

# Zoo Tales

DECEMBER 2017



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## DEVELOPMENT CORNER



Even though it may be chilly outside, there are many animals at Peoria Zoo who love the cold! Our tigers and takin are especially adapted for cool weather and have a blast playing in the snow. Remember, the Zoo is open 360 days each year!

In 2017, we started a new fundraising event called Zoo La La, and despite the over 90 degree weather toward the end of September, it was a smashing success! With three different musical acts, a fire performance artist, an egg carving demonstration, special animal encounters and delicious food and drinks, our guests were entertained all evening long.

This is the time of year when we think about giving gifts to our family and friends, as well as giving back to our community. There are many ways we can help you with that! For example, have you ever considered giving the gift of membership to Peoria Zoo? A membership lasts for one year from the date of purchase, so this is a gift that will be enjoyed through all seasons. In addition to memberships, more gift ideas are included in our Holiday Gift Guide found on page 5 of this issue.

Another gift that could be appreciated for many days is your own parking spot at Peoria Zoo! Between now and December 31st, any gift of \$25 or more to Peoria Zoological Society qualifies you to be entered into a contest to win your own parking spot right outside our entrance. The more you give, the more times you will be entered into the contest. The money generated from this appeal will go toward purchasing a Hi Spy Viewing Machine in our new Lion Overlook Research Station. Fill out the form below and return it to enter!

Finally, we offer the option of giving to our Mission Fund. The Mission Fund supports Peoria Zoological Society and our efforts to grow Peoria Zoo. A donation to the Mission Fund can be made by contacting our office at (309) 681-3500, or mailing a check made out to Peoria Zoological Society to 2320 N Prospect Rd. Peoria, IL 61603.

Thank you for your generosity this year! The support of our members and donors allows us to be the world-class facility we are, right in the heart of central Illinois!

Brenda O’Russa, Development Director

### Fund a Need- Hi Spy Viewing Machine

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form & checks payable to PZS (Peoria Zoological Society) to 2320 N Prospect Rd, Peoria, IL 61603

# HOW IT ALL BEGAN!

Recently, framed copies of two Peoria Evening Star front pages appeared in my office. One was dated Wednesday, September 25, 1935 and the headline reads "MINE WAGE PROGRESS MADE." The other, dated Tuesday, October 1, 1935, declared "SECURITY ACT IS DEFENDED." After scanning the documents, I found why they had been given to me: the first had a story entitled "Zoos Pay Big Dividends In Enjoyment, Education" and the second had "Peoria Park Board Has Wonderful Zoo Lay-Out."

It appears the Star was conducting a petition drive to convince the Park Board to build a zoo in Peoria. The writer, Howard M. Fuller, uses the zoo in Jacksonville, Florida as a comparison. Jacksonville Zoo reported, "We have 103 large animals, 74 alligators, 25 monkeys, 83 small animals, 168 birds". Mr. Fuller comments, "That's some zoo isn't it? Peoria can hardly hope for one of similar size immediately, but it should take but a few years to build to these dimensions. There is no reason in the world why a wonderfully good start in that direction can not be made next spring."

To address concerns over operating costs it is stated that a zoo in Peoria would not need nearly as much as the Jacksonville Zoo budget of \$9,220. The reasons given for this assurance include: zoo labor would be provided by existing park employees; the corn, oats and hay needed to feed the animals could easily be grown on the 754 acres in Detweiller park; and animals would not have to be purchased as zoo enthusiasts were already offering to donate animals.

The second article ran one day before the petitions were be delivered to the Park Board and Mr. Fuller continued his support for a zoo in Peoria with reports of the great menagerie in Salt Lake City. "It (Salt Lake City) is a city in the Peoria classification, having a total population of some 140,267 souls – a little larger than Peoria, but probably not nearly as good a city, commercially and industrially, especially during depression times." While the Salt Lake City



zoo charged for visitors over the age of 17, Mr, Fuller states, "We want no such contrivance in Peoria. We want a zoo free to all the people not only of the Peoria park district but of all the world." The lay-out referred to in the title seems to have been a well guarded secret and Mr. Fuller writes that he will "probably tell you all about it in next Sunday's paper."

