

Wild Things



New sea lion pup!
see page 15

Feast & Make Merry

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte

With major support from MillerCoors

August 19-21, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. August 22, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with Zoo Pass card & ID.

For others: adults, \$13.25; ages 3-12, \$10.25; ages 2 & under, free; ages 60+, \$12.25;

Value (multi-day) tickets (\$26 adults; \$18 children) are available for purchase starting July 26 at Tri City National Bank locations.

Milwaukee County parking fee: \$11 (Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking)

For information, call (414) 256-5466 or check Web site: www.milwaukeezoo.org



In a city famous for its summer festivals, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte takes the prize for the "wildest" fest around. As always, this food-and-music event at the Milwaukee County Zoo features extended hours, live music, tasty treats and animal sightings galore. This year again, you can purchase food from the booths of nearly 30 Milwaukee-area restaurants such as the Bonefish Grill and Palms Bistro & Bar. Then take in live rock and jazz music on six stages, one of which is sponsored by Kalahari Waterpark Resort, throughout the Zoo. This year's headline acts include the Stray Cat Lee Rocker (Aug. 19); Gin Blossoms (Aug. 20); Jon Anderson, the voice of Yes (Aug. 21); and Light Up-A Tribute to Styx (Aug. 22). Other fun includes wine tastings for adults at the Giraffe Village Wine Tent. The entire park and all animal buildings will be open well

into the evenings (the aviary closes at dusk). Plus, you can see the original big eaters at the Zoo's special summer exhibit, Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by Lowe's (\$2.50 per person admission; see page 3 for story).

Photo: Chad and Victoria Wesielewski of Milwaukee shared french fries at the event last year.

Family Fest

Kids' Nights

Sponsored by WaterStone Bank

July 13, 15 OR 16, 5:15-9 p.m. (Tuesday, Thursday or Friday)

Free admission with Zoological Society Zoo Pass card & ID.

Reduced Milwaukee County parking fee: \$10 from 5:15 to 8:30 p.m.

(Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking)

Your invitation was mailed in June (come to any one of the three nights)

The kids will love this family night at the Zoo with dancing, dinos, dining out, skateboarding demonstrations, donkeys and other Zoo denizens. This after-hours mini-fest is for Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) members only. The entire Milwaukee County Zoo and all animal buildings will be open (the aviary closes at dusk). All three evenings feature the same activities, including a strolling juggler; meals for purchase from booths of Milwaukee-area restaurants; and the Extravaganzoo Sale with fun hippo grab bags. Enjoy half-price admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit, Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by Lowe's, starting at 3 p.m. each day of the event (ZSM members must present their Zoo Pass card and photo ID; see page 3 for story). Rest of event starts at 5:15 p.m. For details, see zoosociety.org/kidsnights. **Photo:** Zoe Laulederkind (left) and Lainie Sanders, both 13 and of Wauwatosa, take on a giant slice of pizza at the Zoo. **Special Offer:** Visit any WaterStone Bank, show your Zoo Pass card, and get one ticket good for a free ride on the Penzeys Spices Carousel during Kids' Nights. Tickets available at all bank branches; visit www.WSOnline.com for locations.

Members only



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Connect With Us:

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 youtube.com/MilwaukeeCountyZoo

Age 55+? Here's your day

Senior Celebration

Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan

Senior Health

Media sponsor: 50 Plus

Friday, Sept. 3

Free Zoo admission 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for seniors ages 55 and older with an ID.

Milwaukee County Zoo parking fee: \$11 (Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking)

From animal sightings to live music, there will be plenty to do at this Milwaukee County Zoo event for seniors. Test your mettle in Senior Olympics, take an exercise class led by a physical therapist from Wheaton Franciscan and stroll the Zoo grounds. For a pick-me-up, enjoy complimentary coffee, cookies and ice cream (first-come-first-served). Other fun includes bingo and entertainment on two stages, both sponsored by Humana MarketPOINT. For details, call the Zoo at (414) 256-5466.

Photo: Janet Stanfield Kovacich, of Waukesha, takes a picture of her parents, Robert and Betty Stanfield, of West Bend, in front of the giraffes at last year's outing.



COOL APPEAL

If you spot digging near the Milwaukee County Zoo's seal and polar bear habitats this summer, it's our annual appeal in progress! The Zoological Society is helping the Zoo to improve habitats for these popular animals. The polar bear and seal areas are getting shade structures so the animals can cool off on exhibit during hot weather. Other improvements include revamped rockwork in the seal habitat to help zookeepers give talks to the public, and a Web cam in the polar bear den. Please consider giving to the appeal to help us finish construction. Call (414) 258-2333 or go online at zoosociety.org/appeal2010. Some giving levels include individual recognition on a board and behind-the-scenes tours. **Photo:** A seal at the Zoo. By Rick Heinlein



Memberanda

WILD THINGS

Issue No. 89, July 2010

Wild Things is a membership newsletter published by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee six times a year:

February-March; April-May; June; July-August;
September-October; November-January.

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For Zoo Pass benefits and other details,
please see zoosociety.org/memberinfo.

Zoological Society office hours through Sept. 6: Weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; weekends, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Zoo hours through Sept. 6:** Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing hours.** The animal buildings close 15 minutes before posted Zoo closing time.

Company Picnics: For members visiting the Zoo with a company picnic, Zoo Pass members' free-admission or free parking benefits do not apply. The fees paid for company picnics include admission and parking and usually include additional Zoo-visit benefits.

