

spring 2015

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

zoo**gram**



Maryland Zoological Society, Inc.

Chairman

Hugo J. Warns III

Immediate Past Chair

Edwin Brake

Vice-Chairman

James D. Witty

Secretary

W. Robert Zinkham

Vice President

Anne L. Donahue

Vice President

Eric G. Orlinsky

Vice President

Christopher Pope

Treasurer

Edwin Brake

Michael H. Aldrich

Calvin E. Barker, Jr.

Beth I. Blauer

Calvin G. Butler, Jr.

Ed Callahan

Chadfield B. Clapsaddle

Richard J. Corcoran, Jr.

Gregory A. Cross

Sandra Levi Gerstung

Joanna D. Golden

Herbert Goldman

Ingrid Harbaugh

Jill H. Kamenetz

Martin S. Lampner

Jennifer E. Lowry

Gabrielle M. Melka

Theodore K. Oswald

John A. Picciotto

Hon. Catherine E. Pugh

Dr. Scott Rifkin

C. Douglas Sawyer III

Carole Sibel

Jason St. John

Kenneth L. Thompson

Charles E. Vieth

Honorary

John H. Claster

Hon. Elijah E. Cummings

Norman C. Frost, Jr.

Elizabeth Grieb

Michael D. Hankin

Stuart S. Janney III

F. Ross Jones

A.B. Krongard

Hon. Catherine O'Malley

Roger G. Powell

Elizabeth K. Schroeder

Edward N. Tucker

Ex-Officio

Ernest W. Burkeen

Donald P. Hutchinson

Robin Sabatini

Thomas J. Stosur

President

Donald P. Hutchinson

Zoogram Editor

Sarah Evans

Content Editor

Lori Finkelstein

Project Manager

Jane Ballentine

Zoogram Designer

Suzanne Glover Design

Vol. 40, #1, Spring 2015
Zoogram is published by
The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore.

©2015 The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore
The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is managed
by the Maryland Zoological Society, Inc.,
a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation. Public
funding for the Zoo is principally provided
by the state of Maryland, Baltimore City,
and Baltimore County.

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is
accredited by the Association of Zoos and
Aquariums.

ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS

www.MarylandZoo.org

Letter from the president



As I write this letter, snow is on the ground outside and more is on the way. It's been a long, cold winter but that's okay because we know that spring will arrive soon and bring with it the bloom of a new season.

We close for a few days each week during the months of January and February but despite the cold, we stay busy on grounds. We use this time to complete improvements to the Zoo that you may notice when you visit. This winter, we made repairs to the Marsh Aviary netting, completed "punch list" items at *Penguin Coast*, and continued to plan for a year full of fun and interesting education programs, special events, and enrichment experiences for the animals.

This winter we also published our 2013-2014 Annual Report, which is available online only on the Zoo's website, under the tab labeled "Publications." It is always remarkable to look back and realize how much we accomplished in a year, undoubtedly with the help of our dedicated members, volunteers, and donors. We are so grateful for the ongoing support.

Our African penguins really have made *Penguin Coast* a spectacular attraction at the Zoo. Even on some of the coldest days, visitors and staff have happily watched the penguins and the cormorants swimming, diving, and making use of every inch of the new exhibit. I am assured it will be even more exciting to watch the penguins this season as we welcome four juveniles to the main colony and two to the Animal Embassy. All six represent the first chicks to hatch in *Penguin Coast* since we opened last September.

As you plan for springtime with your friends and family, check our website to see what's happening at the Zoo. Every day is its own adventure here, and we have some spectacular events planned, including perennial favorites such as Brew at the Zoo, Bunny Bonanza, and Zoo Bloom. If you've never attended a Breakfast with the Animals morning sponsored by Constellation, you might want to consider it. It's a truly memorable experience! Check your calendar and make reservations now, though, because this series sells out quickly.

Come visit soon – we're looking forward to seeing you!

Don Hutchinson
President/CEO

Contact the Zoo

www.MarylandZoo.org for information and reservations

General Information	(410) 396-7102	Human Resources	(443) 552-5310
Events	(443) 552-5276	Volunteers	(443) 552-5266
Membership	(443) 552-5281	Group Sales	(443) 552-5277
Adopt an Animal	(443) 552-5280	Visitor Services	(443) 552-5256
Development	(443) 552-5290	Gift Shop	(443) 552-5315
Education	(443) 552-5300	Rentals	(443) 552-5277

Administrative offices are open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily during the months of March through December and Friday-Monday during the months of January and February. The Zoo is closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

COUNTERTS

4 News from the Zoo

Jane the Chimp joins the troop.

5 Best Beef Brisket in Baltimore

Stop by *Railway Express* for lunch.

6 Plan Your Next Visit

Spring is in bloom so visit us soon!

8 Stealth and Beauty Survive

Meet the Zoo's new Amur leopard.

10 Kids Pages

Mud, mud, messy and marvelous.

12 On the Small Screen

Tune in to filming at the Zoo.

