

PAW PRINTS

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

VOL. XVI, ISSUE 2

\$1.00 DONATION

SUMMER 2005

The "She" Baby Bear - May 2005

*The Moonridge Zoo has a new baby bear
who seemed to arrive just out of thin air
She was 8 weeks old, a big ball of fuzz
and she was welcomed into the Zoo with a roar and a buzz*

*Her history is spotted, her genealogy unknown
and worst of all – she has no name of her own
She was left at the door of a center for rehabilitation
which proved to be this cub's immediate salvation*

*They took her in and called Fish & Game
no-one knew where to place the blame
Authorities said, "send her to Moonridge, a Zoo with a heart"
So a date was set for her to depart*

*She arrived four weeks ago weighing a mere 7 pounds
and has grown in the curator's care by leaps and by bounds
She's gained 15 pounds since her time of arrival
thanks to the bottles of milk given to assure her survival*

*Imitating the zookeepers, she walks on two feet
which brings smiles to onlookers; she is so sweet
She's starting to talk and wants a suitable name
one that will bring her good fortune and fame*

*Yes, it's true, it's true, this bear has no name
and a bear less a name is akin to a horse with no mane
She's asked me to tell all her friends and good neighbor,
"Please name me and grant me one great big favor."*

*As she grows she's concerned about finding a home
one where there's plenty of space left to roam
The move has been in the planning stage for over a year
but money is scarce and she has this fear*

*That without help from contributors, sponsors and you
her life is in jeopardy and she'll have to bid us adieu
Please help this bear find a name and move to a location,
a place you can visit and enjoy relaxation*



*A site has been picked, studies have been performed
the public is keen on the idea and has been informed
That the move will take place within three years or less
we're hoping it's less, but that's only a guess*

*All contributions are tax deductible you see
and go toward a good cause, I think you'll agree
Any assistance you can give us will be greatly revered
and the bear will give kudos as you are cheered*

*As spokesperson for the bear with no name at the Zoo
we wish you a good day and an advance, "thank you."
Visit us soon and say "hello" to the bear
She'll be so happy to know that you really do care.*

— Jeanne Hughes

**Please attend the Serrano Native American
Naming and Blessing of our baby "she" bear on Saturday,
June 25 at 11 a.m. at the Moonridge Animal Park**

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Paddy Speyers



KUDOS TO OUR COMMUNITY

Staff is busy caring for the many “animals in need” which arrive each spring: baby birds, squirrels, a raccoon, a grey fox, a great horned owl, a skunk, a raven, possum, and a very young (7 week old) “She” bear cub. Most of these can be released back into the forest; however “She” bear is being bottle-fed (bears nurse 2 to 3 years in the wild) and thinks our curator is her “Mom.” “She” is not a candidate for release.

Staff has been busy cleaning up after our long winter of much needed snow and Docents are busy planning educational and fund raising events. The next course of Docent training begins June 16. Already this season we have helped staff on many off-site educational programs.

Residents of Big Bear Valley are helping raise funds through the following events:

- On May 15 the **Big Bear Bed and Breakfast Association** ran a very successful Tea Tour.
- **Pam Kalina** is heading up the Holcomb Valley Trail Run on June 12.
- The Friends are hosting a **Chamber Mixer** on June 28 with the help of the **Barnstormer Restaurant, Kujo's BLT, and Get The Point.**
- The **Inn At Fawnskin** and **Nancy Walker** are again sponsoring the **Concert on the Green** August 7th. **Lauren Hood** of Edward Jones is a co-sponsor of this event.
- The 10th Annual “**Run For the Grizzlies**” will happen August 21st and is sponsored by the **Kiwanis Club of Big Bear** and the Friends.
- Over 100 of our **merchants** continue to display **donation cans** in their businesses – generating \$600 - \$1000 monthly.
- Many merchants and operators donate services, trips, and merchandise towards our “auctions” held during events.
- **Dana Landreth of Mountain Valley Productions** and **Joey Anderson** have been working with Curator Don Richardson and the **Educational Committee** filming

videos of our animals.

