

fall/winter 2013

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

zoo**gram**



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



Letter from the president



I am happy to report that construction of the Zoo's new penguin exhibit is well underway! We previewed the exhibit for you in an earlier issue of *Zoogram* and now all of those plans, meetings, and designs are coming to fruition.

The exhibit will encompass 1.5 acres that will include a 175,000 gallon pool surrounding an island Conservation Center where the birds will be housed along with their nesting and nursery areas and space for keepers to perform daily operations. On shore, there also will be a two-story Interpretive Center where Zoo visitors can go for animal demonstrations, education

programs, special events, indoor exhibits, restrooms, and – most excitingly – underwater viewing of the penguins swimming.

Built into the new exhibit will be an adjoining building and outdoor area for the Zoo's Animal Ambassador penguins. These birds are currently housed in another area of the Zoo. Because they travel around the community for outreach programs and media appearances, they cannot intermingle with the main penguin colony. This separate building, intended specifically for their housing and care, will allow the Zoo to keep up to eight ambassador penguins.

In order to accommodate the new penguin exhibit, we have had to re-route the Zoo shuttle down Buffalo Yard Road and reconfigure pathways into the *Polar Bear Watch* and *African Journey* exhibits. I hope you will agree that these minor and temporary disruptions will seem insignificant compared to the excitement that the new exhibit will bring to the Zoo and the community.

Next time you visit the Zoo, take a look at the construction site. From the Safari Boardwalk as you enter *African Journey*, you'll see the exhibit taking shape from the ground up. It's an exciting work zone, with tractors, bulldozers, trucks, and other construction equipment all busy "making way for penguins!"

