

BRANDYWINE

ZOO NEWS

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Something New At The Zoo
Monkeys Will Be Back Soon
Working In The Field In Africa
Play, Grow, Learn At The Zoo
Star Wars Takes Over Zoo



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On the Cover

Our cover features someone new here at the zoo. She's a juvenile Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) who came to us from a rehabilitation facility. She was permanently injured when she was blown out of her nest in western Pennsylvania in a violent storm. As a result, she cannot fly and is unable to survive on her own in the wild. We are pleased to be able to provide her a new home at the Brandywine Zoo where she can receive excellent care from our animal keepers. Our members and visitors will have the unique opportunity to watch her grow into adulthood and take on the distinctive white plumage on her head and tail that will identify her as our national symbol.



Our new eagle is just one of many exciting new developments here at the Brandywine Zoo. We hope you enjoy this issue of the Zoo News and we thank you for your support.

The Delaware Zoological Society raised almost \$6,000 for the Brandywine Zoo at our March 13th Guest Bartender Night at the BBC Tavern and Grill!



Rob Martinelli with DZS Board President Megan McGlinchey and Vice President Amy Colbourn

Guest Bartenders Arnie Dunn and Jill Abbott



Misty White, Suzanne Rocheleau Hall, Guest Bartender David Plaza and Andrea Ladany



Partying with a Purpose!

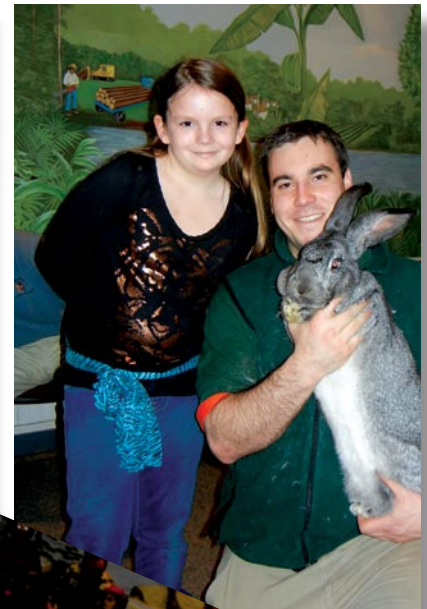
By Bill Montgomery, Executive Director, Delaware Zoological Society

When Cassie Sheridan turned nine, she did it in style by inviting her friends to her birthday party at the Brandywine Zoo. What makes the event more noteworthy is what she did next: Cassie asked all her friends to make donations to the Delaware Zoological Society in lieu of birthday presents.

Through Cassie's selfless efforts, a total of \$420 was raised! Cassie is anxious to see our monkeys back out on exhibit as soon as possible, so her kind donation has

been deposited in the Zoo Improvement Fund which assists with improvements to our animals' exhibits.

Cassie enjoys a family membership at the Zoo with her parents Jen and Paul. She is also a seasoned Zoo camper. Her goal is to become a Brandywine Zoo volunteer and she hopes someday to work in the Animal Kingdom at Disney World.



Thank you, Cassie for all you do for our animals!

Looking for a fun, interesting and educational party location?!?

Host your event at the Brandywine Zoo and support the Zoo's conservation and education efforts. Birthday parties are held in the classroom of the Education Building and can be rented on Saturdays or Sundays. Birthday party package includes: party pizzas, tableware, party favors, animal encounter and admission to the zoo.

Check out our website for additional information:
<http://brandywinezoo.org/birthday-parties.html>

Something New at the Brandywine Zoo

By Gene Peacock, Zoo Director, Delaware State Parks

Winter is finally moving along and while it has been tough at the zoo with the snowstorms and cold, the zoo staff and animals have all fared well. It was by no means an easy winter. There was lots of snow to shovel and animals to move to keep them warm and comfortable and working in the bitter cold made things extremely difficult at times, but we got through it. Now it looks like spring is upon us, and while we may yet have a few cold snaps, let's all hope for more warm days. With the change of the seasons comes the start of many new and exciting developments here at the zoo!



First, we would like to tell you about our new feature animal at the zoo whose picture graces the cover of this issue of the "Zoo News." We have a female juvenile Bald Eagle that is now on exhibit in the aviary at the back of the zoo. She came to us from western Pennsylvania when she was around 8 months old. You will notice she doesn't have the white head that you think of when mentioning Bald Eagles. Well, eagles don't get their distinctive coloration until they are about four to six years old, so the visitors to the zoo will have the rare opportunity to see our girl grow up. She will also be getting a roommate in the near future to share the exhibit, so keep your eyes on the aviary in the weeks ahead!



We have other new animals here at the zoo as well. For the first time we will have tenrecs as part of our collection. Tenrecs look like hedgehogs but are a completely different species of animals. They are more closely

related to shrews than anything and these tiny animals are actually distant cousins to elephants! They are native to the island of Madagascar but our two were born at the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk, Virginia last summer. They

will be a part of our education animal team and you will be able to see them in the zoo for animal encounters and with our traveling zoo.

Another exciting bird also arrived at the zoo this winter. We have a North American Kestrel that came to us as a non-releasable rehab bird from the North Carolina Zoo. Kestrels are native to Delaware but their numbers have been declining due to habitat loss. Our kestrel will also be a part of our education animal team and once she is ready, she will make appearances around the zoo with keepers and educators to help visitors learn about these very interesting tiny falcons and other raptor species.



But these are not the only new things at the zoo. We plan on hosting more special events and providing increased opportunities for visitors, like our expanded animal encounters and the new birthday party packages we debuted over the winter. You will also see construction starting up around our administration building, just across from Zhanna our Amur tiger. We are building a new tamarin exhibit to get some of our monkeys back out for the public to see and enjoy. In addition, please stay tuned as we will be announcing a very special new arrival to the zoo later this spring! I'm not going to tell you what it is but I will give you a clue: he's red, fuzzy and very, very cute! Thanks for supporting the Brandywine Zoo and please come visit us often!



The Monkeys Will Be Back Soon!

By Gene Peacock, Zoo Director, Delaware State Parks



Last summer a huge tree fell onto and destroyed our monkey house here at the zoo. The zoo staff has done an amazing job making sure our monkeys are well taken care of while they have been off exhibit. That being said, we can't wait to get our monkeys back on exhibit. All our zoo visitors love seeing them and they are quite popular. They have also been housed in smaller off exhibit areas for quite some time and they deserve a larger new home.