Although it took a little longer than Mr. Fuller envisioned and the budget is a tad bit higher, Peoria does have a zoo that is a "most marvelous attraction and drawing card to the citizens of Peoria and the surrounding area."

– Yvonne Strode,  
Director, Peoria Zoo



*"...most marvelous attraction and drawing card to the citizens of Peoria and the surrounding area."*

## FUNDRAISERS & MEMBER NEWS



### Winter Warming Member Event



During this open-house style event, members will experience the Zoo in winter and the warmth of the Zambezi River Lodge's fireplace. Members can also enjoy activities and light treats.



Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Zambezi River Lodge, Peoria Zoo



Members will receive an invitation via e-mail. If you don't currently get the eNewsletter, please contact the Membership Office! Membership Card(s) and Photo ID are required for entrance!

Please RSVP by February 10<sup>th</sup> to (309) 681-3500 or [pzs@peoriaparks.org](mailto:pzs@peoriaparks.org)

## SPECIAL THANKS

### ZOOBREW *and* WINE TOO!

Thank you to all who attended our last fundraising event of the year, *Zoobrew and Wine Too!*, on October 19! We had a lovely evening full of beer and fine wine tastings, excellent appetizers, dessert and live music. Thank you to our generous sponsors and vendors:

#### 2017 Sponsors & Vendors:

Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano  
Hearth Restaurant  
W.E. Sullivan's Irish Pub and Fare  
McMahon's Pints & Plates  
Noir Tapas & Rendezvous  
Tannins & Hops  
Barton Family Foundation  
Hometown Community Banks  
Heaven on Earth  
Advanced Media Partners, LLC

EDGE, By Chef Dustin Allen  
Johnny's Italian Steakhouse  
Mackinaw Valley Winery  
The Publik House  
Kellehers On Water  
Katherine Yarbrough  
Autohaus of Peoria  
Heeren Event Rental, Inc.  
Soderstrom Skin Institute  
Barrack's Hospitality



A FUN AND CASUAL EVENT IN SUPPORT OF PEORIA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND PEORIA ZOO  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY HEIGHTS FINANCE CORPORATION AND A FRIEND OF PEORIA ZOO

Thank you to all who attended our new fundraising event of the year, *Zoo La La*, on September 23! It was a lovely evening full of entertainment, signature cocktails and gourmet food. A very special thank you is extended to our event co-chairs, Grace Sposato and Stan Butler and our generous sponsors:

Heights Finance Corporation  
Barton Family Foundation  
Lillie & Douglas Gillespie  
Soderstrom Skin Institute  
Friend of Peoria Zoo  
Advanced Media Partners, LLC  
Maloof Commercial Real Estate  
Growing Smiles Pediatric Dentistry

Autohaus of Peoria  
Ginny & Dave Gill  
Kathy Yarbrough  
Bremer Jewelry  
Heaven on Earth

*Our next fundraising event will be Zootini, in Spring 2017!*

## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

### A.D.O.P.T. An Animal

Our A.D.O.P.T (Animals Depend On People Too) program is a great way to show your support of Peoria Zoo. For a special, limited-time only, you can adopt a sloth or tiger for \$50 and receive a free plush while supplies last! To receive this special offer, sign up in the Safari Gift Shop!

#### **Adoptive Parents Will Receive:**

- Certificate of Adoption
- Animal Fact Sheet
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Name on A.D.O.P.T. board at Peoria Zoo
- Plush sloth or tiger while supplies last!

### *Membership Promotion*

Looking for perfect gifts for your friends and loved ones? Buy a Peoria Zoo Membership as a holiday gift today! Your gift of a membership will last all year long. Gift purchases may be made by mail, phone, online or at Peoria Zoo's Safari Gift Shop.