Don Hutchinson, President/CEO

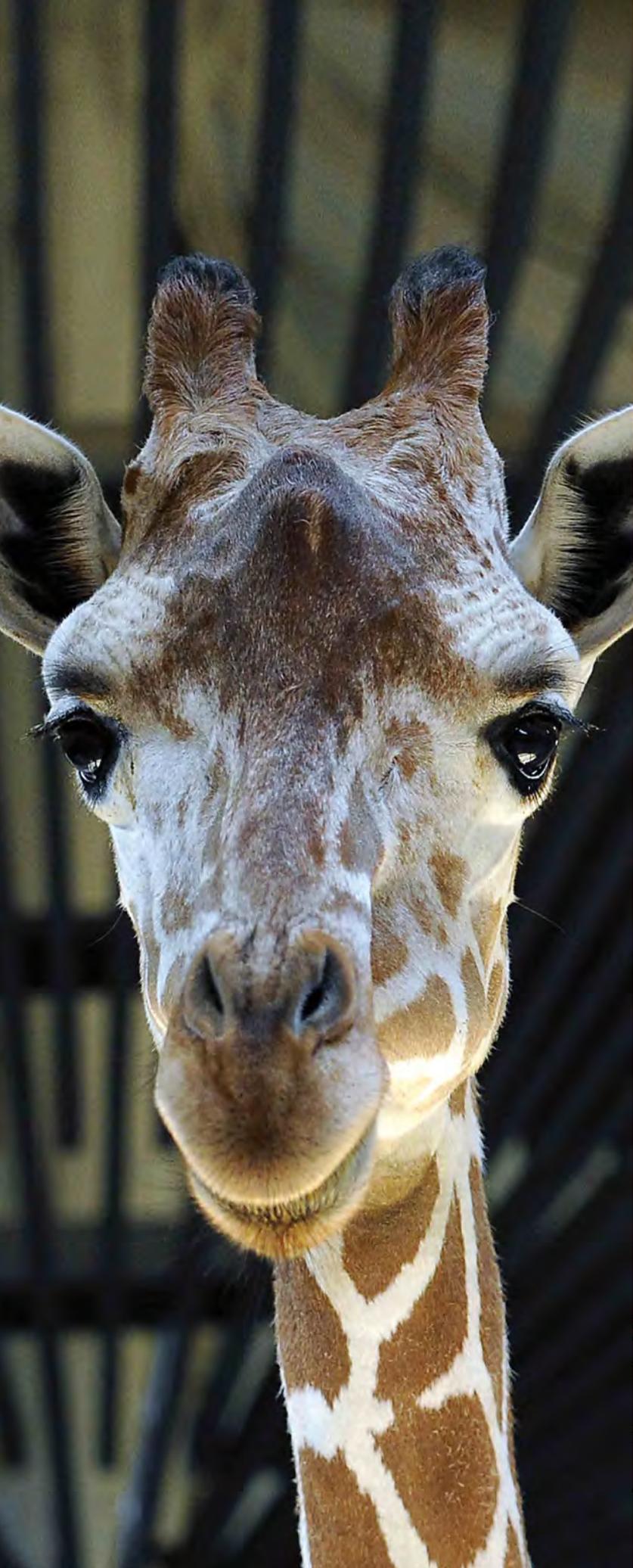
Contact the Zoo

www.MarylandZoo.org for information and reservations

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Events	(443) 552-5276	Volunteers	(443) 552-5266
Membership	(443) 552-5281	Group Sales	(443) 552-5277
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Development	(443) 552-5290	Gift Shop	(443) 552-5315
Education	(443) 552-5300	Rentals	(443) 552-5277

Administrative offices are open Friday through Monday, 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.

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Hadada ibis

NEWS

from the Zoo



A giant among chameleons has arrived at the Zoo and is ready to greet you with swiveling eyes! Check out the Oustalet's chameleons – otherwise known as Malagasy giant chameleons – as you walk along the Safari Boardwalk toward the Watering Hole. You can see them climbing in their magnificently sinuous tree. Oustalet's are the longest chameleons in the world, measuring up to two feet, and are native only to the island nation of Madagascar off the east coast of Africa.



On June 8th, keepers starting their daily rounds discovered that 8-year-old Kumari the warthog had delivered her third litter of piglets early that morning.

Keepers found her quietly tending to three little females and one male. All of the piglets weighed just over a pound at birth and have grown significantly since! Kumari is taking good care of her offspring and will mother them until about 21 weeks of age, at which point they are able to look after themselves. You can visit the new warthog family in *African Journey*. Kumari and the piglets will be outside for half of each day, and Kijani, the male, will get the yard to himself for the other half. The birth of these piglets comes at the recommendation of the Warthog Population Management Plan (PMP) coordinated by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

Spend time with a red shirt under a green canopy!

Zoo volunteers do a lot to make this place hum each day, and one of the things they do best is share their passion for animals with Zoo guests. A whole new class of trained volunteer educators is now on grounds, ready to engage you and your family in interactive activities that will teach you about animals and the lives they lead. So next time you are able, look for the green Maryland Zoo canopies and stop for a minute to chat with a red-shirted Zoo volunteer, meet an Animal Ambassador, or participate in an activity. You'll enjoy it, and you'll learn something new every time!

Let there be Lemurs this time with ringed tails

Follow the walking path that leads from the Giraffe House to Chimpanzee Forest and you soon will arrive at what has become Lemur Central at the Zoo.

Here, in a nicely forested area, you can see not one, not two, but now three species of lemur! Joining the red-ruffed lemurs and Coquerel's sifaka is a new pair of ring-tailed lemurs recently arrived from the Duke Lemur Center in North Carolina. All of the lemurs will be outdoors together for as long as the weather remains mild this fall.

Ring-tailed lemurs are easily identified by their super-long, bushy, black-and-white striped tails. They have masked faces that resemble either a cat or a raccoon. They are the most terrestrial, or ground-dwelling, of all lemurs and move in a distinctive way. When walking or running, they move on all fours and hold their tails straight up, with the tip curving away from the body in the shape of a question mark.

Show up early in the day and you may see the Zoo's ring-tailed lemurs basking in the morning sun. This behavior is

typical of the species. First thing in the morning, ring-tailed lemurs are known to sit on the ground, facing into the sun with arms and legs splayed, soaking up the rays. In the forests of Madagascar, their native home, the sun bath is followed by a day's worth of foraging, feeding, grooming, and resting, both on the ground and in the trees.

You probably will see many of these same natural behaviors from the Zoo's pair of ring-tailed lemurs. Even the way that they nap is interesting! If you see one with its nose tucked between its hind legs and its tail curved up over its back, whisper.

You wouldn't want to wake a sleeping lemur, would you?

