From the Director’s Desk

FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO
MISSION
To inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

2013 was another remarkable year for Fresno Chaffee Zoo, and we have our great community to thank for it. The Zoo saw a record 691,320 guests visiting, up from the previous record (2012) by over 110,000! While most of our guests were from Fresno County, that number included visitors from 47 states and Washington DC, as well as 15 countries. Visitors from Germany, UK, Japan, New Zealand, Argentina, and many others were among our guests. Even more importantly, we had 50,000 students visit with their schools.

In 2013, we completed the design of African Adventure that will bring lions, rhinoceros, cheetahs, meerkats, wildebeest, African elephants, and many other African species to our Zoo. In partnership with the Gar and Esther Tootelian Foundation and California State University, Fresno, we opened Valley Farm; recognizing the importance of agriculture to our community and teaching children more about how their food is grown.

We also opened our King Cobra and Komodo Dragon exhibits, continuing the improvements to our Reptile Building.

With help from the County Board of Supervisors, Fresno City Council, Fresno County Zoo Authority, Zoo Corporation Board, Mayor Swearengin and Congressman Costa, we achieved a major accomplishment for the future of Fresno Chaffee Zoo, opening the way for the Zoo’s expansion and the beginning of African Adventure. In the next few years the Zoo will double in size, with the 13 acre African Adventure as the first phase of this new area.

We’re proud of our community, and proud to serve our community. We’re very grateful for the support we receive through friends and families visiting, our Zoo members, and the remarkable support we receive through Measure Z. We’ll continue to strive to be the best stewards of the trust and resources our community has given us.

- Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director
**Animal Collection**

*Our animal care team was busy this year with many hatchings and births. Significant reproduction highlights include two keel-billed toucan chicks, three blue-crowned motmot chicks, a blue duiker calf, one female Eastern black and white colobus baby, and the Zoo’s 21st reticulated giraffe birth.*

We have added to our diverse animal population through the acquisition of a new male sloth bear to be joined by a female in 2014, a young harbor seal, two new red wolves, tentacled water snakes, a male warthog, a young giant anteater, two female eland, and finally, a female Malayan tiger, who came to us from San Diego Zoo.

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**ANIMAL COLLECTION 2013 TOTALS**

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
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</table>

**BIRTHS**

- Cownose ray: 0.0.1
- Southern red stingray: 1.3.0
- Midas cichlid: 0.0.50
- Green & black poison dart frog: 0.2.4
- Kaiser spotted newt: 0.0.3
- Pacific pond turtle: 0.0.1
- Baker’s spiny-tailed iguana: 0.0.4
- Prehensile-tailed skink: 0.0.1
- Cape thick-knee: 0.0.2
- Blue-crowned motmot: 2.1.0
- Keel-billed toucan: 0.2.0
- Sun conure: 1.1.0
- Prehensile-tailed porcupine: 0.1.0
- Eastern black & white colobus: 0.0.1
- Blue duiker: 0.1.0
- Reticulated giraffe: 1.0.0

**Species:** 9  
**Individuals:** 117

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**Reticulated giraffe born Oct. 30, 2013**

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**THE RENOVATION and improvements in our new Valley Farm (formerly Small Wonders) were made possible through the generous support of Mrs. Karen Musson and the Gar & Esther Tootelian Foundation. Bennett & Bennett Irrigation, Fresno State Plant Science Club, and Fresno County Farm Bureau donated time, irrigation, manpower, crops and fruit trees. Reedley 4-H and Golden State Buildings built & donated the chicken coop. These relationships brought together many different facets of the Fresno County agricultural community to make Valley Farm more indicative of agriculture in the Central Valley. Along with chickens, our mule, Twyla, was added in 2014, and Fresno State University students developed and maintain a demonstration garden of crops important to Fresno County agriculture.**

**The official opening of Roeding Park Zoo, nationally recognized as a zoo by AZA, Association of Zoos and Aquariums (formerly AAZPA)**

**1936**

Cat Barn exhibit is constructed with WPA (Work Projects Administration) funds for $4,000

**1947**

Eldon “Curley” Blocker becomes first Zoo Foreman - hired from San Diego Zoo

**1949**

Asian elephant “Nosey” purchased with money collected by the children of the Central Valley
In 2004, our community believed in the Zoo and boldly supported Measure Z with 73% of the vote.

- Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director

To kick off our spring at Fresno Chaffee Zoo, the first project of the year, supported through Measure Z, was the renovation of our old sea lion exhibit into an engaging habitat for a pair of young African spotted-necked otters. The exhibit, which opened in March, was given a complete facelift and planted areas were added which the otters enjoy rolling around in after a dip on a hot summer day.

August 17th, was the debut of our King Cobra, Komodo Dragon, and other state-of-the art Asian exhibits in the Reptile House. This second Measure Z supported project utilizes large spaces that transport guests to a Cambodian temple that has succumbed to the jungle. Our eleven foot king cobra, and our six year old Komodo dragon, have delighted our guests through their naturally curious behavior and their tendency to interact with people through the exhibit windows.

- Dan Subaitis, General Curator

In 2004, Fresno County voters overwhelmingly approved Measure Z to repair animal exhibits and aging Zoo facilities, and bring back more large animal exhibits to Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Over the past ten years, with Fresno County donating just 0.1% of its sales tax to “Save Our Zoo,” Measure Z has generated $110 million. One-third, or about $33 million, of Measure Z revenue is being used to support Zoo operations and two-thirds, about $66 million, is dedicated to capital improvement projects. Those improvements have included the renovation of older animal exhibits for new animals like the African spotted-neck otters and the creation of spectacular new exhibits like Sea Lion Cove. General enhancements have included landscaping, the giraffe pathway, and the front entrance to the Zoo. Measure Z funding also helps keep Fresno Chaffee Zoo affordable for families and all County residents, providing educational and conservation opportunities for children and adults throughout Fresno County.

African Adventure will be the most significant project completed with the funds from the first ten years of Measure Z. Currently under construction, this world-class, multi-species exhibit is scheduled to open in 2015.

The passing of Measure Z in 2004 allowed for the following new exhibits and improvements:

- Stingray Bay
- Dino Dig
- Sea Lion Cove
- African River Otter Exhibit
- Horticultural improvements
- Walkway improvements
- Reptile House renovation
- Tropical Treasures renovation
- Bird of Prey renovation
- Tiger Exhibit renovation
- Upcoming African Adventure
An education program which changed the importance of agriculture here in the valley, will provide opportunities for children to learn about the area. The growth will continue into 2014 with the addition of more goats, a new entrance created to welcome guests into a zoo to a full agricultural experience. Thanks to Small Wonders, it went from being just a petting zoo with some changes in the petting zoo. The result was an elephant painting or a sea lion nose taking away a one-of-a-kind piece of animal artwork. An elephant painting or a sea lion nose taking away a one-of-a-kind piece of animal artwork.

Sustainability plays a large role in the Dominican Republic, from necessity, as resources there are not plentiful. Water is precious and never to be wasted, food scraps always go to good use (our organization donated theirs to a local pig rancher for pig food), and reusable water bottles were typical for everyone to use. I enjoyed being part of a culture that embraced stewardship in such a wholesome way.

The long term impact on our youth...

Our Zoo Camp program has been a part of Fresno Chaffee Zoo for many years. Each year participant evaluations help improve the experience. Pre and post program drawings also have provided insights into camper learning and program impact. As an organization we wonder what the long term impact of our programs might be. Jared Price, pictured below in 2011, attended many of our camp programs and went on to assist with our Teen LEADER, teen volunteer interpreter program. This last year he headed off to college. In his writings he offers a glimpse of our organization’s impact:

“Behind the Scenes” and catch a glimpse of the behind the scenes. Historically, school groups and other organizations might be. Jared Price, pictured below in 2011, attended many of our camp programs and went on to assist with our Teen LEADER, teen volunteer interpreter program. This last year he headed off to college. In his writings he offers a glimpse of our organization’s impact:

