ZOO & YOU

Summer 2019 | Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society
Bruce Eneboe worked for Reid Park Zoo for 30 years. He started his career as a shift keeper, working throughout the zoo with many different species of birds, primates, and hoofstock. During his last 8 years with the Zoo, he supervised the large mammal areas, he was the elephant manager, and the zoo's safety supervisor.

**What were some of your most memorable experiences at the Zoo?**
Witnessing the births of animals stands out: giraffe, bison, antelope, zebra, and many different varieties of birds. Also, caring for them and raising them if needed. Successfully training new behaviors was also very rewarding as it lent for a better and more intimate relationship with the animal and made both of our lives easier and less stressful. Of course there were scores of memories made with my coworkers, the most fun, dedicated people I'll ever know. Those memories will last a lifetime.

**What do you see now at the Zoo that is different from when you were here?**
Having been the safety supervisor, I'm sensitive to the improvements that have been made to the grounds. My wife Gilda and I have seen plans for the future and we are excited to see the expansions with new exhibits and exciting new experiences for our guests. This is another reason we are happy to do our small but important part to help see these plans come to fruition!

**Why did you decide to become a Legacy donor and annual FriendZ donor?**
Becoming a Legacy member/FriendZ donor was an easy decision for my wife Gilda and me. I spent a large portion of my life working at the Zoo, sometimes leaning heavily on my better half for advice and support. Working at the Zoo afforded us experiences few people will ever know. Not to mention the friends we made, the people we met and the places we saw. We always have and always will be proud of the Zoo. We love to see the Zoo evolve and become better and better for adults -- and especially the children who learn about exotic animals and have experiences they will talk about into adulthood, before passing those stories on to the next generation. For many reasons, I feel an obligation to give back somehow to help assure the betterment of the animals and people at the Zoo. I couldn't have imagined doing anything else and I feel so lucky and privileged to have been a part of it all. We encourage anyone who loves the Zoo and has a desire to see it continue to blossom to become a Legacy member.
Breaking Up with the Stuff That Doesn’t Break Down

The 2nd Plastic Free EcoChallenge is here!

This July, join Reid Park Zoo and people around the world for the Plastic Free EcoChallenge! For 31 days, we will collectively strive to live as plastic-free as possible.

Did you know that only a very small percentage of the plastic we use daily is actually recycled? Though we may place it in the recycling bin, we simply are using way more than can be recycled, sending the majority of our plastic waste into landfills.

When plastic waste ends up in animal habitats, it has devastating effects. Each year, an estimated one million seabirds and 100,000 marine mammals and sea turtles die from ingesting or being tangled in plastics in their habitat. This plastic waste that eventually ends up in the ocean was produced, used, and disposed of on land. Species on land feel the effects too as microplastics (tiny pieces of plastic less than 5 millimeters in size) release toxins into the soil and waterways. Our plastic consumption is affecting us, too! Microplastics have already been detected in the seafood we eat, and also in salt, sugar, and beer.

So what is the solution? USE LESS PLASTIC!

Along with our partners within the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Reid Park Zoo is dedicated to conservation and is one of the contributing sponsors for the 31-day Plastic Free EcoChallenge.

Collectively, at the end of the month, we will have reduced our single-use plastic consumption and developed new habits to break up with the stuff that doesn’t break down.

Sign up today: PlasticFreeEcoChallenge.Org and join Reid Park Zoo’s team!

Need help getting started? Look in your kitchen! Plastic tends to build up in food prep, but taking small steps like bringing tote bags to the store or buying unpackaged produce can make a big difference!
Both of Reid Park Zoo’s aviaries are filled with new residents! On your next trip to the Zoo be sure to stop by the Flight Connection Aviary across from the Conservation Learning Center and the South America Aviary, across from the capybara habitat!

**Blue-Crowned Motmot**
Motmots live in the trees, but they nest in the ground. The male and female will dig a tunnel several months before breeding season. That tunnel can be over 10 feet long and have dead ends to confuse any predators that might stumble across it. The birds take turns incubating the eggs and feeding the chicks. If the end of the tunnel is deep in the ground, the only way keepers know the chicks have hatched is to watch for the parents to take food into the tunnel! When the chicks emerge, they look just like the parents except that they don’t have the unique paddle-shaped tail feathers. At the Zoo, you can find the motmots in the South America Aviary.

**Green Pigeon**
Approximately forty Bruce’s green pigeons live in North American zoos. In the wild they are found just north of the African equatorial line because this is where their main food source, a specific fig tree, is found. Green pigeons rely on carotenoids from their food to maintain their green color. This process is similar to the pink color in flamingos: if the birds aren’t given a suitable diet they will turn grey. At the Zoo, you can find the green pigeons in the Flight Connection Aviary.

**Golden-Breasted Starlings**
These brightly-colored birds are a new addition to the Flight Connection Aviary. They are known to breed cooperatively, meaning the chicks from one clutch will help raise their younger siblings. These family groups can be a dozen birds strong.