14 Development

A huge thanks to all *Penguin Coast* donors.

On the Cover

Amur leopard



NEWS

FROM THE ZOO



A wild snowy owl cared for at the Zoo for several months last year was successfully released off Assateague Island in early December, 2014. The Zoo's veterinary team performed surgery on the owl to repair an injured wing, giving her a second chance at life in the wild. "It's exciting to see her heal and mature," said Dr. Ellen Bronson, who was there for the release. "We are hopeful that she will thrive this winter and follow the other snowy owls back to her nesting grounds come summer."

Celebrate your child's birthday at the Zoo! It makes for a very special day no matter how old you are. You can plan your own event or let the Zoo do the work for you. Zoo members receive a special discount. For more information, please contact our Group Sales office at groupsales@marylandzoo.org.



A number of new antelope are now at the Zoo, so look closely as you travel down the Safari Boardwalk. Two female lesser kudu – a one-year-old and a four-year-old – now ramble the Antelope Yard along with storks, addra gazelle, and one male lesser kudu. The new females will be introduced to the male this spring and both are recommended by the AZA to breed with him. Meanwhile, three new sitatunga – two female and one male – have settled in on the other side of the boardwalk. Both females are recommended by the AZA to breed with the new male and with Hurley, the resident male. All of the sitatunga will keep getting to know each other this spring and hopefully the herd will continue to grow.



follow your nose to the best lunch in town

Late last summer, a visitor stopped by the Zoo's new *Railway Express* barbecue stand, located near the Whistle Stop, to sample the beef brisket. He soon Tweeted a clarion call to foodies across Baltimore: "No joke, the brisket @ the BBQ stand @ the @marylandzoo is the best I've had in MD. Legit!" This lucky man had stumbled across one of Baltimore's best kept secrets (although not for long): the talents of Grill Master Robb Moore.

Robb's job title isn't really "Grill Master," that's just what we call him at the Zoo. He is actually Food Operations Manager for SSA, the concessionaire that provides the Zoo's food and retail services. His job encompasses everything to do with food at the Zoo and as the weather warms, that will include manning the grill. "My mother taught me how to cook," says Robb, "but grilling comes from my father. I like to cook for a lot of people and I like to cook the kind of food that people generally want to eat."

At the Zoo that means pit beef, pulled pork, grilled chicken, ribs, and beef brisket as well as home-town sides such as tater tots and pickle fries, plus craft beer if you're in the mood. "We get a lot of repeat customers," admits Robb. "We've had dads especially who have been like, 'Look, this is the fourth time I've been here, this is fantastic.'"

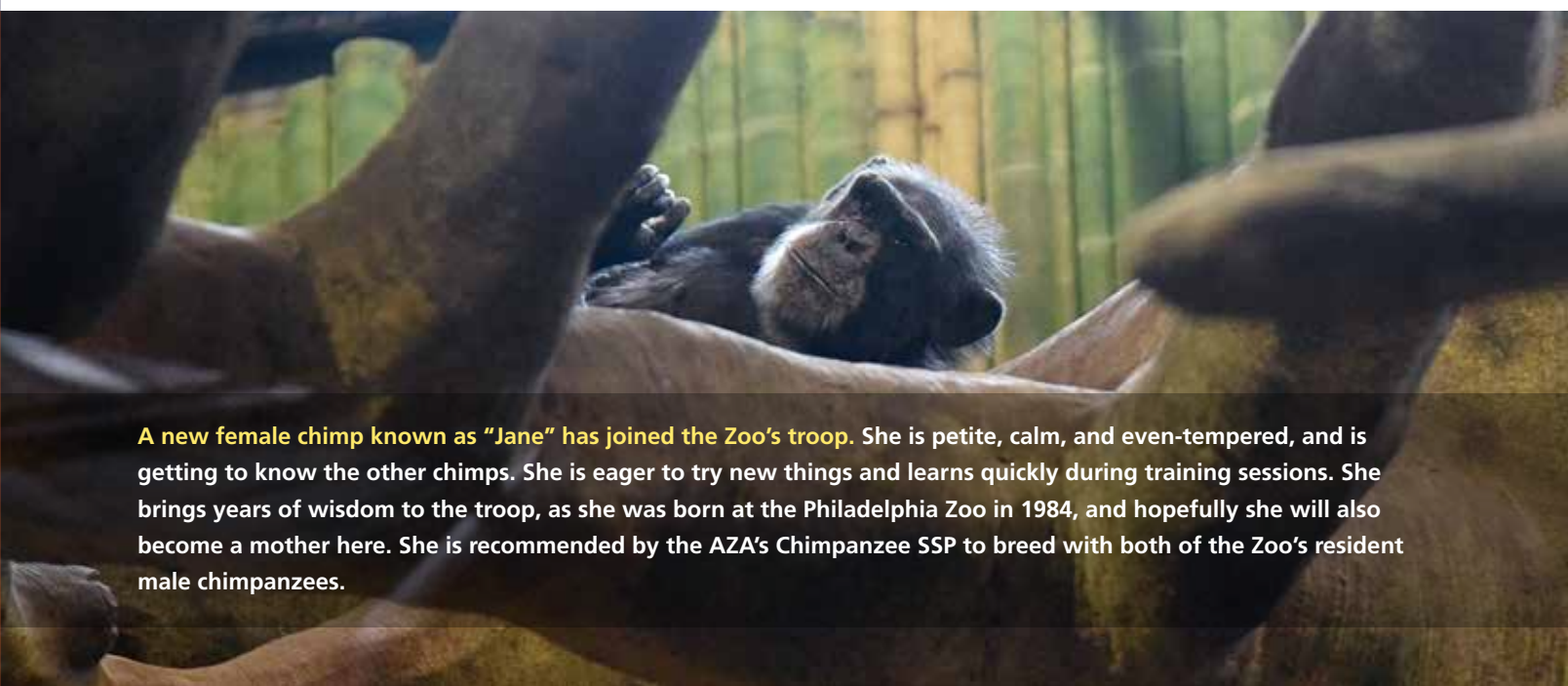
The magic is not just in the meat but in the sauce, as anybody worth his barbecue knows. Robb and his team offer a number of toppings that they've tweaked and tasted to perfection, and none is more popular than their Kansas City-style barbecue sauce, which has been likened by some to liquid gold.