The Zoo's Drive Me Wild raffle is only one month away! Enter now for your chance to win a brand new Mini Cooper HT! Stop by the Zoo's Main Gate or Membership Cottage any time between now and October 19 to buy your ticket(s). No Zoo entry is required to purchase. Each raffle ticket costs \$25 and also enters you to win a special Behind-the-Scenes Zoo tour or a free annual family membership. All proceeds will directly support the Zoo.

all photos: Jeffrey F. Bill





daily activities

Please check your Zoo map, given upon entry, for daily schedule and times.

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: Keepers feed the penguins at Rock Island twice daily. Zoo educators are often there to talk about the Zoo's colony and penguins in the wild. Feel free to ask questions!

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

Jones Falls Zephyr: Take a ride on the Zoo's train. Open daily, weather permitting. \$

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

Giraffe Feeding Station: Meet a giraffe face to face. \$

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

\$: fee to participate

plan

your next visit

Fall is a festive and busy time at the Zoo with something for everyone. You can put on your running shoes and zoom through, spend an afternoon sipping lager, or travel our many pathways visiting animals. Mark your calendars now, and we'll look forward to seeing you!

The Zoo will keep regular visiting hours through the end of December and will be open to guests Friday through Monday during the months of January and February. Please check our website, www.MarylandZoo.org, for updates on programs and exhibits and for other timely announcements.

on-grounds programs

Make your visit to the Zoo this fall extra special by participating in a short, fun, and FREE on-grounds education program. Look for the green Maryland Zoo canopies and come on over to join in a game or activity that will teach you something new about nature. To find out what is being offered on the day you visit, check the Zoo's website or the message board at the Creature Encounters learning center. See you soon!

september

Breakfasts with the Animals

Start your day with breakfast at the Zoo. Chat with keepers, too, and participate in a feeding or animal enrichment activity. It's an unforgettable experience!

Breakfasts are held from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Ticket prices are \$55 for members, \$65 for non-members, and FREE for children under 2. Space is limited and reservations are required for all participants. Admission to the Zoo is included, valid same day only.

For further details or to purchase tickets, go to www.MarylandZoo.org.

Dates:

September 7:

Breakfast with the Penguins

September 21:

Breakfast with the Chimpanzees

World Rhino Day

On this special day, planned annually to raise awareness for rhinos, join us to celebrate one of the world's great mega-herbivores.

Date: September 22

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Animal Enrichment Day

Learn about animal enrichment from keepers and Zoo educators, and spend some time noticing the different types of enrichment that animals receive.

Date: September 28

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

october

Big Cat Awareness Day

On a day devoted to the Zoo's big cats, learn all about lions, leopards, and cheetahs.

Date: October 5

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

African Penguin Awareness Day

Spend the day learning more about our African penguin colony and about penguins in general. No tuxedos required!

Date: October 13

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



OktoBEARfest

Get out your lederhosen, polish up your polka steps, and join in the Zoo's OktoBEARfest! This one-day beer festival features live music, unlimited sampling, and Oktoberfest-inspired foods.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.MarylandZoo.org/oktobearfest. Admission to the Zoo is included, valid same day only.

Date: October 19

Hours: 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Prices: \$12-\$50

november

Zoo Zoom 8k Race/Family Fun Run

Put on your running shoes and get moving for this popular 8K race through Druid Hill Park and the Zoo, or opt for the one-mile family fun run, open to all ages.

For further details or to register, please visit www.MarylandZoo.org. Sign up early because this race will sell out!

Date: November 24

Hours: 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.

december

Breakfast With Santa And Friends

Join us for holiday cheer on the Mansion House Porch. Enjoy a delicious breakfast, make seasonal crafts, and visit with Animal Ambassador penguins.

Dates: December 15 & 21

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Prices: see Zoo website

ZooBOOO!

Calling all ghosts, goblins, and friendly monsters! Come to the Zoo dressed to impress and enjoy free trick-or-treating, costume contests, carnival games, crafts, live entertainment, delicious food and more. Special thanks to our event sponsor, CFG Community Bank.

Free with general Zoo admission.

Additional fee applies for some games and activities.

