

*San Francisco Zoological Society 2007 Annual Report  
& Special 80th Anniversary Issue*



# ZOO VIEWS



*Our mission is to connect people with wildlife, inspire caring  
for nature and advance conservation action.*





*In this special Annual Report, we celebrate our incredible journey over the past 80 years.*

**About the Cover:** Zoo's first director, George Bistany, with a young orangutan in the 1930s.

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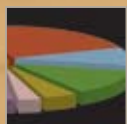
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Zoo Views is published quarterly for Members of the San Francisco Zoological Society.  
Send comments to [zooviews@sfzoo.org](mailto:zooviews@sfzoo.org).

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# director's message

## HONORING THE PAST



There is an old adage used by historians that goes something like this: If we fail to learn the lessons of history, we are doomed to repeat them. While we usually focus on the more negative lessons we have learned from history, there is also a corollary to this observation – that if we learn the good lessons history has to teach us, we can and should repeat them wherever and whenever possible.

Today, the San Francisco Zoo finds itself in just this situation as we celebrate our 80th Anniversary. In preparing for our future, we have been looking back at our past and gleaning from it those lessons that have helped shape the Zoo we know today. We know the Zoo has a rich background in animal care that encompasses such milestones as the Giant Panda exhibit in 1984, which was the first of its kind in Northern California. Our Zoo also has been a leader in numerous animal breeding programs over the years, contributing significantly to the captive population of such species as the black rhinoceros, Magellanic penguin, snow leopard and other large cats; and to the wild population of bald eagles, which was recently removed from endangered species status.

Similarly, the Zoo was one of the first major city-operated zoos to fully privatize its daily operations through a public-private partnership when the San Francisco Zoological Society, a non-profit organization that had been formed to support the Children's Zoo, took over the operation of the entire Zoo in July, 1993. Since then, nearly all major municipal zoos have been privatized using the San Francisco Zoo as their model and the lessons its history has to teach.

Today, we continue to learn from our past and apply it to our future through the formal review and revision of our Master Plan. Incorporating feedback from animal and zoo experts, our donors, staff and the local community, we intend to introduce a Master Plan that builds a zoo of the future. Simultaneously, we are also developing business and operations strategies for the Master Plan's implementation to ensure the Zoo's longevity and ultimate success.

What began in San Francisco nearly a century ago with one man and one bear has become a thriving regional zoological institution with its primary focus being conservation and education. By stimulating the caring for living animals in a manner that only can come when one sees the animal alive and up close, the San Francisco Zoo is providing incentive for people of all ages and backgrounds to care for our natural world. By remembering our past, we can use it to guide our future.

*Learn more about the San Francisco Zoo's history at [www.sfzoo.org/history](http://www.sfzoo.org/history).*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tanya M. Peterson". The script is fluid and cursive.

Tanya M. Peterson  
*Acting Executive Director and President*



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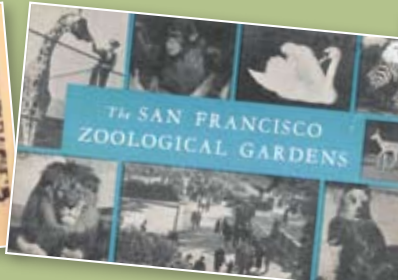
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# 80 years

## AROUND THE ZOO IN 80 YEARS

*The San Francisco Zoo has created fond memories for generations of visitors. Adults who today are toting their toddlers recall coming to the Zoo with their parents, and some seniors taking part in the Senior Strolls remember swimming in the old Fleishhacker Pool. The Zoo has even been a career stepping stone, inspiring children to become wildlife experts as adults. This year marks the Zoo's 80th Anniversary, a milestone in the history of Northern California's largest zoological park and the City of San Francisco.*



Established in 1929, the San Francisco Zoo was not the first zoo in the country, but it was one of the most dynamic because of its location adjacent to the Pacific Ocean. It is one of the last vestiges of the late 19th century Pacific Coast recreational projects that included the historic Fleishhacker Pool, Sutro Baths, the Cliff House and Playland-at-the-Beach. While many of these once-vibrant, bustling attractions have since been demolished or are now remnants of their pasts, the San Francisco Zoo has continued to evolve into an essential recreation, education and conservation resource for the community.

### THE BEAR BEGINNINGS

*The San Francisco Zoo began 80 years ago with one man – and one bear.*

The man was Herbert Fleishhacker, a San Francisco philanthropist and the president of the Park Commission. Fleishhacker believed that no major city should be without the cultural benefits of a local zoo, especially the burgeoning metropolis of San Francisco.

The bear was Monarch, a California grizzly who became the first animal of the Zoo's collection and a lasting symbol of the city's evolving relationship to vanishing wildlife. In 1889, William Randolph Hearst, founder and publisher of the *San Francisco Examiner* engaged one of its reporters, Allen Kelly, in a heated debate over whether grizzlies continued to exist in California. Hearst challenged Kelly to go out and find one. After five months in the mountains of Ventura County, Kelly and the Examiner party succeeded in capturing an enormous grizzly they named Monarch after the old nickname for the *Examiner*, the "Monarch of the Dailies." Monarch lived for 16 years, first in Woodward's Garden in the Mission District then in Golden Gate Park. He sired two cubs and although he never set a paw in the Zoo's current location, he provided the impetus for Fleishhacker to pursue his dream of a bona fide city zoo.



Herbert  
Fleishhacker

Monarch

## BUILDING THE ZOO

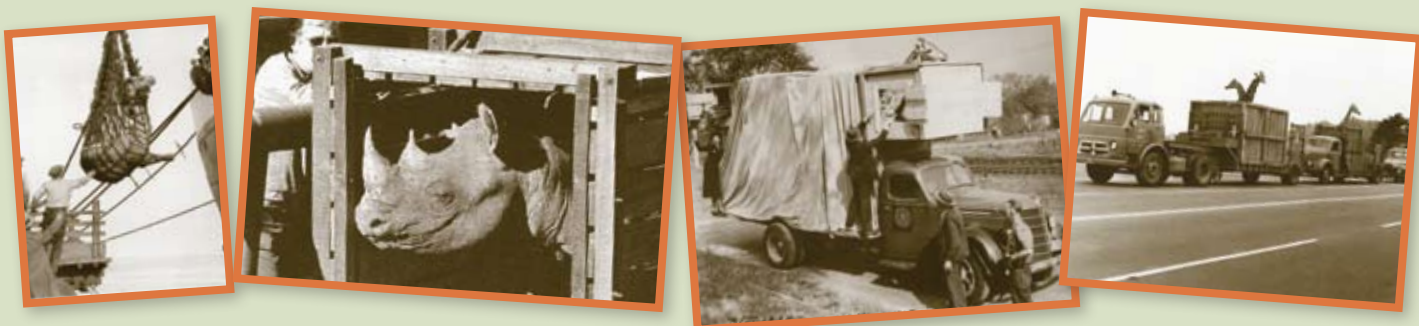
By the mid-1920's, Fleishhacker found the ideal setting for his zoo – a site on the southwestern corner of the City, adjacent to the Fleishhacker Pool, a children's playground, an original Dentzel Carousel, and the Mother's Building. The Zoo would be a wonderful complement to this recreational area.

The City purchased the land for the Zoo in 1922 from the Spring Valley Water Company; 60 acres at approximately \$4,000 per acre.

On a trip around the world in 1929, Fleishhacker met a wild animal broker named George Bistany. Bistany told Fleishhacker thrilling tales of the capture of "strange beasts of the jungles" and Fleishhacker announced, "I'm going

Pachyderm Building, the Aviary (now the South American Tropical Aviary), a sea lion pool, small mammal exhibits, bear grottos, a reflector pool (now Penguin Island), aquatic lake, a restaurant and the Lion Fountain. The first exhibits consisted of animals transferred from Golden Gate Park, including two zebra, one Cape buffalo, one Barbary sheep, five rhesus monkeys, two spider monkeys, and three elephants – Marjorie, Virginia and Babe – donated by Herbert Fleishhacker. Some of the early additions included animals rarely seen today such as Nubian lions, Chinese tigers, Abyssian oryx, snow lynx, and platypus.

