



# PAW PRINTS

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

VOL. XVIII, ISSUE 2

\$1.00 DONATION

FALL 2006

The Friends of the Moonridge Zoo is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to support the Moonridge Animal Park through (1) educating the public regarding the treatment, protection, and conservation of wildlife, (2) recruiting and coordinating zoo volunteers and (3) fund-raising.

The Moonridge Animal Park is operated by the Big Bear Recreation and Park District of San Bernardino County. The park is an alpine wildlife rehabilitation center. For those animals that cannot be released, they are provided a "Home for Life" in the animal park.

## The New Animal Park will be using Alternative Energy Sources

By Bill Treadwell

One of the goals in building the relocated Moonridge Animal Park is to design a green park—a park that is ecologically friendly to trees, plants, animals, water and people. Part of the park's ecologically friendly development is to be independent of the electric grid and provide its own energy sources. Building the park independent of the electric grid presents two goods. First, the park will use solar power, not fossil fuels; and second, building the park's alternative energy systems "in-side-out" will present opportunities to inform visitors about how alternative energy systems work. The types of alternative energy systems under consideration are **photovoltaic, water solar panels, methane biodigester, thermal energy exchange, turbine hydropower, and hydrogen**. In addition to alternative energy systems, the park's design includes **water recycling**, and service vehicles that will be **electric powered**.

The new animal park is proposed to be located on a southerly sloped hill side on the north shore side of Big Bear Lake—the sunny side of the Valley. It is planned to orientate the buildings in the park to maximize southern roof exposure to the sun and placing thin filmed photovoltaic solar cells on the southern roofs to generate electricity.

Imagine driving to the new animal park and parking your car (SUV, truck, or etc) in a shaded parking area. While your car remains out of the sun, the solar panels above your car are generating electricity for the park. It is planned that the amount of shaded parking provided for visitors and southern exposed building roofs will correlate to the park's needs for electricity during peak periods of park usage. When more electricity is generated than needed (off peak park usage during intense sunshine) the excess electricity can be "used" in two ways. First it could be sent into the utility company's electric grid for credit to use at a later time or possibly receive wholesale payment for generating power for the utility company. The second use for the excess electricity generated by the shaded parking lot's solar panels is to create hydrogen gas using an electrolysis process and storing the hydrogen.

### Recap of Music in the Zoo

by Chairperson, Susan Amerson



Once again, music has filled the Zoo, delighting people and animals alike. On August 19, several performers presented a variety of music from handmade Dulcimers to Native American flutes. Visitors strolled around the zoo and were met by the animals who came out of their dens in the late afternoon. Docents donated refreshments for this special event. This "Music in the Zoo" special event raised approximately \$750 for the zoo. We look forward to next year's event and hope you can join us for mellow mountain music.



You know large company facilities now tend to use diesel engines for back-up power when the power goes out from their local electric company. Well, the new animal park can use its hydrogen system for backup power. Fuel cells can generate electricity from hydrogen. Oh, and there is another by-product when generating electricity with hydrogen—distilled hot water. The hot water could be plumbed for radiant heating a small building, such as the administrative offices in the park. After warming the offices, the distilled water could actually be used in the electrolysis process that produces

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### Building Tomorrow's Zoo



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### A Hearty Thanks to all Zoo-people

By Betsy Henke, President of FOMZ

As President, I think one of my most important responsibilities is that I give recognition to everyone who volunteers their time for the Friends and the Zoo. This year it took the efforts of nearly 100 people to accomplish all of our events, programs, etc. Here are their names, in alphabetical order. *Thank you all!*

John 3 Hawks  
Red Akkerman  
Don Alexander  
Andrew Amerson  
Susan & Andrew Amerson  
Linda Anderson  
Sam Baca  
Len & Kitty Backus  
Jeannie Baier  
Sharen Bartley  
Karen Berry  
Buff Bicknell  
Barbara Bieber  
Diana Blair  
Donna Blatherwick  
Jack & Joy Brandis  
Joyce Brookens  
Pat Bryant  
Lucy Camacho  
Betty Clark  
Pat Cline  
LaVonne Contreras  
Jim DeGraff  
Evalyn Ellis  
Sandy Ellis  
Marlene Endler  
Fran Fish  
Connie Garber  
Kirk Glaha  
Shelley Golden  
Bonnie Hanna  
Minnie Hartranft  
Pat Hebert  
Christie Helm  
Anna Hilliard  
Nancy Hilliard

