Mission: Create connections that inspire an appreciation for and encourage actions to conserve the natural world.
CALLING ALL GHOSTS AND GHOULS!
JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT!

OCTOBER 12-13, 2018
5:30 – 8:30 P.M.
COST: $7/PERSON (AGES 1 & OVER)

LINES ARE SCARY – PURCHASE TICKETS
IN ADVANCE AT THE ZOO STARTING SEPTEMBER 1ST!

ZOOBREW, WINE and spirits TOO!

Thursday, November 1st  *  5:30-8:00 p.m.

Socialize and sample a variety of beer and wine as you explore Africa! after hours at Peoria Zoo. The event also includes appetizers, dessert, raffle, and live entertainment!

Tickets go on sale September 1st!
Tickets: $55/person ($60/person after Oct. 1st)
VIP Tequila Tasting Tickets: $75/person
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Cover Photo: Arthur, male lion
Pictured here: Darla, female spider monkey
It’s finally fall… a time for cooler weather, back to school, and the leaves changing color. This is a wonderful time of year to visit the Zoo and enjoy all of the animals! Remember, we are open year-round with the exceptions of Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Day, and New Year’s Eve and Day. This means a membership you buy or give as a gift to Peoria Zoo is good for one year from the day it is purchased… making this the perfect time to join our family!

So what’s happening this fall at the Zoo? We are hosting two fundraising events, Zoo La La and Zoobrew, Wine and Spirits Too!, so you can show your support by attending these fun evenings. We also have a new female takin named Meg for you to visit! Zoo La La is in its second year and will be held on September 22. This evening event to support Peoria Zoo will give attendees 21 and older an immersive experience in the lives of some of our animals, while also enjoying a progressive dinner with culinary delights from Cracked Pepper, libations, and entertainment from Dexter O’Neal and Funk Yard, Garry Moore, and Preston Jackson! We have several options for tickets, with the base price starting $75 and add-ons including reserved seating and parking, and special intimate animal encounters.

Zoobrew, Wine, and Spirits Too! is celebrating its 9th year on November 1. You might have noticed we are adding a little extra fun with “spirits” this year – we are having a tequila tasting in addition to a variety of beer and wine from multiple local restaurants, heavy appetizers and a live band. You can learn more about both of these great events at peoriazoo.org or by checking out our Facebook page.

We are very excited to welcome Meg, a new female takin to Peoria Zoo! What’s a takin? It’s a large goat antelope. Some fun facts: takins, like giant pandas, are considered national treasures in China. It is believed that the “golden fleece” sought by Jason in Greek mythology was a Shensi, or golden Takin pelt. Takin are strong climbers and live at elevations ranging from 4,000-14,000 feet in herds of 200-300 individuals. Meg was brought to Peoria Zoo as part of the SSP (Species Survival Plan) to mate with our male takin Bert.

As always, please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

— Brenda O’Russa
Development Director
I think I could turn and live with animals;
they are so placid and self-contain’d;
I stand and look at them long and long.

Although a normal day doesn’t give me much time to stand and look at the animals, I have accumulated a lot over my many years working at zoos. While I don’t think I have become jaded, watching visitors connect with the animals makes me realize just how privileged I am to work in a profession that is so intimately involved with animals.

Our deluxe adoption packages include personal meet-and-greets and these often produce the strongest reactions. Recently, a group of women adopted the sloths as a birthday present for a friend. As the keeper took the birthday girl into the exhibit, I stood in front with the rest of the group. One woman told me that her friend had been worried that the sloths might not like her. I did have to confess that Dustin and Tootsie aren’t real picky as long as grapes are involved. After several pictures and grapes, the honorary sloth mother joined us and her face was actually glowing. I could clearly see how much of an impact the experience had on her.

While most visitors don’t have such a “close encounter”, there is still excitement when they are the first in their group to spot the Chinese alligator among the lily pads or a poison dart frog hidden in the foliage. Standing patiently can also be rewarded by a lion pawing at the window that separates him from the visitors or hearing the eerie call of one of the kookaburras.

Even though you probably can’t spend as much time at the Zoo as I do, I encourage you to plan on taking your time when you do visit. Stand (or sit) and look at them long and long.

