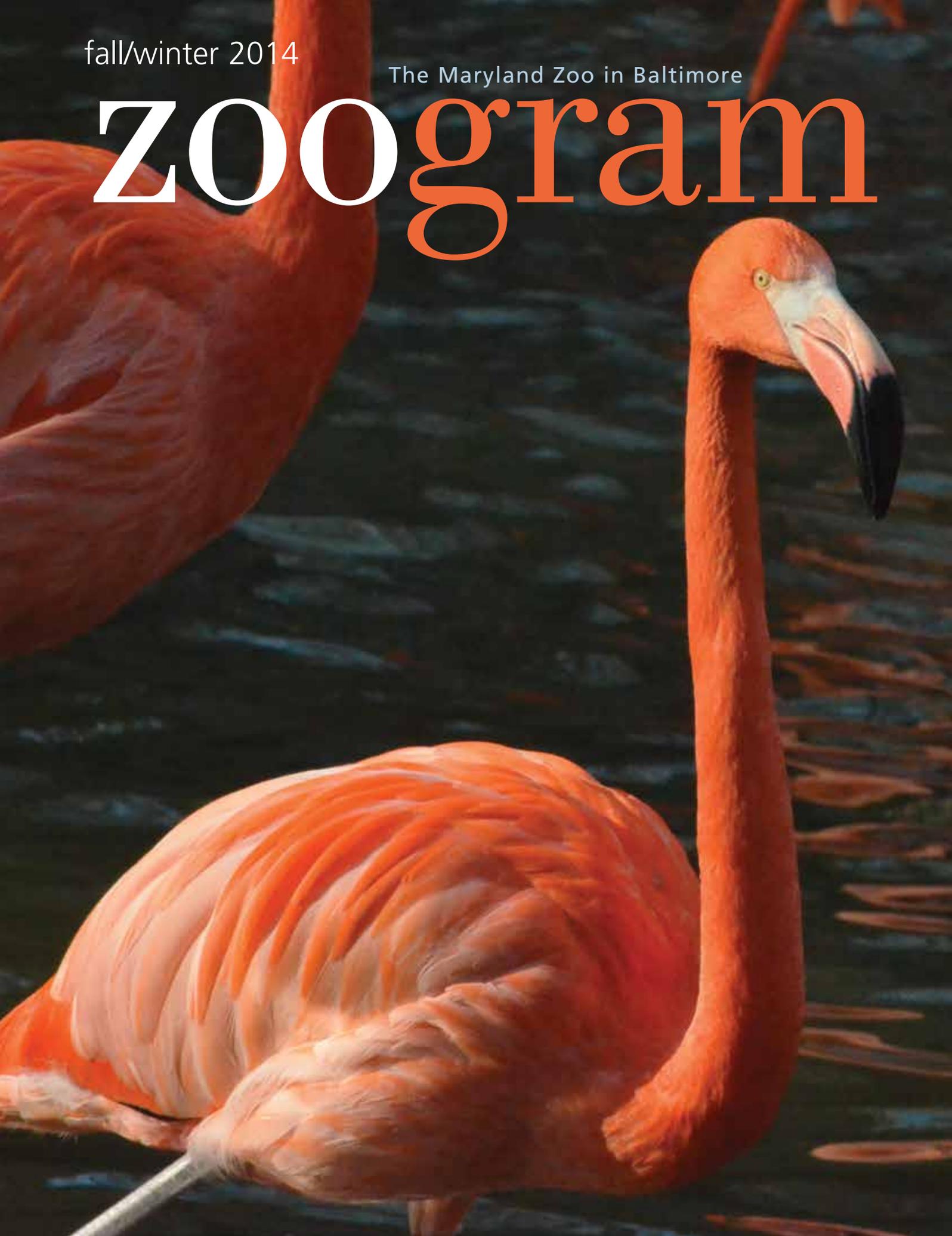


fall/winter 2014

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

zoo**gram**



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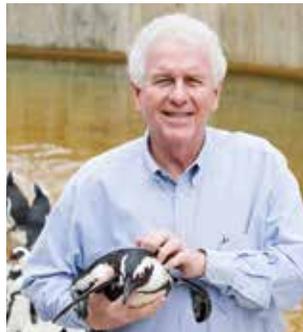
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The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.



Letter from the president



It's been a very busy summer here at The Maryland Zoo as the *Penguin Coast* construction and *Marsh Aviary* renovations are wrapping up. The finishing touches are being made and by the time you have this issue of *Zoogram* in your hands, the residents of both exhibits should be moving into their new homes. The penguins and cormorants will move to *Penguin Coast*, and the aviary will house many native bird species including turkey vulture, black vulture, wood duck, black-crowned night heron, little blue heron, and cattle egret.

We are also so pleased that you will once again be able to visit our flock of flamingos! We have wanted to move these birds out of the Main Valley for a long time and now, as part of the *Penguin Coast* construction project, we have designed a space for our flock. These loud beauties will be moving to the Safari Boardwalk area adjacent to *Penguin Coast*, and you can read more about flamingos in this issue of *Zoogram*.

