

**Volume 4
Number 25
June 2015**

Keeping In Touch

It's hard to believe that we are already halfway thru the year. As we head into summer heat, I hope everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the many June activities celebrating Zoo month. The Zoo team works very hard on these events and they always do a great job. They take their work very seriously which shows in the health and happiness of the animals and beautiful appearance of the grounds. Be sure to thank them during your next visit.

Once again, thank you for your continuing support of the Zoo thru your membership. Without your support the Zoo wouldn't be the community gem it is. Be sure to ask your family and friends to join, get out and visit the best little Zoo in the country and enjoy your summer.

Joe Michaels, EFOZ President

Upcoming Events!

Stroll & Show - June 12

EFOZ Annual Open House – June 28

Zoo Camp – July 6-10

Kidzoocation – August 22

Boo In The Zoo – October 31

Kidzoocation – November 21

Happy Holidayze – November 24

7:00pm

1:00-3:00pm

9:00am-12noon

10:00-11:00am

4:00-5:30pm

10:00-11:00am

5:00pm



Is
ACCREDITED
By

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and a  Participant



DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Summer has arrived and the flowers are in full bloom, the tropical birds have made their way back into their summer exhibits and the rest of the animals are enjoying the longer days and warm sunshine. As we look forward to the construction of the new Mission Madagascar exhibit this summer, we are adding a few new residents to our Zoo family to help fill the additional space. We will be receiving a pair of ringtail lemurs. A female will arrive from the Pueblo Zoo in Colorado and a male from the Tautphaus Park Zoo in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Mission Madagascar will also become home to 3 common spider tortoises that will arrive from the Knoxville Zoo in Tennessee and 3 radiated tortoises from the Tulsa Zoo in Oklahoma. Unfortunately, the pathway at the West end of the Zoo will close during construction but will reopen as soon as the construction is complete.

June brings Zoo Month which is celebrated by a fun event, Stroll & Show. Mark your calendars for June 12 and take the family out for a fun evening beginning at 7pm. Take a stroll through the Zoo and participate in the many activities and then the outdoor movie, The Wild begins at dusk. This event is free to the public and would not be possible without the continued support of our community partners (U.S. Cellular, Flinthill's Optimist Club, Country Mart, Bluestem Farm & Ranch and Dave's Pumping Service).

The Emporia Friends of the Zoo Open House will close out the month of June by holding their annual event on June 28 from 1-3pm. Zoo visitors will be allowed to tour the off-exhibit area, quarantine and veterinary facilities with opportunities to visit with staff and docents to ask questions. Free popcorn and balloons will also be offered along with fun activities for the kids provided by PrairieLand Partners John Deere and the Emporia Fire Department.

Don't forget the Zoo is also open late on Sundays and Wednesdays until 8pm through Labor Day to meet the needs of the community. If you have family coming to visit this summer, be sure to share the beauty of the Zoo with them. You can also beat the heat by visiting early in the day or pour on some sunscreen, grab a floppy hat, water and a sack lunch and spend the afternoon with us.

As I bring this article to a close, I wanted to say THANK YOU to the community, city leadership and businesses for supporting the Zoo in so many ways. From donating cardboard cylinders, plastic ice cream tubs, tools, monetary donations including becoming a member of the Zoo; these small acts of generosity and endless giving is what makes this Zoo special.

Until next time.....

---Lisa Keith

Donations have been received in Memory of.....

(established since last newsletter)

**Rickie Hinrichs
Pat Krumme**

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Together we can complete this picture.
Join us in saving animals from extinction.



**ASSOCIATION
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SAFE™
SAVING ANIMALS
FROM EXTINCTION

2015 celebrates the 10th Anniversary of Endangered Species Day.

AZA's 229-accredited members are coming together in a variety of ways to help the public consider what it would be like to not be able to see, learn from or connect with these incredible animals again. This is to raise awareness of the efforts to save animals from extinction and to help launch AZA SAFE: Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE).

Through SAFE, AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums will convene scientists and stakeholders globally to identify the factors threatening species, develop Conservation Action Plans, collect new resources and engage the public.

In 2015, SAFE will focus on 10 species and then add an additional 10 species each year for the next 10 years. The inaugural 10 species include: African penguin, Asian elephants, Black rhinoceros, cheetah, gorilla, sea turtles, vaquita, sharks and rays, Western pond turtle and Whooping Crane.