During barbecue season, Robb arrives at the Zoo around 5 a.m. to fire up the coals and get the smoker going. Hungry guests start lining up around noon just as the pit beef is starting to peak.

Follow your nose next time you're at the Zoo and treat yourself to the best lunch in town.

And be sure to let Robb know what you think.

He's always looking to swap tips with a fellow grill master.



A new female chimp known as "Jane" has joined the Zoo's troop. She is petite, calm, and even-tempered, and is getting to know the other chimps. She is eager to try new things and learns quickly during training sessions. She brings years of wisdom to the troop, as she was born at the Philadelphia Zoo in 1984, and hopefully she will also become a mother here. She is recommended by the AZA's Chimpanzee SSP to breed with both of the Zoo's resident male chimpanzees.

It's been a long winter and you know you're ready to get outside and enjoy springtime. What better place to do that than the Zoo? We're ready for you, and so are all the animals! Join us any day of the week and for our special springtime celebrations.

Before your next visit, please check our website – www.MarylandZoo.org – for timely updates on Zoo programs, exhibits, events, and improvements.

Are You

YOUR NEXT VISIT



daily activities

When you visit, please check the Zoo information board in Schaeffer Plaza for daily schedule of on-grounds programs.

Goat Corral: Brush, pet, or just visit the goats.

Creature Encounters: Experience wildlife up close with live animals and hands-on activities at the Zoo's education center.

Education Stations: Enjoy more hands-on activities at special learning posts throughout the Zoo. Look for the green canopy!

Penguin Feeding: During twice daily feedings at *Penguin Coast*, a Zoo educator shares information about penguins in our colony and in the wild and takes your questions.

Keeper Chats: Keepers talk about the animals in their care and gladly answer your questions.

Jones Falls Zephyr: Ride the rails daily, weather permitting. \$

Carousel: Your chance to ride a cheetah, zebra, giraffe, or other favorite animal! \$

Giraffe Feeding Station: Meet a giraffe up close and personal. \$

Animal Training Demonstrations: Watch and learn as staff work with select Animal Ambassadors.

on-grounds programs

New this spring, in addition to the many fun and educational activities that you can participate in for FREE each day at the Zoo, we are offering once monthly programs especially for families and once monthly programs geared for preschoolers. During these hands-on programs, participants will make a special craft to take home. You'll have fun learning about animals and being creative at the same time.

To learn more or to sign up, please go to the Zoo's website and click on Education, then Public Programs. Please be aware that some programs require pre-payment and registration.

Don't miss our next Family Overnight Campout, scheduled for June 13!

Brew at the Zoo

Start your summer on a good note by coming to Brew at the Zoo over Memorial Day Weekend. This ever-popular beer and music festival, presented by BB&T, features live bands, great food, artisan vendors, and plenty of beer and wine to sample. See you at Waterfowl Lake!

Tickets are required and include admission to the Zoo as well as the festival, plus unlimited beer and wine samplings.

Dates: May 23 & 24 | Hours: 1 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Prices: \$25-\$65



special events

Breakfast with the Animals

Visit the Zoo on a beautiful spring morning to have breakfast with your favorite animals. Enjoy a delicious meal and talk with keepers. It's a VIP experience worth waking up for!

Each breakfast is from 8:30-10 a.m. Space is limited and reservations are required. All breakfasts sponsored by Constellation. Admission to the Zoo is included, valid same day only. For further details, please visit www.MarylandZoo.org.

Ticket prices are \$55 for members, \$65 for non-members, and FREE for children under 2 (but ticket still required).