Opening Day for the new Fleishhacker Zoo was a festive occasion on May 6, 1940. At 2:30 p.m., the deed to the property and buildings built by the WPA was turned over to Mayor Angelo J. Rossi by Fred R. Rauch, Assistant WPA



to start a real zoo, will you help me to buy the animals and then come to San Francisco to run it?" Bistany was soon hired as the Zoo's first Director and applied his considerable knowledge of animal husbandry to collect animals; build exhibits, shelters and corrals; start breeding programs; chart paths and roads; and carefully train keepers in the care and handling of wild animals.

The Zoo's first major exhibits were built in the 1930s by the depression-era Works Progress Administration (WPA). Fleishhacker, Edmund Heller – who succeeded Bistany as Zoo Director – and famed architect Lewis Hobart combined their talents to design the WPA exhibits, which were state-of-the-art at the time, replacing bars and cages with more naturalistic, moated habitats that were fireproof, sanitary and easy to maintain at low cost, while providing visitors with unobstructed views of the animals. These new structures included Monkey Island, the Lion House,

Administrator from Washington, D.C. Musical, choral and dance groups performed and numerous speeches were given to honor the City's new Zoo.

## THE ZOO GROWS UP

It was Herbert Fleishhacker's dream for the Park Commission to consider organizing a Zoological Society, similar to those established in other large cities, to aid the Commission in acquiring rare animals and operating the Zoo. By 1950, maintenance of the Zoo had become an issue – it had fallen into disrepair, rides were out of commission, and no new animals had been added in years. In 1953, a group of interested citizens headed by Ansel Robison, a pet store owner and animal dealer, and Herbert Fleishhacker's son Alan, moved to make Fleishhacker's dream a reality. With Zoo Director Carey Baldwin and other prominent citizens, the Zoological Society was incorporated as a non-profit membership



**1925** Miniature Steam Train "Little Puffer," arrives.

**1925** Dentzel wooden carousel moves from the defunct Pacific City Amusement Park.



**1925** The Mother's Building opens in honor of Delia Fleishhacker.

**1929** George Bistany acquires exotic animals on an around the world trip.



**1930s** The Zoo is developed during the 1930s with WPA funds.





*"Carey Baldwin would take [me] and a couple of my friends all over the zoo. They would let us go places and do things that would most likely be frowned upon these days because of safety concerns [such as] washing the elephants with large brooms. My most memorable experience was feeding newborn snow leopard cubs in Baldwin's kitchen. My first attempt at feeding the hippo, I believe it may have been Puddles, was almost a disaster. We were using a large shovel with a short handle and I didn't quite get the shovel out of the way of the descending upper jaw. The shovel got flipped out of my hands into the air...fortunately...without hitting anyone. We used to run little motorized boats up and down the creek over near where the polar bears are now."*

— Phil Van Tassell



organization in 1954, initially for the purpose of assisting in the enhancement, beautification and improvement of the Zoo's grounds, but later to expand man's knowledge and appreciation of the animal world, thereby furthering the preservation of the world's wildlife heritage.

During the 1960s, the challenge facing zoos everywhere changed markedly. The phrase, "endangered species" became commonplace, reflecting the threat to wildlife worldwide. Education became an important role for zoos – providing information and developing the public's awareness of the importance of conservation. An industry whose goal for 5,000 years was to show off exotic animals for entertainment began to take on a greater purpose – conservation, education and scientific research. Breeding, health, safety, enrichment, and nutrition standards needed to be regulated and physical contact between the animals and visitors minimized.



*Older photos showing laxer safety standards that illustrate less-enlightened attitudes towards conservation and animal care. Today, the San Francisco Zoo is dedicated to creating exhibits that evoke natural behaviors and providing educational opportunities for guests.*

In 1968, Zoo Director Ronald Reuther established one of the country's first docent programs. Excitement grew in the 1980s – federal and private funding allowed the Zoo to open more naturalistic exhibits with informative graphics and interpretive displays including Wolf Woods, Musk Ox Meadow, Gorilla World (now Jones Family Gorilla Preserve), Penguin Island, Koala Crossing, the Thelma

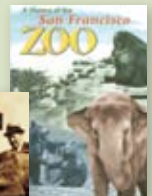
and Henry Doelger Primate Discovery Center, and Phoebe Hearst Discovery Hall. In 1984, the Zoo had a record-breaking temporary exhibition of the Giant pandas from the People's Republic of China.

In 1993, the Zoological Society took over management and operations of the Zoo from the City in a unique Lease Partnership Agreement. Since that time, the Society has made vast improvements and additions throughout the Zoo, including Otter River, the Feline Conservation Center, Australian WalkAbout, Flamingo Lake, the Wart Hog exhibit, the Aviary, the Avian Conservation Center and much more. With voter-approved funding from a 1997 bond measure and private donations, the Zoo rebuilt its entire western portion, restoring the Dentzel Carousel and opening the Connie and Bob Lurie Education Center, Koret Animal Resource Center, Children's Zoo, Family Farm, the Friend and Taube Family Entry Village, Zoo Street, the Lipman Family Lemur Forest, Leaping Lemur Café, the African Savanna, and Hearst Grizzly Gulch.

Today, what began with a man and a bear has become a thriving zoo boasting almost 250 species. Through its conservation work in Madagascar, its bald eagle breeding and release program in the Santa Catalina Islands, and its participation in endangered species breeding programs, the Zoo has made a difference in preserving wild places and wild things for future generations.

*To learn more: "A History of the San Francisco Zoo" – available at the Wildlife Connection Gift Shop.*

*NEW! "Images of America: San Francisco Zoo." Available in stores and online soon.*



**1940** Fleishhacker Zoo opening day.

**1954** The San Francisco Zoological Society is established as a nonprofit membership organization.

**1964** Zoological Society takes over operations of Storyland from the City and initiates what is now the Children's Zoo.



**1975** Animal Hospital opens and includes an operating room, treatment room; laboratory, x-ray, quarantine and long-term animal care facilities.

**1993** The Zoological Society enters into a Lease and Management Agreement with the City and County of San Francisco.

# HISTORICAL *Landmarks*



## **Mother's Building**

When Delia Fleishhacker — who had spent her life helping the poor — died in the early 1920s, her sons, Herbert and Mortimer, wanted to do something for San Franciscans in her memory, so they donated \$50,000 for a building and a large wading pool to be a place where mothers could rest, refresh themselves and care for their small children.

Designed by prominent San Francisco architect George W. Kelham, the building, with its stucco walls and angled Mission tile roof, was built in 1925 to reflect the style of Renaissance Italy. Outside, wide steps introduce a broad loggia of five arches supported by Corinthian columns. Above the arches is a long frieze of romping cherubs. Two mosaics — one depicting St. Francis of Assisi and the other showing a scene of children and animals — were created by Helen, Margaret, and Ester Bruton for the Public Works of Art Project. The interior of the building featured a nursery at one end, a tea room at the other with refreshments for the mothers, and a large, open central space furnished informally with tables and chairs. The plaster walls were adorned with egg tempera murals depicting four scenes from Noah's Ark; these were painted by Helen Forbes and Dorothy Pucinelli. The building also had restrooms, a medical room where doctors' advice could be obtained, and a ready supply of distilled water

and milk for preparing baby formulas. Because it was a building for mothers, no males over six years old were allowed inside.

Used as a meeting and reception room in the later decades, the Mother's House opened to the general public in the early 1970s. The murals were restored in 1975, and in 1978 the Mother's House was declared eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Over time, it was used as the site of the Zoo Gift Shop. In 1989, the building sustained a tremendous amount of earthquake damage and in 2002, with the opening of a new modern gift shop, was closed.



## **Fleishhacker Pool**

It was John McLaren who envisioned a large outdoor pool for San Francisco, but it wasn't until Herbert Fleishhacker took on the project that land was purchased and the work began on the world's largest swimming pool, located right next to the San Francisco Zoo for 47 years. With much fanfare, the \$750,000 pool opened on April 23, 1925.