We have enlisted the services of Architect and Planner Steven M. Cechvala, AIA. Steve specializes in design

and planning for zoos and aquariums throughout North America and has been involved in the zoo and aquarium industry for the past 25-years, working with AZA institutions in the comprehensive capacities of master planning, design, sustainable analytics, and construction management. Several of the exhibits Steve has designed or worked on have won AZA awards.

Late last year, we started working with Steve on a concept. Since then work has begun on both the design and site preparation for the new exhibit and Steve's rendering is shown here to give you an idea a how the new exhibit will look. It will be built where our old owl and iguana exhibits once stood in the middle of the zoo. This central location will bring the monkeys inside the zoo grounds, proper, which is a requirement for our AZA accreditation. It also gives them a modern off exhibit, holding area and an outdoor exhibit that has more of the vertical space that tamarins love.

Our monkeys will live here for the next few years as we develop a more permanent solution to replace our old monkey house, but we are designing this exhibit so it can be used for many years to come. We invite you to visit the zoo over the next few months and watch this new exhibit take shape as we prepare for the return of our monkeys later this summer!

Meet Donna Evernham

By Bill Montgomery, Executive Director, Delaware Zoological Society

The Brandywine Zoo is pleased to introduce you to our new Assistant Curator of Animals, Donna Evernham. She comes to us with a wealth of zoo experience, starting at Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville, Florida where she earned her Associate in Animal Technology degree at one of the few colleges in the world that operates its own zoo, on campus.

Donna has also worked at the Jacksonville Zoo and the Lube Foundation, a private conservation education and research institution that specializes in new world primates and bats. She has worked with a variety of animals from primates to giraffes and loves, "large birds – the more peculiar looking the better!"

Donna has also worked with mice, or at least one big one named Mickey. She earned a Walt Disney World "Partners in Excellence" Lifetime Achievement Award



for her great work in conjunction with the opening of the Animal Kingdom Lodge. She and her animal team colleagues also received a "Thea Award" from the themed-entertainment industry for their successful efforts to build a culture of mutual respect and collaboration among all employees at that popular Florida attraction.

Here at the Brandywine Zoo, she thinks of herself as the keepers' keeper. "My job is to make sure that our animal keepers have what they need, to move any roadblocks out of their way, and to make sure that they always feel valued."

Donna lives in Carney's Point New Jersey with her husband, Mike; daughters Lauren, age 19 and Emma age 14; and her five year-old son "Mike Mike".
Welcome Donna!

Enrichment and Training: Benefits to Animals and Keepers

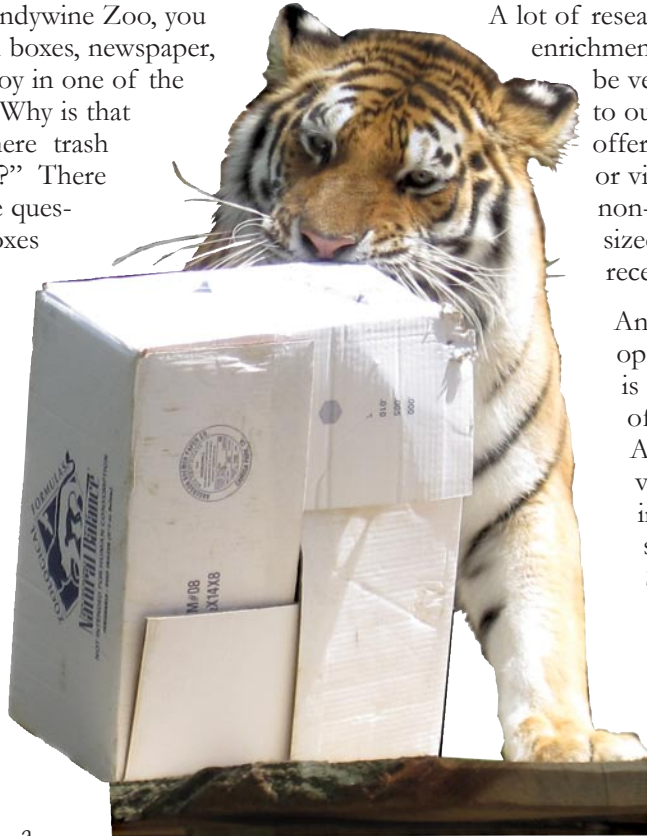
By Sharon Smith, Animal Keeper, Training and Enrichment Coordinator, Delaware State Parks

On your visits to the Brandywine Zoo, you may have seen cardboard boxes, newspaper, or some type of ball or toy in one of the exhibits and wondered, “Why is that toy there?” or “Why is there trash in this animal’s enclosure?” There is a good answer to these questions. Those toys and boxes are what we refer to as “enrichment” for our animals.

The incorporation of environmental (behavioral) enrichment in the daily husbandry practices of the animals cared for in all Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) zoos (like Brandywine) is required by AZA Accreditation Standards. The AZA Behavior Scientific Advisory Group (BAG) defines enrichment as “... a dynamic process for enhancing animal environments within the context of the animals’ behavioral biology and natural history. Environmental changes are made with the goal of increasing the animal’s behavioral choices and drawing out their species-appropriate behaviors, thus enhancing animal welfare.”

Wow, that’s a mouthful. To put it simply, enrichment is designed to encourage natural behaviors from the animals in our care and help keep them stimulated both mentally and physically to help ensure their wellbeing. Any of you who have pets are providing enrichment whenever you give your dog or cat a chew toy or a fuzzy mouse to play with.

Some of our typical enrichment activities are hiding an animal’s diet, either around the exhibit so they have to hunt for it, or by putting it in a box so they have to rip it apart to get to the food. Some animals like to dig in the dirt for their treats, so we may scatter mealworms or crickets. Our macaws love shredding things so we provide them with old phone books. We also offer a variety of purchased items such as puzzle feeders for the monkeys and large balls that can withstand the attention of a tiger or medium-sized cat.



A lot of research is involved in deciding what enrichment we give each animal. We have to be very careful that whatever we give to our animals is safe for them. If we offer browse items, such as branches or vines, we have to make sure they are non-toxic and any toys have to be the sized appropriately for the animals that receive them.

Another form of enrichment is operant conditioning or training which is basically defined as the modification of a behavior toward a desired goal. Animal keepers, behaviorists and veterinarians are all trainers. We all influence behavior in some way, sometimes without even realizing it. Simply acknowledging an animal as we walk by can reinforce whatever it is doing; whether it’s interacting with cage-mates, pulling leaves through fencing, or maybe exhibiting aggression.

