



PAW PRINTS

A
Publication
by
Friends
of the
Moonridge
Zoo a non-profit
organization

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MID-SUMMER 2003

HUCKLEBEARY'S HOME WARMING

Hucklebeary, our three-legged black bear cub, moved into his new enclosure Wednesday, June 11, and he was captivated with his new surroundings. He entered the enclosure very cautiously, sniffed around, and decided he liked it as he began splashing in his very own pool. The enclosure is in back of the other black bear's habitat. Hucklebeary could not live with the other black bears as they are older and not tolerant to his cub antics.

Tim McGiveron, a construction worker, and husband of zookeeper Christy McGiveron, built Hucklebeary's enclosure at reduced wages and Dorothy York of San Bernardino Steel & Tools in San Bernardino donated some of the steel required for the enclosure. Stangl's Glass, Burton's Cement and Riffenburgh also gave the zoo a discount on material. All this added to reducing the cost of Hucklebeary's new home considerably. In addition to Hucklebeary's new home, Tim also built the enclosures for the ravens and the three mountain lion cubs.



Hucklebeary approves of his new home

A plaque stating, "Enclosures Built With Love by Tim McGiveron with funds donated to Friends of the Moonridge Zoo, Hucklebeary, cougars Peg, Canyon and Cascade and Ravens," was given to Tim by Liz Harris, Mayor of Big Bear Lake. See above picture.

On the same night Tim received his plaque, the "Friends" were showing its appreciation to all owners of businesses in Big Bear Valley who promote the zoo



Liz Harris, Big Bear Lake Mayor, Tim McGiveron, Paddy Meyers, President FOMZ, Carmen Prouty, FOMZ docent

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

- Paddy Speyers

"Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work" – Vince Lombardi

So many have helped us with our challenge of the zoo's relocation: the zoo staff, docents and directors of the "Friends," the merchants and businesses of Big Bear Valley, the Big Bear Chamber of Commerce, the Resort Association, newspapers – L.A. Times, Orange County Register, Daily Press, the Grizzly, Riverside Enterprise, the San Bernardino County Sun, The Shopper, TV stations, KBHR, and internet sites such as Ron About Town, www.roundtownwithron.tripod.com, and TV star Garrett Maggart, www.garettmaggart.com – and celebrities.

Many "Friends" have responded financially, as well as donating equipment and/or services. Some have gone after items on our WISH LIST. Others are offering to help with grants. Thank you!! Please continue to call me with your ideas and support.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Website, www.moonridgezoo.org, has been updated and enhanced (thanks Bill Treadwell).
2. Our accounting practices are vastly improved and there will be an audited report this fall.

3. A midsummer newsletter added – to keep you informed (so much is happening).
4. Two new enclosures completed – one for Hucklebeary (three-legged cub) and one for the three cougar cubs, Peg, Canyon and Cascade. These enclosures are beautiful with glass fronts to enable better photo opts. (Some parts of the costly structures can be moved at relocation time). In the meantime, these needy animals have a lovely "home."
5. Developing our educational and outreach programs for schools.
6. The "HOME FOR LIFE" relocation task force (consisting of representatives from San Bernardino County Special Districts, Moonridge Animal Park, Friends of the Moonridge Zoo, U.S. Forest Service, and the Discovery Center) are in the final stages of finishing the "business plan" – working on the relationships of management when the move occurs adjacent to the Discovery Center.

This should be completed by October 2003. The National Environment Protection Act (NEPA) study follows. When completed, detailed land and architectural plans will start. If all goes well, the zoo could have a new home in 2006.

"Friends" have funds to cover these preliminary costs, but the construction phase will cost approximately \$15,000,000 (lots of infrastructure needed: water, electricity, sewage, handicap pathways, parking, plus all the structures).

7. Our many events planned this year include both fund-raising, educational and marketing. Please attend, talk to "Friends," and help us become the LIVING FOREST WILDLIFE CENTER.

Paddy Speyers, President, FOMZ

Long May It Wave (w/pix)



For many years wonderful people have donated flags to the Moonridge Animal Park. In July 1994, Earl Cline donated a flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol.

Since then, in 2001, members Patrick and Lynn Sampson of LaVerne donated both an American and California flag. Recently, Diane Kalinisan of Big Bear donated an American flag that was raised on May 3. Before raising the new flag, the Adventure Crew, an arm of the Boy Scouts of America, lowered the tattered flag, disposed of it in a manner befitting the U.S. flag (see picture above), and held a Raising of the Flag ceremony. The Adventure Crew is sponsored by St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Big Bear Valley.

We appreciate all you thoughtful, caring people who have donated flags over the years and if we have missed anyone, it's not intentional. Flags are short-lived at the Park. Due to the strong sun and windy conditions prevalent in the area, flags can fly over MAP only for a period of six-to-nine months.