Purchase a membership at the Safari Gift Shop between now and December 31 and receive a FREE PLUSH FOX while supplies last!



## THE GIVING TREE



Ah, the holiday season... Are you struggling to find the perfect gift for the animal lover in your life who has everything? Consider giving the gift of enrichment to the Zoo animals in their name. The Giving Tree is located in Peoria Zoo's Tropics Building and online at [www.peoriazoo.org](http://www.peoriazoo.org).

The Giving Tree is filled with ornaments, each requesting a specific toy or other item for the animal pictured on the front. The ornaments are categorized into many different price levels, from under \$10 for a bird toy, to around \$15 for a plastic branch that a snake can hide inside, all the way up to \$200 for a giant, indestructible ball for a lion or tiger to play with.

The Giving Tree is a way that Zoo visitors can directly provide toys and other fun items for the animals. The Giving Tree is available year-round and is a great alternative for birthday and holiday gifts or for any time!

## amazon.com<sup>®</sup> Wish List!

The Peoria Zoo animal staff has developed an Amazon "wish list" - a list of items needed to enrich the lives of the animals and enhance the guest experience. Similar to the physical "Giving Tree" located at the Zoo, this online database offers a hassle-free way to support the animals at Peoria Zoo.

#### **Wish List Link:**

[amzn.com/w/2RW919UX3CSG2](http://amzn.com/w/2RW919UX3CSG2)

## SAFARI GIFT SHOP

Come check out all of the great holiday gifts for sale at Peoria Zoo! Find a collection of candles, mugs, unique ornaments and so much more. We are currently making way for 2018 inventory, so come see all our great deals! Stop in and shop with us today!

**Remember, Peoria Zoo members receive 10% off regular priced merchandise in the Safari Gift Shop!**

# December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Winter Warming Zoo Member Event</b> Save the Date for Saturday, February 17th for our Zoo Member Appreciation Event!						1 Critter Christmas 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
3  Leo, White Rhino	4 Member Morning 9:00 a.m.	5	6  Gidget & Maggs, Nigerian Dwarf Goats	7 WMBD - 6:20 a.m.	8	9
10	11	12	13 WEEK - 5:50 a.m. Homeschool 10:00 a.m.	14  Louise, Burmese Python	15	16
17	18	19 Homeschool 10:00 a.m.	20	21 WMBD - 6:20 a.m.	22	23
24 Zoo Closed	25 Zoo Closed	26 	27 WHOI - 6:25 a.m.	28	29	30
31 Zoo Closed	Panamanian Golden Frogs					

# January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Zoo Closed	2	3	4 WMBD - 6:20 a.m.	5	6
7	8	9	10 WEEK - 5:50 a.m. Homeschool 10:00 a.m.	11	12	13  Cruz, Blue and Gold Macaw
14	15	16	17 	18 WMBD - 6:20 a.m.	19	20
21	22	23 	24 WHOI - 6:20 a.m. All Peoria Zoo Boa Constrictors	25	26	27 Frogwatch 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
28	29	30 Homeschool 10:00 a.m. Tana, Colobus Monkey	31	<b>Peoria Zoo Hours</b> Remember the Zoo is open 360 days of the year from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. with last admission at 4:30 p.m.		

# February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Happy Birthday, Agnes!</b> <b>On February 1st, Agnes will celebrate her 46th birthday!</b>				 <b>WMBD</b> - 6:20 a.m. <i>Agnes, Black Handed Spider Monkey</i>		
 <b>Member Morning</b> 9:00 a.m.			<b>WEEK</b> - 5:50 a.m.			<b>Romance at the Zoo</b> 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. & 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
			<b>Homeschool</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>WMBD</b> - 6:20 a.m.		<b>Winter Warming</b> 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
<b>Year of the Dog</b> 2:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. <i>Juan, Gernuk</i>			<b>WHOI</b> - 6:20 a.m. <i>Female, Spotted Turtle</i>	<b>Homeschool</b> 10:00 a.m.		<b>Frogwatch</b> 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
		<b>Homeschool</b> 10:00 a.m.		<b>ZooCamp 2018</b> <b>Registration for summer ZooCamp 2018 will begin on Thursday, March 1st!</b>		