Who can use member cards? The person(s) named on the Zoo Pass is the owner of the card, and benefits are not transferable to anyone else. We need to have the number of members' minor children/grandchildren in your household reflected in your membership records for the Zoo's admission gates. Foster children are covered on your membership. **Day-care providers for children: Your Zoo Pass membership does not cover children for whom you provide baby-sitting or day-care services.** The ZSM and the Zoo retain the right to invalidate any membership being used inappropriately.

New myAccount Feature: Check our Web site, www.zoopass.com, for information on setting up your personal ZSM myAccount. (The myAccount button is at the top of the page.) This new feature will give you online access to your Zoo Pass membership information. Just having a Zoo Pass does not automatically mean you have a myAccount. You need to create your myAccount and enter a personal password to access this feature. Then you can track your paperless Zoo attraction coupon use, determine the tax-deductible portion of your contributions, update your e-mail or home address, and quickly complete transactions such as renewing your Zoo Pass. We will highlight new features as they are developed.



Discover the DINOS

Adventure Dinosaur!

Sponsored by Lowe's

Now-Sept. 6 daily (opens 9:30 a.m.)

\$2.50 per person exhibit admission

Next to the Small Mammals Building

You can see a real-life "Jurassic Park" at the Milwaukee County Zoo's special exhibit this summer. Think 29 life-size, robotic dinosaur replicas that move, make noises and even spit water! This exhibit returns to the Zoo after a four-year absence with eight new dinos. One such specimen is the *Styracosaurus*, which looks like a modern-day rhino. This dinosaur had a horn on its nose and four to six horns on its neck.

Another new-to-the Zoo dino is the 10-foot-tall *Megalosaurus*. Did you know this was the first dinosaur species ever discovered? Its bones were found in England in the 17th century. This dino was also the first to be featured in scientific literature and popular culture. These days, you can get the scoop on dinosaurs on exhibit graphics at the Zoo. **Photo by Rick Heinlein:** *Cryolophosaurus*.

Relax to Zoo Music

Sunset Zoofaris

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank

July 7, 14, 21, 28 & Aug. 4, 6-9 p.m.

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with Zoo Pass and photo ID

Non-members: Adults, \$6.50; ages 3-12, \$5.50; or \$18 per carload. No parking fee.

For details, call (414) 771-3040

Enjoy summer evenings at the Milwaukee County Zoo on five Wednesdays this July and August. You can dance to live music and stroll the entire park (the aviary closes at dusk). See if you can spot jaguar Pat the Cat frolicking in his outdoor exhibit. Or catch Happy the hippo enjoying his new outdoor digs. The Zoo's special summer exhibit, Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by Lowe's, also will be open (admission is \$2.50 per person; see story above). The bands play between 6:15 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. on the Flamingo Café patio (in bad weather, they'll be in the Flamingo Café.) The bands are Pinstripe (rock, July 7), 5 Card Studs ('60s and '70s hits, July 14), LoveMonkeys (rock, pop and reggae, July 21), Heat (Top 40 and rock, July 28) and Dirty Boogie (pop and rock, Aug. 4). Purchase dinner in the Zoo's restaurants and dine alfresco. The Zoo closes at its regular weekday time of 5 p.m., and then re-opens at 6 p.m. for this event. **Photo:** Dana Parisi of West Allis dances with her daughter, Jade, 2, at one of the events last summer.



RIDE ON THE WILD SIDE, Sunday, September 19, 2010

Name & age: _____
 Name & age: _____
 Address _____
 City, State, ZIP _____
 Phone (Day) _____ Phone (Eve) _____
 Zoological Society Membership No. (if applicable) _____
 E-mail: _____

Entry Fees Enclosed* (Circle which apply & fill in fees):

	<i>Member</i>		<i>Non-Member</i>		<i>Day of Ride</i>
	<i>Zoo Society</i>				
Adult (14 & over)	\$30	\$35	\$38	\$	_____
Child (2-13)	\$12	\$15	\$18	\$	_____
Family of 4	\$70	\$80	\$85	\$	_____

Please choose route:
 27-mile ride
 17-mile ride
 2.5-mile ride

* Entry fee is not tax-deductible. Sales tax included. To comply with WI statute section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

To register teams: _____ Sub-total \$ _____
 (414) 258-2333 **Total Amount Enclosed** \$ _____

* Entry fee includes entry into the Zoo, parking, continental breakfast and picnic lunch, and one long-sleeved T-shirt. Please circle size wanted and state quantity:

Adult: _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL **Child:** _____ 6-8 _____ 10-12 _____ 14-16

Due to printing deadlines, only limited sizes of shirts will be available for participants whose registrations are received after Sept. 15. T-shirts not guaranteed for day-of-ride registrants. Children under age 2 may ride free in a bike seat or be pulled in "carriers." They must wear a helmet. Shirts are not available for kids age 2 and under.

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 Card

Check Make payable to Zoological Society and send with form to:
Bike Ride, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226

Chicago Shedd Aquarium Field Trip, Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010

Zoological Society of Milwaukee Member # _____
 Name(s) of Traveler(s) _____
 Your Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, ZIP _____
 Phone (Day) _____ Phone (Eve) _____

If you wish to travel with another person or group who is sending in a separate reservation, please indicate the name (s): _____

Please reserve _____ spaces at \$45 per person (ages 3+)
 Please reserve _____ spaces at \$30 per person (ages 2 & under) **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 Card

Check Make payable to: Zoological Society of Milwaukee. Send with form* and payment to:
Shedd Trip, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226

* Space is limited. No reservations before July 12, 2010. Cancellations through Sept. 3, 2010, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after Sept. 3 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.