Dates:

March 21: Breakfast with the Chimps

March 28 & 29: Breakfast with the Penguins

April 18: Breakfast with the Giraffes

April 26: Breakfast with the Penguins

May 2: Breakfast with the Giraffes

May 10: Breakfast with the Penguins

June 20: Breakfast with the Chimps

Zoo Bloom

Celebrate the arrival of spring on this special day at the Zoo. We've got enrichment planned for the animals and springtime activities planned for you.

Date: March 14 | Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Bunny BonanZOO

It's the most egg-citing event of the year! Enjoy a springtime tradition at the Zoo sponsored by our friends at Mary Sue Candies. Games, crafts, free egg hunts, live entertainment and more! Free with Zoo admission; small fee for some activities.

Dates: April 3, 4, 5 | Hours: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.



stealth and beauty survive

By Sarah Evans, Zoogram Editor

Across Asia and Africa, the leopard survives. A beautiful cat easily recognized for its spotted coat, the leopard is also a fierce and cunning predator instinctively primed to grab any meal that comes along. Leopards eat just about anything and have adapted to survive almost anywhere, including jungle, grasslands, swamp, desert, rocky hills, and forested mountains. Apart from humans and some rodents, leopards occupy more diverse habitats than any other mammal on earth.

Despite their eye-catching beauty, these cats prefer to go unnoticed. It is to their advantage to disappear into the shadows. Exceptionally long and sensitive whiskers allow them to “feel” their way through the night. That magnificent coat – much too admired by humans and much too sought after by poachers – offers invisibility by day. In dappled light, the spots break up the big cat’s shape, allowing a leopard to hide in plain sight.

Beware the oblivious animal that misses the leopard crouched dangerously above or creeping silently below. Leopards can get within a few feet of their prey before launching a lightning-fast attack. Anything is fair game: birds, snakes, rodents, small mammals, antelope, deer, livestock, and on the African savannah, even young giraffe. After a successful kill, a leopard will often drag the carcass up a tree to safeguard it from other predators. This takes remarkable power and agility, which the leopard possesses.

While there is only one species of leopard, there are nine subspecies spread across two vast continents. Leopards are found in most of sub-Saharan Africa, eastward to the Arabian Peninsula, and throughout southwest Asia to India, China, and Russia’s Far East. The northernmost subspecies is the Amur leopard and it is the rarest cat in the world, living proof that even for a predator as successful and adaptable as the leopard, survival is not guaranteed.





Padding through deep snow in the forests of Primorsky Krai, an Amur leopard silently traverses land that offers life and death in perilous measure.

Amur Leopards in Russia and China

Only about 40 Amur leopards are left in the wild, clinging fiercely to existence in far eastern Russia and northern China. Against considerable odds, the wild population has remained tiny yet tenacious over the past few decades, living in the forests of Primorsky Krai, a province of Russia

that borders China. These same forests, which represent only a sliver of the Amur leopard's former range, are also home to equally endangered Amur (or Siberian) tigers as well as Asiatic black bear, brown bear, wolves, and Eurasian lynx. All of these predators prowl the same mountainous terrain, hunting a remarkably rich diversity of prey that includes sika deer, roe deer, wild boar, hares, badgers, and many species of smaller animal.

Living much further north than any other sub-species of leopard, Amur leopards have adapted to warm summers and bitterly cold winters. They have longer legs than other leopards, allowing them to walk in deep snow with ease. Their fur grows long and thick in winter, providing warmth and insulation. It also changes color from reddish yellow in summer to pale yellow in winter, creating camouflage against the changing forest backdrop. Pay close attention to the Zoo's new female Amur leopard and you also might notice that the rosettes on her coat are more widely spaced than those of an African leopard and that they have a thicker black border.

Amur leopards are solitary cats that rarely interact with each other except to breed. They require large territories to avoid competition for prey and cautiously avoid their much larger and very dangerous tiger cousins. To give a sense of comparison, Amur leopards weigh between 70 and 110 pounds; Amur tigers weigh between 396 and 660 pounds.

Amur leopards normally hunt at night and, like other leopards, kill by ambush. They pad silently across snow or leaf litter, sneak up on unsuspecting deer or smaller prey, and attack in a burst of speed. These incredibly athletic animals can sprint at a top speed of 35 mph and leap more than 19 feet horizontally and 10 feet vertically.

Threats to Amur Leopards

Nature has not subdued Amur leopards but perhaps humans have. These forest predators are most threatened by humans overtaking their habitat, competing for the same prey, and poaching them into near extinction. Fires ignited each year to clear land for agriculture have severely reduced Amur leopard habitat, particularly since the fires often burn out of control. The timber industry and the ongoing development of roads, railway lines, and natural gas pipelines reduce forest further. With population size now so small in the wild, inbreeding and disease have become significant concerns for those Amur leopards that remain.

Despite these myriad pressures, there is reason to hope that Amur leopards will survive. The two governments most able to influence their fate – Russia and China – have taken important steps recently to protect habitat. In 2012, Russia converted over 1,000 square miles of Amur leopard and tiger habitat into the Land of the Leopard National Park. China has established a similar reserve on the other side of the Amur River that connects with Russia's reserve.