# March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Easter Egg Scramble</b> <b>Save the Date for our Easter Egg Scramble on Saturday, March 24!</b>				<b>WMBD</b> - 6:20 a.m. <b>ZooCamp Registration Begins</b>		<b>Breakfast with the Reptiles</b> 9:00 a.m.
<b>Breakfast with the Reptiles</b> 9:00 a.m. <i>Neo, Cotton Top Tamarin</i>	 <b>Member Morning</b> 9:00 a.m.		<b>WEEK</b> - 5:50 a.m.			
	 <i>Ori, Theory, Beagle, Meerkats</i>	 <i>Pumpkin, Red River Hog</i>	<b>Homeschool</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>WMBD</b> - 6:20 a.m.		<b>ZooTeen Open House</b> 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
	<i>Cody, Colobus Monkey</i>	<i>Earl, Emu</i>		<b>Homeschool</b> 10:00 a.m.		<b>Easter Egg Scramble</b> <i>Philly, Mandrill</i>
		<b>Homeschool</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>WHOI</b> - 6:20 a.m. <i>Scraper, Armadillo</i>			<b>Behind-The-Scenes</b> 9:00 a.m.

## SPECIES PROFILE

### *As Time Goes By...*

One of the many great things about working at a zoo is being able to watch animals grow up and most certainly grow quickly. Human babies will approximately double their weight in the first six months and then at 1 year of age be about 3 times larger than at birth. Compare that to our female tigers that were born in 2012. At 5 years of age, they have reached their adult weights with Sasha at close to 300 pounds and Nikita at 250 pounds (she takes after her slender-hipped father). At birth Sasha was the largest of litter at a whopping 5  $\frac{3}{4}$  pounds while Nikita was the runt at 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. Sasha gained 69 pounds in her 1st six months and weighed 170 pounds at 1 year of age. Nikita gained 59 pounds by age 6 months and weighed 138 pounds at 1 year of age.

The lion cubs born at the end of 2015 have stayed closer in weight so it is not easy to tell them apart based on their body size. Kali was the largest in her litter at 3 pounds, weighed 78 pounds at 6 months and 185 pounds at 1 year. Zuri is behind the others

in weight but not attitude; her birth weight was 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds and she weighed 71 pounds at 6 months and 170 pounds at 1 year. Nia was the runt and had the hardest start in life. Weighing only 2 pounds at birth, she was up to 75 pounds in 6 months and 175 pounds in 12 months.

Although the cat weight gains are impressive, they can't compare to the giraffe born in 2016. Within hours after birth, Finely was given a medical exam and he weighed in at 102  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds which is actually on the lighter side for a baby giraffe. At 6 months of age, he tipped the scales at 458 pounds and by 1 year of age he was 724 pounds. Considering that his father weighs 2520 pounds, Finely still has a lot of growing to do. Since he rarely stands still, it is hard to get an accurate height on Finely. We do know that he was 64 pounds tall at birth since we were able to briefly make him stand still and fully upright. However we are able to get a good estimate when he stands next to a block wall because we know the blocks are 8" tall. At birth, the top of Finely's head was at the 8 block level and now it is at the 12 block level – an increase of over 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  feet in a little over 1 year.

	Birth	6 Months	12 Months	Adult Parent Weight
Tiger, Sasha	5.75 #	75 #	170 #	~300 #
Tiger, Nikita	3.5 #	62 #	138 #	~300 #
Lion, Kali	3.1 #	78 #	185 #	~360 #
Lion, Zuri	2.5 #	71 #	170 #	~360 #
Lion, Nia	2.0 #	75 #	175 #	~360 #
Giraffe, Finely	102.5 #	458 #	724 #	2520 #



Tiger at birth



Tiger 2017



Finely at birth



Finely 2017



Lions at birth



Lions 2017

## CONSERVATION CONNECTION



**Cause for Concern:** After an absence of over 300 years, the Eurasian beaver was reintroduced to Scotland in 2009. In the official release area, the animals have created new wetlands and helped regulate flooding. Unfortunately, a group was illegally released in a second location causing flooding of agricultural land. Without legal protection, at least 21 beavers have been killed.