- **Carriage House** owners **Janine** and **Rolando Soto** and **Robin Gimson** helped locate the new Toyota van FOMZ purchased for use in the Zoo's off-site educational programs.

What a very special community we live in! Thank you all.

Over Memorial weekend, a very fun time was had by all at **Bear Country Fair**. John 3 Hawks provided a seasonal opening ceremony and later shared animal stories with all.

Our next major event, **Zooccasion** (which began in 1989 – 17 years ago) continues to be a fun way to learn about our wildlife.

Save July 23rd for our major fund raising event - **Alpine Wildlife Celebration - Garrett Maggart** and his friends will help produce this event and we are fortunate again this year to have **Dan Lucke** as our MC.

Summer Program at the Zoo includes **Zoo Camp for Kids** June 20 – September 2

Snarlz & Snooze Saturday nights (except July 23) July 9 through September 3

Call the Park District office at (909) 866-9700 for information and sign-up.

Come Join Us on June 25th!

We are looking forward to working with the Serrano Tribe to “bless” our baby “She” bear June 25th at 11 a.m. at the Zoo. (See articles on pages 1 and 5.)



FEATURED ANIMALS

Fallow Deer

The fallow deer is a native to Europe, but has been reported that isolated groups were released decades ago and run loose in Northern California. The deer are typically spotted, although their coats will change to a reddish-color in the summer. The park has four does and a buck, who each year sports a handsome rack of antlers. Don Richardson, the Zoo's Curator, said the Park might possible receive more of these beautiful animals in the future.

One of the smallest deer, it is also one of the hardiest. Its coat color varies from whitish to dark brown, it is generally recognized by its white spots on its light colored coat. Adults reach 2 to 3 feet tall and weigh is anywhere from 85 to 225 pounds. Only the male has antlers, which can measure 2-to-3 feet in length above the curve. The antlers are shed each year and replaced the year following.

Fallow deer have a lifespan of approximately 15 years. They prefer woodland with open patches and their diet consists of herbs, grass, leaves, berries, nuts, fungi, and tree bark. The deer form separate sex herds for much of the year, coming together in the fall (October) for the breeding season, known as a rut. During rut the males become very aggressive, marking their territory, bellowing to attract mates, and fighting rival bucks. They can fight fiercely, charging and clashing their antler until one gives up or is injured and defeated. Females generally give birth to one fawn in the spring-time after a gestation period of about eight months.

Visit the Moonridge Animal Park's five fallow deer. They are housed in the same enclosure as the Wood Bison. Just follow the brick path around the mule deers to the wood bison pen.

Barn Owl

The Barn Owl is found in nearly every corner of the world. Only absent from high latitudes. Having been introduced into some Pacific islands for rat control and Barn Owls are provided nest boxes in Malaysian palm nut groves for the same purpose. While the barn owl is found all over the US, its numbers are particularly high in California and the Southwest. Farmers and ranchers are increasingly attracted to the barn owl's ability to control rodents better than traps, poison, and cats.



Barn owls in favorable habitats produce large broods once to twice a year. As Barn Owls near maturity, each will eat the equivalent of a dozen mice per night. Adult barn owls kill and consume the equivalent of one large rat or gopher per night. As much as twice as their weight in food.

The number of barn owls in an area is limited by both the amount of food available and suitable nesting sites. In the West, barn owls not only nest in natural trees cavities and buildings, they also nest in cavities in cliffs and cut banks, stacked hay bales, and palm trees.

The Moonridge Animal Park's Barn Owls are housed in the Owl exhibit. Take a peek at them and imagine their pale and ghostly form floating gracefully over a field.



HAVE YOU SEEN ME?

Hi... I'm the new advertising for the Moonridge Animal Park. You can find me in newspapers, magazines in Big Bear Valley and surrounding communities "down the hill." I will be appearing throughout the summer season and highlighting upcoming events.

