

BRANDYWINE

ZOO NEWS



In This Issue

- Animal Exchange
- Happy Birthday Zhanna
- Zoo Interns
- Growing in Diversity
- Badges for Girl Scouts

IN THIS ISSUE

Conservation Corner3
 Animal Exchange with AZA Zoos 4
 Happy Birthday Zhanna. 5
 Go a little wild! Photo Montage.6, 7
 Thank you Zoo Interns8
 Kid's Corner. 9
 Zoo, Growing in Diversity10
 Badges for Girl Scouts11
 Brandywine Zoo Calendar12

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On the Cover

The Brandywine Zoo is proud to introduce our newest Rheas; Large Marge and Little C. These Rheas are from the Elmwood Park Zoo of Norristown, Pennsylvania. They were originally hatched at the National Zoo in Washington DC. (See page 4)



State representative Dennis P. Williams was honored by the Delaware Zoological Society (DZS) for his unwavering support for the Brandywine Zoo. Pictured here with DZS board member, Linda Gray (left) and Megan McGlinchey, DZS board president.



New to the Zoo – our new Cool Media Refresh station has been great fun for everyone at the zoo this summer. Misting is a great way to cool off during the hot, humid weather.

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

www.brandywinezoo.org

CONSERVATION CORNER



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle; we have all heard the phrase and seen the signs.

By Sharon Smith, Animal Keeper, Delaware State Parks

Recycling is the processing of materials into new products to prevent waste of potentially useful materials. It helps reduce the consumption of fresh raw materials, reduce energy usage, reduce air pollution and water pollution by reducing the need for “conventional” waste disposal. It can help lower greenhouse gas in comparison to unused newer production. Recycling plays a major role in modern waste reduction. In Delaware recycling is now universal which means it is really easier to recycle. If you have trash collection, your provider must include recycling as part of its service and provide you with a recycling container. Now all acceptable recyclable material may be collected in one container. Private waste haulers may charge different rates for trash and recycling services. This makes the act of recycling easier, but it still has some guidelines to follow. There are a lot of items that are recyclable but there are still items that are not. For a complete list of what is acceptable to put out for recycle collection you can visit DNREC, Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances at www.recycling.delaware.gov

Now I want to talk a little about reuse. This process has been called Upcycling. This is basically the process of converting useless products or waste materials into new products of better quality or higher value. So by using items that we would normally recycle or waste, we can turn these items into a valuable product. This not only keeps things out of the landfills, but can also generate revenue and provide services to help maintain communities by purchasing goods that are made by crafters right in your backyard. There are numerous individual websites offering goods made from everyday materials that would otherwise not be considered valuable and thrown away. Corks from wine bottles can be made into jewelry, household items, picture frames, etc. Broken glass can be made into a variety of items including jewelry. If you are creative, the possibilities are endless. You can also visit local craft fairs and markets to find wonderful treasures made by people looking to help the environment and also make some extra cash. Upcycling

has seen quite an increase due to its current marketability and the lower cost of using reused materials. Finally reduce; this one word is probably the most important of the three. The best way to manage waste and help the environment is to not produce as much of it. Just a few of the ways to reduce waste are, use linens instead of paper products, buy reusable bottles for water instead of purchasing bottled water, buying durable goods; ones that are well built or come with warranties that will last longer. You can have your name removed from mailing lists of materials you no longer wish to receive by writing to Mail Preference Service, c/o Direct Marketing Association, PO Box 90008, Farmingdale, NY 11735.



It's up to us all to educate ourselves on better ways to help protect the planet and the environment. Just by searching the phrase “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” opens up hundreds of websites offering a wealth of information and ideas on how to accomplish this goal. And don't forget to visit www.brandywinezoo.org for information on this topic and lots more ways to get involved with Education and Conservation.

Animal Exchange with Nearby AZA Zoos

By Meghaan Carter, Animal Keeper and Reptile/Amphibian Caretaker, Delaware State Parks

The Brandywine Zoo is proud to introduce our newest Rheas; Large Marge and Little C. These Rheas are from the Elmwood Park Zoo of Norristown, Pennsylvania. They were originally hatched at the National Zoo in Washington DC.

