

ZOO & YOU



Spring 2019 | Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society





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Reid Park Zoological Society

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT & CEO

How wonderful to see our desert rains we've had this year. And now, with spring, comes new wonders with beautiful weather, and one of the best times of the year to come see Reid Park Zoo. We continue to be hard at work creating Bigger Spaces and Smiling Faces for our animals and our guests! Here are a few of the new features you will see as you walk through the Zoo!

is being the sentry!

Another popular social animal at Reid Park Zoo are the otters. This year, we added a window with a log that the otters climb up on so you can be eye to eye with the otters. We also installed shade structures for the comfort of our animals and our guests in the hot summer and some fun features like a spy glass and meerkat faces.

Ah, the social life! Meerkats and Otter habitat improvements

One of the attributes that make meerkats so fun to watch is their complex social structure. Meerkats have a social system with different roles, such as alpha females, alpha males, sentries, babysitters and more! One of the improvements we recently made was to expand the meerkat habitat into two areas, allowing different mobs of meerkats to be living together and have both groups available for you to see on your visit. Be sure to watch closely to see who

We hope you enjoy visiting these two active and social animals on your next visit!

A purrfect view! Windows and other enhancements for Reid Park Zoo's felines

Over the past few months, we have been replacing glass and refurbishing a number of habitats, including our lion, tiger and jaguar habitats. This important maintenance will give you a much clearer view of our beautiful cats!

Unlike most other cats, lions are social creatures that live



in prides. You will notice our family (mom, dad and daughter) often sleeping during the day – actually for 16-20 hours a day just as they do in the wild. Improvements included replacing mesh, adding a training area where training demonstrations can be viewed by our guests, repainting, replanting, and most visibly, replacing the glass. We hope you enjoy this clearer view (well, except on days muddy paws have reached out!).

Tigers and jaguars are more typical solitary cats which is why you don't see them together. They also received the same home makeover with new mesh, glass and more. While the repairs were being done, many of our cats were having

a 'staycation' at the Animal Health Center where they also received annual physicals, dental cleanings and great care as always.

Temple of Tiny Monkeys

Doesn't that name just make you smile? Squirrel monkeys were actually one of the first animals at Reid Park Zoo in the 1960's and we are so excited to welcome back a new troop of squirrel monkeys to Reid Park Zoo. You will be delighted to watch these captivating little creatures jump and scurry from branch to branch in constant motion throughout the day.

We will also have activities to show how you can protect their habitat by buying products that

are made from sustainable palm oil.

Their habitat is a beautiful replica of fallen temple ruins found in the jungle that are overrun with vines, trees and of course, tiny monkeys! Starting in April come out and take your picture sitting on a throne among the ruins!

This habitat would not have been possible without the support of donors as well as the City of Tucson. Thank you for what you do as members to make our zoo brighter and happier!

Nancy J. Kluge

Nancy J. Kluge
President & CEO

Who is New at Your Zoo

TRUMPETER HORNBILLS

In the Flight Connection Aviary, Henry, a new male trumpeter hornbill has arrived! Actually, he isn't really new at all. Henry was hatched here 23 years ago and lived here with a mate for many years. He was transferred to Santa Ana Zoo based on a breeding recommendation to be paired with a female there. Now Henry is back to meet Cici, our female. Trumpeter hornbills are gregarious birds with an interesting nesting cycle we hope to share in the future. Welcome back Henry!



MARBLED TEAL

Our flock of four is expanding to ten! Due to the increase in medium-sized waterfowl, Flight Connection Aviary's wading pool was expanded to accommodate the additional ducks. Marbled teal can live as a large flock when only one sex is present, and our Zoo is a holding facility for male marbled teal. The new birds will be gradually added to the aviary as they finish quarantine in our Health Center. The birds are coming from multiple other zoos and will meet here in our aviary.



OJA UPDATE

Andean bear Oja, from Zurich Zoo in Switzerland, has cleared quarantine with only a minor dental procedure awaiting her. While at the Zurich Zoo she cracked her canine tooth and needs a root canal. After the procedure, she will be transferred to the Andean bear night house and habitat. She will have time to explore the space on her own quietly and then introductions will begin between bears.

Prior to meeting a potential mate, animal care staff take certain steps to help ease the transition for animal introductions. For the last several weeks while Oja has been in the Health Center her keepers have been exchanging enrichment items and bedding between Oja and male Andean bear, Worf. Having time to smell one another can help increase the chance of a more successful and peaceful



introduction. When moved to the night house, the bears will have a chance to look at and hear one another. After Oja is comfortable orienting her way through the habitat and night house, it will be time to meet Worf. The staff are prepared to watch the bears run, roll, play and maybe squabble a bit. However, with spring in the air, and breeding season upon us, the hope is the introduction will be gentle. We greatly appreciate our highly-dedicated animal care staff who take these steps to keep our animals healthy and thriving.