The FOMZ Marketing Team, with lots of expert assistance from Cathleen Calkins of Angles Creative Group, decided to focus on three measurable goals:

- **Increase attendance at the Zoo;**
- **Increase membership in FOMZ;** and
- **Increase our mailing list.**

Since all zoos depend on gate receipts to cover a percentage of their operating expenses, the Marketing Team felt it was mandatory to create an appealing print ad to reach out to new visitors.

Marketing experts will find their "4P's" of Product, Price, Placement, and Promotion buried in the ad. Hopefully, it's not too obvious!

Visitors to the Moonridge Animal Park will have ample opportunity to become members of FOMZ and annual memberships are an excellent method for FOMZ to obtain and use funds for day-to-day zoo operations, education programs, and FOMZ administration. The IRS permits excess "unrestricted" (annual membership) funds to be transferred to "permanently restricted" (endowment) accounts or to "temporarily restricted" (capital campaign) accounts. The FOMZ Finance Committee decides the transfers.

Even if visitors don't become members of FOMZ, they will have opportunity to become part of our mailing list as supporters. The Marketing Team reaches out to members and supporters via traditional mail and e-mail for event announcements and fundraising appeals.

See, it all starts with bringing visitors to the Zoo. (That's me!)

Watch for me in different publications around Southern California!

Moonridge Animal Park
www.BigBearZoo.com

Friends of Moonridge Zoo
www.BigBearZoo.com
Building Tomorrow's Zoo

For Information, call (909) 878-4200

Low-cost Family Wildlife Adventure in Big Bear Lake!

Calendar of Events

Daily Animal Presentations and Feeding Tours

July 2-3 Zoocasion
July 23 Alpine Animal Celebration
Aug 7 Concert on the Green
Aug 20 Ice Cream Safari
Aug 21 Run for the Grizzlies
Sept 3 Music in the Zoo
Sept 17 Native American Festival
Oct 15 Wolf Awareness Day
Oct 31 'Boo' In the Zoo
Every Friday and Saturday in October Flashlight Safari

Open Daily 10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Moonridge Animal Park's new print ad

ANIMAL UPDATES!

A new breeding pair of fishers was on exhibit for Memorial Day Weekend and a male arctic fox arrived March 2 from the San Diego Zoo. A female is on reserve and the Moonridge Animal Park has the authorization to breed.

The **porcupines** will be giving birth soon and the babies will be hand-raised for educational purposes. Artemis and Apollo, both **barn owls**, are now nesting and have eggs. A female **vulture** recently arrived at the Zoo and will be used for educational purposes. And, another arrival – a **male albino hedgehog** is arriving from Las Vegas. The Zoo also welcomed seven new **groundhog babies** who will stay with the mother for 2-3 weeks then will continue to be hand-raised for educational purposes.

Cascade, the **cougar cub**, received much publicity with articles in the San Bernardino Sun, On The Mountain magazine and The Grizzly for undergoing two root canals. Dr. Brook Niemiec, Chief of Staff of the California Veterinary Dental Specialties Group also took impressions of Cascade's lower canines and will be returning to cap two broken teeth with titanium caps.

From Curator Don Richardson

"Dr. Pat Sevedge at VCA Lakeside Animal Hospital in Big Bear City offered a surgical space for the long procedure since the Zoo did not have adequate hospital capability for the root canals," added Don Richardson. "Everyone chipped in to help!"



Dr. Niemiec performing a root canal on Cascade

Media Day at the Moonridge Animal Park

The Friends of Moonridge Zoo invited several local and regional journalists for a media day at the Zoo April 27. Reporters from *The Grizzly*, *Inland Empire Magazine*, local Channel 6, *Big Bear Magazine*, and www.BigBearNews.com. Media kits were provided to *Big Bear Today* and *On the Mountain* magazine. Bill Treadwell spoke regarding relocation plans and revealed specifics about the concept of the new housing for the Zoo. Don Richardson introduced the yet unnamed Bear cub to guests and provided a tour of the Zoo stopping at the Grizzly cage and the Zoo's feeding station.



Feeding Kitchen



Journalists tour Grizzly Cage.