The Association of Zoos & Aquariums, which the Brandywine Zoo is accredited by, frequently loan and donate animals to each other. AZA facilities work together to exchange animals that for one reason or another needed to be placed in another zoo facility. The Association of Zoos and Aquariums closely regulates the conditions in AZA accredited zoos, so exchanging animals between AZA facilities is an easy choice because all AZA facilities have to follow stringent housing, management, medical care, educational usage and animal keeper care standards.

Working with zoos frequently and especially those that are located nearby allows staff to keep in touch with the standards maintained by other facilities and the care that the animals receive.

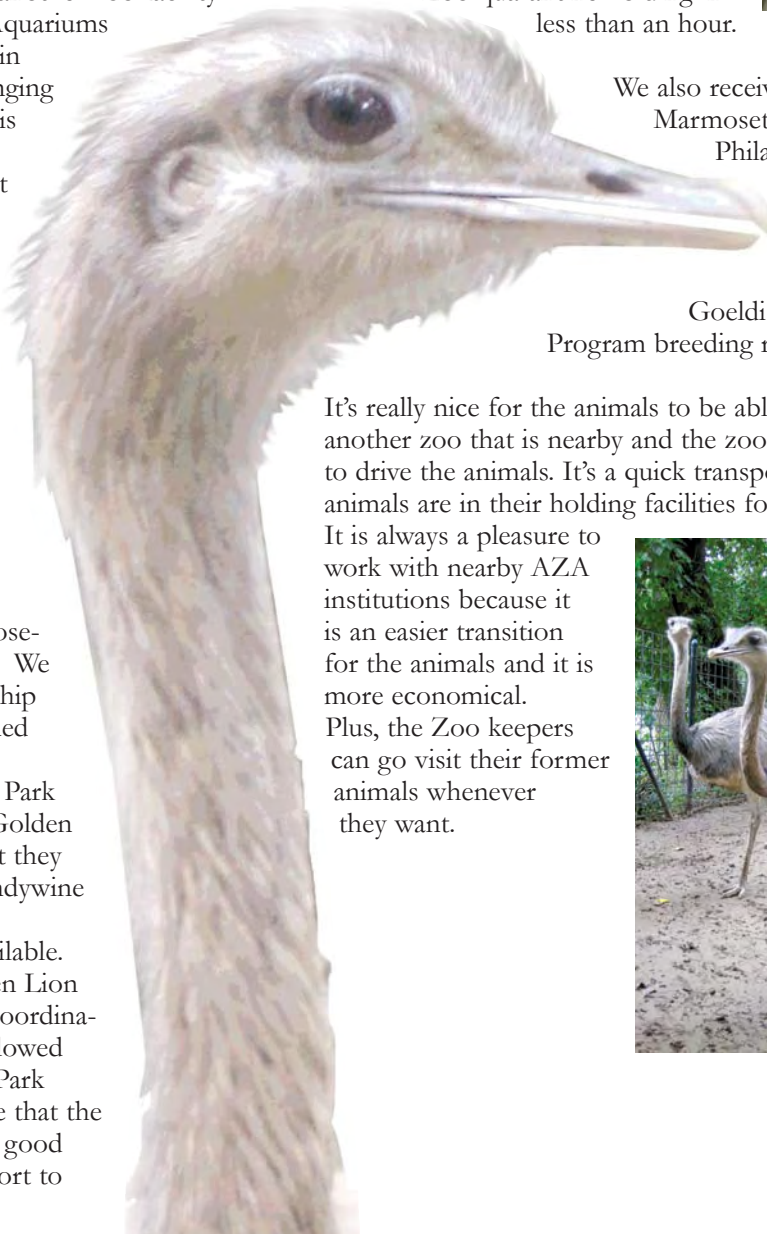
Throughout the years, the Brandywine Zoo has worked closely with the Elmwood Park Zoo. We have had a long running friendship with this zoo. In 2004, We loaned them a pair of Golden Handed Tamarins. This year Elmwood Park Zoo was looking for a pair of Golden Lion Tamarins for a new exhibit they had recently finished. The Brandywine Zoo had a pair of Golden Lion Tamarin brothers who were available. With the approval of the Golden Lion Tamarin Species Survival Plan coordinator, the Brandywine Zoo was allowed to offer them to the Elmwood Park Zoo. We were able to guarantee that the animals were compatible and in good health and it was an easy transport to Norristown.