Dates: October 25-27

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



at home in the

By Sarah Evans, Zoogram Editor

In the African Aviary, you are surrounded by birds. They are above you and below you, some perched nearby, others in flight overhead, and still others nesting or resting or swimming or preening. Because of the normally calm and fluid grace that each bird shows, the Aviary can feel quite serene. You should know, however, that at all times you are being watched and considered. Once you realize this – and once you start paying attention to what the birds are seeing and doing – you may come to appreciate the Aviary for what it really is: a symphony of color and sound and movement that is orchestrated to create community.

Within that community there are nearly a dozen species of mostly African birds. Each is specially adapted to its own particular native habitat, and each has identified its own niche within the Aviary.

The amount of activity in this open-air space is stunning. You are likely to see the vibrantly colored blue-bellied rollers in flight, turning in their signature style or dive-bombing for bugs. Glance over the side of the boardwalk and you may spot a fulvous whistling duck asleep in a mound of liriopé. Watch for the Hadada ibis foraging in the soil, making small holes with their long, curved beaks. Look up on the trellis and you should see several different birds taking in the 360-degree view. It is a favorite spot for the hamerkop, African spoonbills, and Abdim's stork.

You may notice a nest atop the trellis, as well. It is a site that attracts many birds, and we can only speculate as to why. The truth is, however, that how and where a mated pair chooses to nest is always something of a mystery.

Steve Linda, a staff exhibit designer who created the perching inside the Aviary, learned this firsthand from the hamerkop. As a species, these brown birds with the flat head-crests are best known for their huge, domed nests – the biggest of any bird in Africa, in fact.

Linda has always been fascinated by the huge hamerkop nest, which can get as big as a golf cart. When he began working in the Aviary, he decided to create a large nesting platform that he thought for certain the hamerkop pair would use. "I even took some sticks from elsewhere in the Zoo and put them on my contraption to give them the idea that this was a great place to build," he says. And what did they do? "They took the sticks one by one, carried them to where they wanted their nest to be – which wasn't where I hoped it would be – and used them there!"

The Aviary seems to provide all that the birds need. Multiple species get along in this gorgeous space, and breeding success across species has been excellent. The birds use every inch of the Aviary and know where they want to be when.

The two blue-bellied rollers and three von der Decken's hornbills – all recent additions to the Aviary – fly to their favorite spots the moment that keeper and lead trainer Erin Fitzgerald arrives. They see her in her designated spot at ground level and rush over.

Around her waist, Erin wears a pouch full of bugs; today, it's crickets. She has a clicker in her pocket that she uses to cue the rollers and a whistle around her neck for the hornbills.

She is training these birds to come to their respective perches and stay put. Ultimately, she plans to crate-train them, which means they will come on cue to step voluntarily into a crate for examination or transport, thus avoiding the need for capture in a net.

Erin takes out a cricket, makes eye contact with a roller, and tosses the insect in the bird's direction. The roller takes flight, grabs the cricket in mid air, and lands nearby. If it lands somewhere other than the designated perch, the second roller moves in for a turn. Meanwhile, the hornbills are watching. In order to get a cricket, though, they need to move to their own perch. When one does, Erin rewards it by blowing the whistle and handing a cricket directly into its bill.



aviary

Within a couple of minutes, the hornbills have had enough and fly off across the Aviary. They do not sit still for long, as all of the other birds have come to realize. One roller also departs. The second roller stays patiently on its perch, though, glancing in Erin's general direction. It will wait around for one more cricket. It is in no hurry to leave.

Hopefully you will feel the same way the next time you visit the Aviary. Take a few minutes to look around and you may come to appreciate the birds as much as Avian Collection and Conservation Manager Jen Kottyan has. A self-professed "fish person turned birds" who started her career working with sharks, Jen now knows and loves birds. "They're gorgeous to look at, they each have their own personalities, and they do really cool and unique things," she says.



Enter into a world of birds, and enjoy the visit.



how do animals get ready for winter?