When we look at the definition of training and apply it to animal behavior we are, in effect, teaching our animal. We may

be teaching them to move to a specific area for food, teaching them to open their mouths for examination, or perhaps teaching them to not be aggressive toward their cage-mates. So, whenever we speak of animal training, we speak of teaching animals to modify their behavior in some manner.

We feel that the animals we train with at the Brandywine Zoo look forward to their interaction with us. The



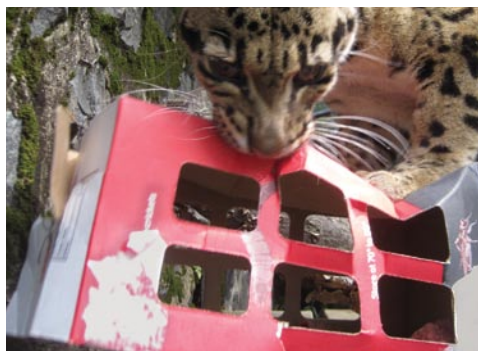


The Delaware Zoological Society
supporting the BRANDYWINE ZOO



*The Delaware Zoological Society would like to recognize
the companies, foundations, members and individuals who have
generously donated to our 2013 Annual Fund.*

behaviors we attempt to teach our animals almost always include teaching them to sit or lie in a specific position so that we may be able to get an overall visual of them. We also work with most of the animals to go in and out of a crate so if we need to move them we can do so with little to no stress to the animal.



We work with our veterinarians to come up with useful training behaviors to make necessary physicals easier to accomplish. These behaviors include

having the animal sit on a scale so we can monitor their weight gain or loss. We train our cats to sit against the caging, so we can vaccinate them without restraint and use a stethoscope to listen to their heart rate. We have also trained most of the cats to open their mouths on cue so that we can inspect their teeth.

We routinely train our animals to go to a “station”. This could be a flat tree stump that we ask the otters to stand on or a specific branch that we ask a monkey to jump to. By working with the animals and having them voluntarily participate in their care it makes taking care of the animals so much easier and less stressful for all involved.

We train with all of the animals every day. Some training you can watch as you visit the zoo and some training is done behind the scenes. Whether you stop by the zoo in the morning and catch a training session with the bobcat, the macaws or the otters, or in the afternoon with the clouded leopard or the serval, make sure you take a minute to observe what we’re doing and please feel free to ask us questions. The keepers at the Brandywine Zoo are happy to explain their work to you. Please also visit the Zoo’s website:

www.brandywinezoo.org for more information on training, enrichment and all of the great things that we do here at The Brandywine Zoo.



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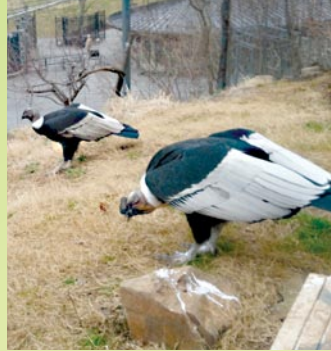
Our Commitment to Conservation

By Bill Montgomery, Executive Director, Delaware Zoological Society

Every zoo can and should be a powerful force for animal conservation and species survival efforts and the Brandywine Zoo is no exception. Every year the Delaware Zoological Society makes several donations to valued conservation organizations around the world and some right here in our own backyard. These grants further the important conservation mission of the Brandywine Zoo.

This past December, the Board of Directors approved the following grants to organizations whose good work supports the conservation of animal species that visitors to our zoo know and love:

- \$2,500 to the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Andean Condor Species Survival Plan (SSP) coordinated by the Denver Zoo. This grant will support the use of radio telemetry to track the movements of condors in the wild in South America. A portion of this grant was raised from donations received from visitors who enjoyed the popular “Birds in Action” programs presented at the Brandywine Zoo last summer by Phung Lu and Jackie Kozlowski of Animal Behavior and Conservation Connections. All donors received a special edition condor magnet that was designed by Jackie’s sister, zoo volunteer Rachel Kozlowski.
- \$2,000 to the Minnesota Zoo Foundation for the Tiger Conservation Fund managed in cooperation with the AZA Tiger SSP. This grant will support anti-poaching efforts and the Tiger Health Support Program for Amur Tigers in the Russian Far East.
- \$500 to the Lion Tamarins of Brazil Fund administered by the National Zoo in Washington D.C. This grant will support the conservation of the four endangered species of lion tamarins that are threatened by ongoing habitat destruction in eastern and southeastern Brazil.
- \$500 to Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research, Inc. in Newark, Delaware. This grant will support the critical local, national, and international rehabilitation, research and education efforts of our important local partner.
- \$500 to the Delaware Wildlife Rehabilitators association – Bear Chapter in Bear, Delaware. This grant will support this valued partner which provides needed care for sick, injured or abandoned wildlife right here in northern Delaware.



The next time you visit the zoo, buy a hot dog at the concession stand or a gift in the Zootique, or attend one of our fundraisers, you can take pride in knowing that you are helping not just to support the animals here at Brandywine Zoo but others all over the globe.



KID'S



Spotlight On:

BALD EAGLES

By: Frances A Borgers, Zoo Naturalist, Delaware State Parks

Eagles are diurnal (awake during the day and sleeping at night) just like people. They might wake up earlier in the morning than many people!

Why isn't her head white?

Bald Eagles' heads do not turn white until they are adults, around 4-6 years of age. Before this the eagle is referred to as a juvenile.

Wild eagles can live for up to 30 years and eagles in zoos can live up to 50 years!

Why are they called "bald" eagles?

In Old English the word "bald" means either white or piebald (an animal that has large patches of white). This describes the adult eagle perfectly!

We have an American Bald Eagle that will be a year old in April!

How do Bald Eagles catch their food

Like other birds of prey or raptors, Bald Eagles have talons (strong, sharp clawed feet) that help them to not only capture their prey but also to perch on branches.

Weighing up to 14 pounds, a wing span of about 6 1/2 feet, and with a body about 3 feet tall Bald Eagles are very large birds!



What do eagles eat?

In the wild, eagles' meals include rabbits, rodents, fish, other birds, and even carrion (already dead animals.)

Here at the zoo, the eagle eats chicken, fish, and rodents.