David Johnstone  
Barbara Jordan  
Beth Kako  
Lisa Kinney  
Kathy Kinsley  
Lynette Larsh  
Hank Lopez  
LuAnne Lowe  
Sharon Lubert  
Dottie Maier  
Lani Miller  
Ed & Barbara Moore  
Ross & Cheryl Moore  
Julie & Celso Morrison  
Nancy Naftel  
Marta Neeley  
Elena Peavy  
Penny Penn  
Pauline Phillips  
Carmen Prouty  
Terry Rabun  
Carolyn Radakovich  
Joan Robb  
Diane Roberts  
Judie Schkade  
Marge Schwab  
George Sedivy  
Ron Shipe  
Barbara & Mickey Siegel  
Barbara Smith  
Sherry Sobek  
Paddy & Bill Speyers  
Anne Stafford  
Bill & Carol Treadwell  
Dayle & Sam Viglione  
Jean Yonkers  
Bill Young

(continued from page 1) Using Alternative Energy Sources

hydrogen. Yes, electrolysis uses distilled water for its source of hydrogen.

An interesting recycling system under consideration is using zoo poo and fibrous materials (both gathered from grounds clean-up work) are placed inside a methane biodigester (these are used in the mid-west on farms—the park's system would be a small scale model). The methane biodigester generates two products: methane gas and fertilizer. The fertilizer of course can be used to keep the park's plants and trees healthy. The methane can be stored and use in heating, cooking, lighting, and any utility that could be found for natural gas or propane. In our case, the methane gas could be used in the animal kitchen to cook food. Now here is a bit of conjecture: What if that methane gas is burned in a closed chamber where the gas cannot escape to the atmosphere and heats the stove's hot plates? When methane gas is combusted, it releases a lot of hydrogen. So why not send the hydrogen to a storage tank for the hydrogen system?

Well I need too stop here. However, stay tuned for how the park can thermally enhance visitor walkways to be ice free, produce hot water with solar panels, internally recycling the park's water, and possibly the building of small demonstration exhibits that generate electricity by using hydropower and wind power. Oh, I almost forgot, we are aiming to have our buildings LEED certified. What is LEED? The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.



### Friends of the Moonridge Zoo

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*Mailing Address:*

PO Box 2557 • Big Bear City, CA 92314

*Hours:*

Office Open Tuesday - Saturday  
10 am - 6 pm

### VISIT US ON THE WEB

Before your next visit to the Zoo why not spend a few minutes browsing our website [www.moonridgezoo.org](http://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.



# Wolf (Waya)

by John 3 Hawks

Revered by Native Americans; feared by the rest of the world. To the Cherokee, Wolf is known as Waya (Wah-yah).

Waya...probably the greatest of teachers among the animal kingdom and least understood by the human landscape.

Imagine yourself going through the misconceptions that our Wolf cousins have endured over the centuries. Yes, picture yourself working most diligently to take care of your family in a good way with shelter, food, and instruction, all the while striving to keep the natural elements in balance for the longevity of other life forms.

And after you have done all these things, you and your family are hunted to near extinction.

Chief Dan George said, "...What we do not know, we fear. What we fear, we destroy."

Recently, Waya has drawn support for reintroduction in various areas of the lower forty eight states. The Nez Perce have played a major role in supporting this effort in order that once again, nature might seek to balance herself over time.

Is Waya this terrible creature that film and story depict, or a guide post for the human race to learn from that our own lives may be enriched?

We know the past stereotype, so consider the Native viewpoint if you will.

The very sound of Waya singing alone or in chorus instills the mystique of life itself. Their song stirs the primal spirit of the human connection to earth and all that is. Many go an entire lifetime and never hear their song in the wild. This is, in itself, a reminder to us to consider what kind of sound we cast upon the winds. Do our vocalizations bring joy to those who hear what we are saying, or do these voice vibrations of ours wilt flowers? Are people placing value on our words or do they hear only gossip and negativity?

Within the Wolf clan, family value exceeds the self. Each member has a role to play in the survival of their group, thus teaching us that by working together, many positive things can be accomplished. Team work! No single Waya takes credit for their survival, and here we are reminded of a saying: "Imagine what we could accomplish if no one had to take credit." As a race, humans have on any given day, an opportunity to come together as does Waya, and work toward a common good.

Waya and courage are synonymous. Waya will walk alone for many miles through the harshest of weather conditions and terrain to achieve their goal. This action teaches us that with courage, we can walk through our own fears and accomplish what we set out to do, even though we may encounter cold and windy days of emotion or harsh criticism for our effort to make a positive difference.

