

## BRANDYWINE. — NEWS

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#### On the Cover

Once the weather is consistently nice and warm, Cali moves to his outdoor enclosure that he shares with a toucan and box turtle. Can't find him? Check on top of the brick wall at the back of the exhibit, in the hammock, or even in the wooden nest box on top of his wall. Sloths blend in well with the great outdoors so it may take a minute to find him.





The Zoo News is a publication of the Delaware Zoological Society.

www.brandywinezoo.org

## Notes from the Directors Desk

By Gene Peacock, Zoo Director



Summer is a busy time at our guests have fun while learning about our animals. However, I want to take a moment to touch on some of the things we do to ensure the zoo remains a safe and fun experience for all of things that have occurred

at other facilities this year. First, I cannot stress how important it is to follow the rules at the zoo. They are in place for the safety of our animals and our guests. Our fences and barriers are in place to not only keep our visitors safe, but to give our animals a buffer zone from people. I encourage you to watch out for not only your own family, but other visitors as well. The animals are quite used to the sights and sounds in the zoo, but that extra few feet of barriers helps them stay comfortable and not feel threatened.

trying to make the zoo a better place.

animals are all ok and each exhibit is safe for use. Any issues we find are promptly handled. When an issue is found, unfortunately an animal may be off exhibit as we make improvements, but be assured we try to do that as efficiently as possible without compromising safety. The entire zoo staff also participates in a series of drills throughout

the year. These drills are a

very seriously. We drill on

issues, medical response

(both animal and human)

as well as animal escapes. These are all documented and we have discussions afterwards on how it went and what we can

do to improve.

everything from a lost child, to fire or weather related

required element of our AZA

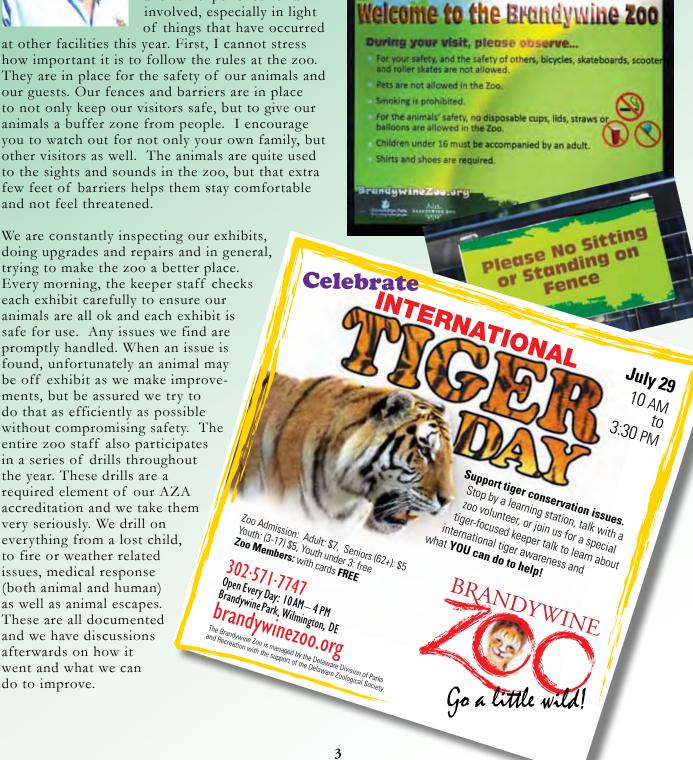
accreditation and we take them

Every morning, the keeper staff checks each exhibit carefully to ensure our

the zoo and we love having involved, especially in light

So next time you come out for a visit, have some fun, learn a new exciting fact, but remember the zoo is the animal's home. They are here year round and following rules helps to keep our animals safe and healthy while ensuring a fun visit for all.

See you at the zoo!