Ride With the Critters

Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride

Sponsored by The Wisconsin Heart Hospital and Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare-St. Joseph

Media sponsors: FM 106.1, AM 920 The Wolf and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Sunday, Sept. 19, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Register with form at left (must be received by Sept. 15), online at www.zoosociety.org (by Sept. 15) or call (414) 258-2333 for a brochure.

Day-of-event registrations accepted.

While adults love the scenic routes of this bike ride, kids have a new reason to join the special mini-ride this year. Children can show off their favorite animal toys in the Critter Caravan, our 2.5-mile kids' route through the Zoo.

The animal toy can ride in a bike basket or in a backpack or even on the handlebars (if it's small)! Plus, after the ride, kids and their plush pet can head to the Kids' 'n Critters Corral to grab a snack, get a temporary tattoo, decorate helmets and create crafts. This Zoological Society biking fundraiser on Sept. 19 includes two distance rides (17 and 27 miles) that start at the Milwaukee County Zoo and continue north along Menomonee River Parkway and the '76 bike trail. Rides start at 8 and 8:15 a.m., and all routes begin and end at the Zoo Terrace. The registration fee includes entry to the Zoo and parking, a continental breakfast, a picnic lunch and a long-sleeve T-shirt. **Photo:** Connor Knollenberg, 7, of Whitefish Bay, carries a giraffe toy he might bring to the Critter Caravan.



Photo by Rick Heinlein

Trip to Chicago's Shedd Aquarium

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010, 6:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Cost: \$45 per person (ages 3+); \$30 per person age 2 & under

Register starting July 12 with form at left, online at www.zoosociety.org or by calling (414) 258-2333.

From a baby Beluga whale to Magellanic penguins, Chicago's Shedd Aquarium is home to more than 32,500 marine animals. Travel with the Zoological Society to meet some of these fantastic creatures. New attractions at the Shedd include "Fantasea," an interactive aquatic show that features dolphins, Beluga whales, penguins and even hawks. Favorite exhibits include Amazon Rising (with animals from South America's Amazon River), Caribbean Reef (a 360-degree tour of an underwater reef community) and Wild Reef (an up-close view of sharks and corals). For kids, there's a Polar Play Zone with hands-on activities.

Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. at the Milwaukee County Zoo with a continental breakfast that includes doughnuts, cinnamon rolls, bagels, fresh fruit, coffee, milk and juice. Buses depart at 7:30 a.m. from the Zoo and arrive at the Shedd at 10 a.m. Enjoy lunch at one of the Shedd's three restaurants (lunch cost not included in trip fee). Trip fee includes continental breakfast; admission to the aquarium, Oceanarium show, and Shedd exhibits, including Wild Reef; transportation on restroom-equipped motor coaches; beverages donated by PepsiAmericas; and a snack bag on the return trip. (Note to those with allergies: Snacks may include dairy and peanut byproducts.) We leave the Shedd at 5:15 p.m. An itinerary will be mailed prior to the trip. Because of the variability in third-class mail delivery, we want to make sure all of our members receive this notice before we accept reservations. Registration begins on July 12, 2010. See form at left.

From Page to Nature

From odes to bees and bats to verses celebrating elk and eagles, you can see poetry “in the wild” this summer at the Milwaukee County Zoo. It’s all part of the Language of Conservation project, presented in partnership by the Milwaukee County Zoo and the Milwaukee Public Library. This program features permanent installations with excerpts from 54 poems, all about wildlife or nature. Selected by the Zoo’s honorary poet, Pattiann Rogers, and designed by the Zoological Society’s Creative Department, the displays make poetry come alive. Look for poems written on railings, displayed in metal sculptures and projected above aquariums. A special poetry hunt will be part of our Aug. 28 animal sponsor event (see story at right).



Photo by Rick Heinlein

Begin your poetry tour in front of the Zoo’s entrance atrium viewing lines from a famous William Blake poem that starts with “To see a World in a Grain of Sand.” From there, walk to the Flamingo Café patio to see a selection by modern poet Wendell Berry. It’s displayed on a flowerbed in a clear plastic sign that sways with the wind. Then check out the Peck Welcome Center boardwalk—heads up! A poem from the Navajo Indian tribe is displayed on the rafters, line by line. Be sure to stop in the Aquatic & Reptile Center, where a poem about moon jellies is projected above their tank. On the Lakeview Place restaurant deck, a famous Walt Whitman verse – “Give me the splendid silent sun with all his beams full-dazzling” – hangs in metal letters from the ceiling. Across the way, a poem about elk is hand-painted on an old barn door in the elk yard. Finally, see a playful verse about bees by Emily Dickinson. It’s painted on both sides of a beehive in the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm (see photo above). For a complete list of poetry displays at the Zoo, please see Guest Services in the Zoo’s entrance atrium.

on the web!

- More on poetry at the Zoo and links to poetry resources: zoosociety.org/poetry
- Meet Pattiann Rogers, the Zoo’s honorary poet: zoosociety.org/pattiann

*The Language of Conservation was launched in 2009 by Poets House, a national literary center in New York City, with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

JOIN THE MOB (OF MEERKATS)

Did you know that a group of meerkats is called a mob? The Milwaukee County Zoo’s “mob” includes four meerkat brothers: Corrado, Cesario, Coppola and Constantine. (Yes, their names allude to heavy hitters in movies such as “The Godfather.”) You can sponsor this playful bunch



this summer through the Zoological Society’s Sponsor an Animal program, which helps support all animals at the Zoo. The \$30 package includes a cute plush-toy meerkat, an invitation to a behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors at the Zoo on Aug. 28 (see right) and other goodies; shipping and handling is \$5. To sponsor the meerkats, see www.zoosociety.org or call us (414) 258-2333.