You and your family will prepare for winter in many ways. You'll get out your coats and mittens. You might gather firewood to warm your house. You'll probably spend more time indoors. Animals also prepare for winter. They want to stay warm, stay fed, and stay sheltered, just like you. Here are some of the strategies that different animals use to make it through the winter:



Artwork: Ella Grove, age 6, Oakleigh Elementary School (turtle) and Gloria Pizzini, age 7, Monarch Academy Charter School (squirrel)



hibernation keeping warm

Many animals become dormant. They basically sleep the season away without having to eat. Only some, such as groundhogs, are true hibernators. Others enter similar states of dormancy called torpor (bears and chickadees, for example) or brumation (reptiles and amphibians).

Fun Fact: Contrary to popular belief, bears do not hibernate. Brown bears and black bears go into torpor. They sleep soundly but their body temperatures remain higher than the near-freezing level of true hibernators.

To stay warm when it's cold outside, animals seek shelter, huddle together, make a warm bed, or even shiver. Shiver? Yes! Honeybees and tiny songbirds shiver to generate body heat. So do you! And imagine sleeping under a cozy blanket of mud. Some frogs and turtles bury themselves in mud through the winter.

At-Home Activity: Fill a bowl halfway full with ice water. Fill a quart-size plastic bag with mud. Submerge one hand in the bowl of water and the other hand in the bag of mud. Which hand feels warmer?

stockpiling food

Squirrels, chipmunks, mice, and other animals gather and then bury or hide food for winter use.

Fun Fact: Squirrels plant baby oak trees! They bury acorns for the winter but fail to recover many of them. Some of those acorns turn into oak seedlings that will become new oak trees.

At-Home Activity: Read *Frederick*, by Leo Lionni, for a charming twist on a family of field mice getting ready for winter.



harvest vegetable soup

(serves 6-8; prep time: about 1 hour)

As summer ends and fall approaches, fresh vegetables are abundantly available. Our friends at Great Kids Farm in Baltimore City created this recipe for harvest vegetable soup. You can try it at home using vegetables from your own garden, CSA, local grocery store, or farmers' market. Ask for help from your parents or a grown-up when cutting the vegetables and when cooking on the stove. When preparing the vegetables, cut them so they are all about the same size and small enough to fit on a soup spoon and into your mouth.

migration

Monarch butterflies, green-darner dragonflies, and many birds migrate south for the winter. They fly to where the weather is warmer and food (i.e. seeds, flowers, and insects) more plentiful.

Fun Fact: Many retirees living in the northern U.S. or Canada move to warmer places such as Florida for the winter. They are nicknamed snowbirds!

At-Home Activity: When migrating, Canada geese fly in V-formation. This helps them conserve energy. Each goose takes a turn in the lead and benefits from reduced wind resistance when not in the lead. This is called "drafting." Try running in V-formation with a group of friends to see how drafting works. Can you think of sports where drafting is important? (How about bicycle racing, car racing, speed skating, and swimming?)

Ingredients

- 4 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- 2 medium garlic cloves, minced or crushed
- 1 celery stalk, chopped
- 2 cups additional vegetables of your choice (such as red pepper, kale, cabbage, zucchini, yellow squash, green beans, asparagus, mushrooms, fennel, peas, etc.), chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh chopped parsley (or cilantro, or basil, or other similar herb you like)
- 2-3 sprigs fresh thyme, or 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 bay leaf (optional)
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar or apple cider vinegar
- 1 quart low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 pound red potatoes or Yukon gold potatoes, medium dice

You will need:

- A cutting board
- A vegetable peeler
- A knife for cutting vegetables
- A large soup pot
- A large spoon for stirring
- Measuring cups and spoons
- A can opener
- Two pot holders
- A ladle for serving soup

1. Place soup pot on stove. Turn heat to medium. Add olive oil and chopped onions. Cook and stir until onions are soft (about 5 minutes).
2. Add carrots and garlic. Stir well. Season with salt and pepper. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until garlic is fragrant (about 2-3 minutes).
3. Add celery, additional vegetables of your choice, parsley (or other herb), thyme, and bay leaf. Season again with salt and pepper and cook an additional 2 minutes.
4. Add vinegar, broth, and potatoes, and turn heat up high. Let soup come to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, until potatoes can be pierced easily with a fork (about 15 to 25 minutes). Taste and season with additional salt and pepper as needed.

