From the Director’s Desk

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

Contents
2 Board of Directors & Senior Management
3 From the Director’s Desk
4 Animal Collection
8 Education
10 Financial Report
12 Visitor Infographic
14 Veterinary Report
16 Major Donors
17 Events
20 Conservation
24 African Adventure
26 Measure Z & Future Plans

Fresno Chaffee Zoo
Mission
To inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

2015 Board of Directors
John Valentino, Chair
Tom Richards, Vice Chair
Craig Saladino, Treasurer
Sharon Levy, Secretary
Colin Dougherty
Chelsea Cates
Ed Gonzalez
George Nokes
Ken Price
Shari Rainwater

2015 Senior Management
Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director
Lyn Myers, General Curator
Brian Goldman, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Shannon Nodolf, Chief Veterinary Officer
Alisha Anderson, Chief Marketing & Development Officer
Laura Martina, SPHR, Chief Human Resource Officer
Sandy Pitts, C.I.T., Education Curator

2015 was the most successful year in Fresno Chaffee Zoo’s history. We saw the opening of the largest project we’ve ever undertaken (African Adventure), record annual attendance (808,914), new partnerships, great conservation projects, and the further creation of one of the best teams in the country.

The much anticipated African Adventure opened in October and was an immediate success. Not only did our community enjoy our new addition, we have had professional colleagues visit from around the country to see what we accomplished in Fresno. The complexity of doubling the size of the Zoo, constructing one of the largest projects in any zoo in the country, and moving dozens of animals from around the country (cheetahs from Omaha, rhinos from Florida, lions from New Orleans, elephants from Arkansas, etc.), was a daunting project, but was accomplished with the dedication and hard work of a great team.

We owe every one of these successes to our community; the incredible support through Measure Z, the support through your visits to the zoo, the people who support us through memberships, those who partner with us, from generous donors to other non-profits and our educational community. We appreciate that support more than we can express, and it’s leading to one of the most successful zoo and aquarium stories in the country.

We’re very happy to share the story of our 2015 successes with you here.

- Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”

- Henry Ford

From the cover: Two Southern white rhinoceros, Tim and Kayla, in African Adventure.
Photo Credit: Christina Noel.

Published by Fresno Chaffee Zoo
894 West Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728
Telephone: 559-498-5910
fresnochaffeezoo.org

Graphic Design: Luis Cerrillos & Heather Davis

On the cover: Two Southern white rhinoceros, Tim and Kayla, in African Adventure.
Photo Credit: Christina Noel.
**Animal Collection**

The immensity of 2015 would be hard to repeat. Not only did we succeed in opening the world class, 13-acre African Adventure exhibit in October, but we also successfully moved animals from every corner of North America to reside in this amazing habitat.

Overall, we brought in more than 25 different species from other zoos and aquariums. Our Southern white rhinos, meerkats and female African elephants all came to Fresno from Florida. Sister pair of cheetahs, Tiffany and Malana, flew FedEx from Omaha. Our mother and daughter lions flew FedEx from Southern white rhinos, new to the African Adventure exhibit.

Our Southern white rhinos, meerkats and female African elephants all came to Fresno from Florida. Sister pair of cheetahs, Tiffany and Malana, flew FedEx from Omaha. Our mother and daughter lions flew FedEx from Southern white rhinos, new to the African Adventure exhibit.

(Continued on page 6)
Georgia while our male lion flew FedEx from Washington DC. Many of our antelope, as well as Vus’Musí, our male African elephant, hitched a ride from Southern California and 6 pelicans flew in from Toronto Zoo in Canada. In addition to many new species arriving for the opening of African Adventure, the Zoo also welcomed many species to the original Zoo, such as the male Malayan tiger, Gahara, who flew Fed Ex from Oklahoma.

African Adventure also became the home to eight species of African cichlids which now reside in their beautiful new home in our Kopje Lodge area.

Although many animals came from other zoos, some did not. Several of our hoofed species came from our existing animal collection. Our giraffes, zebra and oryx were all trained to load into our transport trailer and take the short but exciting ride to their new exhibit.

