

# Lincoln Park Zoo



For Members of Lincoln Park Zoo · A Magazine of Conservation and Education · Summer 2015

20-20

Looking Back at 20  
Years of Privatization  
**Annual Report Issue**



# Lincoln Park Zoo

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Visit [www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org) for Lincoln Park Zoo photos, videos and up-to-date info on events and animals. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter!

#### We'd Like to Hear from You!

Send your feedback on this issue of Lincoln Park Zoo magazine to [magazine@lpzoo.org](mailto:magazine@lpzoo.org).

*Cover: Baby gorilla Bella, born February 24, cuddles with half-sister Patty. Left: Female lions Zalika and Kamali made their Kovler Lion House debut in May.*

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#### QUESTIONS?

Contact the Membership Department. Staff are on hand during normal business hours—phone 312-742-2322 or visit us online at [www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org).



# perspective

A Letter From President and CEO Kevin J. Bell

## A Change to Celebrate

Twenty years ago, Lincoln Park Zoo was moving into uncharted territory. After 127 years of being managed by the Chicago Park District, the zoo switched to private management in 1995, placing The Lincoln Park Zoological Society in charge of this beloved institution.



It's not a change we made lightly. As you know, the zoo thrived under city management, welcoming millions of guests and introducing generations of visitors to the wonders of wildlife. Our commitment to being free and open to all is rooted in our public origins, and we continue to receive a fixed stipend from the city to support our mission.

But a growing emphasis on conservation had broadened the zoo's scope beyond our great city. While we'll always be proud to be Chicago's zoo, we realized we had an increasing responsibility to share and support the amazing species that call the zoo home, both here and in the wild.

The founding of the Zoological Society in 1959 had provided much-needed funds for modernization as well as the hiring of our first scientist, Steve Thompson, Ph.D., in 1990. But we knew

there was more to accomplish, and we couldn't help but wonder what was possible if we turned to our friends and visitors for support.

So we made the change. And the 20 years since privatization have turned out to be 20 of the most dynamic in this institution's proud history. We've witnessed the creation of state-of-the-art facilities like Regenstein Center for African Apes, the Pritzker Family Children's Zoo and our new Regenstein Macaque Forest. We've grown from three zoo scientists to a team of dozens, studying animal conservation and well-being in sites ranging from our endocrinology lab to the Republic of Congo's remote Goulougo Triangle.

So many people contributed to this success that it's impossible to credit them all. Two people who do deserve special mention are longtime zoo director Dr. Lester E. Fisher and longtime Zoological Society head Barbara Carr. Their vision went a long way toward building the zoo we have today.

Of course, the greatest thanks goes to you. In making the transition to private management, we knew we'd have to rely on friends of the zoo to support our vision of conservation and care. You've come through for your zoo, your city and the larger world of wildlife. I'll always be grateful...especially as we plan our next round of world-class exhibits.

Kevin J. Bell  
President and CEO

*In the 20 years since privatization, Lincoln Park Zoo has added state-of-the-art facilities and global conservation projects while retaining a constant focus on connecting guests with wildlife, both in 1995 (left) and today.*



# 20 Things to Do This Summer

## Check In on Baby Bella

The saying that “kids grow up fast” is especially true for other species! Drop by Regenstein Center for African Apes to see little gorilla Bella while she’s still cute and cuddly...and take in the acrobatic play of half-sisters Patty and Nayembi.



Summer in Chicago is a time for action. It’s the perfect opportunity to get outside and check off all the plans dreamed up during winter. To help you make the most of the season, we’re offering a checklist of our own, highlighting our favorite summer highlights at Chicago’s free zoo.

BY JAMES SEIDLER



## Peek Through the Fence at the Polar Bear and Penguin Habitats

It’s just a construction site now, but the area northeast of Regenstein African Journey will soon be the state-of-the-art Walter Family Arctic Tundra and Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove. Look now, and when they open in 2016 you can say you saw them when they were just a hole in the ground.

## Do a Little Bird-Watching

Want to watch an endangered species al fresco? Head to the red wolf exhibit at the Pritzker Family Children’s Zoo, look up, and you’ll likely see state-endangered black-crowned night herons nesting in this unlikely habitat.

## ID Some Local Wildlife for Zoo Scientists

Much as we’d like to, we can’t spend every minute of summer outdoors. If you find yourself deskbound with a few minutes to spare, head to [www.chicagowildlifewatch.org](http://www.chicagowildlifewatch.org) to help zoo scientists ID camera-trap photos of local species, from chipmunks to coyotes.





## Free Flight Feeding

In the Free Flight Area at the McCormick Bird House, Inca terns, hamerkops and other tropical species fly in an open, tropical habitat. See them flock together at 2:30 p.m. during our live feeding session.



## Jumping Joeys

The red kangaroo mob at the Antelope & Zebra Area will have some little legs leaping this summer. Two joeys, born last fall and growing since in moms' pouches, should be taking their first fun hops on their own.



## See the Snow Monkeys at Regenstein Macaque Forest

Their name may conjure up frost, but Japanese macaques are accustomed to all four seasons in their native home—and in Chicago too. See our nine-member troop splash around their mountain stream and possibly take a comfy dip in their cooled-down “hot spring.”

## See Snow Monkey Science in Action

Monkeys using computers? Scientists at Regenstein Macaque Forest are using built-in touch-screens to study how snow monkeys think and learn. Drop in at 11:40 a.m. for a front-row look at the high-tech treatment.

## Sculpture Spotting

Lincoln Park Zoo is celebrating Nature in Motion this summer with our first-ever sculpture show. Visit [www.lpzoosculpture.org](http://www.lpzoosculpture.org) to get an intro to the art, and share a photo of your favorite piece with #ZooSculpture for a chance at a special giveaway.

*Terms and conditions at the link above.*

## Go Gibbon

Contenders for the most active animals at Lincoln Park Zoo, the white-cheeked gibbons at the Helen Brach Primate House rarely sit still, swinging hand over hand through their indoor and outdoor exhibits. Blonde fur distinguishes female Burma from the group's boys: mate Caruso and kids Sai and Daxin.

## Seal the Deal

The harbor seal trio at the Kovler Sea Lion Pool spends a lot of time underwater—they can stay submerged for up to 30 minutes! Guests can see the seals haul out for daily training sessions at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., though, with “target training” and fishy rewards encouraging the marine mammals to participate in their own care.



## Picture the Pride

Unlike most big cats, African lions are a social species, preferring to hunt (and nap) in prides. Stop by the Kovler Lion House to see maned male Sahar getting to know his new female companions, Zalika and Kamali, two 21-month-old lionesses from Oregon Zoo.



## Explore After Hours

Ever wonder what the zoo is like after the guests leave? You can find out yourself with our exclusive evening events! Join an animal expert and a horticulturist for a Twilight Safari (July 22, August 26 and September 23) or step out on an Evening Sculpture Stroll with a tour guide and gardener (August 12 and September 9).



## Stretch Out Under the Skyline

What better place to sit out summer than with local beer and live music at the Patio at Café Brauer? Enjoy the view with Locally Sourced at the Patio, taking place Wednesdays from 5:30–7:30 p.m. The fun is sponsored by Lagunitas Brewing Company.

