

Wild Things

Spirits, Brews & Primates

Wines and Beers of the World

NEW DATE! March 5, 2015, 7-10 p.m.

Regular tickets*: \$40 Zoological Society members & guests;
\$55 non-members.

VIP tickets:** \$50 Zoological Society members & guests;
\$65 non-members.

Pre-register at zoosociety.org/Wine or at 414-258-2333.



*Nicholas and Sandra Oliver,
of Colgate, Wis., toast to the
animals at last year's event.*

Photo by Richard Taylor

Imagine an evening of fine wines and beers. Add majestic apes and monkeys. Combine them and you get the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Wines and Beers of the World fundraiser. This is the only spirits-and-primates event in the area that benefits the animals at the Zoo. Guests can sample wines, beers and savory foods while strolling through the Stearns Family Apes of Africa and Primates of the World buildings. To see a list of vendors, go to zoosociety.org/Wine. Register now for this evening event — it sells out quickly. You must be at least 21 years old to attend.

*ZSM members' guests must register at same time as members. **VIP ticket holders get early entry at 6 p.m. and are entered into a drawing to win a behind-the-scenes tour of the Zoo. Your fee, less \$25, is tax-deductible and includes a complimentary etched wine glass (5.6% WI sales tax included). You must pre-register and you should do so early — this event usually sells out. All ticket sales are final and are not refundable.

Wine can be ordered at the event. However, Wisconsin state licensing laws do not allow us to sell wine at the event. You can pick up and pay for your order at Kensington Liquor (4496 N. Oakland Ave, Shorewood 53211). Discounts for larger purchases: 5% off for 6 to 11 bottles; 10% off for 12 or more. A percentage of all wine sales benefit the ZSM annual appeal for the red pandas.

Let's Zoo Some Zumba®

Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo

Feb. 28, 6-8 p.m.; registration at 5 p.m.

Entry fee: \$15; open to ages 14 and up. No experience or dance training needed. All fitness levels welcome. Event takes place in the Peck Welcome Center.

Pre-register at zoosociety.org/Zumba, or call 414-258-2333.

You're a member of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM), which means you love the animals at the Milwaukee County Zoo and care about their health. Why not do something healthy for yourself **and** support the Zoo's animals at the same time? You can if you participate in the second annual Zumbathon® Fitness Party fundraiser. Led by Zumba Jammer™ Rachel Beimel and other licensed Zumba® instructors, this fun-and-fitness event focuses on cardiovascular strength through easy-to-follow choreography set to upbeat world rhythms. Money raised benefits the ZSM's Sponsor an Animal program.

*Brian Kobasick and
Cathleen Mundt, both
of Milwaukee, bust
some Zumba® moves. ▼*



Photo by Richard Taylor

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- twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE
- Milwaukee Zoo Pass App
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Fun, Hands-on Zoo Classes

All classes are run by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM).

Unplug and Experience!

It's time to unplug your children's electronic gadgets and switch on their imaginations with Zoo Classes. At Zoo Classes your child can turn into an elephant, crawl into an ant tunnel or solve a Zoo mystery. "Research has shown that imaginative play is important in developing empathy, social skills, problem-solving and language skills," says MaryLynn Conter-Strack, enrichment program coordinator in the Conservation Education Department. "Parents tell us how much the classes benefit their child's development." In the 2-year-old Bugs class, children learn what butterflies eat by putting on wings and flying from flower to flower. In the Lemurs class for ages 4 to 5, children turn into lemurs and dig for insects in a log. Children ages 6 to 10 can learn about desert animals or the "magical" island of Madagascar, and 11- to 14-year-olds can learn about bonobos.

Spring Zoo Classes

It's not too late to sign up for Spring Zoo Classes! From bunnies for 2-year-olds to learning about the job of a wildlife biologist for 6- to 10-year-olds, there is a Zoo Class for every child. Registration for February-May 2015 Zoo Classes is open now.

Summer Camps

Online registration for Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices, begins on Feb. 4, 2015, for ZSM members. Go to zoosociety.org/Summer.

"Zoo to You" School Programs

Teachers, bring the Zoo to you! Education programs are available at the Zoo or as outreach to schools. Register now for January-May 2015 programs. To register: zoosociety.org/School.

zoosociety.org/education



Photo by Margot Padaric

Cameron M., of Waukesha, shows off his butterfly wings.



Memberanda

We value your relationship with the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM). The ZSM does not sell member/donor information to third parties, but may share limited information with the Milwaukee County Zoo for the purpose of confirming membership status.

Zoological Society office hours: Through April: Weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Zoo hours: Jan.-Feb. 28: Weekdays, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Weekends, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. March 1-May 22, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing hours. Zoo animal buildings close 30 minutes before posted Zoo closing time.

Payment information at Zoo admission gates: The Milwaukee County Zoo staff does not accept checks for Zoo Pass purchases or renewal payments at the Zoo's admission gates.