## The Fascinating World of Cali the Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth

By Janey Kramlik, Animal Keeper, LVT

#### Where is Cali?

Sloths are all over the internet these days, but can you find the sloth at the Brandywine Zoo? When the temperatures in Delaware are low (for a sloth, that would be under 60 degrees Fahrenheit), Cali, our Hoffman's two-toed sloth, *Choloepus hoffmanni*, stays in an indoor off exhibit area. Once the weather is consistently nice and warm, he moves to his outdoor enclosure that he shares with a toucan and box turtle. Can't find him? Check on top of the brick wall at the back of the exhibit, in the hammock, or even in the wooden nest box on top of his wall. Sloths blend in well with the great outdoors so it may take a minute to find him.

Is Cali a boy or girl?

When Cali first arrived in November of 2000, we were told that Cali was a girl. Sloth genitalia can be very difficult to tell apart externally. Cali used to have a male sloth friend, Speedy, and it was hoped that they would have sloth babies. Many years together and no babies ever came from the pair. Two-toed sloths can be very difficult to accurately determine the sex of and the SSP now recommends that they are tested genetically (which just involves a blood sample going to a special lab).

In 2015, the two-toed sloth SSP (Species Survival Plan) was interested in possibly pairing Cali with a new male for breeding but first, we had to do a genetic test to confirm that Cali was indeed a female. An initial hair test result came back as female, but the blood test had not been run yet. The hair test is not as accurate as the blood test. Surprise! In August 2015 a blood test confirmed that Cali was actually a male. So, while we are not slated to breed Cali at this point, we now have confirmation that he is a HE.

#### What does Cali eat?

In the wild, Hoffman's two-toed sloths eat foliage and shoots of plants. At the Brandywine Zoo, Cali eats Mazuri leafeater biscuit, canned ZuPreem primate diet, canned Science Diet Canine C/D, cooked carrot, corn on the cob, variety of greens, cooked yam, cucumber, tomato, pear, OR banana, and a supplement sprinkled on top. Although sloths are herbivores, they have extremely sharp, pointed teeth. Their teeth are perfect for tearing tough leaves apart!



## Say hello to Chuck the Swift Fox By Mark Haddad, Animal Keeper

Chuck is our eight year old, male Swift Fox, Vulpes velox, who currently lives in the Swift Fox exhibit between the Red Panda and Serval exhibits with our eleven year old, female Swift Fox, Dakota. Sadly, Dakota's sisters passed away last year which left her alone. Not wanting her to be by herself, Brandywine Zoo contacted the Swift Fox SSP (Species Survival Plan) coordinator to find out if there were any other Swift Foxes living by themselves and in need of a companion. The SSP coordinator did find a single male at Hershey Park's Zoo America who was also in need of a companion. It was agreed Chuck would be transferred to Brandywine Zoo with the hope that they would be good company for each other and pos-

sibly even have pups! The two foxes did not move in together right away. It was too cold for Chuck to move outside, as he had always lived indoors at Zoo America. However, once the weather warmed up, Chuck was able to move out onto exhibit. A greeting period between the two Swift Foxes took place to monitor how they would get along. Now, it has been about a month since Chuck and Dakota were first introduced, and they have been happily living together all this time.

When you come to visit the Brandywine Zoo, make sure to stop on by the Swift Fox exhibit and say hello to both Chuck and Dakota!



## Al duPont Hospital Goes Wild!

By Thomas Myers, Education Interpreter

Since 2013, the Brandywine Zoo has been able to provide educational animal experiences for families and patients at Nemours Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. Several times each month, we are privileged to bring several of our ambassador animals for the families and patients to learn about and meet up close.

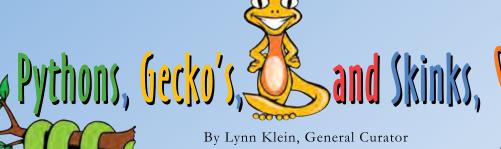
During each visit we start out in the Child Life Activity Center in the hospital, a fun place for patients and families to escape. The Activity Center is filled with plenty of fun things for the kids to play with, like a TV and PlayStation 4, a piano, pool table, air hockey table, and several arts and craft opportunities. Here the families and patients have the opportunity to meet and learn about the animals. Recently, we have been very fortunate to broadcast our 30-40 minute live animal show throughout the hospital on their local CC TV channel. This has allowed us to reach families and patients that were unable to come up and visit us in the Child Life Activity Center. Once we complete the live animal show, we stick around for 20

more minutes to give any families and patients the opportunity to meet an animal they might have missed earlier in the show. Once we are finished, we pack up and move onto the next part of our visit: the outpatient lobby.