Photo: Two meerkats cuddle at the Zoo.

Animal Sponsor Day

Animal Safari

Sponsored by Welch's & Pick 'n Save

Aug. 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.;

behind-the-scenes tours run 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Call Becky (414) 258-2333 to sponsor an animal or join the Kids Conservation Club,* or see www.zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal

Got a favorite Zoo animal? Sponsor your preferred critter any time through Aug. 28 and get admission to behind-the-scenes tours at the Milwaukee County Zoo at this event for animal sponsors. Our featured summer sponsorship is the Zoo's meerkat group (see left). Or, you could sponsor Buddy, the Zoo's North American river otter, the day of the event for a special price of \$20. Also on the docket on Aug. 28:

- Scavenger hunts for kids and adults. Youngsters can "hunt" for animal facts at the behind-the-scenes talks, while adults can explore the Zoo through a poetry-themed hunt (see story at left on the Zoo's poetry exhibit). Turn in your answers in the Zoo's entrance atrium for a chance to win an animal sponsorship.
- Enrichment talks: In the Zoo's entrance atrium, Zoo Pride volunteers will show enrichment "toys" that keep animals busy and entertained. Crafts and temporary tattoos are offered for kids until 2 p.m. in the Peck Welcome Center.
- Life-size hippo photo op: Take your picture next to a life-size photo of a hippo at the Zoo's new Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Home. To sponsor the Zoo's Happy the hippo, see page 9.
- Kids' recycled-art exhibit: See below for details on submitting an art project.

*** Free Kids Conservation Club membership offer: Send in a Pick 'n Save cash-register receipt showing the purchase of five Welch's products, along with a completed club application form, to the address on the form. Offer good through August 31, 2010.**

*Kids Conservation Club features endangered animal collectors' cards, a workshop with crafts and a sponsorship of an endangered animal at the Zoo. Annual membership costs \$20 per child; to join, see zoosociety.org/kidsclub or call (414) 258-2333.

KIDS' 'GREEN' ART CONTEST

Got trash? Create art! The Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) is hosting an art contest for kids who are animal sponsors or members of our Kids Conservation Club.* All participants will receive a special prize. Here's how the contest works: Pick any kind of discarded material that can be recycled, such as soda cans. Create an art project using these materials only (tape and glue are okay). Fill out an entry form that's on the ZSM's Web site and submit it by Aug. 6. Bring your project to the ZSM office from Aug. 21 through Aug. 27. Projects will be displayed on Aug. 28 at a behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors at the Zoo (see above), and winners in various age categories will be chosen that day. To download an entry form and see the complete contest guidelines, please visit zoosociety.org/artcontest or call Becky at (414) 258-2333.



Allison Piotrowski, 10, of Cudahy, plays with an elephant toy during a behind-the-scenes tour. Enrichment "toys" such as balls keep the Zoo's two elephants active and entertained.

Sponsor an animal!

On the Web: Do you want to sponsor just one special animal? Most animals have several sponsors, but some animals can be sponsored by just one person, school class or family! For a list of "sole" animal sponsorships, see zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal



Celebrating Women

Celebrate online!

Web:

The Zoological Society turns 100! Check out our vintage photos and archives: zoosociety.org/100years

Milwaukee-area movers and shakers, including Dorothy Pain and Sybil La Budde. Active in many civic organizations, Pain and La Budde were also two of the ZSM's first female directors, serving their Board terms in the mid-1970s. Robin Higgins, who joined Zoo Pride in 1982, later was hired as the ZSM's first volunteer coordinator and has moved up in leadership to her current position as vice president of Communications, Marketing and Membership. Today, Zoo Pride has about 518 active volunteers, more than 400 of whom are women (including one of Pain's granddaughters).



Sybil La Budde (standing) and friend Mary Donald at the Zoo in 2003.

In 1977, the ZSM also began a formal education department and hired Mary Thiry to direct it. In her more than 20 years at the ZSM, Thiry expanded education programs from a handful of classes for school groups to year-round classes and camps that served more than 200,000 people by 1989 (this included school classes that used curricula provided by the ZSM for self-directed tours). Over the years the department has expanded offerings to Milwaukee-area schools and expanded its quarters. In 2004, the department moved into an eight-classroom facility, the Karen Peck Katz Conservation Education Center (named after a major donor and ZSM leader).

CENTENNIAL ACCOLADES

Thanks for 100 years. In April, the Milwaukee County Historical Society honored the Zoological Society with the Anniversary Accolade award. This award recognizes corporations, non-profits and civic and education groups celebrating big birthdays. "The Milwaukee community is a richer place to live and work" because of organizations such as the Society, said Mary Vitrano, the Historical Society's development director.



The Zoological Society and the Zoo were also honored this spring by Milwaukee's Public Policy Forum with an Honorable Mention for private-public cooperation. Since 1910 the Zoological Society has been a driving force behind Milwaukee's Zoo, from the time it was the 38-acre Washington Park Zoo through the move to its 209-acre location on Blue Mound Road in the 1950s. For more on our centennial, including photos and historical resources, see zoosociety.org/100years.



Stories of Women

Do you have pictures or stories of other ZSM women leaders? E-mail us at publications@zoosociety.org.

at the Zoological Society

On the science front, the Society's conservation coordinator, Dr. Gay E. Reinartz, is helping the highly endangered bonobos and the people who share their habitat in Africa's Democratic Republic of Congo. As head of the Society's bonobo-conservation program, Dr. Reinartz has spent much of the past 13 years working in a remote research station in the Congo. Another female scientist, Vicki Piaskowski, led the ZSM's international bird research-conservation-education project, *Birds Without Borders—Aves Sin Fronteras*®, for nearly 12 years. Under her direction, the project, which finished its main goals in 2008, studied migratory birds in Wisconsin and Belize, Central America, and published two books on how individuals can help birds.