Welcome the Troop



He cautiously approached the divider and peered through at the busy activity on the other side. A flash of golden-orange zips past trailing with a dark brown tail-tip. Chattering calls and squeaks can be heard, but not one female pauses to look his way. Parker, the one-year old male common squirrel monkey, was in the early phases of introductions with his new mates. So far the interest was one-sided.

Before the squirrel monkeys were able to see one another, zoo keepers swapped enrichment items between the animals so they could smell one another. Then the monkeys were moved into nearby spaces to hear and see one another. While the three females gave him no indication of acknowledgement, Dazzle, Glitter and Sparkles were very aware of his presence. When the doors opened, the girls invaded.

The females came trooping over into Parker's space and life. The initial days varied widely. Some days there was lots of interaction, with grooming and resting together. Other days, they completely ignored him. Parker moves cautiously around them, recognizing that they can be a little unpredictable. The girls will quietly engage in grooming sessions with Parker. Sparkles has learned how to create a diversion to prevent herself from being the lowest ranking member of the group.

She will let out a shrieking call, causing Dazzle and Glitter to pounce on Parker. But the tables can turn quickly in a troop of fast-moving monkeys.

Though they were born in other zoos, their natural instincts are present. Often, common squirrel monkeys have tension between family members over food as the resources are packed closely together in the forest. They don't squabble as much with neighbouring troops over food resources. At the Zoo, keepers can spread resources throughout the habitat to minimize these tense interactions. Together, the four monkeys spend lots of time poring over how to pick small pieces of fruit or worms out of enrichment feeders or how to mark every possible branch in their habitat with their scent. To maintain the highest level of care, zoo keepers spend hours caring for them, training, cleaning up, providing enrichment and preparing their diet.

At the Zoo, their new habitat has four different living spaces.

The monkeys can be transferred from one living space to another to allow their keepers adequate time to clean, refresh and enrich each space. These living spaces are outfitted with vines and trees for monkeys to climb and jump, as they would in the forest.

SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL

One major threat to squirrel monkeys (and other primate populations) is forest destruction for palm oil and other plantations. One way to help protect primates and their habitats is to buy responsibly grown products such as wood, chocolate and coffee. Taking the time to become familiar with logos that represent responsibly produced products can save forests for primates now and in the future.



EDUCATION PROGRAMS - *WHERE LEARNING GETS WILD!*

PROGRAMS FILL FAST, REGISTER TODAY!



LITTLE CRITTERS (AGES 2-5) **\$12 members, \$20 non members**

Advance registration is required.

Hooray for Teamwork! Saturday
May 11, 9-10 a.m.

Every thing's better when we work together! Come learn about animals working together for protection, to raise a family, and even working with plants! Encounters with animal ambassadors will highlight positive relationships in the animal kingdom during Be Kind to Animals Week.



DR ZOO (AGES 8-12) **\$15 members, \$20 non members**

Advance registration required.

Sunday, May 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, Animal Health Center for a day in the life of a Zoo Vet experience. 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!

NATURE PLAY

Free with regular zoo admission & Free for Members

Nature Play series – a continued commitment to getting families back outside and enjoying nature!

Camping Adventure: Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

What are some of your favorite memories as a child? Chances are, they happened outdoors and included a lot of nature-based play. That's what Nature Play is all about! We are reconnecting families to the great outdoors through unstructured play and fun!

Beach Party: Saturday, May 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Beaches are a fun vacation spot, but are a challenge to get to for us here in Tucson. That's why we're bringing the beach to you! At this Nature Play event you'll want to bring out your beach gear--sunscreen, big floppy hats, modest bathing suits, and of course your beach towels. You can search for seashells, build sand castles, sunbathe, and take some time to slow down and relax.

3rd Annual Mud Day
Saturday, June 29, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Come play from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. June 29 at our 3rd Annual International Mud Day Celebration! Mud pits will be set up to allow children and families time to literally get their hands dirty! Specially trained Nature Play Partners will be available to encourage natural investigation, and provide skills, tools, and resources to increase everyone's comfort level with guiding play-based learning in natural settings, or unstructured nature play activities at home. This event will be a little messy, so plan your wardrobe accordingly. Select clothing that you don't mind getting dirty, or wear a modest bathing suit. A hose will be available to wash off afterward and there will be plenty of sunshine and warmth to drip dry when done!



JUNIOR ZOO KEEPER (AGES 6-12) **\$15 members, \$20 non members**

Advance registration required

Saturday, April 13 9-11 a.m.

