



July/August 2018

# Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Volunteer Connections

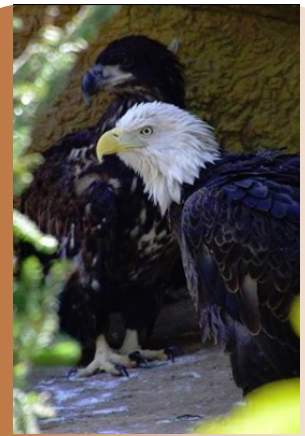


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**Special Thank You to all  
volunteers & staff who  
contribute, produce,  
and distribute the**

**Volunteer Connections  
Newsletter!**

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## Calendar of Events for September/October

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Mon. Sept 10 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Continuing Education - Sitting Zoo Tour - POTLUCK	Frisch's Theater
Fri. Sept 14 - 6:30 pm - Midnight	Zoofari - An Artic Journey -Tickets needed	Entire Zoo
Every Sat/Sun in October	HallZOOween	Entire Zoo
Tues. Oct 2 - 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Volunteer Celebration	Peacock Pavilion
Mon. Oct 8 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Continuing Education - Elephant House	Frisch's Theater
Thur. Oct 11 - 6:30 pm - 9 pm	Zoo Brew -Tickets needed	Entire Zoo
Fri. Oct 12 - 7 pm - 10 pm	The Zoo Caper: A Mystery Dinner -Tickets needed	Entire Zoo

## Animal News

### **Silverback Gorilla Ndume Will Return to his First Home at the Cincinnati Zoo**

**CINCINNATI (August 29, 2018)** – The Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA) Gorilla Species Survival Plan® (SSP), has recommended that silverback gorilla Ndume [nnn-doo-may] return to his original home at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. The 37-year-old gorilla was born in Cincinnati and moved to the Gorilla Foundation in California in 1991 to be a social companion for female gorilla Koko.



“Since Koko’s unfortunate passing earlier this summer, we’ve been considering the best options for Ndume,” said Dr. Kristen Lukas, Chair of the Gorilla SSP. “The SSP is confident that the Cincinnati Zoo will provide Ndume with outstanding care, access to modern, flexible, and specialized gorilla living areas, and a myriad of socialization options as he makes this transition. We’re all looking forward to seeing Ndume thrive in the company of other gorillas.”

## Animal News

Cincinnati Zoo and the Gorilla SSP have collaborated with the Gorilla Foundation on Ndume's care. The Zoo's curator of primates, Ron Evans and members of the Gorilla SSP, have routinely visited the Gorilla Foundation and have found him to be in good physical condition and behaviorally a normal healthy silverback.

"Ndume is very special to me, as he is one of the very first gorillas I have had the privilege to work with in my 35 years at the Cincinnati Zoo. I have known him since he was two years old," said Evans. "I am grateful to have had the chance to work with Penny Patterson and the Gorilla Foundation team during his years as a companion for Koko. I now look forward to guiding him through this next phase of his life back in Cincinnati."

The Cincinnati Zoo will work closely with the Gorilla Foundation to facilitate Ndume's return to Cincinnati. A date for the transfer has not yet been determined, but the SSP has requested that the move take place as soon as possible so he can begin the socialization process with other gorillas. "We completed upgrades to Gorilla World last year and have doubled the size of our gorilla habitats and specialized care spaces," said Evans. "We can provide Ndume with a flexible, accommodating home and excellent opportunities to be near and cohabitate with other gorillas, a critical foundation need for this highly social species."

"Assuring Ndume is in the best possible social and welfare situation is everyone's top priority," said Dr. Candice Dorsey, AZA's Senior Vice President of Conservation, Management and Welfare Sciences. "The Gorilla SSP and Cincinnati Zoo are taking the appropriate steps to assure Ndume has the best possible future."

The Cincinnati Zoo has been caring for gorillas since 1931 and has made significant contributions to gorilla populations in Zoos across the country. The 50<sup>th</sup> gorilla born at the Zoo, Elle, lives in a family group with one of the first gorillas born in Cincinnati, 48-year-old Samantha.

There are about 765 gorillas in zoos worldwide including approximately 360 that are managed by the Gorilla SSP. Western lowland gorillas are critically endangered in the wild, with less than 175,000 individuals. Due primarily to habitat destruction caused by logging, mineral mining and agricultural expansion, wild gorilla numbers continue to shrink.