## Ride the Lionel Train Adventure

The zoo's newest attraction, the Lionel Train Adventure lets little visitors ride the rails near the West Gate. Kids love taking the track near Regenstein Macaque Forest, and adults can appreciate a chance to rest and wave.

## Meet an Animal

What animal might you meet at the daily 11 a.m. encounter at Regenstein Small Mammal–Reptile House? Box turtles, corn snakes and La Plata three-banded armadillos are among the species zoo educators introduce for a hands-on connection with wildlife.



## Build a Primate

If you were building your own primate, would you want big eyes to spot prey at night or a long tail to boost balance? Try both—or neither—with our Build a Primate game at [www.snowmonkeys.org](http://www.snowmonkeys.org)! As an added challenge, see if you can craft some of the real species that call Lincoln Park Zoo home.



## Spend Time with Something Small

Big animals get a lot of the attention at the zoo. But don't overlook the wonders of small species. Spend a little time watching the dyeing poison arrow frogs or naked mole rats at Regenstein Small Mammal–Reptile House, and you'll come away amazed by the close study.

## Welcome the Red Pandas

New red pandas Phoenix and Leafa are getting to know one another at the Kovler Lion House. Caregivers are hoping the cute connection leads to future cubs, as the pair has a breeding recommendation from the Red Panda Species Survival Plan®.

## Remember It All with the Perfect Picture

The Lester E. Fisher Bridge is one of the top photo spots in the city, balancing the green oasis of Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo with a killer view of the Chicago skyline. Stop by for the perfect photo to commemorate summer...and then update it through the seasons that follow.





# 20 Questions for the Vice President of Animal Care and Education Megan Ross, Ph.D.



A fun Q&A with the expert overseeing the zoo's worlds of wildlife and education.

## 1 What are your responsibilities as Vice President of Animal Care and Education?

I supervise a variety of departments, including the veterinary staff, the curatorial staff that oversees keepers, the nutrition staff, and I also oversee the Education Department's functioning and two directors for programming. Over the last year, along with the Vice President of Human Resources, I've also been overseeing community outreach. It keeps me pretty busy, but I'm fortunate to have a lot of skilled and effective people to work with here at the zoo.

## 2 How do animal care and education mesh at the zoo?

About eight years ago we made some changes to facilitate collaboration between Animal Care, Conservation & Science and Education—together we call these our Conservation Programs. Part of my job is ensuring that all three work well together. So, for instance, when a new species is considered for the zoo we get input from the educators, animal care and the scientists to ensure it's a suitable addition for our institution. That sort of dialogue is now second nature to us, and I think it's made us a better organization.

## 3 What key roles should zoos play today?

The first is bringing people closer to nature. Most zoos are in urban areas, and most people are not able to see these animals in their wild habitats. Out of sight, out of mind. We have the opportunity to bring wildlife to the forefront of people's minds and to inspire them to act on behalf of these animals and their natural environments.

Zoos are also uniquely positioned to be centers for conservation and science. We use science to guide our management at the zoo, and we are heavily involved in conservation in the wild. We

don't just talk about conservation, we have scientists doing work that's making an impact around the world. We have staff at the zoo that care for ornate box turtles here and rear them and at the end of a year those turtles go to live in the wild. We also have staff who have discussions with loggers in Congo about changing industry behavior to benefit wild populations of chimpanzees and gorillas. The fact we have staff like that is phenomenal.

## 4 How does the ZooMonitor app you developed bring scientific observation into daily animal care at the zoo?

We realized how helpful the high-level behavioral monitoring has been at Regenstein Center for African Apes [RCAA]. When a curator has a question about a particular animal's behavior they can utilize a database with hundreds of hours of observational data to help inform their decisions. ZooMonitor is a tool we developed that helps create those opportunities around the entire zoo. With it, keepers can find easy summaries of the behavior shown by the animals in their care and answer a host of questions that will improve their management. Does an animal like interacting with one type of enrichment more than another? Is their behavior different on days when crowds are big or small? Knowing these things will also help us when designing a new exhibit, and we're looking forward to some day sharing the software with other institutions as well.

## 5 What's it like to work with your husband, Steve Ross, Ph.D., director of the Fisher Center at RCAA?

The king of data? Our paths cross occasionally at work but perhaps not as often as some people would assume because we're in different departments at the zoo. I think one of the reasons we're

together is that we have a lot of common interests: we're both Ph.D animal behavior and welfare researchers dedicated to making lives better for animals. In that regard it makes total sense that we work at the zoo together, but I also think it's beneficial that we have very different ways in which we approach animal behavior.

I'm fascinated by the way some animals perceive the world so differently than we do, and I want to understand those differences to allow me to better give them what they want. My Ph.D dissertation was on how birds visually perceive their environments in ways that are very different from how humans see things. Steve, on the other hand, primarily studies chimpanzees, in part because he is drawn to the similarities they share with humans.

### Do you and Steve talk about zoo work at home?

We might talk about exciting things in the zoo community as a whole, but we really try to avoid talking about specific work issues. We have two amazing kids [Drew and Maddie] we really enjoy spending time with, and although they are both animal lovers, I think we're all better off not talking about work all day and all night.

### Do your kids want to grow up to work with animals?

Our son informed us he would like to be a reptile scientist. He's playing it like a diplomat. I think he doesn't want to pick mammals or birds, because that would show favoritism to either dad or mom. My daughter is interested in the natural world, but she's only 8, so I don't expect her to have her career path mapped out quite yet.

### Does she want a pony?

No, she does not want a pony. She has informed me she would like to be a teacher during the week and a kid doctor on weekends. I said, "Well, you might burn out."

### Do you have any pets?

We have two dogs, Duncan and Tulip. They are litter mates that both came from a shelter and are now 13. Our son also has a leopard gecko named Glaedr. He's named after a dragon in a book Drew was reading—the "Eragon" series. And, yes, we asked that Drew collect data on his gecko, so he has a weight chart, food chart, growth chart, and we graph it together.

### Isn't he ahead of the game with the animal research?

He's probably just thinking that data collection is par for the course in our home. We like to collect a lot of data on a lot of things to help make decisions on everything from energy use to commuting routes. It's a fun way to infuse science into everyday life.

### Did you love animals when you were a kid?

I loved animals. My parents let us have all sorts of pets—rabbits, hamsters, dogs, cats. And I took horseback-riding lessons. That would be one of my Christmas presents at the stables near our house. And my grandparents had a house in New Hampshire that had all sorts of birds. They had a lot of acreage, so there were beavers and lots of things on their property.

### Do you have an animal named after you at the zoo?

Nope, but there's a wild chimp in the Goualougo Triangle in the Republic of Congo that's named SteveRoss—all one word.

### Where did you go to school?

I went to James Madison University in Virginia for my undergraduate degree: double major in biology and psychology. I also have an M.S. and Ph.D from Georgia Institute of Technology in comparative psychology. I remember attending a brown-bag lecture by a professor who was talking about some research she'd done on primate calls in Indonesia. She's a comparative psychologist, and I remember thinking, "Are you kidding me? You can study animals but don't have to be a vet?" I went to talk to her the next day, and she asked if I'd like to work in her lab. I also started banding passerines [songbirds] with an ornithology professor. Those two professors really changed my world.