Many people visit zoos to learn about and admire large mammals such as polar bear, lion, and elephant, but come away just as wowed by the birds that they see. At this zoo, we are surrounded by the beauty and excitement of a variety of bird species, and our staff is extremely well versed in caring for all of them. This includes our talented veterinary staff, which made great contributions to research during the snowy owl irruption last winter and provided critical medical care to one snowy owl in particular, as you'll learn about in this issue.

We are so excited to see all of this work come to fruition, and we hope that you will be among those who venture out to the Zoo this fall to see what has been accomplished. The spectacular *Penguin Coast* awaits 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
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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 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.

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On the Cover

Caribbean flamingos



Next time you visit the Zoo, feel free to ogle one of the most ostentatious tails in the natural world. Look for our new peacock sidling up to our new peahen in the yard behind the Membership Cottage. Like other peahens, she wears a small crown of tiny decorative feathers and gleams iridescent blue and green on her neck but otherwise fades to a drab light brown. She pales in comparison to him, and yet she is the object of his desire. He will flaunt his gorgeous tail for her in hopes of impressing her. Research has shown that his hopes are not in vain. Peahens really do prefer peacocks with the largest and most colorful tails. In this species of pheasant, the good-looking guy really does get the girl.

NEWS

FROM THE ZOO

A pair of von der Decken's hornbills nested in the African Aviary this summer and hatched out their first clutch of chicks! This is an historic first for the Zoo with this species, and watching the pair prepare for its new family was almost as exciting as welcoming the chicks. Von der Deckens typically nest in tree cavities. A pair works together to partially close the nest entrance, sealing the female inside. There she stays for nearly two months, incubating her eggs and then caring for the chicks until they are large enough to literally burst out of the nest. Her mate gathers food and offers it to her through a tiny slit.



Bald eagles are back! The Zoo now has a young, female bald eagle living in *Polar Bear Watch*. She is about 5 years old and still has some juvenile coloration, but her head will turn all white, in classic bald eagle style, as she matures. Originally rescued in North Carolina in 2009, she comes to us from The National Aviary in Pittsburgh. She has been successfully rehabilitated but can no longer survive on her own in the wild. She will make her permanent home here at the Zoo.



you say it's a what?

Some words do not roll easily off the tongue. Some words are strange and rarely encountered. They leave you scratching your head wondering, "What's that?"

Duiker is one such word. You could be forgiven if you have never heard it before and don't know what it means, much less how to pronounce it. For the record, it's dike-r. It refers to any of several small African antelope, each with short, straight horns and a crest of long, straight hair sticking up. The word duiker comes from the Dutch word for "diver," because these diminutive antelope have a way of diving into bushes when disturbed. Males often accompany their dives with a loud, sneezing whistle, their patented alarm call.

Keep your eyes open for one of these tiny antelope next time you visit the Zoo because now the Zoo is home to an almost 2-year-old blue duiker. He comes to us from the Kansas City Zoo. Notice the bluish sheen to his coat and you'll say, "Aha, I get it!"

Blue duikers are the smallest of all 21 duiker species. They are common throughout central, eastern, and southern Africa. Most active at dawn and dusk, they are forest animals that feed mainly on fruit. Often they will follow feeding monkeys and birds through the forest, eating fruit that they drop. Blue duikers are widely hunted for their meat, skin, and horns but despite the constant threat of predation by more than just humans, they are currently stable as a species.

Duikers may be strikingly small but they have the largest brains relative to body size of any antelope. Impressive, yes? Share that fun fact at the dinner table tonight!



A new female African penguin, almost 3 years old, recently arrived from the Memphis Zoo. She will be paired with a genetically valuable male in the Zoo's colony at the recommendation of the AZA's African Penguin Species Survival Plan (SSP). It is one of several breeding recommendations recently conferred by the SSP that will allow the Zoo to enlarge its African penguin colony over the coming years. The Zoo's new African penguin exhibit will offer enough space for the Zoo to nearly double the size of its current colony.

6 YOUR NEXT VISIT fall

This fall will be an especially exciting time to visit the Zoo because of the much-anticipated openings of *Penguin Coast* and the new Caribbean flamingo exhibit. Come out and see your zoo's remarkable transformation and enjoy these fascinating birds in their new environs. We've got plenty of other events and activities planned for you, as well, so be sure to mark your calendar!

The Zoo will keep regular visiting hours through the end of December and will be open to guests Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday during the months of January and February. Before your next visit, please check our website, www.MarylandZoo.org, for updates on programs and exhibits and 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 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: View a penguin feeding at *Penguin Coast* and learn more about the Zoo's colony and about penguins in the wild.

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 and Training Demonstrations: Watch and learn as staff work with select Animal Ambassadors at various locations around the Zoo.

\$: fee to participate

special events

fall/winter 14 7

Elephant Awareness Day

Calling all elephant lovers: today is your day! Come to the Zoo to learn all about elephants. Talk with Zoo educators and elephant keepers, participate in pachyderm-centric activities, and visit the elephants, of course!

Date: September 21

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.

African Penguin Awareness Day

Enjoy the penguins in their new exhibit and spend the day learning about these amazing birds. We'll have activities planned at Creature Encounters and keeper chats and animal enrichment throughout the day at *Penguin Coast*. No tuxedos required!

