

ZOO & YOU



Winter 2022 | Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society





ZooFriendZ is an **exceptional circle** of people who are invested in the future of Tucson's Reid Park Zoo by donating \$500 or more annually.

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For more information, contact Gail Brown at gail@reidparkzoo.org or (520) 881-4753.

Reid Park Zoological Society

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1030 S Randolph Way
Tucson, AZ 85716

ZOO HOURS:

October-May 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
June-September 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Goats Galore

What kind of goat is that? Goats were domesticated thousands of years ago and today there are roughly 300 breeds of domesticated goats. Meanwhile, wild goats (*Capra aegagrus*) still remain in fragmented habitat from Turkey to Afghanistan and Pakistan.

There are three species of goats at the Zoo: Boer, Oberhasli, and Nigerian dwarf goats.

Boer goats can be traced to the Dutch farmers of South Africa in the 1900's. Boer is a Dutch word meaning farmer.

The Oberhasli is a dairy goat from central Switzerland. This breed is of medium size, vigorous and alert in appearance.

The Nigerian dwarf is a miniature goat from West Africa. It has since been domesticated as a dairy goat and can be found throughout the world.

All three of our breeds love to jump, climb, and spend time with their care staff and volunteers.



THE ZOO BY YOU

Here's a look at the Zoo through your eyes! Tag us on social media to enter your own photos for the next issue of Zoo & You!



Tammy Orr



Laurie Hahn



Loyd Struck Photography



Chris Carls

REID PARK ZOO



Opportunities for Feather Grooming in the Aviary

Next time you visit Reid Park Zoo, make your way over to the South American Aviary, located near the anteater habitat, and keep your eyes open for a roseate spoonbill. They are identifiable by their rose and cream-colored feathers and distinctive flat beaks. Reid Park Zoo is home to two spoonbills.

The female spoonbill is the older of the pair at 28 years old, and her care team recently noticed her feathers were looking a little more disheveled than her 16-year-old male mate.

Her feathers were not being kept as clean and tidy, and the team did not see

her preening (meaning straightening and cleaning) her feathers as often as the male was, either.

The team added additional bathing places for the birds, but only the male spoonbill was seen using them.

The team brainstormed other ways to provide bathing opportunities for the spoonbills: making the baths easier to get in and out of, adding perching spots nearby so she would not



have to land on the ground, trying different types of substrates (like sand versus dirt versus water), and offering the water at different depths and even warming it on colder mornings.

These changes made a difference for the elderly female bird, who now looks as good as the other spoonbill and is using a combination of the new spaces to keep her feathers clean and beautiful!



Zoo Holiday Fun

'Tis the season of giving, and Reid Park Zoo is here to help you spread the holiday cheer. Read up on the ways you can include Reid Park Zoo as you give, gift, and give back!

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Give the gift of the Zoo this year! Memberships include unlimited free daytime admission to the Zoo year-round, discounted admission to more than 150 other zoos and aquariums around the country, discounts on Zoo camps and events, exclusive members-only activities, and so much more!

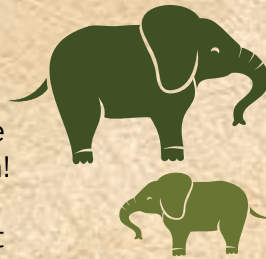
BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

Looking for a wild gift for the Holidays? Invite 1 to 10 of your closest friends on a special behind the scenes tour! With plenty of choices such as Elephant Experiences, Tamandua Encounters or Animal Care and Nutrition, there is sure to be a behind the scenes experience for those special people in your life. Registration required. Please see complete experience descriptions and book your tour online.



ADOPT AN ANIMAL

Win the holidays with this unique gift you won't find anywhere else in Tucson! Adopt an animal here at the Zoo and a special person in your life will get a beautiful, personal gift package about their favorite animal at Reid Park Zoo.