Up Close with Conservation: Part 1 of 2 Working in the field in Africa

By Jacque Williamson, Curator of Education, Delaware State Parks



In August, 2013, I had the opportunity to travel to Namibia, Africa, as a student in Miami University's Masters's Global Field Program in Zoology. The focus of this trip, 'Great Cat Conservation,' was to learn about the community-

based conservation programs working to save carnivores. Our primary focus was on the **Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF)**. We also had the opportunity to visit Etosha National Park for what my instructor described as 'gratuitous amounts of wildlife.' This was my first trip to Africa, and, as a zoologist, has been a life-long goal. I primarily spent my trip just outside of Otjiwarongo, where the flat landscape stretches out for miles before reaching the Waterberg Plateau or one of the few hills around. Here, the arid landscape just west of the Kalahari Desert is covered with thorny acacia trees so dense it turns the horizon into a mass of brownish-grey brambles that at times seems impassable to anything traveling on foot.

Cheetah Conservation Fund

Founded by Dr. Laurie Marker, CCF is working to educate local communities, specifically farmers, about cheetahs and other carnivores, their importance in the ecosystem, and how to coexist peacefully with them. CCF has a variety of programs they have started which both directly and peripherally benefit cheetahs.



A CCF ambassador cheetah stalking a lure line during a public demonstration

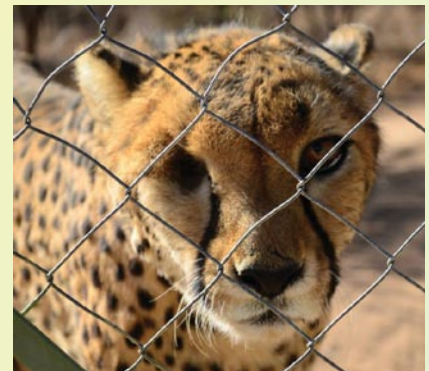
Community Education

Through a variety of education programs for farmers, CCF is teaching people how to better care for their livestock and coexist with wildlife. Multiple programs focus on ultimately reducing conflicts between farmers and carnivores, from their livestock husbandry courses to their livestock guard dog program. Husbandry courses range in topic and cover everything from helping farmers select heartier breeds, improving management practices, and promoting the use of kraals (enclosures for livestock). The guard dog program, which breeds and trains Anatolian shepherds, is so popular that it has a three year wait list. They even have a program where CCF hires workers to harvest acacia, a native but aggressively growing tree, and turn it into barbecue/furnace briquettes.

While at CCF, I was able to help with the husbandry of the working herds, which they keep on grounds for teaching purposes. I helped to clean goat and sheep yards and even got to feed some of the 2-4 week old kids. Try keeping a straight face while simultaneously bottle feeding four baby goats at once!

Cheetahs

Cheetah populations in Namibia are higher outside of protected areas like game reserves than inside of them. This is because outside the reserves, larger carnivore competitors, like lions and hyenas, have been exterminated, resulting in less competition for the smaller, solitary cheetah. Since most of what is outside of game preserves is farmland, there are inevitably conflicts between people and cheetahs. CCF works to mitigate issues by collect-



Amani, a resident cheetah who suffered an eye injury in the wild and was rehabilitated at CCF

ing trapped 'nuisance,' injured, or orphaned cheetahs and then rehabilitating and relocating them to safer locals when possible. They also have some resident, non-releasable cheetahs like Amani (pictured above), some of whom are ambassador animals who travel to schools for education programs. CCF additionally performs a wealth of research on cheetahs, looking closely at their

DNA, genetic history, and other things to better understand breeding, common malformations, and other issues associated with these famously spotted cats. I got to help with this research by collecting scat (poop!) from the pens of some of CCF's captive and wild cheetahs—nothing like walking around a hot field looking for cat poop to make your day!

Bellebeno-The Wild Cheetahs

One of my favorite experiences I had while working with CCF was when I got to go help care for the wild cats at one of the soft release camps at CCF called, Bellebeno. Here, cheetahs slated for reintroduction are tested in 'real life' by releasing them into a large (50,000 acres+) fenced camp rich with species like giraffe, zebra, kudu, steenbok, eland and warthog. CCF employees monitor soft-released cheetahs to insure they are able to find food and water, but will supplement them, in the mean time, with meat and water daily. This is where my

classmates and I got to work directly with these beautiful cats. As we drove into Bellebeno, the cheetahs kept there slowly came out of the grasses to follow our vehicles to the fenced area where they could be semi-separated for feeding. It was pretty thrilling to be standing on the back of a truck, driving through the African bush, and being followed by 6-8 cheetahs who would fade in and out of the long grasses only to suddenly appear racing alongside our vehicle. Once the cheetahs were separated, we got to feed them by throwing large chunks of meat over the fence, which were promptly scooped up and raced off to a secluded location for a private meal. It was amazing getting up close with these wild cheetahs, whose spitting, hissing, moaning, growling, and a variety of other vocalizations truly illustrated that they meant business!

My first trip to Namibia, Africa left me both incredibly fulfilled in getting to see wildlife, but also discouraged by what sometimes seems like unsurmountable issues between people and wildlife. Conflicts revolving around land use, poaching, health and nutrition, education, and more can seem to be major roadblocks to long-term conservation success. But, so many great projects are helping to overcome these hurdles, which need both support and awareness.



One of CCF's ambassador cheetahs eating a treat during an enrichment session

I'm motivated to share the story of my trip to Namibia to help raise awareness that it's not too late to do something. We can all assist animals. Volunteer on conservation projects you are passionate about, donate money, keep your connection to animals.

This is also why zoos exist; not everyone can take a trip to Africa but taking a trip to your local zoo, be it Brandywine Zoo or elsewhere, can also help to instill

a deep connection to animals and nature. Developing a strong sense of empathy for animals is oftentimes not on top of the list as to why people visit zoos, but it is one of the main reasons they exist. Zoos around the

world support organizations like the Cheetah Conservation Fund and the work they do in the field.

By visiting your local zoo, you can help to support the conservation work they do and the organizations they support.

In the next issue of Zoo News, I'll tell the life-affirming tale of my

close encounter with carnivores at Etosha National Park in Northern Namibia. For now, I'll just say that when you feel like prey, you most likely are!



We're being followed! Cheetahs tailing our vehicle at Bellebeno Camp.



Feeding kids in the kraal

Come One, Come All: Family programs for all ages!

Seeking an educational zoo adventure for the whole family? Look no further than the Brandywine Zoo's new line of family programs! We're broadening our educational programs to reach families with children of all ages! This spring and summer, drop in on one of our story programs at the zoo, which are fun for all ages. For the older kids, we are pleased to introduce a new series of family workshops, art programs, and a breakfast in the zoo program that are fun and educational for families or homeschool groups alike.

Story Programs

Join us for a free story time in the zoo! These programs take place in the Otter Circle and are free after paid admission to the zoo. Please note they may be cancelled due to inclement weather.