Date: October 12

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

ZooBOOO!

We'll be hosting our annual spooktacular for all the cutest and friendliest ghosts and goblins in town. Come in costume (we want to see!) and join in lots of fun stuff all weekend long, including costume contests, carnival games, crafts, live entertainment, and FREE trick-or-treating!

Dates: October 24-26

Hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Zoo Zoom 8k Race/Family Fun Run

Your chance to run wild! This popular 8K fundraiser race winds its way through Druid Hill Park and the Zoo. If you're not "wild" about running, sign up 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 23

Hours: 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Breakfast With Santa And Friends

Celebrate the holiday season on the Mansion House Porch. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and visit with Santa, of course (and a few feathered friends: think penguins!)

Dates: December 6, 14, 20

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Prices: \$25 members, \$35 non-members, \$18 children 2-12, FREE for children under 2 (but ticket still required)

OktoBEARfest

What better way to spend a day this fall? Make your way to Waterfowl Lake for the Zoo's ever popular all-day beer festival featuring live music, unlimited sampling of local and national fall brews, and Oktoberfest-inspired foods from a variety of vendors. Lederhosen appreciated but not required!

Please purchase tickets online at www.marylandzoo.org.

Admission to the Zoo is included, same day only.

Date: October 18

Hours: 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Prices: \$15-\$50



on-grounds programs

Who's awake by the light of the moon? Sign up for our *Where the Wild Things Snore Family Overnight Adventure*, happening in October, and find out! Bring your tent and sleeping bags to the Zoo, visit the animals at dusk, and gather back at the campsite for games, activities, dinner, and stories under the stars led by Zoo educators. Stay tuned for more details at www.MarylandZoo.org.

And while you're at it, be sure to check out all the other fun, FREE, and informative public programs happening on grounds this fall, including puppet shows, presentations at *Penguin Coast*, and weekly Animal Adventures activities.

Make tracks to the Zoo and we'll see you there!

firebirds

By Sarah Evans, Zoogram Editor

Legend has it that a beautiful bird with plumage of a thousand shades of gold once soared above the Arabian desert. It would live 500 years, then settle into a nest of twigs and fan the wood into flames with its wings. From the ashes, the firebird would rise to live again. This magical bird, known as the phoenix, appears in many ancient mythologies as a sacred symbol of lasting life.

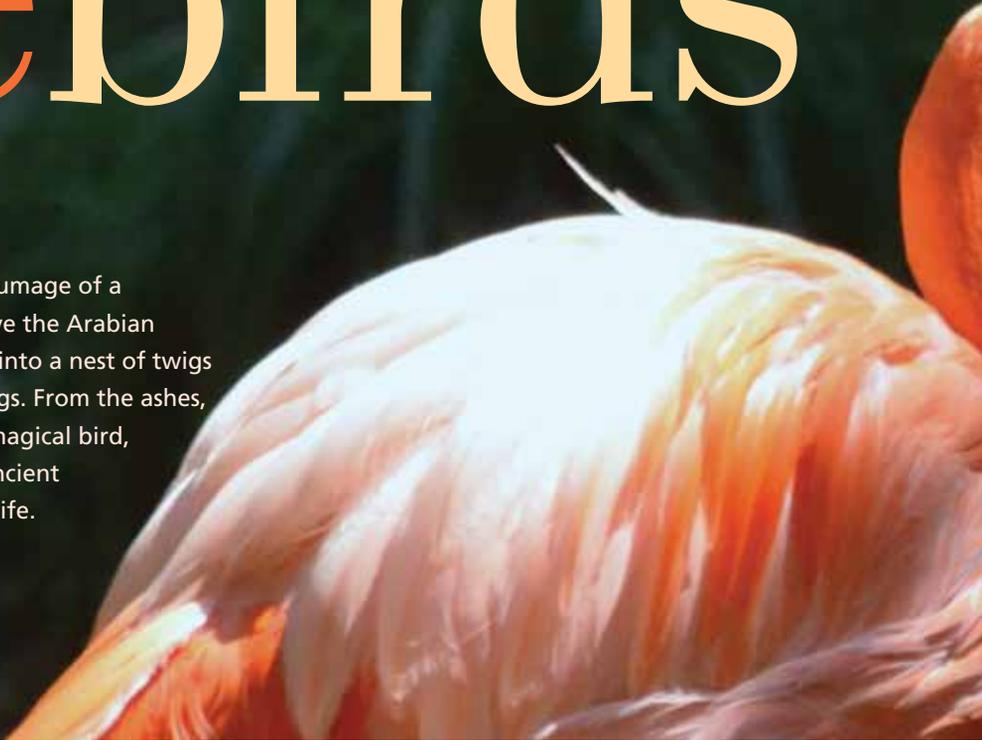
The phoenix is a fantastic creation of human imagination. It cannot be found on earth, but this has never stopped people from wanting to see it. Many found a worthy substitute in the brilliantly colored flamingo, a very real and very beautiful bird. In time, across cultures, the flamingo and the phoenix became inextricably linked. Ancient Egyptians regarded the flamingo as the living embodiment of their sun-god Ra. Phoenician traders peddled dried flamingo skins as those of the phoenix, capable of endowing long life. Early Christians attributed symbolic significance to the cross-like silhouette of a flying flamingo.