The pool was 1,000 feet long by 100 feet wide. It was so large that it was patrolled by up to 24 lifeguards, many of them using rowboats to make their way across. It could be heated to 70 degrees, had a capacity of six million gallons, and could accommodate 10,000 swimmers. Through a pipeline that extended from the pool to the Pacific Ocean, salt water was pumped in at high tide and

**1994** *Feline Conservation Center opens. This becomes the 20,000 sq. ft. naturalistic home to the Zoo's snow leopards, fishing cats and ocelots.*

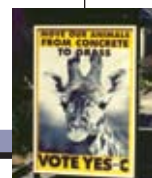


**1995** *Australian Walkabout, a two-acre, open-landscaped exhibit featuring kangaroos, wallaroos, wallabies and emu, opens.*



**1997** *Zoo officially dedicates the 26,000 sq. ft. Avian Conservation Center, a management and propagation facility for rare birds.*

**1997** *In June, San Francisco voters pass a \$48 million bond measure to rebuild the western part of the Zoo.*





drained at low tide. It had a diving pool that measured 50 square feet and 16 feet deep with a tiered diving tower. The pool was even used by the military for drills and exercises, and by water polo, swimming and diving teams for competitions.

The Pool House, built after plans by architects Ward & Blohme, was highly ornamental in design and construction. The first floor of the Pool House contained 800 dressing rooms, hundreds of steel lockers, fresh water showers and ample rest rooms. Upstairs was an elaborate cafeteria and ice cream saloon.

Fleishhacker Pool closed in 1971 after years of deterioration and a lack of modern operational systems made it fail to meet modern health standards. Consideration was given to refurbishing and reopening this audacious remnant of the Roaring Twenties era, but studies showed that public usage was extremely low, and the operating costs were high. In 1999, the Zoological Society was granted ownership of the broken down Pool House. The building was condemned and has remained vacant. The site of the pool was converted in 2002 to a vehicle parking lot adjacent to a new Zoo entrance.



## Little Puffer

The Little Puffer miniature steam train is one of just seven 22-inch gauge "Class E" miniature steam locomotives ever built by the McGarrigles around the turn of the last century. The brothers had a transportation concession at the 1904 World's Fair which won grand prize for freight and passenger locomotives, and our Little Puffer was one of the trains that shared the glory that day.

**1998** Little Puffer steam train is refurbished by Golden Gate Railroad Museum.



**2000** Meerkat and Prairie Dog exhibit opens – a 14,500 sq. ft. facility showcasing these two social animals.

The following year, the train was put into service along a sandy beach at the Santa Cruz boardwalk, where it remained until 1915. Unfortunately, from that point until 1925, it languished in storage, was almost destroyed in a warehouse fire, restored, and later relocated to several sites, including Ocean Beach and the defunct Pacific City Amusement Park in San Mateo. It was slated for impoundment, but someone hid it for two years in an old Burlingame livery stable until Herbert Fleishhacker came to the rescue, purchasing it in 1925 and installing it at the Fleishhacker Playground where it remained for 53 years. During its heyday, the train (then called the Fleishhacker Playfield Limited), carried 100,000 passengers a year. It was nicknamed Little Puffer during the 1930s.

In 1965, Little Puffer was renamed the "California Zephyr" when the Western Pacific Railroad sponsored a restoration of the train and its tracks. Although it had been scheduled to retire in 1971, it wasn't until 1978 that the train was finally packed away to make room for the Gorilla World exhibit.

The little train then languished in storage once again in the Pachyderm Building for 20 years until Zoo staff dusted off the tired and dilapidated steamer in 1997. The Golden Gate Railroad Museum went to work to breathe new life into the historic steam train, which, with funding by the Goldman Foundation and CalFed, was completely restored and returned to service – to the delight of young and old – in 1998.



*"This image is me at about 4 years old in 1956. The occasion was my very first visit to a genuine live [22" gauge] steam locomotive. It pulled a short train around the Fleishhacker Zoo (in the late 1960s Fleishhacker was renamed 'The San Francisco Zoo'). I was scared to death by the loudly hissing monster. Eventually I conquered my fear and I always enjoyed outings to the zoo, but my favorite part was always the train."*

— Alan Cooper



**2001** Three major projects open: the Connie and Bob Lurie Education Center, the Koret Animal Resource Center and the expanded Children's Zoo featuring the Family Farm.



**2002** The Zoo adopts its new mission – to "connect people with wildlife, inspire caring for nature, and advance conservation action."



## Dentzel Carousel

The Carousel is one of the last machines constructed by William H. Dentzel, whose family became renowned for their intricate woodcarving. Built in 1921, the rare “menagerie carousel” – one of only 14 left in the world and one of seven Dentzel carousels remaining in the United States – showcases the lavish and expensive artwork that ended with the Great Depression. It came to the Zoo in 1925 from the defunct Pacific City Amusement Park and was one of the first attractions to be located on the current site of the Zoo.

The 50 hand-carved wooden animals – including fanciful horses with finely detailed braids, harness bands, saddle blankets, and flowing manes and tails – were all hand-painted with whimsical details and inset with “jewels.” Other animals in the menagerie include a giraffe, ostrich, tiger, lion, pig, rabbit, and cat.

The years of constant use and sea air take their toll on the painted animals. In 1978, the San Francisco Zoological Society funded a \$100,000 restoration project and in 1994, a mechanical overhaul was undertaken. In September 2000, under the watchful eye of the San Francisco Art Commission, Brass Ring Entertainment of Sun Valley California was enlisted to dismantle and hand-restore each of the carousel animals to its former splendor in an “extreme makeover” driven by dedicated members of the Zoological Society Board of Directors. The restorers spent almost 500 hours on each animal, painstakingly recreating each detail as originally intended. In addition, the Carousel received a new set of hardened steel gears cut to the original Dentzel specification, a new drive system with electronically controlled motors, new steel bearings, new paint inside and out including the backdrop murals.

## Storyland/Children’s Zoo

Developed, opened and operated by the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department in 1959, the three-acre Storyland was an outdoor playground area with play equipment and large scenes inspired by nursery rhymes and fairy tales. It was much beloved by young children, especially for its entrance through the laughing “mouth” of a castle. Just beyond lay a zany collection of 26 colorful, animated and audio play sets, depicting Humpty Dumpty, Little Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Winnie the Pooh, Alice in Wonderland and more.



In February 1964, the Zoological Society took over the operation of Storyland from the Recreation and Park Department. In March 1964, the Children’s Zoo was opened within Storyland as a place “where children of all ages may actually pet, hold and feed baby animals.” The Children’s Zoo featured a variety of animals and an egg hatchery. Over time, attractions such as a penguin show were added – a 20-minute performance by 12 Humboldt penguins trained to box, ride a surfboard, dive and even play a piano. From time to time, baby animals from the main Zoo were cared for in the nursery, including chimpanzees and elephants.

In time, the Storyland play sets were removed and animal exhibit areas were constructed. A Nature Trail pathway was added to provide visitors with opportunities to meet a variety of animals up close from youths trained to teach the public about animals. The indoor Insect Zoo got its start as a temporary exhibit in 1979 and was one of just three in the country. The Insect Zoo proved to be so popular that it became a permanent exhibit shortly thereafter.



**2002** Zoo opens its new main entrance, Lipman Family Lemur Forest, indoor café, Zoo Street, and restored carousel.

**2003** First African lion cubs are born at the Zoo since 1979. The cubs are hand-reared by Zoo staff following the unexpected loss of their mother.



**2003** A record number 13 Magellanic penguin chicks hatch in the spring.



**2004** Zoo opens the African Savanna – a three-acre multi-species exhibit with giraffe, zebra, marabou stork, ostrich, kudu, and scimitar-horned oryx.



*"As a child, I remember...my family would tell me, 'we are going to the zoo, do not forget your zoo key,' for I am the one in charge of keeping the zoo key. I have my first zoo key, which is red called Trunkey the Elephant from the early 1970s and when they have had different zoo keys over the years I would get another...I have kept all of my zoo keys. I remember feeding the seals fish and feeding the farm animals food that came in an ice cream cone. My grandpa's favorite exhibit was Monkey Island. My Grandma...enjoyed going on the Zebra train with me."*

— Sheryl Village



In 1996, Rapunzels' Castle, the last vestige of Storyland, was demolished and replaced with a new entrance, which included a trout stream, wetlands interpretation station and a large bronze statue of geese. In 2000, the Meerkat and Prairie Dog exhibit opened, providing up close viewing of two diverse burrowing animals. By 2001, the entire Children's Zoo was renovated under the theme of "Living with Animals", and today includes the Family Farm, a special contact area for visitors to meet rare breeds of domestic animals; the Koret Animal Resource Center, where the animals used in the Zoo's educational outreach programs are housed; and the Connie and Bob Lurie Education Center, which includes classrooms and the Osher Great Hall.