In another exchange opportunity, Elmwood Park Zoo wanted to phase rheas out of their collection and we needed to bring in a new pair. Not an easy task with such large long-legged birds. An agreement was made and the Brandywine Zoo received two adult female rheas named Large Marge and Little C. General Zoo Manager Dave Woods crated and brought the girls down in the Elmwood Zoo's truck and they were in Brandywine Zoo quarantine holding in less than an hour.



We also received a Goeldi Marmoset from Philadelphia Zoo this spring as a result of a request to breed Goeldi's via the Goeldi Species Survival Program breeding recommendations.

It's really nice for the animals to be able to move to another zoo that is nearby and the zoo keepers are happy to drive the animals. It's a quick transport and soon the animals are in their holding facilities for quarantine. It is always a pleasure to work with nearby AZA institutions because it is an easier transition for the animals and it is more economical. Plus, the Zoo keepers can go visit their former animals whenever they want.



Member Party



What a grrreat night for members on June 28th! Members young in age and heart, came to celebrate Zhanna's (our Amur tiger) 4th birthday. Our tiger theme continued through the entire event, from the tiger ears giveaway, to the tiger birthday cake, tiger face painting and tiger crafts. A big thanks to our staff and volunteers, Bachetti Brothers, United Distributors and Party Business for making it a wonderful evening. See you next year!



Did you know, as a Brandywine Zoo member, you get reduced rates on camps and programs like the upcoming Snooze at the Zoo on November 16?

Explore and Save Program:

As a Brandywine Zoo member, you save \$2 off an adult admission by showing your Zoo membership at any of these Brandywine Valley attractions:

Longwood Gardens

Delaware Children's Museum

Delaware Museum of Natural History

Hagley Museum

Tyler Arboretum

Winterthur

Delaware Art Museum

Brandywine River Museum

Chester County Historical Society

*check participant's website for blackout dates before visiting

Go a little



Go a little wild!



*Our new
"Zoo on
the go!"
vehicle.*



www.brandywinezoo.org

College Interns are **WILD** about Brandywine Zoo

By: Jamey Naftzinger, Zoo Camp Director, Delaware Zoological Society

Summer time at the Brandywine Zoo would not have been the same without our college interns. Eleven students dedicated endless hours of their summer break from attending colleges and universities from around the country. From Florida State University to Kutztown University, our diverse group of college interns came together to give our Summer Zoo Camp children and zoo guests an experience of a lifetime. As Camp Counselors and Zoo Educators, they not only educated campers and guests about our animals here at the Brandywine Zoo, but also those around the world. Furthermore, their enthusiasm paired with their educational discussions about conservation and preservation proved beneficial and educational to visitors of all ages. Without a doubt, our college interns left an impression

on each and every guest that they encountered this past summer. Because of their outstanding work, they give us hope that a difference can be made one person at a time. For more information about our college internships, visit our website at www.brandywinezoo.org.



What I Did on My Summer Vacation!

by Lynn Klein, Assistant Curator of Animals, Delaware State Parks



The Brandywine Zoo offers the opportunity for a few select college students to participate in an unpaid internship program with the Animal Department. These individuals must be studying for careers in animal care and management.

This year we had a boon of stellar interns who saw

us through a fast paced, fun packed summer season! Lauren Hottowe a Penn State Junior, Findlay Flasiński a Lafayette University Sophomore, Tori Bonner a University of Delaware Sophomore and Caitlin Walker a University of Delaware Sophomore majoring in Wildlife Conservation were tasked with all the jobs that Zoo Keepers do on a daily basis. Nothing was left out, not the good, the bad or the ugly. The staff was thrilled to watch our interns roll up their sleeves and take on every challenge with gusto. These included but were by no means limited to; feeding beginner level animals, cleaning up after these animals, scrubbing capybara pools,

weighing porcupines and making diets for tamarins, tigers and tortoises, just to name a few. The interns all gave “Keeper Talks” to educate our visitors about our animals as well as their relatives in the wild and lastly we can’t forget how hard they worked to keep the zoo looking beautiful for everyone to enjoy!