One might think that with all of the excitement surrounding African Adventure that we would just be focused on that. That was not the case. We had three endangered species hatch during 2015. Fresno Chaffee Zoo had our first ever Burmese brown tortoise hatchlings. This species is endangered in the wild due to over-export of this species for pet trade and medicinal usage. The Burmese brown wild population numbers are continually decreasing even though it is currently a protected species in its native lands. In addition, we had two Nene geese hatch and make their appearance. The Nene is Hawaii’s state bird and is endemic to the Hawaiian Islands. At one time the Nene were plentiful on all of the major Hawaiian Islands until Westerners arrived in the late 18th Century; with their arrival came hunting, feral cats, dogs, pigs and mongoose, as well as diseases carried by other introduced birds. These pressures contributed to a dramatic decline in the population of Nene. By the early 1950’s scientists estimated that there were only about 30 Nene left in the wild. Due to captive breeding and release programs, the wild populations have begun to recover in recent years.

Twenty-one Pacific pond turtles (or Western pond turtles) were hatched at the Zoo this year. This species is the only native species of aquatic turtle in the state of California. Invasive species such as bass, trout, bullfrogs, and non-native turtles are believed to be playing a large role in the decline of pond turtles, along with ongoing habitat loss throughout coastal regions and disease. Zoos are joining together to access areas that could be possible release sites in the future... it would be wonderful to someday have our offspring helping to re-populate the wild!

2015 brought many new and exciting changes to the Zoo; it will forever be a year that marks a new era in Fresno. We are looking forward to many more exciting adventures!

- Lyn Myers, General Curator
School Based Programs

In 2015, demand for educational programs for school field trip visits continued to grow. We have offered classroom-based learning for years, and in 2015 we piloted a cart-based program.

The cart program mimics the content of the classroom programs. Both offer grade level-based content and standard divided objectives. The learning is hands-on and inquiry based with opportunities for self-discovery. The habitat cart lab, for example, features hands-on learning which explores the wetlands, savannah, rainforest and ocean environments. These carts can be placed out on Zoo grounds, so we are not limited to classroom spaces.

In 2015, we gathered feedback from participating schools and in 2016 we will roll out a refined version with the hopes that this new program will keep up with the growing school program demands.

Education

Zoo Camp Adventures

The fun and dynamic learning opportunities continues to grow in popularity. Sessions run weekly during the summer and daily programs are offered in the fall, winter and spring. All sessions offer unique educational experiences that foster an appreciation of the natural world.

2015 Totals

ON-SITE PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Non-fee-based</th>
<th>Fee-based</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainforest Tours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Previews</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Tours</td>
<td>247,962</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Workshops</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Programs</td>
<td>15,713</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Field Trips</td>
<td>78,747</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW Behind the Scenes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backstage Tours</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday Encounters</td>
<td>4,194</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twilight Safaris</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overnights</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tot Time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Academy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cubby Camp</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Adventure Camp</td>
<td>3,071</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadow a Keeper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Naturalist Classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OFF-SITE PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Non-fee-based</th>
<th>Fee-based</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zoomobile</td>
<td></td>
<td>19,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Talks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach Clean-up</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The graphics provide not only information about the animals but also help to tell the stories of how the animals live in the environment and offer opportunities to learn about the conservation issues that impact the species. A variety of sculptures are sprinkled throughout the exhibit area. They give us a glimpse of the diversity this habitat offers. Don’t miss the slapping campsite antelope perched atop the kopje, the rocky area near our reptile exhibit. Be on the lookout for the dung beetle sculptures and see if you can uncover some of the invertebrates and beetle sculptures at the Merkoul Mound. Don’t forget to look down as you walk along the path and see if you can identify the footprints you find.

African Adventure

African Adventure provides a number of new educational opportunities. Just inside the entrance of the exhibit, guests will find the Jambatu Hut. “Jambu” means welcome in Swahili. This area features key information for guests, such as daily Ranger Talk times as well as provide a backdrop for decent presentations. If guests want to touch an ostrich egg or see a replica of an elephant tooth up close, this is the place to be. Be ready to hear more about our animals and learn more about how the African savannah’s complex ecosystem works. Our education volunteers now sport a new look to support the African theme. Their striking new uniform shirt includes a patch of the Ajabu Reserve. By calling the area a reserve, it brings home the importance of protected areas for wildlife.