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The following projects were supported for a one year term:

- **Tiger SSP** – Malaysia Tiger Initiative
  - Recultilated Graft Project - Kenya
  - Rasha Carnivore Project - Tanzania
  - Pantanal Giant Armadillo Project - Brazil
  - Munichque Wood-Wren Project - Colombia
  - Carnivore Conservation - Argentina
  - Aflamurnum Project - Republic of Cameroon
  - Blue-eyed Black Lemur Project - Madagascar
  - Frog Populations of Rice Fields in Chitwan - Nepal
  - Cheetah Adaptations Project - Kenya
  - Orangutan Project - Borneo
  - Ostrich - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Boxing and Wildlife - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Midland Wild Cat - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Lion - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Elephant - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Rhino - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Stork - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Indian Wild Dog - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Grevy’s Zebra - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Zebra - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Gaur - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Gaurs - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Malayan Tiger - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Reticulated Giraffe - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - Asian Lions - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - African Lions - Wildlife Conservation Fund
  - orangutans, chimps, gorillas and gibbons.

This organization supports island fox conservation across all of California’s Channel Islands. On four of those islands, island fox subspecies remain a U.S. federally-listed endangered species. In 2013, our funding helped replace aging live traps used in capture and release research. Our funding also went to the testing of blood samples for evidence of cancer diseases.

This project is based at the Kibale Forest in western Uganda. They plant rapidly growing trees (15 feet of growth in one year) to be harvested for wood fuel to protect the surrounding forest and it’s many endangered species from the effects of deforestation. They also teach locals how to build energy efficient wood burning stoves like the ones seen in the image above, of a family cooking on a wood stove (background) and briquette stone (foreground). The most recent project they are working on is creating briquettes which are produced using mostly available agricultural and industrial waste. This allows for cooking without wood, charcoal or propane. They also do outreach programs in the local village schools to engage the children in protecting the forest and all of the species that live there. Project Directors Michael Stoeck and Rebecca Goldstone visited Fresno Chaffee Zoo in 2013 to give a presentation and exciting stone-building demonstration at Zoo Camp.

Located in Thailand, this project uses the help of local villagers to collect data on the species and educate locals about the importance of their conservation. There are seven species that they study, four of which are endangered. This program invites anyone to adopt a hornbill family for $150 and receive details of the adopted hornbill, location of the nest, plus photographs of the tree in which the nest is located. Travel to Thailand, and they will take you to see the nest!

This project is lead by Patricia Médico, the Jane Goodall of the tapir world. The Lowland Tapir Conservation Initiative was established in 1996 in the Atlantic Forest on the coast of Brazil to build a scientific basis for tapir conservation through research and strategies designed to protect their remaining habitat. Outreach programs and awareness initiatives are used to spread the word on conservation using tapirs as a flagship species. They provide hands-on field experience to the general public through scientific tourism.

This organization has several projects that they are working on and our funds were distributed to be used on any of these. Their conservation efforts focus on antelope reintroductions, oryx, ostrich, camels, and Pan-Saharan wildlife surveys in Niger, Tanimar, Senegal, Algeria and Chad.

The Ape Taxon Advisory Group

The APE TAG was awarded a grant to be used for all of the projects they have recommended for support in 2013. They will be making new recommendations for which great ape projects will be endorsed by AZA and we will seed funding based on those recommendations this year. The projects are for orangutans, chimps, gorillas and gibbons.

This project is based in Kenya which is home to 37% of the Grevy’s zebra population. They employ local men and women to collect data on the population, improve positive behavior towards the species and engage local school children. The Grevy’s zebra scout program is having a positive effect on the communities that employ scouts. You can see livestock and zebra grazing next to each other and sharing resources and the attitudes of the locals is becoming more accepting of zebra sharing the land.