ENRICHMENT TREE

Want to include your Zoo favorites in your holiday shopping? Stop by the Conservation Learning Center on your next visit to the Zoo, and grab an ornament from the Enrichment Tree! Your ornament will come with an item one of the Zoo animals would love to receive (instructions on where to find, say, an elephant-sized puzzle feeder will be included, of course)! Prefer to do your holiday shopping online? We've got that covered! The Zoo has a wish list on Amazon as well, filled with fun items sure to enrich the lives of the animals at the Zoo.

HONORARY DONATION

Recognize a loved one's passion for animals, nature, and conservation by making a holiday gift in their name. Visit our donation page or contact Reid Park Zoological Society's office at (520) 837-8217. A card will be mailed to your honoree (or to your home for you to personally give to them). A gift in honor or memory of a friend, family member or a beloved pet is a wonderful way to remember them while recognizing their love of wildlife, conservation, and education!

AMAZON SMILE

Supporting Reid Park Zoo can be as simple as placing an order on Amazon! Set ReidParkZoo as your beneficiary on AmazonSmile.com and make a contribution to the Zoo every time you shop.





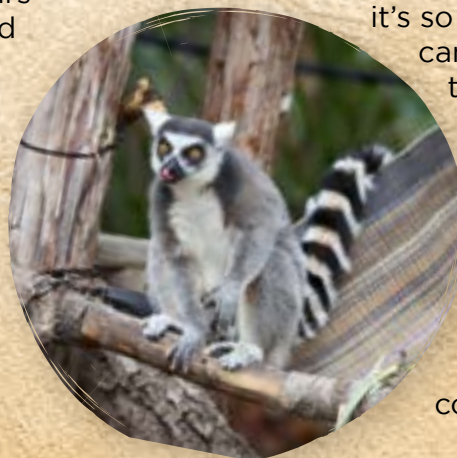
Sweet Scent Provides a Map for a Lemur

Ring-tailed lemurs are amazing. They skillfully navigate diverse habitats, from the forest canopy to the bare earth, using trees as aerial highways and rock caves as resting places to cool off during hot days. They even utilize dry habitats filled with spiny vegetation similar to our desert. Ring-tailed lemurs carefully traverse these drastically different spaces, and they do so entirely on one island off the east coast of Africa. Madagascar, an island the size of California, is the only native home to all species of lemurs. However, ring-tailed lemurs are unique in their preference to travel on the ground and explore layers of habitat.

Ring-tailed lemurs often engage in **“stink fights”** — they have specialized glands located on their wrists that supply a scent that they rub onto their tail fur. They wave their tail, which is an effective method of communication and it distributes their scent well. Males will engage in these battles with one another. The Zoo’s lemurs mimic their wild counterparts by heavily marking fresh branches that the animal care staff provides them. Male ring-tailed lemurs use a

specialized horny spur on their wrist to scratch or pierce the tree branch prior to rubbing their scent on it. Our lemurs almost always scent mark the cut end of the branch first perhaps to minimize the tree fragrance and maximize their own scenting.

Smell is an incredibly important sense for lemurs — it’s so strong that they can locate fruits by their fragrance from 50 miles away. At the Zoo, the animal care team recognizes smell is an incredibly important component to their





lives. We are experimenting with methods of scent communication with our troop of three males.

For example, when the lemurs explore their habitat they may smell a clue as to where food items like biscuits may be buried or hidden in a puzzle feeder container. Animal Care staff are experimenting with this process as a way to engage the lemurs in their natural scent focused world.

Other scents can alert the lemurs to events that may happen in their day. For example, a training session with an animal care staff member might be preceded by a lemon fragrance wafting through the habitat. That signal will tell them that a training session will be coming soon and to look for their animal care specialist. These subtle cues have been tried in other zoos and research centers with lemurs and other species. Our care team is trying their hands at being perfumers for the primates!

When you visit the lemurs, you may see them exploring their habitat more deeply than usual. They may just be active or perhaps trying to interpret the animal care team's latest perfume cue.

Recycle Your Old Holiday Lights at Reid Park Zoo

The holidays are a festive time of year with twinkling lights adorning trees, houses, and your local Zoo!