Native people and Waya worked together with an understanding of each other. Waya taught them of stealthy ways, being good providers, caring parents, and how to keep warm in the coldest of times. In return Waya was honored and their 'medicine' or abilities were greatly sought after by the men of Native nations, who study their ways and emulate their behaviors.

Waya has an ability to alter their foot pad temperature to adjust to freezing conditions, thus reminding us that we also can adjust the foot print we leave on our earth. Walking carefully without destroying all that is around our path ensures lasting beauty and enjoyment for generations to come. Patience is another quality that Waya uses as a teaching tool for us. He will wait patiently until the right moment arrives to latch on to his prize. How many times do we find ourself standing in front of our microwave oven that will cook some foods in sixty seconds, and be strumming our fingers on the counter wishing it would 'hurry up'? Patience...Waya is patient. Are we?

So as we humans walk this path of life, may we see Waya as our teacher of structure, family value, endurance, persistence in reaching our goals, team worker, and living in harmony with nature for a lasting earth balance so desperately needed today.

We would do well to always keep in mind that we need the animals, insects, birds, trees, and things in order to survive. Not one of them needs a human to survive. It is so.

Aisv Nv Wadohiyado (walk in thankful peace)



# Hawks' Point of View

*Do Animals Talk To Us?*

by John 3 Hawks



Chief Dan George once said, "If you talk to the animals, they will talk to you, and you will know each other. If you do not talk to them, you will not know them..."

Communication between animals and humans is much easier than we may think, and yes, they really do talk to us! Impossible you say?

Consider:

1. You are driving down the road and catch a glimpse of a sign. You ask your companion, "What did that sign say?" "It said 'Narrow Bridge Ahead.'" You enter the narrow bridge hoping a big truck does not come your way.
2. "I am looking at the map."  
"What's it say?"  
"Says 38 miles to Redlands."  
"Okay."
3. It has been long hot hours since you have eaten and you are really hungry. You are coming up to a sign. "Great Food. All You Can Eat \$5.99." There you see a picture of your favorite meal and a tall iced soft drink. You hear your stomach growl a little louder, and you turn in the driveway.

We have all used these expressions from time to time, and each of us knows that signs tell us things, and our mind or body will react to these messages in one form or another. Ironically, none of these signs have verbalized anything, but we understand they have told us something.

So it is that animals will 'talk' to us, if we take the time to know them. Signs are a series of symbols that have meaning to us when they are arranged in certain familiar patterns. An eight sided red sign with the white letters STOP tells us that we must stop the car, look both ways, and then proceed if it is safe. Seeing a bear tells us that we can be like them and have a soft or strong side, be good and nurturing mothers, walk with care through the forests, and to 'look within' when we seek answers. Bear survives winter sleep by drawing from within...that is, drawing from the things she took in during the spring, summer and fall. Introspection!

A three sided sign with the letters YIELD tells us to be careful here, we do not have the right of way. Seeing a snake in your path will remind you that just as when their eyes cloud over and the painful process of shedding their skin starts so they can be renewed by this process, that there will be times in our life that we must let go of hurtful things that we may not clearly see the reason for at the time, but we will come out of this situation made anew.

A person using sign language may not have the ability to verbalize things to you, but if you know sign language, you will know what they

are trying to tell you. So too when you see a Hawk circling above, you are being told things. Hawk tells us to stay focused and be careful with our use of words. As Hawk dives for her prey, she must not be distracted or she will miss out on her prize. Hawks are known to grab a snake and take its head of in less than one second, and this reminds us that we must be careful not to do this verbally or emotionally to another person.

Isn't it interesting that during the winter season in the mountains we will see dark clouds building as the wind picks up, and we start thinking about snow, icy roads, and did we check the condition of our chains? These are images that send messages without verbalizing anything. Imagine yourself hiking by yourself in the mountains, and you come upon a sign that says, "Entering Mountain Lion Habitat." Would that stir up images in your head...you bet! Nothing verbalized, but the message is clear. Be careful.

An owl flies near you in the dark. What is she



telling you? As she can fly silently through the darkest of nights and never bump into things, she reminds us that we too can do our work in the darkest of circumstances and not have to boast about our accomplishments. As she gets through these dark times, so can you!

And how often do we talk to our dogs or cats with human words and respond to their reactions? We do this with ease, but are uneasy being in public and talking to a Raven, Opossum, or Ant, lest someone have us locked up.