Baby 'She' Bear



Don introduces "She" Bear

Look for articles in July's issue of *Inland Empire Magazine's* Summer Fun Guide as well as *Big Bear Today* and *On the Mountain* magazine. Channel 6 aired spots of the presentation by both Bill and Don. The Zoo thanks the weekly coverage received by www.BigBearNews.com and *The Grizzly*.



It's Beginnings – the Moonridge Animal Park

A Story of Survival and Harmony Between People and Nature Moonridge Animal Park arose from the ashes of a forest fires in 1959 that devastated the natural ecosystem of the San Bernardino Mountains. Several injured animals were brought to safety for rehabilitation and a second chance at life in the wild. But for some, returning to the forest was not an option due to human imprinting or injuries that would compromise their survival. For those healthy but non-releasable birds and animals, a 2.5-acre parcel located 7,068 feet above sea level in the same indigenous, sub-alpine conifer forest became their protective new home – and the site of Moonridge Animal Park.

An orphaned, 30-pound black bear cub, stranded in a tree after the fire, was among the Park's first, permanent inhabitants. Other early arrivals to the Southern California facility included mule deer and bobcats.

In 1960, a 50-year lease on the property enabled Moonridge Animal Park to grow into a zoological facility. In 1961, the Park became part of the San Bernardino County Big Bear Valley Recreation and Park District. Today, Moonridge Animal Park is home to more than 150 birds and animals representing 85 species. Notably, Moonridge Animal Park is distinguished as the only zoological facility in the United States located in an alpine/sub-alpine environment, dedicated to the preservation of primarily alpine and sub-alpine species.

Educational wildlife programs have grown right along with the resident animal population. Moonridge Animal Park presents zoological information in an historical context, to demonstrate the impact of human social conditions on the well being of wildlife. This is done with the assistance of only non-releasable wildlife that serves as educational ambassadors. Each year, with the help of trained docents, Moonridge Animal Park offers hundreds of educational programs for school children, youth organizations, families, and visitors from around the world.

The growth of the facility is testament to the need for alpine wildlife preservation. Neighboring urban areas have grown and encroached upon bird and animal habitats to the point that the surrounding Big Bear Valley is now classified as an urban forest. The San Bernardino Mountains have become one of the last bastions for future generations to glimpse alpine wildlife in natural ecosystems.

Primarily a zoological facility, Moonridge Animal Park also is a fully licensed, designated care and rehabilitation facility for injured or confiscated animals. Annually, at least 200 injured wild birds and animals are treated here. Over the years, thousands of injured, orphaned, or behaviorally handicapped wildlife have come to Moonridge Animal Park. The majority of animals rehabilitated at the Park have been successfully released to the wild.

Moonridge Animal Parks Successful Events!

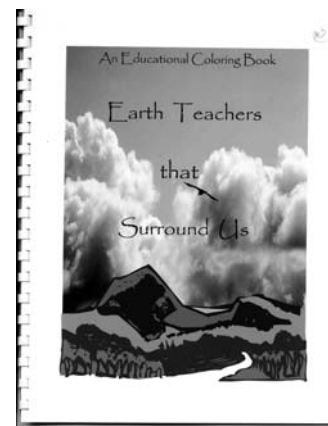
Kids scrambled around the Zoo in search of the Easter Bunny's eggs cleverly hidden under park benches, covered in shaded snow, and along pathways. The **Easter Bunny** himself presided over games and tosses, overflowing baskets and cuddly stuffed bunnies and chicks.

The **Bear Country Fair** was a big hit this past Memorial Day weekend. Visitors were treated to an opening Ceremony in the Native American tradition by John 3 Hawks, a voracious Bear Roaring Contest, games, and animal presentation.

On Sunday, John 3 Hawks dazzled children and adults with his storytelling. Through this fine art, John illustrated Native American teachings and ways to live in harmony with the environment and animals. Storytelling was traditionally used by cultures to settle arguments, make sense of the world, entertain, communicate experiences, and record history for future generations. At the Bear Country

Fair, John showed us how traditional stories are still relevant today carrying universal messages.