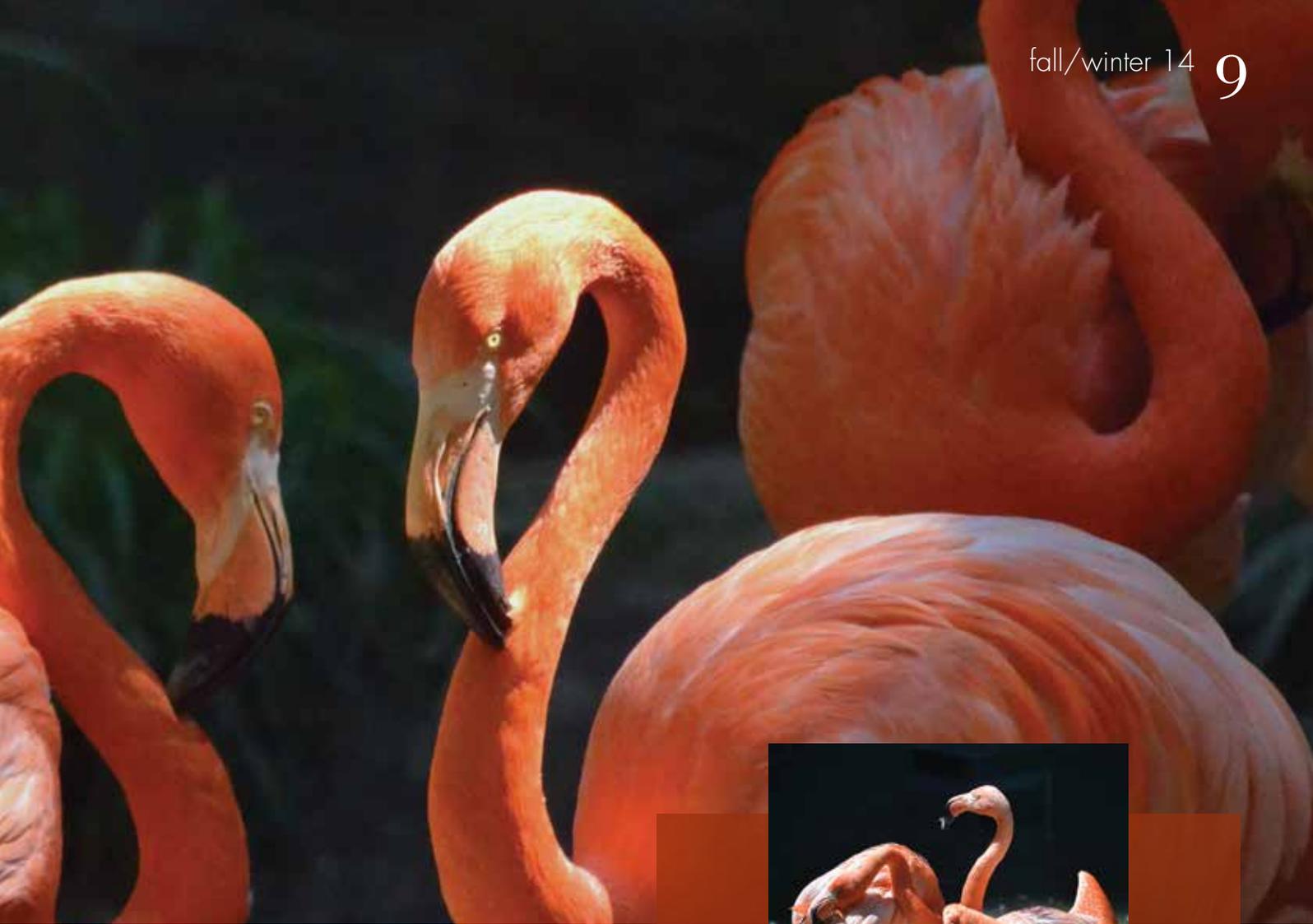
It is easy to see how the flamingo, bedecked in hues of scarlet, pink, and orange, could assume legendary status. However, its beauty is rooted in its biology. Flamingos are wading birds that muck in the mud for their supper. Those long, slender legs that just won't quit carry flamingos into the shallows or beyond in search of food. Those gracefully curved necks, fit for a queen, can dip, twist, and drop below water. With heads submerged, flamingos open their bills slightly and filter food through comb-like plates on either side. They are masters of sifting crustaceans, mollusks, aquatic insects, and algae from the water and down their gullets.

The stunning color of flamingos comes from carotenoids in the food that they eat. Carotenoid pigments – which occur naturally in many plants and animals and which make carrots orange, for example – produce shades of pink and red in a flamingo when broken down during digestion. Interestingly, when feathers drop from a living flamingo, they quickly fade. Perhaps for this reason, flamingo feathers have never been prized by the fashion industry, saving the birds from plume-related exploitation.

Of the world's six species of flamingo, the Caribbean flamingo is the most brightly colored and among the largest. This is the type of flamingo that you can see at the Zoo. It is native to the islands and mainland coasts of the Caribbean Sea, where it gathers in colonies ranging from a few dozen birds to hundreds of thousands during breeding season.