**Cause for Hope:** In August, 54 captive born scimitar-horned oryx were released into the wild on the edge of the Sahara desert in Chad. Once widespread across North Africa, this large antelope was listed in 2000 as “extinct in the wild” on the IUCN Red Data List. Overhunting and habitat loss, including competition with domestic livestock, were the main causes of the drastic decline. The latest release is the third, and largest, to date. On August 14, 2016, 8.13 (8 males/13 females) were reintroduced into the wild and the first calf birth in the wild in more than 20 years occurred on September 21. A

second group of 6.8 was released on January 21, 2017. All antelope are fitted with radio collars and thriving in their native habitat.



## Spread The Word...

**We're changing the way we communicate with our members!**

In an effort to conserve our resources, we will no longer be sending out paper member event invitations. Look for an invitation through e-mail. Not currently receiving our eNewsletter? E-mail [pzs@peoriaparks.org](mailto:pzs@peoriaparks.org) and we will add your e-mail to our contacts so you stay in the know.

Updated membership information can also be found at [www.peoriazoo.org/membership/member-resources/](http://www.peoriazoo.org/membership/member-resources/)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

# Critter Christmas

Saturday, December 2nd

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Experience Christmas, Zoo style! Enjoy a light breakfast and crafts with Santa in our lodge from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., and then head out into the Zoo.

Starting at 10:00 a.m., our animals will receive gifts. All of the animals, from meerkats, to lions, to tigers, will receive special treats throughout the morning. Special thanks to the Ol' Dairy Barn Christmas Tree Farms in Trivoli for the Christmas trees.



**BUY TICKETS AHEAD OF TIME AND SKIP THE LINE!**

**MEMBER COST: \$6/CHILD, \$9/ADULT**

**NON-MEMBER COST: \$12/CHILD, \$18/ADULT**

Special thank you to our  
Howl-ZOO-Ween sponsors:



# Easter Egg Scramble

March 24th • 10:30 a.m.

Looking for a hopping good time? Bounce on over to Peoria Zoo for our annual Easter egg celebration, loaded with candy and fun. The Easter Egg Scramble is for children 0-9 years.



## Tickets

**ADVANCED TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE BARTON PAVILION!**

Member: \$3.50/Child; Free/Adult  
Non-Member: \$9/Child; \$9.50/Adult

## Time & Age

10:30 a.m. - Ages 0-3 years  
10:50 a.m. - Ages 4-6 years  
11:10 a.m. - Ages 7-9 years

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

All Classes and Tours listed on this page require advanced registration!  
Please call (309) 681-3559 for questions or to make reservations.

### Ed-Zoo-Cational Adventure

These 45 minute programs enhance any visit to the Zoo. With many topics to choose from, give your group a chance to meet animals up close! Call for pricing.

### Zoo Adventure Combo

Come with us as we take you on a tour through the Zoo. Our Zoo Adventure Combo includes a 45 minute class on a topic of your choice with live animals, as well as a personal guide through the Zoo to tell you about the animals and answer your questions. This program lasts approximately 1.5 hours. Call for pricing.

### Zoo Snooze

Ever had a giraffe peering in your bedroom window? You now can when you spend the night at Peoria Zoo! Get a chance to sleep in *Africa!*, enjoy nocturnal tours, meet some animals up close and find out what the Zoo is like at night. Your group's adventure begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends the next morning at 9:00 a.m. Snack and breakfast are provided as well as admission into the Zoo the next day. This program is great for scouts, church groups and so many others! Must be five years old or older to participate; one chaperone required for every five children. Offered throughout summer and fall. Call for pricing.