Featured Animal: Bobcat

The Bobcat, *Felis rufus*, belongs to the family Felidae, and genus *Felis*. *Felis* means cat-like, stealthy, or one who purrs. *Rufus* means red, or with reddish coloring.

Bobcats may be found in all types of habitat, except metropolitan areas. They roam freely in mountains and even in desert areas where water is available. Bobcats range through all four deserts of the American Southwest, but favor rocky, brushy hillsides on which to live and hunt.

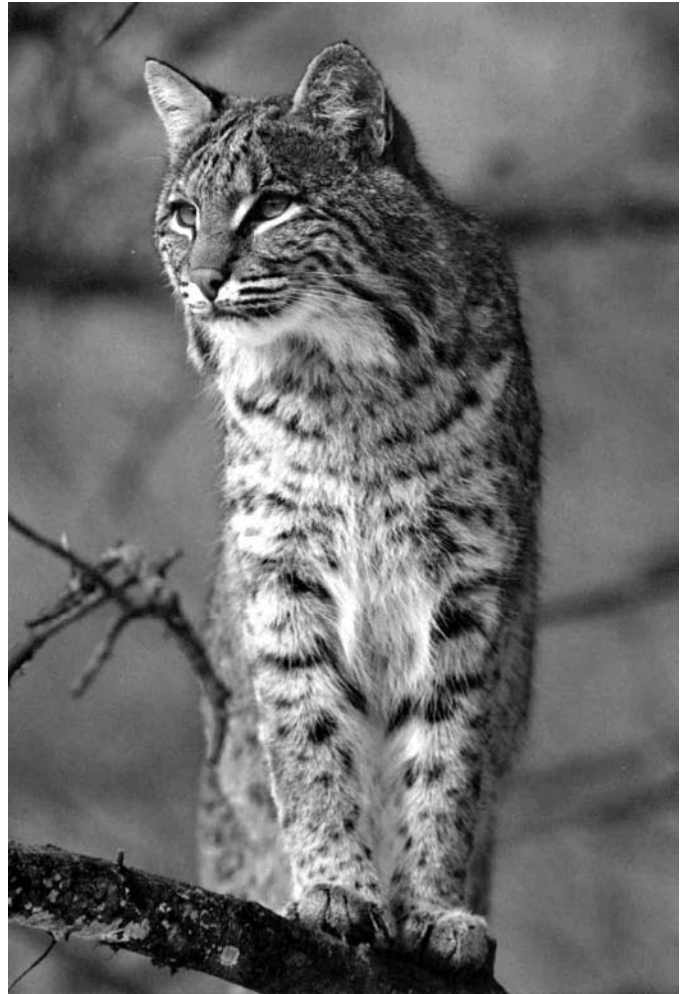
The name Bobcat may have originated from its short tail, which is only 6-to-7 inches long. The end of its tail is always black, tipped with white, which distinguishes the Bobcat from its Northern cousin, the Canadian Lynx, whose tail is tipped solid black.

The average Bobcat weighs 15-to-35 pounds. The cat has retractable claws as do most members of the Felidae family, as well as a small amount of fur between its paw pads.

The Bobcat's coat color varies, depending on geographical location, but most are reddish-brown and pale underneath with some patterned dark stripes or spots. Bobcats go through two color phase changes per year. The tawny gray base phase is seen in the winter, whereas the reddish brown base color appears in the summer months. A distinctive characteristic of the Bobcat is the tuft of fur on each ear, which presumably aids it in auditory sensing.

Bobcats are solitary and active both day and night. They see well in darkness because their eyes have a special light reflector behind the retina; their hearing is also well-developed for locating prey. They are expert tree climbers and swimmers. Don't be fooled by its pussycat looks as they are powerful fighters. The Bobcat's growls and snarls are so deep and fearsome, particularly when hidden from view, that one gets the feeling that a mountain lion is close by.

Their diet consists of rabbits, rodents, a few small deer, some birds, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates. Although they are largely carnivorous, they also may consume substantial amounts



Visit Talon at the Moonridge Animal Park. He was found on the zoo grounds in 2000. Since he seemed lost and hungry, we kept him.

of vegetation, mostly fruits and some grass. Prey is caught by stalking or ambushing from trees or atop logs or rocks. Long pursuits of prey are very unusual, most last for only a few leaps or bounds.

Bobcats have few natural enemies and their primary defense includes speedy escapes and tree-climbing. Their main enemy is humans. People have been hunting and trapping the Bobcat for profit, for years. Natural predators to the Bobcat are great horned owls, which may take young, and mountain lions, which may occasionally take adults.

Breeding usually occurs in winter. The gestation period is 50-to-70 days with two or three kittens born in the spring. The kittens open their eyes in about 10 days and leave the mother at 9-10 months of age. Females normally produce one litter per year. Bobcats have a life span of 15-20 years but in captivity may live to be 25.