### How did you end up in the zoo profession?

After graduation I worked at a software company in the '90s, and there was this hawk that nested nearby. I felt it was mocking me: "You studied birds and now you're sitting in an office where they make cell-phone software?" A friend of mine who was president of the Georgia Conservancy put me in touch with Dr. Terry Maple, then the president of Zoo Atlanta and a professor at Georgia Tech. He's a primate expert, but I let him know I had no interest in non-human primates and much preferred birds. He thought that was hilarious and encouraged me to apply to his Ph.D graduate program. Three months later I was on my way to Kenya and South Africa for a field course in animal behavior research techniques. In 1998 I went to China to work with giant pandas in Chengdu.



Vice President of Animal Care and Education Megan Ross, Ph.D.'s, career in wildlife led her to Guam to contribute to a reintroduction program for Guam rails, which were wiped out in their native habitat by the introduction of the brown tree snake.





Ross is responsible for the care of nearly 200 species at Lincoln Park Zoo, but the Chilean flamingos are her personal favorite.

In May of '99, after I defended my master's thesis on pairing behavior in non-wild Chilean flamingos, Dennis Pate, then senior vice president of collections at Lincoln Park Zoo, asked if I'd like to apply for the curator of birds position. My graduate-school friend, Dr. Kristen Lukas, was the curator of primates then and recommended me. I thought this would be a dream job but didn't expect to be hired—but that's what happened. At that time the zoo was hiring Ph.D curators to help drive research. Which is what I did as curator, and I ended up doing my dissertation at the zoo.

#### Do you aspire to direct a zoo?

That could be an attractive option in the future. The thing that drives me the most, though, is making an impact for animals. I'd have to ensure I'm a good fit for the institution and the institution is a good fit for me. There's a growing trend today in zoos to hire non-animal experts to be zoo directors. Last year I was selected to participate in the inaugural leadership program offered by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The program is designed to ensure we have more people within our institutions who can assume leadership roles in the future.

#### What's a typical day like for you?

It's not exciting, but I have a lot of meetings with a wide variety of people: donors, board members, Animal Care and Education staff. We talk about a lot of different projects and programs, but because we work with wild animals, almost every day there's something new. A lot of what I do is coordinating activities and making sure things are working well together. I have a great team of people I get to work with every day. Helping them realize their strengths and interests is one of the great parts of what I do. Nobody is here because it's just a place to work. They're passionate about what they do.

#### Any advice for someone who wants to work with animals at a zoo?

Finding ways you can get some experience because that's pretty critical. Volunteering at a shelter or an animal hospital, working at a farm, or if you're at school maybe working in a lab or volunteering for a research project. Having a background in some sort of science is important because that's a key part of animal management.

#### What do you think of Regenstein Macaque Forest?

It's so dynamic and beautifully designed. It's even better than I thought it was going to be. The monkeys are so well habituated to it already, and it's such an active social group. Having them here now—with all the cognitive science on display and new ways to interact with the public and education team—is really exciting. One of the things the zoo does really well is make science accessible, and this is another vehicle to do and show that.

#### Does it make you like non-human primates more?

Yes! But I already liked them more than I used to because Steve talks about chimpanzees a lot. A whole lot.

#### Do you have a favorite animal species?

I have a special place in my heart for flamingos. I find the intricacies of their social lives so fascinating. They're not particularly smart creatures, but they have such ingenious, adaptive ways to deal with life. Precopulatory displays that the whole group synchronizes when they lay their eggs. You really have to change the way you think to appreciate the group mentality of flamingos. They truly embody the philosophy of safety in numbers.

But mostly they are just so lovely to watch. I walked by them doing their group displays the other day, and it just made my heart flutter.

# 20 Changes

1995 was only 20 years ago, but it already feels like a different era.

No streaming, no smart phones, no apps. Coolio and Alanis Morissette ruled the airways, and current silverback Kwan was just 6—years away from his starring role in “Return to Me.”

For Lincoln Park Zoo, though, 1995 was the start of something new. After 127 years of being managed by the Chicago Park District, the zoo shifted to private management under the mantle of the Lincoln Park Zoological Society—and the leadership of President and CEO Kevin Bell.

A zoo that had already modernized under longtime leader Dr. Lester E. Fisher continued to invest in state-of-the-art habitats and high-tech care, even as it staked new leadership positions in conservation, science and education. As you can see, it’s been a busy 20 years...with plenty more to come.

## 1995—Gateway Pavilion

A new visitor center opens the era, introducing guests to the wonders of Lincoln Park Zoo.

## 1996—[www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org) Launches

It started small, but the zoo’s website now hosts highlights from field conservation projects...and plenty of cute animal photos.

## 1997—Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House

This high-tech building features automated controls and an immersive ecosystem.

## 1998—C.H. “Doc” Searle, M.D. Animal Hospital and William C. Bartholomay Center for Conservation and Science

State-of-the-art facilities befitting a new focus on conservation.

## 2000—Population Management Center

Established with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the PMC makes scientific breeding and transfer recommendations for zoos across the country.

## 2001—Judy Keller Education Center and AT&T Endangered Species Carousel

A perfect place for learning about wildlife—and taking a ride on it as well.

## 2001—Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology

A science spot for studying zoonotic diseases as well as animal sex and stress, as measured by hormones.

## 2003—Regenstein African Journey

Replacing the old Large Mammal House, this immersive exhibit showcases the sights and sounds of Africa.

## 2003—First Involvement with Goulougo Triangle Ape Project

What started with a grant has become a full-blown partnership to study wild chimpanzees and gorillas in one of the most pristine habitats on Earth.

## 2004—Regenstein Center for African Apes

Replacing the Lester Fisher Ape House, this new building sets the standard for great ape care with rich social groups and ape-friendly design.





**2004—Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes**

Touch-screens and tool-use studies are part of the toolkit for scientists looking to understand—and protect—apes in zoos and the wild.



**2005—Alexander Center for Applied Population Biology**

A research center committed to keeping small populations healthy—and encouraging them to grow.

**2005—Pritzker Family Children's Zoo**

This green, growing habitat invites kids and adults to step into the woods and see North American wildlife.



**2007—Serengeti Health Initiative**

Lincoln Park Zoo joins this ecosystem health effort, which has vaccinated more than 1 million dogs to protect people, pets and predators such as lions and African wild dogs.



**2009—Harris Family Foundation Black Rhinoceros Exhibit**

A rhino-sized redesign made the species at home—and set the stage for the arrival of baby King in 2013.

**2009—Urban Wildlife Institute**

A new science center studies which species call cities home—and how people and wildlife can avoid conflict.

**2010—Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo**

This transformed urban oasis welcomes guests and native wildlife including state-endangered black-crowned night herons.

**2012—African Lion Sahar**

After the city says farewell to iconic lion Adelor, this new “king” arrives at the Kovler Lion House.

**2013—Hurvis Center for Learning Innovation and Collaboration**

This institute for cutting-edge education studies new strategies for learning—and new ways to connect young people with wildlife.



**2015—Regenstein Macaque Forest**

A state-of-the-art home for snow monkeys replaces the Kovler Penguin-Seabird House, letting another species show off its cool culture...and the zoo's commitment to care.





## field note

*Baby gorilla Bella enjoys a close cuddle from half-sisters Patty and Nayembi.*

### Baby Gorilla Bella

At the beginning, a little gorilla's life is pretty much confined to mom. Food, shelter, sleep, comfort—all of it takes place within the cozy confines of a mother's arms.