The Savannah Scout program is a 34 page field journal with 24 activities that allows guests to learn about African animals. Guests complete challenges by exploring the exhibit, reading signs, talking to staff and observing the animals. The program is structured for multiple age levels. There are simple challenges like drawing your own stripe pattern on a zebra, to higher level thinking challenges such as completing an elephant ethogram. All challenges can be adapted to any age, given the appropriate facilitation - and that is where the staff comes in. Along the African Adventure pathways, keepers and educators guide guests in their journey of self-discovery. Staff are able to check off guests on completed challenges by stamping individual pages, but also lends a helping hand and nudges them in the right direction for the more complex challenges.

The checking off of challenges can also serve as a jumping off point for additional conversations about animals and conservation. The Savannah Scout program encourages guests and staff to interact and have memorable and impactful interactions. Those meaningful experiences are the true goal of the Savannah Scout program. The Zoo’s mission statement says, “ Bringing Chaffee Zoo inspires wonder of our natural world, provides an engaging learning environment, and creates a passion for conservation.” That mission is brought alive through this program. The Field Journal gives guests an opportunity to explore and learn about animals in a new and engaging way. From the instant the journal is purchased, guests become a part of the African Adventure and start to form connections with the animals. As guests explore and experience, they are also being introduced to wildlife conservation. Guests are given information on challenges African animals face and are encouraged to talk to staff about ways they can get involved and help out. Through fun and exploration, guests are connecting to wildlife and learning how they can have an impact of preserving the natural world.

The Savannah Scout Field Journal is sponsored by ValleyPBS Family Circle, EECU and Fresno County Office of Education.

2015 Annual Report | 9
**Sources of Funding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funding</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measure Z Capital</td>
<td>$21,389,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measure Z Operating</td>
<td>4,383,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>2,433,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>90,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>986,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift Shop and Concessions</td>
<td>851,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Income</td>
<td>633,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations &amp; Grants</td>
<td>729,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stingray Bay</td>
<td>304,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>352,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Income</td>
<td>352,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giraffe Feeding</td>
<td>204,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Donations</td>
<td>111,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from Cash Reserves</td>
<td>174,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>55,029</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Sources: **$33,666,158**

**Uses of Funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Equipment &amp; Facilities</td>
<td>$23,142,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction in Progress</td>
<td>13,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>5,962,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracted Services</td>
<td>520,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>548,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Services</td>
<td>592,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>503,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>260,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs and Maintenance</td>
<td>312,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food/Catering</td>
<td>274,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>235,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing/Postage</td>
<td>271,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>155,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>221,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/Bank Fees</td>
<td>142,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Development</td>
<td>66,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>81,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Expenses</td>
<td>128,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer/Software</td>
<td>40,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>49,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Services</td>
<td>35,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms</td>
<td>43,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet</td>
<td>36,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Uses: **$33,666,158**

Net Surplus: **$0**

---

1 Sales tax revenue from Measure Z is available based upon expense reimbursement claim forms that are submitted by the Zoo. During 2015, the Zoo received $25,772,464 in reimbursements.

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

3 Professional Services include legal, audit, payroll and exterminating services.
2015 Visitor’s by Geographic Location

Fresno Chaffee Zoo is honored to have had visitors from all over California, the United States and internationally. Below is the breakdown of visitors through our doors.

2015 Guest Breakdown

- Adults (12-61): 264,212
- Children (2-11): 139,698
- Babies (1 and Under): 33,374
- Seniors (62 and Older): 23,184
- Members: 1,056

*Total attendance for 2015 was 808,914. Other attendance numbers not reflected on this page were comprised of school groups, special events, and birthday parties.

2015 Birthday Parties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Parties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Majority of non-member data collected through surveys at point of sale.