So you see, animals really do talk to us! All we have to do is understand what their messages are, and each one will have something to say to you. Just as those painted signs give you direction along your path of life, so do the animals give direction on balance, harmony, unity, and understanding each other as we walk upon this earth together.

Oh, and the rest of what Chief Dan George was saying... "And what you do not know, you will fear. What one fears, one destroys."

Animals are great teachers. Are we good students? Hmm...now what say the Mouse, Spider, Deer, Bison?

Sidanelai (we are all family)

# RACCOONS - Featured Animal

I am Dillinger, one of the raccoons here at Moonridge Animal Park in the beautiful mountains of Big Bear Valley, California. If you have not been here for a visit, I hope you will soon make plans to come see me and all my other friends!



Many of us who call this our home are here as a result of human intervention in one form or another. Thanks to your donations, we now have a home for life, and we are well taken care of. The volunteers and staff are very loving and compassionate with us,

which allows us to share our teachings and way of life with you and your family.

My name 'raccoon' is understood to be a derivative of the Algonquin word, "arckunem", which means "hand scratcher." I am a most curious animal...I love to 'check things out!' My front paws are small, but very useful for getting into things. I can unlatch cabinets, sometimes open lids, lift things, and squeeze into some pretty amazing places as I follow my curious path. I am nocturnal, which means I like to be out and about mostly during the night times. I have what appears to be a natural mask on my face, so with this combination of things, I have often been referred to as a bandit or thief. Remember, I can only get into what you leave accessible to me!

Native Americans say that I have powerful 'medicine.' This means I have teachings that can help you in your everyday doing of things if you will take a little bit of time to understand me and my ways.

That I am so adept with my paws and can get into so many things is a reminder for you to take care of those things that are important to you, such as family, friends, love, honor, and appreciation. It is easy to take things for granted in the busy lives you humans lead, so beware that what is important to you is not left for another to take away.

Since I am nocturnal and able to accomplish so many things at night, this can help you appreciate that even when dark times come into your life, you can still find productive and positive aspects to the situations. My own curiosity takes me to new and wondrous places, and I hope you will share with your children that books and reading can take them to exciting places where they can learn of and experience many new things as well.

My mask is fixed in place, but you humans often wear a variety of masks many times each day. How often do you put on a mask to be one person here, and another person there? You may not be feeling well, but will put on a mask so others do not worry about you. You may be stressed about something and put on the mask of, 'no worries,' so your children are more at ease. And how often do you put on a mask of courage when the going gets tough, and you are forced to face the fears that may come your way, or into the lives of others you care about? Wearing a mask is your wonderful ability to adjust to various situations, just as I

have to adapt to a multitude of living situations as my homelands slowly disappear.

In the Cherokee language, I am known as 'gvli.' This is pronounced 'guh-lee.' Native Americans honor and respect animals, birds, insects, and all forms of life that exist on this earth, and I hope you will honor each one as well. To use raccoon (or gvli) medicine is a great honor for them as they walk the daily path of life.

So you see...although I am a raccoon and do not speak your language, I can still help you see beauty while you walk through those cloudy days that come with the winds of change that blow through your life. Please remember that I play a critical role in maintaining harmony and balance within the natural world that surrounds you.

Sidanelai (we are all family)

John 3 Hawks



## 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, Adoptions  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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!

See benefit packages under box at right.

### Check appropriate box

Individual Membership .....\$30.00

Couple.....45.00

Family Membership .....65.00

# in Family \_\_\_\_\_ (immediate household family members - 2 adults & 3 children under 18. Each additional child add \$3.00 to pass price)

Contributing Membership \$150.00

Sustaining Membership \$500.00

Keepers' Circle \$1000.00

Curator's Circle \$5000.00 - One Time

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.Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**FRIENDS OF THE MOONRIDGE ZOO (FOMZ)**

Mail to: Membership

P.O. Box 2557, Big Bear City, CA 92314

Publisher .....FOMZ

Editor .....Bill Young

Contributors: Bill Treadwell, Bill Young, John 3 Hawks,

...Dayle Viglione, Diane Robertson and Len Backus

Graphic Design/Layout .....Joan Robb

## 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



# Girl Scouts and Groovy Food

By Diane Robertson and Len Backus



**W**hat a TOTALLY GROOVY day we had at the Zoo on Saturday and Sunday, October 14-15. A group of six Girl Scouts, Troop #1126 from Rancho Cucamonga, and their two leaders, Heidi and Diana came to make special enrichment treats for our animals. They had been in contact with Don Richardson and Len Backus expressing their desire in doing some service projects for the Zoo to earn their troop Silver Award for the coming year. Don gave the girls many ideas about what could help the animals. Although it was raining on Saturday, it didn't dampen the Girl Scouts' desire to meet and learn about the Zoo's creatures. In fact, Linda Anderson gave the girls a tour of the zoo in the rain! One of the projects the girls decided to work on was making animal hammocks out of fire hoses.