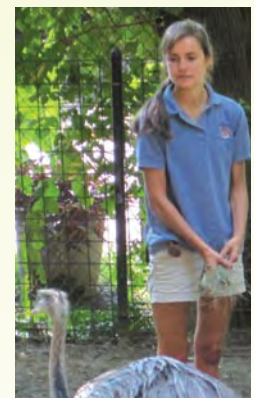


When asked what her favorite job at the zoo was Tori Bonner thought for a moment and then replied “Feeding the monkeys, or giving enrichment to the monkeys or weighing the monkeys, pretty much anything involving the monkeys!” Caitlin Walker stated that she liked the goats best. She spent a lot of time caring for the goats by feeding, medicating, brushing and enriching them by giving them activities that goats seem to enjoy. Caitlin would hang innovative feeders for the goats, give them balls to play with and never failed to give them a much deserved scratch behind the ears.



All the interns seemed to agree that one of the best things about working at the Brandywine Zoo is that it’s a small zoo and for that reason they had the opportunity to work with many different species of animals. When I asked the interns if their experience had been worth it they replied unanimously that yes, it had been everything they had hoped for and more. It was in fact a perfect way for a future veterinarian or zoo keeper to spend their summer vacation! The staff and animals here at the zoo were just as thrilled as the interns, we all benefited from their talents, energy and their “can do” attitudes.

So, Lauren, Tori, Findlay and Caitlin, thank you for everything, now go forth and conquer!



KID'S



By: Aly Mack, Zoo Naturalist, Delaware State Parks

Summer is coming to an end and the new school year is starting, but that doesn't mean the summer fun has to stop just yet. Why not celebrate the day by making a piñata filled with your favorite treats! They are great to make for any occasion, rain or shine, and what better way to make them than with recyclable materials! Here are two ways you can make your very own piñata with the help of an adult!

Balloon Piñata:

Supplies needed:

- Recycled newspaper strips or old phone book pages
- Balloon-12 inches or bigger
- Mixing bowls
- Homemade paper-mache paste- combine one part flour and two parts water, you want it to be the consistency of thick glue. Make sure that all the lumps are gone.
- String or cord to hang piñata
- Colorful recyclable paper
- Wire

Step 1: Blow up your balloon and tie a knot at the end. Then place it in a bowl to use for later.

Step 2: Tear newspapers/phone book pages lengthwise so that you have strips about 1 inch wide and 6 inches long.

Step 3: Dip the newspaper strips into the paper-mache paste and wipe off most of the paste till the strips are lightly coated. Completely cover the balloon with the paper-mache strips, making sure that they overlap in different directions. Allow it to dry; this could take from a few hours to 24 hours. After it's dry, feel free to repeat this step, alternating the angle of paper strips for each layer, until you have up to three layers; the more layers, the stronger the piñata. Make sure you don't have any jutting edges; you want the balloon to still be smooth.

Step 4: After the last layer dries, pop the balloon and pull it out of the end that you didn't paper mache. That will be the top of your piñata. Punch a hole, 2 inches down on either side of the balloon hole, so you can string your cord through the holes to hang your piñata.

Step 5: Decorate your piñata with other recycled materials: wrapping paper, tissue paper, streamers, magazine pages, etc.

Step 6: Fill your piñata about halfway with treats of your choice; preferably stuff that won't spill as the piñata breaks. Cover the hole with tape, decorations, or paper-mache.