In the outpatient lobby, guests have the option to stop by and visit the animals and learn some fun and interesting facts. Families may stay for five minutes, but some stick around for twenty minutes or more asking great questions! If they are interested in learning and meeting the animals, we welcome them to stay for as long as they like.

Whether stopping by for three minutes or for thirty, patient or doctor, everyone that visits the live animal encounter leaves with a smile and a new appreciation for wildlife. We're proud to be able to offer this opportunity to all families at the Hospital, and often some will take a trip down the road to visit the Zoo after meeting some of our ambassador animals.





Are you a reptile lover? If so you really need to get to the zoo! Why? Because we have some AWESOME new reptiles on exhibit!







To be honest we have had these scaly creatures for some time, but all reptiles that are new to any AZA accredited zoo go through a minimum of 90 days in quarantine. Now that they are out of quarantine and have had time to adapt to their new homes, we hope everyone will come out and visit them. All of them are amazing and beautiful in their own special way and can be found after the Tamarin exhibit, under the blue awning.

feature that these geckos have is the ability to "drop" their tails if they are being pursued by a predator. The tail will still move for a few moments allowing the gecko to get away to safety. Their tail does grow back!

Go a little wild, and visit our

Green tree python (Morelia viridis)

A vivid green colored snake that is also arboreal (likes to hang out in trees.) When fully grown these snakes can reach a length of anywhere between 4 − 7 feet. Pythons are "Old World" snakes and therefore lay eggs. They will eat rodents, birds and possibly bats.

Prehensile-tailed skinks (Corucia zebrata) – Also called Solomon Islands skinks, monkey-tailed skinks or zebra skinks. These animals are the largest known skinks and are commonly found on the Solomon Islands Archipelago. They are also arboreal, but unlike the Green tree python they are herbivores. Their diet includes fruits and vegetables. In the wild they favor eating the pothos plant. They are one of very few reptile species that live and function in a social or family group.

Mossy-tailed gecko (Rhacodactylus chahoua) – Also known as Bavay's Giant Gecko or Short-snouted Giant gecko, are native to and can be found in New Caledonia. They are considered a "threatened species" mainly due to deforestation of their natural habitat. One very unique







#### Conservation Corner

By Sharon Smith, Senior Animal Keeper

If you are a frequent visitor to the Zoo, you are probably aware that we do not allow balloons or offer lids and straws at our Concession stand. This article will help to explain the reasons why we, and most other zoos, do not allow these items. Plastic drink lids and straws can easily end up on the ground and make their way into the animal's exhibit. Most animals are very curious to new items and smells that they come in contact with and if that turns out to be a straw, it can easily be ingested. Given that plastic is not edible, and very harmful if eaten, this poses quite a health risk. Ingestion of these items can lead to an animal becoming extremely sick or even have the potential to lead to death.

On average a plastic straw is used for approximately 20 minutes. Once your drink is done, the straw along with the lid is then disposed of. If these items make it to the landfills, they can spend hundreds of years there. Up to half of them get lost along the way, and don't even make it into landfills. They end up littering areas from our backyards, parks and oceans, or even find their way back into the zoo.

Balloons are another typically fun item that can also pose a dangerous threat to the animals here at the zoo and to wildlife in general. Something

away from the noise. Pieces of the balloon can be scattered and end up in an animals enclosure where it can be ingested. While some balloons burst, others just gradually deflate, but they all fall down to Earth or get stuck in trees where they can wreak havoc on wildlife on land, sea, and air.