## Animal News

The bushmeat trade – the killing of wild animals to be used as human food – is also a major threat to the western lowland gorilla population throughout the Central African rainforests. More than 1,000 gorillas are illegally poached for the bushmeat trade each year.

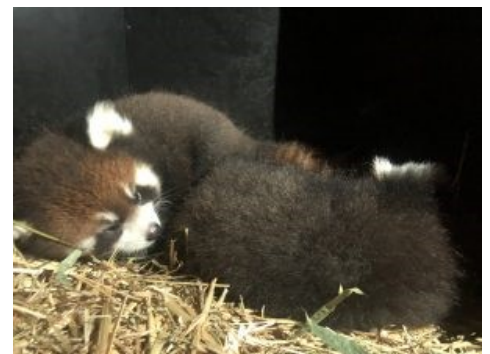
The Cincinnati Zoo supports wild gorilla conservation efforts like the Nouabalé-Ndoki Project in the Republic of Congo. This project includes the Mbeli Bai Study, the longest running research being done with wild western lowland gorillas. Through research, local education programs, publications and documentaries, the Mbeli Bai Study and other gorilla related efforts there are raising international awareness for gorillas and their struggle for survival.

### **Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes -- New Faces and Better Spaces at the Cincinnati Zoo** *Red panda babies, polar bear habitat improvements and more!*

**CINCINNATI (August 31, 2018)** – Red panda cubs born at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden in June are almost ready to venture into their outdoor habitat and may be visible in the next few weeks. And, those won't be the only cubs people will see this year if crossed fingers and toes and hormones work. To prepare for possible polar bear cubs, the Zoo is moving forward with plans to expand the polar bear habitat.

“We’re thrilled about the red panda cubs and have high hopes, based on breeding activity and behavioral observations, that we’ll have good news to report about Anana, our female polar bear, later this fall,” said Cincinnati Zoo Director Thane Maynard. “There’s no pregnancy test for this species, so we have to proceed as if cubs are on the way. Making room for additional denning space is just one measure. We’re also keeping activity and noise in the area to a minimum for the next few months.”

It has been more than 25 years since the Zoo has had polar bear cubs. Its breeding success with red pandas, however, is on the other end of the spectrum. Cincinnati Zoo leads the world in red panda births for the *fulgens Styani* subspecies, having produced a total of 88 cubs, including the two born in June to experienced mom Lin and first-time dad Kola.



## Animal News

“Red pandas and polar bears are both delayed implanters, so the only way to confirm pregnancy for these species is via ultrasound,” said Dr. Erin Curry, reproductive physiologist at Cincinnati Zoo’s Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife (CREW). “We were able to accurately predict the birth date for the red panda cubs using ultrasound and hope to get a clear image of a polar bear fetus at some point.”

Since the polar bear area is now a quiet zone and not a good place for jackhammers and noisy machinery, a timeline for the full polar bear habitat expansion hasn’t been determined. The polar bear renovation is part of the Zoo’s vision for the future, which aims to dramatically enhance habitats and provide animals with More Home to Roam. To make more space for the polar bears, and potential additions to their family, the Zoo’s North American black bears have moved to a new home in Colorado along with two of the three African lions that were born at the Zoo almost four years ago.

“We’re committed to giving animals more home to roam. Our African lion habitat was great for two adults and three cubs but not ideal for five fully-grown lions, especially when four females are of breeding age,” said Cincinnati Zoo Director Thane Maynard. “This move gives the lions remaining here, John, Imani and Kya, plenty of space and allows the other two, Uma and Willa, to stay together.”

The Zoo kicked off its More Home to Roam capital campaign earlier this summer, with a goal to raise \$150 million to dramatically enhance animal habitats and greatly improve the visitor experience. Making more space for lions and polar bears is part of a seven-year master plan that also includes a new elephant habitat that will give the gentle giants five times more trunk space!



Guam rails are extinct in their natural habitat, but there is still hope for the species. Two chicks that hatched earlier this month at the Cincinnati Zoo may play a part in bringing the wild population back!