Until 1971, the Bobcat, like the Coyote, had been pursued and destroyed as an undesirable predator, and little thought was given to its status or welfare. It could be killed at any time and in any manner. With the international protection of the world's spotted cats, the fur trade turned to the North American Bobcat. Almost overnight the pelt of the Bobcat came into prominence as one of the most desirable and expensive furs that could be taken legally.

Because of the high value of the Bobcat's fur and the recent increase in the take by hunters and licensed fur trappers, the California Fish and Game Commission has imposed a winter-time trapping season to control the amount of time when Bobcats can be taken - Info by Department of Fish and Game



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Now's the time to renew your membership. During the May 21, general meeting of the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo, it was voted on and approved to raise the price of membership for individuals and families. Effective January 2004, individual memberships will go from \$20 to \$30 and family memberships will go from \$35 to \$45. This small increase of \$10/year will help the FOMZ defray mailing and printing costs, which increases yearly. Supporting, lifetime and benefactor memberships will remain the same – \$100, \$500, and \$3,000, respectively.

Also in January 2004, we are installing a new system which will allow us to renew memberships from the month in which the member purchases his/her membership to the same month of the following year, in place of members renewing the first of every calendar year.

FOMZ memberships are still a bargain. Visits to the Park are unlimited for the year, no matter what type of membership you purchase. Plus all members receive newsletter, 10% off items in the gift shop, free or reduced rate entry into reciprocal parks, and docent training, if desired. Supporting members receive a free trivet in a series of six, and may bring visitors to the Park. Lifetime members receive all the above plus a plaque with their name engraved and hung at the MAP.

Being able to enter the Park whenever you want is one reason to purchase a membership, but it's not the only one. Every time someone becomes a member in the FOMZ, they are helping to support our wildlife. The wildlife depend upon the generosity of people, like you, to donate toward their support.

We value your membership. Dues are a vital part of our support to the MAP. Without this support we would not be able to take in and care for the many animals in need. A recent prime example of this support was the ability to take in Hucklebeary, the three-legged bear, and the three mountain cub siblings who lost their mother. You truly make a difference and we thank you. Your past and contributing support is appreciated.

Sign up or renew now. Join the 1,000 plus families who have become members of the Friends. Use the Membership Form on this page or use our website, www.moonridgezoo.org. Be a friend and tell a friend. We thank you and our wildlife thanks you.

Life Members

We acknowledge and congratulate the following people who became Life Members since the last issue of Paw Prints. They are: Renee Dougherty, Gary and Pam Kalina, and Tony and Wendy Ronan. Your names will appear on individual plaques and be hung at the Moonridge Animal Park.

A Round of Applause for Big Bear's Bed & Breakfasts

Eight Bed&Breakfasts located in the Big Bear Valley hosted a "Tea," Saturday, May 10, as a fund-raiser for the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo.

They are: **Truffles ; Eagle's Nest; StarGazers Inn & Observatory; Alpenhorn; Knickerbocker Mansion; Windy Point Inn; Inn at Fawnskin, and Gold Mountain Manor.**

On Wednesday, June 11, during the Salute to Businesses at the zoo, the B&B's presented a check for \$1,200 to Paddy Speyers, President of the FOMZ.

Thank you B&B's

Join Friends of the Moonridge Zoo!

(a non-profit organization)

Members of the "Friends" are scattered across the U.S. from California to Maryland to (2) members in the United Kingdom!

Members receive

- Free Park admission for 1 year • Member newsletter
- Docent training • Free admission to selected events
- 10% off merchandise in the gift shop
- Free or reduced entry fees into reciprocal parks
- Plus the knowledge you are helping support the Zoo and its activities.

Check appropriate box

- Individual Membership\$20.00
 Family Membership\$35.00
 # in Family _____ (immediate household family members - 2 adults & 3 children under 18. Each additional child add \$1.00 to pass price)
 Supporting Membership \$100.00* Lifetime Membership \$500.00*
 *(also receive Park admission for their guests)

Are you interested in docent training? Yes No

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone No. with area code _____

E-mail _____

Date: _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Paid by: Check Mastercard VISA

Acct.#: _____ Exp.: _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to:

FRIENDS OF THE MOONRIDGE ZOO (FOMZ)

Mail to: Cheryl Moore • P.O. Box 130666, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

FOMZ meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, starting at 6:30 p.m., at the Discovery Center located on the North Shore of Big Bear Lake. For an agenda or more information, call Paddy Speyers at (909) 585-6779.



LtoR: Chuck Slemaker, Alpenhorn; Jim Gordon, Trish Gordon, Gold Mountain Manor; Val Kessler, Windy Point Inn; Vicki Tebo, Eagle's Nest; Thomas Becanic, Knickerbocker Mansion. Missing from photo: Stan Miller, Knickerbocker; Doreen Wiggins, Stargazer Inn; Nancy Walker, The Inn at Fawnskin; Chris and Lori Miner, Truffles.