For tax-time tips, Zoo Pass benefits and other details, please see Tax Tips at: zoosociety.org/Membership/Things2Know.

Zoo Pass: The tax-deductible portions for the following categories are: Individual (Basic: \$60, Plus: \$71); Individual +1 or Couple (Basic: \$70, Plus: \$80); Individual +2, Family and Single Adult Family (Basic: \$75, Plus: \$95); Family +1 (Basic: \$94, Plus: \$104); Family +2 (Basic: \$101, Plus: \$113); Family +3 (Basic: \$117, Plus: \$126); Affiliate (Basic: \$154, Plus: \$157); Benefactor (Basic: \$218, Plus: \$220).

Reciprocal zoos and aquariums: We update our list of zoos and aquariums that offer reduced or free admission to our members with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) in February. We reciprocate only with AZA-accredited facilities and reserve the right to not reciprocate with zoos and aquariums within close proximity of the Milwaukee County Zoo. Please be sure to contact our office prior to your travels at 414-258-2333, or visit zoosociety.org/Reciprocal, if you have any questions.

Moving? Please call us when you change your address or name. Your call will save us money. If you've changed your address on your identification, replacement cards may be purchased with the new information for \$5.

WILD THINGS

Issue No. 116, January-March 2015

Wild Things is a membership newsletter published by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee six times a year: in January-March, April-May, June, July-August, September-October, November-December.

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Web: zoosociety.org

Summer Internship Opportunities

Do you know a college student who loves working with children? We are now accepting resumes for education interns for our 2015 Summer Camps. Interns assist instructors in the classroom, lead Zoo tours and supervise high school volunteers. For requirements go to zoosociety.org/Intern.

UWM Course at the Zoo for Teachers

Observing Animals at the Zoo: Behavior, a two-day University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee course for teachers (third grade through high school), will be held March 28 and 29 at the Milwaukee County Zoo. This course, run by the ZSM, focuses on animal behavior and how scientists observe animals. It runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Included are tours, discussions and activities to help teachers develop study units and learn how to use the Zoo as a teaching resource. This one-credit course can be taken for graduate or undergraduate credit. Call UWM Outreach at 414-229-5255 for information and registration.

“My son loves every single Zoo class he takes. Recently I asked him which class he wants me to sign him up for and he responded, ‘Mom, you don’t have to ask, just sign me up for EVERY class!’”

Sonja K.
Brookfield, Wis.



Photo by Bob Wickland

Workshop for Early-Childhood Educators

Primates is a three-hour workshop on March 21 for early-childhood educators. Workshop content is mainly for educators of ages 2 to 5. It includes animal background information, classroom station ideas, project samples and a Zoo tour. To register, call 414-258-5058 or download a registration form from zoosociety.org/TeacherEdu.

Children take a tour of the Zoo.

See Behind the Scenes

Behind the Scenes Weekend

Sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy

March 14 & 15, 10 a.m.-2:45 p.m., Milwaukee County Zoo

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with ID.

Non-members: \$11.75 adults; \$8.75 ages 3-12 (2 and under, free); and \$10.25 ages 60 and over. Milwaukee County parking fee: \$12. Call 414-256-5466 for information.

When you visit the Milwaukee County Zoo, you’re seeing only a fraction of what’s going on. Why not get a broader view and go behind the scenes? You can check out the kitchen in the Small Mammals Building to see the different foods the animals eat and how meals are prepared. In the basement of the Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC), you can see how thousands of gallons of aquarium water is maintained. Then visit the tortoises in their winter digs in the ARC. Go behind the lion dens in the big cats building and visit Winter Quarters where the warm-weather animals stay during the cold months — and more!

Ben B., 5, of Brookfield, checks out the damage a big cat has done to a vinyl ball.



Photo by Mary MacIntyre

Repast with the Rabbit

Breakfast and Lunch with the Bunny

Sponsored by Racine Danish Kringles

March 28 & 29, Milwaukee County Zoo

\$15 per child or adult; \$6 for children 2 & under.

Milwaukee County parking fee: \$12.

Registration required. We encourage you to register

online at milwaukeezoo.org starting Feb. 23

or call 414-256-5466.

It's not every day you can dine with an oversized rabbit. But on one of two days in March at the Milwaukee County Zoo, you can! Yep, the Easter Bunny or Mrs. Easter Bunny will be back. This pre-holiday celebration includes Zoo admission, live music, a gift for each child, and, of course, a hearty meal with sweet kringle. Breakfast is served at 9 a.m. on Saturday only, and lunch is served at noon on both days. After your meal in the Peck Welcome Center, head to the apes and primates exhibits, which you can reach through indoor corridors. Gorillas, bonobos, spider monkeys and orangutans are fun to watch.

Olivia S., 3, of Milwaukee, poses with the Bunny at last year's event.