Caribbean flamingos are highly social birds that vocalize constantly and engage in group courtship displays. You should hope one day to witness a colony of Caribbean flamingos several thousand strong, gathered in scarlet splendor in a saline lagoon, all raising their wings, turning their heads, and bowing their necks at exactly the same time.





With names like “head-flag,” “wing-salute,” and “twist-preen,” the well-known displays of flamingos sound vaguely reminiscent of advanced yoga postures. To the birds, though, they are an important means of communication. Researchers hypothesize that when a breeding colony of flamingos engages in synchronized courtship displays, it readies all birds to mate at the same time.

In addition to body language, flamingos rely on a wide range of vocalizations to communicate with each other. When gathered together even in small numbers, flamingos make a lot of noise. Caribbean flamingos cackle, trumpet, and grunt. When feeding, they emit soft, low “gabbling” noises. In flight, they honk like geese.

Flamingos are remarkable and still mysterious birds. It is no wonder that they have captivated human attention and imagination for thousands of years and have even crossed over into living legend. Get a taste for the remarkable next time you visit the Zoo’s flamingos. Stand on one leg while bending the other close to your body, just as they do. Now close your eyes and hold the pose for several minutes without falling over. Remarkable, yes?



Any day now, the Zoo’s much beloved flock of Caribbean flamingos will move to a new exhibit along the Safari Boardwalk of *African Journey*. Generously supported by Kelly & Associates Insurance Group, Inc. and KTBSPayroll (KELLY), the new exhibit features two pools, a small island, and plenty of space to accommodate a growing flock. The much-admired pink-plumed wonders have been on sabbatical in the Zoo’s old Main Valley for several years now, but visitors have always remained curious about them. Their return to the public eye will stir plenty of excitement. We hope you’ll bring your flock to see our flock! The Zoo is grateful to its friends at KELLY for bringing the flamingos back and for helping to inspire renewed wonder for wildlife.



When you think about the fall season, it probably brings to mind the start of school, the changing leaves, and maybe football.

Do you also fast forward to late October and think Halloween?

We love Halloween at the Zoo because so often Halloween is

associated with cool animals like cats, bats, and owls. These are great animals to celebrate, not to fear, and we hope you'll get in that spirit with us this Halloween!

What will you dress up as this Halloween? Maybe a favorite animal? Convince a fun-loving adult to dress up, too, and you can go for the parent-child look. Some young animals look like miniature versions of their parents while others, such as black-and-white colobus monkeys, look radically different. We invite you to monkey around this Halloween and give these costumes a try!



monkeying around!



To create your colobus monkey costumes, follow these simple instructions:

1. Gather two sets—one black, one white—of the following: long-sleeved shirt, gloves, pants or leggings, shoes or socks over shoes, and hose or leggings (for a tail).
2. Gather plenty of recycled white paper that is blank on one side, and lots of old newspaper.
3. Use a paper shredder or scissors to cut the white paper into long strips. Ask a parent for help!
4. Tape multiple layers of paper strips in the shape of a U or V to the back of the black shirt to create the adult's white mantle.
5. Stuff one black and one white hose or legging with newspaper to create structure for the tails.
6. Once completely stuffed, tape white strips in multiple circular layers over the last 1/3 of both tails.
7. Don all parts of your costume, using safety pins to attach the tails to the pants, and start swinging through the trees!

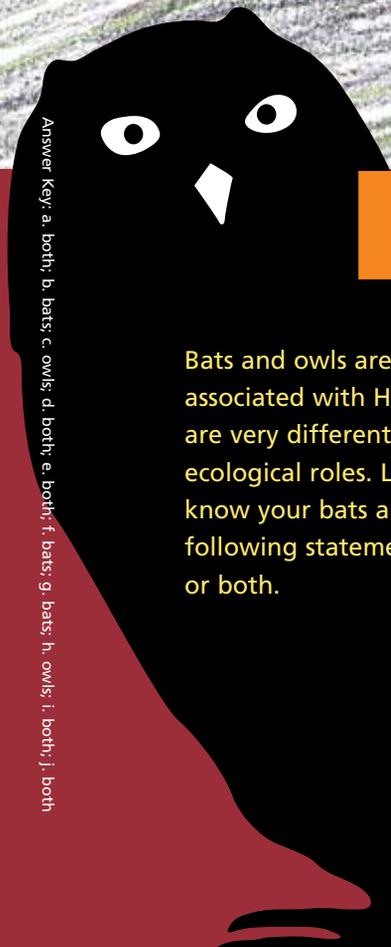
Artist credits: Evie Grove, Kindergarten, Oakleigh Elementary School (bat); Ella Grove, 2nd grade, Oakleigh Elementary School (owl)

FALL



Bats are a favorite Halloween animal because their quick, fluttery movements and nocturnal lifestyle can seem spooky. Most bats are not scary, though, and only 3 species – all native to Central and South America – are vampiric. The rest eat either fruit and nectar or insects. Of the 10 bat species in Maryland, all eat insects, and none drinks blood. Do yourselves and your neighbors a favor: put up a bat house in your yard and provide some live decoration and mosquito relief this All Hallow's Eve! To learn more about bats and bat houses, visit Bat Conservation International's website, www.batcon.org.

colobus: Jeffrey F. Bill



bats or owls?

