



BEHIND THE SCENES

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Written for and about the people who support Denver Zoo

THE INSIDE VIEW



With 251 staff, 3,500 animals, and 1.9 million annual visitors, safety is an important issue at Denver Zoo. Last year

the Board of Trustees authorized the creation of a new position focused entirely on workplace safety, and in early January we were pleased to welcome Trish Ennis to the zoo who brought with her 20 years of experience in the safety field. Trish is a Certified Safety Professional and as a Denver native, has fond memories of growing up with Denver Zoo.

"Zoos are created to be a visual experience for guests, so a lot of the safety equipment has to be hidden and also can't potentially harm or disrupt the animals," remarked Trish on the challenges of zoo safety. Trish calls upon all her previous experience in different fields

given the tremendous variety of departments and activities here at the zoo. Denver Zoo's safety program involves everything from maintenance and horticulture activities, to finance and security, an on-site hospital, food service, animal care and guest safety among others. Trish's role will be to look for areas of improvement and to develop a comprehensive safety program in coordination with all zoo departments. Fortunately, she's not alone; Trish is the Chairperson for Denver Zoo's Safety Committee.

Trish has been shadowing staff for several weeks and says she is impressed by the safety awareness and protocols that already exist. One notable accomplishment is that over 25% of zoo staff members are certified in CPR and basic first aid, with more being trained every few months.

Trish has enjoyed participating in the keepers' daily routines, including washing the hippo pool. She has a new appreciation for the level of physical strength and intellectual abilities that are required to care for

zoo animals. Following a recent day shadowing zookeepers working with lorikeets and wild dogs, Trish decided to place decibel meters in these behind the scenes enclosures to evaluate the need for ear protection. Trish also has seen how Denver Zoo's strong animal training program is an asset. Because the animals are willing participants in their own care, it creates a much safer environment for the animals and for the staff.

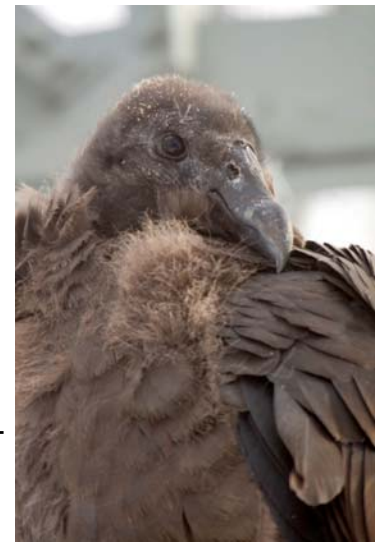
Relatively few U.S. zoos have a staff member dedicated solely to safety programs, so our goal is to create a model that can be shared with our sister institutions for their benefit. In addition, improvements within the zoo's safety program will help us control insurance costs. Trish and the zoo's safety program are working behind the scenes to make your zoo a wonderful and safe place to visit.

Craig D. Piper, President & CEO

ANIMAL SPOTLIGHT: ANDEAN CONDOR

A young female Andean condor, hatched on August 3, 2008 at Denver Zoo, recently was transferred to White Oak Conservation Center in Florida in preparation for release to the wild. In late 2009 or 2010 this condor and her older male sibling will be released into the Columbian Andes. They will join more than 60 others that were reared in U.S. zoos and introduced to remote regions of the Andes through a recovery program.

Andean condors, the largest raptor in the world, came dangerously close to extinction and were placed on the Endangered Species list in 1973. Recent successful introductions have bolstered the numbers in the wild. Monitoring by Colombian biologists has confirmed that the released birds have survived, matured, and now are beginning to breed: a significant milestone of success for any repopulation program.



ZOO PRIDE NIGHT IN TROPICAL DISCOVERY

The snow started falling at sunset. What better contrast for an evening spent in the steamy rain-forest? Approximately 150 Zoo Pride members came in from the cold on February 10 and enjoyed hot chocolate and hot cider while touring Tropical Discovery.



The event was the zoo's opportunity to share, on an intimate level, the fascinating inhabitants that populate this favorite zoo destination. Delicious desserts were passed and animal demonstrations were presented to an engaged audience. Denver Zoo President Craig Piper and Executive Vice President Kyle Burks had the chance to socialize with guests and share tales of their zoo careers.

Adults and children were thrilled to experience the sensation of a two-fingered touch to the back of our shingle-backed skink, red-tailed boa and ball python. Tropical Discovery zoo keepers Tim Trout and Tom Weaver were on hand to

provide amazing anecdotes about the animals they work with every-day—from an up close and personal interpretation of rattlesnake behavior to the best methods each of us can use in our own backyards to offset the world-wide amphibian crisis.

Denver Zoo is very fortunate to have the support of our Zoo Pride patron members who demonstrate their commitment to the zoo, its future and the conservation of wildlife both at the zoo and around the world. A heartfelt thanks to our Zoo Pride members!

GIVING TRENDS: CHARITABLE LEAD TRUSTS

Due to the combination of depressed asset values and historically low interest rates, many donors are finding that now is a great time to establish a **charitable lead annuity trust**.

How it Works:

- ◆ You contribute securities or other appreciating assets (minimum is \$100,000).
- ◆ The trust makes annual payments to Denver Zoo for a period of time — when the trust terminates, the remaining principal is paid to your heirs.

Benefits:

- ◆ The present value of the income payments to Denver Zoo reduces your gift/estate tax.
- ◆ All appreciation that takes place in the trust goes tax-free to your heirs.
- ◆ The amount and term of the payments to Denver Zoo can be set so as to reduce or even eliminate transfer taxes due when the principal reverts to your heirs.
- ◆ You have the satisfaction of making a significant gift to the zoo now that reduces the taxes due on transfers to your heirs later.

An Example:

- ◆ If you put \$250,000 in a charitable lead annuity trust with a 6.1% payout to charity for 20 years, all \$250,000 (or whatever remained in the trust – more or less) would pass to your heirs free of gift tax.

This is not intended as legal or tax advice and it is, of course, important to consult your legal or tax advisor before making this type of gift.