Out of State

- Brazil: 2,356
- Australia: 1,056
- Belgium: 197,087
- Canada: 33,374
- Denmark: 142
- Ecuador: 45
- England: 139,698
- Finland: 23
- France: 53
- Germany: 15
- Japan: 11
- Mexico: 2,997
- Netherlands: 7
- New Zealand: 186
- Panama: 96
- Poland: 48
- Portugal: 10
- Puerto Rico: 49
- Russia: 32
- South Africa: 59
- South Korea: 38
- Spain: 32
- Switzerland: 39
- Taiwan: 31
- Thailand: 22
- Trinidad: 15
- Turkey: 16
- Ukraine: 19
- United Kingdom: 17
- United States: 39
- Venezuela: 5
- Vietnam: 38

California Regions

- Bay Area: 2,356
- Central Coast: 2,431
- Central Valley: 40,018
- Southern California: 10,517
- Shasta Cascade: 127
- Sierra Nevada: 1,308
- California Gold: 2,997
- North Coast: 45
- Central Valley: 59

*Other attendance numbers comprised of school groups, special events, and birthday parties.
**VETERINARY REPORT**

**STAFF**

2015 was a huge year of growth and expansion throughout Fresno Chaffee Zoo including two new additions to our hospital staff - we welcomed the addition of Chief Veterinary Officer Dr. Shannon Nodolf, and veterinary technician Christine Bateman. Dr. Nodolf is a UC Davis graduate who came to us in July from the Abilene Zoo in Texas. Christine moved from a private veterinary practice in Washington to join the hospital team in May. Both hospital staff members joined the Zoo at one of the busiest and most exciting times and are so grateful to be a part of this wonderful Zoo family.

Here are some fun facts about our Zoo hospital staff:

Shannon Nodolf D.V.M., Chief Veterinary Officer, enjoys everything outdoors, including riding horses and recently climbing rock walls despite her crippling fear of heights.

Dr. Nodolf is a UC Davis graduate who came to us in July from the Abilene Zoo in Texas. Christine moved from a private veterinary practice in Washington to join the hospital team in May. Both hospital staff members joined the Zoo at one of the busiest and most exciting times and are so grateful to be a part of this wonderful Zoo family.

Lewis Wright D.V.M., Zoo Veterinarian, enjoys working at his family nut farm when not at the Zoo.

Denise Robertson R.V.T., Hospital Manager, recently was invited into the Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society due to excellence in education as she works toward her bachelors in management, and spends her fun time with her newly pregnant horse, Belle.

Stacy Betts, Hospital Zookeeper is teaching herself how to play her new purple ukulele.

Christine Bateman R.V.T. has an affinity for hedgehogs, parrots, and recently received her motorcycle license.

**EQUIPMENT**

In an effort to continue providing the best in medical care, the Zoo hospital added several new pieces of equipment this year. There is a new portable surgery table capable of holding all of our large hoofstock animals as well as portable surgical lights for procedures that might be needed around the Zoo. In addition, there is also a new multi-parameter monitor for recording animal vitals during anesthesia procedures so that hospital staff can more accurately assess the animals’ response to anesthesia. Additionally, a fluid pump was purchased which has been used extensively over the past few months. This machine precisely measures fluid being administered intravenously to help hospital staff provide more accurate fluid therapy to patients.

**HOSPITAL FIGURES FOR 2015**

- 170 animal quarantines
- 606 fecal exams
- 1000 samples collected and tested for disease surveillance and health assessment.

**PARTNERSHIPS**

Fresno Chaffee Zoo is lucky to have developed many different supportive partnerships over the years. These dedicated professionals help us better manage the specific medical needs of our wide variety of different patient species. We are so grateful for our long term partnerships with local large animal surgeon Dr. Troy Ford who has helped with numerous procedures from abdomen surgery to lameness evaluations throughout the years. We are also thankful for all of the assistance we have received from local veterinary radiologist Dr. Lisa Ferretti, who has consistently been on hand to help with anything the Zoo needs, particularly with diagnostic imaging such as ultrasounds, or interpreting radiograph (x-ray) abnormalities.

This year, we also enjoyed our new partnerships with veterinary specialists from Fresno Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Center, as well as Dr. Steve Holmstrum who have both been invaluable in donating their time to assist with some advanced dental procedures on patients ranging from sea lions and sifamangs to prairie dogs. We have also enjoyed working with thermal imaging veterinary experts and large animal ultrasonographers to help in lameness diagnosis for some of our larger difficult cases.

