

fall/winter 2016

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

zoogram



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
John J. Buckley, Jr.
Calvin G. Butler, Jr.
Edward Callahan
Chadfield B. Clapsaddle
Richard J. Corcoran, Jr.
Gregory A. Cross
Sandra L. Gerstung
Joanna D. Golden
Herbert J. Goldman
Ingrid A. Harbaugh
Marta D. Harting
Jill H. Kamenetz
Jennifer E. Lowry
Gabrielle M. Melka
Philip Nestico
John A. Picciotto
Hon. Catherine E. Pugh
Dr. Scott M. Rifkin
C. Douglas Sawyer, III
Jason M. St. John
Shawn Z. Tarrant
William H. Thrush, Jr.
Charles E. Vieth
James K. Wilhelm

Honorary

John H. Claster
Hon. Elijah E. Cummings
Norman C. Frost, Jr.
Elizabeth Grieb
Michael D. Hankin
Stuart S. Jannery, III
F. Ross Jones
A.B. Krongard
Hon. Catherine O'Malley
Roger G. Powell
Elizabeth K. Schroeder
Edward N. Tucker

Ex-Officio

Donald P. Hutchinson
Thomas J. Stosur
William Vondrasek

President

Donald P. Hutchinson

Zoogram Editor

Sarah Evans

Content Editor

Lori Finkelstein

Project Manager

Jane Ballentine

Zoogram Designer

Suzanne Glover Design

Vol. 41, #3, Fall/Winter 2016

Zoogram is published by

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore.

©2016 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.



letter

from the president

“You’re not getting older, you’re getting better.” Remember that adage? Well, that’s how we feel here at the Zoo after reflecting on our 140-year history. We have remained a constant in Druid Hill Park all these years, even as the city and region have grown and matured around us. We have not remained the same, though. We, too, continue to grow, change, and embrace new opportunities.

Nature has been our inspiration all along, and this bucolic park setting is a constant reminder of what nature brings to our lives. It is a place of serene beauty marked by fields and old-growth forest, and it is also a vibrant home to wildlife that we encounter often – deer, raccoons, squirrels, red foxes, and many birds, including bald eagles! Our respect for wildlife begins in this park and our commitment to wildlife extends well beyond, to the species that we care for at the Zoo and to those whose conservation we promote around the world.

Speaking of conservation, Kevin Barrett, who manages our reptile and amphibian collection, spent time working at the El Valle Amphibian Conservation Center in Panama this summer. There, he introduced staff to methods and protocols developed here at the Zoo to breed and care for Panamanian golden frogs. He is sharing the Zoo’s expertise with our Panamanian colleagues in hopes that they can replicate our breeding success in-country. Our collective goal is to eventually reintroduce golden frogs into their natural habitat. While we are still many years away from this, Kevin and his team are helping to lay the groundwork for future success.

The Zoo also hosted the African Penguin Species Survival Plan (SSP) master planning session in July. Twenty-two African penguin experts from U.S. zoos and aquariums were on hand to review the needs of the population and formulate plans to match penguins with appropriate mates. The SSP plays a lead role in conservation initiatives to help penguins in the wild and cooperatively manages over 800 African penguins in 50 AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums. Those at the meeting discussed the “Saving Animals From Extinction” (SAFE) Conservation Action Plan for African penguins, and we are looking at opportunities to send some of our staff to South Africa next year to assist with penguin conservation projects in the wild.

These are two fine examples of the work that we are doing and of the future that we envision for wildlife. Next time you visit the Zoo, we hope that you will be inspired to join with us in imagining and aspiring to a world that is still wild.

See you soon!

Don Hutchinson, President/CEO



Contact the Zoo

www.MarylandZoo.org for information and reservations

General Information
(410) 396-7102

Events
(443) 552-5276

Membership
(443) 552-5281

Adopt an Animal
(443) 552-5280

Development
(443) 552-5290

Education
(443) 552-5300

Human Resources:
(443) 552-5310

Volunteers
(443) 552-5266

Group Sales
(443) 552-5277

Visitor Services
(443) 552-5256

Gift Shop
(443) 552-5315

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.



4 News from the Zoo

Antelopes arrive and a falcon soars.

5 Macaw with a Message

The remarkable life of a new Animal Ambassador.

6 Plan Your Next Visit

Don your lederhosen, it's time for OktoBEARfest!

8 Pink-Backed Pelicans

Pelicans debut at *Penguin Coast*.

10 Kids Pages

How conservation-savvy are you?

12 Bards of the Zoo

A half century of stories and counting.

14 Development

For Penguin Pils, full spice bins, and a great 140th – thank you!



Contents

On the Cover
Pink-Backed Pelicans

Mid-morning on June 25, a female sitatunga named "Lela" gave birth to her newest calf, a male named "Chopper." Keepers and veterinary staff were able to monitor the birth from a surveillance camera, allowing mother and offspring as much privacy and calm as possible in what is always an awe-inspiring but delicate process. Lela handled the birth with ease and has been caring well for her calf ever since. Visitors can see them together this fall in the smaller of the two outdoor sitatunga yards. This birth is the first for the Zoo's sitatunga herd in 2016 but the fifth since April 2015. It comes at the recommendation of the AZA's Species Survival Plan (SSP) for sitatunga, a threatened species of African antelope.