Women also helped raise the ZSM's profile in the community. In 1981, the Board of Directors hired Carol Moore Waite as the first paid executive director of the Society. (Before the early 1980s, this was an unpaid volunteer position, and always held by men.) Lillian Ramaker (now Boese) succeeded her in 1982 and in seven years increased membership dramatically. In 2003, Bonnie Joseph became the first woman to chair the Board of Directors, serving 2003-2005. Longtime ZSM supporter Karen Peck Katz served as Board chair in 2007-2009. Today, women leaders work in nearly all ZSM departments. Some departments, such as development, have always had female managers (Bev Greenberg, now head of the Aurora Health Care Foundation, was the longest-term vice president of development.) Our newest vice president of development is Karen Von Rueden (meet her on page 13).

Photos at top, from left to right: Dorothy Pain (photo provided by Elizabeth Roesler); Bev Greenberg, Bonnie Joseph and Karen Peck Katz; Robin Higgins (photo by Rick Heinlein); Vicki Piaskowski; Mary Thiry (photo from *Alive* magazine); and Dr. Gay E. Reinartz.

On the web:

- More on Dr. Reinartz and bonobo conservation: zoosociety.org/bcbi
- Helping birds in your backyard: zoosociety.org/helpbirds
- Meet some of our volunteers: zoosociety.org/whywevolunteer

Log on for more information!

CENTENNIAL MEMORIES

- Happy, the Milwaukee County Zoo's 5,100-pound male hippo, debuted in his outdoor yard this summer. Create a life-long summer memory by sponsoring Happy—our centennial mascot in 2010. The sponsorship package costs \$100 and includes a plush-toy hippo, an invitation to a behind-the-scenes event at the Zoo (see page 7) and more. Order at zoosociety.org or call (414) 258-2333.

Photo: Happy.

- The Zoological Society's centennial T-shirts are still available for purchase. These short-sleeved, bright-blue shirts are \$5 each; adult sizes 2X and 3X are \$7 (shipping and handling are \$7 extra per shirt). Buy them in our office at the Zoo (no shipping charge), call (414) 258-2333 or see zoosociety.org.



Saving Orangutans & Forests



In 1989, Dr. Willie Smits rescued an orphaned baby orangutan in Indonesia. The youngster, called Uce, reminded Smits of his own children, who were young at the time. Since then, Dr. Smits has dedicated his life to saving orangutans and their natural habitat. He spoke at the Milwaukee County Zoo on April 24 about his work. Orangutans are in trouble because palm oil plantations are destroying their native rain forests on the South Pacific islands of Borneo and Sumatra. There is a great demand for palm oil, which is used in thousands of food and household products, from cookies to cleaners. The situation is dire, Smits said. Orangutan populations have declined from about 5 million to fewer than 5,000.

The solution? For Smits, it's to show that it's profitable to grow sugar palms, which grow within rain forests, instead of tearing down rain forests to plant the type of palms grown on plantations. He has a thriving demonstration forest in eastern Borneo to prove it. The sugar palm produces palm sugar, increases rainfall and serves as a "green biofuel." A rain forest with sugar palms can provide far more jobs for local people than palm oil plantations and will serve as habitat for orangutans, said Smits. There's limited space for orangutans in large

sanctuaries such as Indonesia's Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation, which Smits founded in 2001. (Smits lives in Indonesia, where orangutans once thrived.) How can you help? Flex your spending power and don't buy products that contain palm oil, said Smits. Encourage politicians to put limits on palm-oil production and imports. For more ways to take action, see redapes.org. **Photo above:** MJ, a female orangutan at the Zoo. **Photo at right** (by Julia Kolker): Dr. Willie Smits signs books at the Zoo.



Education

Summer Camps Still Open

The following Zoological Society day camps in July and August still had openings when we went to press. For dates, times, prices and to register, please see our Web site: www.zoosociety.org/Education/SummerCamps. All camps are held at the Milwaukee County Zoo. **Photo:** Patricia Mills, of Wauwatosa, and 3-year-old daughter Cate play with toy zebras and lions in a "savanna." At left is Nathan Prochow, 3, of Hartford, and his father, Ben.



- **This Little Piggy**, a camp in July for children age 2 (accompanied by one adult), is all about pigs. Kids will have a squealin' good time exploring a "mud puddle" and more.
- In **Gentle Giants**, 3-year-olds (accompanied by one adult) learn about giraffes and create their own giraffe craft, complete with a long neck, purple tongue and lots of spots.
- Children ages 4 and 5 can pretend to be zookeepers at the popular **Junior Zookeeper camp**. Shovel hay, help feed the animals and learn what it's like to work at the Zoo.
- In **Zooper Heroes**, a new camp for 6- and 7-year-olds, kids learn about animal "super powers" and create a "zooper" hero.
- Kids who're 10 and 11 years old can come face to face with the Zoo's young tigers and create a "slinky" tiger craft in **Cheetahs and Tigers**.

SAFETY FIRST WITH CATS



For big-cat zookeepers, the job is 10 percent routine and 90 percent “Watch out!” With 12 carnivorous, clawed cats to care for, keepers use caution and the buddy system. “You never know what is going to happen,” Neil Dretzka, feline area supervisor, says. “So two people work together, each one watching the other’s back.” Working in pairs allows keepers to double-check that the animals are secured so that the cats can’t re-enter an area that zookeepers are cleaning. With the cats secured, the keepers can split up to prepare food and clean exhibits.