#### STAFF RECOLLECTIONS...

*"Ah! The famous castle was imposing but cute. It was the first line of defense at the entrance of the Children's Zoo after the fence and keepers. The kids faced a real challenge to get through; battle scars on the structure testified to the hard-fought, imaginary combats that took place there. I know, because I was the one in charge of covering the nicks and bruises with paint. It was an on-going assignment, complete with protecting my work against inquisitive little fingers. I loved it!"*

— Alain Duvergé - Maintainer, 23 years

#### Storyboxes

In the early 1950s, a well-known Bay Area children's puppeteer and storyteller named Bruce Sedley grew tired of repeating his stories whenever he entertained kids. He came up with a tape-and-speaker mechanism to replace him and, by combining his skills as a storyteller, tinkerer

and amateur locksmith, created the original Talking Storybook and key. Sold to zoos nationwide, the Talking Storybook was a big hit. The Zoo, an early customer, placed the renamed "storyboxes" throughout Zoo grounds with Sedley's voice emanating fun facts about the animals and a catchy jingle that went, "All the animals at the zoo are jumping up and down for you!" The storyboxes were one of the first ways people could learn interactively. In 1998, with underground construction and infrastructure replacement work taking place throughout the Zoo, the storyboxes were disconnected and some removed. In 2004, the informative storyboxes returned to 20 sites around the Zoo. The original, ever-popular plastic elephant key called "Trunkey the Elephant," whose trunk fit into the keyhole of the storybox, wouldn't work with the new boxes, so the Zoo created new keys for a new generation to collect.

#### Monkey Island

Constructed in the 1930s as a WPA project, Monkey Island was designed as a mountain-like climbing structure for monkeys.

It even had a Spanish galleon jutting out from the rockwork. When it opened in 1940, ground-dwelling rhesus macaques were housed there but in 1946, they were replaced with spider monkeys — an arboreal species. Despite the "treeless" environment, the colony thrived. Ropes, ladders, bells, and tires provided many places to swing and play and the colony grew to a stable population of 60, closely resembling the size and demographics of a wild troop. A much-beloved destination for Zoo visitors, Monkey Island became our most observed



**2004** Zoo agrees to provide a new home for two wild orphaned female grizzly bear siblings that were slated for euthanasia.

**2005** San Francisco Zoo joins U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in effort to bring awareness to the endangered San Francisco garter snake.



**2005** In November, reindeer arrive for the inaugural holiday celebration — Reindeer Romp.

**2006** The 100th bald eagle chick hatched for reintroduction into the wild, 15 years after the Zoo hatched its first bald eagle.





habitat. Students, field biologists, and anthropologists studied and recorded the social interactions, play sessions, and parenting tactics of the monkeys. Over the years, the colony thrived, but sadly, Monkey Island did not. In 1989, the Loma Prieta earthquake dealt existing drainage and corrosion problems a final blow. In 1995, the exhibit was demolished, but not before thousands of people came to see it one last time and bid their fond farewells.



### Penguin Island

One of the original construction projects by the WPA, the penguin pool was originally conceived as reflecting pool. It has been home to many species including seals, Humboldt penguins, and squirrel monkeys. In the 1950s, Humboldt penguins — now an endangered species — were prevalent at the Zoo. When the squirrel monkeys lived there, staff installed a working stove to help keep them warm. The monkeys, however, would overturn it and set the island on fire! Eventually, they moved to more suitable quarters. In 1984, the island became home to a Magellanic penguin colony which became the most prolific in captivity with 205 chicks successfully hatched and contributing to captive populations worldwide. Over time, the penguins have become part of the fabric of San Francisco; reports of their unusual antics have made headlines worldwide. This year marks the 25th Anniversary of our Magellanic penguins' arrival at the Zoo.

### STAFF RECOLLECTIONS...

*"I remember the morning when Marsha, the Zoo's polar bear mom, emerged from the cubbing den with her 3-month-old cub, Bryce. She walked him around the grotto, then climbed down into the pool and called to him. When Bryce responded, she grabbed his nape in her mouth and dragged him into the pool. Then she hauled herself out and watched, maternally, as Bryce dog-paddled clumsily around the pool. Bryce was our first polar bear cub. As he grew visibly tired, I grew nervous. But then Marsha called him with a soft 'chuff, chuff.' Firmly grasping Bryce's nape, she pulled him to safety. Together, they retreated to the back of the grotto and Bryce — snuggled against Marsha's breast — received a warm meal."*

*"I remember 'Tallulah's Raid' — the day when Tallulah the chimp climbed a vine, escaped Triple Grotto, and raided the Plaza snack bar. Staff was evacuated while she feasted on pink popcorn and candy. When Zoo Veterinarian Doc Mottram arrived, he leaned across the counter and took aim with a tranquilizer rifle. Tallulah leapt up, grabbed the muzzle, and wrested the gun away from him. Then, (with the gun on her shoulder in perfect imitation of Doc's posture), she advanced on the keepers who were there to assist in her capture. Keepers were diving into flower beds and running for cover. Eventually, Tallulah's keeper, John Alcaez, disarmed her and led her back to the exhibit. She also got loose on another occasion and checked out a payphone's coin return, as she'd watched countless visitors do!"*

— Tony Colonnese, Senior Keeper, 37 years



*My parents, Bert and Catherine Hill along with my brother Bert Hill Jr. started the Pony, Horse and Conestoga Wagon Rides in 1960 in the San Francisco Zoo. My Dad loved to talk to the young parents about the early history of San Francisco while the children were having their rides.*

— Dr. Beverly Hill



**2006** More than 600 Australian birds make their debut at Binnouee Landing, a temporary walk-in aviary where visitors have a unique feeding experience.



**2006** The Zoo launches "Behind-the-Scenes," its on-line video podcast program, connecting viewers to the Zoo's exciting animals and exhibits.



**2007** Zoo unveils the largest grizzly bear exhibit — Hearst Grizzly Gulch — for the Montana-born, orphaned female siblings Kachina and Kiona.



## Remembering Jack Castor - "King of Cats"

It is with great sadness to inform you of the passing on October 23, 2008 of Jack Castor, 84, a long-time Zoo employee who worked in the Lion House for most of his 48 years of service here. Known as the "King of Cats," Jack was unbelievably committed to the Zoo and its large cat program; some estimate he raised over 500 cats. He also acquired more than 500 stitches during his long career. "Every one of 'em has scratched me," he said in 1999, smiling, while feeding four lions and four tigers. "But you know what? They don't mean it. They're just doing what they do."

His daughter, Anna Marie, recalled that Mr. Castor, like many fathers, brought his work home with him. Sometimes it was a lion cub rejected by its mother, or maybe a baby pig or raccoon. His Irish setter even helped raise some of Castor's houseguests. "He just loved animals, and he loved taking care of them," she said. "And they loved him." He would even play polkas on his accordion in the living room for a troubled lion cub in need of extra pampering.

In addition, he was one of the first in animal care to understand the importance of connecting with the visitor. Although the Lion House feedings always had been popular at the Zoo, it was Jack's knowledge of and interaction with the Zoo's cats that amazed generations of visitors. Jack's length of service to the Zoo also was unparalleled. Although he officially retired in 1999 after his 48.5th year (he always added the half-year, it was important to him), he actually took nine years to retire, commencing at age 66 when he first filed for retirement but then not retiring until he reached 75. We will always remember this dedicated professional and San Francisco Zoo legend.

**2008** For the first time since 1956, the Zoo celebrates the birth of three Sumatran tiger cubs, a critically endangered species.

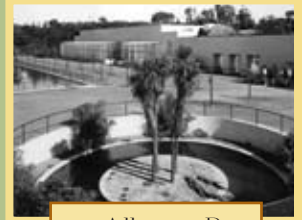


**2008** Zoo makes history with the birth of a rare baby aye-aye. The infant represents the second, second-generation aye-aye born in captivity worldwide.