Zoos are collaborating internationally through the Amur Leopard GSMP (Global Species Management Plan) to build a sustainable and genetically viable population of Amur leopards in captivity. The Maryland Zoo, now caring for its first ever Amur leopard, is one of those institutions.

And in the forests of Primorsky Krai, one man in particular is working tirelessly and notably to save Amur leopards and tigers. Sergei Bereznuik, who grew up in Russia's Far East and now directs the Phoenix Fund, leads a small team of conservationists whose impact has been huge. Recognized internationally for his work, Bereznuik focuses locally and comprehensively. The Phoenix Fund supports Russian anti-poaching units, gathers scientific data on the cats, promotes public education, advocates for increased environmental protection, and mediates human-animal conflict. Bereznuik remains resolute and is inspired, he says, by the famous quote from American anthropologist Margaret Mead:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Spring is mud season! Mud happens when it rains outside and the water mixes with the earth to create a soupy, sloppy mess. Yay!

Some grownup in your life might say, "Stay out of the mud! Don't step in the mud! Keep the mud off your shoes!" One afternoon soon though, when it's raining or just after it's rained, tune those voices out for a while and go outside to play in the mud. Make some mud pies, fling some mud at your friend, or cover yourself head to toe in mud. You'll have a fun afternoon and you might discover, as many animals have, that mud can be useful and feel good, too.

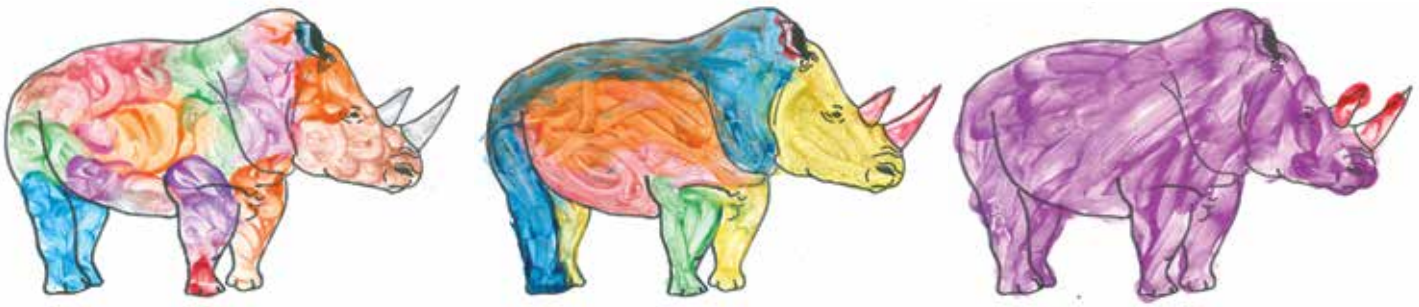
Take a cue from our rhinos and enjoy mud. (But then definitely hose off before going inside again because if you don't, you'll get in trouble with those grownups and so will we.)



big
and
muddy



kids



Finger-painted rhinos by Sidonie Evans, 3rd grade, School of the Cathedral, and Mignon Evans, 1st grade, McDonogh School

Mud Painting

Can you name animals at the Zoo that really love to roll in mud? If you said rhino, elephant, and warthog, you're right!

Mud is good for them! These animals have very little hair and few sweat glands on their hides. They roll, or wallow, in mud to protect their skin from sunburn, cool off, relieve itchy insect bites, and keep insects away.

From the comfort of your very own home, you can help a rhino to wallow! If you have newspaper or craft paper at home, draw a huge silhouette of a rhino (or ask someone to help you do this). Then, mix dirt and water in a paper cup and use a popsicle stick to "paint" your rhino with your home-made mud. If you don't want to use real mud, try finger paint!

**In any language,
mud is mud**

Spanish: barro

German: schlamm

Danish: mudder

French: boue

Italian: fango

Swahili: matope

Japanese: doro

Zulu: udaka

Russian: gryaz

Inuit: akaiya

Mud Architecture

Mud is a great building material because when wet, it can be molded and shaped like clay, and when dry, it is very strong. All over the world and for thousands of years, people have used mud as a construction material to build houses, ovens, and other strong, fire-resistant structures. Did you know that bricks are made from mud?

Humans are great mud architects. From simple to sophisticated, you can find mud buildings all over the world. Here are a few of our favorites:



Mud house in Thailand,
exterior and interior



Djene Mosque, Mali

Many animals are amazing architects, too, and most of them use mud as a building material. Check these out!



Robins and many other birds use mud to construct their nests. But no bird makes a better mud nest than the red ovenbird of Central and South America. If you want to watch a pair of red ovenbirds building their nest, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzdBFu7pjVg>. So cool!



Beavers fell trees with their teeth, gather sticks and mud, and construct dams. Inside the dams, they create lodges where they live. The largest beaver dam known to exist is in Alberta, Canada and stretches half a mile wide. Biologists estimate that it took 20 years to build!