Sunday Zoo Tales

On the second and last Sunday of the month at 10:30 am

Join us as we read a fun story and meet a live animal friend! This program lasts approximately 20 minutes.

April 27 - *Hedgie's Surprise* by Jan Brett

May 11 - *Is Your Mama a Llama* by Deborah Guarino

May 25 - *Edward the Emu* by Sheena Knowles

June 8 - *The Waterhole* by Graeme Base

June 29 - *"Slowly, slowly, slowly" said the Sloth* by Eric Carle

July 13 - *P is for Pangolin, an alphabet book of obscure, endangered & underappreciated animals* by Anastasia D. Kierst

July 27 - *Vulture Verses, love poems for the unloved* by Diane Lang

August 10 - *More* by I. C. Springman

August 31 - *Z is for Zookeeper* by Marie & Roland Smith

Thursday Story Times

Thursdays May – September at 10:30am

Enjoy fun animal stories read by our own zoo storytelling team! Story time may include a craft, activity, or live animal presentation. This program lasts approximately 30 minutes.

May 1 - *Kiss Good Night, Sam* by Amy Hest

May 8 - *I Love You, Mommy* by Jillian Harker and Kristina Stephenson

May 15 - *No One Like You* by Jillian Harker

May 22 - *Is a Camel a Mammal?* by Tish Rabe

May 29 - *The Very Greedy Bee* by Steve Smallman

June 5 - *Why Should I Recycle?* by Jen Green

June 12 - *I Love You With All of My Heart* by Noris Kern

June 19 - *A Porcupine Named Fluffy* by Helen Lester

June 26 - *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen

July 3 - *It's an Armadillo* by Bianca Lavies

July 10 - *Why Frogs are Wet* by Judy Hawes

July 17 - *Curious George Feeds the Animals* by Margret and H.A. Reys

July 24 - *Turtle Turtle Watch Out* by April Pulley Sayre Leopard

July 31 - *Tiger, Tiger is it True?* by Byron Katie and Hans Wilhelm

August 7 - *Baby Rattlesnake adapted* by Lynn Moroney

August 14 - *Are You a Butterfly* by Judy Allen and Tudor Humphries

August 21 - *Oopsie Otter* by Suzanne Tate

August 28 - *Sloth's Birthday Party* by Diane Redfield Massie

September 4 at 10:30am - *The Littlest Llama* by Jane Buxton

September 11 at 10:30am - *Bunny My Honey* by Anita Jeram

September 18 - *Raccoon Moon* by Nancy Carol Willis

September 25 - *My Little Sister Hugged an Ape* by Bill Grossman



"Brandywine Zoo animals like Zhanna, love exploring new things!"

Family Workshops

Our new family workshops are available to families with kids ages 6 and up who want to learn together!

Animal Enrichment Workshops

What is 'enrichment,' and why is it so important to animals at the zoo? Boxes, bags, scents, spices...all these and more are used to intrigue and entertain our exotic animals. Discover what our zoo keepers do to enrich the lives of our animals and help to make enrichment for the animals right here at the zoo!



Families now have the opportunity to help the zoo create enrichment for our animals like this deer which was given to Zhanna, an Amur tiger.



Breakfast with the Beasts (All Ages)

Saturday, July 19, 8:45-10:00am

Have you ever wanted to have breakfast with a beast? Join us for breakfast and enjoy the zoo to yourself before it opens to the public. After having your breakfast, stroll the zoo at your leisure and watch as the animals get their breakfast, plus enjoy a special storytime and a live animal presentation.

Fee: \$15 per person/\$12 per person for Delaware Zoological Society Members. Pre-registration required, as space is extremely limited. Preregister by July 17, 2014.

Art in the Ark

Capture the beauty and charm of our exotic zoo animals by learning how to create unique zoo art. From beginners to more experienced artists, everyone can enjoy these classes taught by local artists and educators. Learn about special tips and techniques and then practice your skills with our zoo animals as your muse! See website for details including required materials.

For more information about these or other education programs, please call (302) 571-7850 ext. 209 or email DNREC_Parks_ZooPrograms@state.de.us.

Due to material and space limitations, **pre-registration is required** for all programs. To register for one or more programs, please call (302) 571-7788 ext. 200 or visit our website at BrandywineZoo.org.

PROGRAM TITLE	AGES*	DATE(S)	TIME	FEE
Art in the Ark: Watercolor Painting (Early Mother's Day program)	Ages 9 and up	Saturday May 3	8:30-10:30 am	\$25 per person, \$20 for DZS members
Art in the Ark: Reptile Study (drawing/sketching and medium of choice)	Ages 9 and up	Saturday June 14	8:30-10:00 am	\$20 per person, \$15 for DZS members
Art in the Ark- Point, Click, Zoo (Photography)	Ages 9 and up	Saturday July 12	8:30-10:00 am	\$20 per person, \$15 for DZS members
Back to School Evening Hike	Ages 3 and up	Sunday August 24	6:00-7:30 pm	\$8 per person, \$6 for DZS members

* All programs require paid adult accompaniment

Play, Learn, and Grow at the Zoo!

By Matt Halterman, Outreach Program Manager, Delaware State Parks

The Brandywine Zoo offers a thrilling array of programs that are both fun and EdZOOcational! Join us here at the zoo, with your group or school, for a Discovery Tour to learn about the fascinating secrets of the animal world. You'll experience exciting, hands-on activities while learning, up-close, with our zoo animals. If you can't make it out to the zoo, no worries, we'll bring the zoo to you! Through our popular Traveling Zoo program we can bring the experience of a zoo field trip into your very own facility. Our charismatic animal ambassadors provide quality, nature-based programs that are fun, engaging, and provide children an intimate animal experience!