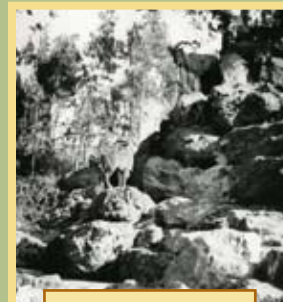
# Guess what this spot is now?



1. Water Buffalo



2. Alligator Pit



3. Goat Hill



4. Pony Ride



5. Castle Mouth



6. Seal Pool



7. Fleischhacker Pool

ANSWERS 1. Puente Al Sur, 2. Otter River, 3. Grizzly Gulch Waterfall, 4. Entry Village Plaza, 5. Entrance to Children's Zoo, 6. Elephant Seal Rehab, 7. Parking Lot.

## Babies Abound!

On Thanksgiving morning, an infant southern black howler monkey joined mother Diamond, father Bosco and big sister Lupe in our howler family. Come by the primate center and find the little squirt hanging onto mom!



A little red kangaroo joey peeked out of his mom Bri's pouch for the first time on December 4. The joey, named Pirra, spent its first day out of the pouch on December 28. Come see this bouncing bundle of joy at our Australian Walkabout.

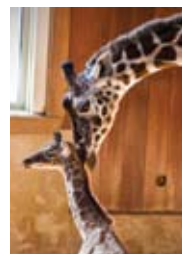
On December 5, our yellow-backed duiker pair welcomed a male calf named "Juma" by the keepers. The calf is very precocious and active, even in its first few days of life. If you don't see him in the exhibit, it's because his mother, as mother duikers do to protect their young, stashes him in a brush pile (the name duiker is believed to have been derived from the word "diver" as they will duck under the cover of bushes to escape predators).



The primate and veterinary team have been working around the clock to care for our baby boy western lowland gorilla born on December 8, since his mother, Monifa, didn't take to motherhood. He's incredibly healthy and strong and doing well. Surrogate training with auntie Bawang is going well, and she is definitely showing strong mothering instincts and interest in the infant. She has been sticking twigs through the barrier mesh and gently poking and sticking her tongue through to lick the baby – all great signs. It will be a while before he is on exhibit, so check [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org) for the latest pictures, videos and updates.



Bititi, proud mother of our reticulated giraffe Bulldozer, gave birth on January 26 to a healthy, 6-foot-tall, strong baby girl. Showing great maternal skills, Bititi is gently nursing and protecting her little one. The baby is quite curious and bright, even showing early interest in sniffing the browse left for her mother to eat! Come see her in the Giraffe Lodge or adjacent yard.



## The Plight of the Panda

*By Assemblywoman Fiona Ma*

I have always been a strong supporter of wildlife conservation programs and enjoy taking time to visit our beautiful San Francisco Zoo.

Recently, while on a trip to China, I had the opportunity to visit the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding and fell in love with one of the Earth's most majestic and rare species.

Today, there are only about 1,600 adult wild pandas that exist. These pandas live in scattered patches of bamboo forest in the mountains of Southwest China. The one food that guarantees their survival, bamboo, grows in abundance in Southwest China, but factors such as climate change, dam building, urban expansion, and tourism development threaten their natural habitat.

In the United States, there are only four zoos that host giant pandas – Zoo Atlanta in Georgia, Memphis Zoo in Tennessee, San Diego Zoo in Southern California, and the Smithsonian National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. Zoos invest a lot of money in the research and

care of their giant pandas. Paying for their care and maintenance can cost zoos as much as 3 million dollars a year. While hosting giant pandas is a big investment for Zoos and their communities, it is a necessary investment to help save the giant panda from extinction.

I know there is still much work to be done when it comes to the conservation of wildlife, but I am hopeful that we can work together to make sure that important species, like the panda, can grow to live healthy and vibrant lives.



Francisco Hsieh

*Fiona Ma at Chengdu Giant Panda Research Center in China.*



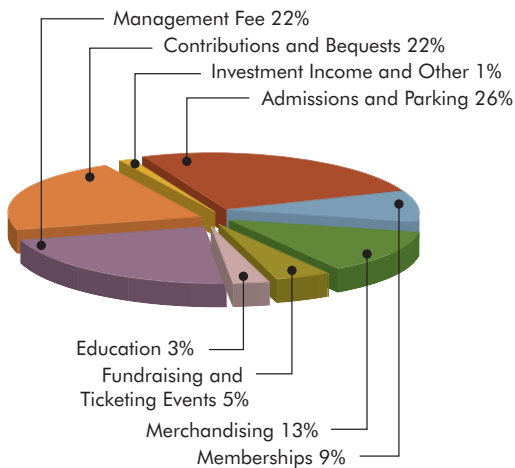
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For years ended June 30, in thousands

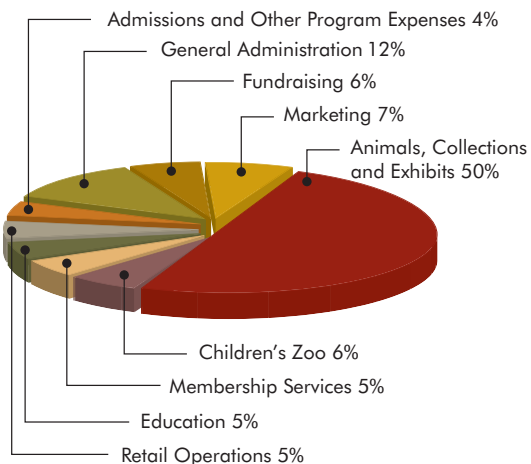
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Equivalents .....	\$1,103	\$2,578
Receivables and Prepaids .....	783	1,041
Total Current Assets .....	<u>1,886</u>	<u>3,619</u>
Contributions Receivable, Net .....	132	335
Charitable Remainder Trust Assets .....	935	971
Investments .....	6,552	6,941
Property and Equipment, Net .....	399	474
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> .....	<u>\$9,904</u>	<u>\$12,340</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable .....	\$1,732	\$2,171
Accrued Expenses .....	741	916
Deferred Revenue .....	877	902
Current Portion of Capital Lease & Beneficiary .....	109	111
Total Current Liabilities .....	<u>3,459</u>	<u>4,100</u>
Capital Lease Obligations, Net .....	–	31
Line of Credit .....	700	–
Liability to Beneficiary, Net .....	389	389
Total Liabilities .....	<u>4,548</u>	<u>4,520</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted .....	(283)	2,488
Temporarily Restricted .....	1,533	1,227
Permanently Restricted .....	4,106	4,105
Total Net Assets .....	<u>5,356</u>	<u>7,820</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b> .....	<u>\$9,904</u>	<u>\$12,340</u>

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### REVENUES AND SUPPORT



### EXPENSES - PROGRAM AND SUPPORT



REVENUES AND SUPPORT	2008	2007
Admissions and Parking .....	\$4,832	\$5,112
Membership .....	1,750	2,200
Merchandising .....	2,388	2,434
Fundraising and Ticketed Events, Net .....	887	834
Education .....	648	722
Management Fee .....	4,120	4,120
Contributions and Bequests .....	4,144	6,591
Investment Income and Other .....	110	984
Total Revenues and Support .....	<u>\$18,879</u>	<u>\$22,997</u>

### EXPENSES - PROGRAM AND SUPPORT

#### PROGRAM SERVICES

Animals, Collections and Exhibits .....	\$10,374	\$9,222
Children's Zoo .....	1,147	1,126
Membership Services .....	1,096	1,087
Education .....	963	891
Retail Operations .....	1,079	939
Admissions and Other Program Expenses .....	783	781
Total Program Services .....	<u>15,442</u>	<u>14,046</u>

#### SUPPORTING SERVICES

General and Administrative .....	2,563	1,798
Fundraising .....	1,312	1,282
Marketing .....	1,381	1,373
Total Supporting Services .....	<u>5,256</u>	<u>4,453</u>
Total Expenses .....	<u>\$20,698</u>	<u>\$18,499</u>

EXCESS OF REVENUE AND SUPPORT OVER SERVICES	(1,819)	4,498
Depreciation Expense .....	(180)	(203)
Capital Expenditures Gifted to City of San Francisco .....	(396)	(4,031)
Other Capital Expenditures .....	(69)	(161)
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS .....	<u>(\$2,464)</u>	<u>\$103</u>

A tragic event in Fiscal Year 2008 contributed to a one-time escalation of capital, maintenance, and legal expenses for the Zoo. The subsequent decrease in Net Assets is the result of those extraordinary expenses.

# ANNUAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*We gratefully acknowledge the following for their generous contributions received July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 to support our mission to connect people with wildlife, inspire caring for nature and advance conservation action.*

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We are very grateful to those individuals who have notified us that the San Francisco Zoological Society is a beneficiary of their will, estate or financial plan. Please contact us at (415) 753-7173 if you intend to make a planned gift to the Zoo but have not yet informed us; we'd love to welcome you as a member of the Monarch Society!

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## FUNDRAISING

Congratulations go to this year's exceptional and festive fundraising events for generating significant revenue for the Zoo's animal care and conservation programs. Our annual fundraiser, ZooFest, raised an all-time high of close to \$800,000 due to the tireless efforts of co-chairs Layne Gray and Lindsay Bolton. Special thanks go to auction co-chairs and board members Rosemary Baker and Ashley Riley and corporate co-chairs and board members Chad Thomas and Jim Farrell. Our annual family event, ZooFest for Kids!, brought in \$190,000 with Zoo auxiliary member Holly Farrell's seasoned leadership and support team comprised of board member Cynthia Carroll, as well as Zoo auxiliary members Dodie Crawford, Katie Dyos, Maija Frisbie and Jessica Kaludis. The Annual Golf Classic tournament raised \$175,000 thanks to the Herculean championship of board members Harris Barton and Mark Roberts, with help from former Zoo Board Chair Gordon Dean. Our young professionals group, Zoo II, led by its president, Jeff McNulty, raised more than \$25,000 for Zoo programs with the organization of this group's signature event, the Fur Ball. In partnership with Earthwatch Institute, co-chairs and directors Barry Lipman and Merrill Magowan created "Journey to the 8th Continent," inspired by the unique country of Madagascar, which brought in over \$40,000. And Zoo auxiliary members Kristen McCarthy and Susan Dunlevy ushered in our very first "Ice Dreams" event that helped introduce our covered ice rink for the holiday season. Thank you to all the event chairs and committee members for creating such successful and fun events for the Zoo!

## LEAVING TREASURES BEHIND...FOR WILDLIFE



There are so many ways to make a lasting contribution to ensure that the vital work of the San Francisco Zoological Society to save wildlife and wild places continues for future generations.

Honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion while making a very special and personal gift to the San Francisco Zoo by sponsoring one of our carousel figures, personalized tiles or benches. Leaving personalized messages on these items lets someone know you care and provides critical support for the Zoo's animals and ongoing conservation and education programs.

Consider creating a living legacy and becoming a member of the Monarch Society by remembering the Zoo in your will today or making an estate bequest to the Zoo in the future.

**There are many more ways to support your Zoo. Please call or e-mail the Zoo's Development Department at (415) 753-7173 or [fundraising@sfzoo.org](mailto:fundraising@sfzoo.org) to see which programs best suit your interests and needs.**

## Feeding Animals – Then and Now

### Chimp Diet 1933



### Chimp Diet 2009

San Francisco Zoo Chimpanzee Diets				
Breakfast: All Fruit is given in one, none in pps				
	Banana	Apple	Orange	Large Leaf Eaten Choco
Cobby	2	2	1	5 pcs
Maggie	2	2	1	5 pcs
Talulah	1	1	1	5 pcs
Minnie	1	1	1	5 pcs

Dinner		
	Head of Leafy Greens	Cooked Yam
Cobby	1	1
Maggie	1	1
Talulah	1	1
Minnie	1	1

Not only have Zoos evolved over the decades, but so have the animal diets and nutrition. Animal caregivers have learned more about what animals naturally eat and that, similar to humans, certain diets can lead to health ailments including weight and heart issues. This diet comparison for the Zoo's chimps is a great example that highlights how far we've come over the years to make sure we're meeting each individual animal's needs. The serving of tea and sugar, bread and honey are now a thing of the past. Delectable, sweet items are now more of a treat for the animals. Sometimes keepers will use them to encourage the chimpanzees to bring back a foreign object that's been thrown into the exhibit by a Zoo visitor. They also can be used for training the chimpanzees to present their backsides to veterinarians for injections or blood draws. Now, diets replicate a more healthy and balanced approach that includes vegetables, a little fruit, starch and a pre-made chow that is packed with vitamins and minerals. What's even more fun is that keepers sometimes make fresh stew for the chimpanzees, which they especially love on a cold day!



ADOPT - AN - ANIMAL

## Share the Love!

**Celebrating our 30th Anniversary!**  
**Adopt your favorite animal at the Zoo.**

Animal adoptions make great gifts, too for Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day and other special occasions.

For details, please visit our Web site at [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org), call (415) 753-7117 or visit the Zoo's Member Services office in Entry Village.





# Zoo Calendar of Events

(PLEASE NOTE: SOME ITEMS MAY SPAN ACROSS AGE GROUPS)

## Infant to 5 Years

Our thanks to Fisher-Price® for sponsoring the Little Learners Log Cabin.

### Jills 'n Joeys

#### Every Tuesday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Children infant through 4 years old with adult(s)

Join the Zoo playgroup! Meet like-minded parents while letting your little ones play in a safe environment with age-appropriate animal-based toys. Adults will also enjoy having a close encounter with one of our Zoo animals. Meets once a week.

**Fee:** \$5 per child/week (entrance into the Zoo and parking not included). Pre-registration required, please call or email by 1 p.m. Tuesday.



**Questions:** (415) 753-8140 or toddlers@sfzoo.org.

### Fun for Little Learners

Children 18 months-3 years with 1 adult

Designed for young learners and their caregivers, each class of this 6-week series features a specific animal with imaginative play, songs, tactile activities, crafts, animal encounters, and Zoo walks. You may sign up for the entire series or individual classes.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$22 per topic (\$110 for entire series); all others \$25 per topic (\$125 for entire series). Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8140 or toddlers@sfzoo.org.

### March Series

(Registration opens February 10)

Children 18-28 months with 1 adult – choose one of the following:

#### Wednesdays, 9-10:30 a.m.

February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 4

#### Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 5

#### Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 (open to children 18-42 months)

Children 29-42 months with 1 adult – choose one of the following:

#### Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 4

#### Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m.

February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 5

#### Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 (open to children 18-42 months)

### April/May Series

(Registration opens March 31)

Children 18-28 months with 1 adult – choose one of the following:

#### Wednesdays, 9-10:30 a.m.

April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20

#### Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21

#### Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 (open to children 18-42 months)

Children 29-42 months with 1 adult – choose one of the following

#### Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20

#### Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m.

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21

#### Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 (open to children 18-42 months)

### Animal Adventures

#### Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m.

Children 3 years old with 1 adult

This class for young learners and their caregivers is filled with music, crafts, games, animal visitors, and Zoo walks. Learn about animals through the alphabet, numbers, colors, patterns and sizes. You may sign up for the entire series or individual classes.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$22 per topic (\$110 for entire series); all others \$27 per topic (\$130 for entire series). Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8140 or toddlers@sfzoo.org.

### March Series

(Registration opens February 10)

February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3

### April/May Series

(Registration opens March 31)

April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22

### Critter Crack-Ups

#### Saturday, 1-3 p.m.

June 13

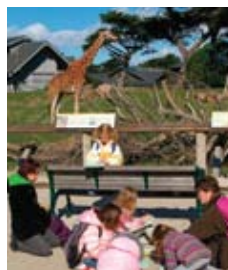
Children 3-4 years old with 1 adult

Here's a chance for kids and their grownups to learn about babies that hatch from eggs. We combine animal visits, dances and crafts to show how hatched babies, like toads, snakes and birds grow up. We also visit the chick hatchery in the Family Farm.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$30; all others \$35. One adult per child free. Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073.

### Explore a...



#### Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m.