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Eggs, Bunnies and FUN

Egg Day

Sponsored by Welch's and Pick 'n Save

April 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Milwaukee County Zoo

Free admission for Zoological Society members

with ID. Non-members: \$14.25 adults; \$13.25 ages

60 and over; \$11.25 ages 3-12; ages 2 & under, free.

Milwaukee County Zoo parking fee: \$12.

Call 414-256-5466 for details.

For many, coupling eggs with bunnies brings thoughts of spring. On April 4 at the Milwaukee County Zoo, you can see which animals will receive egg-shaped enrichment toys to play with. Kids can meet the Easter Bunny and participate in the Hop-to-it Bunny Scavenger Hunt at 10 a.m. Kids 8 and under can search for special Easter-themed tokens and redeem them for treats. Throughout the day you can visit the Primates of the World building and design a set of bunny ears. Then hop over to the Stearns Family Apes of Africa building to get a bunny nose and whiskers. Remember to visit the Aquatic & Reptile Center to color a paper egg to take home. At 2 p.m. you can march in the parade, which begins at the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm.



Photo by Richard Taylor

Kaylee C., 5, of New Berlin, proudly displays the Easter basket she decorated at last year's event.

RISE AND SHINE, BEARS

Zootastic!

Sponsored by Grow Hope @ SaintA

April 24, 5-9 p.m., Milwaukee County Zoo

Members: \$75 per family of four. Individual fees: \$15 children under 12; \$25 ages 13+.

Non-members: \$80 per family of four. Individual fees: \$20 children under 12; \$30 ages 13+.

Your fee, less \$10 per person, is tax-deductible.

Registration is limited and fills up fast. Register online at zoosociety.org/Zootastic or call 414-258-2333 by April 23. You must pre-register; fees are not refundable.

If you've missed seeing the bears at the Milwaukee County Zoo because they've been hibernating all winter, come to the Zoo on April 24 when they'll be out and about. You can learn all about bears and their amazing ability to hibernate at this family-friendly Zoological Society of Milwaukee fundraiser. In addition to the Zoo's bears, you can see the Bactrian camels, big cats, and apes and primates. Zookeepers will be on hand to answer all of your animal-related questions. Later, bust some dance moves to a kid-friendly DJ. Fill your tummy with cheesy Palermo's®



William S., 2, of Eagle, Wis., chomps into a big slice of pizza at a previous event.

Pizza and more. For dessert, make your own sundae at an ice cream sundae bar. Then, commemorate your night with a stop at the family photo station so you'll always remember the night you partied with the animals.

Annual Appeal

Cozy Habitat for Cuddly Critters

Red pandas look like living, breathing plush toys. That's one reason why the Milwaukee County Zoo's two red pandas — Genghis and Dash — deserve an even cozier habitat befitting their adorable appearance. For the 2014-15 annual appeal, we hope to make additions to the red panda exhibit, including:

- A taller, more secure structure to protect the red pandas from wild animals, such as raccoons, that can pass on diseases.
- A roof to provide shade on hot summer days because red pandas prefer cooler temperatures.
- More trees and branches for climbing, resting and watching Zoo guests.
- Special areas for enrichment activities and food treats to keep the pandas' minds active.

When construction is completed, the Zoo hopes to introduce young female red pandas to our males. Hopefully they'll produce little red pandas and create some panda-monium in the renovated exhibit!



Dash, the Zoo's young male red panda, enjoys a cool fall day.

DONATE HERE

To give to the Zoological Society's 2014-15 annual appeal, please see the flyer packaged with this magazine, go online to helpmczredpandas.com or call 414-258-2333.

All donations are tax-deductible.

The funds raised will help upgrade the red panda exhibit. Donors of \$100-\$249 have their names listed on a sign; donors of \$250-\$499 receive larger recognition on a sign; donors of \$500-\$999 receive individualized recognition; donors of \$1,000 or more receive larger individualized recognition; and donors of \$2,500 receive individualized recognition on a bench to be placed in the Milwaukee County Zoo. To comply with WI Statute Section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

Volunteering

Generations of Volunteers

Loree Raap shouldn't have been surprised when her daughter, Alexa, encouraged her to join Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM) volunteer auxiliary. After all, Loree instilled within Alexa a strong belief in the importance of volunteerism. As a child, Alexa and younger brother Nate both volunteered at the Milwaukee Public Museum and Greendale Public Library.

Before becoming a member of Zoo Pride, Alexa — now a sophomore at Alverno College — was a high school assistant for ZSM Summer Camps. "I wanted to volunteer with Zoo Pride to get more experience with kids and see the Zoo more often," she says. When she decided to join Zoo Pride, she thought it would be fun to make it a family affair. So she encouraged her mother, grandmother — Terry Protasiewicz — and brother to join her. "It didn't take much convincing to get us to join," says Loree, from Milwaukee. "We're a tightknit family; we love to be together and we love to volunteer." Zoo Pride was a particularly natural fit for Alexa and Nate. Both attended Zoo Classes as children, which kindled an interest in animals.