But what happens when those lights burn out? Reid Park Zoo has partnered with Recyco, Inc, a local business that recycles scrap metal and other materials so less resources need to be mined out of natural areas. As we decorate for our holiday events such as Boo at the Zoo and Zoolights, we place our old

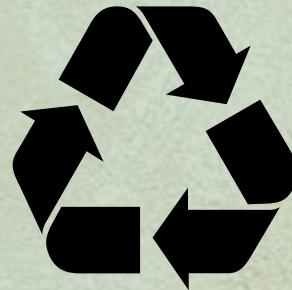
strands in bins that will then go to Recyco, Inc for recycling. Join us in recycling old holiday light strands by placing them in the bin at the front of the Zoo during your next visit. 25% more waste is generated during the holidays than any other time of year. Don't be a statistic!

Here are other ways to cut down on waste during the holiday season:

Learn what other materials Recyco, Inc can recycle at www.recycoinc.com.

Give the real tree you used this holiday season a second life. It can be recycled through the City of Tucson Treecycle program. Once you have removed all decorations, drop it off to be turned into mulch. Learn more and find drop-off locations at www.tucsonaz.gov/treecycle.

If you are planning to host a holiday party, skip the single use dishware. Even paper plates cannot be recycled if they have food residue. Instead, use reusable dishes and cutlery. You can even ask your guests to bring their own reusable containers for leftovers!





Exciting Things Ahead for Reid Park Zoo

We have a number of exciting projects underway! Thank you for your support that makes these possible.

SLOTH HABITAT

Yes, it is true! Reid Park Zoo will soon have a sloth habitat! Construction is expected to start in the next month or two in our South America zone, and it will open in 2023. We are excited to have a home for this slow moving species (they sleep for 15-20 hours per day!) that has captured the hearts of so many.

WORLD OF PLAY

World of Play construction

continues with an opening planned for summer of 2023. Underground work is nearing completion on this activity zone that will feature habitats from around the world.

PATHWAY TO ASIA

Pathway to Asia is a major addition to Reid Park Zoo coming in 2025! This exhibit will feature tigers, an aviary with a bird feeding experience, Tropical Discovery Center with reptiles, fruit bats, Komodo dragon, and more! Pathway to Asia will be built in the location of the current parking lots for Reid Park Zoo and the Edith Ball

Adaptive Recreation Center (ARC). The first step will be building a new parking lot for Reid Park that will be located just north of the ARC. That work will start very soon, and will be complete next summer. Once the parking lot is online, construction will start for habitats.

This is possible thanks to Tucson voters as well as donors who have provided essential support for this project. We would like to highlight the Kasser Family who has provided support for the Kasser Family Lotus Pavilion, an event space located in Pathway to Asia that will provide opportunity

for public events such as conservation talks, as well as a rental space for private events from company parties to weddings. This will also free up the Lee H. Brown Conservation Learning Center to be fully dedicated to education programs including summer camps and school programs.

Thanks to the Kasser Family Foundation, the Lotus Pavilion will be a beautiful space for these events. But that is not the extent of their support. Beth and

Michael Kasser

enjoy visits to the Zoo and Beth Kasser has generously taken an interest in staff wellness, providing

