

Paw Prints



A Publication by the Friends of the Big Bear Alpine Zoo

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SPRING 2022

The Friends of the Big Bear Alpine Zoo's VISION is to be a valued nonprofit, whose cooperative support will be a key partner to ensure the success of the Big Bear Alpine Zoo.

The Friends of the Big Bear Alpine Zoo's MISSION is to support the Big Bear Alpine Zoo by inspiring understanding, respect, and environmentally responsible action for the stewardship of wildlife and wildlife habitat through conservation, education, volunteer support, and fundraising.



SPRING INTO ACTION!

Good news—events are coming back to the zoo at a great rate! School tours are cropping up almost every week, and after the hiatus during the last couple of years, we are thrilled to be able to welcome students of all ages. Plan to enjoy the shoulder season before school is out, families take vacations, and the Big Bear summer hits us with a bang. We also are continuing to make wonderful enhancements to the zoo—more user-friendly, as it were—and have several new ambassadors anxious to greet new friends!

FOBBAZ thanks each and every one who has supported us over the years. ♥

Many and profound thanks to the Board of Directors, Docents, our Office Manager, and Zoo Staff for their generous contributions to this publication.

Laurey Haviland, Editor

Thank you for helping us “go green” by joining our online service!

•IF YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.....

Please send us an email at fobbaz@fobbaz.org

E-newsletters arrive promptly and allow FOBBAZ to use more of our funds for the zoo!

BBAZ is proud to be a REHAB & RELEASE zoo!

Here is a listing of *some* of our recent releases:

A Red-Shouldered Hawk with grease on his wings, who, after *many* non-appreciated baths, was able to fly again!

A baby Fox Squirrel was sent to another rehabber who had babies its age, *i.e.* FRIENDS!

A Red-Tailed Hawk was rehabbed and flew happily into his future.

These animals are kept separately from the zoo's collection, and the keepers make sure they're not overly exposed to humans as a preventive measure to ensure they don't become dependent on people—they stay "wild" and can therefore be released to thrive on their own. Further, every effort is made to release these animals in their NATIVE habitats.

Unfortunately, most of the animals brought to the zoo for medical assistance have been hit by cars and left injured on the road. Some other injuries are animal attacks, and some are unresponsive animals. **We ask you to continue to be aware that this mountain is home to many, many species of wild animals.**



FOBBAZ Calendar of Events



BEAR AWARENESS DAY

is our first big **SPRING**
event, and we can *bearly* wait!

May 21st, 2022



ICE CREAM SAFARI

June 25th, 2022

\$5 for 5 scoops!



See you at the zoo!

President's Message



Welcome to Spring! Typically this is a busy time at the zoo and this year is no exception. We are preparing for the usual events: Bear Awareness Day, tours, and Ice Cream Safari. We are still getting new, eager docents—hooray!

The old zoo is being emptied and that means it's time to organize our Ed Shed. The foundation for the concession/restrooms is being started and the building should arrive around June or July. The long wait is almost over.

With more people coming to the zoo, we are looking forward to more docents roaming. School tours are in full swing. We have some new animals to be moved to enclosures soon. Keep checking the web site for more information to know who and when.

Sharon Johnson

FOBBAZ President



Chris-Manager



Jan



Ariel



Ramie



Margaret



Sue

The zoo's gift shop is open every day from 10:30 to 4. We heartily invite you to stop by and view ALL the wonderful items it offers—from animal-themed backpacks to t-shirts to beautiful crystal critters. And the stuffed toys are so exciting that you'll want one of each!



Our Gift Shop

Gals are

Great!



Please Meet

Liza (& Simba)

FOBBAZ Office Manager(s)



Liza Ngenye (pronounced "Leez-ah Gen-yay") was born in Kenya. As an only child, she grew up with many dogs (at one point her family had 13 dogs in their homestead) and her mother also kept farm animals: cows, goats, chicken, turkey, rabbits, birds and turtles. As a child, her parents took her to the "real-life zoo" in the African Sahara and she loved seeing Africa's "Big Five": Lion, Elephant, Buffalo, Leopard and Rhino. Liza came to the United States over ten years ago to study in Nebraska and Washington D.C. and taught at the university for several years. After the pandemic, she came to us in Big Bear to continue her adventure with the animals she loves so much. Her favorite animal, of course, is Simba (pictured with her), her four-year old French Bulldog. Liza's favorite thing to do is to watch Western films; her favorite TV show is Heartland.