Serve soup hot with fresh bread for a hearty, healthy meal! Yum!!



animal modern

By Fred Scharmen with Sarah Evans

At The Maryland Zoo, animals live in naturalistic environments. Naturalistic means “derived from real life or nature, or imitating it very closely.” The word suggests that what appears natural is actually created, and reminds us that the Zoo – as with any zoo, aquarium, or nature center – is a built environment. Horticulture blends with architecture and landscape design to create naturalistic environments that satisfy animals, accommodate staff, and intrigue visitors.

Since its founding in 1876, the Zoo as a built environment has been a place where natural and man-made elements come together to create a unique and beautiful aesthetic. Each element has its own story, from the cast-iron lions in Schaeffer Plaza to the champion Bur Oak in the African Aviary to the round and pebbled Giraffe House. This structure – one of the more bizarre man-made elements on campus – recently caught the eye of local historian and architect, Fred Scharmen. Now teaching in the graduate architecture program at Morgan State University, Mr. Scharmen wrote about the history and design of the Giraffe House in an article entitled “Animal Modern” that was published in the June 6, 2013 edition of the online magazine, *What Weekly*. With his permission, the article is excerpted here.



The other week I got an e-mail from a friend involved in historic preservation. A black-and-white photograph of an architectural model was attached to the e-mail. Like many architectural models, this one had tiny people on sidewalks and little fake trees in the landscaping. The tail fins and classic lines of the model cars on the road out front seemed to date the image to the mid-1960s. But the building design looked like something from the future, as if someone had landed a toy flying saucer in the middle of a suburban lawn playset—and, wait a minute, were those giraffes out front? According to the e-mail, the photograph showed a model of the Giraffe House at The Maryland Zoo in Druid Hill Park. The building still exists, and it is a fascinating example of modernist architecture.



Baltimore has more than its share of historically relevant modernist architecture. The beauty in these structures, when it exists, doesn't come from ornamentation or from an attempt to mimic classical forms. The earliest modern architects found inspiration in the building's intended function and in the abstraction of nature into geometry.

“Form ever follows function. This is the law,” wrote Louis Sullivan, one of the early progenitors of modern architecture, in 1869.

Sullivan's protégé, Frank Lloyd Wright, would take this principle and build an architectural language based on clear functional separation of public and private space, with detailing that breaks down natural forms into geometric compositions.

“Nothing is more annoying to me than any tendency of realism of form,” Wright wrote, criticizing his contemporaries' tendency to fill window frames and door openings with ornamental carvings of plants that “get mixed up with the view outside.”

Buildings in zoos have to balance the needs of three types of users: (1) visitors—going from exhibit to exhibit along a public path; (2) zoo staff—working in the private areas of the zoo; and (3) animals (of course)—each species with its own set of individual requirements.

The Giraffe House at The Maryland Zoo was designed in 1964 by Arunah S. “Ed” Abell IV, a little-known Baltimore architect. Abell's design puts visitors in the center of the zoo experience. Animals and keepers occupy layers around the visitor. Visitors come into the center of the building from a public path; staff enters the outer ring of the Giraffe House from the private area of the zoo.

Abell wanted Zoo visitors to feel like they were sharing space with the animals. As the architect told *The Baltimore Sun* in 1965: “Tropical plants, trees and rocks, combined with the circular and dome shape of the whole building, are designed to aid the viewer's excitement... surrounded by giraffes, looking through foliage to see them.”

Abell had filled the center [of the Giraffe House interior] with real rocks and plants, illuminated by skylights, all spiraling around a central column. This column is topped by a branching wooden lattice that screens the concrete dome above like an abstract tree. Abell is using this column to engage in dialogue with the real plants around it, without trying to directly mimic them.

Later, the real plants and rocks were removed, replaced by gravel and boulders made of concrete. Eventually, even Abell's abstract tree was covered up with fake concrete tree bark in an attempt to imitate the texture of a real tree trunk. These changes reflected the tendency in zoo design away from abstraction and towards a more direct and literal simulation of real terrain and vegetation.

Mr. Scharmen correctly notes that the aesthetic of the Giraffe House has shifted with each renovation, and probably will keep doing so over time. Two things remain constant, however. The Giraffe House continues to be a wonderfully futuristic building as well as a superbly functional shelter for the world's tallest animal. It is “still the kind of futuristic abstraction that can demonstrate the visual shock of the strange and the new,” writes Scharmen, and “is still a unique house...for giraffe living.”