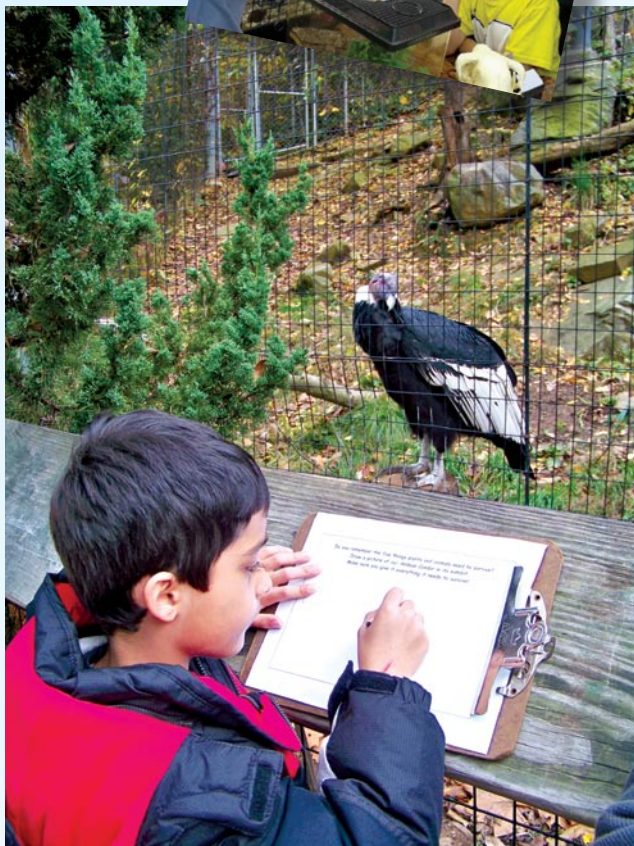
Discovery Tours

- **October-April:** \$7 per person w/ 1 free teacher per class
- **May-September:** \$8 per person w/ 1 free teacher per class

Traveling Zoo

- **Story Time Programs:** \$175/program plus travel fees
- **Standard Programs:** (Schools/Camps/Adult Centers, etc.) \$200/program plus travel fees
- **Assembly Programs:** \$400/program plus travel fees
- **Walk By Programs:** \$250/first hour, \$50 each additional ½ hour (3 hr. max)

For more information about our programs please visit www.BrandywineZoo.org under the "Learn" tab or contact us at DNREC_Parks_ZooPrograms@state.de.us.



Star Wars Takes Over the Zoo

By Gene Peacock, Zoo Director, Delaware State Parks and
Bill Montgomery, Executive Director, Delaware Zoological Society

The "Force" was definitely with us when Star Wars invaded the Brandywine Zoo! What a day it was, as nearly 1,800 visitors, of all ages, filled the Zoo from the entrance gates to the otter circle, to meet their favorite Star Wars characters on a beautiful, sunny and warm Saturday, March 8th.

Members of Garrison Carida of the 501st Legion and Ghost Base of the Rebel Legion (both officially licensed costuming organizations associated with Lucas Films Limited) took over the Brandywine Zoo. The 501st and Rebel Legions have members all over the world who do guest appearances for charities, special events and many other worthy causes. Their costumes are carefully crafted and fully authentic down to the smallest detail.

Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, Boba Fett, Jedi Plo Koon, Stormtroopers, Snow Troopers, Tie Pilots and Officers of the Empire roamed the zoo for most of the day Saturday, posing for pictures, entertaining the crowds and putting smiles on many faces. It was a day for inter-galactic visitation but with a classic, small world Delaware feel. If you listened carefully you might have detected a North Carolina accent emanating from Jedi Plo Koon that sounded suspiciously like Gene Peacock's and Darth Vader was overheard asking, "Has anyone seen my Uncle Bill?"

It was definitely a day to remember at the Brandywine Zoo and even the dedicated volunteers behind the costumes commented about how friendly all the Zoo visitors were and how much fun they had performing for them. It was also a perfect way to kick off an exciting new season at the Brandywine Zoo and we can tell you that Darth Vader informed us that he plans to be back at the zoo to check on things soon!



New Year, New Volunteers Program

By Melody Hendricks, Assistant Curator of Education, Delaware State Parks

We all know keeping New Year's resolutions isn't easy. Many of us create a long list of great intentions but by this time of the year they may be long forgotten. However, if you resolved to spend more time with family and friends, or be more active, or to learn something new, or perhaps to give back to your community, then I may have a way for you to get your wayward New Year's resolutions back on track in one easy step. Sound too good to be true? Well it isn't!



The Brandywine Zoo Education Department is seeking volunteers, **ages 16 and up**, to become part of a growing, committed corps of volunteers who make a difference in the lives of people, animals and our environment. Volunteering at the Brandywine Zoo is a great way to be more active within your community, learn new things, and you can even volunteer with friends and family.



In 2014, we rolled out our new volunteer program, which features several exciting changes and updates, making it easier to volunteer, regardless of the time of year. We have restructured our program creating a four level, tiered system. This new structure provides volunteers more opportunities, not only help out at the zoo, but to participate in more training sessions on interpretive techniques and conservation-related issues.



The new volunteer program structure encourages volunteers to best utilize their skills and talents and allows them to work their way up through training sessions to the level at which they wish to serve.

All volunteers will start out at Level 1.

Level 1 volunteers assist with greeting guests, way finding in the zoo, arts & crafts, games, administrative support, and special events.

Level 2 volunteers help with Story Time, animal artifact interpretation, Discovery Carts, Exhibit Guides, and other informal public programming.

Level 3 volunteers assist staff with programs such as school tours, Zoo Camps, the Traveling Zoo and other outreach opportunities.

Level 4 volunteers are eligible for working with our program animal collection in educational programs and events.



Beginning this process may be accomplished in one simple step. Just visit <http://destateparks.com/volunteers/to-apply.asp> and fill out an online application. Interested candidates may also join us for a Volunteer Open House where they can meet staff, ask questions, and apply. All open houses are held in the Education Building, across from the main entrance. Volunteer Open Houses this spring/summer are scheduled for the following dates:

Saturday, April 12th from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. (Special Open House: Summer zoo camp internships for high school and college students, ages 14 and up)

Saturday, May 3rd from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 5th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.,

Additional questions about our new volunteer program structure or the application process may be directed to DNREC_Parks_ZooPrograms@state.de.us.

In Sergei Prokofiev's tale "Peter and the Wolf" the wolf is brought to the zoo. That's what these dancers from the Delaware Dance Company did with their wolf too. They visited us to promote their April 12 & 13 production of "Peter and the Wolf and Other Forest Fables" at Mitchell Hall in Newark.



Volunteers are vital to the success of the Brandywine Zoo. This team is giving the DZS offices behind the Zootique a much-needed, fresh coat of paint. From the left they are: Amber Saxton, Angela Allison of the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation and Bank of America volunteers Dean Alfano, Marc Sandlhauser, and Aggie Saxton (Amber's mother.)

A delegation from the Ursuline Academy of Dallas, Texas toured the Zoo in March. Students Radhika, Maria, Rachel and Anel are flanked here by their teachers Angel and Corby and joined by Delaware Zoological Society Executive Director Bill Montgomery (far left), Brandywine Zoo Director Gene Peacock (far right) and one of their hosts from Wilmington's own Ursuline Academy, teacher Meg Kane Smith (standing in the back.)