FEATURED DOCENT - HOPE SMITH

You've heard the old adage, "If you want something done ask a busy person." That adage fits Hope Smith to a tee.

Three years ago, Hope saw an ad in The Grizzly, Big Bear's local paper, asking for volunteers to become docents with the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo. She thought the ad sounded intriguing and, since she is a person who cannot sit idle and enjoys volunteer work, she thought she'd give it a try. So she attended a docent training class. From then on she was "hooked." Since that first day three years ago, Hope has worked in the gift shop, manned the Grazing Corral, led tours for both children and adults, helped with off-site presentations, and is the first to volunteer for special activities. In addition to all this, Hope is Secretary for the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo.

Hope and her husband, Vern, arrived in the Big Bear Valley three years ago from San Luis Obispo. Although they both loved San Luis Obispo, they felt they needed to be closer to their family of which there are three children, seven grandchildren, and a great grand baby, due any minute.

When she's not busy at the Moonridge Animal Park, Hope enjoys golf, crocheting, traveling with Vern in their motor home and in their Varga airplane, which they just bought last year.

"All of the FOMZ jobs are challenging and interesting," Hope said. "We enjoy a full and happy life here in Big Bear and have met a lot of nice people." She invites anyone who is looking for volunteer work to give the FOMZ a try. They'll be glad they did.



SUSAN LABOURI - LOCAL WILDLIFE ARTIST

Susan Labouri is a name you hear quite often in the wildlife art world. Her pictures are shown all over the world. For years she has painted the wildlife at the Moonridge Animal Park and has contributed toward their support by donating her truer-than-life paintings for various fund-raisers held by FOMZ.

For example, the painting you see above entitled "Den Mother" is of a wolf at the MAP. She is donating this painting to the FOMZ as an auction item for the July 19, "Alpine Wildlife Celebration," (see story on Celebration on page xxx). The painting is estimated to be worth \$3,000.

But that's not all – she also donates her time toward the cause for wildlife. She and her mother, Sylvia Waters, also a well-known artist, judged children drawings at the FOMZ's annual "Zooccasion," which was held Friday and Saturday, July 4 and 5, at the MAP. She also has volunteered to judge the paintings of children submitted for the MAP 2004 calendar (see page xx).

Susan was born to her passion for animals and painting. Raised by her artist mother in Big Bear Lake, she found it natural to pick up a pencil and draw the subject she loved and was surrounded by – wildlife.



Visit Susan's website at www.susanlabouri.com to see images of her originals and prints.

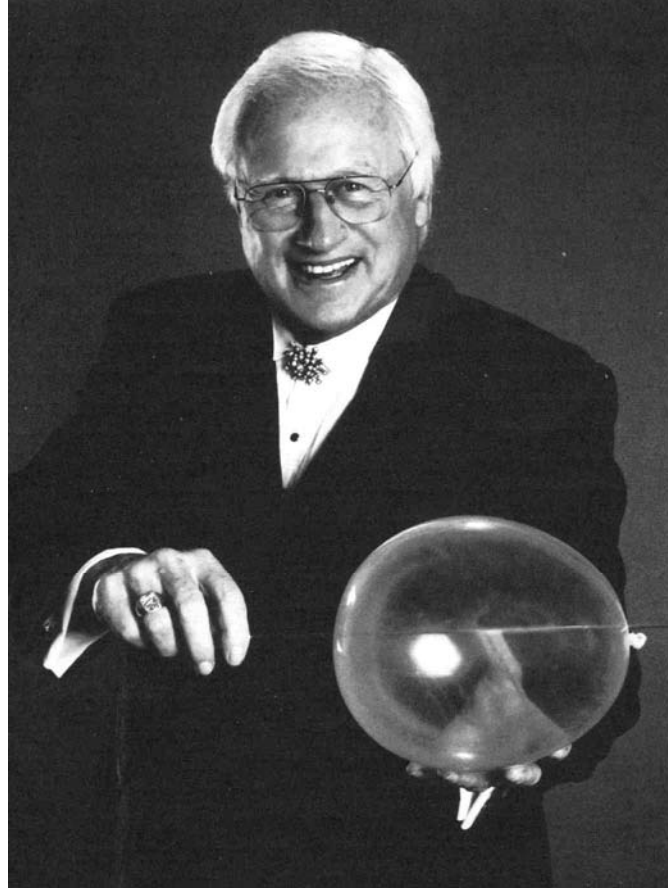
ALPINE WILDLIFE CELEBRATION

Alpine Wildlife Celebration, "Building a New Frontier," will be held Saturday, July 19, in Big Bear Lake. The morning and afternoon events are held at the Moonridge Animal Park and the nightly events are hosted at Snow Summit Mountain Resort.

This is the Park's biggest fund-raiser of the year. All funds received will go toward the relocation of the Park to a potential destination on the North Shore. The MAP will have no home after the present lease expires in 2009 unless the funds are raised to provide a new location. Relocation is the only option to continue to provide an Alpine wildlife zoo and rehabilitation center in California. MAP is one of only two Alpine zoos in the United States.