Terry, of Milwaukee, says the family volunteers in many locations at the Milwaukee County Zoo and for numerous events and activities, such as special summer exhibits, giraffe feedings, Zoo Halloween events, root beer float stations, face painting and more. For a number of summers, they've volunteered at the Kohl's Wild Theater (KWT)/Birds of Prey stage in the farm area. "It's nice to spend family time this way," says Terry. "It's also fun to meet other people my age. We have much in common." Loree enjoys volunteering at the KWT area because "the shows and the kids are so cute." Nate is partial to the Birds of Prey show. "I get to watch it, greet people and answer questions," he says.

Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Loree says there have been many memorable moments with Zoo Pride. She especially enjoys interacting with children. "When I volunteer for the behind-the-scenes events, children often ask if I'm a zookeeper," she says. One year Alexa volunteered as the Easter Bunny for a Zoo event. "I loved seeing the kids' faces when they'd first see me," she says. "Some kids even ran up to hug me."

Loree, Alexa, Terry and Nate at the Kohl's Wild Theater information station.



Join Zoo Pride

Zoo Pride is the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary. Get started in Zoo Pride with two-session Level I training. Volunteers who complete Level I can then choose to attend Level II, which consists of four sessions and allows more opportunities for volunteering. Spring Level I sessions run March 18 at 9 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. AND March 21 at 8:30 a.m. Spring level II sessions (on four days) run April 8 at 9 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. AND April 11, 8:30 a.m., April 15 at 9 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. AND April 18 at 9 a.m. There's also summer training in May and June. Level I: May 27 at 9 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. AND May 30 at 8:30 a.m. Level II sessions (on four days) run: June 3 at 9 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. AND June 6 at 8:30 a.m., June 10 at 9 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. AND June 13 at 9 a.m.

Admire Art

Trip to the Art Institute of Chicago

March 21, 2015, 7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$55 per adult (13 and older), \$45 per child (12 and under).

Register with form below, online at zoosociety.org/Travel or call 414-258-2333.

It's been more than 10 years since the Zoological Society of Milwaukee visited the Art Institute of Chicago. Now it's time to return and see what's new at this world-class museum. This year the museum's photography department celebrates its 40th anniversary with a special exhibit illustrating how photography has shaped our daily lives. With so much art to see, you'll no doubt work up an appetite. Conveniently, the Art Institute has three dining areas to choose from: Terzo Piano, the Museum Café and Caffé Moderno.

Please note that the following items are not allowed in the museum: art materials, backpacks and backpack baby carriers, bags, camera bags, purses larger than 13-by-17 inches, shopping bags, flowers, balloons, food and beverages, toys, tripods, camera flash attachments, video recorders, umbrellas and wrapped packages. All of the above with exception of food and drink can be checked in for a \$1 fee per item. Courtesy bags are available to carry valuable items with you. All bags are subject to security inspection.



Grant Wood, *American*, 1891-1942.
American Gothic, 1930. Oil on beaverboard.
78 x 65.3 cm (30 3/4 x 25 3/4 in.)
The Art Institute of Chicago,
Friends of American Art Collection.

SPRING TRIP TO THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Name(s) of Traveler(s) _____

Zoological Society Membership No. _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone: Day (_____) _____ Phone: Eve. (_____) _____

If you wish to travel on the same motor coach with a person who is sending in a separate reservation, please indicate his/her name _____

Please reserve _____ spaces for Adults (\$55)

Please reserve _____ spaces for Kids 12 & Under (\$45)

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Credit Card: Please charge my: Visa MasterCard

Acct. No. _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____ (Last 3 digits in signature area on back of credit card)

Signature _____ Print Name _____

as it appears on credit card

Check: Make payable to **ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY** and mail this order form with payment to:
ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO 2015, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd.,
Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

Trip includes a continental breakfast with coffee, pastry, bagels, fresh fruit, juice and milk in the Flamingo Café at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Your fee also includes transportation on restroom-equipped motor coaches and a snack bag and beverage on the return trip. (Note to those with allergies: Snacks may include dairy and peanut byproducts.) Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. at the Zoo; we will leave at 8:30 a.m. We will depart Chicago at 4:30 p.m. and return to the Zoo around 6:30 p.m. An itinerary will be mailed prior to the trip. This excursion is open only to Zoological Society members and their guests. Register now because space is limited.