Bats and owls are two animals commonly associated with Halloween. These animals are very different but fill some similar ecological roles. Let's see how well you know your bats and owls! To each of the following statements, answer bats, owls, or both.

- This animal is primarily nocturnal.
- This animal uses echolocation.
- This animal has feathers.
- This animal relies on its sense of hearing to find food.
- This animal eats insects.
- This animal has fingers.
- This animal roosts upside-down.
- This animal lays eggs.
- This animal's habitat is threatened.
- You can help conserve this animal by building nest boxes.



Answer key: a. both; b. bats; c. owls; d. both; e. both; f. bats; g. bats; h. owls; i. both; j. both

second chance for a snowy owl

By Sarah Evans, Zoogram Editor

She came down out of the winter sky in February. She had been in the area for several weeks already, following the line of the ocean, scouring the frozen land below for prey. The hunting had been good and she was well fed but by the time she was found, life had taken a bad turn. A wingtip injury had crippled her.



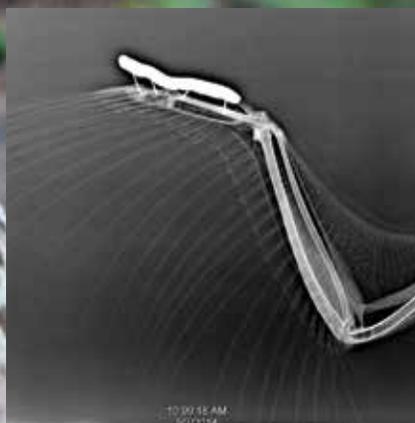
A snowy owl is a spectacular bird to encounter under any circumstances but particularly in the Mid-Atlantic region where it seems so out of place. This young owl started her life months earlier on the northern breeding grounds of the Arctic tundra. There, snowy owls nest and breed during a brief summer of perpetual sunlight and endless hunting. Adult snowys care for their chicks for about nine weeks, fattening them up with lemmings and other prey until they are able to fly and hunt for themselves. By summer's end, young snowys are ready to disperse and face winter on their own.

Adult snowy owls normally stay in the Arctic through the long, dark winter, while young birds wander widely seeking good hunting territory. Periodically, they fly south

in unpredictable invasions known as irruptions. Small irruptions happen every few years but once in a while a mega-irruption occurs, with more snowy owls flying much further south than usual. Last winter's irruption was one of the biggest in decades. Snowys irrupted into the Great Lakes region and down the Atlantic coast, with some spotted as far south as Florida and as far east as Bermuda.

Research indicates that irruptions follow on the heels of banner nesting years when prey is so abundant that female snowys produce more eggs and, along with their mates, rear more chicks. The numerous young owls are the ones to fly south. Lemming populations were booming in northern Canada in the summer of 2013 and that is likely what fueled last winter's southern migration.

The mega-irruption offered scientists an unprecedented opportunity to gather data on snowy owls. Project SNOWstorm took shape under the leadership of biologist David Brinker of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), among others. The collaborative effort to track and study the southern migrants involved many individuals and multiple institutions, including The Maryland Zoo. Scientists in the field tagged wild snowy owls and attached GPS trackers to 22 of them. They drew blood from tagged owls and sent samples to the Zoo and other qualified institutions for analysis. From the samples, the Zoo's vet staff could determine a great deal about each bird's health.



During surgery, tiny pins were screwed into two tiny bones located at the owl's wingtip. A stabilizing bar, clearly seen on the x-ray image (left), held the pins steady for six weeks while the bones fused together.

When the young female snowy owl turned up injured in Maryland, Brinker contacted Dr. Ellen Bronson, Senior Veterinarian at the Zoo. He described the Zoo's vet staff as "our go-to folks for species that are rare and unusual." And, as Dr. Bronson added, "This was a perfect case for [the Zoo] to get involved with, along with our partners at DNR. We have extensive experience with snowy owls and have seen them through many medical situations. We've had a number of different snowy owls here, we know what diseases and conditions they get, and we're very well versed in what their needs are."

Bronson and her colleagues determined that the injured snowy would require surgery. "A joint near the wingtip that is used to maneuver during flight was badly injured,"

she said. "We decided to override the tiny joint and see if she could fly without being able to bend it, while preserving the other wing joints." To do this, the surgical team pinned two tiny bones on either side of the injured joint and created a stabilizing bar above, as seen on the x-ray image. The bar remained in place for six weeks to allow the tiny bones to fuse together. Amazingly, the novel surgery worked and the patient cooperated throughout her recovery.

The next challenge was to see if the owl could fly again without the use of the joint. She was sent to a raptor rehabilitator in Boyds, Maryland, where she received several weeks of flight training and conditioning. To everyone's relief, the owl did well and re-mastered flight. She has

been cleared for release and now it is just a matter of timing. When cool weather sets in later this fall, she will be taken to coastal Maryland and released in an area where other snowy owls have occasionally spent the winter. With the right habitat and prey availability, this young owl will have a strong chance of surviving the winter and making her way back to the Arctic where she belongs.