Daytime event schedule at the Park includes an auction for children, animal sing-alongs, caricature drawings, docent tours of the zoo, animal adoption auction and animal presentation, celebrity autographs and photographs and special animal feeding tour. Admission to the daytime event is age 11 to adult, \$6; 3-10, \$3; FOMZ members, \$4 and \$2 children. Don't miss "Just Kids," singing on stage from 10:30 to 11 a.m., and Sue Hodges, singer and songwriter, at 11 a.m. Sue wrote and recorded a song for the zoo entitled, "Let the Wild Answer," and the CD is for sale in the Friends' gift shop for \$7. The fun begins at 10:15 a.m. and continues to 4 p.m.

Nighttime event schedule at Snow Summit Mountain Resort includes a silent and live auction, magical animal cocktail party, dinner, entertainment and dancing to a DJ. Alcoholic beverages are available with a no-host bar with raffles and giveaways throughout the evening. Cost is \$50 per person and reservations are a must. Call 584-1171, 584-1299 or 585-6779 to reserve your space.



Arthur Rand and friend

A special VIP package entitles two adults to all daytime and evening events (and your children to the daytime events), plus Friday evening private group zoo tour and dinner for two with celebrities; weekend hotel accommodations in Big Bear, lifetime FOMZ membership including unlimited zoo admissions (\$500 value) or an engraved 8x6-inch granite pathway stone (\$400 value); and zoo relocation donation. Cost is \$1,500. Call Bill Treadwell at (909)730-4625 for this offer.

Celebrities (in alphabetical order) throughout the day and evening event include: LARRY CHAFFERS – extraordinary magician; CAROL CONNORS – Composer, actress and songwriter; GORDON COOPER – Space pioneer. One of the original seven Mercury astronauts; DEANNA LUND – Star of movies and TV. Starred in "Land of the Giants" and panelist on "Stump the Stars;" GARETT MAGGART – Leading actor in the TV series "The Sentinel." Starred on "Frasier," "ER," and "Days of Our Lives;" ARTHUR RAND – lead singer with the original Ink Spots from 1952 to 1967; MERRIE LYNN ROSS – Multi-talented, comedienne/writer, director/producer; impressionist, actor and singer.

CAROL HEIMAN-GREENE - WILDLIFE ARTIST



Carol Heiman-Greene will be showing her wildlife artwork at the Moonridge Animal Park Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday May 24, 25, and 26, during regular zoo hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Carol has been a staunch supporter of the Moonridge Animal Park where she has given solo exhibitions each Memorial Day since 1997. "We have beautiful wild places in the United States that we need to protect and preserve. I hope to share the beauty that I have seen in our very own country," Carol said.

She began drawing as a child, and her formal art training started in college. She earned her bachelor of fine arts degree from California State University, Long Beach, and her love of nature drew her to the world of wildlife art. Her style is a delicate blend of color and detail, and she captures the emotions and character of her subject. For her subject matter, she focuses mostly on the animals of North America, although she does have some big cats in her collection.

The following are just a few of Carol's numerous exhibitions – San Bernardino Wildlife Art Festival, featured artist, 2003; Southwestern Wildlife Exposition, Charleston, S.C., 2002-2003; Southwest Art Festival, 2003; LaQuinta Arts Festival, 1998-2003; Pacific Rim Art Expo, Sept. 1999 and 2000, award winner, badge remarque competition; Arrowhead Arts & Wine Festival, 1998-2002, taking Best of Show in 1998 and first place in acrylics, 1999, and Women Artists of the West Fourth Annual International Exhibit, 1997, second place award for mixed media.

In addition to her showings, Carol is published by Northlight Books, "Best of Wildlife Art 2," and Rockport Publishers, "Art of the American West." She is shown in the following galleries: Water's Edge, Rancho Mirage; Wildlife Art Gallery, Kern County; Blue Jay Gallery, Blue Jay, and Richard James Galleries in Charleston, S.C.

ADOPTION NEWS

Thinking about adopting an animal or a bird? The Moonridge Animal Park (MAP) has many seeking a sponsor. Pictures of the adoptees are available in the Educational Center at the Park or on our website at www.moonridgezoo.org.

Adoptions make wonderful gifts for birthdays, special occasions, holidays, or for any reason or no reason. They come with a "ready-for-framing" picture of the adopted animal and a brief story of how it came to the Park.

The Park's wood bison are two of the hundred plus species available for adoption. Their names are Kiowa, born June 1992, and Taza, born May 1992, both from parents on loan from the San Diego Zoo. Wood bison are on the Endangered Species List.



To adopt an animal/bird, please use the adoption form on page 10. For more information, call Hope Smith, adoption coordinator, at (909) 585-9992.