Cancellations prior to March 6, 2015, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after March 6, 2015, are not refundable. Call 414-258-2333 for more information. Trip cost is not tax-deductible. To comply with WI Statute Section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

TAKE A TURTLE TOUR

If you want to design the ultimate reptile, base your design on *Testudines*, the order of reptiles consisting of turtles and tortoises. Their tried-and-true design first appeared on earth some 200 million years ago, making them one of the most ancient living reptile orders. "Although some lizards began to appear around the same time — and there are far more lizard species than turtle species — turtles are unique because they're found worldwide in temperate and tropical climates, both on land and at sea," says Craig Berg, curator of reptiles and aquarium at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

The Zoo has nine species of *Testudines* that you can see on exhibit. So let's take a turtle tour of the Zoo! First, a quick primer on the difference between turtles and tortoises: Freshwater and saltwater *Testudines* are called turtles. (Turtles living in slightly salty waters are also called terrapins). Tortoises live only on land.

By Zak Mazur

Photo by Richard Brodzeller



African spurred tortoises

The Zoo has three of these large tortoises. You can see them during the warm months in the Bongo Exhibit between the African Savanna and Hippo Exhibits.

FACT! The African spurred tortoise is the largest continental tortoise in the world. Males weigh 125 to 150 pounds, but have been recorded at more than 200 pounds!

Photo by Bob Wickland

Spotted turtle

The Zoo has one spotted turtle, located near the exit of the Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC).

FACT! Spotted turtles' yellow spots grow in number as they get older, but some may grow only a few spots.

Snake-necked turtle

This turtle is housed with the spotted turtle. It's easily identifiable by its long neck.

FACT! When feeling threatened, snake-necked turtles emit a strong, fowl-smelling fluid from their musk glands.



A snake-necked turtle rests his head on a spotted turtle.



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Yellow-footed tortoises

In the South American Yard during the warm months you can see two of the Zoo's three yellow-footed tortoises. The third tortoise lives in the Bactrian Camel Yard.

FACT! These tortoises eat a variety of leaves, vines, roots, bark, fruits, flowers, fungi, insects, snails and... soil, sand and pebbles! It is thought these abrasive objects assist with digestion.

Red-eared slider

There are two red-eared sliders in the ARC's Chinese Alligator Exhibit and one in the Lake Wisconsin Exhibit.

FACT! The temperature of the soil where the red-eared slider eggs are incubated determines the gender of the hatchlings.



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Giant Amazon River turtle

Onassis is one of the Zoo's most famous animals. You'll find her slowly swimming in the Flooded Forest Exhibit in the ARC.

FACT! Onassis is the oldest animal at the Zoo. She arrived as an adult in 1969 and is estimated to be between 80 and 100 years old!



Photo by Bob Wickland



Photos by Richard Brodzeller

Ornate box turtle

The Zoo's ornate box turtle also lives in the ARC, located between the prehensile-tailed skink to the right and tomato frogs to the left.

FACT! These turtles are terrestrial, and in that sense are tortoise-like. They are found throughout the Great Plains but are endangered in Wisconsin. The Zoo, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, ran a head-start program for these turtles from 1996 to 2013. "Of the 1,120 turtles released during the program, 336 got their start here," says Berg.

Common map turtles

The ARC has two of these turtles, both located in Lake Wisconsin.

FACT! When basking in the sun, female map turtles often stack on top of one another.



Photo by Bob Wickland



Stock photo

Painted turtles

There are five painted turtles in Lake Wisconsin.

FACT! Painted turtles are the most wide spread turtle species in North America, you can find them from southern Canada all the way south to Mexico.

Insider Tips

Young Emu Seeks Role Model

It's common for youngsters to idolize older kids and want to be around them all the time. Sometimes the big kids don't feel the same way. "Scram kid. Make like a tree and leave!" There's a similar dynamic between young emu Palmer and older Arnold — or at least that's what it looks like through human eyes. Palmer, the Milwaukee County Zoo's newest emu, lives in the Australia Building and arrived at the Zoo on Oct. 17. He's almost a year old. "He seems to always want to be with Arnold," says Dawn Fleuchaus, area supervisor for North America and the Australia Building. But 21-year-old Arnold isn't very interested in Palmer. "It's probably because it's breeding season and Arnold has other things on his mind."

Emus are large, flightless birds native to Australia. Fleuchaus describes them as having beautiful, almond-shaped eyes with long brown eyelashes. For now, Arnold and Palmer take turns going outside. Inside they are separated by mesh so they can get to know one another.

Palmer was acquired by the Zoo to be a companion to Arnold because Ella, Arnold's mate, died in 2013. Fleuchaus is confident the two will become companions in the future because emus naturally flock together. She says the Zoo's emus like to interact with zookeepers. "They're inquisitive and somewhat trainable. Arnold likes to be petted at times." It remains to be seen if Palmer will want to engage in similar interactions with his zookeepers. But for now it's clear he definitely wants to tag along with Arnold. This winter, come and say "Hi" to Palmer and Arnold. If they happen to be together, Arnold is the taller bird.

By Zak Mazur



Photo by Bob Wickland

Palmer explores the yard in front of the Australia Building.



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

A Nigerian dwarf goat in the Goat Yard.

neck and shoulder blades meet). "They grow slowly, so the goats will still be about knee high next summer," says Guglielmi.