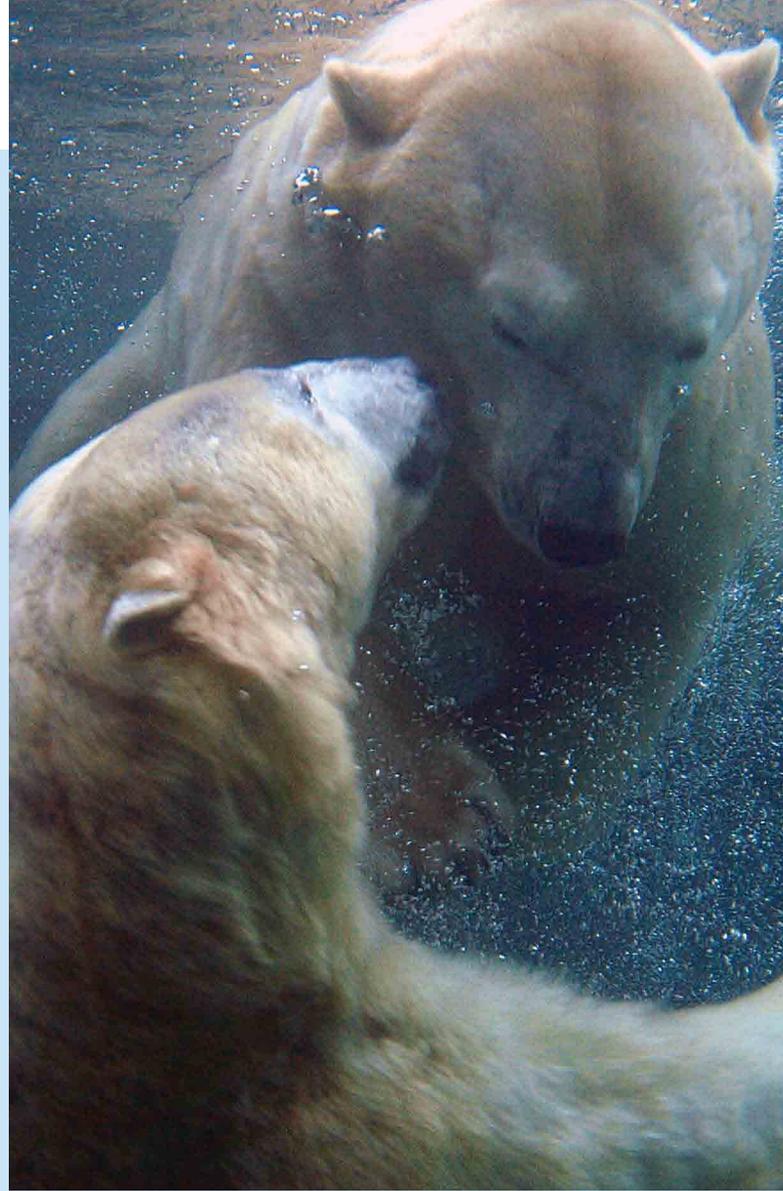
If a polar bear births in a den...

If a polar bear gives birth in a darkened den, how would anyone know?

Most wouldn't. Pregnant polar bears enter maternity dens of their own making in the fall and do not emerge for several months. While secluded, they rest, fast, and prepare for birth. It is a secretive time. Privacy is important – including from humans – whether in the Arctic or in a zoo. The female cannot be disturbed while preparing for birth or immediately afterwards. The first week of life is particularly telling, both for the health of mother and cub and for the bond that forms between them.

When managing breeding in a zoo setting, it is essential to replicate the natural state as closely as possible while also closely monitoring what transpires between mother and offspring. For this reason, the Zoo is extremely grateful to the Ensign C. Markland Kelly, Jr. Memorial Foundation, Inc. for its recent gift of a state-of-the-art polar bear den camera monitoring system. The sophisticated system will provide 24-hour audiovisual monitoring access to the cubbing den and to the off-exhibit area outside the den, filming in color during daylight hours and via infra-red in darkness. Keepers, managers, and veterinarians will be able to view a female and her cub around the clock and make important, time-sensitive decisions about care without unnecessary disturbance or intervention.