On June 18, a six-year-old female kudu named "Lemon" gave birth to her first calf, a male named "Jalopy." Lesser kudu are a species of African antelope that, like sitatunga, are currently threatened in the wild. Lemon is new to motherhood but is taking excellent care of her offspring, who grows more curious and robust by the day. Visitors can see mother and son in the Antelope Yard across the boardwalk from the cheetahs. This kudu calf is the second ever born at the Zoo. His birth comes at the recommendation of the AZA's Species Survival Plan for Lesser Kudu.

It's windy, it's dizzyingly high off the ground, and the nest could use a good scrubbing, but to peregrine falcons, a window ledge on the 33rd floor of the TransAmerica building in downtown Baltimore is home. For more than 35 years, falcons have nested on this ledge, closely watched by office workers turned ornithologist. About the same time each year, the fully developed young are anxious to take their first flights. Some fledglings do well and get back to the building ledge without incident; others are not so fortunate. Now and then, a fledgling loses control and crash-lands on the sidewalk hundreds of feet below. It happened again this spring, and a surprised pedestrian found the stunned bird on Light Street. At the behest of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Zoo staff retrieved the young falcon and brought it to the Animal Hospital for a few days of rest and recovery. In partnership with USFWS, the Zoo has performed this service for approximately six young peregrines over the past 15 years. This particular wild patient "did fine and was alert, bright, and feisty" for the duration of its stay, reports Dr. Ellen Bronson, the Zoo's senior veterinarian. It was returned to its skyscraper nest within the week, and all is well again. See for yourself at www.chesapeakeconservancy.org/peregrine-falcon-webcam.



news

from the Zoo



macaw

with a message

Twenty years ago, smugglers tried to cross from Mexico into California with seven young macaws hidden behind a door panel in their car. The birds were discovered, rescued by U.S. Fish & Wildlife agents, and placed in institutions accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The details of the macaws' ordeal remain unknown but were probably horrific. When transporting birds illegally, smugglers typically tape their wings to immobilize them and tape their beaks to silence them, risking broken wings, overheating, and even death.

One of the birds, a military macaw named "Tyson," went to America's Teaching Zoo at Moorpark College in southern California. This AZA facility trains future keepers and animal handlers. He received excellent care and attention there and bonded very closely with his lead trainer. Within a few years, though, he began to develop debilitating allergy symptoms that were thought to be linked to the arid climate. To improve his quality of life, the decision was made to move Tyson to the east coast in the company of his trainer.

While this decision was unconventional, it took into account two important facts about macaws: they are adapted to humid environments and they, like all parrots, form tight personal bonds that are of paramount importance to their well-being. In his new Maryland home, Tyson got plenty of humidity and great care from his trainer, to whom he remained bonded. He recovered his health and was soon thriving.

More than a decade later, this magnificent and charismatic macaw is still thriving and is on to a new adventure. He is now living at the Zoo as the newest of our Animal Ambassadors. His trainer moved west again with her family but not before securing Tyson this excellent home. He has transitioned beautifully, bonding with several handlers, accepting his fellow Ambassadors nonchalantly, and soaking up the sunshine of the outdoor Mews and the stimulation of the Embassy itself.

When you meet Tyson on grounds or at a ZooMobile program, you can appreciate for yourself his exotic beauty and charm. He is a bird that belonged in the wild but has landed in a good place. Now he starts the next chapter of his already remarkable life.

your next visit

Fall is a particularly beautiful time of year at the Zoo and one full of festivity. Whether you're coming to spend a day with the animals, celebrate the Zoo's 140th, or enjoy our version of a German beer garden, we can promise you a good time. Mark your calendar now and we'll see you soon!

This winter, the Zoo will keep regular visiting hours through the end of December. During the months of January and February, we will be open to guests Friday through Monday. Please visit www.MarylandZoo.org for updates on programs and exhibits and for other timely announcements.



daily activities

Please check the Zoo information board in Schaefer Plaza for timely updates on the day's activities.

Goat Corral: Brush, pet, or just hang out with the goats.

Creature Encounters: Visit up close with Animal Ambassadors at our outdoor education center.

Education Stations: Engage in fun learning activities throughout the Zoo.

Penguin Feeding: During twice daily feedings, a Zoo educator talks with guests about black-footed penguins.

Keeper Chats: Keepers discuss the animals in their care and answer your questions.

Jones Falls Zephyr: All aboard the Zoo train. Open daily, weather permitting. \$

Carousel: Take a spin on our vintage carousel. \$

Giraffe Feeding Station: Up close and personal with giraffes. \$

\$: fee to participate

september

Wild About Primates Day

Fascinating facts about our animal cousins.

September 3
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Breakfast with Penguins

Early morning with the colony!

September 4
8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. \$ R

Sip and Stroll

Explore the Zoo's history.

September 10
5 p.m. - 7 p.m. \$ R

Que at the Zoo

Live music & scrumptious barbeque.

September 10
11 a.m. – 8 p.m. \$ R

Zoo Snooze: Overnights at the Zoo

Get cozy inside Penguin Coast.

