

100 & YOU

Home
★ FOR THE ★
Holidays

Winter 2016 - 2017 | Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society





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For more information, contact Diana Whitman at diana@reidparkzoo.org or (520) 837-8217.

SAVE THE DATE!

The FriendZ annual reception is January 22, with a special presentation by Zoo Veterinarian Dr. Alexis Moreno.

Invitation to follow!

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ReidParkZoo.org

Oct - May: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
June - Sept: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas

Reid Park Zoological Society's Zoo & You prints quarterly

Welcome Home

MEET THE GIBBONS BEFORE THEY MOVE TO THEIR NEW HOME AND GET THE SCOOP FROM THE EXPERT THAT KNOWS THEM BEST - THEIR KEEPER!

By Alec Young, Gibbons Zoo Keeper

Reid Park Zoo is home to three White-handed Gibbons: "Billy" (male - age 43), "Moms" (female - age 47), and "Lilith (Lily)" (female - age 17). Billy and Moms are Lily's parents. The easiest way that you can tell these three individuals apart from each other is by paying close attention to the colors on their faces:



Billy

Billy has a very thick white outline around his face. Of all three gibbons, Billy has the most white fur framing his face.

Moms

Moms has very little white on her face. From a visitor perspective, her head will look like it is completely covered in black fur. It should also be noted that Moms is the smallest of the three gibbons.



Lily

Lily does have white face fur, but it is a thin outline. It can be hard to differentiate her from Billy if they are not right next to each other, but it is a difference that is easy to see when they are both facing you. I like to think that Lily is the sum of her parents: Billy (lots of white) + Moms (no white) = Lily (some white).

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE *Home* FOR THE *Holidays*



A NEW YEAR MEANS A NEW HOME FOR REID PARK ZOO'S GIBBONS FAMILY



THE GIBBONS FAMILY TREE

By early November, construction was almost complete inside the new gibbons habitat!



TRAILS, NOT TAILS

Gibbons are apes, so they don't have tails. (Only monkeys have tails!) In their new home, however, the gibbons will have trails over the main pathway. These trails will allow you to get closer than ever to your favorite primate family!

In addition to their physical appearances, these three gibbons also differ from each other behaviorally:

Billy - Of the three gibbons, Billy is the most likely to be sitting by himself. You will see him grooming Moms or Lily, but sometimes his grooming makes them messier than they were to begin with. For example, if keepers give the gibbons worms, Billy will take a handful and stick them in Moms' fur before picking them out! (Moms seems okay with this, because she seems to encourage him by making it easier for him to put worms in her hair). Billy is also the gibbon most likely to be seen trying to catch insects as they fly through the enclosure, or jump about in the grass. Something that the public might not see with Billy, but the keepers get to observe, is that he does not seem to like getting his hands dirty. If you smear food with something, like jelly or honey, even if he would normally eat that food, he generally won't touch it when it is covered in a smear.

Moms - Moms is the most likely to catch and kill birds that fly into the exhibit. (Her favorite part to eat is the head). She and Lily tend to hang out a lot together, and they don't like to be separated. From a keeper perspective, Moms is usually the first gibbon to come over and greet us in the morning.

Lily - Lily is definitely the most active of the three. She is often observed wildly swinging on their exhibit ropes in addition to her normal brachiating - or swinging by crossing arm over arm - motion. She can be a little pushy, and you will often see her stealing food from out of the hands of her parents. From a keeper perspective, Lily stops by to get treats, and then she is on her way.



REID PARK ZOO'S EXCLUSIVE GIBBON

Next time you ride the carousel, sit next to this gibbon! The carousel gibbon was specially designed by Reid Park Zoo's Administrator Jason Jacobs and created by Chance Rides exclusively for Reid Park Zoo. With this carousel animal, you are riding 'with' the gibbon, instead of riding 'on' the gibbon!

This carousel animal is still available for naming! Find out about naming opportunities at the Zoo by emailing diana@reidparkzoo.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT...



AUTUMN BRINGS OTOÑO

Meet a new Tamandua, Otoño (Spanish for autumn)! This tamandua was born in October. Otoño is part of our education collection and when he is bigger, you may see him out in the Zoo during presentations or he may go out on outreach programs.