― Yvonne Strode, Zoo Director
Color is important in the animal kingdom for several reasons that include hiding from or scaring away predators, avoiding detection when hunting and attracting a mate. Some species have a wide range of coloration among individuals, for example giraffes vary from light tan to practically black depending on what they eat and where they live; while individuals of other species are more uniform in color, like white rhinoceros are gray. The coloration of individuals of some species can vary between the sexes, between baby and adult, and/or between geographic locations.

Prey animals often use camouflage to blend in with their surroundings to avoid being seen by predators. On the other hand, predators also use camouflage so they can more easily sneak up on prey.

- Giraffe are hard to see when standing in trees and bushes, because the spots of the fur blend in with the shadows and sunlight.
- Red river hog adults are a solid reddish color, while the babies can hide more easily because they are covered in spots and stripes.
- Sloths have a symbiotic relationship with algae, the algae provides the sloth with camouflage while getting shelter and a good supply of water because sloth fur absorbs water extremely well. Sloth mothers pass the algae directly to their offspring in the first few weeks of life.
- Tigers are the only large cats with stripes. The shadows and branches in their preferred habitats, like grasslands and forests, create a visual effect that matches the stripes.
- Green tree pythons use disruptive coloration to provide camouflage. The lighter strip and spots found on their vivid green skin make them nearly invisible to prey.
- Alligator snapping turtles have mud-colored skin and algae-covered shells. They also have yellow patterns around their eyes to break up the outline of the eyes for additional camouflage.
Instead of blending in, some animals use coloration to attract attention.

- **Colobus monkey adults** have black faces and black and white hair while their babies are born with all white hair and a pink face. They reach adult coloration at about 6 months of age. Biologists believe that this is so that a baby is easy to identify within a large family group where all the adults take turning caring it.

- **Male lions** with darker manes are more attractive to female lions. One study showed that males with darker manes had higher testosterone levels, were more likely to recover from injury and had higher offspring survival.

- **Male and female mandrills** show great difference in coloration as well as size. Dominant adult males are more brightly colored than subordinate males. The bright coloration on their faces, as well as their rear ends, is attractive to a female. When a female’s rump becomes a more intense red, it is a signal to the alpha male that she receptive.

- **Blue-tongued skinks** tongue color is thought to primarily act as a signal that helps avoid aggression between members of this species. It may also have a secondary function as an anti-predation effect.
MEMBERSHIP OFFICE: (309) 681-3500 OR PZS@PEORIAPARKS.ORG

ADMISSION TIMES
As members it is more likely that you will stop by for a quick visit at the end of the day. Remember that last admission is 4:30 p.m. daily.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS
The Membership Office is happy to provide replacement membership cards at no cost. Please note, it may take up to 30 days to receive your permanent card. If you need one right away, stop by the Zoo front desk to receive a temporary card.

PHOTO ID
A Membership Card and Photo ID is required for each adult cardholder for entrance into the Zoo. Did you know that you can send in your picture to use on your membership profile in lieu of showing a Photo ID? For picture requirements e-mail the Membership Office for more information.

MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT

Sunday, August 26, 2018
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

As a thank you for your support, we invite our members to join us for an after hours member-only event! Adventure behind-the-scenes to view the giraffe indoor quarters and listen to animal “tales” from our keepers! The event also includes a complimentary snack at the Zambezi River Lodge.

Look for an e-mail invitation with RSVP link or RSVP at peoriazoo.org/member-resources

HOWL-ZOO-WEEN MEMBER NIGHT!

OCTOBER 11, 2018
5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

COST: $7/PERSON (AGES 1 & OVER)

Avoid the lines and join us for an exclusive Howl-ZOO-Ween member only night on Thursday! Pre-purchase tickets in the Safari Gift Shop starting September 1st!
Save the Date

JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS THIS FALL
(D) ZOO DROP-IN EVENTS AND FREE WITH ADMISSION/MEMBERSHIP.
(R) ZOO EVENT THAT REQUIRES ADVANCE REGISTRATION/PAYMENT.
(P) EVENTS THROUGHOUT GLEN OAK PARK.