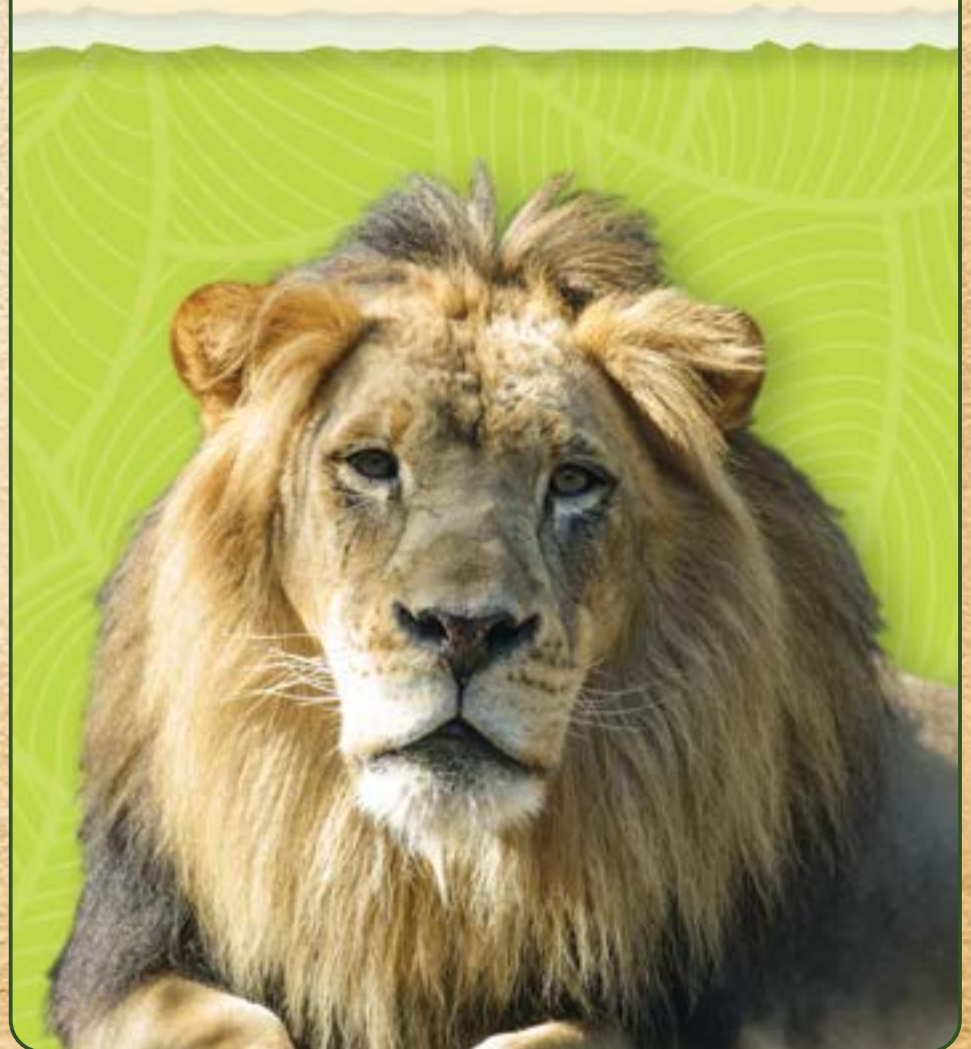
snacks and meals for the hardworking staff, an introduction to exercise and meditation, and sponsored the Zen Garden in a corner of the staff area which features a bench designed by well-known artist Del Geist.

We appreciate the generous support of the Kasser Family as well as the gifts of the many donors to Reid Park Zoo at all levels. This support enables Reid Park Zoo to provide state of the art care for the animals and amazing guest experiences.

Wanda Hulse

YOUR LEGACY GIVES THEM A FUTURE

Your planned gift to Reid Park Zoo is one of the most meaningful gifts you can make to protect wild animals and wild places. For more information contact gail@reidparkzoo.org or look for "leave a legacy" under the Get Involved tab on our website.



WHAT ANIMAL ARE YOU?

You wake up on a cold winter morning to the sound of birds chirping. What do you do?

- A. Go inspect the bird noise to see where it's coming from.
- B. Join in singing! What a beautiful sound!
- C. Pull up the blankets and go back to sleep.

What are you wearing to stay warm?

- A. New winter boots
- B. A colorful scarf
- C. A big cozy jacket

What's your favorite winter food to share with friends and family?