Reid Park Zoo is a leader in tamandua conservation. Thanks to our successful breeding programs and world class animal care, tamanduas born here in Tucson are animal ambassadors at accredited Zoos nationwide!

IT'S A BOY!

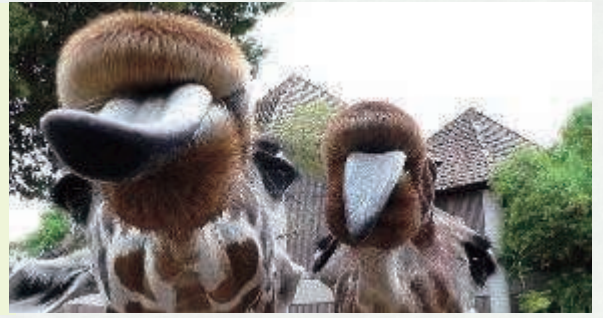


This fall, the Zoo welcomed a new flamingo chick. The chick has an adventurous and bold personality! He has been "checking things out" at an earlier age than some chicks in the past.

You can see him on exhibit at the Zoo, or visit the webcams to watch him grow online!



...YOUR ZOO



BRINGING OUT BEST BEHAVIOR: ENRICHMENT AT THE ZOO (PART 2)

By Sue Tygielski, PhD, Zoo Area Supervisor

In the last issue we talked about the ways in which zoo keepers use enrichment items -- like toys, feeders, and tree branches and stumps -- to create a stimulating environment and encourage animals to engage in natural behaviors.

The second way of doing this is through enrichment flow design where the keeper selects the behavior they would like the animal to exhibit and develops enrichment to encourage the animal to show off that behavior. Our keepers and their college interns observe the behavioral repertoire of the animal and carefully choose which behavior to focus on increasing.

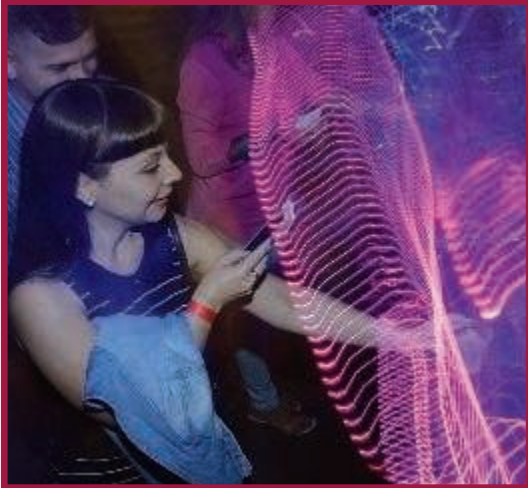
Interns and keepers work together to create opportunities for the animals to show off these behaviors. For example giraffe rub their ossicones -- the horn-like bumps on the top of their heads -- against the trees in their exhibit, so offering brushes and bamboo wind chimes can increase the frequency of this behavior. A guanaco naturally stands on hind legs to reach the fruits of tall cacti, so our keepers engineered tasty treats in the same high position for the guanaco to practice her two-legged balance. Grizzly bears spend a good portion of time making comfortable beds to rest in, and our keepers haul in hay, branches, long grasses, paper shreds, palm fronds and other suitable materials for bears to rest upon daily. The keeper will scatter the materials throughout the bears' space and then the bears work to gather what they want to make a bed.

At times it can be difficult to tell which half of the partnership is having more fun creating and using enrichment -- the keepers or the animals. Either way our zoo visitors win and see some awesome animal behavior at the zoo!

GOOD TIMES AT ZOO EVENTS

ZOOCSON 2016 SETS RECORD

Guests at this year's event were welcomed by the steel drum sounds of Jovert while watching acrobatic performances by Cirque Roots. From there, guests tasted a food extravaganza from 32 of Tucson's best restaurants, sipped on beverages from a custom ice bar and bid on one-of-a-kind Zoo experiences at auction. Thank you to the generous guests, sponsors, restaurants, and auction donors who helped raise \$210,000 for Reid Park Zoo - which set a record! A special thank you to Title Sponsor - Casino Del Sol, Silent Auction Sponsor Cemrock, and Event Sponsors - A thru Z Consulting and Buffalo Exchange.