The Tanaragie Elephant Project began in 1993 and is lead by Dr. Charles Fairley. It is located in the Tanaragie National Park in Tanzania where they have identified over 1,000 individual elephants, creating the largest elephant database. Their work is focused on identifying and protecting wildlife migration corridors and dispersal areas outside the wildlife parks where the animals live.
Late in 2013, ultrasound and digital radiographs were successfully performed on the female Malayan tiger using the Vetel Diagnostics Digital Radiography unit purchased with Measure Z funds in 2012. These procedures are routinely performed for the animals in the collection, but this time it was accomplished without the use of any anesthetic or chemical restraint. Blood collection, vaccinations and complete physical examinations can now be performed on the Malayan tigers by having them lay down in a completely relaxed position. Not only is this less stressful for the animals but the biological data collected from the blood samples is much more accurately representative as they are unaltered by anesthetics and stress hormones.

Dr. Scott Weber and his fish medicine class from UC Davis came to participate in our Annual Stingray Bay Roundup. The entire collection of Southern stingrays, nurse sharks and bamboo sharks were anesthetized for examinations, ultrasound, venipuncture, skin scrapings and measurements. The blood values we were able to obtain will be combined with other collections and housed in a worldwide data base to assist with the advancement of elasmobranch medicine and husbandry.

HOSPITAL FIGURES FOR 2013

- 41 animal quarantines
- 73 clinical pathology studies
- 96 microbiology studies
- 94 (approx.) digital radiographs
- 452 fecal exams
- 65 (approx.) hospital tours
- 36 pre-ship exams
- 139 blood chemistries

Even before the design of African Adventure was shaped, the Animal Department team sat down and determined the species best suited to African Adventure. Criteria such as population sustainability, conservation messaging, or popularity helped determine which species were selected. The hot, dry Fresno climate was taken into consideration, with its similarity to the African savannah. Species such as white rhino, cheetah, and African lion are ideally suited for this environment.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo inspires wonder of our natural world, provides an engaging learning environment, and creates a passion for conservation.

Enjoy a virtual "walk-through" of Fresno Chaffee Zoo’s "African Adventure." Visit the Zoo’s YouTube page at www.youtube.com/fchzoo/videos.
Jungle Bungalow.

**Special Events**

- **Frogs and Fairytales**, had our guests leaping forward to spring and kicking off the season with over 1,200 in attendance. Princes and princesses filled the Dining Garden offering photo opportunities to excited children during the event. A delicious snack was served and activities throughout the day.

- **Dreamnight at the Zoo** was enjoyed by families of children with chronic illnesses and disabilities. Guests were welcomed to this Hawaiian themed event with brightly colored leis, enjoyed giraffe feeding, a special presentation by Ross Laird’s Winged Wonders Bird Show, behind-the-scenes adventures and keeper chats held throughout the Zoo. Attendance was 1,399.

- **Zoobilation**, our members-only event, was attended by 1,085 guests.

- **Proving there is nothing better than a cold bowl of ice cream on a hot summer day, our Produces Ice Cream ZooBrew** drew a crowd of 4,215. Tempting Tortoise Sundaes, Moose Tracks and Death by Chocolate were amongst the favorite flavors.

- **Safari Night** was, once again, sold out event. A beautiful evening with delicious appetizers and food samples in the interior of the Zoo was followed by a silent auction, entertaining casino games, photo booth and dancing till midnight. Our sponsors for this event were Harris Construction, Wells Fargo, RBC Wealth Management and Golden One Credit Union.

- **Two running events**, the California Classic Half Marathon and the Zoo-Zoom race sponsored by Saint Agnes Men’s Club, have people running through the Zoo and enjoying the sights and sounds only a Zoo can provide.

- **National Parks Day**, also a new event, was well attended. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce provided entertainment including dancers, face painting and park rangers to talk about our beautiful national parks.

- **Kidfest and Parent Survival Expo** sponsored by KSJK/Kiss Country features vendor booths, games and a photo op with the amazing Thor.