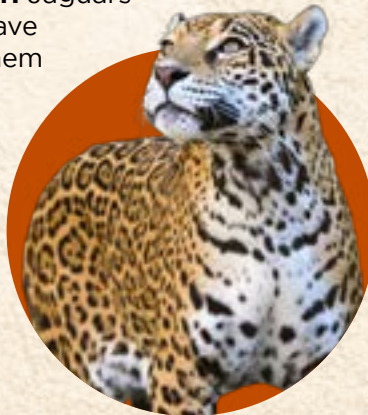
- A. A fancy holiday ham
- B. Trail Mix with tasty nuts and raisins
- C. Hot cocoa before bed

What Holiday activity are you working on?

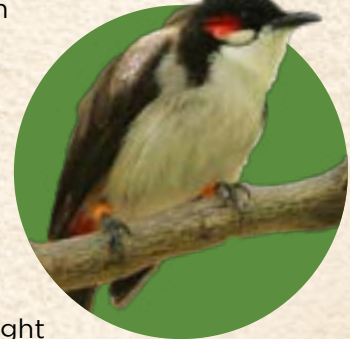
- A. Working on setting my morning run record!
- B. Collecting supplies to make a special gift
- C. Making tasty holiday cookies

IF YOU ANSWERED MOSTLY...

A You are like a Jaguar! Jaguars are super fast and have great hearing that help them hunt for their next meal. These cats are incredibly powerful and are able to take down prey several times their size, such as tapirs. You can visit a jaguar yourself in our South America Loop.



B You are like a Red-whiskered Bulbul! These birds are not very territorial making them the perfect neighbors! Like most birds, they enjoy letting out a few chirps and whistles that make a beautiful noise. You can hear them in the Flight Connection Aviary at the Zoo.



C You are like a Grizzly Bear! Bears sleep through the coldest part of the year, straight through the holidays! But don't worry, depending on food availability, bears in warmer climates will spend less time in their winter dens, or may not use them at all, so they won't miss the big feast! You can see this big brown bear at the south end of Reid Park Zoo.

THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ZOOLIGHTS: HOLIDAY MAGIC

December 2, 3, 5-23

Encore Nights: December 26-30

6-9 p.m.

There's 'snow place like Reid Park Zoo for the holidays!

ZooLights: Holiday Magic, presented by Tucson Electric Power, returns with enchanting lights and holly jolly fun for all ages. Stop in for a photo opp with St. Nick who will be hearing wishes each evening and savor a hot cup of cocoa from the Zoo Café or carts as you travel through a colorful wild wonderland in this Tucson holiday tradition.

\$12 Adults (ages 15-61); \$10 Seniors (ages 62+); \$8 Children (ages 2-14); free for children under 2.

ZOOLIGHTS MEMBER MONDAYS

Zoo members receive half off general admission to ZooLights on Mondays.

Zoo Members receive \$3 off admission Tuesdays - Sundays.



I LOVE ZOO

Sunday, February 12

9 a.m.-Noon

Watch zoo animals receive a little extra love with special enrichment treats and read some of their valentine messages to you. The enrichment schedule will be posted in the Entry Plaza.

Free with Zoo admission

JUNIOR ZOO KEEPER

January 15, February 11, March 18

9-11 a.m.

Through this interactive, hands-on program your child will experience a snapshot of a day in the life of a Zoo Keeper.

\$15 Zoo Members

DR ZOO

January 7, February 19, March 5

9-11 a.m.

Learn how Zoo vets use science and math to care for the animals at the Zoo through this hands-on interactive program.

\$15 Zoo Members

WINTER CAMP: SAVE THE DATE

December 27-30

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Our winter camps will provide exciting opportunities for your children to explore the Zoo and learn about our animals and the habitats that they live in. Through special behind-the-scenes experiences, crafts, games, and activities, your children will discover the wonders and mysteries of the natural world! Details will be online at a later date. Sign up for any combination of dates or all four days.

\$55 for Members Per Day

Advance registration is required for all education programs.

GIANT ROBOTIC BUGS

Crawling to the Zoo this Spring!





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1030 South Randolph Way
Tucson, Arizona 85716

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ZOOLIGHTS

Holiday Magic

Throughout
December



TEP
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