As a baby grows, though, its world branches out. Instead of being supported by mom at all times, little gorillas begin holding on, “hitching rides” through the trees and underbrush. Eventually babies start to crawl and climb, venturing off on their own even as mom keeps a watchful eye on things.

In the case of baby gorilla Bella, born at Regenstein Center for African Apes on February 24, the presence of two older half-sisters in the troop has accelerated the pathway to independence a bit. As it turns out, mom Bahati is happy to let 2-year-olds Patty and Nayembi do a bit of babysitting.

“Every mom is different,” says Curator of Primates Maureen Leahy. “When Bahati had Susie [a 10-year-old now at Columbus Zoo], she used to park her by silverback JoJo for him to babysit. Bana, on the other hand, rarely gave Patty to anyone—almost for a whole year.”

The differences in parenting styles seem to extend to the kids as well. Patty holds Bella in a tight, chest-to-chest grip, whereas Nayembi is more likely to carry her underarm, with Bella's little face poking out. Bahati keeps a close eye on the situation, as do animal care staff, and silverback Kwan even sniffs things out from time to time. (He hasn't carried any of his kids, but he is an eager playmate when they get older.)

Of course, as Bella matures, she's starting to move on her own as well, taking little crawls through the exhibit. The growing gorilla—named to honor a member of the Regenstein family, loyal zoo supporters for decades through their family foundation—is also using a mouthful of teeth to gnaw on her first veggies; solid food will become an increasing part of her diet in the months ahead.

For now, though, Bella is still little—and learning her way around her family group and their home. Thankfully she has two eager guides in Patty and Nayembi, who are happy to take the lead in teaching Bella the ways of play.





## field note

### Japanese Macaque *Macaca fuscata*

When the eight members of Lincoln Park Zoo’s Japanese macaque troop first filed into Regenstein Macaque Forest this past spring, animal caregivers and researchers held their collective breath. It was chilly outside, and the snow-patched, rocky terrain of the spectacular, new \$15.5 million exhibit was perhaps less hospitable to the monkeys than the off-exhibit space they’d inhabited since arriving from Japan.

One after another, though, the three males and five females entered and began exploring every inch of the multi-level exhibit from ground to treetops. The same curiosity came to life weeks later when primatologist Katherine Cronin, Ph.D, stepped into the exhibit’s research booth to initiate cognitive studies with touch-screen computers. The real proof of their comfort level arrived May 3: a baby boy born to female Ono.

Japanese macaques—the northernmost-living of any non-human primate species—have long fascinated scientists like Cronin. In their native forest and coastal homes, they exhibit such unique behaviors as bathing in hot springs, food washing, gathering in large clusters to stay warm in winter and stone stacking. On Japan’s Yakushima Island, researchers have even observed macaques riding small sika deer through the forest. It’s thought the deer benefit from fruits plucked by the monkeys off branches the deer otherwise couldn’t reach.

“It will be interesting to see which behaviors the exhibit promotes,” says Curator of Primates Maureen Leahy. “After we turned on the river stream we saw them frequently going to get sips of water. No food washing yet, though.”

Caregivers have a list of nearly 40 enrichment foods—from sunflower seeds to sugar-free Cheerios—approved by the zoo’s vets and nutritionists for the monkeys’ diets. Much of it is dispensed from mechanized feeders resembling stone Japanese lanterns.

“Those have been great because the food randomly appears and they haven’t figured out how it works yet,” says Leahy. “So that’s mimicking fruiting trees in the wild. They have to check back multiple times to explore those foraging options.”

Other eating habits may test the resourcefulness of the zoo’s horticulturists. The macaques have dined indiscriminately on pine cones and budding leaves from their exhibit’s live trees as well.

Grooming among pairs and trios has also been constant among the highly social troop. As for large clusters? “Our night-vision cameras have recorded up to four animals huddling in a sort of mini cluster,” reports Leahy.

We may have to wait until next winter for the big group hug.



# The 20-Plus Club

BY CRAIG KELLER



Some jobs are just a paycheck. Clock in, clock out. Repeat.

Lincoln Park Zoo employees are an exception to that norm. When asked why they work at the zoo, their responses invariably include the word “passion.” Passion for animals and conservation. For connecting visitors from all walks of life with nature. For sustaining the legacy and empowering the future of one of the nation’s oldest—and still free—zoos.

So it’s not surprising that many here have passed the two-decade mark with no intention of throttling back on their shared commitment to Chicago’s ark in the park. For them, and many others on the cusp of 20 years of service, the work isn’t just a career. It’s a calling. Here are four of their stories.



**Joel Pond, C.V.T.**  
**Veterinary Technician**

“When I was a sophomore in high school I had a sick turtle. I called the zoo to find a veterinarian who could take care of my pet. They gave me the name of a veterinarian, Dr. Erich Maschgan. I took my turtle to him and, during one treatment session, I asked him where he learned to treat turtles. He said he worked at Lincoln Park Zoo and invited me to accompany him on his rounds some time. I took him up on that and soon was volunteering for him at the zoo. This was easy as I was attending school across the street at Francis Parker.

“I was soon hired as an assistant in Dr. Maschgan’s private

practice, where he mentored me. I continued volunteering and working for him while studying biology at Loyola University. In 1976 the zoo’s first hospital was built, and a veterinary technician was needed. I applied for the job and was accepted. I’ve been here ever since.

“My favorite part is working with the varied animals at the zoo. I am constantly learning something new or different. The animal’s differences provide constant challenges for us technicians to adapt procedures and processes used in domestic and exotic animals. I enjoy imparting my knowledge to coworkers and colleagues in the zoo community and also have had the privilege of working on local and overseas conservation and research projects.”



A selection of zoo employees with 20 or more years of service pose together at Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo. Back row: Diane Mulkerin, Chino Vargas, Mike Skidmore, Dave Bernier, Kevin Bell, Laszlo Szilagyi, Dan McDonough, Troy Baresel. Front row: Cynthia Swisher, Diana Villafuerte, Phil Beckert, Christine Zrinsky, Jill Gossett, Christine Fuehmeyer.

### Michael Skidmore

#### Keeper, Regenstein African Journey



“My mom would bring me to the zoo quite often on the Clark Street bus when I was a kid. I’m a lifelong Chicagoan, and the zoo was a fun, free trip. That and watching [former zoo director] Dr. [Lester] Fisher on ‘Ray Rayner [and His Friends]’ helped keep the interest. I’ve always read animal books and watched nature shows. This is a second career. I used to run a manufacturing company’s print shop that was later shut down. One good thing about a keeper job: it’s hard to imagine being replaced by modern technologies.”

“I was a docent at the zoo for seven years before becoming a keeper, so I knew pretty much what I was getting into—both the good and hard parts. I remember getting hired at 33 and thinking, ‘Cool, I know what I’ll be doing and where I’ll be the next 30 years.’”

“I consider this my part in helping conservation efforts and educating people on animal issues, which is getting more important as the world shrinks and natural resources dwindle. Plus, it’s hard to get bored in a job where I get to greet a rhino every morning.”

### Christine Zrinsky

#### Vice President, Development



“I was recruited to the zoo to build the base of annual support right before we went private in January 1995. I was drawn to the mission, the free access and, of course, the animals—especially the lions and flamingos. I’m continually impressed by the passion and commitment of Lincoln Park Zoo staff!”