September 10-11 (SOLD OUT)
6 p.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Penguin Education Center \$ R

Breakfast with Elephants

A great way to start your day!

September 11
8:30 – 10 a.m. \$ R

Animal Craft Safaris

Get crafty with primates.

September 15
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

Breakfast with Chimps

Early morning fun in Chimp Forest.

September 17
8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. \$ R

Musical Zoo

Don't miss the Baltimore Gamer Symphony Orchestra!

September 17
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wild About Rhinos Day

Mega-herbivores get their due.

September 18
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Where the Wild Things Art Paint Night

Paint and socialize at the Zoo.

September 21
5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Penguin Coast Education Center \$ R

Zoobilee Presented by Stifel

A festive celebration of the Zoo's 140th

September 23
7 p.m. – 11 p.m. \$ R

Animal Craft Safaris

Rock the rhino craft!

September 25
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

october

ZooZOOM

An earlier date this year!

October 1
7 a.m. – 11 a.m. \$ R

Zoo Snooze: Overnights at the Zoo

Set up camp in penguin territory.

October 8-9 (SOLD OUT)
6 p.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Penguin Coast \$ R

Animal Craft Safaris

Fashion your own penguin.

October 13
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

Wild About Penguins Day

A day for the bird that flies beneath the sea.

October 16
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

OktoBEARfest

Join us for the Zoo's fall festival!

October 22
12 p.m. – 4 p.m. \$ R

ZooBOOO!

Lions, goblins, and bears, oh my!

October 28 – 30
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Animal Craft Safaris

Craft the king of cats.

October 30
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

november

Wild About Polar Bears Day

Focus on a top-of-the-world predator.

November 5
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Zoo Snooze: Overnights at the Zoo

A great adventure for young and old.

November 12-13
6 p.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Penguin Coast \$ R

Animal Craft Safaris

Let's make polar bear art.

November 17
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

Animal Craft Safaris

Use recycled materials to make a favorite animal.

November 27
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

december

Breakfast with Santa

Celebrate the holidays at the Zoo!

December 3, 10 & 11
8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. \$ R

Animal Craft Safaris

Make a holiday craft to take home.

December 15
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Penguin Education Center \$ R

Zoo Snooze: Overnights at the Zoo

A great start to winter break!

December 17-18
6 p.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Penguin Coast \$ R

\$: fee to participate
R: reservations required



Join us!

a wonderful bird is the pelican

By Sarah Evans, Zoogram Editor

During their first week in *Penguin Coast*, the Zoo's three pink-backed pelicans had much to get used to. There was a blue sky full of birds overhead and green water full of birds underfoot (or under-breast if you are a pelican floating about). The penguins, not to be mistaken for large fish, darted close, curiously checking out their extra-large neighbors. They drew the attention of Plato, the only male in the pelican trio. Quietly, he retracted his head and neck and then thrust them forward, skimming his beak sideways through the water and swelling his large throat pouch.

While this behavior mimics that of a pelican scooping up fish, Plato was not really trying to catch a penguin. His was more a gesture of curiosity and warning. "It was his way of saying, 'I'm bigger than you so back off,'" explains Jen Kottyan, Avian Collection and Conservation Manager at the Zoo. "He [and the two females, Penelope and Pandora] had never seen a penguin before. They had to get used to things."

Meanwhile, the white-breasted cormorants had some choice vocalizations for the pelicans. When one of the large, silvery birds with pinkish-white accents drifted past, the cormorants would jabber from their perch in no uncertain terms. "They used to be the biggest in the exhibit, they ruled the perching, and then along come these large birds," says Kottyan, somewhat apologetically. "They had to learn how to share space."



The good news is that several weeks later, this busy avian community has settled into a nice rhythm. Under the watchful eye of *Penguin Coast* keepers, who have added elements to the exhibit and moved perching around to accommodate everyone's needs, all the birds are getting along well. "No biting, no truly aggressive behavior," notes Kottyan. "It has gone as well as we had hoped it would."

The pelicans seem particularly at ease. They often visit the tidal pool dump tank area, where they mix easily with cormorants and juvenile penguins. They slip in and out of the water frequently. They hang out in the pebbled alcoves near the viewing glass and are curious about everything. One might pick up a pebble, turn it over in its beak, and toss it at another's feet as if to say, "Check this out." The other will pick up the pebble, turn it over, and pass it on. This happens with leaves, twigs, and other interesting objects, too.

It is good to be
a pelican in
Penguin Coast.



Across the Atlantic to Africa

Pelicans are the heaviest of flying birds and are well adapted to water. Although pink-backed pelicans are one of the smallest of the eight pelican species, they can weigh up to 15 pounds and boast an eight-foot wingspan. Air pockets in their bones and under their wings give them added buoyancy in water. They spread oil secreted from a gland at the base of their tails over their feathers to keep them from getting waterlogged and heavy. They have webbed feet that act as powerful paddles and a beak that acts like a net. The beak is the pelican's trademark feature, in fact, distinctive for the enormous pouch of skin attached to the lower mandible known as the gular pouch.