Meat safety is one of zookeeper Chris John’s jobs. He searches for anything that may harm the cats by combing through thawed meat. “During the processing of the food, stuff can get in the meat,” John says. “It’s rare, but once I found a piece of jagged plastic.” John also helps the veterinarians care for the animals by placing any medications in the meat. Then it’s feeding time. John carefully slides the pan under the railings, dumps the meat and pulls the pan back out.

On the Web: Publications intern Ben Wright shadowed big-cat keepers at the Zoo. Read his first-hand account: zoosociety.org/wildjobs



Keeping their environment clean helps keep the cats healthy and safe, Dretzka says. Zookeepers wash away any animal waste, animal hair and food. If there is anything irregular like blood spots, leftover meat or clumps of fur, he gets clues that an animal may be ill and alerts the veterinarians. Dretzka then adds items called “enrichment toys” to the exhibits to keep the cats (and the two hyenas in the building) mentally and physically healthy. For example, there are sets of logs for the cats to sharpen their nails, spices like ginger for the animals to smell and search for, and bones for scraping plaque off teeth. These items enrich the cats’ lives by making their exhibits new and exciting.

All three of the main feline zookeepers—Dretzka, John and Valerie Werner—have been working with cats for decades and have great affection for them. Yet they never underestimate these predators. For Dretzka, excitement comes in knowing that “there is a hint of danger in caring for large animals. You have to know that the animals could kill you if you’re careless.” **Photos:** Neil Dretzka shows big-cat food to Molly (center) and Emily Higgins during a special tour of the feline building. Valerie Werner holds a tiger cub at a check-up.

By Benjamin Wright

- Another popular camp for 10- and 11-year-olds is **Grossology**. Get the scoop on all things gross, icky and smelly at the Zoo. Make a book with yucky facts to gross out friends and family.

Priority Registration for Fall Classes

The Education Adventures brochure with class offerings for September – December 2010 is included in this mailing. Members-only priority, online registration begins August 4. To check open dates/times and register, see zoosociety.org/Education/FallClasses.php.

Tips for Teachers & Scout Leaders

- **School Classes at the Zoo or at Your School**
A brochure that lists classes offered at the Zoo or at your school is available online: zoosociety.org/Education/SchoolPrograms. Registration for the 2010-2011 school year has begun.
- **Special programs for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts** are also available. See brochure above.



Dressed in a lion “mask,” Clayton Stanley of Menomonee Falls listens as his dad, Michael, reads aloud about lions in a class for 3-year-olds.

Helping Hands

Want to give us 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/

Zootastic Animal Party

A sold-out crowd of 500 kids and adults enjoyed apes, hippos, a dance party and fun food at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's April 23 Zootastic, sponsored by **Johnson Controls, Inc.** This new fund-raising event at the Milwaukee County Zoo featured zookeeper talks about favorite animals such as Happy the hippo and orangutan toddler Mahal. Families could feast on pizza donated by Palermo's® Pizza, decorate eco-friendly crafts and create ice-cream sundaes. The evening ended with a dance party led by a DJ and a confetti shower in celebration of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) 100th birthday in 2010.

The event raised about \$15,000 for the non-profit ZSM. Media sponsors were **metroparent and MilwaukeeMoms.com**. Thanks to event contributors **Cedar Crest Ice Cream; Exciting Events; Express Promotions; JTS Direct, LLC; Masterson Company, Inc.; McDonald's; Palermo's® Pizza; PepsiAmericas; Tri City National Bank; and Wristband Resources**. **Photo above:** Kids reach for confetti ribbons. **Right:** Timothy Reinke, of Iron Ridge, Wis., helps his 2-year-old daughter, Jessica, decorate an eco-friendly tote bag at the event.



Photo by Dale Gray



On the Web:

The Zoological Society's golf outing fundraiser is July 26. See a photo preview and register: zoosociety.org/golf.



Hurray for Moms

Mother's Day at the Milwaukee County Zoo was a celebration for moms of all types. Human moms got free admission on May 9 thanks to event sponsor **Wilderness Hotel & Golf Resort**. Animal moms—such as Sanchi the camel and son Furlow—cuddled in their yard to the “awws” of visitors (the Zoo had more than 8,000 guests on May 9). Zoogoers also had the chance to learn about the plight of orangutan moms at Project M.O.M. (missing orangutan mothers) in Primates of the World. These great apes are severely endangered because palm oil plantations are destroying their habitats on the South Pacific islands of Borneo and Sumatra (see page 10). Zoogoers could learn ways to avoid palm oil and see MJ and Mahal, the Zoo's orangutan mom-and-son pair. **Photo:** Lynn Frieseke of Shorewood and her daughter, Emily, 8, meet Monty the Moose, the mascot for Wilderness Hotel & Golf Resort, at the event. Photo by Rick Heinlein.

Let's Go Green

What's it like to be a migratory bird? You'd have to fly thousands of miles from your summer home in North America to warmer climates when the weather turns cool. Kids got a taste of the migratory bird life when they pretended to be Baltimore orioles and "flew" through the Milwaukee County Zoo at Party for the Planet. Sponsored by **American Transmission Company**, this eco-fest on May 15 and 16 brought out 16,689 visitors for "green" fun, including bird-banding demonstrations and music entertainment by The Chickadees, sponsored by **Coleman Repellents**.

