Spring 2018  |  Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society
Reid Park Zoo is home to over 350 animals ranging from hissing cockroaches in the Conservation Learning Center to the African elephants in Expedition Tanzania. Each individual species requires a unique life-long health care plan. It is an extraordinary challenge that the Reid Park Zoo's Animal Care staff and Veterinary team rise to every single day at the Zoo. The vast knowledge, the specialized technology, and the adaptable facilities all play a major role in the quality care of Zoo animals.

Reid Park Zoo strives to provide the very best care for all the animals at the Zoo. During the last accreditation review in 2014, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) determined that the old Animal Health Center only met minimal requirements for AZA accreditation. With the help of the Reid Park Zoological Society, the Zoo embarked on a capital fundraising campaign to raise money for a new Animal Health Center.

Since the 1970’s, Reid Park Zoological Society has played a major role in fundraising for Reid Park Zoo. The Society has a long history of fundraising success through capital campaigns such as Expedition Tanzania and the Cox Wildlife Carousel. However, this capital campaign was unlike any other since the new facility would be behind-the-scenes.

Thanks to the support of Zoo volunteers, staff, board members and the community, Reid Park Zoological Society was able to complete a four million dollar capital fundraising campaign for the new state-of-the-art Animal Health Center in 2016.

With the opening of the new Animal Health Center this past January, Reid Park Zoo is leading the way in animal care. Not only was the Zoo able to renovate the existing 3,500 square foot Animal Health Center, but was also able to build a 7,500 square foot addition to the facility. This addition includes a surgical suite that can accommodate brown bears to gibbons; an intensive care unit suitable for a variety of small animals; multiple holding areas with controlled air circulation to prevent the spread of infectious disease; small and large aquatic holding areas to meet a variety of animal needs; a large treatment room to ensure that every animal receives the latest in veterinary care; and an education gallery with floor to ceiling windows looking into the Animal Health Center’s pharmacy, treatment room and surgical suite.

Additionally, the new Animal Health Center features a wide range of state-of-the-art equipment including an on-site lab that provides vital diagnostic data from bloodwork; ultrasound capabilities; hydraulic surgical tables that make it more comfortable for large animals and staff; digital imaging that produces fast x-rays with less radiation exposure; video surveillance so staff can monitor ill animals without disturbance; and natural skylights that help animals maintain their normal rhythms.

This state-of-the-art facility is unlike any other in the country and shows Reid Park Zoo’s commitment to high quality animal health care now and for many years to come!
Mabu, the 13,000-pound bull, returned to Reid Park Zoo on Tuesday, Feb. 20th. He rejoined the Zoo’s herd: Lungile, Semba, Punga, Sundzu, and Nandi.

“In the wild, elephants live in a matriarchal society where the males often move in and out of herds for breeding and social opportunities,” says Dr. Sue Tygielski, the Reid Park Zoo’s Interim Zoo Administrator. “We are happy to be welcoming Mabu back to Tucson and are working closely with our colleagues from San Diego to ensure Mabu, as well as the rest of the herd at Reid Park Zoo, have a smooth transition.”

The positive reinforcement training that Mabu participated in helped him during this time of transition. Mabu voluntarily interacted with both his San Diego Zoo’s Safari Park trainers as well as Reid Park Zoo’s trainers. The staff’s seamless language of animal training helped Mabu move from one facility to another with limited stress.

When Mabu arrived to Reid Park Zoo for the first time in 2012, he explored every new detail of the habitat and barn. He was extremely alert and watchful of all the new smells, sounds, and sights. When he returned for the second time to Reid Park Zoo it was as though he had been on vacation. He walked out to the habitat like no time had passed. His quick ability to work with the Reid Park Zoo Animal Care team is testament to the excellent training he had at San Diego Zoo’s Safari Park.

With the help of a generous donor, Reid Park Zoo will be home to an American alligator. Guests will be able to see the 9-foot reptile near the tiger habitat beginning this spring!

Alligators are a keystone species. They play a key role in ensuring a healthy habitat for other species. We are excited to announce we also have three baby alligators added to our Animal Ambassador Program. Zoo Educators will introduce guests to these animals and teach them about their adaptations and other fun alligator facts.
EDUCATION PROGRAMS – WHERE LEARNING GETS WILD!

LITTLE CRITTERS
Free with Zoo admission!
Includes one adult chaperone
ABC in the Zoo: Saturday, April 7th, 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM
Antibiotic, seeds, bugs: a day in the life of a Zoo Vet! Participants will utilize the Freeport-McMoRan Education Gallery to view into the surgery, treatment and pharmacy rooms of the Animal Health Center. They’ll experience first-hand the importance of math and science in diagnosing and treating animal ailments through hands-on activity stations that are based on real life zoo scenarios. After they’ve finished helping all of their patients, they’ll earn their Dr. Zoo certificate!

NATURE PLAY
Free with Zoo admission!
Branch Out: Saturday, April 28th, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Trees are more than just a trunk, branches, and leaves; they provide shade, clean air, animal habitats, and much more. See what you can create with pinecones, wood blocks, and other tree artifacts, and play in the shade provided by the “kinds of trees” you’ve visited at the Zoo!
Down and Dirty-y: Saturday, May 26th, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Feel the sand between your toes, dig in the dirt, or take a dust bath—it’s all good clean fun at this Nature Play!
Mud Day: Saturday, June 30th, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
With mud pits galore, there’s no shortage of muddy fun to be had while you celebrate International Mud Day! Wear clothes that you won’t mind getting dirty or a modest bathing suit and come play in the mud.