“My favorite part of working here is the zoo’s broad appeal—especially after working at the Chicago Symphony with its specific focus on one art form. We can engage visitors and donors with the animals, historic buildings, conservation and science, gardens, education, civic pride. It’s fantastic from my perspective as a fundraiser. In addition, I love the dynamic, intense pace

and the fact that every day is different. I also love that our fundraising efforts are still new enough that we haven’t done everything and can still try new things. And I’m humbled by the loyalty of our members and donors and commitment of our staff.”

### Michal Kisielinski

#### Keeper, Regenstein Small



#### Mammal-Reptile House

“What brought me to the zoo is nothing short of serendipity or divine intervention depending on your particular world view. Global winds of history carried me to our fair city. The zoo seemed like an obvious choice for a person who, in his youth, found genuine entertainment in the screams of assorted female family members when confronted with the contents of my pockets after a day of playing in the woods: frogs, worms, arthropods, accidental hornet—your basic local wildlife within a kid’s reach.”

“For someone whose brief, chaotic college education involved elementary tenets of quantum physics, the most wondrous part has to be narrowly avoiding a desk job for life. Instead of tediously trying to deconstruct the universe into a descending order of ever more ridiculous particles, imagine being able to create, on a daily basis, brand new universes out of sticks, stones and imagination. If playing the creator is not your thing there is a whole spectrum of existing, living wonders to admire: the perfect fractal geometry of a chameleon tail or the kinetic miracle of its tongue. Leaf-cutter ants pushing chaos theory to the limit in order to arrive at—what else?—an amazing sort of order. A hatchling turtle packed into his eggshell with an efficiency UPS can only dream of.”



See Keeper Diana Villafuerte and Curator Diane Mulkerin’s stories at [www.lpzoo.org/magazine](http://www.lpzoo.org/magazine).

# Roll Call

The zoo’s “20-Plus Club” includes the following individuals:

- Kevin Bell** | President and CEO | 39 years
  - Joel Pond** | Veterinary Technician | 38 years
  - Bonnie Jacobs** | Lead Keeper, Primates | 33 years
  - Susan Moy** | Keeper, Bird Areas and C.H. “Doc” Searle, M.D. Animal Hospital | 32 years
  - Cathy Maurer** | Keeper, Kovler Lion House | 32 years
  - Diane Mulkerin** | Curator, Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House/Pritzker Family Children’s Zoo/Antelope & Zebra Area | 30 years
  - Eric Meyers** | Nutrition Center Technician | 29 years
  - Cynthia Swisher** | Keeper, Regenstein Center for African Apes | 28 years
  - Dan McDonough** | Keeper, Bird Areas | 27 years
  - Laszlo Szilagyi** | Zoological Manager, Regenstein African Journey/Farm-in-the-Zoo/Kovler Lion House/Kovler Sea Lion Pool | 27 years
  - Troy Baresel** | Chief Financial Officer | 27 years
  - Melanie Toth** | Keeper, Bird Areas | 26 years
  - Dave Bernier** | General Curator | 25 years
  - Larry O’Connor** | Keeper, Bird Areas | 25 years
  - Diana Villafuerte** | Keeper | 25 years
  - Chino Vargas** | Pest Control | 25 years
  - Steve Thompson, Ph.D.** | Senior Vice President, Capital and Programmatic Planning | 25 years
  - Penny Reidy** | Keeper, Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House | 23 years
  - Michal Kisielinski** | Keeper, Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House | 23 years
  - Dominic Calderisi** | Lead Keeper, Regenstein Center for African Apes | 21 years
  - Mike Skidmore** | Assistant Lead Keeper, Regenstein African Journey | 21 years
  - Scott Kubisch** | Roving Keeper | 21 years
  - Christine Zrinsky** | Vice President, Development | 21 years
  - Marie Perez** | Lead Keeper, Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House | 20 years
  - Phil Beckert** | Director of IT | 20 years
  - Jill Gossett** | Lead Keeper, Regenstein African Journey | 20 years
  - Christine Fuehmeyer** | Lead Keeper, Regenstein African Journey | 20 years
- Bird Areas: McCormick Bird House, Regenstein Birds of Prey Exhibit, Hope B. McCormick Swan Pond and Waterfowl Lagoon*

# 20 Species We're Saving

BY JAMES SEIDLER

Blue-eyed black lemurs. Polar bears. African penguins. Those are just a few species zoo scientists and caregivers work with that aren't listed below.

So why focus on just 20? After all, scientists with the zoo's Population Management Center make breeding and transfer plans for more than 100 species every year. And caregivers apply the personal touch for species of all stripes, often volunteering their time for conservation work a world away through the Feay Earthwatch Grant.

But these species have received a special, sustained commitment from Lincoln Park Zoo and its experts. Year after year, we work to advance their recovery...hoping all the while that these efforts will someday be unnecessary.

## African Action

Africa. The continent's wildlife holds a spot in the imagination that's equal to its place in Lincoln Park Zoo's conservation efforts. Scientists travel here to save the very species—lions, rhinos, gorillas—that make up our earliest impressions of wildlife.

Among the zoo's most recent conservation work is a partnership to study and save the mountain gorillas in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park. These endangered apes, featured in the Dian Fossey biopic "Gorillas in the Mist," are cousins of the western lowland gorillas at Regenstein Center for African Apes. They feed on roots and leaves in the elevated forest...and are critically endangered due to habitat loss and poaching.

To help conserve the species, the Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology is partnering with the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International to analyze fecal samples to determine the relationship between stress, environmental changes and human pressures, among other things. National Science Foundation post-doctoral fellow Stacy Rosenbaum, Ph.D., is here for two years to analyze thousands of samples to unlock the hormonal data within.

"We can match this hormonal info with existing behavioral and genetic data to understand how these gorillas interact in the wild," says Rosenbaum. In addition to providing crucial data for conservation management, the results can help us understand more about the evolutionary origins of behaviors that are common to both gorillas and humans.

The mountain gorilla project isn't the only work being done in Africa. Similar hormonal analyses reveal the relationship between the landscape, predators and stress for black rhinos in South Africa's Addo Elephant National Park. The zoo and its partners continue to vaccinate domestic dogs in the Serengeti ecosystem to protect the region's people, pets and predators such as African lions, African wild dogs and servals. Finally, in the Republic of Congo's Goulougo Triangle—one of the most remote places on Earth—researchers with the Goulougo Triangle Ape Project are studying the impact of logging on endangered chimpanzees and western lowland gorillas, gathering information that may conserve these species across Africa.

## Helping Close to Home

Of course, animals don't only make their homes in isolated ecosystems a world away. In the Chicago area, zoo experts and local partners are reintroducing prairie species such as smooth green snakes and meadow jumping mice, even as animal care experts help ornate box turtles regain a foothold in the sand prairies of Savanna, Illinois.

Zoo experts travel to the Edward Lowe Foundation in Cassopolis, Michigan every year to survey the area's eastern massasauga rattlesnake population, gathering info to help these rare reptiles recover elsewhere in their range. Curator Diane Mulkerin even serves as the studbook keeper for the Eastern Massasauga Species Survival Plan®, managing records for the zoo population.