Pink-backed pelicans are native to central and southern Africa as well as southwest Arabia, where they inhabit rivers, marshes, flood plains, lakes, and other quiet, freshwater areas. They might also be seen in brackish or saline marshes and lagoons, but are rarely found along coastlines or in open water. This means that in the wild they might cross paths with cormorants but rarely with African penguins.

This species feeds in the morning and evening and sometimes on moonlit nights. Otherwise, the large birds spend their time resting, preening, and basking in the sun, often in the company of other pelicans and cormorants, to which they are related. Like all pelicans, pink-backed pelicans are fish eaters.

Every species of pelican has its own fishing style, from aerial dive-bombing to collective herding. Pink-backed pelicans prefer to hunt alone and utilize the stalk-and-stab strategy. They scoop fish into their pouches, which can also hold up to three gallons of water. "They hold the fish in their pouches long enough to squeeze the water out through the corners of their mouths," explains Kottyan. "Then they swallow their catch."

At the Zoo

The Zoo's pink-backed pelicans were hatched at Disney's Animal Kingdom and will soon turn one year old. They have come to the Zoo at the recommendation of the AZA's Species Survival Program (SSP) for pink-backed pelicans. In time, the SSP may recommend that the Zoo house more pink-backed pelicans so that the birds can form pairs and perhaps breed. Then the twig-sharing may turn into nest-building, but that is for the future. Right now, the pelicans are plenty busy with other things.

See for yourself next time you
visit *Penguin Coast*!

Saving water brings home the gold!

And not just a gold medal, real gold! The Zoo recently partnered with sixth graders from Hamilton Elementary Middle School in Baltimore City on "Project Polar Bear," a contest sponsored by Polar Bears International, a long-time conservation partner of the Zoo's. "Project Polar Bear" challenges young leaders to develop climate action plans for community projects that reduce the carbon dioxide load in the atmosphere. The Zoo team won first prize and a \$750 award! The students chose water conservation as their focus and are eager to convince people to use their own re-usable water bottles rather than buying plastic ones. They are planning a public awareness campaign at the Zoo, which will be supported by the prize money they won.

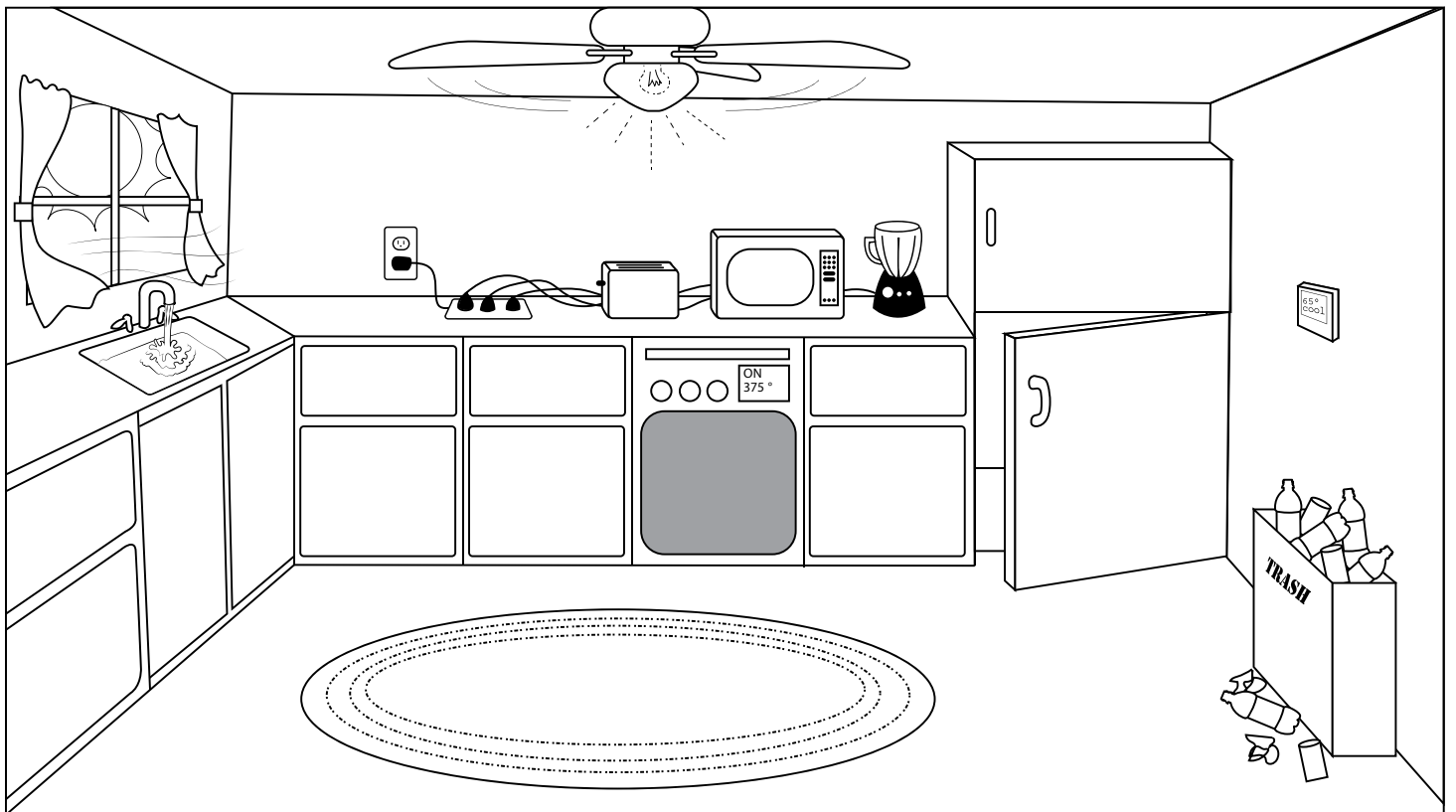
Kid

As a kid, you belong to the most conservation-minded generation in history. Use that power well and keep your conservation skills sharp by completing the activities on this page.*