The David Traylor Zoo of Emporia is involved with conservation efforts including Black-footed ferret reintroduction in western Kansas, Lemur Conservation Foundation and Friends of the Florida Panther just to name a few.

One of the easiest conservation actions the public can take is to visit the FREE David Traylor Zoo of Emporia and make a donation in our Coins for Conservation graphic. Doing so directly supports the collaborative efforts of hundreds of researchers, field conservationists and scientists from AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums working to save animals from extinction.

ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS | SAFE | Frito-Lay

FRITO-LAY IS A PROUD PARTNER OF AZA SAFE: SAVING ANIMALS FROM EXTINCTION

HELP US SAVE ENDANGERED SPECIES

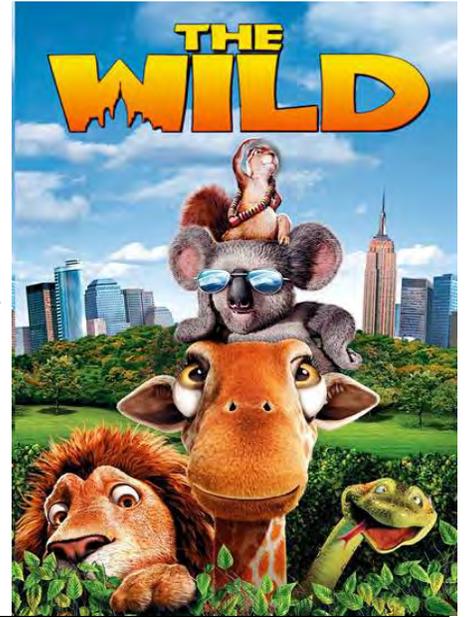
Between 12:01am CT on 5/15/15 and 11:59:59pm CT on 6/15/15, Frito-Lay will match donations to SAFE made through FritoLayZooFun.com and donate \$1 for every social media share from FritoLayZooFun.com up to a maximum of \$100,000. Limit \$1 social media share donation per person per day.

STROLL & SHOW JUNE 12th 7PM

Stroll through the Zoo then head over to the Zoo Education Center classroom and lawn area for games and movie related activities. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and reserve your spot to watch *The Wild* at dusk, on the giant outdoor screen.

*Free concessions while they last.

Sponsored by: U.S. Cellular, Flint Hills Optimist Club, Bluestem Farm & Ranch, City of Emporia, Country Mart and Dave's Pumping Service



ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE JUNE 28th 1-3PM (the Zoo will open at 1pm)

- ☆purchase animal-related souvenirs
- ☆free popcorn and balloons (while they last)
- ☆Fire Department will offer children's activity
- ☆purchase a ride on the Sertoma miniature train
- ☆EFOZ memberships will be available for purchase
- ☆tour off-exhibit area, quarantine and veterinary building
- ☆freshly grilled hot dogs and ice cold beverages will be for sale
- ☆PrairieLand Partners will offer miniature tractor and Gator rides
- ☆visit the Zoo Education Center to interact with animal ambassadors
- ☆Docents, staff and volunteers will be available to answer your questions

We still have openings for Zoo Camp being held July 6-10 for children who have completed 3rd or 4th grade.
Call 341-4365 for more information.



EFOZ ROUNDUP

We made it through another very successful auction surpassing previous years fundraising amounts. This year's total of \$32,260 is the highest grossing auction we have had. We want to thank all who attended to make this such a wonderful event for the Zoo. We also want to thank all those who donated the wonderful items and those who helped in any way. We truly have a beautiful little Zoo that we should all be proud of. We have outgrown the ECC Ranch and hope you all can attend next year's auction that will be held at the newly remodeled Anderson building at the Lyon County Fairgrounds. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

—Shannon Schumann and Janel Burenheide, Co- Chairs



DOCENT REPORT

Summer is approaching and the Zoo has something for you! We are continuing to bring outdoor activities and ways to encourage your family to be wildlife friendly. Party for the Planet brought out hundreds of people even in the chilly temperatures. Some of the highlights were drinking pond water purified by Don Schlesselman and ZZ Pendana, a nonprofit organization that helps meet basic needs of children living in poverty. Past work has concentrated on regions in eastern Africa. <http://www.zzhelphinghands.org/>