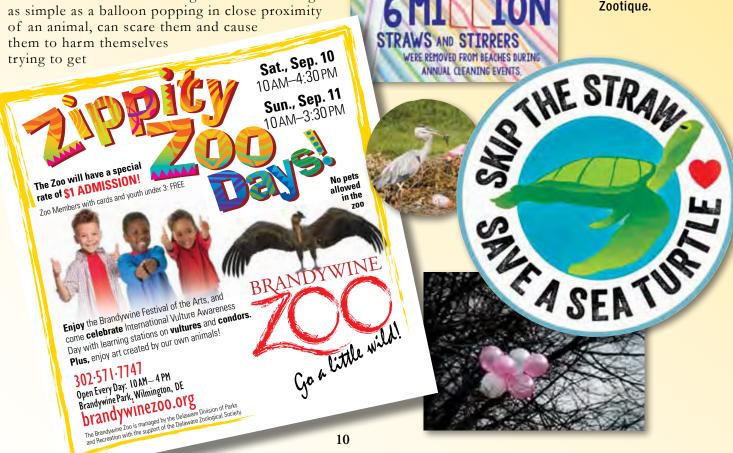
When an animal finds the balloon and eats it, it can block its digestive tract, leaving them unable to take in any nutrients and can slowly starve to death. The animals can also become entangled in the balloon and its string ribbon making the animal unable to move or eat.

Balloons can travel hundreds of miles, before popping or just landing in any area, endangering wildlife and polluting the environment. So hold off on getting a straw with your next drink and consider the risk to wildlife and our environment.

IN THE LAST 25 YEARS



Zootique.



## EDZOOCATION Go a Little Wild at the Zoo!

| JULY 2016  |  |                                      |  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Sunday   | Monday                                   | Tuesday                              | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday                                      | Saturday  |  |
| Keeper Talks   | -  | ZooKids:                             | Sto  | ry Time<br>the Zoo                                     | Reptile Show 1<br>12:00pm                   | Reptile Show 12:00pm                                  |  |
| Pally Free with Palue<br>Fee: Free with Palue<br>Fee: Free with Palue<br>admission to<br>the zoo |  | Ages 18 mo 5 yrs.                    |  | through Sept.<br>at 10:30am                            | Creature Feature<br>2:00pm                  | Creature Feature<br>2:00pm                            |  |
| Reptile Show 12:00pm   | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm     | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm                 | Story Time at the Zoo 7<br>10:30am<br>Creature Feature | Reptile Show 12:00pm                        | Stuffed Animal 9<br>Vet Clinic<br>10:00am-12:00pm     |  |
| Creature Feature<br>2:00pm   |  |                                      |  | 12:00pm & 2:00pm                                       | Creature Feature<br>2:00pm                  | Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm    |  |
| Mmbr. Morn. Tour<br>9:30am-10:15am<br>Reptile Show   | Creature Feature 111<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | Creature Feature 13 12:00pm & 2:00pm                 | Story Time at 14<br>the Zoo                            | Reptile Show 15 12:00pm Creature Feature    | Career & Animal Science Workshop 10:30am-12:00pm      |  |
| 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm  |  |                                      | Family Fun Night<br>6:00pm-8:00pm                    | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm                   | 2:00pm                                      | Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm    |  |
| Jr. Zoo Keeper Wrkshp 10:30am-12:00pm  | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm     | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm                 | Story Time at the Zoo 10:30am                          | Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature       | Delaware's 23<br>Historic Zoo Tour<br>10:00am-10:45am |  |
| Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm   |  |                                      |  | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm                   | 2:00pm                                      | Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm    |  |
| Reptile Show 24<br>12:00pm   | Creature Feature 25<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm  | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | ZooKids: 27<br>Colorful Creatures<br>10:30am-11:00am | Story Time<br>at the Zoo<br>10:30am                    | Intl Tiger Day<br>10:00am-3:30pm            | Reptile Show 12:00pm                                  |  |
| Creature Feature<br>2:00pm   |  |                                      | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm                 | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm                   | Reptile Show<br>12:00pm<br>Creature Feature | Creature Feature<br>2:00pm                            |  |
| 31   |  | Programs marke                       | d with a have a                                      |  | 2:00pm                                      |   |  |