*NOTE: These activities were created by students in the JHU Museum and Society Program, in cooperation with students at Arlington Elementary/Middle School and the Zoo, for inclusion in a recently published booklet entitled *Super Snake's Guide to Summer Fun (and Conserving the Planet)*.

DANGER ZONES

A Danger Zone uses too much energy or water or creates too much trash. Excessive consumption of energy and resources is bad for the environment that we live in and bad for the planet that we share with wild animals. Can you find all 8 Danger Zones in this kitchen?



Danger Zones Answer Key: 1. Fridge open 2. Stove on 3. Window open with fan on 4. Curtains open with light on 5. Too many appliances plugged in 6. Plastic bottles in trash can 7. Thermostat on COLD w/ fan on 8. Sink left running

WHICH MEDAL WILL YOU WIN?

Read the questions below, circle your answer, and then add up your points to find out where you place in the Eco-olympics!

Do you turn the lights off when you leave a room?

- yes (+10pts)
- sometimes (+5pts)
- no (+0pts)

Why: Turning off the lights when you leave a room saves energy, which helps preserve precious resources and save money!

Do you take showers in five minutes or less?

- yes (+10pts)
- sometimes (+5pts)
- no (+0pts)

Why: Showers use an average of 2.1 gallons of water a minute. That means one shower uses enough water to fill a whole fish tank!

Do you recycle at home?

- yes (+10pts)
- sometimes (+5pts)
- no (+0pts)

Why: Recycling helps protect natural habitats by reusing waste instead of consuming more!

Do you keep the water on while you brush your teeth?

- yes (-10pts)
- sometimes (-5pts)
- no (+10pts)

Why: Water is a limited resource. It is important to use it only when necessary!

Do you wash your clothes with only cold water?

- yes (+10pts)
- sometimes (+5pts)
- no (+0pts)

Why: Heating water requires energy. Cold water works just as well!

Do you use a reusable water bottle?

- yes (+10pts)
- sometimes (+5pts)
- no (+0pts)

Why: People world-wide consume 50 billion plastic water bottles and year. Plastic water bottles take over 100 years

to decompose so most end up sitting in landfills taking up space that could be filled with grass and trees instead.

How do you get to school?

- walk/bike (+10pts)
- drive (+0pts)
- public transportation/carpool (+5pts)

Why: The less people the drive the better. Cars use a lot of energy and emit gases harmful to the environment.

Do you leave trash on the ground outside?

- yes (-10pts)
- sometimes (-5pts)
- no (+10pts)

Why: Most trash doesn't decompose which means it will never go away. This damages natural habits and can put local animals at risk.

Do you leave electronic appliances plugged in even when you aren't using them?

- yes (-10pts)
- sometimes (-5pts)

YOUR SCORE

90-70pts

GOLD

You're an Eco-Champion!
You take great care of the environment. Keep up the good work by trying even more of the good habits mentioned above and continuing the ones you are already doing.

60-30pts

SILVER

You're Eco-Friendly!
You take care of the environment but there is still room for improvement by including more of the good habits mentioned above.

30-0pts

BRONZE

You're Eco-Aware! You are starting to get the idea but there's plenty of room for improvement! Try out some of the good habits mentioned above to improve your score.