## Horticulture News - Gardening Tips

Hello Horticulture Volunteers,

Can you believe that it is almost September?! What a whirlwind of a summer we have had! The gardens have looked truly spectacular, our *Gardening for Wildlife Station* has been both beautiful and educational, Bowyer has seen major expansion and advancements, and we have hosted a series of wonderfully successful garden events. Great work done by all! As we wave goodbye to summer, we will begin focusing our efforts in the garden toward fall maintenance and upcoming events (like Zoofari). Tasks in the garden will likely include: maintaining, weeding, & mulching high traffic areas, re-planting & mulching areas where plants have failed, preparing containers for fall display, and general nursery tasks and seasonal cleanup. Meanwhile, we will continue to engage visitors with outstanding garden education and upcoming garden events, including our Plant Trials Symposium and Tree Carnival. Other notable news for the upcoming weeks includes:

- ***No Garden Work on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>* (we are hosting the Plant Trials Symposium that day).**
- ***As of September 3<sup>rd</sup>* we will be returning to our 9 am to noon gardening schedule.**
- ***The Horticulture Office and Shop have officially moved to Vine Street!* We are still working out volunteer access to this area and I will be sending out an email with details & updates soon.**
- ***Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 12:30 pm – Volunteer Education session at Warder Nursery.* Please sign up for this event via MVP. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.**

Happy Gardening!

- Tosh Dobias

Roselawn is ready to play ball thanks to volunteers & businesses that supported this year's Reds Community Fund makeover. We're proud to be one of the partners on this project that revitalized the 22-acre campus around New Prospect Baptist Church.



## Cincinnati Zoo Welcomes Developmental Disabilities Community with First Zoo Access for All Day

*- Thousands show up to celebrate Zoo's efforts to be more inclusive*

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, in partnership with Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC), has been working hard to become the most welcoming, accessible, and inclusive Zoo for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Today, thousands of people from the developmental disabilities community, and organizations that serve them, showed up for the first Zoo Access for All Day to see the progress the Zoo has made toward this goal and to celebrate inclusion in a welcoming and fun environment.

“The purpose of today was to kick off our Zoo Access for All program and to get feedback from our family advisory council and community members on how we're doing,” said Rhiannon Hoeweler, VP of Visitor Engagement and Fun. “We've been planning and preparing for this day for almost a year, and it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves with support from Zoo staff.”

Almost 400 Zoo employees and volunteers have received training to better engage with individuals with developmental disabilities since the access initiative, funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), began in 2017.

In addition to teaching staff skills to promote inclusion through CCHMC's Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (LEND) training program, the Zoo offers sensory friendly restrooms, adult-sized changing tables, sensory maps, a rides access pass, social narratives, visual supports, and sensory bags filled with oral motor chewy tubes, fidgets, pinwheels, noise cancelling headphones, sunglasses, etc. A calming room will be ready in early 2019.



## Cincinnati Zoo Welcomes Developmental Disabilities Community with First Zoo Access for All Day

About 30 organizations that offer services for people with developmental disabilities got the opportunity to connect with individuals and families that could benefit from knowing about them. “In addition to providing information and materials, some organizations offered fun activities for visitors to enjoy,” said Hoeweler. “Wheelchair painting was one activity that looked like fun, and participants got to take their masterpieces home!”

The Zoo is committed to providing all members of our community, no matter their ability, economic status, social structure or race, with the opportunity to make a positive connection to wildlife and wild places. That commitment is emphasized in the Zoo’s vision for the future, and funds raised for its More Home to Roam capital campaign will be used to make the Zoo experience better for everyone.

## Bowling For Rhinos - Off Site Fundraiser - Tickets Needed!

Join us for Bowling for Rhinos, an off site fundraiser by Greater Cincinnati Chapter of American Association of Zookeepers. The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden has been instrumental to numerous in-situ and ex-situ conservation efforts for the rhinoceros. Bowling For Rhinos is a night of bowling to raise funds and awareness for the plight of all 5 species of rhinos (Javan, Black, White, Sumatran and Indian). Participants will bowl for 2 hours and have the opportunity to participate in several other “supplemental” fundraisers including a silent auction, raffle, and more! You can also support the cause by participating in our silent auction or raffle, or feel free to come and just enjoy the night with friends.