Left: Ashlee Musselman records a margarita being dispensed through an ice sculpture. Right: The crowd gathers for a special announcement from U of A. Photos by Arizona Daily Wildcat photographer Alex McIntyre.



NATURE PLAY

Our education team helped kids play dirty - literally, in the dirt! - and reconnect to nature during Nature Play days. Both kids and their parents discovered the value of unplugging and getting outside to play together. As a conservation organization, we love helping kids find out what they can do while enjoying the outdoors.

Nature Play days are back this February, so look for more of this free program at the Zoo!

A SCARY GOOD TIME AT HOWL-O-WEEN

More than 10,000 people came to trick-or-treat and marvel over spooky and fun decorations at Reid Park Zoo's annual Howl-o-Ween, sponsored by Carodelet Medical Center. A dedicated cast of costumed characters danced, posed for photos, and passed out treats to thousands of excited kids. Highlights include a pirate ship, princess experience, photos with movie characters and the roaring T-Rex. Howl-O-Wen was supported by Event Sponsor MetroPCS and Theme Zone Sponsors Arizona Pest Control and Cox Communications.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BREW LIGHTS

Friday, December 2 and
Saturday, December 3
6 PM to 8 PM

\$9.50 for adults, \$5.50 for children (2-14)
Zoo Member Pricing: \$2.00 off admission

Enjoy local craft brew with Zoo Lights at this preview weekend. Experience all the wonder of Zoo Lights with added activities. Six local craft brewers will be providing \$6 pints of their best suds each night for guests to sip while strolling through beautiful Reid Park Zoo's festive lights. We will also have holiday shopping opportunities with local artists and vendors. Café and Gift Shop will be open as well as carousel and camel rides.

ZOO LIGHTS

Wednesday, December 7 to Friday,
December 23
6 PM to 8 PM

\$9.50 for adults, \$5.50 for children (2-14)
Zoo Member Pricing: \$2.00 off admission

Zoo Lights, presented by Tucson Electric Power, is guaranteed to put you in the winter spirit with jingle bells, twinkling lights, falling snow and Santa. Light displays, live entertainment, animal-theme light sculptures, and thousands of sparkling bulbs will help make Zoo Lights a part of your Tucson holiday tradition. Hot cocoa and a S'mores are available for an additional fee at the cafe and stations around the Zoo. Zoo animals will be off exhibit for this event.

ZOO WINTER CAMP

Wednesday, December 28 to Friday,
December 30
9 AM to 3 PM

\$55 per day per child
\$45 per day for Zoo Members

Hang out with us during the school holiday break at our very first Zoo Winter Camp. It doesn't matter if the weather outside is frightful or beautiful; we'll make the best of it either way with animal-themed games, activities, and of course lots of hot chocolate! You may register your child for one, two, or all three days of camp depending on your schedule. We'll split into different age groups as appropriate, but Winter Camp will be great fun for all kids ages 6-12.

UPCOMING EVENTS SAVE THE DATE!

FIT FEST
March

WINE GONE WILD
April

EASTER
April 14, 15 and 16

SUMMER SAFARI
begins May 19

BREW AT THE ZOO
June 17

Interested in becoming a
sponsor of Reid Park Zoo
events?

Contact 881-4753 or
gail@reidparkzoo.org

HOST THE WILDEST WEDDING IN TUCSON!

Looking for a WILD way to
celebrate your special day?

Say "I do" at the Zoo! From the beautiful deck overlooking the Mill Pond to the Event Garden or an inside option are all available for a wedding ceremony, reception or dinner, fully catered by Taste Catering.

Reid Park Zoo is the perfect location for other events too, including :

COMPANY PARTIES
REUNIONS
BARBECUES

ELEGANT EVENINGS UNDER THE STARS.

The Zoo offers one-of-a-kind, custom experiences you and your guests are sure to enjoy. Book an appointment with one of our event specialists today. Call 520-881-4753 or email events@reidparkzoo.org.

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 the Zoo!

Little **GIFT.**
BIG Animals!



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gift of
adventure!

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season.



www.ReidParkZoo.org



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\$9.50 Adults / \$5.50 Children / \$2 off for Members