeper	
10:30	10:45	Return to Safari Lodge		
10:45	11:55	Ecology vocabulary, definitions, etc.	Nancy Hochman	CEC
11:55	12:15	Biomes	Shauna Naous	CEC
12:15	12:45	Lunch		
12:45	1:30	Ecology concepts	Nancy Hochman	CEC
1:30	2:30	Food chain/web	Nancy Hochman	CEC
2:30	2:45	Break		
2:45	3:45	Rodents, Armadillo, Sloth, Hedgehogs	Cate Kelly	CEC
3:45	4:00	Review quizzes and information for next week		

Session 3 – January 27, 2024

9:15	9:30	Information and announcements		
9:30	10:30	Introduction to Ungulates	Jean McKanna	CEC
10:30	10:45	Break		
10:45	11:45	Artiodactyls and Perissodactyls	Jean McKanna	CEC
11:45	12:15	Lunch		
12:15	1:15	Elephants and Rock Hyrax	Michael Stein	CEC
1:15	1:30	Break		
1:30	1:45	walk to Asian Highland		
1:45	2:15	Tiger talk (trainees only)	Keeper	
2:15	2:30	Return to Safari Lodge		
2:30	3:15	Reptiles and Amphibians	Judy Polhemus	CEC
3:15	3:45	Characteristics of Carnivora	Cris Stoddard	both
3:45	4:00	Review quizzes and info for next week (uniform order forms)		

Session 4 – February 3, 2024

9:15	9:30	Information and announcements		
9:30	10:15	Cats	Cris Stoddard	CEC
10:15	10:30	Break and move to lions		

10:30	11:00	Lion keeper talk (trainees only)	Keeper	
11:00	11:15	Break		
11:15	12:00	Cats con	Cris Stoddard	CEC
12:00	12:30	Lunch		
12:30	2:00	Cats con	Cris Stoddard	CEC
2:00	2:15	Break		
2:15	3:30	Otter, Ferret, Skunk, Meerkat	Tricia Trifilo	CEC
3:30	3:45	Break. Order Uniforms.		
3:45	4:00	Review quizzes and info for next week		

Session 5 – February 10, 2024 **LODGE AT MOOSE LAKE**

9:30	12:00	Joint IE/TE Meeting		
12:15	12:30	Return to Safari Lodge		
12:30	1:30	Bears	Cate Kelly	CEC
1:30	1:45	Break		
1:45	2:45	Wolves	Cate Kelly	CEC
2:45	3:00	Break		
3:00	3:30	Conservation	Staff	
3:30	3:45	Palm Oil	Staff	
3:45	4:00	Review quizzes and information for next week		

Session 6 – February 17, 2024

9:15	9:45	On ground field trip TBD (trainees only)		
9:45	10:00	Return to Safari Lodge & break		
10:00	11:00	Lesser and greater apes	Cris Stoddard	CEC
11:00	11:30	Lunch		and
11:30	12:30	Lesser and greater apes con	Cris Stoddard	CEC
12:30	12:45	Break		or
12:45	1:45	Lemurs/Tamarins /Colobus Monkeys	Cris Stoddard	CEC
1:45	2:00	Break and walk to Primate World (trainees only)		
2:00	2:30	Primate World keeper talk (trainees only)	Keeper	
2:30	4:00	Break and return to Safari Lodge. Uniform regulations, etc.	Cate/Michael	

Session 7 – February 24, 2024

9:15	9:45	Information and announcements		
9:45	10:00	Walk to RMW		
10:00	10:30	RMW keeper talk (trainees only)	Keeper	
10:30	10:45	Return to Safari Lodge		
10:45	11:45	Marsupials (wallaby, tree kangaroo, opossums)	Janis Henderson	CEC
11:45	12:15	Lunch		and
12:15	1:15	Birds at CMZ (in general, pelican, penguins, chickens, etc.)	Jean McKanna	CEC
1:15	1:30	Break		or
1:30	2:30	Birds at CMZ con (vultures, eagle, emu, etc.)	Jean McKanna	CEC
2:30	3:15	Hornbill visit (at Safari Lodge) NOTE – probably at 2:00	Keeper	
3:15	3:45	Docent 101 (Required Hours)	Cate Kelly	
3:45	4:00	Review quizzes and information for next week		

Session 8 – March 2, 2024

9:15	9:30	Information and announcements		
9:30	10:00	African Rift Valley (location, Maasai, baobab trees, etc.)	Michael Stein	
10:00	10:30	AM/ECO/ARV Tour overview	Cate Kelly	
10:30	10:45	Break. Leave for Australia at 10:45		
11:00	11:30	Australia keeper talk (trainees only)	Keeper	
11:30	11:45	Return to Safari Lodge		
11:45	12:15	Lunch		

12:15	2:15	Discussion & tour exercises	Cate/Michael	
2:15	2:30	Break		
2:30	2:45	Info for next week's cart session	Meg Fossinger	
2:45	3:45	Safaris	Sue Sallee	
3:45	4:00	Review quizzes		

Session 9 – March 9, 2024

9:15	9:30	Information and announcements		
9:30	10:15	Carts, cards, tips	Meg Fossinger	
10:15	11:30	Biofact practice	Meg Fossinger	
11:30	12:00	Lunch		
12:15	12:30	Proceed to Giraffe Plaza		
12:30	2:00	Sample tour (interactive)	Cate/Michael	
2:00	2:15	Return to Safari Lodge		
2:15	3:45	Tour and cart review and questions		
3:45	4:00	Review quiz and information for next week		

Session 10 – March 16, 2024

9:15	9:30	Information and announcements & test review		
9:30	10:00	Signing in and Sign-up Genius	Cris Stoddard	
10:00	10:30	Visit by Hubble to Safari Lodge	Keeper	
10:30	11:00	Signing in and Sign-up Genius con.	Cris Stoddard	
11:00	11:15	Break		
11:15	12:00	Q & A		
12:00		Potluck with mentors and instructors		

March 23, 2024 – Makeup Day, if necessary **June 8, 2024** – Joint IE/TE Meeting