**Violet Turacos**
Hatched in the Flight Connection Aviary on May 24, 2019, these chicks are the 9th and 10th offspring for this pair. Using a blood test, we were able to determine both chicks are female! The chicks started to explore the area near the nest when they were about 20 days old. Now, they only occasionally go back to the nest, a trait particular to turacos; typically birds don’t leave the nest until they are ready to fly, and once they leave the nest they don’t return.

**Black Crakes**
This species of crake is from sub-Saharan Africa. They are small birds and very quick so if you don’t look down you might miss them! They have a bright yellow bill and red legs. Their legs change color, getting much redder during breeding season. In some areas of Africa they are hunted for use in traditional medicine and food.

**Silver-Beaked Tanagers**
Silver-beaked tanagers are dimorphic, meaning the male and female look very different. These birds like to live and nest in bushes. The females make the nest out of grasses and twigs. However, in human care the birds like to nest in man-made cup-shaped nests made out of bamboo or wicker. See them in the South America Aviary.

**Trumpeter Hornbill**
If you’ve been to see our trumpeter hornbills in the Flight Connection Aviary lately you may be wondering where the female is. She is in her nest log. Almost immediately after the nest log was installed the female began to explore it. Once she was comfortable she and the male used food, mud, and dried leaves to “mud” the entrance closed. Only a small area remains open through which the male passes her food. The female will stay in the nest until the chicks are ready to fledge, or fly. Then the chicks and the female will break out of the nest and join the male. The whole process can take three months. This nesting method is unique to tree-dwelling hornbills.
Where to spot birds in the aviaries

Studies now show that nearly 100% of seabirds are ingesting plastic. Plastic can look and smell like food, and it floats and moves like food. Non-seabirds are also impacted by plastic. Urban birds often use plastic waste as nest material. The plastic can become ingested by chicks or wrapped around the chick’s small body. Easy ways to reduce your plastic use, including using reusable water bottles, straws, and grocery bags!

**Ditch Single-Use Plastic**

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**Zoo Tip!** Have a seat in the aviary and look carefully! You’ll see more if you give the animals time to move around.

**Look for** green pigeons in the tops of the trees!

**Turacos** spend their days in the upper middle branches of the trees.

**Gold-breasted starlings** are usually seen in the middle of the trees.

**Motmots** and silver-beaked tanagers can usually be found in the lower branches of the trees.

**Crakes** live in the bushes on the ground level of the aviary.

**Your Coffee Matters**

Many birds live in tropical areas where crops like coffee and palm oil are grown. Coffee that is “shade grown” comes from areas where native plants are allowed to thrive, making great habitats for animals, especially birds. Sustainable palm oil is produced in areas that decrease the need for deforestation, preserving animal habitats.
NATURE PLAY
Sponsored by Every Kid’s Dentist and Orthodontics
Free with regular Zoo admission & open to people of all ages!

Nature Play is committed to getting families back outside and enjoying nature!

WATER YOU TALKING ABOUT?
Saturday, July 27, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Water is an important resource necessary for survival, but it’s also fun to play with! We will provide the water tables, squirt cannons, kiddie pools, and more. Come prepared to get soaked at this event with a change of clothes, a towel, sunscreen, and a modest bathing suit.

GET YOUR HEAD IN THE CLOUDS
Saturday, August 31, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
This month we’re going to exercise our imaginations as we gaze into the sky looking for familiar shapes in the clouds! We will provide cloud viewers to help you identify the types of clouds you see, tools will be available to help you sketch the clouds, and you will discover how the rain from clouds affects habitats, as well as meet live animal ambassadors that depend on those habitats for survival.

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE HOME
Saturday, September 28, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Who lives in a nest, a hive, a burrow, a den? Animals’ homes are very different from our own, but they all serve the same purpose—to keep us safe! At this Nature Play event we will explore the habitats in nature that animals use to build homes. Sticks, pine cones, leaves, and other materials will be on site and imaginations will be ignited as we problem-solve and have fun.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS - WHERE LEARNING GETS WILD!

JUNIOR ZOO KEEPER (AGES 6-12)
$15 members, $20 non-members
Sunday, August 4, 9-11 a.m.
Saturday, September 14 9-11 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 13 9-11 a.m.
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 will 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! Advance registration is required.

LITTLE CRITTERS
SOUNDS OF NATURE (AGES 2-5)
$12 members, $20 non-members
Friday, August 9, 9-10 a.m.
Thunderous booms, babbling water, and blowing wind through the leaves, all mixed with chirps, growls, roars and more! Put on your listening ears and discover the sounds of nature you might otherwise tune out. Encounters with animal ambassadors will engage your little one while learning about animal reactions to sounds in their habitats. Advance registration is required.

YOUNG EXPLORERS SERIES
CREATURES OF THE NIGHT (AGES 6-12)
$15 members, $20 non-members
Sunday, August 11, 9-11 a.m.
You might have to stay up past your bedtime to see these animals! The first session of the fall Young Explorers series is all about the creatures of the night, or nocturnal animals! Come learn why it is beneficial to be nocturnal, along with adaptations nocturnal animals have. Plus enjoy encounters with our animal ambassadors! Advance registration required.