NATURE CLUB
Free with Zoo admission!
Registration requested
Outdoor Safety: Saturday, May 19th, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Is your family prepared for an outdoor emergency? What do you do if someone in your group becomes separated? How much water should you bring for each person? What should you pack in your first aid kit? During this hands-on program we will answer these questions, practice skills, and learn tips for being safe when you and your family are out in nature.

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YOUNG EXPLORERS: DR. ZOO
Price: $15 per Zoo Member | $20 per Non-Member
Saturday, April 15th & Sunday, May 6th 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Does your child dream of becoming a Zoo veterinarian? Your child will travel behind-the-scenes to the Zoo’s state of the art, NEW Animal Health Center for a day in the life of a Zoo Vet! Participants will utilize the Freeport-McMoRan Education Gallery to view into the surgery, treatment and pharmacy rooms of the Animal Health Center. They’ll experience first-hand the importance of math and science in diagnosing and treating animal ailments through hands-on activity stations that are based on real life zoo scenarios. After they’ve finished helping all of their patients, they’ll earn their Dr. Zoo certificate!

YOUNG EXPLORERS: JR. ZOO KEEPER
Price: $12 per Zoo Member | $15 per Non-Member
Saturday, April 21st & Sunday, May 20th 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Does your child want to be a Zoo Keeper? Through this interactive, hands-on program your child will experience a snapshot of a day in the life of a Zoo Keeper. Travel behind-the-scenes to the Zoo’s kitchen to prepare a meal for one of the animals at the Zoo, watch a training demonstration with an animal ambassador, feed the giraffes, and even clean an animal night house. We’ll do and see it all, just like a Zoo Keeper! Have your child leave their best clothes at home and be prepared to get down and dirty on this behind the scenes adventure!

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WINE GONE WILD
Friday, April 6th
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Tickets starting at $25
Join your favorite Party Animals at the Zoo for live music, wine glass painting, tasty bite-size treats, and samples of a variety of wines and spirits from wineries, distributors, and distilleries! Participate in more fun, like the Wine Pull and animal encounters! Indulge in a unique opportunity with the “Winos for Rhinos” package and go behind-the-scenes to meet and scratch one of the Zoo’s rhinos.

PARTY FOR THE PLANET
Saturday, April 22nd
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Free with Zoo admission!
Join us we Party for the Planet on Earth Day! First, consider riding your bike to the Zoo – and get in free! Then join the party like, share, like! Zoo staff and volunteers will host a variety of crafts and activities in celebration of the environment and the fun ways we can protect it.

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING
Tuesday, April 24th
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Free with membership!
Meet key Zoo and Society staff to learn about accomplishments and exciting new projects at Reid Park Zoo. Meet some of our animal ambassadors while enjoying appetizers and beverages. Space is limited. Please RSVP to (520) 881-4753 or gail@reidparkzoo.org. Free for Members only.

NATURE AVENUE
Free with Zoo admission!
Meet some of the Zoo’s rhinos.
Join the “Rhinos for Rhinos” package and go behind-the-scenes to meet and scratch one of the Zoo’s rhinos.

TOMMY TOM-TOM AND CHILLIN’ WILLIE
GO TO THE ZOO
Saturday, April 28th
6:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Tickets starting at $6.50
Join the Tucson Symphony at Reid Park Zoo for a special concert performance of “Sounds Like a Zoo...” Our old friends Tommy Tom-Tom and Chillin’ Willie take a field trip to the zoo, where they encounter and befriend Megilla Gorilla and Hopsicotomous (the friendly hoppers). Join us and learn about the sounds of the animal kingdom! Beginning at 5:00 PM families can meet some of the Zoo’s animal ambassadors, enjoy activities including face painting, conservation crafts and more.

SUMMER SAFARI FRIDAYS
Presented by MetroPCS
Fridays, May 18th - August 3rd
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Tickets starting at $6.50
Enjoy the Zoo each Friday night during the cooler evening temperatures. Bring a blanket and purchase your dinner or snacks (yes a beer or glass of wine!) then relax and enjoy a picnic concert. Wander through the Zoo with a Zoo Keeper, chat with animal encounters, sponsor booth, children’s activities, animal stations and more. The entertainment and theme nights will change each week so check our website!

BREW AT THE ZOO, Presented by Lloyd Construction
Saturday, June 16th
6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Tickets starting at $20
Join Reid Park Zoo and Craft Tucson for Brew at the Zoo 2018. Sample a wide variety of craft beers from Arizona and keep a commemorative sampling glass made from recycled beer bottles, live music, food and more! Food will be available for purchase. This is an age 21 and older event only. Valid ID is necessary for entry. Tap into your wild side with a VIP behind-the-scenes package.

For more information on these and other upcoming events and education programs, please visit our website at www.reidparkzoo.org.

Interested in becoming a sponsor of Reid Park Zoo events?
Call 881-4753 or email gail@reidparkzoo.org

CALANDER OF EVENTS
Summer Safari Nights

6–8 PM EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
MAY 16TH TO AUGUST 3RD

$10.50 ADULTS (15+)
$8.50 SENIORS (62+)
$6.50 CHILDREN (2–14)
UNDER 2 GET IN FREE
MEMBERS GET 1/2 OFF

CONCERT SERIES
WILDLIFE ACTIVITIES
FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS

ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS
THEME NIGHTS
ANIMAL BIOFACTS & MORE

ReidParkZoo.org