| AUGUST 2016   |                                      |                                      |  |  |  |   |  |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|
| Sunday  | Monday                               | Tuesday                              | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |  |
| Keeper Talks Daily thru August Daily thru With paid Fee: Free with paid The zoo | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm  | Story Time at the Zoo 10:30am Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm                                | Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm                             | Breakfast with the Beasts 8:45am-10:00am Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm         |  |
| Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm  | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | ZooKids: 10<br>Colorful Creatures<br>10:30am-11:00am<br>Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Story Time at the Zoo 10:30am Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm Family Fun Night 6:00pm-8:00pm | Reptile Show<br>12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm                    | Career & Animal Science Workshop 10:30am-12:00pm Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm |  |
| Mmbr. Morn. Tour 14<br>9:30am-10:15am<br>Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm   | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm | Creature Feature 17<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm  | Story Time at the Zoo 10:30am Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm                                | Reptile Show<br>12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm                    | Reptile Show<br>12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>2:00pm   |  |
| Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm  | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | ZooKids: 24 ColorfulCreatures 10:30am-11:00am Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm              | Story Time at the Zoo 10:30am Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm                                | Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm Held at the Blue Ball Barn! | Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm Tango for Tamarins 6:00pm-10:00pm                |  |
| Jr. Zoo Keeper Wrkshp 10:30am-12:00pm Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm  | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm    | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm  | Reptile ShoW<br>Reptile Show<br>Fridays, Sat. & Sund<br>Fridays, Stru Augus'<br>12:00pm        | Sto<br>at<br>May   | ry Time<br>the Zoo<br>through Sept.<br>through Sept.<br>at 10:30am                            |  |

## EDZOOCATION Go a Little Wild at the Zoo!

| SEPTEMBER 2016   |                                   |  |                 |                                     |  |   |  |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Sunday   | Monday                            | Tuesday  | Wednesday       | Thursday                            | Friday   | Saturday  |  |  |
|  | r Talks<br>& Sunday<br>and 1:30pm | Reptile Shows<br>Saturday & Sunday<br>12:00pm  |                 | Story Time<br>at the Zoo<br>10:30am | 2  | Keeper Talks 11:30am & 1:30pm Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm  |  |  |
| ZooKids: Colorful Creatures 10:30am-11:00am Keeper Talks 11:30am & 1:30pm Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm                   | 5                                 | 6  | 7               | Story Time<br>at the Zoo<br>10:30am | ory Time the Zoo Thursdays Thur September at 10:30am | Zippity Zoo Days<br>10:00am-4:30pm<br>Keeper Talks<br>11:30am & 1:30pm<br>Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature 2:00pm |  |  |
| Zippity Zoo Days 10:00am-3:30pm Keeper Talks 11:30am & 1:30pm Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm                               | 12                                | Zoo Closed for<br>Private Rental   | 14              | Story Time<br>at the Zoo<br>10:30am | 16   | Keeper Talks 11:30am & 1:30pm Reptile Show12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm Red Panda Day 10:00am-1:00pm                    |  |  |
| Jr. Zookeeper Wrkshp 10:30am-12:00pm Keeper Talks 11:30am & 1:30pm Reptile Show 12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm                          | 19                                | Signature of the state of the s | 21              | Story Time<br>at the Zoo<br>10:30am | 23   | Career & Animal Science Workshop 10:30am-12:00pm Keeper Talks 11:30am& 1:30pm Reptile Show12:00pm Creature Feature 2:00pm |  |  |
| ZooKids: Colorful 25<br>Creatures 10:30am-11:00am<br>Keeper Talks<br>11:30am & 1:30pm<br>Reptile Show 12:00pm<br>Creature Feature 2:00pm | 26                                | Their south  | d with a have a | Story Time at the Zoo 10:30am       | Brew 30 at the Zoo 5:30pm-9:00pm (Ages 21+)          |   |  |  |