Acoustic monitoring devices collect the calls of bats above Chicago, helping scientists pinpoint which species call the city home—as well as how they're adapting to the threat of white-nose







syndrome, a fungal disease that can devastate whole colonies.

The canyons and scrubland of the western United States have proven a fertile site for zoo conservation work as well. Endocrinologist Rachel Santymire, Ph.D., the director of the Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology, regularly treks out west to check in on reintroduced populations of black-footed ferrets in addition to serving as vice chair of the Black-Footed Ferret Species Survival Plan®.

“This whole species is descended from just 18 founders discovered in the 1980s,” says Santymire. She and her colleagues catch and release the lanky predators to discover how they’re adapting to new homes...even as Santymire studies how diet, disease and reproductive health help zoo-based populations grow.

### Planning the Future

While safari gear and rattlesnake hooks make for exciting stories, some of the zoo’s most important conservation work takes place at the relative comfort of a computer screen. That’s where population biologists break down family trees to make the right matches to keep whole species healthy.

Puerto Rican parrots have benefitted from this spreadsheet wizardry. Living only on their native island, this colorful species has returned from the brink of extinction thanks to a careful recovery program, one that’s been boosted in recent years as biologists convert piles of paper to computerized population records that enable modern analysis and matchmaking.

Similarly, while dozens of Species Survival Plan® (SSP) animals are represented at the zoo, a few have zoo experts actively steering them toward sustainable futures, including the black-footed ferrets and eastern massasauga rattlesnakes mentioned above. Vice President of Animal Care and Education Megan Ross, Ph.D., serves as program leader for Bali mynahs. General Curator Dave Bernier does the same for Sichuan takins and La Plata three-banded armadillos. Steve Ross, Ph.D., director of the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Con-

servation of Apes, leads the Chimpanzee SSP. Hope B. McCormick Curator of Birds Sunny Nelson serves as leader and studbook keeper for Inca terns. Finally, Helen Brach Primate House Lead Keeper Bonnie Jacobs serves as studbook keeper for the Francois’ Langur SSP, managing the decades worth of population records planners need to make decisions.

At the same time, biologists with the Alexander Center for Applied Population Biology are analyzing the population viability of both zoo-housed and wild red wolves, a key step in evaluating this critically endangered species’ status. It’s not merely an academic exercise; red wolf pups born at the zoo have been fostered into wild packs in North Carolina, growing the population of this species on the brink.

The future isn’t sure for any of these animals, unfortunately, but zoo experts are doing all they can to conserve them. “We’re looking for the best data to conserve these species so we can make science-based decisions,” says Vice President of Conservation & Science Lisa Faust, Ph.D. “It’s that applied approach to conservation that makes Lincoln Park Zoo’s conservation programs so strong.”



*Zoo experts are studying stress in wild mountain gorillas (left) and helping to plan sustainable futures for endangered species such as eastern massasauga rattlesnakes and red wolves. Adjunct scientist Julia Kilgour installs an acoustic listening device to monitor Chicago’s bats, and Rachel Santymire, Ph.D., director of the Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology, engages kids at Montana’s Northern Cheyenne Reservation, a field site for black-footed ferret conservation.*

# 20 Sculptures to See

BY CRAIG KELLER

A bright red dancer towers over a flock of Chilean flamingos. Two massive dragonflies perch on enormous blades of prairie grass next to a spinning carousel. Such are the thrilling juxtapositions on display throughout the zoo this summer for Nature in Motion: Sculpture at Lincoln Park Zoo. The zoo's first-ever sculpture show, which opened in May and runs through October, features 15 works by 16 Chicago-area artists.

Here's a rundown of those 15 sculptures, plus five of our permanent faves at the zoo.

## Animal Fantasy

The legged and legless creatures climbing rocks in Christopher Newman's fiberglass sculpture are imaginary species. They're right at home at the entrance to the Pritzker Family Children's Zoo, where real animals spark the imaginations of kids every day.

## Bird

Formed entirely from sheet metal, Matthew Csernansky's seamless, streamlined homage to Romanian sculptor Constantin Brancusi's "Bird in Space" series is beautifully minimalist in its distillation of avian movement.

## Points of Influence (photographed below)

Seven white, concrete columns containing recessed human forms greet visitors in Darrin Hallowell's conceptual installation. Those circular apertures in the heads and abdomens? Spiritual conduits between the soul and environment.

## Blaam O

Look more closely. What at first glance seems an abstract tumble of brushed-aluminum shapes can also be read as an ape-like animal bursting into action. "Sculpture, despite its stillness, is far from sedentary," says artist John Adduci. Motion carried.

## Ancient Protocol

Sculptor Paul Russell and his brother, Luke, who made "Gorilla Nest" (below), are fifth-generation blacksmiths who learned the trade at their family's West Side steel forge. The eyes of the zinc-nickel-plated dragonflies are repurposed crucible cups normally used to analyze samples of molten steel.

## Dodge (photographed at left)

A fifth-generation artist himself, Eric Stephenson starts with a Cubist approach to the body in motion—flattened silhouettes—then expands the work into a three-dimensional mass that "allows cloaked intentions of the figure to be revealed." This 12-foot high stainless-steel creation is revealing indeed.

## Gorilla Nest

Forged and hammered entirely from recycled scrap metal, Luke Russell's twist on the world-tree motif is set in motion by curling branches and ribbon-like leaves. Perched throughout are hybrid fish-elephant creatures symbolizing evolution. The tree's suggested, partial immersion in water echoes climate change.

## Finish

Like an Olympic splinter exploding across the finish line, Terrance Karpowicz's celebratory "Finish" embodies humanity's capacity to strive for and achieve goals. If you disassembled the sections of rolled steel pipe they could be recombined into a circle.







### Prairie Song, Q

The Q stands for quark. Inspired by Fermilab's particle collider, Guy Bellaver has long explored the energetic relationship between positive and negative space. In this kinetic work—a gorgeous fusion of organic form and modern abstraction—he applies that scrutiny to prairie-plant botany and reproduction.

### Soar, Preen, Perch

Carved from a 283-year-old maple tree toppled by hurricane-force winds off Lake Michigan in 2011, the totemic bird sculptures in this assemblage “perpetuate the vitality” of that tree and sound a warning call as well, says artist Margot McMahan. The message: climate change can impact both trees and wildlife, which are ecologically linked.

### Tendrill Pod

Mary Seyfarth's patinaed, cast-bronze plant sculpture is less confrontational in depicting nature's perpetuity. An oval pod sways gently on a vertical stem, issuing a second pod, which begins to grow back into the plant. Tucked away in a small garden, “Tendrill Pod” merges naturally into its leafy location.

### Mr. Big Beetle Finds His Way (photographed at right)

Iridescently beautiful yet devastating destructive, the emerald ash borer isn't welcome in Chicago. As art? That's another story. Janet Austin's glass-mosaic beetle wanders atop a metal ash leaf's maze-like veins, which represent the insect's journey to the U.S. aboard cargo ships and its larvae's trailings within ash tree bark.

### Position

Few sculptors have as personal a relationship to their material as Dusty Folwarczyn, who uses reclaimed scrap metal from her father's company in Windfield, Missouri. The seven stacked steel rings in “Position”—representing the artist's family members (she's the vertical center ring)—explore the tension between heavy metal, gravity and balance.