Simba's Story

Simba was born in Riverside, California—the second-last of a litter of six male French Bulldog puppies. When Liza moved to California four years ago, she was driving to her local Stater Bros. and saw a cardboard sign saying "Frenchie pups for sale." After a week of sleepless nights, Liza used her rent money to buy Simba! Simba's name comes from The Lion King. Liza chose the name because he exudes the qualities of the young prince—he really believes he is the "king of the jungle." He is a charming, well-behaved, and gentlemanly pup. Everyone in the office building stops by to say "good morning" to him! Simba's favorite thing to do is to play tag. He turned four this May and we had a party—complete with "doggie cake" and presents—for him ;)



Patricia B. Speyers (always known as Paddy), a beloved member and go-getter of our early FOBBAZ organization, passed away last February at the age of 97. She was one of the founding ladies of FOBBAZ, taking us from a "kitchen-table office" to what we have now, and was a true animal lover who inspired other volunteers to join in her passion for the zoo residents. She will remain in the hearts of her zoo Friends forever!



Crossing the Rainbow Bridge

This is our way to phrase the passing of one of our beloved animals. We believe it offers a bit of hope, as a bridge always goes somewhere! Unfortunately, we must tell you of the loss of two of our friends.



Canyon, a Mountain Lion, came to the zoo in 2012 with her sister. They were orphaned and were only 4 weeks old when they arrived. She and her sister Cascade have lived healthy, happy, and long lives among loving friends.



Bayou, one of our surprise nine Gray Wolf pups born at the zoo in 2009, leaves only two of her sisters still here. Being born at the zoo doubled the life-span of these wolves, as, in the wild, wolves will live approximately 7 to 9 years.



New Friends to Meet at BBAZ



Two Golden Eagles have joined our animal ambassadors. They will be inhabiting the enclosure next to Lulubelle and Ares when they are out of mandatory quarantine. We're not sure of their genders yet, and therefore have not named them.



Two San Joaquin Kit Foxes have also found a permanent home with us. One is a 3-legged male; the other, a female. Again, when they are out of quarantine, they will be named and be placed in the enclosure next to Kit Kat.

California Living Museum in Bakersfield, California (CALM), rescued and rehabilitated these animals, then reached out to find permanent homes for them. We are proud to be affiliated with this fine organization and the important work they do!



Earth Day

April 2022



As BBAZ and FOBBAZ and the community did last year, we cleaned up a stretch of Big Bear Lake shoreline for Earth Day! You can see it was a cold and rather windy day, but work was accomplished anyway. Many sincere thanks to Vicki Cummings and our local Municipal Water District for their time and efforts given to organize the day. Lots of good thoughts, hard work, and great fun. You might want to consider joining all of us *next year*—or planning a clean-up in your own community!



And speaking of cleaning up...

John Bowen, the owner of the storage units we rent, has generously *donated* another unit in the building! That meant cleaning out the old unit, going through and culling almost 30 years' worth of "stuff!" In fact, two of our volunteers had to take apart the two large wooden shelving units, move the all the pieces, then reassemble them in the new space. Hallelujah for power tools! Also, thank you to Rachel (another of our hardworking docents) for arranging the dumpster delivery and pickup—it was perfect for our needs.



Front row left to right:

Kassidy Martinez

Char-lee Adams

Back row left to right:

Jon Haviland

Peggy Richards

Liza Ngenye

Anita O'Connor

Terry O'Connor

Bruce Richards

Sharon Johnson

Behind the camera:

Laurey Haviland



Kids' Korner

Who Do They Belong To?

You belong to your family, and that makes you one-of-a-kind. Well, all animals belong to families, too, and the system to keep the information straight is called a classification. The zoo houses many different species, each one belonging to a different family. This newsletter asks you to do a little research to figure out which species (type of animal) belongs to which family (all his relatives)! Have fun ;)

Here is the scientific
"classification" system for
all the animals in the
world—including YOU!

Draw a line to connect the animal (species) to his family.

The Animal Kingdom

↓
Phylum
↓
Class
↓
Order
↓
Family
↓
Genus
↓
Species
↓
Sub-species



Yellow-Bellied Marmot
(*Marmota flaviventris*)



Coyote
(*Canis latrans*)



Grizzly Bear
(*Ursus arctos horribilis*)

Strigidae

Felidae

Ursidae

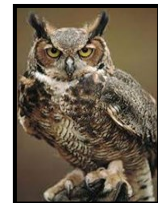
Procyonidae

Sciuridae

Canidae



Mountain Lion
(*Puma concolor*)



Great-Horned Owl
(*Bubo virginianus*)



Raccoon
(*Procyon lotor*)

Pull out the encyclopedia, animal handbook, or Google the family name. These tools should help you identify which of these animals is related to which family. By the way, the letters "ae" are from Latin, and are usually pronounced (in American English, at least) like the "ee" in feet!

P.S. Here's how I remember the list: King Philip came over from Germany singing songs. That's mnemonics!