| OCTOBER 2016   |        |  |  |          |                              |  |  |  |
|--|--------|--|--|----------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Sunday   | Monday | Tuesday  | Wednesday                                  | Thursday | Friday                       | Saturday   |  |  |
| ZooKids:<br>Colorful Creatures<br>Ages 18 mo 5 yrs.  |        | Creature Featur<br>Saturday & Sunday<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm |  |          |                              | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm   |  |  |
| Jr. Zoo Keeper Wrkshp 10:30am-12:00pm Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm                                  | 3      | 4  | 5  | 6        | 7                            | Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm   |  |  |
| ZooKids: Colorful Questions 10:30am-11:00am Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm                            | 10     | 11   | Fall Day Camp 12 9:00am-3:30pm (Ages 5-13) | 13       | 14                           | Career & Animal<br>Science Workshop<br>10:30am-12:00pm<br>Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm |  |  |
| Creature Feature<br>12:00pm & 2:00pm   | 17     | 18   | D ATTHE 19                                 | 20       | 800 at the Zoo 5:00pm-7:00pm | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm  Boo at the Zoo 5:00pm-7:00pm                                |  |  |
| ZooKids: Colorful Creatures (oct. 23) 10:30am-11:00am Creature Feature Gct. 238. 30) 12:00pm & 2:00pm 30 | 24     | 25  Programs marked                                      | 26  I with a whave a r                     | 27       | 28                           | Creature Feature 12:00pm & 2:00pm  |  |  |

### Red Panda Pilgrimage

By Sarah Zweigenbaum, Administrative Specialist

Alana Kardon started a pilgrimage this year to see all the zoos that have red pandas on exhibit. During her visit in June, we were able to catch up with Alana and ask a few questions. She has been in and around zoos all her life, since her dad is a Curator at San Antonio Zoo. They used to have Red Pandas at the San Antonio Zoo, but they were moved to cooler climates when she was young and she has always missed seeing them. Whenever she visits her sister in the DC area, she tries to go to the National Zoo to see their Red Pandas.

During her honeymoon in New Zealand, Alana was thrilled to be able to do a Red Panda encounter at the Auckland Zoo. She has since decided to visit all the zoos in the U.S. who have Red Pandas on exhibit. This was actually her first excursion and she was joined by her husband, son, and Granny. She visited three zoos in the NYC area, as well as Philadelphia Zoo and Brandywine Zoo. There are about 54 zoos on her list, but she will welcome any suggestions on zoos she may have missed. You can follow Alana on Facebook at Red Panda Tracker or her blog at https://www.travelblog.org/ North-America/United-States/Delaware/Wilmington/blog-936986.html. She has been named a "Zoo Relations Volunteer" by the Red Panda Network and they will be adding postings of her travels on their Facebook page at Red Panda Network. She plans on taking about two years to complete her list of zoos, as she also works at the Witte Museum in San Antonio. Alana's next trip is set for November when she will be heading to the west coast to visit five zoos in California and one



## BZAAZK HAPPENINGS

By Sharon Smith, Senior Animal Keeper

The Brandywine Zoo's AAZK Chapter is heading into its third year of operation. These past few years have been an exciting whirlwind of fundraising, along with some great opportunities to learn, network and meet new people.

Bowling for Rhinos and Tango for Tamarins, are BZAAZK's two largest annual fundraisers. We also host numerous smaller events throughout the year. These events are a great way to raise money, help educate people and have fun doing so.