### Here (photographed above)

The art and animal juxtapositions in Nature in Motion crescendo with Ruth Aizuss Migdal's 14-foot-tall, bright-red, dancing female figure and the pink, ballerina-like Chilean flamingos next to it. Fabricated from bronze with rippled, undulating layers charged with energy, “Here” is poised for flight.

### I, Fly

Surrounded by ferns—descendants of ancient plant species—Jyl Bonaguro's and Shencheng Xu's recycled-scrap-metal-and-steel piece carries a modern metaphor. A common housefly symbolizes humanity; the leaves, pristine nature; scraps of metal, humanity's impact on the Earth with regard to energy and resources.

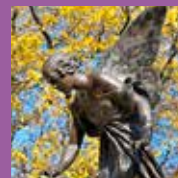
## Five More Favorites

Look for these permanent sculptures and many more at the zoo.



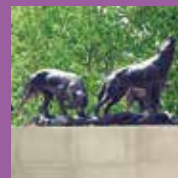
Fountain for the Young at Heart, George Suyeoka

Location: Pritzker Family Children's Zoo



Eugene Field Memorial (Dream Lady), Edward McCartan

Location: Northeast of Helen Brach Primate House



The Lesson, Darrell Davis

Location: West Gate



Lowland Gorilla Family, Bill Wieger

Location: Regenstein Center for African Apes



Lincoln Park Zoo Arch, Greg Leavitt and Camille Leavitt

Location: East Gate



Learn more about the sculpture show and free daily tours at [www.lpzoosculpture.org](http://www.lpzoosculpture.org).

Tag a photo of your favorite sculpture with #ZooSculpture and be entered to win free tickets to a zoo gardens event!

*Terms and conditions at the link above.*

# news of the zoo



## SAFETY in Numbers

On Friday, May 15—Endangered Species Day—visitors arriving at the zoo’s chimpanzee, Guam Micronesian kingfisher and smooth green snake exhibits encountered a frustrating sight. Films covering the viewing windows made it difficult to see the animals inside.

The hindered views were installed to evoke the real threat of these species disappearing from sight via extinction. Raising awareness is part and parcel of SAFE (Saving Animals From Extinction), a collaborative conservation initiative launched by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, of which Lincoln Park Zoo is an accredited member.

Zoo and aquarium leaders have identified more than 100 endangered species that fit two criteria: 1) the threat of extinction is a very real possibility and 2) AZA’s 229 member institutions have the conservation expertise necessary to sustain and increase species populations at zoos and in the wild. Over the next decade, SAFE participants will progressively add 10 species each year to the effort, which has started with African penguins, Asian elephants, black rhinoceroses, cheetahs, gorillas, sea turtles, vaquitas, sharks, western pond turtles and whooping cranes.

The zoo’s SAFE launch-day activities also included giving visitors “passports” to the four exhibits, where educators presenting talks stamped them. Fully stamped passports could be redeemed for free rides on the AT&T Endangered Species Carousel.

## Polar Bear/Penguin Update

Construction continues on the Walter Family Arctic Tundra and Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove in the northeast corner of the zoo. The state-of-the-art exhibits for polar bears and African penguins are on schedule to debut in 2016. Concrete foundation walls are now emerging following demolition

of the former McCormick Bear Habitat exhibits. More updates will be forthcoming as this exciting development progresses.

## Urban Wildlife Roundup

More than 300 guests attended the International Urban Wildlife Conference at Lincoln Park Zoo from May 17–20. Hosted by the zoo’s Urban Wildlife Institute on behalf of the Urban Wildlife Working Group of The Wildlife Society, the international gathering attracted researchers, planners and practitioners from state and federal agencies, universities, municipal and county governments, architects, urban planners, and private organizations.

The goal: disseminating the latest research and information on the ecology and management of urban wildlife, reducing human-wildlife conflict and planning wildlife-friendly cities and strategies for effective outreach and education. A random sample of the workshop titles—“Urbanization and Habitat-Fragmentation Effects on Terrestrial Herpetofauna in Southern California” and “Modeling of the Effects of Landscape Composition on Habitat Suitability of Urban White-Tailed Deer”—illustrated the scholarly expertise in attendance.

Initially organized in 1986 as the National Symposium on Urban Wildlife, the conference has been held under various titles and sponsors over the years, but its rich 30-year history reflects the growing interest and relevance of research into wildlife in urban areas.

## It’s All Happening at the Zoo

Thousands of runners followed scenic courses along the lake-front and through the zoo during United Run for the Zoo on Sunday, June 7. Generously supported by United Airlines, Run for the Zoo continued its sellout streak, with participants enjoying a post-race cooldown with beer and pizza courtesy of Lagunitas Brewing Company and Aurelio’s Pizza.

The Auxiliary Board’s spring fundraiser, Zoo-ologie, was a sellout as well, welcoming guests to the zoo for a Macaque Masquerade on May 9. Proceeds support major zoo developments, from Regenstein Macaque Forest to the new polar bear and African penguin habitats.

*Visitors “vaccinated” dogs during the zoo’s Endangered Species Day event—a tribute to the wild work of the Serengeti Health Initiative, which protects people, pets and predators in the African region from diseases such as rabies. It’s just one example of how zoos are working together to Save Animals from Extinction.*



## Return Engagement

Visit [www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org) to read the inspiring story of how primatologist Kristin Bonnie telegraphed her research career with a letter to Lincoln Park Zoo as a 15-year-old.



# wild file

## A Full Pride

African lions are a social species, living together in prides of 2–40 animals in their native Africa. In these lively groups, females hunt hoofed prey and care for cubs while maned males rouse themselves to eat the spoils...and stay busy fending off rivals looking to take over the pride.

In his secure home at the Kovler Lion House, 5-year-old male lion Sahar doesn't have to worry about rivals. But the big predator did have to make some social adjustments this spring as two 20-month-old females from Oregon Zoo, sisters Zalika and Kamali, joined his pride.

Sahar, who had been a temporary bachelor since the November passing of beloved female Myra, was eager to make the acquaintance of his new companions when they arrived at the Kovler Lion House in May. But caregivers undertook the introduction with their customary caution—which is particularly important when you're dealing with large carnivores.

"We started by getting them used to every part of the space—outdoors, indoors, behind the scenes—while shifting Sahar around them," says Curator of Mammals Mark Kamhout. "Once the females were comfortable, then we started to 'howdy' them separated by barriers. When they seemed ready, it was time to meet."

At 450 pounds, Sahar outweighs his 200-pound companions two-to-one, but the fact that they were already bonded let them stand together as the pride sorted out its new dynamic. "A little sparring is natural as they get to know one another," Kamhout says. "Now we're getting into the really good bonding."

## Checking In on King

Looking for an animal who can make Sahar's 450 pounds seem small? Visit juvenile eastern black rhinoceros King at the Harris Family Foundation Black Rhinoceros Exhibit north of Regenstein African Journey.

There you'll see that the growing guy, who turns 2 August 26, now weighs in at nearly 1,800 pounds. That still makes him small next to mom Kapuki, with whom he shares his exhibit—she weighs 2,700 pounds. But it's a big change from the 60 pounds the little guy weighed at birth.