Children 4-5 years old

Young explorers will love these classes filled with animal encounters, stories and crafts. Purchase a "Class Pass" and earn an "Explorer Diploma" by attending all classes in the Explore series: Explore a Desert, Ocean, Rainforest, Savanna, and Swamp.

### Savanna

**February 21:** Visit grassland animals from all over the world.

### Swamp

**March 14:** Explore our Children's Zoo wetlands and learn what lives in the waterlogged lands of swamps.

### Ocean

**April 25:** Study life in the briny deep.

### Rainforest

**May 9:** Explore the rainforest from the forest floor up.

### Desert

**June 20:** The desert is full of life to discover during this class.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$30; all others \$35 for individual classes. SFZS Members \$120; all others \$145 for a "Class Pass." Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073.

### Zoo 4 You

#### Dates & times TBA

Children 4 years old with 1 adult

In this four-session class, kids learn about animals that live on different

continents: Africa, North America, South America, Australia and Asia. We make learning fun through Zoo walks, classroom talks, crafts, and up-close visits with our ZooMobile animals.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$75; all others \$85. Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8140 or toddlers@sfzoo.org

### Spring Zoo Camp

#### April 6-10 & April 13-17

#### Monday-Friday,

9 a.m.-noon (PreK-K)

9 a.m.-4 p.m. (1-4th grade)

Children must be 4 to participate.

Similar in format to Summer Zoo Camp, Spring Zoo Camp combines Zoo discovery tours with animal themed crafts, games and animal encounters to teach about wildlife and wild places. Kids will discover how busy animals are in the spring – building nests, finding food and raising their babies. Extended care available.

**Fee:** \$180 to \$300. Pre-registration required. Registration begins February 18 at noon.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8135 or zoocamp@sfzoo.org.

### Summer Zoo Camp



#### Weekly June 15 through August 21

Children 4 through 12

Zoo Camp is a great way for kids to have fun while learning about animals and the natural environment! Summer Zoo Camp brochures will be available to download online at [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org).

**Fee:** \$180 to \$300. Pre-registration required. Registration begins February 18 at noon.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8135 or zoocamp@sfzoo.org.

## 6 to 17 Years

### Young Zoologist Class Series

#### Saturday, 1-4 p.m.

Children 6-8 years old

Purchase a "Class Pass" and earn a "Young Zoologist Diploma" by

attending all classes in the Young Zoologist series: Marvelous Mammals, Awesome Amphibians, Beautiful Birds, Radical Reptiles, and Bug Buddies (coming in Summer).

#### Marvelous Mammals

**February 21:** Meet some of our furry, warm-blooded relatives in this class all about mammals.

#### Awesome Amphibians

**March 14:** Hop on over to this great class full of frogs, toads, salamanders, stories, crafts and more.

#### Beautiful Birds

**April 25:** Soar on over to the Zoo and join us for a class about the big, the bold, and the beautiful birds here at the Zoo and beyond!



#### Radical Reptiles

**May 9:** Learn about amazing reptiles, which have been on the Earth for hundreds of millions of years. Become a Junior Herpetologist (and learn what one is).

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$30; all others \$35 for individual classes. SFZS Members \$120; all others \$145 for a "Class Pass." Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073.

#### Animal Mysteries – Commissary Capers

**Saturday, March 28, 1-4 p.m.**

*Youth 8-10 years old*

Put on your thinking caps and join us for a challenging adventure full of mystery! During this 3-hour class, youth will look for clues to answer a complex animal puzzle. You've never been on a scavenger hunt like this!

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$30; all others \$35. Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073.

#### Junior Keeper Club – Quarterly Meeting

**Saturday, March 28, 1-2:15 p.m.**

Meet in front of the Lurie Education Center

*Youth 9-12, JKC members only*

This club is for kids who are interested in animals and animal careers. Call for information on JKC member benefits, such as this quarterly meeting, and how to join. JKC members RSVP to attend. Prospective members, join by March 20 to attend.

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073 or [jkc@sfzoo.org](mailto:jkc@sfzoo.org).



#### Talk on the Wild Side! Volunteer Orientation

**Sunday, March 1, 1-2 p.m.**

Meet in front of the Lurie Education Center. *Youth 14-17*

Learn how to handle some amazing animals like parrots, livestock and walking sticks while giving informational talks to Zoo visitors. Utilize biofact carts to educate the public. Participants must attend three weekend training days prior to summer. Must be 14 by Memorial Day. No reservation required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8123 or [youth@sfzoo.org](mailto:youth@sfzoo.org).

#### Zoo Teacher Assistant Volunteer Orientation

**Sunday, April 5, 1-2 p.m.**

Meet in front of the Lurie Education Center. *Youth 14-17*

Interact with children in our Zoo Camp program. Help kids explore the world of animals through Zoo tours, crafts and games and assist Zoo Camp teachers with activities. Gain practical work experience with children. Participants must attend two training days and work a daily, half-day or full-day shift for a minimum four weeks throughout the summer. Must be 14 by Memorial Day. No reservation required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-8123 or [youth@sfzoo.org](mailto:youth@sfzoo.org).

### Scout Activities

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073 or [scouts@sfzoo.org](mailto:scouts@sfzoo.org).

#### Workshops for Brownies – "Animal Try-It" and "Eco-Explorer Try-It"

*Children 6-8 years old*

While earning a "Try-It" badge, Brownies enjoy fun activities, Zoo tours and a special animal experience.

#### Animal Try-It

Day Workshop:

**Saturday, April 4, 2:30-5 p.m.**

Twilight Workshop:

**Friday, April 17, 4-6:30 p.m.; or Saturday, June 6, 4-6:30 p.m.**

#### Eco-Explorer Try-It

Day Workshop:

**Saturdays, February 28 or May 16, 2:30-5 p.m.**

Twilight Workshop:

**Fridays, May 1 or June 12, 4-6:30 p.m.; or Saturday, April 4, 4-6:30 p.m.**

**Fee:** \$28 per participant. Pre-registration required.



#### Day Workshops for Juniors – "Your Outdoor Surroundings" and "Wildlife"

**Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

*Children 7 and up*

Juniors will earn a badge during this 4-hour workshop. A special animal encounter is part of the fun. Please bring a lunch to enjoy during our lesson.

**Your Outdoor Surroundings – February 28, May 16**

**Wildlife – April 4, June 6**

**Fee:** \$35 per participant. Pre-registration required.

#### Junior Girl Scout Badge Camps

*Children 7 and up*

Girl Scout Badge Camp offers Junior Girl Scouts the opportunity to complete ALL requirements for selected Scout Badges. Expert Wild Nights Guides and Zoo Instructors lead activities that fulfill badge requirements. This exciting program includes keeper talks and activities specially designed for Scouts.

**Your Outdoor Surroundings – Saturday 5:30 p.m.-Sunday 10 a.m. April 4**

**Friday 5:30 p.m.-Saturday 10 a.m. May 1, June 12**

**Wildlife – Saturday 5:30 p.m.-Sunday 10 a.m. February 28, June 6**

**Fee:** \$58 per participant. Pre-registration required. Adult chaperones required.

#### "All About Birds" Workshop for Older Girl Scouts

**Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**April 11 or June 20**

*Youth 10 and up*

During this great Interest Project workshop, older Girl Scouts will enjoy a guided tour, special animal

encounter, and more. Please pack a lunch to enjoy while we observe flamingo behavior!

**Fee:** \$35 per participant. Pre-registration is required.

### Group/Family Activities

#### BikeAbouts

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073.

**Sundays, 8:30-10 a.m. March 22 and April 26**

Families can bring their bicycles to the Zoo for this informative one and one half hour cycling tour. It's great to be in the Zoo ahead of the crowds and watch the animals start their day.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$20; all others \$25. Children piggy-backing on their parents' bikes \$7. Pre-registration required.

#### Mother's Day BikeAbout

**Sunday, 8:30-11 a.m. May 10**

The mom in your life will love this special Mother's Day outing! A leisurely hour-and-a-half-long tour will be followed by a relaxing continental breakfast. Bring the whole family along for the fun! Pre-registration required.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$25; all others \$30. Children piggy-backing on their parents' bikes \$7.