This year through our Bowling for Rhinos (BFR) event,

we raised almost \$1,400. One hundred percent of all monies raised at this event go directly to LEWA (LWC), in Kenya, Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, Indonesia and Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park (BBSNP) and Way

Kambas in Sumatra, Indonesia as well as Action for Cheetahs in Kenya, which shares a portion of land mass with LWC. Actual BFR money is used to fence in these areas, purchase planes and Land Rover vehicles to curtail poaching, purchase trip cameras for censusing, and salaries for anti-poaching security guards to name a few.

at this event are split between Save the Golden Lion Tamarin and professional development. In 2015, our donation was used to purchase tracking collars that are used to track tamarins being released back into the wild. With our donation to Save The Golden Lion Tamarin, we were afforded the opportunity to name a GLT baby in the wild. We will be posting updates on our BZAAZK board (located in the Zoo) and through our Facebook page. The Golden Lion Tamarin is one of the most threatened primates in the world. Their native habitat is on the lowland Atlantic coastal forest of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Today, the major threat to the species' survival is unplanned urban expansion, which

has reduced tamarin habitat to less than 2% of its original area. The remaining forest is in fragments, each too small to support a

healthy tamarin population for the long term.

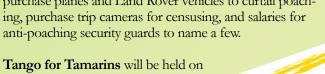
Bowling for

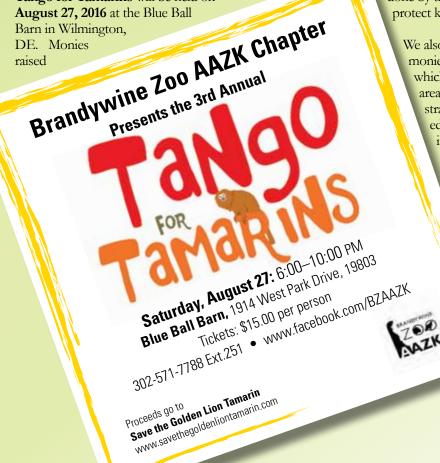
BZAAZK has also partnered with the Brandywine Zoo and The Peregrine Fund to help study Delaware's kestrel population in order to understand their needs in the State. The

American kestrel is a small falcon and the only kestrel found in the Americas. Data collected from studies done by the Zoo, will help to better understand how to protect kestrels around the country.

We also hosted a painting fundraiser which raised monies for Delaware Wild Lands, an organization which helps protect Delaware's important natural areas through the purchase and management of strategic parcels of land. As zoo keepers and educators, we are passionate, and dedicated individuals who are constantly finding ways to raise awareness and help educate people in order to facilitate change. You can find out more about BZAAZK or any of the topics in this article by visiting www.Facebook.

com/BZAAZK or follow us on Instagram: Brandywinezooaazk.







### Delaware Zoological Society Executive Director's Letter



Dear Members,

Summer is upon us at the Brandywine Zoo. I enjoy seeing so many of you visit the zoo at this time of year. I also hope that you joined us for our annual Member Party to celebrate the eagles and our new Eagle Ridge boardwalk.

Every issue, I try to come up with a theme for my letter to the members. This month,

I want to thank a few of our sponsors and let you know about some of the exciting opportunities for organizations to support the zoo. This year, we were incredibly fortunate to have The Tatnall School sponsor Story Time at the Zoo. Every Thursday, our amazing team of Zoo Volunteers read a specially selected book in the Otter Circle. In addition to the story, there may be an activity or special appearance by one of our animal ambassadors. I would like to take a moment to thank The Tatnall School for their support this year and we look forward to working with them in the future.

We would also like to thank the Pettinaro family for their ongoing support. For many years, their generous donations have helped us make numerous needed changes and upgrades to our tiger exhibit.

This year, we were delighted to add Unity Corporation, as a new zoo sponsor.

Brew at the Zoo is our largest fundraiser each year. For the first time, we have created a number of Brew sponsorship opportunities. These sponsorship opportunities provide tax deductible support to the Delaware Zoological Society, as well as the ability for an organization to increase their visibility at the zoo, in the community, and around the state. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities for Brew at the Zoo or any of our other events, you can reach me at (302) 571-7788 extension 206. With the support of our community, we will be able to help the zoo grow and prosper.

Best regards, Mike



#### **Delaware Zoological Society**

1001 North Park Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802



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.

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#### ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS C AQUARIUMS

Please let us know when you move; don't miss special invitations and Zoo News. Email to memberships@ brandywinezoo.org or call 302-571-7788.

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