"He's showing all the signs of being a healthy black rhinoceros," says Kamhout. "He enjoys playing with his mom and wallowing in the mud in his yard, as rhinos do in the wild." King's daily diet includes vegetables, grass, alfalfa hay and grain...as well as the occasional nursing session with mom. Mother's milk helps every mammal grow, but rhinos may be the ultimate example of the rule.

## Chameleon Catch-Up

Have you seen the new Meller's chameleon at Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House? The colorful reptile can keep one eye on you...and another on something else, as independently moving eyes are one adaptation this species uses to catch insect prey.

Native to East Africa, this chameleon species arrived in the building's Gallery area in February, drawing guests' attention with its roving eyes and herky-jerky climbing motion. A quick-release



*New faces at the zoo include African lions Zalika and Kamali, Meller's chameleon Rango and red panda Phoenix. Black rhino King, soon to turn 2, now tips the scales at nearly 2,000 pounds!*

tongue is also part of the package, darting out to snap up unwary bugs.

But the chameleon's highlight, of course, is its ability to change colors in response to the surrounding environment, other chameleons or simply its mood. "Male Rango is usually green and yellow with black spots," says Curator Diane Mulkerin, "but stay long enough, and you may see that change."

## New Red Panda Pair

The Kovler Lion House welcomed a double dose of cuteness in February as male red panda Phoenix and female Leafa moved in on the building's south side. The pair, who have a breeding recommendation from the Red Panda Species Survival Plan®, settled easily into their new exhibit, venturing to the treetops and playing with enrichment.

These quiet climbers are most active in the morning, after they've started the day with a bamboo meal. Stop by between 10 a.m. and noon to have the best chance to see them stepping out into their exhibit.

# calendar



## After-Hours Activities

Who wants to spend summer indoors? Not us, which is why we've set up a full slate of summer events to let our guests soak up every last bit of sunshine, down to the last twinkle of twilight.

A constant over the course of summer will be Nature in Motion: Sculpture at Lincoln Park Zoo. Beyond offering large-scale public art in a wild setting—complete with free guided tours—the zoo's first sculpture show has some special programming associated with it. Explore the artwork after hours with one of our Evening Sculpture Strolls (August 12, September 9 and October 14). Or enjoy a glass of wine and hear how the gardens and sculptures enliven one another with our Wine & Wildflowers Garden Party on July 29.

Looking for more opportunities to experience the zoo after the crowds clear out? You can join an animal expert and horticulturist for a Twilight Safari July 22, August 26 and September 23. Leave the kids behind and treat yourself to a beer and a carousel ride on an Adults Night Out July 24 or August 21. Or join us at the Patio at Café Brauer on Wednesday nights this summer from 5:30–7:30 p.m. for another season of Locally Sourced at the Patio, featuring live music, local artists and beer specials from Lagunitas Brewing Company.

Of course, it's important not to overdo it, even if you're trying to squeeze every minute out of summer. A couple sessions of Yoga at the Zoo Presented by Walgreens should leave you feeling stretched and relaxed...just in time to start looking ahead to fall.

## Upcoming Events

**July 10**  
Zoo Ball: Arctic Blast

**July 22, August 26  
and September 23**  
Twilight Safari

**July 24 and August 21**  
Adults Night Out

**July 29**  
Wine & Wildflowers  
Garden Party

**August 12,  
September 9 and  
October 14**  
Evening Sculpture  
Strolls

**October 24**  
Spooky Zoo  
Spectacular

**See the full calendar at [www.lpzoo.org/calendar](http://www.lpzoo.org/calendar).**

*Locally Sourced at the Patio, Adults Night Out and Yoga at the Zoo Presented by Walgreens are all perfect excuses to get outside and celebrate summer.*



# membership matters

## Monkeying Around

The opening of Regenstein Macaque Forest this past spring inspired primate-focused family fun at SuperZooPicnic on Friday, June 19. The after-hours celebration, with its “Monkey See, Monkey Zoo” theme, gave Lincoln Park Zoo members exclusive access to a swinging jamboree across zoo grounds.

Guests tested their skills at carnival games, clambered like monkeys aboard the AT&T Endangered Species Carousel and Lionel Train Adventure for free rides, competed in pie-eating contests, and hula-hooped and danced to swinging DJ jams. At Regenstein Macaque Forest, kids mixed and matched simians at the Build a Primate mobile learning station. Animal chats throughout zoo grounds emphasized primate species, although nobody wanted to miss the African lion enrichment viewing. New this year: SuperZooPicnic started an hour earlier! From 5–6 p.m. special activities from the zoo’s LEAP program for toddlers were offered.

## Primate Sneak Peeks

Another perk? First looks at zoo babies and new exhibits!

On Saturday, February 28, members were invited to Regenstein Center for African Apes for an exclusive sneak peek with baby Bella, a female western lowland gorilla born just four days earlier.

On Friday and Saturday, March 13 and 14, members enjoyed a special preview of Regenstein Macaque Forest before its public unveiling. Animal Care staff, primatologist Katherine Cronin, Ph.D., and zoo educators shared information about the resident snow monkeys and the pristine, state-of-the-art exhibit. Members at the Curators’ Circle level and above also enjoyed a complimentary al fresco continental breakfast.

## Get Ready for Members-Only Morning

The heart of the zoo will be cordoned off just for members and their guests at our next Members-Only Morning on Saturday, August 29! From 8–10 a.m., members will have the Pritzker Children’s Family Zoo, Kovler Sea Lion Pool and Kovler Lion House all to themselves. Special activities and animal chats



*Members-only fun includes special activities and sneak peeks at new zoo offerings.*

## Share Your Favorite Zoo Memory With Us!

To celebrate this issue’s “20/20” theme, we’re collecting 20 comments from zoo members about their favorite Lincoln Park Zoo memory or experience. We’ll publish your comments in a special online magazine feature at [www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org)!

Email your story to us at [members@lpzoo.org](mailto:members@lpzoo.org)!

are planned near the exhibits at a time of day when many animals are especially active. Save the date!

## Stay Connected

There are two great ways to learn about special upcoming member activities:

- 1) Bookmark our web page: [www.lpzoo.org/memberevents](http://www.lpzoo.org/memberevents).
- 2) Make sure we have your correct email address so you receive our monthly member events e-newsletter. Not sure we’ve got it? Email us at [members@lpzoo.org](mailto:members@lpzoo.org) or call the Membership Hotline at 312-742-2322!

## Follow Us Online!



Lincoln Park Zoo magazine isn’t the only way to stay up to date on the zoo. Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and the zoo blogs at [www.lpzoo.org](http://www.lpzoo.org). New arrivals, special events, field reports by zoo scientists—they’re all online.



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Your membership supports everything we do, from animal care to publishing Lincoln Park Zoo magazine.

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### Summer Sculpture...and Snow?

What's new at the zoo this summer? How about our first sculpture show—Nature in Motion: Sculpture at Lincoln Park Zoo! We'll also share how the new snow monkeys are splashing through summer...and 18 other bits of seasonal fun at Lincoln Park Zoo.

### A Bear to Share

Want to support animal care at Chicago's free zoo—and bring home a cuddly black bear plush to share? A.D.O.P.T. a black bear with our special package and also receive a photo, frame and personalized certificate. Visit [www.lpzoo.org/ADOPT](http://www.lpzoo.org/ADOPT) today!