Box Piñata:

Supplies needed:

- Large cereal box or cardboard box
- Colorful recyclable paper
- Scissors, staples, and cord/string to hang the piñata

Step 1: Cut the sheets of paper into the designs of your choice. Cut enough pieces to cover five sides of the box, while leaving bottom of the box uncovered

Step 2: Attach the paper designs to the box with the stapler and staples. Make sure to overlap the pieces, but do not completely cover the box in staples, since that will make it hard to break

Step 3: Fold a long piece of string in half to make a loop. Staple the ends of the string to the center of the top of the box

Step 4: Fill the piñata with treats, preferably stuff that won't spill as the piñata breaks. Then arrange the remaining pieces of cut paper on the bottom of the box. Make sure all ends of the box are shut so the treats are securely inside.



Now your piñata is finished! The piñata can be hung as decoration (indoors out outdoors) or fill with candy. If you choose to fill you piñata with candy have your parents blindfold you and make sure you are in a safe area before taking a swing with a broom handle.

The Brandywine Zoo... Growing in Diversity!

By Jill Karlson, Curator of Education, Delaware Zoological Society

The 107-year-old Brandywine Zoo is located in the heart of Wilmington, the melting pot of Delaware. The city is rich in cultural, ethnic, and demographic diversity and the Zoo is bound and determined to keep pace with its great city! The zoo hosts a variety of programs and events that are designed to reach out to the community. Programs such as Zoo Fiesta, in which the Zoo partners with the local Latin American Community Center, engage and enrich the Latin American/Hispanic



community about wildlife conservation and species diversity. While this event is bilingual in Spanish and English, all are welcome to attend and learn a little about animal and cultural diversity!

Zoo Fiesta will take place on Saturday, September 22, 2012 from 12noon -3:45pm. January belongs to the honored Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., and the celebrates his historic presence by dedicating a day camp to him, Martin Luther King Day Camp, this year to be held on Monday, January 21, 2013. Kids ages 4-13 learn about MLK, and translates his work into being advocates for

animals. Another program is our Celebrating Africa Day, held in February each year in honor of Black History Month. We encourage everyone to come out and celebrate our African animals at the zoo as well as the rich culture of the African people! Throughout the year you will also find the zoo working with various other diverse groups of people through our educational events and programs (both on site and outreach.) Diversity doesn't stop at our zoo gates, this summer our staff consisted of amazing folks of various ethnic backgrounds including but not limited to: Africa, Puerto Rico, Guyana, Sweden, Netherlands, Jamaica, Greece, and Ireland. It's nice to know that the Brandywine Zoo has its fingers in the melting pot of Wilmington!



For more information about our programs and events, please visit our website at www.brandywinezoo.org.



Updated Girl Scout Badges + Brandywine Zoo = New Exciting Programs for Scouts!

By Melody Hendricks, Assistant Curator of Education, Delaware Zoological Society

This past fall the Girl Scouts USA celebrated their 100th Anniversary by rolling out new, updated badges and badge requirements. The changes are part of the Girl Scouts National Program Portfolio and include different categories such as Legacy Badges, Skill Building Badges, Journeys, and of course those for the Girl Scout Cookie Business! The changes are designed to continue to help girls develop confidence, while learning important skills relevant to today's world.



Since the Brandywine Zoo wants to do its part in encouraging Girl Scouts on their path of growth and development, the Education Department is offering newly formatted scout programs. These programs will help scouts work toward earning badges through fun and

educational activities, while learning about our natural world and ways to make it a better place for everyone, including those of the animal kind. Girls will have the opportunity to earn requirements for badges such as 3 Cheers for Animals, Senses, Pets, Animal Habitats, and much more! Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Girl Scouts can earn some of these badge requirements during one of our Scout Days at the Zoo or troop leaders can book individual programs for their scouts. For more information

please email the Education Department at DNREC_Parks_ZooPrograms@state.de.us or please join us for our next Scout Day on Saturday, November 10th from 9am to 12pm, right here at the Brandywine Zoo! To register for this event, visit our website at www.brandywinezoo.org.

Friday, Sept. 28: 5:30 PM–8:30 PM • The Brandywine Zoo

BREW AT THE ZOO

and great food too!

Celebrate Fall, Zhanna our Amur tiger, Conservation, Friday or...whatever you'd like. **Enjoy** ice cold beer and ale from local distributors, delicious food from local restaurants including Ulysses American Gastropub, Washington Street Ale House, Kid Shelleen's and BBC Tavern and Grill.