Australia's cathedral termites build towering mounds, up to 15 feet high, from mud, chewed wood, and their own saliva and feces (poop!)



tell the penguins

By Jane Ballentine, Director of Zoo Public Relations

When *Penguin Coast* opened last fall, it was an exciting time for everyone involved in its creation. Years of hard work and creative collaboration culminated in something truly special and momentous, and the Zoo was now putting its best foot forward for the world to see.

It is gratifying to report that the response to the new exhibit has been tremendous. Thousands of people have passed through the Zoo's Main Gate since *Penguin Coast* opened. Maybe they saw a billboard on their way downtown, maybe they caught a story about the Zoo in the news, maybe they visit often or hardly at all, but in any event, people have been following their own trails of curiosity to the Zoo. It helps that everyone loves penguins, and apparently this includes television producers. Soon after *Penguin Coast* opened, it caught the attention of producers working on two nationally televised shows. And so, last fall, the Zoo twice became a set for lights, cameras, action!



Television host Mike Rowe visits with penguins (top) and Anna the elephant (above) while the stars of "Our Little Family" enjoyed a close-up encounter with a penguin Ambassador.

The first call came in late October from a producer working on a series called "Our Little Family," a spin-off series of TLC's "Little People Big World." The reality show focuses on a family of 5 from Annapolis: Mom, Dad, 5-year-old son, and twin 3-year-old daughters. After reading several news stories and seeing video clips of *Penguin Coast*, the producer decided that The Maryland Zoo would be the perfect place to film the family's first-ever trip to a zoo.



we're rolling!

The premise of the show was to introduce the family to animals in ever-increasing size, from penguins to goats to elephants, as they made their way through the Zoo. Several departments, including Public Relations, Visitor Services, Education, and Animal, were involved in arranging animal experiences for the family and guiding them through their visit, with a crew of 13 people following and recording their every move and interaction with animals and staff all day long. The family got to meet a Penguin ambassador, brush the goats in the Goat Corral, and feed the elephants. They had such a good time that they plan to return to the Zoo on their own this spring, without the camera crew!

The shoot itself went off without a hitch even though it sometimes felt like organized chaos. This seems to be the reality of filming a reality show. Things move at a fast pace. The shoot itself is only semi-scripted and filming does not necessarily proceed in the order that you eventually see when the show airs. Weather happens, schedules change, life intervenes, and everyone has to roll with it. This is especially true at a venue that involves animals and a cast that includes kids! So roll with it we did – and they did – and it all turned out well.

At about the same time as the “Our Little Family” shoot, we pitched the Zoo and our charismatic penguins to a national production company filming the series “Somebody’s Gotta Do It.” Hosted by Baltimore native Mike Rowe (whom you might know from “Dirty Jobs”), the series focuses on people with unique jobs or hobbies. Mr. Rowe spends time with his guests learning about what they do and their passion for doing it.

As a native son, Mr. Rowe wanted to showcase some of the places and people that make Baltimore a special place to live, work, and visit, which is why the series was filming here last fall. Our penguins and staff made the cut, the producers gave us the nod, and we got ready for another television shoot.

Without giving too much away, we can tell you that on the day of Mr. Rowe’s visit, filming followed a tight timeline but was not at all scripted. It didn’t need to be because Mr. Rowe is good at what he does and can enter into impromptu, genuine, intelligent conversation with just about anyone. He really enjoys learning about what other people do and this was very apparent during his Zoo visit. He spent time with General Curator Mike McClure talking about elephants, wildlife conservation, and the contributions of zoos – and this zoo in particular – to conservation and scientific research. He also went behind the scenes at *Penguin Coast* and learned a whole lot about penguins, penguin husbandry, and the inner workings of a state-of-the-art aquatic exhibit from Area Manager Jess Phillips and Avian Collection and Conservation Manager Jen Kottyan. We can tell you that baby penguins were also involved and we hope they make it into the final edit of the show!

Both shows are scheduled to air in April or May. We don’t know the exact dates yet but we will keep you posted.

Stay tuned!



An exhibit with all the bells and whistles

Anybody who visits *Penguin Coast*, the Zoo's new African Penguin exhibit, can tell that it provides more than just the basics. It's a beautiful space with all the bells and whistles. If you've ever done a home renovation, you probably remember writing your "must-have" list and your "nice-to-have" list. Thanks to the State of Maryland, the City of Baltimore, and several generous businesses, foundations, and individuals, the Zoo fulfilled its entire "must-have" list and a sizable "nice-to-have" list in the creation of this truly world-class exhibit.

The "must-haves" include a 360-degree pool for the penguins, a state-of-the-art filtration system, and a more spacious and well-ventilated indoor husbandry center for the birds. The "nice-to-haves" include underwater viewing, classroom space, and digital kiosks where educational videos about penguins and cormorants can be displayed. These "nice-to-haves" are featured inside the Penguin Education Center and each is made possible by a key donor deserving a special shout-out.