At our upcoming **Zooccasion** on July 2 and 3, John 3 Hawks will be telling more Indian stories for children and adults alike. One of these stories is printed on page 10 and can be found in his educational coloring book "Earth Teachers That Surround Us." This book is available in our Gift Shop for \$5.



Yes! I'm wild about the MOONRIDGE ANIMAL PARK

Please help me Adopt a wild bird or animal for \$15.00

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

for _____
(name of person)

Mail this form to: FOMZ, Fran Fish
P.O. Box 2557 • Big Bear City, CA 92314

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email Address: _____

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

Date: _____ Amount \$ _____

Paid by: Check Cash MasterCard VISA

Acct. # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature: _____



MOONRIDGE ANIMAL PARK

Curator: 909-584-1299

Open Year 'Round

Park Hours September-May

Monday-Friday 10:00AM-4:00PM

Saturday-Sunday 10:00AM-5:00PM

Animal Presentations at Noon

Group Tours 909/866-9700

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Admission General (Ages 11-59)	\$5
Seniors (Ages 60 plus)	\$4
Children (Ages 3-10)	\$4
Children under age 3	free

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS, DUES & PRIVILEGES

BASIC MEMBER BENEFITS

- Free admission to the Big Bear Zoo for one year
- Free or reduced entry to reciprocal zoos
- Subscription to Paw Prints, FOMZ newsletter
- 10% discount in gift shop
- Free or reduced entry to zoo special events
- Docent training

MEMBER CATEGORIES AND BENEFITS

INDIVIDUAL – \$30 per year, one person –
Basic member benefits

COUPLE – \$45 per year, 2 adults –
Basic member benefits

FAMILY – \$65 per year, 2 adults, 3 children
(under age 18, immediate household) - additional
children \$3 per child per year – **Basic member
benefits PLUS**

- Four (4) free one-day guest passes

CONTRIBUTING – \$150 per year –
Basic member benefits PLUS

- Free admission to Zoo for family members
- Two (2) additional guests each visit
- 10 free one-day guest passes
- Animal Adoption of your choice

SUSTAINING – \$500 per year –
Basic member benefits PLUS

- Free admission to Zoo for family members
- Two additional guests each visit
- 12 free one-day guest passes
- Animal Adoption of your choice
- Paving Stone with family name in a new specially designated area

KEEPERS' CIRCLE – \$1,000 per year –
Basic member benefits PLUS

- Free admission to the Zoo for family members
- Two (2) additional guests each visit
- 15 free one-day guest passes
- Animal Adoption of your choice
- Paving Stone with family name in a new specially designated area
- "Behind the Scenes" Tour of the Zoo

CURATOR'S CIRCLE – \$5,000 – ONE TIME –
Basic member benefits PLUS

- Lifetime free admission to the Zoo for family
- Four (4) additional friends each visit
- Unlimited one-day guest passes
- Animal Adoption of your choice
- Paving Stone with family name in designated area
- 20% discount in the gift shop
- Annual behind-the-scenes Tour of Zoo
- Annual Dinner Party with Zoo Curator
- Lifetime plaque on Curator's Circle Recognition Wall



FRIENDS OF THE MOONRIDGE ZOO
Statement of Financial Position
As of March 31, 2005

	Mar 31, 05
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
CASH IN BANKS	
1110 - Citibank General Acct	26,532.05
1120 - Jackson Federal Bank	26,750.71
Total CASH IN BANKS	55,282.76
INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS	
1311 - UBS-RELOCATION/CAPITAL	612,208.36
1312 - UBS-LIFE MEM ENDOWMENT	42,586.11
Total INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS	654,794.47
Total Checking/Savings	710,077.23
Other Current Assets	
1370 - Bulk Mailing Deposit	1,120.15
Total Other Current Assets	1,120.15
Total Current Assets	711,197.38
Fixed Assets	
Equipment-Original Value	
1510 - Original Cost	12,247.88
1500 - Depreciation	-8,874.72
Total Equipment-Original Value	3,373.16
Office Equipment	
1610 - Original Cost	10,324.47
1600 - Depreciation	-3,543.50
Office Equipment - Other	81.73
Total Office Equipment	6,862.70
Total Fixed Assets	10,235.86
Other Assets	
1410 - Inventory	12,604.07
1430 - Library Books	3,736.15
Total Other Assets	16,340.22
TOTAL ASSETS	737,773.46
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2500 - STATE SALES TAX PAYABLE	765.18
Total Other Current Liabilities	765.18
Total Current Liabilities	765.18
Total Liabilities	765.18
Equity	
3000 - Opening Bal Equity	889.01
3100 - Net Assets	682,091.90
Net Income	54,027.37
Total Equity	737,008.28
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	737,773.46

COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars today to be sure and enjoy these fun and informative events!

- June 12** **Holcomb Valley Trail Run.**
This fundraiser for the Zoo is a trail run for the serious athlete or weekend warrior. Contact Pam at 909-584-7925 for more information.
- June 20 – Sept. 2** **Zoo Camp for Kids**
Zoo Camp is back! We will be offering five two-week sessions of Zoo Camp this summer season. Session 1: June 20 – July 1; Session 2: July 5-15; Session 3: July 18-29; Session 4: August 1-12; Session 5: August 15-26; and Session 6: August 29 – September 2. Contact the District Office at Meadow Park at 909-584-1299 or 909-878-9200. Registration includes daily educational sessions with zoo animals, local field trips, games, snacks, and much more.
- June 25** **Native American Naming Ceremony for “She” Bear Cub**
Join us as “She” Bear Cub receives her name and a Native American Blessing.
- July 2-3** **Zooccasion (10-5)**
An educational weekend for kids and adults alike. Activities include: Drawing contest, Make a Snake Mobile, Wildlife Quizzes, John 3 Hawks’s Indian Animal Tales.
- July 9 - Sept.3** **Snarlz and Snooze**
Signups for family overnight camps on Saturday evenings at the Zoo are beginning now (no overnight for July 23). Bring the family for evening Zoo tours and animal presentations, behind the scenes tours, a pizza dinner, a sleepover under the stars and a morning continental breakfast.
- July 23** **Alpine Wildlife Celebration (10 am -7 pm)**
As in past years, this year’s event will be our main fundraising event. Activities will include our popular Animal Adoption Auction, a Silent Auction, Live Entertainment, a “cocktail hour” and a Live Auction featuring items with a wildlife theme. Celebrities Garrett Maggart and Richard Burgi from “The Sentinel” TV series and actor Danny Hayden will be attending and helping with some of our auctions. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and seniors. Members pay only \$5 for adults and \$3 for children and seniors. This event offers a wonderful opportunity to view a lot of our animals “up close and personal” while supporting our fundraising efforts. For information, please call Betsy 909-584-9510.
- August 7** **Concert on the Green Sentimental Journey – Songs of World War II (6 pm)**
Be part of this very special musical salute to be held ‘on-the-green’ at the Inn at Fawnskin. Nancy Walker will be the songstress for this evening’s fundraiser for the Zoo. Call Lucy at 909-866-4035 for more information.
- August 20** **Ice Cream Safari (11-2)**
Tour the Zoo and enjoy ice cream served at special stations around the animal park.
- August 21** **Run for the Grizzlies (7:30-1)**
Fundraiser for the Zoo sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club and Friends of Moonridge Zoo.
- Sept. 10-11** **Native American Festival**
Native American traditions of honoring forest animals, storytelling, songs and dancing, and crafts. For more information call 909-878-4200.
- October –** **Flashlight Safari (6:15 pm) Every Friday and Saturday nights**
Experience the nocturnal life of zoo animals on this one-of-a-kind guided tour. A wonderful experience for everyone!
- October 15** **Wolf Awareness Day (11-3)**
Learn all there is to know about these majestic animals, plus there will be special activities for the children. Call Betsy at 909-584-9510.
- October 31** **“Boo” in the Zoo (2-5)**
Bring the kids for this special day in the Zoo and an afternoon of ‘tricks-n-treats.’ Call 909-584-1171 for more information.