The Soil Tunnel trailer from the Lyon County Conservation District was on site, Master Gardeners were composting with kids, docents were talking invasive species, the water cycle, potting seeds, and exploring the “backyard” of the ZEC to see what could be found. Many people stopped in the ZEC to color a plastic bottle to add to our plastic chandelier that will be hanging in the concession stand before World Oceans Day in June. It will be our reminder to consider taking the Plastic Pledge—using less and what you use should be recycled or up-cycled like our plastic chandelier. Stop by to color a bottle to be added to our project. We are also collecting bottle caps—colorful ones—that we will use in June to create a mosaic in recognition of World Oceans Day. Bring us your caps.

It is easy to spot new life if you look around the Zoo. Recently the Zoo has had some interesting nests being built. That was part of Kidzooocation in May; kids got to peek at secret, cozy nests that are hidden unless you really look. You can search for nests at home or at the Zoo until June 15th and you may submit your nest photo to the Funky Nest Contest at nestwatch.org. Remember, baby birds do not need our help and they are often protected by the Migratory Bird Act—when approaching a nest be especially aware of your actions and be careful not to disturb the nest or the birds. Enjoy your outdoor surroundings and connect with other Birders in a citizen-science way.



April showers brought May flowers and more visitors to the Zoo than any other month this year. We hosted school classes from around the area, Endangered Species Day, and continued Docent in the Zoo with the classroom open from 1-2:30pm on Sundays with docents available. We were out and about for KISS at the Mall and summer library visits started.

With school out, you may be looking for opportunities to practice school skills in a real world way. Stroll and Show on June 12th will give you an opportunity to use your creative literacy skills and write a story from our Zoo animals' perspective. Our animals will have letters written to you about their life, struggles, or conservation needs posted by their enclosures for you and your young to read while strolling through the Zoo. We hope that you will be inspired to create their stories. Like all good works of fiction, a story map will be used to guide your creative juices and a local author will be present to help you craft your story and sketch your illustrations. We'll be having a contest for the best script for *The Wild Side of the Emporia Zoo*. The featured movie that evening will be Disney's *The Wild*, you can count on having a wild time outdoors with fun and games for all ages. Snow cones, popcorn, movie on the lawn at dusk. Just one more way to tap into wildlife friendly fun!

Kansas may be land locked, but that doesn't stop our trash from finding its way into our oceans. World Oceans Day is June 8th and we're planning to get the word out about the perils of plastics and the effect it is having on our ocean life and eventually our food. The theme is *Healthy oceans, healthy planet*, and we making an effort

to stop plastic pollution. Look around and you will see a plastic bag blowing in the wind or a plastic bottle laying in the street. Where do these things go? There really isn't a place known as "away" so our water ways are carrying them to the oceans where they are becoming plastic soup. Do you already avoid disposable plastic bags? Then for [the Better Bag Challenge and World Oceans Day](#), consider going to the next level – cut out



microbeads! The better bag may be waiting in your closet, we'll be showing you how to make a bag from an old t-shirt and we have new shirts to purchase in the ZEC as well as at our events. Bring your old t-shirt to our next event and leave with a Better Bag!

There is always something to do at the Zoo! Zoo Camp is not yet full and August will bring another Kidzooocation. Check our website, come to the ZEC, or visit the Zoo. It's a nature rockin' fact that

spending time in the open air and learning outside increases our ability to think creatively and improves a child's problem-solving skills. Looking for ideas? www.naturerocks.org. Seeing animals up close at the Zoo or the ZEC is a great way to experience the wonders of the natural world. Come play with us!

Colleen Mitchell, Education Coordinator

Kidzooocation - exploring ABCs

Join us on **Saturday, August 22** from **10-11am** for a story, an encounter with a Zoo animal, a snack and to make a craft. This event is for **4 to 7 year old children**, with 1 adult per 2 children attending
Please remember for everyone's safety and enjoyment, all class participants must meet age requirements.