Meanwhile, the girls came back on Sunday to start a fun initial project, and to get to know our zoo animals better. They arrived with BIG smiles on their faces and much enthusiasm, along with two large bags full of coconuts, pumpkins, and the special ingredients to make the Famous Pineapple Ball treats for our grizzlies!

Diane Roberts, John 3 Hawks, and Len and Kitty Backus were on hand to assist during this most special enrichment day. The girls and their leaders were given specially designed name tags making them "Animal Enrichment Ambassadors." A decorated table, complete with PURPLE Halloween decorations, was set up in our Education Center



where the girls would be making the enrichment treats! They dug right in with a never-ending-fun energy making the yummy pineapple balls (granola, oats, honey, peanut hearts, peanut butter, raisins, coconut, crushed pineapple, and pumpkin puree!) for Mama Tutu, Harley and Ayla! In no time at all (along with a lot of giggling), they had filled the two large purple plastic pumpkins with bunches of those dreamy pineapple balls!

Then dyed hardboiled eggs were hand decorated by the girls and placed ... along with brightly colored marshmallows ... into 6 tiny pumpkins and fun treat bags for our special raccoons. They also decorated two large pumpkins and filled them with chicken drumsticks and fresh catnip handpicked by the girls in the zoo for our beloved mountain lions, Canyon and Cascade.

Everyone was having fun including the zoo patrons who stopped to watch the girls making all of these yummy treats. After the treats were all made, Diane brought out our special opossum, Elvira, to share her with the girls while John 3 Hawks told his beautiful story and special life lesson on what we all can learn from the opossum. A most special gift to the girls indeed, and the zoo patrons who stopped to listen as well!

## Friends

(The Beautiful Friends of the Moonridge Zoo)  
by John 3 Hawks

.....

Sun rises in eastern sky  
Beauty awakes  
Warmth and healing begin  
Bringing light to a wanting world

Sun travels to western places  
There to rest as Moon arrives  
Always light  
For the darkest of times

Animals see this same sunrise  
They too need these healing ways  
Humans have forgotten them  
Few friends remain

As their home lands fade  
And their value diminished  
You are their Sun  
You their Moon

Love and compassion  
Given to all  
Used only by some  
You are those few

You are the Earth Stewards  
They your teachers  
Enlightenment is the animal path  
Compassion your journey

Of all things we are a part  
Not apart from  
You are the givers  
As they give to you

You see love in their eyes  
Spirits who cry out to be known  
You know them  
And they know you

You touch their soul with kindness  
They touch you with understanding  
You are the gift to all that is  
You are the Friends of the Moonridge Zoo

Sidanelai  
3 Hawks



# Cheyenne Baragola and Her Gifts

By Dayle Viglione

Imagine our surprise when little nine year old Cheyenne Baragola, from Big Bear City, came to the zoo with a bag of goodies for the animals. Even more interesting is *how* she was able to gather up the gifts.

Cheyenne's school project was to bake cupcakes and sell them. She must have been up all night baking cupcakes because when the last cupcake was sold, she tallied up \$82.00 in sales! Now here's the really cool part... with that \$82.00, she started buying items on Don Richardson's Wish List of goods and equipment that the zoo needs. She located the Wish List on our website! The list of goodies that she bought included Hummingbird nectar, animal bedding, large bones, honey for the bear's Food Enrichment Program, bird seed, and several bags of litter.

Isn't it refreshing to know that a little girl of nine will give of her heart to the animals. She was not concerned about buying things for herself, and freely gave of her hands and heart. I'm pretty sure there is a lesson in her story for all of us.



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P.O. Box 2557  
Big Bear City, CA 92314-2557  
Office: 909-878-4200  
Gift Shop: 909-584-1171  
[www.moonridgezoo.org](http://www.moonridgezoo.org)  
Return Service Requested

FRIENDS OF THE MOONRIDGE ZOO



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