Working for wildlife is part of the Zoo's mission, and it can take many forms, including cases such as these. "It's one of the things that excites me about being a zoo vet," admits Bronson, "chances like these – to use our knowledge and expertise to be perfectly positioned to care for a wild animal in need."

think pink and adopt!

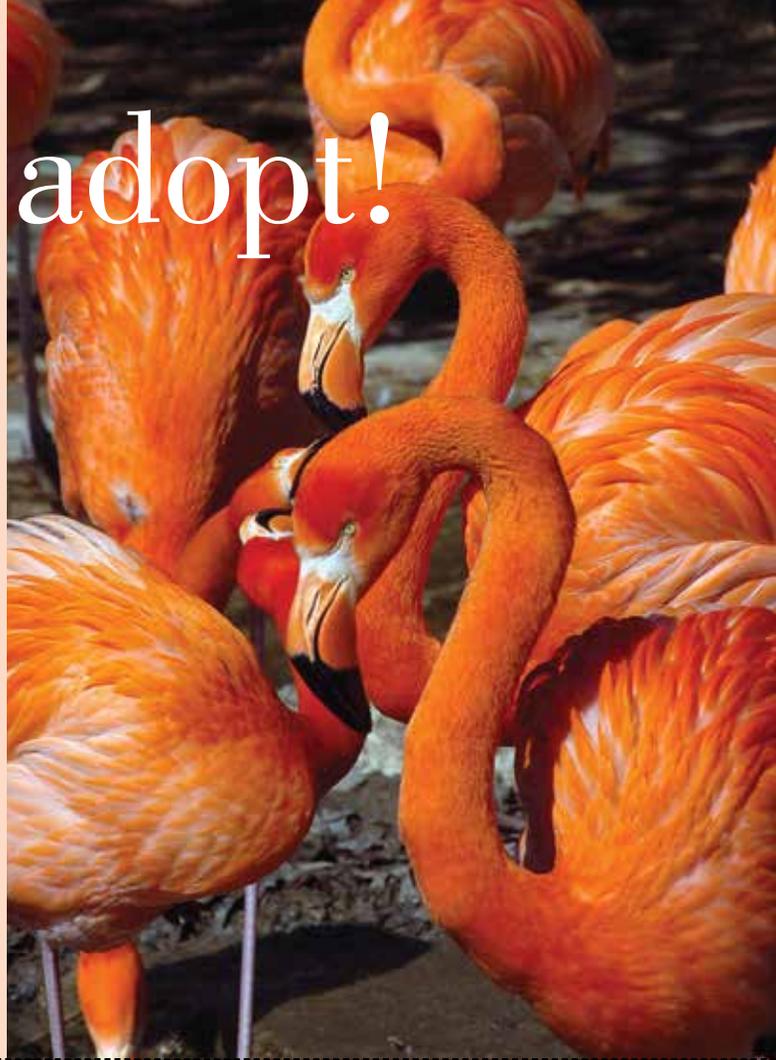
Our Caribbean flamingo flock is fluffed and ruffled, pruned and pinked, and ready for their public debut in their new home adjacent to their feathered friends, the penguins. The flock hopes you come out and see them as well as adopt them, hon.

The following benefits are included with your Flamingo Adoption:

- An official Maryland Zoo in Baltimore adoption certificate
- A color, candid photo of your adopted animal
- An adorable pink flamingo plush
- Fun flamingo fact sheet
- PLUS an invitation for two to the Adopter Recognition Day held each spring!

The Adopt an Animal Program supports the care of your favorite Zoo resident, so your tax deductible contribution is going to a great cause. For a complete list of animals available for adoption, please visit us online at www.marylandzoo.org or call 443-552-5281. Thank you for supporting The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore!

Price: \$55.95 (shipping and handling included)



yes! I want to Adopt a Flamingo

Three easy ways to order

1. Mail payments to:

The Maryland Zoo, Adopt an Animal
1876 Mansion House Drive
Baltimore, MD 21217

1. Order by phone- (443) 552-5281

2. Order online at www.marylandzoo.org

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

If Adoption is a gift, please complete the following:

Gift recipient's name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____

Gift Message _____

- Send materials directly to gift recipient.
- Send materials to me.
- Send me information on other animals available for Adoption.

Payment information

- Visa
- MasterCard
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- American Express

Account # _____

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Signature _____

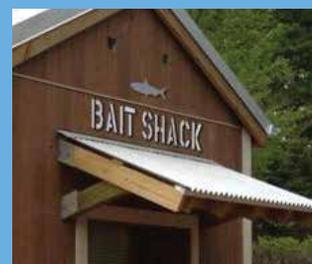
bait shack

your *Penguin Coast* snack depot

When you visit *Penguin Coast* for the first time, you're going to notice an interesting little building called the Bait Shack. Drop in for a moment but don't come looking for worms! You won't find bait for your next outing on the Chesapeake here but you will find an assortment of snacks and drinks to satisfy your taste buds. With all that there is to do and see in *Penguin Coast*, you may stay longer than you think and work up an appetite! Don't worry; we've got you covered. The Bait Shack will stock sodas, lemonade, ICEE drinks, draft beer, and water as well as an array of snacks, including popcorn, cotton candy, pretzels, nachos, Rice Krispie treats, cookies, and brownies.

