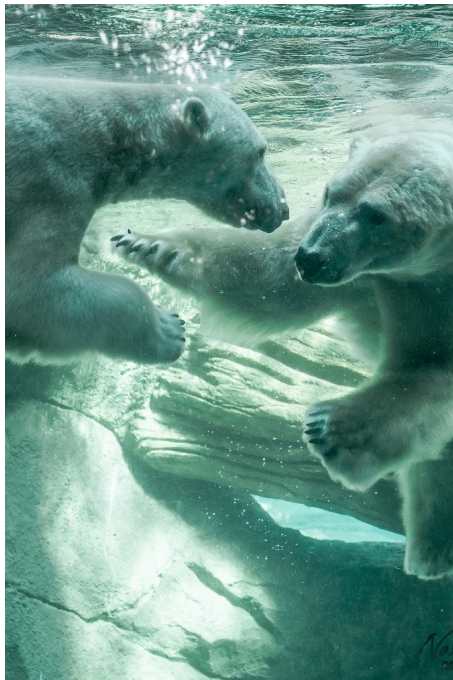




January 2018

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Volunteer Connections



Volunteer Department:

Sabrina Calhoun (513) 559-7755

Mollie O'Neil (513) 559-7736

Email: volunteers@cincinnati-zoo.org



Special Thank You to all
volunteers & staff who
contribute, produce,
and distribute the

**Volunteer Connections
Newsletter!**

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Calendar of Events for January & February

Date / Time	Event	Location
Mon. Jan. 8	Continuing Education: Winton Ray	Frisch's Theater
Sat. Jan. 20	Fiona's 1st Birthday Party	Entire Zoo
Tues. Feb. 20	Keeper Lunch-Potluck	Frisch's Theater

Nature Events Around Greater Cincinnati

Jan. 14	Winter Tree ID @ Miami Whitewater Forest/Visitor Center at 1:30 pm (Free)
Jan. 27	Maple Syrup Making & Sap Collecting Hikes @ Rowe Woods from 10 am - 3 pm

YOGA at the Zoo!

December 5, 2017 – February 6, 2018

Here is how it works: The prices for these classes are being offered to us at a hefty discount, and to continue that pricing, **we need a commitment of at least 10 people** who will be **pre-paying for the full session**.

If you are interested in participating, you can pay the instructor Nikki directly or you may just drop in if you don't want to commit to a full session. However, anyone who will commit to at **least 10 classes** (1 session), they will pay **\$50 up front (that's only \$5 per class!)**.

NEW DATE: Yoga is every Tuesday (4:30pm – 5:30 pm). Classes are held in The Lodge, but please check your MVP Home page every Tuesday for updates; as yoga sometimes gets moved. We will email you as well if a location change happens last minute. *You are welcome to park in the Safari Lot if you are arriving just before class starts, or move your vehicle from the Dury lot.*



Employee & Volunteer Price: Prepay \$50.00 for a session (by check or cash directly to the instructor Nikki)

- * Each session is 10 classes (\$5 a session)
- * Note that these are 10 consecutive classes and you will not be refunded for missed classes

Employees & Volunteer: Walk-in to any class and pay \$7

- * This requires no pre-commitment on your part
- * Must bring money with you to class

No sign-up or RSVP required, just show up WITH YOUR MAT and MONEY :)

2018 Volunteer Calendar- Continuing Education

2018 Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Volunteer Garden

Month	Day	Date	Time	Event	Speaker	Location
Jan	Mon	8-Jan	10:00 AM	Continuing Education Bird House- Penguins	Winton Ray/ Jenny Gainer	Frisch's Theater
Feb	Tues	20-Feb	10:30 AM	Keeper's Lunch <i>Potluck</i>	No Speaker	Frisch's Theater
Mar	Mon	12-Mar	10:00 AM	Continuing Education Night Hunter- Cat Canyon	Mike Land	Frisch's Theater
Apr	Mon	9-Apr	6:30 PM	Continuing Education Gorilla World/Jungle Trails	Ron Evans	Frisch's Theater
May	Mon	14-May	6:30 PM	Continuing Education Curator Panel <i>Potluck</i>	Bob Lessnau	Treetops
Jun	Mon	11-Jun	6:30 PM	Continuing Education Next Level Interpretive Skills	Volunteer Department	Frisch's Theater
Jul	Mon	9-Jul	6:30 PM	Continuing Education Enrichment Team	Christina Gorsuch/Jen Moormeier	Frisch's Theater
Aug	Mon	13-Aug	6:30 PM	Continuing Education CREW/Polar Bears	Terri Roth/ Erin Curry	Frisch's Theater
Sep	Mon	10-Sep	6:30 PM	Continuing Education Sitting Zoo Tour <i>Potluck</i>	Mike Dulaney	Frisch's Theater
Oct	Mon	8-Oct	6:30 PM	Continuing Education Elephant House	Cecil Jackson Jr	Frisch's Theater
Nov	Mon	12-Nov	10:00 AM	Continuing Education Horticulture	Steve Foltz/ Deb Zureick	Frisch's Theater

Zoo News

Saying Goodbye to a Rare Tiger: December 21, 2017 By Mike Land

It's hard to say goodbye to an animal that you've cared for more than two decades, but it's a little easier when you know it's the right time to do so.