**Age:** 5 years and over

**Min:** 20

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### Year of the Dog

Join us as we celebrate the Chinese New Year and welcome the Year of the Dog. Enjoy light snacks as we learn about these amazing animals, create a craft and even get a chance to meet some other Chinese Zodiac animals up close!

**Member Cost:** \$9/Adult, \$6/Child

**Non-Member Cost:** \$18/Adult,  
\$12/Child

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

**Date:** 2/18

### Frogwatch

Join the growing number of Citizen Scientists, learning how to count frogs by identifying their calls. Over the course of training we will teach you how to identify different frogs and toads, where and how to listen for them and how to report what you heard. Learn about these fascinating amphibians and help make a difference in the world around you!

**Cost:** None

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Date:** 1/27 or 2/24



### Romance at the Zoo

Join us as we look at the complicated, beautiful and sometimes bizarre courtship rituals of the animal kingdom. From videos, to meeting animals up close, this will give you a whole new perspective on relationships! Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

**Cost:** \$15/person

**Time:** 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  
or 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**Date:** 2/10

### Breakfast with the...

Our popular series is back, with new breakfast opportunities. Join us for a light breakfast while learning about the animal of the day. Then head down to their exhibit and see the featured animal enjoy their breakfast, too! This is perfect for the entire family and includes admission to the Zoo for the rest of the day.

**Member Cost:** \$9/Adult, \$6/Child

**Non-Member Cost:**  
\$18/Adult, \$12/Child

**Min/Max:** 5/25

**Time:** 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**Dates:**

- 3/3 or 3/4: Reptiles
- 4/14 or 4/15: Lions

### Behind-The-Scenes Tour

How much do rhinos weigh? Where do giraffes sleep? All this and more will be answered during our behind-the-scenes tour. This hour long tour will take you into areas the public doesn't normally get to see so you can learn more about the animals and their care.

**Cost:** \$25/person

**Time:** 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**Dates:** 3/31, 4/21

### Homeschool

Science has never been more exciting with up-close animal encounters, tours, experiments and more. Each month has a new topic and helps to meet state standards. Parents are welcome but not required.

**Cost:** \$6/M or \$12/NM

**Age:** 5 – 13

**Min/Max:** 10/30

**Time:** 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

### Formal Homeschool

- 12/13: What's Going on at the Zoo
- 1/10: Eye See You
- 2/14: Can You Hear Me Now?
- 3/14: The Nose Knows

### Informal Homeschool

- 12/19: Rainforest
- 1/30: Why Animal Why?
- 2/27: Animal Olympics
- 3/27: The Odor of it All

### Luthy/Zoo Homeschool

This unique homeschool will bring together plants and animals utilizing both Luthy Botanical Garden and Peoria Zoo. One of a kind science based lessons that may include up-close animal encounters, tours, experiments and more.

- 2/22: Adaptations
- 3/22: Families



M = Member,  
NM = Non-Member



2320 N. Prospect Road  
Peoria, IL 61603-2193

Non-Profit  
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PAID  
Peoria, IL  
Permit No. 193

### Information

Zoo Hours:

Open Daily From

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

Gates Close at 4:30 p.m.

(309) 686-3365  
www.peoriazoo.org

Mission: To create connections that inspire an appreciation for the natural world.

Peoria Zoological Society (PZS) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting and realizing the vision for Peoria Zoo. *ZooTales* is a quarterly newsletter for the members of PZS.



# GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS ALL YEAR LONG

PEORIA ZOO MEMBERSHIPS START AT \$40 AND LAST ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE



[WWW.PEORIAZOO.ORG/MEMBERSHIP](http://WWW.PEORIAZOO.ORG/MEMBERSHIP)



Peoria Zoo has been an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) since 1976. Look for the AZA logo whenever you visit a zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things. With its more than 200 accredited members, AZA is a leader in global wildlife conservation, and your link to helping animals in their native habitats. For more information, visit [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org).