The BGE Learning Lab is a high-tech, multi-purpose classroom space that tremendously improves the Zoo's ability to host education programs and activities in a comfortable and accessible environment. Normally, the lab's sliding doors are wide open and Zoo visitors can wander in and out to participate in informal education activities and programs. When the doors are closed, the lab becomes a classroom or lecture hall for more formal or private education programs and presentations, including films and slide shows. At night, the lab can be cleared out and transformed into an attractive space for parties, weddings, or corporate events. The BGE Learning Lab is made possible by a generous gift from BGE.

BGE also provided funding for the creation of The BGE Underwater Zone where guests can watch penguins and cormorants swimming above or below water. The oohs and ahhs of children and adults draw everyone to the window when penguins torpedo past!



Zoo President Don Hutchinson shared ribbon-cutting honors at the opening of *Penguin Coast* with (front row) Speaker Pro Tem Adrienne A. Jones; Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Blake family friend, and daughter, Sophia; Nancy Noppenberger, Zoo CFO; Karl Kranz, Zoo COO and Executive Vice-President of Animal Programs; Mike McClure, General Curator; (back row) Edwin Brake, Immediate Past Chair of the Maryland Zoological Society; and Timothy J. Regan, CEO of Whiting-Turner.

We are extremely grateful to BGE, PNC, Michael and Ann Hankin, Brown Advisory, the Howard and Martha Head Fund, and the many other generous and visionary donors who made *Penguin Coast* possible. Every "must-have" and "nice-to-have" combines to create a superb experience for Zoo penguins and visitors alike.

While looking through the enormous underwater viewing window, guests also can check out either of the two digital kiosks. These and other educational experiences within the Penguin Education Center are made possible by a generous gift from PNC. The interactive kiosks display video content that better acquaints visitors with African penguins in their natural habitat and at the Zoo, and with conservation efforts being made on behalf of this endangered species.

Outdoors, guests can gather on Demonstration Wharf to participate in a Keeper Chat, observe a daily penguin feeding, talk with Zoo educators, or just enjoy the penguins on their own. This inviting pier overlook -- one of the best features of the exhibit -- was made possible through generous gifts from Michael and Ann Hankin, Brown Advisory, and the Howard and Martha Head Fund.

To all of our donors, thank you!



thank you!

to our *Penguin Coast* donors

State of Maryland
City of Baltimore
BGE

Ann and Harvey Clapp

SERVICE SYSTEMS ASSOCIATES

Michael and Ann Hankin/ Brown
Advisory / Howard and Martha
Head Fund

Lockhart Vaughan Foundation

PNC

BB&T

Ellin & Tucker, Chartered/ Edwin
Brake and Family

The Hecht-Levi Foundation, Inc.

The Middendorf Foundation, Inc.

The Henry and Ruth Blaustein
Rosenberg Foundation
Stifel

Charles and Claudia Vieth

Hugh and Monica Warns

The Whiting-Turner
Contracting Co.