Major Ways to Help Zoo Relocation

From time to time Friends of Moonridge Zoo has received inquiries from citizens wishing to include FOMZ in their estate planning. Often they wish to make FOMZ a beneficiary under a Living Trust, Will, an insurance policy, or an annuity. FOMZ appreciates all efforts and encourages this form of donation.

Our benefactors desiring to proceed in this way should consult their attorney or administrator for exact working, and the following identification for FOMZ should be used:

Friends of Moonridge Zoo,
a California non-profit corporation, tax I.D. no. 330-35-0180.
The mailing address for FOMZ is:
PO Box 2557
Big Bear City, California 92314-2557.
President of FOMZ is Paddy Speyers
Should you have additional questions, please contact:
Susan Amerson at (909) 866-0630.

Tip o'the Hat!

Friends of Moonridge Zoo would like to recognize and thank the following individuals for their concern and efforts to ensure the Zoo's future.

Collin Lee of San Dimas, California, son of Brian and Alejandra Lee, saved his allowance money to make a donation to the Zoo. With his saved allowance money he enclosed a hand-drawn image of a bear and a note thanking the Zoo for keeping them safe.

Steve Jones of Long Beach, California and **Cynthia Bobko** of Hawthorne, California, for their thoughtful donations.

Mrs. Edna Kunze from Los Angeles, California for her generous donation of \$1,000.00.

Natasha Norlander of Rim Forest, California for her donation of an iron cage, ideal for transporting animals, and to **Mr. and Mrs. Dennis McCormack** of Blue Jay, California for their donation of screws and bolts for use with the cage.

FOMZ appreciates all donations and is grateful to the generosity of all visitors and members.

VISIT US ON 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.

SNAKE

A story by John 3 Hawks

Many people are afraid of me. Are you?

Please know that I would rather be away from you than close to you. I am more afraid of you than you might be of me. I really like to be left alone.

I am the Snake, and there are many sizes, shapes and colors of us in the snake family. I will only strike out when people try to hurt me. I will move away from you if I can.

I would like to share with you some things about me that can help you as you are growing up.

I sometimes shed my skin two or three times each year. When this happens, my eyes do not see things very well, and it is painful to let go of my old skin. This will help remind you that sometimes we have to let go of the old past. We may not see the reason for this at the time, and maybe it hurts us to let go.

But, just as when I shed my skin and start all over, you can let go of old hurtful things and start over also. Later, you will more clearly see how important it was to let go of the things that hurt you.

So, please don't hold on to anger. If you can learn to let it go... then you can grow!

Oh... if you and I should meet, please leave me alone and give me some space. I will leave you in peace to enjoy the earth.

Friends of the Moonridge Zoo
42001 Big Bear Blvd., Suite 3
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Mailing Address:
PO Box 2557 • Big Bear City, CA 92314

Hours:
Open Tuesday - Saturday
11 am - 4 pm
Office: 909-878-4200

Friends Awarded AZAD Grant

The Association of Zoological & Aquarium Docents (AZAD) has awarded a \$500 educational grant to FOMZ. The grant is specifically to fund a new video camera for off-site programs and on-site training. It was awarded in recognition of the Friend's educational programs.

Christy Helms, Diana Blair and Don Alexander were successful in garnering the exposure and putting together the complex grant proposal. In the fall, Christy and Diana will attend the AZAD Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, they will make a presentation on how the funds were spent and plan to discuss FOMZ Training and Education Programs and how the use of videography is enhancing their efforts.



Christy, Diana and Don hold AZAD grant check.

Friends Purchase Toyota Van

With coordination by Carriage House Autos in Big Bear Lake, the Friends purchased a 2004 silver Toyota Sienna Van for the Zoo. The van arrived Sunday, May 1 at the Zoo!

The van will enable Don Richardson and other Zoo staff to safely transport animals to off-site local and regional venues for animal educational programs. It is estimated that 20,000 people are reached via the Zoo's off-site efforts.



Please cut along line and mail with your donation
to: F.O.M.Z. • P.O. Box 2557 • Big Bear City, CA 92314 • Before June 25th!