AUGUST 11
BACK TO SCHOOL DAY
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Come spend your last bit of summer with the Zoo! Celebrated the summer and the start of a new year! (D)

AUGUST 25
40TH ANNUAL ZOO RUN RUN
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Join us for a fun and healthy way to support Peoria Zoo! Register for the Youth 1/4 Mile, 1 Mile Walk, or 5K Grand Prix race at peoriazoo.org. (R)

AUGUST 26
ZOO MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Join us after hours for a night of fun at Peoria Zoo! Check-out page 8 for information! (R)

SEPTEMBER 8
WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Join us in Glen Oak Park for the 6th annual WWDOP! Enjoy a free day of family friendly activities! (P)

SEPTEMBER 15-16
PRINCESS & PIRATE WEEKEND
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Come explore the Zoo dressed in your royal outfit or your buccaneer best as we explore the world of princesses and pirates! (D)

SEPTEMBER 29
FALL FRENCH MARKET
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Join us at Luthy Botanical Garden for a day of shopping, gourmet treats and more! $1/person admission. (P)

OCTOBER 5-28
HOGWARTS’ GARDEN OF BOTANICAL WONDERS
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Experience the magic of Harry Potter at this year’s Luthy Botanical Garden Chrysanthemum Show. (P)

OCTOBER 10-11
HOWL-ZOO-WEEN MEMBER NIGHT
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Our night just for Zoo Members! Ticket’s required. (R)

OCTOBER 12-13
HOWL-ZOO-WEEN
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Calling all ghosts and goulhs, join us for our annual event! See the inside cover for more information and ticket prices. (R)

OCTOBER 15
CRITTER CHRISTMAS
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Celebrate Christmas Zoo style with a light breakfast, crafts and gifts for the animals! (R)

DECEMBER 8
CRITTER CHRISTMAS
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Celebrate Christmas Zoo style with a light breakfast, crafts and gifts for the animals! (R)

Is the thought of planning a birthday party driving you wild? Let Peoria Zoo give your party animal a roaring good time! Visit peoriazoo.org to learn about our birthday party packages!

How much do rhinos weigh?
Where do giraffes sleep?
What goes on behind the exhibits?
Find out on our behind-the-scenes tours.

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
8/18 OR 9/29 • 9:00 - 10:00 AM • $26/Person
In the animal world, life is all about survival, and all animals are adapted to survive in the environments in which they live. Animals use color in a variety of ways to help them survive.

Some animals use color to help them hide from predators, while other animals use color to attract attention. Whether an animal is using color as a way to distract or as a way to attract, adaptive coloration is usually a very effective strategy.

Camouflage is the animal’s ability to blend into its environment by closely resembling the color of that environment. Desert animals are usually sandy in color. Many forest animals are green to blend with the green plants. Arctic animals are mostly white to blend with the snow on the ground. Sea birds are usually blue or gray on their backs and white on their belly. When the birds are flying over the ocean and viewed from above, these birds blend with the color of the ocean and when viewed from below they blend with the sky.

Sometimes the best way to blend in is to stick with the herd. When a lion confronts a herd of zebras, the zebra’s stripes disrupt the zebra’s outline. So it is difficult for the lion to tell where one zebra begins and another zebra ends. Schooling fish species use a similar adaptation, the fish might have bright colors that make it clearly visible to predators when it is alone, but in a large group they are just an unidentifiable colored blob.

Toxic or poisonous animals are often brightly colored, warning the predator that they are not good to eat. The coral snake has vibrant colored rings warning predators that they are a highly venomous. Gila monsters and poison dart frogs are almost immune from attack because of their display of warning colors.

Animals use mimicry by displaying a color pattern that very closely resembles or mimics the color of a dangerous animal, giving predators the impression that they possess the same kind of defense as the animal they resemble. While a milk snake is not venomous and does not pose much of a threat to a predator, it looks so much like a coral snake so most predators will not even take the chance.

Whether an animal’s survival strategy is distraction or attraction using color is often the animal’s first opportunity to make an impression. Let’s be honest, some animals make quite a successful first impression.
Birthday Spotlight

A HORSE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR

By Regan Slonecker, Animal Keeper, Peoria Zoo

Are zebra white with black stripes or black with white stripes? Their skin is black and according to some research, they’re black with white stripes. A zebra’s stripes provide camouflage and make it difficult for a predator to pick out an individual when they’re in a group. A group of zebras are known as a dazzle!