MOONRIDGE ANIMAL PARK'S KEENEST KEEPER

Among Moonridge Animal Park's (MAP) extraordinary wild animal keepers, Alexis Coupland is a shining star! Alexis, 27-years-old, spent her childhood in the high desert in Pearblossom, Ca. As a child she was surrounded by pets and traveled extensively to experience many animals in the wild and in zoos. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Humboldt State University, graduating magna cum laude.

During her college career she interned at a zoo in Northern California and volunteered for several animal facilities. Alexis worked with exotic animals, training and performing in wildlife educational programs. Upon graduation, she worked at the San Diego Wild Animal Park in merchandising and in the bird department. Then lo, she saw an advertisement for a position in MAP, and the rest is history.

"Working at a small facility, I have gotten to know all of the animals and work closely with them. The daily routine of an animal keeper involves cleaning enclosures, preparing diets, maintaining animal health and enriching the lives of the animals at the zoo," Alexis explains. At MAP, zookeepers are involved in all facets of zooing, such as rehabilitation, education, training, conservation, animal enrichment, and more.

While all of MAP's keepers are educators and present some 652 wildlife programs annually, Alexis is very spe-



cial. With all the experience she brings to MAP, she has been invaluable presenting many of the zoo's off-site wildlife educational programs, which reach about 30,000 children annually.

According to Alexis, "Zookeeping is a tough job, physically and mentally demanding, but worth all the effort. I am so lucky to be able

to work with my life's passion – animals. I am continually learning about animals and their impact on us. I look forward to continuing my career in the animal science field."

Alexis goes on to relate new positive developments in her life. "I am engaged to be married to a game warden for Department of Fish and Game – (a gentleman she met at MAP). I have been so blessed with such wonderful animals and wonderful coworkers at MAP."

And we are very lucky to have Alexis at MAP. Stop and say "hello" to her next time you're in the Park.

UPDATE ON "HUCKLEBEARY"

Our youngest bear cub, Hucklebeary, is miraculously alive and doing well after a very shaky start. This male cub was found in the back yard of a home in Oak Glen. He suffered a severe compound fracture, which had become infected. He was very underweight, severely dehydrated, frail and close to death. The anonymous rescuer took the cub to VCA Lakes Animal Hospital in Big Bear Lake after several other veterinarians had refused to treat him. At VCA, he was treated by an expert team consisting of Dr. N.J. Hovick and technicians Kelly Dills and Teresa Green. The team worked for several hours amputating the infected foreleg below the shoulder and was able to save the bear's life.

The first week of November 2002, Hucklebeary was transferred to Moonridge Animal Park (MAP) where experienced animal care staff worked for several months to nurture him back to health. Park staff estimated the cubs' age to be about 6 months and the cause of his injuries could not be determined.

The cub cannot go back to nature because of the foreleg amputation and also because he is orphaned with no mother to teach him to forage for himself and survive in the wild.

Little Hucklebeary must have his own enclosure since he will be unable to defend himself against other male bears on exhibit. The new exhibit will have special features to help him adapt to having three legs. The new exhibit will be adjacent to the zoo's other black bears, ages 25, 24, and 3. All three are non-releasable due to human impact.

"The cub will get used to having only three legs, but a home for life depends on raising \$10 million for a new park site," according to Don Richardson, curator at MAP. The Friends of the Moonridge Zoo (FOMZ) is helping raise money to move to a large site as the land it leases has been sold. It is vital to raise the money for the new park as MAP, an important wildlife education facility, is home to many impaired animals that would not be accepted at other facilities.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr. 25, Friday.....Madlon's Benefit Dinner.....(5 p.m.)
Madlon's of Madlon's Restaurant will hold a seven-course dinner, including wine, to benefit the FOMZ. Madlon's is known for her great recipes and cuisine. Cost is \$75 per person. To make reservations, call Madlon at (909) 585-3762. Checks reserving a place at the table should be made out to the FOMZ and mailed to P.O. Box 2557, Big Bear City, Ca. 92314. Call Paddy Speyers for information at (909) 585-6779.

May 10, Saturday.....Build a Pool at the Park.....(10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Volunteer to help Build a Pool at the Park in the red fox habitat. If interested, call Eric at 1-800-522-5043 or visit the website at <http://www.exoticaquatic.org>.

May 10, Saturday.....Bed & Breakfast Tea Tour.....(1 to 5 p.m.)
Just in time for Mother's Day. Eight Big Bear B&Bs will serve tea and treats with a souvenir guide full of recipes. (See story on page 11)

May 18, Sunday.....5K & 10K Run/Walk
Contact Bernie Knudsen at (909) 585-9906 for information and/or pre-registration. On race day, registration is at 7:30 a.m.