The main reason the Zoo acquired these goats is because the current herd can no longer have offspring. "Some of the goats have skin issues, and so the breeding males have been neutered," says Guglielmi. "The new Nigerian dwarf goats are hearty. We hope to get six to seven more next summer and start a breeding program." Goats typically have two to three kids per birth. Guglielmi says the Zoo's herd will grow quickly. She doesn't know how large it will get, but when Guglielmi started working at the Zoo in 1992, there were 142 goats, more than triple what there are now.

Guglielmi says Nigerian dwarf goats will be in the Goat Yard next summer. "They're friendly and do not bite. If they follow you it's because they want a treat," she says. "They make great petting goats because they don't mind big crowds." So next year when you're in the Goat Yard, feel free to approach the pint-sized goats, feed them and pet them all you want — just don't pick them up.

By Zak Mazur

Weak Beak Made Strong

Prosthetic technology is constantly advancing and has helped millions lead more normal lives. Sometimes the technology can even help animals, like Bottle Rocket (Rocket for short), a male sandhill crane at the Milwaukee County Zoo. "When he arrived in early June with his female companion, Sparkler, he had a broken bill, and it had to be fixed at the Animal Health Center," says Dawn Fleuchaus, area supervisor for North America and the Australia Building. "He had to learn how to eat with his new beak. As his natural beak grew, the prosthetic fell off and once again we had to help him get used to eating." Now, says Fleuchaus, Rocket's beak is completely mended.

Sandhill cranes are abundant in North America. They migrate in large flocks — sometimes in the tens of thousands — at altitudes as high as 12,000 feet. They form strong, lifelong mating bonds. The Zoo's two sandhill cranes were both born last June at a Wisconsin rehabilitation facility. Although they are bonded, they weren't brought here to mate because the species is hearty. Rocket and Sparky (their names were inspired by the Fourth of July, around the time they arrived) live in the Moose Yard. Rocket is banded on his right leg and Sparky on her left leg. According to Fleuchaus, Rocket will likely do a lot of display dancing for Sparky in spring, so make sure to check them out.



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

The Zoo's two new sandhill cranes.

By Zak Mazur

The Mob is Growing

Watch out! The mob is growing at the Milwaukee County Zoo — the kangaroo mob, that is. The Zoo recently added three females to the group — or mob — of five red kangaroos at the Australia Building. Keepers hope the new kangaroos will help the mob grow even bigger by giving birth to joeys. "Willeroo, our breeding male, has shown no interest in the females we have now, who are all 9 years old," says zookeeper Laurie Talakowski. "So we're bringing in a younger group." The new kangaroos are considered yearlings, all born in summer 2013 at Dickerson Park Zoo in Springfield, Mo.



A new red kangaroo.

Photo by Richard Brodzeller

If 4-year-old Willeroo likes the new kangaroos, named Ama, Anastasia and Angel, the mob could quickly add several joeys. Female red kangaroos are capable of nurturing three joeys at once — one in the uterus, one in the pouch and one nursing out of the pouch. "When the climate is right, they can really be prolific," Talakowski says. Gestation lasts just 33 days, which is short for a mammal, but not for a marsupial. Then the grape-sized joey crawls to its mother's pouch, where it will live for about six months. Willeroo could breed with all of the new females, tripling the chances for joeys.

The Zoo has plenty of room for more red kangaroos, says Dawn Fleuchaus, supervisor of the Zoo's North America and Australia areas. The last joey born was in 2011.

The kangaroos have access to the outdoor exhibit all year long, and they also can be seen indoors in the Australia Building. Hopefully we'll see one or two little ones among them soon!

By Stacy Vogel Davis

Helping Hands

Want to give a helping hand? Whether you're excited about our events, education programs or conservation efforts, you can help! Details on the Web: zoosociety.org/Support.

Photo by Richard Brodzeller



Carol Fannin, of Greenfield, shows her grandsons that camels at the Milwaukee County Zoo are adapted to snow and are quite warm in their camel hair coats at a previous free day.

Free Days for Family Fun

Exotic animals, free admission and good ol' fashioned family fun proved to be a winning combination for the Milwaukee County Zoo's six 2014 Family Free Days. A total of 30,637 zoogoers attended the free-admission Saturdays sponsored by **North Shore Bank** and media sponsor **FOX 6**. During a frigid winter, guests could warm up in the Zoo's indoor buildings to see apes, monkeys, birds and more. When weather was good, the North Shore Bank Safari Train took visitors on a winding rail tour of the Zoo. Visit zoosociety.org for 2015 Family Free Days, which are also sponsored by **North Shore Bank** (media sponsor: **FOX 6**).