#### Father's Day BikeAbout

**Sunday, 8:30-11 a.m. June 21**

Here's something your dad is sure to enjoy on Father's Day...an early morning bicycle ride followed by a relaxing continental breakfast. Bring the whole family along for the fun. Pre-registration required.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$25; all others \$30. Children piggy-backing on their parents' bikes \$7.

#### Quarterly Members' Mornings

San Francisco Zoo Members enjoy early admission to the Zoo, a special animal highlight and keeper talk and free rides on the Carousel.

**Quarterly - Saturdays 9 a.m.-11 a.m. March 21, June 20, September 19, December 19**

**Questions:** (415) 753-7117

#### Monthly Renew the Zoo Volunteer Workdays

*Individuals and groups of all ages*

Help beautify the Zoo by working in our gardens! Work gloves, tools and refreshments provided. Participants receive a coupon for a free steam train ride and other special benefits. Pre-registration required.

**Second Saturday of every month,  
8-11 a.m.**

**March 14, April 11, May 9,  
June 13**

**Questions:** (415) 522-9702 or  
renewsfzoo@aol.com.



### **Summer Programming Begins June 13**

#### **Every day through Labor Day**

Join us as our full summer programming begins. Look for our Wildlife Theatre, Nature Trail, Talk on the Wild Side interpreters and many other exciting activities throughout the Zoo. Many animal encounters free with Zoo admission.

Visit [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org) for more information.

## *Adult Activities*

### **Illustrating African Wildlife**

**Sundays, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
March 29, April 5, 12**

African wildlife offers the artist an exciting variety of species to paint, from big cats to meerkats! With the unique combination of gouache and colored pencil on decorative papers, students create colorful wildlife paintings. Students will be inspired by the Zoo's many African animals and supplementary photographs. Instruction includes sketching, painting techniques and composition. Beginners and advanced students are welcome.

**Fee:** SFZS Members \$90; all others \$105. Pre-registration required.

**Questions:** (415) 753-7073.

### **Adult Volunteer Orientations**

**11 a.m.-noon**

Adult volunteers may work in a variety of Zoo areas including the Children's Zoo, Koret Animal Resource Center, helping with administrative projects or special events. An orientation tour leaves from the bronze tiger statue at

the Main Entrance. No reservation required.

**Saturday, February 21 /  
Thursday, March 5 / Saturday,  
March 21 / Thursday, April 2 /  
Saturday, April 18 / Thursday,  
May 7 / Saturday, May 16,  
Thursday, June 4 / Saturday,  
June 13**

**Questions:** (415) 753-7122 or  
volunteer@sfbzoo.org.

### **Docent Training Class Orientations**

**10 a.m.-noon**

If you are interested in joining the upcoming training to become one of our Docents, please attend one of the orientation sessions to learn about the course, meet current docents, and get a tour of the Zoo.

**Saturday, February 28 / Thursday,  
March 19 / Saturday, March 28  
/ Thursday, April 9 / Saturday,  
April 25 / Thursday, May 21 /  
Saturday, May 30 / Thursday,  
June 18 / Saturday, June 20**

**Questions:** (415) 753-7122 or  
zooguide@sfbzoo.org.



### **Senior Strolls**

**Starting March 12, Senior Strolls  
will switch to the second Thursday  
of every month**

Meet at the Main Entrance

Enjoy a guided walking tour with almost the whole Zoo to yourself. A docent answers questions and offers insights into animal behavior.

**Thursdays 9-10:15 a.m.**

**Questions:** (415) 753-7122 or  
seniorstroll@sfbzoo.org.

## **Science Saturday part of the** *Wild Places, Wild Things! Speaker Series*

**Saturdays, noon-1:30 p.m. Great Hall, Lurie Education Center**

*Presented by the McBean Family Foundation.*

**Questions: (415) 753-7073. Adults and youth 12 and over.**

### **The Plight of the Urban Bee February 28**

*Dr. Eric Mussen, Professor of  
Entomology, University of California  
at Davis*

Worldwide, bees are facing a massive die-off. Join us as Dr. Mussen discusses bee biology and ecology, the plight of the urban honey bee and other native species, and the phenomenon of Colony Collapse Disorder. Discover the environmental factors that negatively impact bees and how those factors can be minimized or avoided.

Dr. Mussen will also detail some of the challenges beekeepers are facing and explain why bees are so important to our ecosystems.



### **Cool Cuisine: Taking the Bite Out of Global Warming**

**March 21**

*Laura Stec & Eugene Cordero, PhD.*

Global warming has become one of the defining scientific, political and social issues of our era. Interest in reducing heat-trapping gases has spurred both environmentalists and entrepreneurs toward developing new strategies and products to reduce the carbon footprint of humanity. While more efficient automobiles and renewable energy sit center stage in the solutions category, agriculture and our industrial food system play a more minor role in the public eye. This talk, however, focuses on food, where it comes



from, how to cook with it, and how changing one's diet can reduce carbon emissions as effectively as buying a new fuel-efficient car. The material comes from the newly published book, Cool Cuisine: Taking the Bite out of Global Warming, which examines connections between food and energy use and offers solutions for reducing our carbon footprint through consumer education and food choices.

### **Researching and Conserving Bay Area Pumas**

**April 11**

*Zara McDonald, Executive Director,  
Felidae Conservation Fund*

A ground-breaking study of pumas in the Santa Cruz Mountains is generating unprecedented insights into the behaviors of one of the region's top predators. Can a combination of pioneering scientific research, education, and public outreach provide a new model for human-puma coexistence? Ms. McDonald will delve into puma research and conservation, revealing the visuals, stories and science of the Bay Area Puma Project.





## Special Events Winter/Spring 2009

Visit [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org) for the latest  
event information.

### PUBLIC EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Party for the Planet –  
April 18

Baby Bonanza –  
April & May

Fisher Price® Little People –  
June 27 & 28

80th Anniversary Event –  
June 27 & 28

Teddy Bear Festival –  
July 18 & 19

Fisher Price® Power Wheels –  
August 8 & 9

### "FUN"RAISING EVENTS

ZooFest – April 24

ZooFest for Kids! – June 5

Fur Ball – September 26

Zoo Crawl – October 1

Ice Dreams –

November (date TBD)

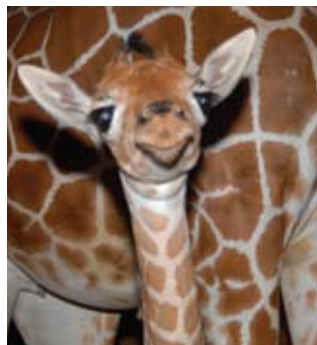
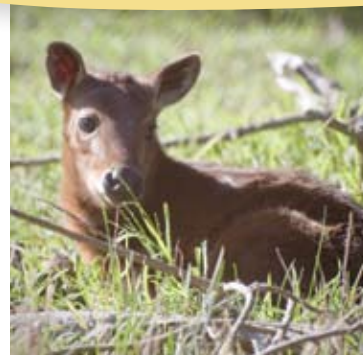
Please call or e-mail the Zoo's  
Development Department at  
(415) 753-7173 or  
[fundraising@sfzoo.org](mailto:fundraising@sfzoo.org) for  
further details.

# Bring Your Babies to See Our Babies

### WATCH FOR THE UPCOMING SPRING BABY BONANZA

Our special baby festival  
this spring celebrates our  
Zoo births.

Check [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org) for  
the latest details.



## Koret Museum Days at the Zoo

### FREE ADMISSION SUNDAY MAY 10

Celebrate the Koret Foundation's 30th Anniversary with a free  
Mother's Day trip to the Zoo on Sunday, May 10. Since 1979,  
the Koret Foundation has contributed more than \$52 million to  
arts, cultural, and civic institutions throughout the Bay Area,  
including the San Francisco Zoo's education programs.



### Dated Material — February 2009

#### Address Service Requested

Has your address changed? Are you  
moving soon? Please make address  
changes on your label and mail it back  
to the Zoo.

Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

See [www.sfzoo.org](http://www.sfzoo.org) for Zoo news.

Adopt-an-Animal	(415) 753-7117
Development	(415) 753-7173
Education	(415) 753-7073
Facilities Rental	(415) 753-7236
Information	(415) 753-7080
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San Francisco  
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