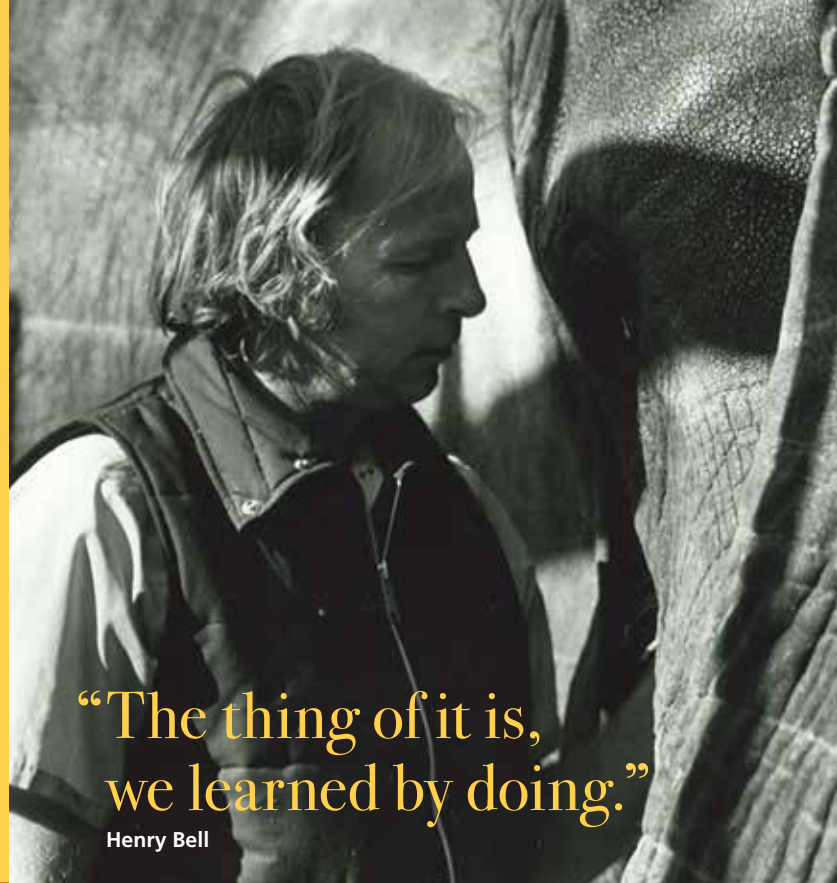
bards of the ZOO

By Sarah Evans

In the spring of 1962, Baltimore City Councilman Dominic Leone arranged for a job at the Water Department for a young man named Henry Bell. To tide him over until start day, Henry was sent to the nearby zoo and assigned to the Elephant House. Clarence Taylor, the lead elephant trainer, took him under his wing and began training him. Henry liked the job, so much so that when the Water Department finally called, he said, “‘I’m going to stay here,’ and that was the end of that.” Nobody could predict at the time that this would mark the beginning of the longest-running career at The Maryland Zoo to date—54 years and counting.

If Henry came to the Zoo by chance, Bill Walters came by design. “I had been breeding birds and animals at home ever since I was real young,” he recalls, “and every time my mom and dad would drive by Druid Hill Park, I’d say, ‘I want to go to the Zoo!’ I really wanted to work there.” By the age of 16, he had lined up his first Zoo job, as a park maintenance aide earning \$1.35 an hour. “That first day [in the summer of 1966], they said, ‘Son, are you afraid of birds?’” recalls Bill. “I said, ‘No,’ so they said, ‘Couple people called in sick in the Bird Department, you need to go there.’ So I went and I never left.”

The Zoo is celebrating its 140th anniversary this year. It is celebrating Bill’s 50th just as enthusiastically.



“The thing of it is,
we learned by doing.”

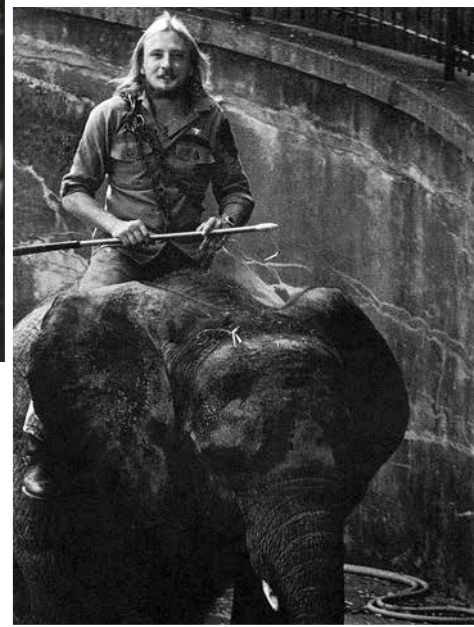
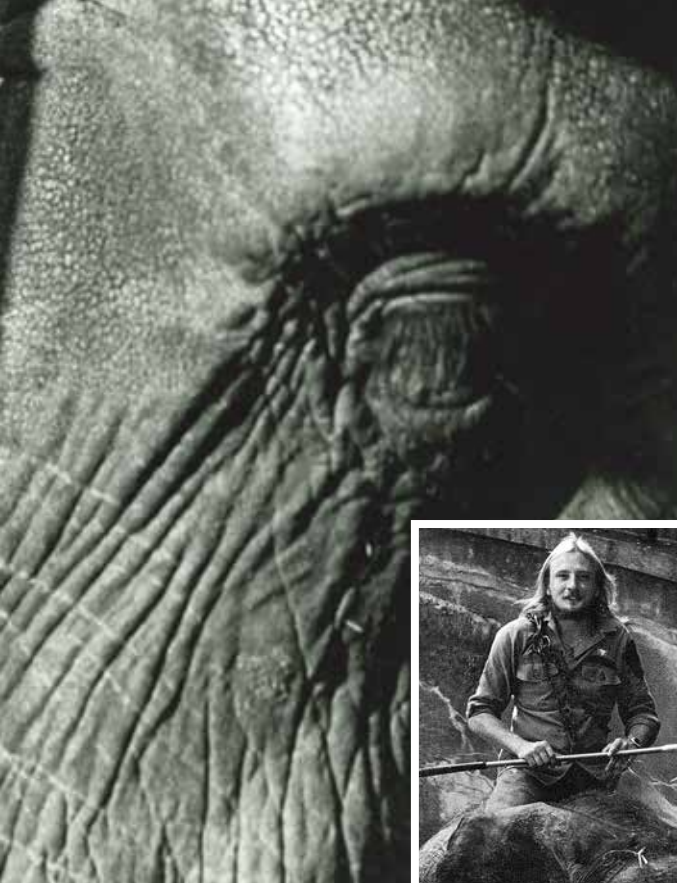
Henry Bell