YOUNG EXPLORERS SERIES
FROM DAWN TO DUSK (AGES 6-12)
$15 members, $20 non-members
Sunday, September 8, 9-11 a.m.
Can you imagine sleeping up to 20 hours a day? To continue the theme of animal sleeping patterns, we will dive into the topic of crepuscular animals. Crepuscular animals are most active at dawn and dusk, and spend much time sleeping throughout the day. You will learn why certain animals are crepuscular and even get to meet a few up close. Advance registration is required.

TEDDY BEAR CLINIC (ALL AGES)
Free with regular Zoo admission
Sunday, August 8, 9-11 a.m.
Is your favorite fluffy friend looking a little ... stuffy? Bring your animal – plush only please! – to Reid Park Zoo’s Teddy Bear Clinic! Pack up your teddy bear or other stuffed friend for a “check-up” while visiting the Zoo. You will measure and weigh, diagnose maladies, and even bandage your buddy with the help of Zoo staff and volunteers.

DR. ZOO (AGES 8-12)
$15 members, $20 non-members
Saturday, August 17, 9-11 a.m.
Saturday, September 21, 9-11 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 5 9-11 a.m.
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 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! Advance registration is required.

LITTLE CRITTERS
NIGHT AND DAY (AGES 2-5)
$12 members, $20 non-members
Sunday, Sept 29, 9-10 a.m.
Imagine sleeping all day and staying awake all night! During this Little Critters, we will explore types of animal sleeping patterns, the advantages of being awake at night, and adaptations animals have for when they are awake. Encounters with the animal ambassadors will show these adaptations up close! Advance registration is required.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUMMER SAFARI SATURDAY NIGHTS
Sponsored by TMC Healthcare
Members get in free!
$10.50 Adults, $8.50 Seniors, $6.50 Children
Through August 17, 6-8 p.m.
Come cool off at the Zoo each Saturday night with the added fun of live music, animal encounters and keeper chats, games and activities. The theme will change each week.

BREAKFAST WITH THE LIONS
Saturday, August 10, 7:30-9 a.m.
$55 per person; $50 Zoo Members
Start your morning with a roar! Meet the lion pride in honor of World Lion Day and help protect this regal species. Activities include lion enrichment, a special chat with the lion keeper, and a scrumptious sunrise breakfast with the lions. All proceeds will benefit the Protect the Pride campaign and the Lion Recovery Fund through the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

DREAMNIGHT AT THE ZOO
Saturday, September 7, 6-8 p.m.
Reid Park Zoo is hosting a one-of-a-kind, private event for some very special kids in Southern Arizona! This exclusive evening is for children with special health care needs, children with disabilities, their parents and siblings. This event is an evening for these children and their families to experience their Zoo free of charge and without concern for social stigma and issues related to accessibility. If you feel that your family is part of the community in which Dreamnight seeks to serve, visit our website or call for more information on attending. Reservations are required.

NANDI’S 5TH BIRTHDAY AND CELEBRATE WORLD ELEPHANTS DAY!
Free with Zoo Admission
Sunday, August 18, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Tucson’s most beloved African elephant, Nandi, turns five years old this year. Join us in celebrating this sassy girl by venturing out for a Mud Birthday Party! There will be lots of activities and gifts for Nandi.

ZOOCSION
Sponsored by Andrews Family Foundation
Tickets starting at $95
Save when you purchase your Early Bird tickets today!
Friday, October 4, 6-9 p.m.
Save the date for Reid Park Zoo’s signature fundraising event, featuring tastings from the best restaurants in Tucson! ZOOcsion offers a wild night of unforgettable live music, auctions, and animal encounters. This is a 21 and older event.

SMASH BASH
Free with Zoo admission!
Saturday, October 19, 9 a.m.-Noon
Join us for a smashing good time while the animals at Reid Park Zoo crush, dunk and eat pumpkin enrichment treats. A schedule will be posted on our website two weeks prior to the event.

BOO AT THE ZOO
Tickets go on sale in September
October 25-27, 6-8 p.m.
Mark your calendar for this one-of-a-kind event! Reid Park Zoo will transform for three nights of spooktacular fun featuring a Fall Festival sponsored by Rancho Sahuarita, Mad Lab, monster-ous thrills and more!

For more information on these and other upcoming events and education programs, please visit our website at www.ReidParkZoo.org
Check back often to see what’s new at your Zoo!

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

Thank you to our Business Members!

Caterpillar, Inc.
E-Z 8 Self Storage, LLC
Parthiban Family Trust
Red Chillies Investments, LLC
Tucson DS Apts, LLC
Friday, October 4, 6-9 p.m.
ZOOcson

For the first time ever, join us as a ZOOcson VIP. Enter the event early, watch special animal encounters, and enjoy appetizers and drinks in exclusive South America!

This is a 21 and older event.

Presenting Sponsor
Andrews Family Foundation

Purchase tickets before August 31 to receive Early Bird Pricing on Adult and Member Tickets.

Purchase your tickets today at REIDPARKZOO.ORG