Claire, Helena, Natalie and
Elizabeth Zinkham

Karen and Edward Burka

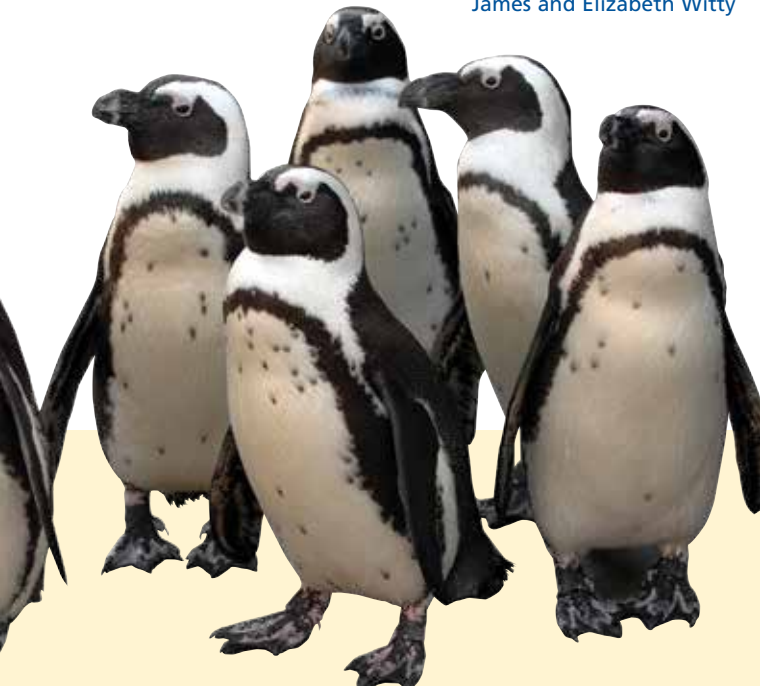
Greg and Christine Cross

Davison-Golden Family
Philanthropic Fund

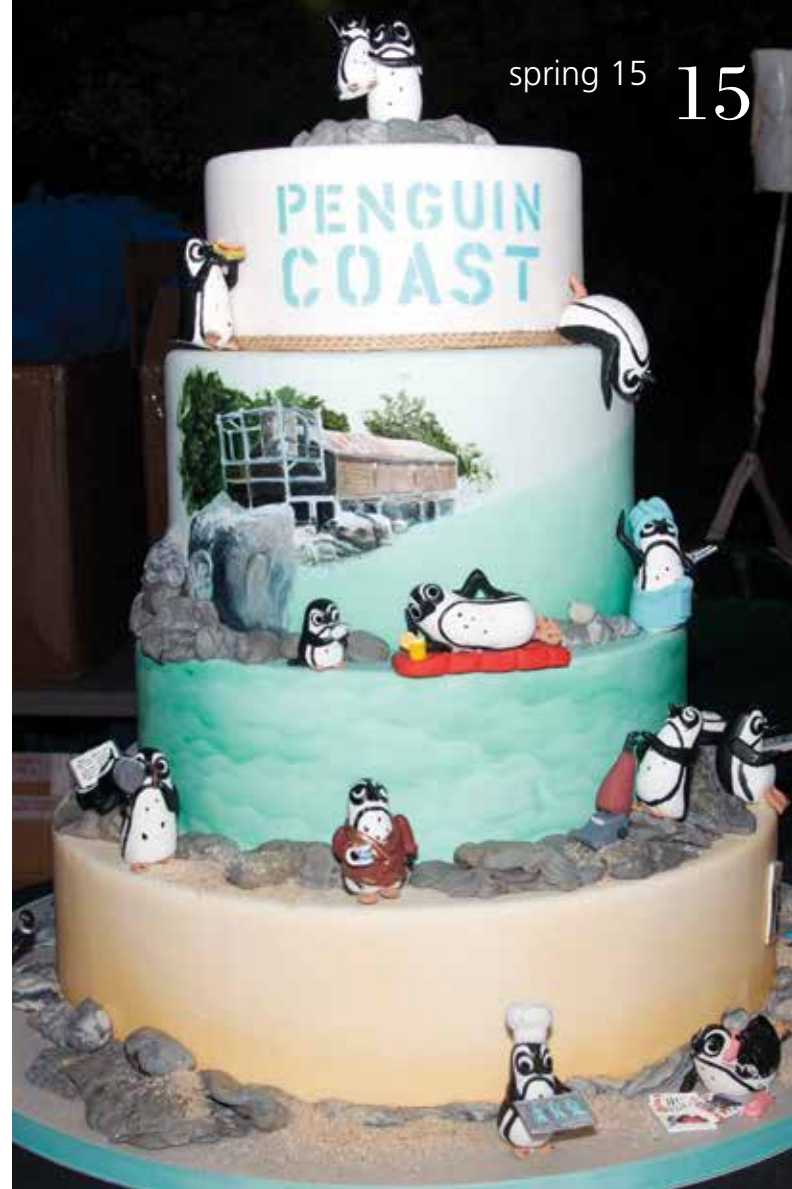
Anne and Jeff Donahue

Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP

James and Elizabeth Witty



This year at the Zoo there are brand new membership levels designed with your needs in mind. Choose the level that fits your flock best! Encourage friends and acquaintances to sign up, too, and share with them the many great benefits of being a Maryland Zoo member.



spring 15 15

new for 2015

Individual	\$65	1 Adult
Companion	\$80	1 Adult & 1 Guest
Basic	\$115	2 Adults & 4 Children
Plus	\$135	2 Adults & 4 Children PLUS 1 Guest
Deluxe	\$175	2 Adults & 6 Children PLUS 2 Guests & 2 bonus admission tickets (Best Value)

The Zoo also offers membership discounts to active-duty military personnel, seniors, and students.

See the entire gaggle of great member-only benefits at marylandzoo.org/join.

Create a legacy – remember The Maryland Zoo in your will or trust.

THE MARYLAND ZOO

IN BALTIMORE

1876 Mansion House Drive
Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, MD 21217-4474
410-396-7102

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Baltimore, MD
Permit No. 8779

summer is coming



Have you made plans yet for your kids? If they are animal lovers, check out the Zoo's fun and educational summer camp. Zoo Summer Camp encourages kids to explore the world of animals and their habitats right here at the Zoo. Zoo camp is open to children entering grades 2-8 in the fall of 2015. Sessions are each one week long.

You can learn more – and you can register now – by going to the Zoo's website, clicking on "Edzooocation," and then following the "Zoo Summer Camp" tab.

Zoo Summer Camp Highlights:

- Small-group setting
- Immersive tours of the Zoo
- Interactions with animal experts
- Behind-the-scenes experiences (grades 3–8)
- Rides on the train and carousel (grade 2)
- Up-close visits with Animal Ambassadors
- Feeding giraffes, brushing goats, riding camels
- Wildlife-themed crafts using recycled materials
- Learning how we can all help protect wildlife and wild places!