Sunday, May 19, 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!

SUMMER CAMP **(GRADES 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8)** **\$235 members, \$275 nonmembers -** Scholarships are available

Advance registration required

Monday through Friday June 3-28, July
8-26, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Reid Park Zoo offers action-packed summer day camps for kids entering grades 1-8. Games, crafts, animal ambassador encounters, and behind-the-scenes opportunities-make this camp unlike any other. Participants will also see first hand how the Zoo's Animal Care staff use STEM every day to care for the animals and why saving wild places and wildlife is so important.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



WINE GONE WILD 2019

Saturday, April 13

6-8 p.m.

\$60 members, \$65 non-members, \$25 DDs, \$120 "Winos for Rhinos" VIP Package

Join Reid Park Zoo for Wine Gone Wild 2019. Show your wild side while contributing to the animals at the Zoo! Sample a variety of wines and spirits from distributors, wineries, and distilleries. Enjoy tasty bite-size treats from the Tucson Originals, and listen to live music from *Santa Pachita*. Participate in even more fun, like the famous Wine Pull and interactive animal encounters!

2019 EASTER EXTRAVAGANZOO!

Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21
8-10 a.m.

\$40 Adults, \$35 Adult Members, \$25 Children 2-14, \$20 Child Members, Free for children under 2

Hop on over to the Zoo for a hunt for eggs, breakfast, learn about the Zoo's animal ambassadors, enjoy activities and meet the Easter Bunny. The event will begin at 8:00 am with an Easter egg hunt throughout the Zoo (bring your own basket). Special prizes for the lucky children who find the golden eggs. Eggs will be turned in for a treat bag, sponsored by First Watch Cafe, after the hunt. There will be age-specific zones for joyful hunting for all. Pre-registration is required.

PARTY FOR THE PLANET

Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m.-Noon

Free with Zoo admission

Celebrate Earth Day early at the Zoo! Enjoy conservation-themed activities from 9-11:30 a.m. to learn about ways to protect our environment.

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, April 23

5:30-7 p.m.

Free for Members ONLY

Make the most of your Reid Park Zoo membership and join us for your Annual Member Meeting! Presentations from Zoo leadership staff will bring you up to date on last year's accomplishments, the status of current projects, and the future of your Zoo. Light food and refreshments will be served. Pre-Registration Required. Limited seating.

BAYOU PARTY

Friday, April 26

6-8:30 p.m.

\$100 per ticket

Laissez le bon temps roulet!

Love New Orleans cuisine and beverages? Mosey on over to Reid

Park Zoo's "Bayou Party." You'll get Louisiana inspired cuisine from Chef Christian and specialty cocktails while listening to the cool sounds of jazz. Also meet one of our most popular American residents - the alligator, Bayou. Chat with his keeper about his favorite meals and meet our young alligators up-close and see what they have learned from their trainer. End the night with a cup of Café du Monde coffee and beignets.



FIT FEST

Saturday, May 11

5 -8 30 p.m.

Pre-Sale: \$15 At the Door: \$25,

Child (2-14): \$10

Try out a wide range of fitness programs such as Zumba, PiYo, yoga & more. Visit a variety of health and wellness vendors. This annual multi-dimensional fitness event will feature something fun for every age and fitness level. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

SUMMER SAFARI SATURDAY NIGHTS

Saturdays, May 25- August 17 (except for June 15 - Brew at the Zoo)

6-8 p.m.

Members are Free!

\$10.50 Adults, \$8.50 Seniors

\$6.50 Children

Come cool off at the Zoo each Saturday night with added fun of live music, animal encounters and Keeper chats, games and activities, Café specials, and gift shop discounts. The theme will change each week!

BREW AT THE ZOO

Saturday, June 15,

6:30- 9:30 p.m.

\$45 per person; \$40 for Members

\$20 per designated driver (includes souvenir cup for soda fountain and \$8 food voucher)

\$120 Beer for Bears VIP Package (includes early admission at 6 p.m., 16 tasting tickets, souvenir shirt and \$10 food voucher). Limited availability.

Tickets at the gate are \$55 per person; \$50 for Members.

Sample a wide variety of local craft brews while enjoying pub-style food, as well as live entertainment, games, interactive animal encounters, a commemorative sampling cup, and much more! 21 and older event only. This event is rain or shine.

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

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SUMMER SAFARI NIGHTS

**EVERY SATURDAY
FROM MAY 25 - AUG 17
6-8PM**

(Every Saturday through 8/17 except 6/15.)

Concerts, animal encounters, food
& drinks, carousel rides,
wildlife activities,
& SO MUCH MORE!

Members receive FREE admission!