May 24, 25, Sat. & Sun.....Bear Country Fair.....(10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Fun days for kids and their families. Games, prizes, booths, and more. Renowned wildlife artist, Carol Heiman-Greene, will present a showing and sale of her artwork in the MAP Education Center. (See story on page 7)

June 28 Sat.....Snarlz 'n' Snooz.....Evening hours
This is one of two overnight camping adventures in the zoo. Includes a pizza party, flashlight safari and a continental breakfast. A chance to see nocturnal animals. Call (909) 866-9700 early for reservations or information. This event fills up quickly.

July 4,5 Fri. & Sat.Zooccasion.....(10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
A time for fun at the zoo. The FOMZ annual Zooccasion has vendor booths, presentations, educational games and coloring contests for the kids.

July 19 Sat.....Alpine Wildlife Celebration.....Day and Evening Events
The major fund-raiser for FOMZ's "Home For Life." Call Paddy Speyers at (909) 585-6779 for information.

Aug. 2 Sat.....Snarlz 'n' Snooz.....Evening
The second sleep over in the zoo. Includes a pizza party, flashlight safari and a continental breakfast. A chance to see nocturnal animals. Call (909) 866-9700 early for reservations or information. This event fills up quickly.

Aug. 16 Sat.....Ice Cream Safari.....(11 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
The annual Ice Cream Safari offers several varieties of ice cream served at booths set up around the Park.

Aug. 30 Sat.....Music In The Zoo.....5:30 p.m.
Music In The Zoo is the FOMZ'S annual fund-raiser. Cookie, coffee, punch, etc. is served as musicians staged at various locations in the Park offer melodious music for your entertainment.

August 10, Sunday.....Jazz On The Green.....6:30 p.m.

August.....Harley Davidson Owner's Group Annual Ride
For information, contact the Inland Empire HOGS, Linda Rachwitz, at 1-310-417-8252.

October - Saturdays.....Flashlight Safari.....Evening
Take a guided tour and discover nocturnal animals in action. Flashlight and warm clothing are a must.

Oct. 31, Fri.....Boo In The Zoo.....(3 to 5:30 p.m.)
Trick or treat at the zoo. Gives kids the opportunity to have Halloween fun in a safe environment. Costumes are optional.

Unless otherwise stated, all inquiries on any of the above activities may be directed to the FOMZ at (909) 584-1171 or Paddy Speyers at (909) 585-6779.

ADOPTIONS

Looking for an addition to your family tree? Adoptions make wonderful gifts. They can be given at any time of the year for any occasion, or for no occasion at all. Adoptions support the wildlife at Moonridge Animal Park. All wildlife at the Moonridge Animal Park are available for adoption, including Joe, the hedgehog.

Joe was given to us after having been brought illegally into this country and, subsequently, confiscated by the authorities. Here's a little information about him: Joe has approximately 5,000 spines which have a two-fold purpose: protection against predators and a cushy effect when he falls. He has another keen protection mechanism – when threatened he rolls into a ball. In general, Hedgehogs weigh 1-3 pounds and are, on average, 10- inches in length. They eat mostly slugs, snails, lizards, birds' eggs, roots and fruits.

Please help Joe and others like him at the Park. To make your choice, visit our website: www.moonridgezoo.org , or visit the Park. Get up close to your choice at feeding time, daily except Wednesdays, at 3 p.m. Use the form below or call Hope Smith at (909) 585-9992 or the gift shop at (909) 584-1171. You'll be glad you did.



I'm cuddly and cute. I'm dressed in my best and am ready for adoption. I promise to show my contentment by making soft purring and whistling noises.

Yes! I'm wild about the MOONRIDGE ANIMAL PARK.

Please sign me up to:

Adopt a wild bird or animal \$15.00

I want to adopt _____
(name of bird or animal)

for _____
(name of person)

Mail **adoptions** to: FOMZ/Hope Smith
P.O. Box 2557 • Big Bear City, CA 92314

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

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Make check payable to: **FOMZ** (Friends of the Moonridge Zoo)

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Paid by: Check Cash MasterCard VISA

Acct. # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature: _____

WE GET LETTERS

The FOMZ gets letters and would like to share excerpts from randomly selected ones with our members.

- Erin O'Connor of Van Nuys, Ca, sends best wishes on the move.
- Peg Allen speaking on behalf of the North Shore Improvement Association (NSIA), Fawnskin, Ca., thanks our curator and FOMZ education director for sharing the lion cubs with the NSIA in Fawnskin.
- Aline Messer of Riverside, Ca., read about the good work we do in the Press Enterprise newspaper. She supports our good cause and asks us to keep up the good work.
- Alfred and Caryn Lindenfelser of Aliso Viejo, Ca. read an article about our zoo and how we help the injured wildlife, which they care deeply about. They promised to visit us soon.
- Teddy Cole of Beverly Hills, Ca. said it was a revelation to hear that there are so many people willing to help needy animals. She hopes our dreams will materialize much sooner than expected and wishes us good luck.

(Editor's Note: This was in response to a conversation with FOMZ President Paddy Speyers.)

Keep those cards and letters coming. We love to hear from our donors and members.