My Suggested BEAR CUB NAME is: _____

My Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Daytime Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

I would like to make a donation of \$ _____

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The Friends of the Moonridge Zoo is a non-profit corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our tax ID number is 33-03501803

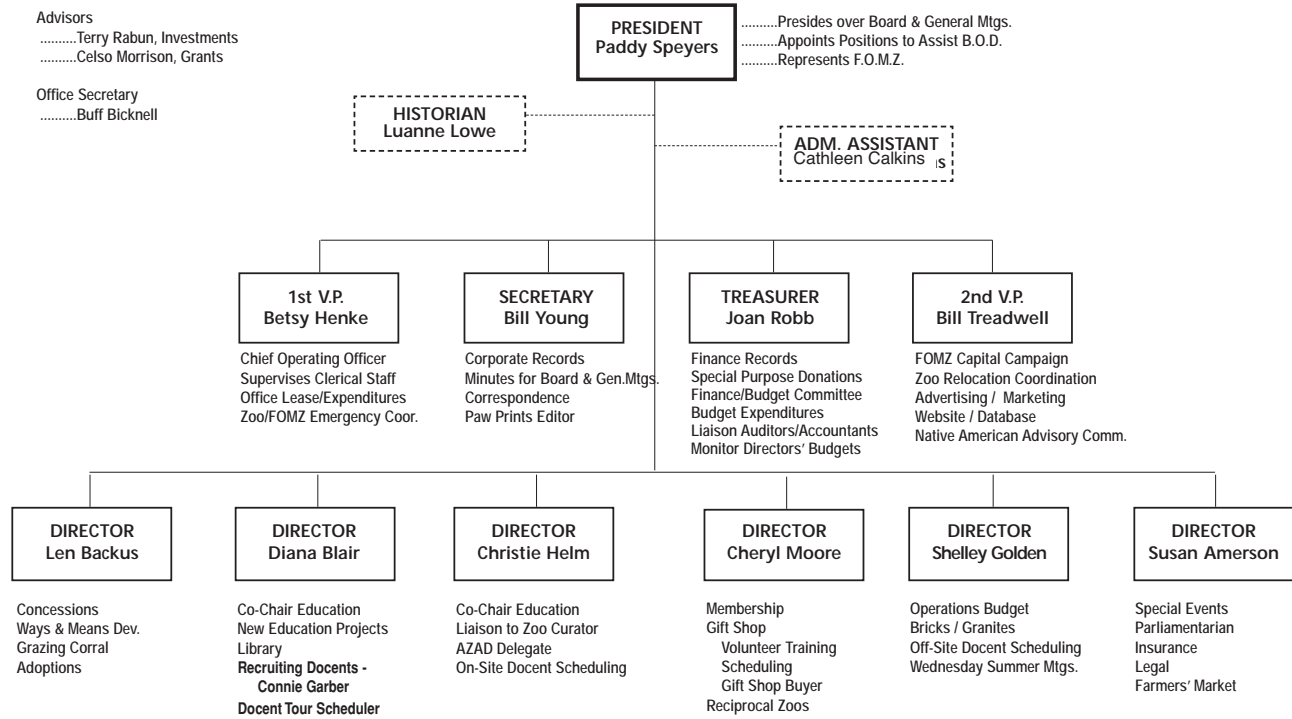
OUR 2005 F.O.M.Z. TEAM!

Advisors

.....Terry Rabun, Investments
Celso Morrison, Grants

Office Secretary

.....Buff Bicknell



Revised 08/05

Return Service Requested

www.moonridgezoo.org

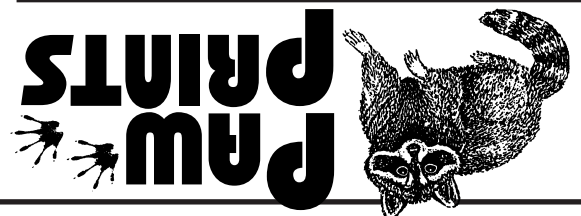
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