For its food service and retail operations, the Zoo partners with Service Systems Associates, Inc. (SSA), a national visitor services company headquartered in Denver that manages retail and culinary departments for museums, botanical gardens, and many AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums around the country. We are thrilled to have SSA on campus, providing excellent service to our visitors, and delighted to recognize SSA as the major donor for the Bait Shack. We are grateful for their support and dedication to all that we do here at The Maryland Zoo.

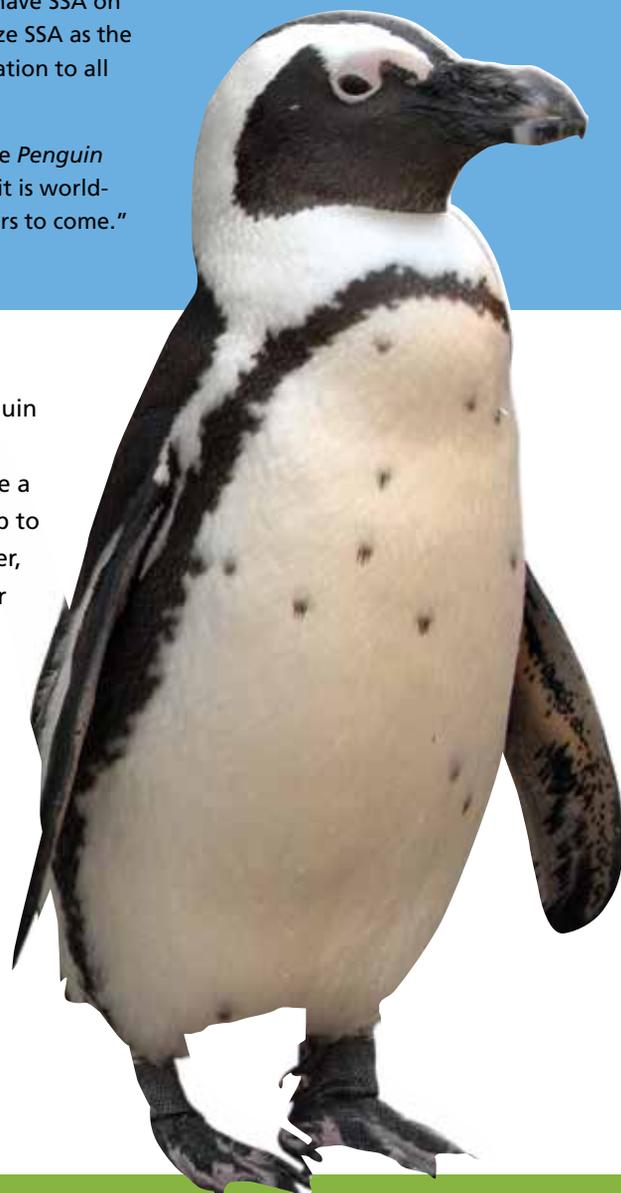
"Service Systems Associates is proud to partner with The Maryland Zoo in the *Penguin Coast* exhibit opening," said Tim Brantley, president/CEO of SSA. "The exhibit is world-class and the Bait Shack will continue to add to the guest experience for years to come."



The Zoo's colony of penguins is fed daily at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Next time you visit the Zoo, stop at the Bait Shack to grab a snack and then head to the wharf viewing area to see the penguins enjoy their next meal!

Host your next party at *Penguin Coast*!

One of the great features of *Penguin Coast*, the Zoo's new African penguin exhibit, is its charming indoor education center. An exciting, interactive space where Zoo visitors can learn about penguins, it also promises to be a unique and memorable place to host intimate evening gatherings for up to 90 guests. Whether you're planning a cocktail party or a wedding shower, this could be just the spot for you! For an extra fee, you can extend your party outdoors into *Penguin Coast*, whose design was inspired by the rocky coastline of South Africa. To book your reservation or get more information, please contact our Group Sales staff at groupsales@marylandzoo.org or 443-552-5277.



THE MARYLAND ZOO

IN BALTIMORE

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member news



raven: Shawn Hubbard

Fall in love with the Zoo again this season! Be one of the first to experience *Penguin Coast*, opening September 27, and take advantage of other great member benefits.

Member Mornings

As a member, you can enter the Zoo early every first Saturday, Sunday, and Monday of the month starting at 9:30 a.m. Ride the Jones Falls Zephyr and carousel for FREE until 10:30AM, meet Animal Ambassadors, and enjoy the Zoo without crowds.

JUST ADDED! To celebrate the opening of *Penguin Coast*, we've added an extra Member Morning on Sunday, September 28 and a 9 a.m. start to all of our October Member Mornings!

Other Zoo Happenings

Oktobearfest , October 18, 2014

Discounted member tickets available now at www.marylandzoo.org.

Sample flavored brews, visit the animals, and enjoy live music at this annual fall festival.

ZooBOOO! October 24, 25, 26

Free with membership.

Trick or Treat, participate in free costume contests, and watch Zoo animals enjoy pumpkin treats at this annual three-day, kid-friendly Halloween spooktacular.