Over the last 2 months, our male white tiger Akere's health deteriorated significantly. A recent exam revealed that he had non-treatable oral cancer. He was in renal failure and had severe arthritis in his hips. We provided supportive care and medication to ease his pain, but it was clear that his quality of life was not going to improve.



At almost 22, Akere was the oldest of his kind in any accredited North American Zoo. A tiger's median life expectancy is 15 – 20 years, so we were lucky to spend 21 years with a wonderful tiger.

Akere arrived in Cincinnati from Nashville in November 1996 at 9 months of age. He was a great ambassador for his species and spent his life educating and inspiring Zoo visitors. He had a great personality, always affectionate with keepers, giving that friendly chuff first thing in the morning. He spent the last ten years with our female Popsy. We no longer breed white tigers, so they were paired just for companionship. She let him know she was the boss and always got the prime sleeping spot.

He had a great fondness for water and would spend many a hot day laying in his pool. The pool was modified so it was easier for him to get in and out with his arthritic hips.

He passed surrounded by the people who loved and cared for him. He will be missed!



Zoo News (Continued)

The 90-Second Naturalist Resolves To Focus On Positive Stories In 2018

By [TANA WEINGARTNER](#) • DEC 20, 2017 - ARTICLE FROM WVXU: ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

Cincinnati Zoo Director Thane Maynard is tired of 'doom and gloom' stories about nature. He's dedicating himself to focusing on optimistic ones in 2018 on his show The 90-Second Naturalist.

"The world's full of bad news," he says. "You can see it on the cover of every paper every day around nature, around icebergs melting, forests burning... but the truth is there's a lot of good news as well.

Many species over the past 40 years are beginning to make a comeback. Some are famous like bald eagles right here in our area, but beyond those stories there are many places in the world where more people are working harder than ever to try protect wild lands and get it to so people live more sustainably and in cooperation with nature."

Maynard isn't worried about running out of stories during the year-long production called "Positive Nature."

He also balks at the idea that by only focusing on the positive, people might not grasp the importance of a particular situation.

"If you want to inspire people with wildlife - which is why the zoo is here - and you want to encourage them to get involved, telling them a success story and where people are doing good work is a much better invitation than saying everything's coming to a big crashing end."

Maynard is concerned conservation sometimes gets marginalized, when really it's for everyone.

"The most important single message we could tell is that it's not really just about saving eagles or saving alligators. Conservation actually is about preserving the way of life that people enjoy here on earth."

The 90-Second Naturalist is produced by Cincinnati Public Radio. It airs weekdays at 9:04 p.m. on 91.7 WVXU and around 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on 90.9 WGUC.



NEW BABY ALERT!

Meet our new baby aardvark born December 21, 2017.
Mother (Ali) and baby boy are doing very well!



Horticulture

Thank you, Horticulture Volunteers!

The end of the season has arrived and we just wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you one more time for your dedication and hard-work this year. You have helped to make our botanical garden shine and *Inspire People with Plants Every Day*. A quick recap of some of horticulture's amazing accomplishments this year:



- Grown and planted 40,000 annual specimens of over 350 varieties
- Planted 100,000 tulip bulbs
- Maintained 40+ seasonal display beds as well as numerous perennial displays and naturalized areas
- Added a new generation of trees to Centroid
- Waged war on weeds!!
- Hosted 3 successful horticulture symposiums
- Hosted 2 successful botanical carnivals (tree and pollinator carnival) where close to 300 families were engaged at each event and kids worked through 8-10 stations to receive their licenses to plant and trees/pollinator plants
- Hosted a highly successful Public Plant Trials Week where we engaged over 1,000 visitors
- Provided hand-on horticultural education for 24 teen garden assistants who with us throughout the summer to learn about horticulture and help keep gardens beautiful
- Provided 5 Buzz Troop teens with hands-on field experience photo-documenting the variety of insects/pollinators on plants throughout summer

And that is just the tip of the iceberg! We have a lot to be proud of and I look forward to seeing you all back in the gardens next year.

Have a happy winter! See you in 2018!



SAVE THE DATE

Volunteer Brunch and Awards Ceremony—tentatively, Saturday, March 3rd (details to be released closer to the date of the event).

Zoosters

Hi Everyone!

We had a very successful Treasure House at the FOL this year. We made our target amount for this year!! I want to thank everyone for your help and time throughout the season. We had great weather till the last week but all ended well.

The Zoosters again out did themselves with beautiful merchandise and time spent working the Treasure House.

We are taking a few months off and we will be back in March!!