DONATION CAN PROGRAM

The FOMZ would like to thank all of our local businesses for their support in the Donation Can Program, chaired by Rhoda Hartstein. The Donation Can Program aids FOMZ efforts to relocate the Moonridge Animal Park to a permanent home. A special invitation tour of the zoo for the merchants is scheduled for June 11, 2003. To see the businesses where cans are located visit our website at www.moonridgezoo.org.

TWO WOLVES

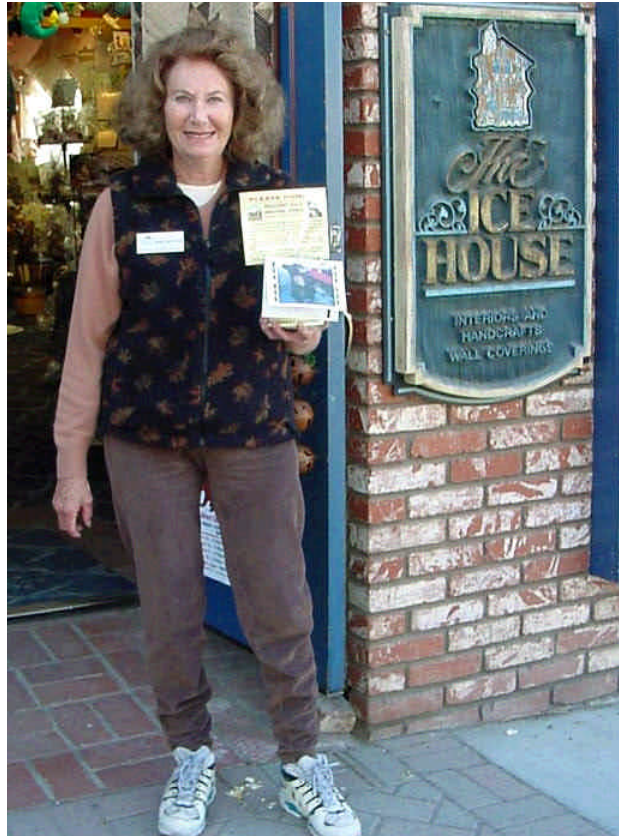
The following tale about two wolves was received from Melinda and Paul Hope, lifetime founding members of FOMZ. We'd like to share it with you.

An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life. "A fight is going on inside me," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil - he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is good - he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. This same fight is going on inside you - and inside every other person, too."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."



TEA IS SERVED

Looking for somewhere to take your wife, mother or grandmother for Mother's Day? We suggest taking her to tea. Saturday, May 10, from 1 to 5 p.m., tea will be served at eight Big Bear Bed and Breakfasts (B&Bs).

Each B&B brings its own expression of tea service and treats, with a souvenir guide full of recipes and a map to show tour-goers the way to the next B&B. Put on your straw hat and white gloves, and take a trip down memory lane, when times were slow and easy, and the treats were homemade. An experience you won't want to miss - a chance to see the B&Bs and sip a cup of tea in a relaxing, elegant, pampered atmosphere.



The B&B Tea Tour is a fund-raiser for the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo (FOMZ) in its effort to raise money to help relocate the Moonridge Animal Park ((MAP). Tickets, \$15, may be purchased at the MAP, Big Bear Lake Chamber of Commerce, Big Bear Lake Resort Association and individual B&Bs. Or tickets may be purchased through the mail. Use the following form to ensure your reservations now. Participating B&Bs will also offer a 15 percent discount on a two-night stay. For further information, call the FOMZ gift shop at (909) 584-1171 or Chair, Nancy Naftel at 909-585-9695.

Please send me _____ tickets for the B&B Tea Tour to be held Saturday, May 10, in Big Bear Lake, from 1 to 5 p.m.

I enclose \$15 per ticket with check or money order payable to FOMZ.

Send to FOMZ, P.O. Box 2557, Big Bear City, Ca. 92314-2557.

Charge my: MasterCard, Visa (Please check one)

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Send tickets to:

Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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NUMBERS TO SAVE

(all 909 area code)

FRIENDS' INFORMATION LINE/BOOTH.....584-1171
 (Manned daily 10 am - 4 pm • When not manned, leave message)
 ZOO CURATOR (DON RICHARDSON).....866-0183, 584-1299
 GIFT SHOP.....584-1171
 TOUR SCHEDULING, (Monday - Friday).....866-9700
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VISIT THE WEB

Before your next visit to the zoo why not spend a few minutes browsing our website **www.moonridgezoo.org**? Learn what's new at the zoo and when the next Special Event is scheduled. You can read about some of the animals and find out why they are with us. Looking for a way to help the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo or want to join the Friends yourself? You'll find out right here. There is even a wish list where Don Richardson, our Curator, has listed some of the special needs he has for providing the best possible environment for our animals.

Visit us soon and often on the web as well as in person.



FRIENDS OF THE MOONRIDGE ZOO

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