CONSERVATION CORNER



The American Association of Zoo Keepers

By Sharon Smith, Animal Keeper, Training and Enrichment Coordinator, Delaware State Parks

As you all know my “Conservation Corner” highlights conservation efforts both locally and globally. This month I wanted to talk a little bit about The American Association of Zoo Keepers or AAZK. AAZK is a volunteer organization made up of zoo keepers and other interested personnel dedicated to professional animal care and conservation.



The following is taken from the AAZK website: “The mission of The American Association of Zoo Keepers is to advance excellence in the animal keeping profession, foster effective communication beneficial to animal care, support deserving conservation projects, and promote the preservation of our natural resources and animal life.” AAZK fosters a professional attitude in animal keepers and aquarists by encouraging them to become active members of professional teams at today’s zoos and aquariums. AAZK also supports the promotion and implementation of zookeeper education and strives to make the general public aware of our concern for all deserving conservation projects and the need for the preservation of our natural resources and the species that depend on those resources.



Until this past summer, the keepers of the Brandywine Zoo participated in the Philadelphia Zoo’s AAZK Chapter activities.

However, the Brandywine Zoo now has its own AAZK Chapter. So we

can now help raise awareness, educate and fundraise for our animals right here at the Brandywine Zoo and we can do our part for animal conservation efforts both here in Delaware and globally. We have already held several fundraisers to help us get started. We sponsored a candy station at the Zoo’s “Boo At The Zoo” event (where we sold raffle tickets to win a keeper guided tour of the zoo) we had a bake sale at the “Breakfast With Santa” event in December, and we’ve held two dining out events at local restaurants.

We are planning a number of other fund raisers for the remainder of 2014. One of them will be “Bowling for Rhinos”. Our event will be held this year on April 25

from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Brunswick Blue Hen Bowling Lanes, 501 Newark Shopping Center, Newark, Delaware. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. There will also be a silent auction and raffle. For more information, go to our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/BZAAZK>.

Bowling For Rhinos is a staple fundraiser for the national AAZK organization and the proceeds support the LEWA Wildlife Conservancy which is a catalyst for the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. It does this through the protection and management of species, the initiation and support of community conservation and development programs, and the education of neighboring areas in the value of wildlife.

The LEWA Wildlife Conservancy protects both black and white rhinos and most of the other species native to East Africa.



In Indonesia, BFR

funding supports the remaining Javan Rhinos at Ujung Kulon National Park and the Sumatran Rhinos in Bukit Barisan Selatan and Way Kambas National Parks through the International Rhino Foundation. Bowling For Rhinos also supports Action for Cheetahs in Kenya. Cheetahs share much of the same habitat as rhinos and by working to conserve cheetahs we are also saving rhinos and the countless other species that call that habitat home.

We’ll also be involved with numerous other conservation fundraising events in the future, possibly including “Tango for Tamarins”, and “Climbing for Clouded Leopards.

We will also be hosting some fundraising events on a more local scale. Please take a moment and visit our Brandywine Zoo AAZK Chapter Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/BZAAZK and ‘like’ us. Check back often for updates and information on our fundraisers.



You can also visit the Brandywine Zoo website at: www.BrandywineZoo.org for more information on how you can be more involved with conservation efforts both locally and globally. Thank you for all the support you have given The Brandywine Zoo over the years and for your continued support in the years to come.

Brandywine ZOO 2014

Reciprocal Zoos & Aquariums

Reciprocity applies only for admission to the main facility on normal operating days/hours and may exclude exhibits, parking or events requiring an additional fee. The number of visitors admitted with a family membership may vary depending on the zoo or aquarium visited. Most zoos do NOT include guests.

The following is a current list of AZA Accredited Zoos and Aquariums where admission is free, reduced or may offer some other discount, upon presentation of your **current** Delaware Zoological Society membership card and Photo ID.

Please call the facility you wish to visit to verify current discounts or restrictions.

Alabama

Birmingham Zoo

Alaska

Alaska SeaLife Center - 50% Discount

Arizona

Reid Park Zoo (Tucson)

Phoenix Zoo - 50% Discount

Arkansas

Little Rock Zoo - 50% Discount

California

Aquarium of the Bay (San Francisco) - 50% Discount

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (Los Angeles) - 10% Off - Gift Shop

Charles Paddock Zoo

Chaffee Zoological Gardens of Fresno - 50% Discount

CuriOdyssey (San Mateo)

Happy Hollow Zoo

Living Desert - 50% Discount

Los Angeles Zoo - 50% Discount

Oakland Zoo - 50% Discount

Sacramento Zoo - 50% Discount

San Francisco Zoological Gardens - 50% Discount

Santa Ana Zoo

Santa Barbara Zoo

Sequoia Park Zoo

Colorado

Pueblo Zoo - 50% Discount

Connecticut

Beardsley Zoological Gardens

Delaware

Brandywine Zoo (Wilmington)

Florida

Brevard Zoo (Melbourne)

Central Florida Zoological Park - 50% Discount

Florida Aquarium - 50% Discount

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens - 50% Discount

Lemur Conservation Foundation - 10% Off - Gift Shop

Lowry Park Zoo - 50% Discount

Miami MetroZoo - 50% Discount

Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium

Palm Beach Zoo at Dreher Park - 50% Discount

Georgia

Chehaw Wild Animal Park (Albany)

Zoo Atlanta - 50% Discount

Idaho

Tautphaus Park Zoo (Idaho Falls)

Zoo Boise

Illinois

Cosley Zoo (Wheaton)

Henson Robinson Zoo (Springfield)

Lincoln Park Zoo - 10% Off-Gift Shop

Miller Park Zoo

Peoria Zoo

Scovill Zoo - 50% Discount

Indiana

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo - 50% Discount

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden

Potawatomi Zoo (South Bend) - 50% Discount

Iowa

Blank Park Zoo (Des Moines)

Nat'l Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium - 50% Discount

Kansas

David Traylor Zoo of Emporia - 25% Off- Gift Shop

Hutchinson Zoo 20% Off- Gift Shop

Lee Richardson Zoo (Garden City)- 10% Off- Gift Shop

Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure - 50% Discount

Sedgwick County Zoo & Botanical -Garden - 50% Discount

Sunset Zoological Park (Manhattan)