Photo by Olga Kornienko



Boo at the Zoo for You

Children and families enjoyed a night of dancing lights and fun frights at Boo at the Zoo, sponsored by **Sendik's Food Markets** held Oct. 17 and 18. Guests channeled Edgar Allan Poe as they boarded the "Raven's Rail" train. A dazzling light show guided zoogoers through Wolf Woods. Costumed characters roamed the grounds and hundreds of jack-o'-lanterns, carved by Zoo Pride volunteers, glowed eerily near the feline mall. A total of 9,415 people attended the event despite rain on one evening.

Louie S., 1, of Brookfield, gets a ride on dad Chad's shoulders at the event.

Funtacular at Spooktacular

Halloween is about dressing up in costumes. But for kids, trick-or-treating is just as important — if not more! At Halloween Spooktacular, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, kids roamed the Zoo grounds collecting treats on Oct. 24 and 25. Guests also marched in a parade, got lost in a haystack maze and saw animals such as elephants smash and eat treat-filled pumpkins. Caramel apples were available in the Peck Welcome Center, and guests learned about the importance of bats at the Small Mammals Building. A total of 22,008 people attended the event.

Brews, Eats & Cats

More than 650 guests enjoyed a night of food, beer and Zoo-time cheer at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Zoo Brew event Oct. 23. MillerCoors helped support the event by providing sample-sized beer tasting glasses. Zoo Brew offered guests samplings from area breweries and restaurants. Between munching on chicken wings and indulging in chocolate cake, guests could fill their mugs with beer from 33 breweries. They could also hop a shuttle to the Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country to sip their selections while watching the Zoo's big cats. Zoogoers who purchased VIP tickets to the event were admitted an hour early and had a special chance to win a private behind-the-scenes Zoo tour. The annual fundraiser — which raised \$33,925 — helped support the Zoological Society's 2014-15 annual appeal to enhance the Zoo.

Kyle Davis (left), of Milwaukee, chats with friends Erin Hallerin and Scott Gagnon, both of Milwaukee, at the event.



Photo by Richard Taylor

Twins Jackson (in red shirt), and Sawyer F, 3, of Jackson, have fun in the haystack maze during the event.



Photo by Richard Taylor

A SAFARI IN CHICAGO



Spring Trip to Chicago's Brookfield Zoo

May 2, 2015; 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$55 per person, ages 12-64; \$45 seniors and children ages 3-11; ages 2 and under, \$30.

Register with form below, online at zoosociety.org/Travel or by calling 414-258-2333.

Let's go on a safari to Chicago's Brookfield Zoo! On May 2, we'll explore this wonderful 216-acre animal park and see exotic animals such as okapis, klipspringers, naked mole-rats and many more. Make sure to look for animal artifact stations set up throughout the zoo. Roving naturalists and volunteer docents dressed in safari gear or bright yellow shirts can answer your animal-related questions. Your one-day pass includes general admission as well as attractions like Dolphins in Action, Motor Safari (similar to the Milwaukee County Zoo's motorized tour trams) and the carousel. The Zoological Society of Milwaukee and the Brookfield Zoo do not reciprocate free admission, so take advantage of this field trip!



Stock photo

A klipspringer.

Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. on May 2, 2015, at the Zoo with a boxed continental breakfast featuring pastries, bagels, fresh fruit, coffee, milk and juice. Our buses depart at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at the Brookfield Zoo at 9:30 a.m. There will be a snack bag and beverages on the return trip. (Note to those with allergies: Snacks may include dairy and peanut byproducts.) We depart from Chicago at 4:30 p.m. and return to the Zoo by 6:30 p.m. An itinerary will be mailed prior to the trip. For questions or additional information, please call 414-258-2333.

BROOKFIELD ZOO TRIP

Name(s) of Traveler(s) _____

Zoological Society Membership No. _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone: Day (_____) _____ Phone: Eve. (_____) _____

If you wish to travel on the same motor coach with a person who is sending in a separate reservation, please indicate his/her name _____

Please reserve the following _____ number of spaces.

Adults _____ (ages 12-64), \$55 per person

Seniors _____ (65+), \$45 per person

Children _____ (3-11), \$45 per person

Children _____ (2 and under), \$30 per child

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Credit Card: Please charge my: Visa MasterCard

Acct. No. _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____ (Last 3 digits in signature area on back of credit card)

Signature _____ Print Name _____



Okapis
Stock photo

as it appears on credit card

Check: Make payable to **ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY** and mail this order form with payment to:

BROOKFIELD ZOO TRIP, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

Space is limited. Cancellations through April 17, 2015, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after April 17, 2015, are not refundable. Call 414-258-2333 for more information. Trip cost is not tax-deductible. To comply with WI Statute Section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

Supporting the Zoo with Carved Giraffes



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

(Top) Holger and
Mary Beth Petersen.
(Right) Giraffe carvings.