When Henry and Bill started at the Zoo, the staff was small and tight-knit. Newcomers trained by apprenticeship. Whether it was shifting a polar bear or walking an ostrich, “the people who had done it before, you watched them, and you advanced step by step,” explains Henry. To this day, no matter how academically prepared a keeper might be, there is no substitute for good mentoring and on-the-job training. You simply cannot learn how to calm an agitated chimpanzee in a textbook.

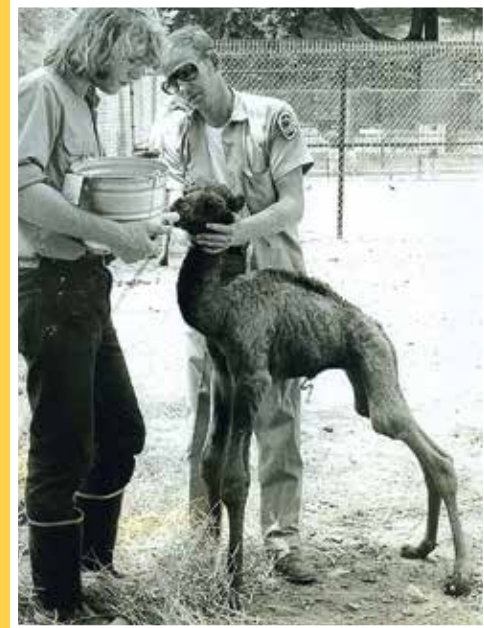
The two men tell the story of a half-blind, 22-foot python by way of example. The snake had a mouth condition that required weekly medical treatment. Seven people had to hold this not-quite-docile patient, and they learned to do so by doing. “Everything was gradual, step by step,” says Henry, “and everyone knew exactly what to do next.”

“You become close to the animals,
like part of your family.” **Bill Walters**

Over the course of half a century, Henry and Bill have become more than experienced animal handlers. They have become bards of the Zoo whose insights, expertise, and anecdotes reflect a deep sensibility for animals and a true love for this place. Get them together and they regale each other – and anyone else listening – with memories of close and incredible encounters with elephants, polar bears, brown bears, sea lions, wild dogs, lions, baboons, gorillas, ostriches, pythons, pygmy hippos, Indian cobras, zebras, cassowaries, flamingos, alpacas, pelicans, penguins, tigers, leopards, and giraffes, to among others.



Bill Walters in *Penguin Coast*, 2016 (far left, opposite page); Henry Bell with African elephant, circa 1980; Bill Walters riding African elephant, circa 1973; Henry Bell steadying baby camel, date unknown



“Every day is a new day and I still wake up feeling lucky.”

Bill Walters

Bill has been especially involved in the Zoo's bird program, forming an abiding reverence for every species in his care and close bonds with a special few. As the Zoo's first penguin keeper, he cared for the 15 wild-caught pairs that started the Zoo's colony as well as others, including a Humboldt penguin named "Junior" that would follow him to the duck pond every day at feeding time. "Back then, we didn't have flipper tags [to identify] the penguins. Each one had a number and we used a sort of waterproof marker," explains Bill. "They looked like a little football team when they ran out because they had white numbers on their backs and black numbers on their chests. But Junior's marking, she had a heart with an arrow through it. She was a good bird."

Henry worked closely with elephants for decades but also remembers every animal that he hand-reared. Then, as now, zoo keepers might intervene to care for infant animals that were orphaned or rejected by their mothers. To maintain round-the-clock care in the days before the Zoo had its own animal hospital, they sometimes took their young charges home overnight. Henry's most memorable house guest was a baby pygmy hippo. Really? He shrugs and says, "I had a bathtub."

Bill and Henry remember the people, too, those who visited and those they've worked with who became like family. "We got to know quite a few people in the neighborhood and still do," says Bill. There was one gentleman, very well known in the neighborhood, who visited often. "He came in with his deck of cards," says Henry, "and he'd sit on the railing and play cards with the animals. He'd say, 'How many cards do you want? You want to keep this one? You want to keep that one?'" He was a regular at the Zoo who loved the animals and the atmosphere.

The same could be said of Bill and Henry, but that might suggest too much nostalgia, too much looking back. The fact of the matter is, as great as their memories are, both men are still on the job and contributing significantly to the here and now. Henry supports the Zoo's Exhibits Team and Bill is Senior Animal Technician, responsible among other things for managing wild animals encountered inside the Zoo. Times are always changing," says Bill simply, "but I still love working here. I still get excited about coming to work in the morning." And that's a very good thing, for him and for the Zoo.

It Makes Scents

In the wild, animals occupy themselves mentally and physically searching for food and avoiding predators. At a zoo, they don't have to do either, but it is still essential to their wellbeing to be challenged mentally and physically. This is why enrichment is such a crucial part of animal care at the Zoo.