Topeka Zoological Park

Kentucky

Louisville Zoological Garden - 50% Discount

Louisiana

Alexandria Zoological Park

Baton Rouge Zoo

Maryland

Maryland Zoo in Baltimore - 50% Discount

Salisbury Zoological Park - 25% Off- Gift Shop

Massachusetts

Buttonwood Park

Capron Park Zoo

Franklin Park Zoo (Boston) - 50% Discount

Museum of Science

Stone Zoo - 50% Discount

Michigan

Binder Park Zoo (Battle Creek) - 50% Discount

Children's Zoo at Celebration Square

Detroit Zoo - 50% Discount

John Ball Zoological Gardens (Grand Rapids)

Potter Park Zoo (Lansing)

Minnesota

Como Park Zoo - 15% Off- Gift Shop

Lake Superior Zoological Gardens (Duluth)

Minnesota Zoological Garden - 50% Discount

Mississippi

Jackson Zoological Park - 50% Discount

Missouri

Dickerson Park Zoo (Springfield)

Endangered Wolf Center - 50% Discount

Kansas City Zoo - 50% Discount

St. Louis Zoo - FREE plus 50% Safari Pass

Nebraska

Lincoln Children's Zoo

Henry Doorly Zoo (Omaha) - 50% Discount

Riverside Zoo (Scottsbluff) - 50% Discount

New Hampshire

Squam Lakes Natural Science Center - 50% Discount

New Jersey

Bergen County Zoological Park (Paramus)

Cape May County Park Zoo - 10% Off - Gift Shop

Turtle Back Zoo

New Mexico

Albuquerque BioPark - 50% Discount

Alameda Park Zoo (Alamogordo)

Living Desert Zoo & Gardens State Park

New York

Binghamton Zoo at Ross Park

Buffalo Zoo - 50% Discount

Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park - 50% Discount

Seneca Park Zoo (Rochester) - 50% Discount

Staten Island Zoo

Trevor Zoo

North Carolina

Greensboro Science Center

North Carolina Zoological Park (Asheboro)

N. C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher

N. C. Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores (Atl. Beach)

N. C. Aquarium at Roanoke Island

Western N.C. Nature Center (Asheville)

North Dakota

Chahinkapa Zoo

Dakota Zoo

Red River Zoo

Roosevelt Park Zoo (Minot)

Ohio

African Safari Wildlife Park - 50% Discount

Akron Zoological Park

Boonshoft Museum of Discovery

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden - 50% Discount

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo - 50% Discount

Columbus Zoo and Aquarium & The Wilds- 50% Discount

Toledo Zoo - 50% Discount

The Wilds - 50% Discount

Oklahoma

Oklahoma City Zoological Park - 50% Discount

Tulsa Zoo - 50% Discount

Oregon

Oregon Zoo - 50% Discount

Wildlife Safari - 50% Discount

Pennsylvania

Elmwood Park Zoo - 50% Discount

Erie Zoological Gardens

Lehigh Valley Zoo

National Aviary in Pittsburgh - 50% Discount

Philadelphia Zoo - 50% Discount - NO Free Guests

Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium- 50% Discount

ZooAmerica - Hershey

Rhode Island

Roger Williams Park Zoo (Providence) - 50% Discount

South Carolina

Greenville Zoo

Riverbanks Zoo and Garden - 50% Discount

South Dakota

Bramble Park Zoo

Great Plains Zoo & Museum (Sioux Falls)

Tennessee

Chattanooga Zoo at Warner Park

Knoxville Zoological Park

Memphis Zoo. Gardens & Aquarium - 50% Discount

Nashville Zoo - 50% Discount

Texas

Abilene Zoological Gardens

Caldwell Zoo (Tyler) - 50% Discount

Cameron Park Zoo (Waco)

Dallas Zoo 50% Discount

El Paso Zoo - 50% Discount

Ellen Trout Zoo (Lufkin)

Gladys Porter Zoo (Brownsville)

Houston Zoo

San Antonio Zoo & Aquarium - 50% Discount

Texas State Aquarium - 50% Discount

Utah

Tracy Aviary

Utah's Hogle Zoo (Salt Lake City) - 50% Discount

Virginia

Mill Mountain Zoo - 50% Discount

Virginia Zoological Park (Norfolk)

Washington

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium - 50% Discount

Woodland Park Zoological Gardens - 50% Discount

Washington, D.C.

National Zoological Park - 10% Off - Gift Shops

West Virginia

Oglebay's Good Zoo (Wheeling) - 50% Discount

Wisconsin

Henry Vilas Zoo (Madison) - 10% Off - Gift Shops

International Crane Foundation (Baraboo)

Milwaukee County Zoological Gardens

North Eastern Wisconsin (NEW) Zoo

Racine Zoological Gardens

Canada

Granby Zoo (Quebec) - 50% Discount

Mexico

Parque Zoologico de Leon (Guanajuato) -50% Discount

PLEASE NOTE: Unexpected changes in the Reciprocal Zoo List sometimes occur, not allowing sufficient time for such information to be properly and effectively communicated. New facilities are sometimes added and some may rescind their privileges for various reasons. We apologize if this has created problems for any members and suggest that you call either the Zoological Society's office (302)571-7788 or the Zoo or Aquarium you plan to visit to confirm the current reciprocal status of any facility on your planned itineraries.

Delaware Zoological Society

1001 North Park Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802



Delaware State Parks

We're saving a place for you

The Brandywine Zoo is managed by the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation with the support of the Delaware Zoological Society.

For more information about the Division or Delaware State Parks, call (302) 739-9220 or visit our web site at www.destateparks.com.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its work force.

ACCREDITED BY THE
**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**

Please let us know when you move; don't miss special invitations and Zoo News. Write to Brandywine Zoo, 1001 North Park Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802 or call 302-571-7788.

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**Save The
Dates!**

Upcoming events at the Brandywine Zoo

Pirates on the Brandywine with
Captain Jack Sparrow (World Oceans Day)
Saturday, June 7

Zoo Members Only Night
Thursday, June 26, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Family Fun Nights this year
Thursday, June 19 (rain date – 6/24)
Thursday, July 17 (rain date – 7/22)
Thursday, Aug. 21 (rain date – 8/26)

Brew at the Zoo and Wine too!
Friday, September 26 – 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

“Birds in Action,” presented by Animal Behavior and Conservation Connections will be back with their exciting program held during three different weeks this summer.

There will be two shows daily, at 11 am and 2:30 pm.
June 18 to June 24
July 16 to July 22
August 20 to August 26

Return of the “Star Wars” characters
Saturday, November 8 – Noon to 3:00 pm

Questions? For a complete listing of our programs and events, visit our website at www.brandywinezoo.org. Calendar of Events. If you have any questions please email our Education Department at DNREC_Parks_ZooPrograms@state.de.us.