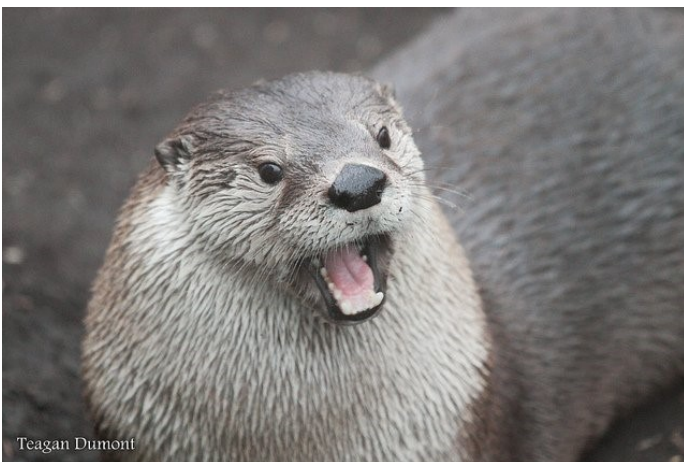
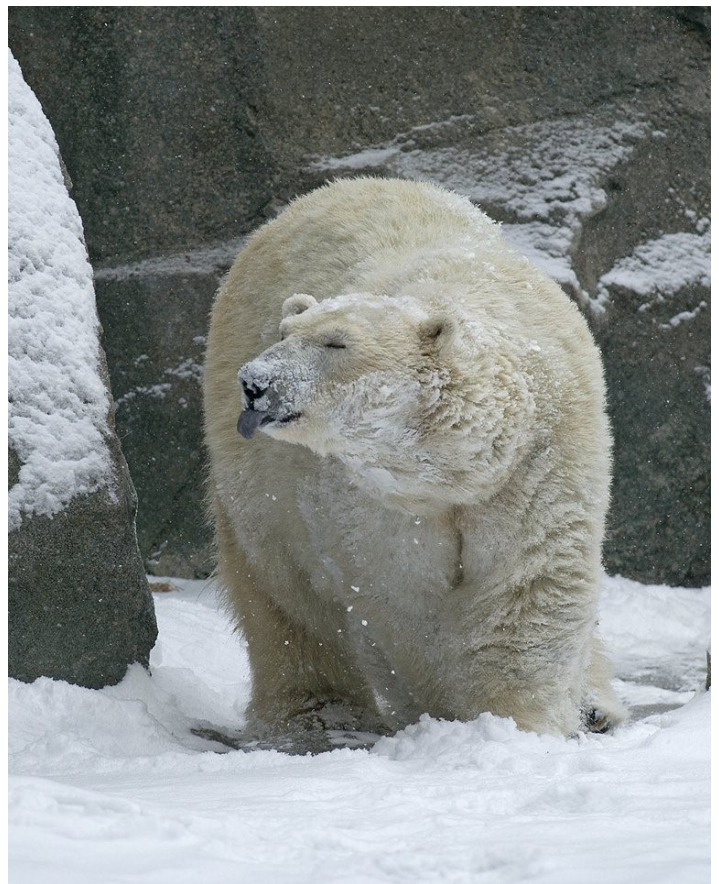
Thanks again to all!!!

Paulette Leppert



Fun Winter Facts from your Animal Friends!

A polar bear has oily fur that keeps moisture at bay & protects it from frigid waters. A layer of blubber directly below the skin provides insulation from the biting cold even when temperatures reach -34 F.



Teagan Dumont

Your face when you see how cold it is! River otters like Sugar & Wesley have waterproof coats to keep them warm. Their two-layered fur coat allows them to stay active throughout winter.

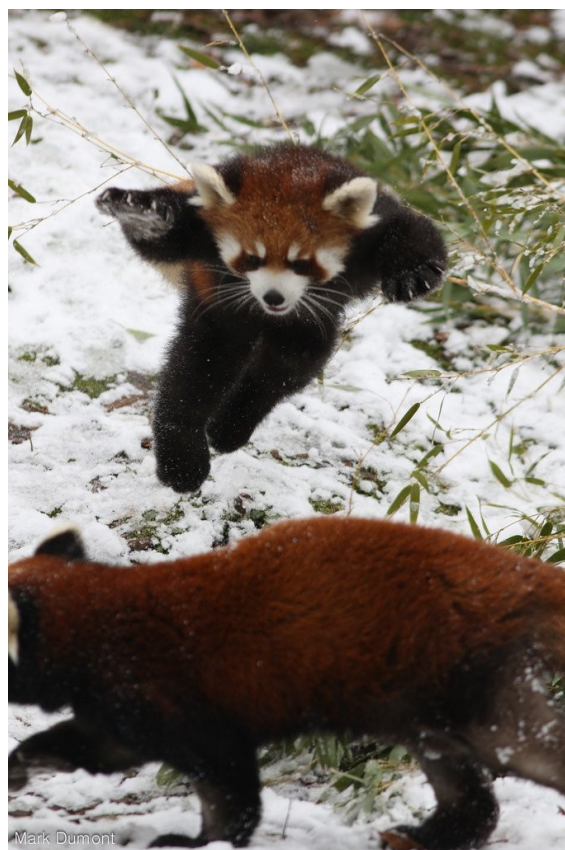


Cincinnati Zoo &
Botanical Garden

Volunteer & Intern
Department
3400 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45220

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

STAY SAFE & STAY WARM!



Mark Dumont