Enrichment refers to any object or experience that elicits an animal's natural behaviors and stimulates interaction with the environment. Scent stimulation is one of the most time-tested and productive forms of animal enrichment used at the Zoo because it encourages animals to explore their surroundings. Keepers regularly vary the scents, from sheep's wool or zebra bedding to cinnamon, basil, or turmeric, depending on the animal.

Imagine procuring enough spices to satisfy every animal at the Zoo, especially when those spices aren't going to be mixed into food but rather spread on rocks, in logs, and across acres of space. What do you do? Clear the grocery store shelves on a regular basis and pay premium prices? Andrew Young, Manager of the Zoo's Commissary, reached out to McCormick for help solving this dilemma.

As anyone in Baltimore knows, McCormick is a local spice company with an international footprint. It has been in operation for nearly as long as the Zoo has and is deservedly proud of its long-standing tradition of giving back to the community. The Zoo's relationship with McCormick runs deep, with significant corporate and philanthropic support over the years, most recently as the



sponsor of Lemur Lane, the Zoo's outdoor home for three lemur species. When presented with our need for spices, McCormick did not hesitate to help, donating the requested assortment.

We could not be more grateful to McCormick for its generosity and willingness to partner with us in providing the best possible care for the animals at the Zoo.

Now Young is searching for a local bakery to donate day-old bread. The African elephants alone consume about 60 loaves per week! If you should happen to know of a local bakery that might like to enrich elephants and other Zoo animals, please contact Andrew Young at (443) 552-3398 or Beth Garner at (443) 552-5334.

Thank you!

Thank you to our *Zoobilee 140* Event Sponsors and Partners. It is an honor to celebrate our legacy as the third oldest zoo in America with Baltimore's best organizations. Proceeds from the evening will support the Zoo's programs, operations, and conservation efforts. Event information and photos are available on our website.

Zoobilee
Presented by
STIFEL



If you were approached by a really hip brewpub and asked whether they could create a new and delicious microbrew in your honor, what would you say? This spring, we said “Yes!” and were pleased to announce soon thereafter the first tapping of Penguin Pils, a beer with a mission!

Penguin Pils is the creation of The Brewers Art, which has welcomed patrons to its North Charles Street location for 20 years now. During that time, the restaurant and brewery has won many accolades: best local beer, best upscale bar, and best first-date bar, to name a few. It also has been a creative and committed partner to several non-profit arts, education, environmental, and civic groups in town, including the Zoo. The Brewers Art generously proposed this microbrew project in celebration of its 20th anniversary and our 140th. This is their first collaboration beer with the animal kingdom!

Penguin Pils is a crisp, light, refreshing beer brewed with German Noble hops and American hop varieties at 4.5% abv. It debuted in May at The Brewers Art and was soon distributed to bars and restaurants around Baltimore City. It also was highlighted at our very own Brew at the Zoo! A portion of all sales of Penguin Pils will benefit the Zoo’s African Penguin program.

If you find yourself in the area, we invite you to stop by The Brewers Art and raise a glass to conservation!

Event Sponsors

- Title Sponsor** Stifel
- Cheetah Sponsor** Saul Ewing LLP
- Polar Bear Sponsors** Ellin & Tucker, Chartered
BGE
- Rhino Sponsors** Brown Advisory
Howard Bank
SC&H Group
Gordon Feinblatt, LCC
M&T Financial Inc.
Planit
T. Rowe Price
- Lion Sponsor** PNC Financial Services Group
- Otter Sponsors** Systems Alliance, Inc.
Everspoon
MidAtlantic Healthcare

- Lounge Sponsor** Weinstock, Friedman & Friedman PA
- Penguin Sponsors** First National Bank
SF&C Insurance Associates
Monument Sotheby’s International Realty

- Partner Sponsors** ABC Party & Tent Rental, Barton & Guestier, Bond Distributing Company, Breakthru Beverage, CBS Radio, City Paper, The Classic Catering People, Rouge Catering, Santoni’s Catering, Atlantic Caterers, Laurrapin Catering, Zeffert & Gold, Hunt Valley Catering, Copper Kitchen

- Host Committee** Rick Corcoran, Bill Thrush, Eric Orlinsky
Athena Towery, Cindy Plackmeyer, Jessica Hart, Kellie McDonald, Laurie Wingate, Leslie Schaller, Nate McCreary, Todd Cioni, Tracy Cioni

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

Go off exhibit on your phone!

If you love Zoo stories and want to hear more, we invite you to tune in to Off Exhibit, a podcast featuring in-depth conversations with animal professionals and wildlife experts who work behind the scenes at the Zoo. Once you start listening, you won't be able to stop! Visit www.marylandzoo.org/Podcast. Subscribe via iTunes, Android, or RSS. New episodes are uploaded on Wednesdays.

A few highlights from past episodes:

- What's up with the lions? A lion keeper gives the inside scoop.
- Joining a chimp troop is complicated. A chimp expert explains why.
- Go inside the hive with a honeybee keeper to learn about these tiny, powerhouse insects.
- It's hard enough to feed your dog. How do you provide all that Zoo animals eat? Find out!