Tickets: \$40/person; \$30/person Zoo members; \$45/person at the door. (\$25/designated driver) Guests must be 21 to be admitted.

Rain or Shine. Sign Up Now!

brandywinezoo.org • 302-571-7747 Ext 200

Brandywine Park, Wilmington, DE • **FREE PARKING**



ULYSSES American
Gastropub

WASHINGTON STREET
ALE HOUSE

Kid
Shelleen's

1001 North Park Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802



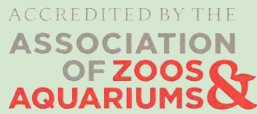
Delaware State Parks

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.



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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Breakfast with Santa



December 8th



Zoo Calendar

Weekends in September - Close Encounters of the WILD Kind! (All Ages) 10am-3:45pm

Weekends in September - Keeper Watching: (All Ages) 11:30am AND 1:30pm

Every Thursday in September - Story time at the Zoo (All Ages) 10:30am

September

8 & 9 Zippity Zoo Days (All Ages) Saturday 10am-4:45pm; Sunday 10am-3:45pm

11 New for Fall 2012- "Baby & Me" (Babies 6-18 Months) Topic: Turtles 9:30-10:15am*

15 Urban Animals (Ages 7-11) All day 10am-3pm**

18 or 19 TodZOOlers (Ages 18 months - 3 years) Topic: Tigers 9:30am-10:30am*

18 or 19 Preschool Programs (Ages 4 - 6 years) Topic: Tigers 11am-12pm*

22 Zoo Fiesta (All Ages) 12pm-3:30pm

29 Teen Travelers (Ages 12 - 17) 10am-3pm **

October

2 New for Fall 2012- "Baby & Me" (Babies 6-18 Months) Topic: Rabbits 9:30-10:15am*

5 Teacher Professional Development Day 8:30am-3:30pm**

8 Columbus Day Camp (Ages 4-13) 8:30am-4pm, aftercare available until 5:30pm**

9 or 10 TodZOOlers (Ages 18 months-3 years) Topic: Squirrels 9:30am-10:30am*

9 or 10 Preschool Program (Ages 4-6 years) Topic: Squirrels 11am-12pm*

20 Howl-a-teen (Ages 13 & up) 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm *

20 & 27 Boo at the Zoo (All Ages) 10am-3:45pm

23 New for Fall 2012- "Baby & Me" (Babies 6-18 Months) Topic: Hedgehogs 9:30-10:15am*

30 or 31 TodZOOlers (Ages 18 months-3 years) Topic: Spiders 9:30am-10:30am*

30 or 31 Preschool Program (Ages 4-6 years) Topic: Spiders 11am-12pm*

November

3 Mystery at the Menagerie (Adults) 6-9pm **

8 & 10 Fall Zoo Stroll (All ages) 1-3pm

10 Scout Day at the Brandywine Zoo (Scouts of all ages) 9am-12pm*

13 New for Fall 2012- "Baby & Me" (Babies 6-18 Months) Topic: Kittens 9:30-10:15am*

16-17 Snooze at the Zoo (Ages 4 & up) 6pm, Friday-9am, Saturday**

18 Toys for Tails (Ages 13-17) 12-3pm*

20 or 21 TodZOOlers (Ages 18 months-3 years) Topic: Turkeys 9:30-10:30am*

20 or 21 Preschool Program (Ages 4-6 years) Topic: Turkeys 11am-12pm*

December

4 New for Fall 2012- "Baby & Me" (Babies 6-18 Months) Topic: Reindeer 9:30-10:15am*

8 Breakfast with Santa at the Zoo (All Ages) 9am-12pm*

11 or 12 TodZOOlers (Ages 18 months-3 years) Topic: Snowy animals 9:30am-10:30am*

11 or 12 Preschool Program (Ages 4-6 years) Topic: Snowy Animals 11am-12pm*

31 Noon Year's Eve (All Ages) 10am-12:30pm (Special pre-registration rate)*

*Pre-registration strongly suggested **Pre-registration required

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