Our dazzle at Peoria Zoo has 1 male and 2 female Grevy’s zebra. This issue we are celebrating the birthday of Hogan, our male zebra, born on September 23. Hogan likes to spend time by himself and he is the most relaxed of the group. When going through a doorway, he hangs back and allows the girls to go first. The zebras are in a mixed species outdoor exhibit that is shared with the rhinos and tend to give the rhinos their space. Hogan enjoys eating and some of his favorite enrichment items are carrots and horse treats. Through our enrichment and training exercises, the keepers have not seen our zebras react differently to individual colors. We do know that zebra do see blues and greens but not reds.
GOING GREEN IN A DISPOSABLE WORLD

By Douglas Holmes, Green Team Leader, Peoria Zoo

In 2008, the Peoria Zoo Green Team was created and challenged with evaluating the Zoo’s ecological footprint. After a thorough evaluation of their current practices, the Green Team created goals to recycle more and ultimately create less waste. The team’s mission of reducing the Zoo’s ecological footprint led to a positive impact on the environment, Glen Oak Park, the surrounding neighborhood, and most importantly the animals at Peoria Zoo.

Some of the Green Team’s goals were not realistic, but others were very attainable. Peoria Zoo collaborated with other AZA institutions and came up with a large list of projects to meet their goals. The team quickly learned they had lofty goals, but even with their smaller-scaled projects, they were cultivating ways to make progress towards their goals.

Originally, most of the projects were scheduled around Earth Day, which was the perfect time to showcase projects, allow for Zoo visitors to pitch in, and collaborate to help make a wider impact. Public involvement and education quickly moved to the forefront of their process. Children became one of the target markets and continue to be today through the Zoo’s daily Keeper Chats, which all have conservation messages.

Many of the Green Team projects were a no-brainer. Simple tasks like turning off lights and computers, fixing leaky faucets and reducing paper and plastic could save the Zoo thousands of dollars in operational costs. In turn, it meant fewer fossil fuels used to produce and transport products and the change provided more money and resources to do other projects on the list.

Last year, the Peoria Zoo Green Team was honored for making waves at the Clean Water Celebration. Nearly 2,000 school aged students were informed on how our daily decisions are making an impact on the environment. The Green Team was honored to be recognized by the Peoria community for making a positive impact through our mission to reduce our ecological footprint.

Here are some ways the Zoo has conserved our resources over the past decade. We believe these are things you can adopt at home:

Repurpose paper

Although this is an ongoing battle, making simple choices such as repurposing into scrap paper or printing on both sides can and has reduced waste. While we would love to go paperless, we know that it isn’t always an option!

Reduce use of plastic bags

At the Zoo, we have saved over eighty-five hundred plastic bags per year from being landfilled by using recycled feed bags or not using bags at all. We recommend changing to reusable bags!

Eliminate straws

Did you know that every day we utilize enough straws in the US that when lined end to end wrap around the earth two and a half times? We recommend using alternatives or eliminating your usage.

Change to LED light bulbs

The Zoo was able to switch to LED bulbs due to a generous donation, which has saved us thousands of dollars in operational expenses. The Zoo originally had twenty-four 100-watt light bulbs, running eight hours per day in the Conservation Center. After switching to LED’s, running the same amount of time, the Zoo will save $15,000 over the next five years in operational costs.

Preserve the area around you

The Green Team has a one and half mile stretch on Route 116 that they clean four times per year. The cleanups keep trash from entering local streams that lead into the river.
**Animal Birthdays**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR CURIOUS CATS, REMARKABLE REPTILES AND ALL THAT CALL PEORIA ZOO HOME.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST 1</td>
<td>Harold</td>
<td>cotton-headed tamarin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST 3</td>
<td>Sparky</td>
<td>Chinese alligator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST 15</td>
<td>Vivian</td>
<td>giraffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST 16</td>
<td>Tara</td>
<td>mandrill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST 28</td>
<td>Herminone</td>
<td>wrinkled hornbill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST 30</td>
<td>Peach</td>
<td>muntjac</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 9</td>
<td>Arthur</td>
<td>lion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 11</td>
<td>Harris</td>
<td>white rhinoceros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 23</td>
<td>Hogan</td>
<td>Grevy’s zebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 1</td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>parma wallaby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 23</td>
<td>Lizzy</td>
<td>lion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER 4</td>
<td>Elvis</td>
<td>California kingsnake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRINCESS & PIRATE Weekend**

WEAR YOUR FINEST ROYAL OUTFIT OR BUCCANEER BEST TO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF PRINCESSES AND PIRATES WITH A ZOO TWIST.