The Ensign C. Markland Kelly, Jr. Memorial Foundation, Inc. has been a generous supporter of the Zoo for nearly 60 years and of the polar bear program in particular. In the 1940s, the Foundation donated two of the very first polar bears to reside at the Zoo and funded construction of their exhibit. In 2002, the Foundation was a major funder of the new *Polar Bear Watch* exhibit. With this latest gift, the Foundation has raised the bar for husbandry and care of the Zoo's polar bears.



"C. Markland Kelly, Sr.'s original vision for his foundation was to support local civic organizations in significant, tangible ways that honor the memory of his son, Ensign C. Markland Kelly, Jr.," explains Carol Hunt, executive director of the foundation. "Mr. Kelly, Sr.'s tenure on the Park Board of Baltimore City from 1935 to 1943 began his interest and involvement in the [Maryland] Zoo."

We are extremely grateful for this interest and for such ongoing generosity, as both have allowed us to deliver the best possible care to a truly remarkable species.

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

ready...set... penguins!

Construction is going full tilt now on the Zoo's new state-of-the-art penguin exhibit, which will completely redefine the look and feel of the Zoo's Central Plaza area. The stunning new exhibit will put the largest colony of African penguins in North America front and center for Zoo visitors to enjoy. From the moment you arrive at the heart of the Zoo, you will enter into an immersive experience with penguins that is intended to be both educational and entertaining.

Over the next several months when you visit the Zoo, you will notice a construction fence surrounding an enormous piece of real estate and you will witness a tremendous amount of activity: digging machines hard at work, dump trucks moving tons of earth, construction workers engaged in every facet of a monumental project. Your visit to other parts of the Zoo will not be interrupted, and new pathways into *Polar Bear Watch* and *African Journey* have been made for your convenience, but we urge you to pause for a moment and share in the excitement of what is being created.

When finished, the exhibit will feature a large pool with a rocky island at its center. An animal care facility designed especially for penguins will be situated on the island, disguised as an abandoned fishing camp. As you walk around the island, you can observe penguins from different vantage points. Watch for the enormous dump bucket intermittently pouring hundreds of gallons of water into the pool, creating waves and currents for the penguins to swim in. Enter the exhibit's Interpretive Center, and you can see penguins swimming underwater.



You'll also be able to visit up close with penguins from the Zoo's Animal Embassy, which will move to new digs in the exhibit.

With the debut of the new penguin exhibit, the Zoo will assume an even greater leadership role among North American zoos and aquariums in the management and breeding of this endangered species. But best of all, your Zoo experience will be enhanced in ways you never dreamed of!

If everyone who cares about the Zoo were to make a gift, no matter how big or small, together we could accomplish the extraordinary.

The Maryland Zoo relies on donations from friends like you to care for its resident animals, work for wildlife conservation, and promote awareness and respect for all wildlife. **We hope that you will support us in our mission.**

You can send your gift in the enclosed envelope, donate online at www.marylandzoo.org/donate, or call us at 443-552-5293. Thank you!



THE MARYLAND ZOO

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rise of the ravens



raven: Shawn Hubbard

Fall means the return of football, and that means purple fever in Baltimore. Here at the Zoo, we want to get you psyched for another great season on the gridiron. How? Here's how!

- Come to the Zoo on Purple Fridays (dressed in purple, of course) and visit with Rise and Conquer, mascots of the World Champion Baltimore Ravens.
- See Rise and Conquer along Ravens Walk before each home game and on the field during home games.
- Get inspired by all things raven. Adopt a Zoo raven! Receive an official Ravens adopter certificate, a glossy photo of Rise and Conquer, a cuddly Maryland Zoo plush raven, and the satisfaction of supporting the care and feeding of the Zoo's ravens.
- Show your purple passion by becoming a Raven Partner! This exciting opportunity, offered through ZooMobile, will provide your school or community group with a memorable raven experience. For details and booking information, please go to www.MarylandZoo.org/edzoocation/outreach.
- And last but not least, become a fan of Rise and Conquer @ [facebook.com/RiseConquer!](https://www.facebook.com/RiseConquer/)