Photo by Bob Wickland

When you enter Holger and Mary Beth Petersen's high-rise apartment, the first thing you notice is Lake Michigan gleaming in the distance. Immediately afterward you see something else: a sculpture of an 8-foot-tall towering male giraffe flanked by a female and baby giraffe, all exquisitely carved from highly polished wood and positioned to literally greet guests. "People see the giraffes and stop talking," says Mary Beth, who works at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin as the senior organization development coach. "Then they go up and look at the giraffes." Love of animals drove the Petersens to become members of the Platypus Circle, the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) special donor group, as well as to organize a planned legacy gift. As part of their support of the ZSM, they've donated seven of their 12 carved giraffes for Zoo Ball auctions over the years.

The Petersens' attraction to giraffes and the start of their collection began in 2004 when they attended the wedding of a relative in Nairobi, Kenya. During their stay, they passed a shop in downtown Nairobi that sold carvings. "We were attracted to the giraffe carvings," says Mary Beth. While in Kenya they also went

on a safari. "We loved the elephants, but the giraffes were particularly striking to us," says Holger, a retired sales engineer for General Electric Co. Mary Beth elaborates: "We saw a herd running. We were entranced by their beautiful, fluid gait." They returned to the shop and bought a giraffe carving small enough to fit in their carry-on luggage. Over the years, they kept in contact with the shop owners and bought a total of 12 carvings, purchasing the last one in 2009. They all came in large crates via airfreight. "A couple are 8 feet tall," says Holger. "They can weigh 80 to 100 pounds." One of the things that makes the carvings so valuable is that the wood they are carved from is no longer available. "The seven we donated to the Zoological Society were ebony, a black wood," says Holger. "Ours are a special kind of rosewood and mahogany." Holger says the carvings are made from a single piece of wood that is dried for four to five years. The carvings have to be specially treated or kept in climate-controlled conditions. The carver, a Kenyan known only as Mwaitu, is deceased.

The Petersens enjoy being Platypus Circle members. "It's a great way to help the Zoological Society's conservation programs," says Holger. "We encourage others to do the same." Mary Beth encourages people to attend Zoo Ball so they can place bids on the remaining carved giraffes in the auction. "Whoever gets one will be acquiring a beautiful carving that promotes love of animals and African craftsmanship."

By Zak Mazur

Make a Planned Gift – Simba Circle

The Simba Circle recognizes the extraordinary people who have already established a planned gift benefiting the ZSM. For more information on creating your planned gift, please visit our website at zoosociety.org/simba or contact Kim Peterson in the Development office at 414-258-2333 or email at kimp@zoosociety.org.





Zoological Society of Milwaukee County
 10005 W. Bluemound Rd.
 Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383
 414-258-2333

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Photo by Richard Taylor

What's Happening

Details Inside

Jan. 3, Feb. 7 & March 7

Family Free Day at the Zoo, sponsored by North Shore Bank; media sponsor FOX 6; 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*

Jan. 18

Samson Stomp & Romp at the Zoo, sponsored by Amica Insurance (pre-register at 414-256-5466).

Jan. 31

Join the Kids Conservation Club and register for the next workshop about an endangered animal (to join and pre-register, 414-258-2333).

Feb. 2

Groundhog Day, 10:30 a.m. ceremony at the Zoo.*

Feb. 4

Members-only online registration begins for Zoological Society of Milwaukee Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices.

Feb. 5

Puttin' on the Ritz fundraiser, sponsored by Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek, at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino (pre-register).

Feb. 28

Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo (pre-register).*

March 1

Zoo hours change to 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily.

March 5

The ZSM's Wines and Beers of the World, 7-10 p.m. (pre-register).

March 14 & 15

Behind the Scenes Weekend at the Zoo, sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy.*

March 18, 21, April 8, 11, 15 & 18

Zoo Pride volunteer training. Call 414-258-5667.

March 21

Members-only Zoological Society field trip to the Art Institute of Chicago (pre-register).

March 28 & 29

Breakfast & Lunch with the Bunny, sponsored by Racine Danish Kringles (pre-register).

April 4

Egg Day at the Zoo, sponsored by Welch's and Pick 'n Save, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*

April 24

Zootastic! at the Zoo, 5-9 p.m., sponsored by Grow Hope @ SaintA (pre-register).+

May 2

Members-only Zoological Society field trip to the Brookfield Zoo (pre-register).

May 27, 30, June 3, 6, 10 & 13

Zoo Pride volunteer training. Call 414-258-5667.*

May 10

Mother's Day at the Zoo, sponsored by Lifeway Foods.**

May 16 & 17

Party for the Planet at the Zoo, sponsored by American Transmission Co.**

May 18

Members-only online registration begins for Snooze at the Zoo (non-member registration begins May 19).+

May 23

Zoo's summer season begins; special summer exhibit, Expedition Dinosaur, sponsored by Sendik's Foods Markets, opens.+

May 23

Zoo's hours change to 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.

May 23

Kohl's Wild Theater performances return to the Zoo.*

*Zoological Society members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass. Those with Zoo Pass Plus also get free parking for one car per membership per day.

+More details in the April issue of Wild Things.