- **Toucan Dinner**, our annual donor appreciation event, started with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres at the Reptile House and a meet-and-greet with Knobby, our Galapagos tortoise. With the recent opening of the King Cobra and Komodo Dragon exhibits, our guests were able to visit the exhibits and get a close up view of the komodo dragon greeting the group with his trainer. Strolling to the opposite end of the Zoo, our guests were thrilled to meet and feed our kangaroos before enjoying a delicious dinner at Rainbow Lawn.

- **ZooLights** continues to increase our attendance as guests make this event a family tradition. The snow continued to fall each night of the event, entertainers sang and danced to holiday music and the hot chocolate and cookies were enjoyed.

- **Our last special event of the season, Breakfast with Santa**, took place during Zoobilation. Children and adults were treated to a scrumptious breakfast and were able to spend some one-on-one time with the big guy! Each child received a gift after visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus, created a craft and decorated a cookie to take home.

- **Our final special event of the year, ZooBoo**, our four night Halloween event, was well attended and increased our guest count by 11,610 people. Booths were cheerfully decorated by our vendor sponsors who handed out candy to our little trick-or-treaters. Game Lane and Draculai’s Disco were a favorite of our guests, as they are each year.

**Group Events**

- In 2013 Fresno Chaffee Zoo hosted 47 private events including 5 beautiful weddings.

- Significant group events this year included a dinner for EECU attended by 1,200 guests, an afternoon picnic for Lyons Magnus attended by over 700 guests and an annual holiday party for Granite Home Attended by over 1,000 guests.

- The Zoo hosted dinners highlighting Sea Lion Cove for several zoos and their staff members interested in visiting our beautiful new exhibit. These included San Francisco Zoo, Sacramento Zoo and participants of the Western Regional Conservation Educators workshop.

- A well-attended ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Valley Farm was held.

- Birthday parties continue to flourish in 2013 with over 100 birthday parties held in the Jungle Bungalow.

- Two running events, the California Classic Half Marathon and the Zoo-Zoom race sponsored by Saint Agnes Men’s Club, have people running through the Zoo and enjoying the sights and sounds only a Zoo can provide.

- **Grandparent’s Day**, sponsored by CBS 47, featured vendor booths, activities for the children and information for grandparents as well.

- Fresno Chaffee Zoo once again partnered with ValleyPBS to present DinoNite, an event centered around the PBS show, Dinosaur Train. Photo ops with Buddy, the dinosaur, were the highlights. The event included entertainment by Mr. Steve and Mr. Lucero, vendor booths and an episode of Dinosaur Train shown on a large screen in the Dining Garden. Attendance was 2,318.

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1991 Construction of Chaffee Memorial Zoo Hospital is completed along with the Safari Trading Co. Gift Shop

1993 Fresno’s beloved Asian elephant, Nosey, passes away at the age of 47

1999 Ross Laird’s Winged Wonders Bird Show opens

2001 Sunda Forest opens

Sales tax revenue from Measure Z is available based upon expense reimbursement claim forms that are submitted by the Zoo. During 2013 the Zoo received $6,382,334 in reimbursements.

Contracted Services include Winged Wonders Bird Show, event entertainment, and contracted IT and custodial services.

Professional Services include legal, audit, payroll, and exterminating services.

Miscellaneous expenses for special events, education grant fulfillment and “Change for Cheetahs” fundraising.

Highest number of memberships on record with 13,783 membership households in 2013, almost doubling our numbers since the passing of Measure Z in 2004.

Highest attendance on record with 691,320 visitors in 2013, almost doubling our numbers since the passing of Measure Z in 2004. The 691,320 visitors included guests from 47 states, plus Washington DC, and 15 countries including Armenia, Australia, Bulgaria, France, Russia and Sweden.
The first Wednesday of each month continues to be Wells Fargo Wednesday. In partnership with Wells Fargo, all children who come to the Zoo with their families on the first Wednesday of each month receive free admission. Wells Fargo also sponsors our members by offering 10% off of all memberships purchased on Wells Fargo Wednesday. Additionally, each month, Wells Fargo sponsors a school classroom to come to the Zoo, by covering the cost for both the bus and entrance.