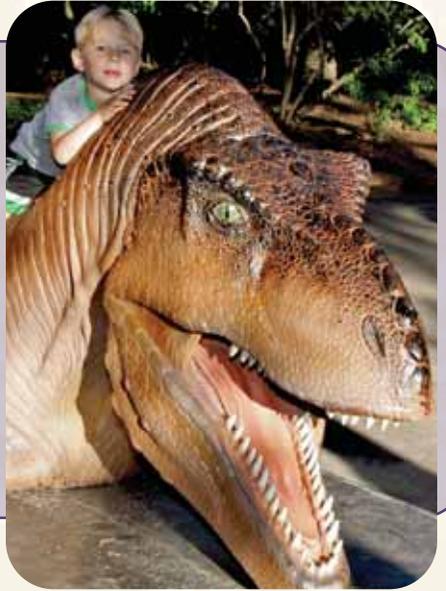
Photo: It's purple daisy time as American Transmission



Company representative Sue Sawall hands out seed packets at the event. Getting the free seed packets were Sharon and William Walbrun, of Waukesha. Sawall created her own costume, including a flower pot dangling from suspenders.

Dino-Night!

They're big and they're back! They're 29 robotic, life-size dinosaurs in the Milwaukee County Zoo's special summer exhibit, Adventure Dinosaur, sponsored by **Lowe's**. On May 27, guests at the Platypus Society/VIP premiere got a sneak peek at the exhibit (see page 3) before it opened to the general public. The dino exhibit runs through Sept. 6. For more about the Platypus Society, the ZSM's premier annual-giving group, please call (414) 258-2333. "Platy" members enjoy perks such as VIP Zoo tours and special events at the Zoo. **Photo:** Tyler Johnson, 5, of Hartford, rides atop the head of a *T. rex* at the event. Photo by Rick Heinlein



Developing the Future

When Karen Von Rueden was growing up, she loved visiting the Milwaukee County Zoo. Fond Zoo memories include riding the train and visiting Samson, the Zoo's late, great gorilla, she says. Today, Von Rueden (left) is helping to raise support for Zoo animals and exhibits as the new vice president of development for the non-profit ZSM. Her job includes overseeing fund-raising and managing the Platypus Society, the ZSM's premier annual-giving group, and the Simba Society, the ZSM's planned-giving group. "I have always looked for opportunities where I can make a difference and be a strong advocate for family," says Von Rueden. "The Zoological Society not only obtains support for the Zoo, but it also engages activities for the entire family through education, conservation, events and volunteer opportunities." For a story on how women have influenced the Zoological Society, see page 8.

Grants Received

Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) programs and projects have received the following grants:

- As part of the ZSM's collaboration in the **Congo Basin Forest Partnership**, the **World Wildlife Fund** recently awarded \$25,000 from USAID funds to the ZSM's Bonobo and Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI). This program helps ensure the survival of bonobos in the wild by locating and studying bonobos in the Democratic Republic of Congo, preserving bonobo habitat, and aiding impoverished communities that depend on the rain forest for their subsistence.

Insider Tips

Bold & Beautiful Barbet

The Milwaukee County Zoo's new bearded barbet is a bird with a big personality. "He is very vocal, busy and always active on exhibit," says aviary keeper Heather Neldner. And, yes, this bird does have bushy, beard-like feathers over his bill (both male and female barbets have "beards"; see right). Native to central and western Africa, these birds also have sharp beaks for digging holes in dead tree stumps to use as nests. The beaks come in handy when feasting on fruit and insects! There are more than 43 species of barbets in the wild, and the bearded species is one of the largest. Because of their size (about 10 inches long), bearded barbets prefer hopping and skipping on tree branches to flying—it's said they look clumsy in the air. Our barbet arrived last August, and now lives across from the African Savanna graphic in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary.



Bonobos Like Never Before

Imagine seeing bonobos in the forests of their native Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa. Next summer, you could view these rare and charismatic great apes outdoors at tree level in a new exhibit at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Thanks to a gift of nearly \$900,000 from an anonymous donor, this exhibit will bring our Zoo's 16 bonobos outside to explore 500 feet of elevated mesh passageways coursing through a forest to the side of the Stearns Family Apes of Africa building. Some of these passageways will allow the public to view the bonobos at eye level, with the visitors standing on a large observation deck at the edge of the forest. Bonobos can also play in lofts and towers that will go up into the trees, both in and out of public view. "This simulates quite effectively how bonobos would appear to us in the wild," says Deputy Zoo Director Bruce Beehler.

The donation will also fund interactive graphics at the indoor bonobo exhibit, including a museum-style diorama featuring the work of Dr. Gay E. Reinartz, Zoological Society conservation coordinator. She has spent the past 13 years helping bonobos and people who share their habitat in Congo. In addition, the bonobos' indoor exhibit will be renovated with new climbing trees and "vines," which will give the animals more space for climbing. A fourth project supported by the donation will help improve behind-the-scenes access to the animals for zookeepers and researchers. The Zoo's award-winning bonobo program includes training the animals to voluntarily participate in behavioral research and even their own health care, such as cardiac ultrasounds, blood pressure measurements,

exams and treatments. When the exhibit premieres to the public next spring, it may be the first of its kind in a North American zoo, says Dr. Beehler. (The elevated passageways are modeled after enclosures at the Center for Great Apes, a sanctuary for orangutans and chimpanzees in Florida—see photos).

Photos provided by the Center for Great Apes.

On the Web:

Postcards from the Congo:

Dr. Reinartz shares her field diaries and photos, zoosociety.org/field09.