### **Event Details:**

Saturday, September 29th

Doors open at 5 pm, Bowling is from 6 pm - 10 pm

Located at Walt’s Center Lanes in Newport, KY

1809 Monmouth St, Newport, KY 41071



## ZOOFARI: An Arctic Journey!

**CINCINNATI (August 23, 2018)** – Zoofari, presented by Western & Southern Financial Group and Fort Washington Investment Advisors, is the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden’s premier party with a purpose, complete with delightful libations, dinner-by-the-bite from more than 60 remarkable restaurants, wild animal encounters, high energy entertainment, and dancing. This year’s event, which takes place on September 14, will have an Arctic theme.



“On top of being loads of fun, Zoofari is our biggest fundraiser of the year and raises much-needed funds to support the great work that we do at the Cincinnati Zoo,” said Cincinnati Zoo Director Thane Maynard. “Our co-chairs, Bob Castellini and Jen Painter, have been working hard to make this year’s party one that Cincinnati will remember!”

Zoofari attracts more than 2,300 guests and supports the outstanding care that the Zoo provides to more than 500 animal and 3,000 plant species, ground-breaking conservation efforts and educational outreach programs. It was voted Cincinnati’s #1 charity event in CityBeat’s 2015 Best of Cincinnati issue.

The party starts at 6:30 p.m. and ends at midnight. A limited number of tickets are still available. For more information, or to purchase tables & tickets, please call 513-487-3328.

### **CREW SPOTLIGHT:**

Scientists at CREW confirmed via ultrasound that our fennec fox Hokees is pregnant! The fennec fox is the smallest of all the world's foxes and has a gestation period lasting between 50 and 53 days.



## Volunteer Celebration!!!

**Please join us for a celebration of YOU, our amazing volunteers!**

There will be food, fun, and giraffe prizes so it's a don't miss for you and a guest!

- The celebration will be in Peacock Pavilion from 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm.
- Please park in the Safari Lot (Security staff will open the Safari Lot gate on Dury Ave from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm).
- Check in at the welcome table when you arrive to pick up your giraffe and drink tickets (for 21 and older)!
- The buffet will be open from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
- A brief program will begin at 6:00 pm with a Welcome from Thane, then some of our staff members would like to say a few words about our amazing volunteers!

Be sure you put your giraffe tickets in the buckets for your favorite prizes by 6:30 pm, when we will draw names and announce the winners!

**Please RSVP by signing up on MVP no later than Monday, Sept 24th. When you click the “Sign-up” button a window will pop up where you can enter 1 if you’re coming by yourself, or 2 if you’re bringing a guest.**



## In Our Thoughts...

### Paul Nils “Stace” “Hep” Stacy

Beloved husband for 43 years of Marcy (Pinkstaff) Stacy. Devoted father of Allison (Nick) Schaefer and Ryan Stacy. Dear son of Ingrid (nee Stening) Stacy; Son-in-law of Betty Ferrel; “Brother” of Eric Borcharding, Tim Pickrel, and George Joseph; Sister-in-law of Rikki (Jack) Doyle; Uncle of Michael (Laurie) Doyle and Tracy (Michael) VanSwol; God father to Lindsay Miller and Lauren Borcharding; Exceptional “Grandchildren” Steven, Angela, Nicholas, and David Maurer. Survived by other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his father Paul Stacy and father-in-law W. Ross Pinkstaff.



Stace passed away on Friday, August 10, 2018 at the age of 70. Resident of Green Twp., he was a 1966 graduate of Ambridge Area High School in Ambridge, PA, where he was class president and went on to Graduate from the University of Cincinnati in 1971, where he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. After college, Stace joined Shillito's where he worked until 1976. He then began his career at Gap Stores Inc., where he worked as a Senior Director of Distribution Planning and ended his career as the Senior Director of Supply Chain and Logistics until his retirement in 2008.

Stace loved all of his pets, was an avid boater and loved fishing. He volunteered at the Cincinnati Zoo and was a Colerain Cardinal Booster.

Remembrances may be sent to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Building Fund at 3400 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45220, or to the Joe Bertram Foundation at 3661 Hamilton Mason Road, Hamilton, OH 45011.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at the Cincinnati Zoo Frisch's Theater on Sunday, September 16, 2018 from 1-5 pm.



Cincinnati Zoo &  
Botanical Garden

Volunteer & Intern  
Department  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



You can now pre-order the 2019 Fiona calendar on our new online store! For those that would like to pick up in-store, you will need to call the gift shop to order at 513-475-6159.