SEPTEMBER 15 & 16

11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

**DO YOU SHOP AT SCHNUCKS?**

If so, you can help support the Zoo! Schnucks will make a contribution to PZS for a portion of all your purchases year-round! It is free to sign up and doesn’t cost you anything.

To sign up or for more information, contact the PZS office at pzs@peoriaparks.org.
By Mary Mulay, Gift Shop Manager

We are constantly getting new merchandise into the Shop so we invite you to come look every time you are at the Zoo! Below are a few of our favorites this season! Special yearly markdown and closet-out items are happening now so come shop with us soon!

**NEW ITEMS:**
- Push broom heads
- Feather dusters
- Zip ties
- Carabiners/clips
- Sandpaper
- PVC pipe
- Dowel rods
- Paper yard bags
- Paper lunch bags
- Spices & Extracts
- Food dyes
- CDs (nature sounds)
- Wind chimes
- Rubbermaid totes
- Grapevine wreaths
- Mister fans
- Burlap
- Sheets, Towels & Blankets
- Paint brushes
- Frisbees

**RECYCLED ITEMS:**
- Large appliance boxes
- Metal measuring cups
- Metal measuring spoons
- Yard flamingos
- Disco balls
- CD players
- Portable DVD players

**SPECIALITY GIFTS & HOME GOODS**

Find a variety of gifts that are unique and tell a story! We have a several lines of items made in Africa that feature environmentally friendly materials rather than their scarce local resources!

*Pictured here: Painting-$47.95, Eyeglass Holder-$20.95 and Glass Tray-$15.95*

**BRANDED MERCHANDISE**

Show that you support Peoria Zoo with our branded merchandise! We have everything from hats to t-shirts to reusable bags!

*Pictured here: Adult Pullover-$30.95 and Hat-$16.95*

**BACK TO SCHOOL GEAR**

We have a large variety of backpacks and other bags for your back to school needs. For after school, or for younger children, find a variety of books, workbooks, activity pads and more!

*Pictured here: Giraffe Backpack-$27.95 and Rolling Lion Backpack-$29.95*

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**REMEMBER PEORIA ZOO MEMBERS GET 10% OFF ALL REGULARLY PRICED MERCHANDISE!**
Thank you to our 2018 Sponsors:
A Perfect Pear Boutique, Barrack’s CaterInn, Barton Family Foundation, Ginny & Dave Gill, Heaven on Earth, Hearth and Patio, Hometown Community Banks, Illinois National Bank, Jaguar Land Rover of Peoria, Soderstrom Skin Institute, Katherine Yarbrough, 98.5 Kiss FM, WWCT 99.9, 96.5 ESPN, & 101.1 Jack FM.

Thank you to everyone that attended Zootini, our annual martini fundraising event on May 10th at Peoria Zoo!

Thank you to our 2018 Vendors:

Peoria Zoo Member Morning: Labor Day!

Want to beat the crowd and catch a special glimpse of Peoria Zoo early in the morning? Then join us for our monthly Member Morning! The first Monday of each month, Peoria Zoo Members can enter the Zoo an hour early at 9:00 a.m. to see the animals as they venture out into their exhibits for the day. Don’t forget, the Zoo is open on Labor Day, September 3, so join us early that day at 9:00 a.m. for Member Morning!

Zoo Run Run

The 40th Annual Zoo Run Run is a fun healthy way to support the growth of Peoria Zoo. The event consists of Youth 1/4 Mile Run for ages 12 and under, a 1 mile walk for all ages, and a 5K (3.1 mile) Grand Prix race that winds through the Zoo and Glen Oak Park. Racers will start and finish near the Africa! Portal in Peoria Zoo at Glen Oak Park.

Registration includes a 2018 Zoo Run Run t-shirt, prizes, entrance all day into the Zoo and post-race food.

Registration is available online at PeoriaZoo.org
Peoria Zoological Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting and realizing the vision for the Peoria Zoo.

LIONS, LIBATIONS & LIVE MUSIC! An Evening to Support the Vision of Peoria Zoo.
Saturday, September 22, 2018 at Peoria Zoo

Lions, Libations, and Live Music! Join us for our largest fundraising event to support the vision of Peoria Zoo! Be there for exclusive animal adventures including behind-the-scenes experiences, up-close animal encounters, and personalized chats with our animal experts. Guests will enjoy a progressive dinner with culinary delights, libations, and entertainment through their travels around Peoria Zoo. Learn more at peoriazoo.org/zoo-la-la