Puppy Love

The cute new California sea lion pup in the Zoo's Oceans of Fun pool could win a "beautiful baby" contest (see right). Born April 8, 2010, the female pup, called Sequoia, was making appearances by early summer in the MillerCoors Oceans of Fun's Seal/Sea Lion shows at the Milwaukee County Zoo. How did she get trained so quickly? Right from the start the trainers played with the pup and responded positively to everything she did, says Oceans of Fun owner Shelley Ballmann. It's a technique called "passive socialization." "This experience will determine the kind of animal she will become for the rest of her life." Sea lions can't swim when they're born; so trainers even taught Sequoia water basics in a baby pool (in the wild, sea lion moms teach pups to swim near sandy shores). When Sequoia is older, trainers will switch to a technique in which humans use treats to reward good behavior. Animals are never punished—only rewarded. Sequoia will stay at Oceans of Fun for life, says Ballmann; so you can watch this charming pup grow and thrive for years to come. For more cute photos of the pup and fun sea lion facts, see a photo slide show at zoosociety.org/sealionpup.

Log on for more!

- Can't get enough of sea lions and seals? Check out Oceans of Fun's Web site for regular updates on the pup, summer camps and show times: oceansoffun.org



Shelley Ballmann and Sequoia getting to know one another.



Survivors

Two Zoo frogs have beaten a fungus that's wiping out frogs in the wild. The Milwaukee County Zoo's new tomato frogs were diagnosed with a deadly fungal infection called chytrid when they were in extended quarantine in the Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC). Thanks to medical treatment at the Zoo, the frogs are alive, well and on exhibit in the ARC. Numerous frog species in the wild aren't so lucky. Chytrid attacks frogs' skin, which they use to take in or excrete water. So they die from an improper water balance. The good news is that chytrid is fairly easy to treat, says Craig Berg, the Zoo's aquarium and reptile curator (our frogs were soaked in an anti-fungal solution for a few minutes daily for about 10 days). The bad news is that healthy frogs can't go back to their native environment because it's contaminated with the fungus. In fact, scientists suspect that chytrid has been killing frogs for decades. Some estimates say that nearly one-third of all frogs could go extinct in the 21st century because of chytrid. That's a problem because frogs eat insects such as mosquitoes. Some frogs even produce poison that's used to develop medicines for diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer's. Native to Madagascar, an island country in the Indian Ocean, tomato frogs are already endangered in the wild due to deforestation and the pet trade. Surprisingly, Madagascar is one of the few frog habitats that is not yet infected with chytrid. (Our Zoo's frogs came from a pet store.) These amphibians are in the first exhibit to the left of the ARC's main doors. Check out their orange-red color. Tomato frogs taste bad to other animals; so their hue is a "stay away" signal to predators.

Photo: A tomato frog at the Zoo.

Check it out!

- Saving frogs in the wild: zoosociety.org/Pubs/Alive/Fall-2008/
- For kids: Print out frog pictures to color and make a "frog face" craft, zoosociety.org/funstuff



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What's Happening

Details Inside

Now through Aug. 13

Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM)
Summer Camps at the Zoo

Now through Sept. 6

Summer exhibit: Adventure Dinosaur!,
sponsored by Lowe's; \$2.50 entry fee
(opens 9:30 a.m. daily)

July 7, 14, 21, 28 & Aug. 4

Sunset Zoofaris, sponsored by Tri City
National Bank, 6-9 p.m.*

July 13, 15 & 16

Kids' Nights for ZSM members only,
sponsored by WaterStone Bank, 5:15-9 p.m.*

July 26

Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament, sponsored
by MillerCoors; call (414) 258-2333 for details.

Aug. 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14

Limited openings:
Snooze at the Zoo,
sponsored by Old
Orchard Brands &
Sentry Foods



Aug. 19-22

Milwaukee Journal
Sentinel a la Carte at
the Zoo*

Aug. 28

Animal Safari, sponsored by Welch's &
Pick 'n Save, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*

Sept. 3

Senior Celebration at the Zoo, sponsored
by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health*

Sept. 8 & 11

Two-session Zoo Pride volunteer orientation;
call (414) 258-5667

Sept. 11 & 12

Family Farm Weekend, sponsored by
GG Golden Guernsey Dairy® & the
Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board*+

Sept. 15, 18, 22 & 25

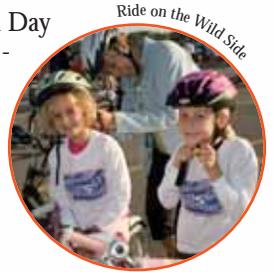
Four-session follow-up Zoo Pride training

Sept. 18

Elephant Appreciation Day
at the Zoo, 10:30 a.m.-
2:30 p.m.*

Sept. 19

Ride on the Wild
Side Family Bike
Ride, sponsored by
The Wisconsin Heart
Hospital & Wheaton
Franciscan Healthcare-St. Joseph+



Sept. 25

ZSM members' field trip to Chicago's
Shedd Aquarium & Oceanarium

Oct. 22 & 23

Boo at the Zoo, sponsored by westbury bank*+

Oct. 23

Wolf Awareness Day at the Zoo*+

Oct. 27

Zoo Brew+

Oct. 29 & 30

Halloween Trick-or-Treat Spooktacular,
sponsored by westbury bank*+

Nov. 6

Family Free Day at the Zoo, sponsored
by North Shore Bank and FOX 6,
9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.+

* ZSM members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass card and photo ID. The special dinosaur exhibit admission is extra, except during Kids' Nights, July 13, 15 & 16 (50% off), starting at 3 p.m. each day of the event. Members must show their Zoo Pass and photo ID at the exhibit ticket booth for reduced admission. Those with Zoo Pass Plus also get free parking.

+More information on these events will appear in future issues of *Wild Things*.