Fee: \$3 EFOZ member \$5 non-member
 Pre-register: 620-341-4365 or www.emporiazoo.org
REGISTRATION FORM for Kidzooocation
 (please print)

We will meet in the ZOO Education Center

Participant's Name _____ **Age** _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Email _____

Address _____ **City** _____

State _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____ **EFOZ member?** ___ **Fee** _____

Waiver Statement

The undersigned, as parent or legal guardian of the registered participant states that he/she understands that the Emporia Friends of the Zoo, the City of Emporia, and the Emporia Zoo Docents are not and shall not be responsible or liable for any illness, injury to person or damage to property resulting from the Kidzooocation Activity, and the undersigned, on behalf of themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, and the registered participant and their heirs, executors and administrators, do hereby remise, release and forever discharge the City of Emporia, Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action on account of any injury or illness to the participant or damage to property resulting from or during the Kidzooocation Activity and the attendance thereat, and does further waive any claim resulting from any photograph, photographic likeness or video tape taken of the participant while attending and participating in the Kidzooocation Activity and does further authorize the use of such photograph, photographic likeness or video tape by and as deemed appropriate by the Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents.

Signature of Authorized Parent or Legal Guardian _____ **Date** _____

Supermarket Sweep Green Facts

Be a discriminating shopper, otherwise a purchase could result in more spending on stuff you don't need. Avoiding the purchase of a product altogether is often the greenest, most economical thing you can do.

Focus on resource conservation and waste prevention—reuse and reduce.

Buy less stuff! Say no to new—check thrift shops and consignment stores.



We simulated a grocery store at Party for the Planet where you could make wise choices

Hydrate economically—drink tap water in a reusable water bottle. You can save \$900 a year (unless you are Madonna, who reportedly spends \$120,000 a year on bottled water).

Bulk up—buy groceries in bulk, rather than small or individual sizes, savings for a family of four may exceed \$1000 a year. Make sure you will really use the items. Products such as sugar, flour, cereal, and raisins are good choices to buy in large sizes.

Embrace reusables—cut back on disposable cleaning products such as wipes and toilet paper bowl scrubbers. Use rechargeable batteries when feasible. You can save more than \$300 annually.

If you're not buying recycled...you're not recycling.

Eco friendly foods come out of the ground or fall from a tree.

Organic foods tend to be more earth-friendly because they are certified free of fertilizers, bioengineering, and most pesticides.

Avoid shrink-wrapped, buy a tub of butter rather than individual sticks, look for in-season fruits and veggies, shop at the local farmer's market—buy local
www.emporiafarmersmarket.org

Buy eco-friendly lightbulbs CFL. Use your hair dryer for 5 minutes less or drip-dry!

House plants help eliminate indoor pollution – bring the jungle inside!

Get rid of junk mail. <https://www.paperkarma.com>

13 Ways to go green...recycle this page...share it with a friend

1. Unplug the charger for your cell phone, turn off appliances at the power source—you could save \$70 in a year on your electrical bill.
2. Run the dishwasher only when it is full—you will conserve 10-20 gallons of water a day! Don't use the dry cycle—open to air-dry.
3. Wash clothes on the cold cycle—you could save \$60 annually and our planet is spared 6.5 pounds in emissions per load. Wash only full loads and go easy on the soap.
4. Tote your own shopping bags. Only 0.6% of the 380 billion plastic bags discarded in the US get recycled.
5. Plot a week's worth of errands to save fuel. Keep your car well maintained and tires inflated properly.
6. Try to spot clean or hand-wash clothes rather than dry cleaning. Many harmful chemicals are used in a dry cleaning process. Find one that recycles hangers and uses a "clean, green" process.
7. Check labels to see how far your food has traveled. It means greater carbon emissions and less fresh, ripe food.
8. Bring your own coffee mug to the coffee shop. It means 30 times less solid waste and 60 times less air pollution.
9. Turn off your computer nightly. You will save about 75% fewer kilowatts.
10. Repurpose paper—the typical US worker uses 10,000 sheets each year. Less than 9% of the 8 million tons used is recycled, but going secondhand will use up to 90% less water and half the energy.
11. Reuse ink cartridges—recycle at the point of purchase (Staples) may save up to 90% on the cost of a new cartridge.
12. Use paper for produce rather than plastic at the grocery store.
13. Buy in bulk and repackage into smaller reusable containers for lunch and snacks.

David Traylor Zoo—There is always something to do at the ZOO!