Additionally, 2015 was the 7th annual partnership with UC Davis School Veterinary Medicine for our routine examinations of the animals in Sting Ray Bay. It is a great opportunity for students and residents to gain hands on elasmobranch (shark and ray) experience that most schools do not have access to. It also allows our staff an opportunity to work closely with some of the experts in the field of aquatic animal medicine.

Aside from our veterinary partners, Fresno Chaffee Zoo was proud to have been able to provide support to our fellow animal neighbors this year during the terrible wild fires that ravaged our state. Cat Haven is home to many species of endangered and exotic fields. Last summer they were given notice to evacuate due to advancing fire danger. Fresno Chaffee Zoo staff quickly responded to their requests for help and rallied to round up transport crates to assist them in evacuating animals to different locations around the state, as well as providing safe housing to several animals in our quarantine facilities. Luckily, the fires bypassed their facility and the animals were all able to return home safe and sound after a few weeks.

During the past decade, Fresno Chaffee Zoo has also been able to partner with our US Forestry service to provide much needed help to some of our local native species. In particular, hospital staff has raised several litters of Fisher kits that have been found orphaned. Fishers are a medium sized carnivore similar to a weasel, and due to extensive fur trapping and habitat destruction the Fisher, in particular the Pacific Fishes, has suffered marked decline in populations the past century. US Forestry Service has been diligently monitoring our local populations and came upon two litters of orphaned Pacific Fishers this year. Zoo hospital staff were able to step in again to help rear the four orphaned fisher kits. These once aggressive animals show that they can successfully hunt and care for themselves and are ready to return to the wild we surgically placed tracking units so that the animals could be identified and monitored throughout their lives. All four animals were successfully implanted and returned to the areas where they were found and daily monitored by US Forestry staff.
Thank You

On behalf of the animals here at Fresno Chaffee Zoo we gratefully thank those who donated $1,000 or more in 2015.

John & Jo Ann Abdulla
Alisha & Scott Anderson
Scott Barton
Blossom Lai
Don & Ruth Bricker
Kevin Castanos
Debi Castro
CENCAL Demolition Inc.
Jean Chaffee
Rick & Jan Christoffersen
California Classic Weekend
Kip & Julie Davies
Nelson & Lynne Davis
D & H Distributing
Der Manouel Insurance Group
Leona Douthit
Jim & Dotty Doyle
Der Manouel Insurance Group
Education Employees Credit Union
Judy Elgin
The Foundation at FCOE

John Eric Pennestri
Gar & Esther Tootelian Foundation
Peter & Jamie France
Arnold & Dianne Gazarian
George & Nancy Goehring
Paul & Wendy Gottlieb
Gazebo Gardens
Mike Gonzales
Golden 1 Credit Union
James & Coke Hallowell
Harris Construction Co., Inc.
Charles & Stephanie Hensley
Jason & James Hynes-Harris
Joanna Jones
JP Lamborn Co.
Jerico Fire Protection
Jim Kaufmann
Kohl’s
Kristine Kizer
Doug & Heidi Larsen
Kathryn Long-Pence
John Eric Pennestri
Jason & Kristine Lowe
Lyles Foundation
Gerald & Nanette Lyles
Betty Jane Lynch
Lyons Magnus
Tim & Sandy Marsh
Rene & Norma Martin
Matty Matoian
National Brokers Network
Don & Lynn Nelson
Ed & Kristan O’Neill
David Parks
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Alex & Caty Perez
Pepsi Beverage Co.
Tom & Lucy Posey
Dennis & Nancy Ralston
Portico Inc.
RBC Wealth Management
Regency Investment Advisors
Marsha Reynolds
Tom Richards & Sue McDermid
Devin Sackett
Dale & Pat Seal
San Joaquin Valley Children’s Association
Scholarshare Investment Board
Service Systems Associates
Conor & Kristin Telles
Richard Thistle
Pauline Trainer
Kevin & Deni Tweet
Tuttle & McCluskey
United Way of Fresno County
Valley Children’s Healthcare
ValleyPBS
Valley Urology, Inc
Jim & Terri Walls
Ralph & Cheryl Waterhouse
Jerry & Rosemary Waters
Elizabeth Watson
Ryan Wilson
Mike & Susan Woods
Wells Fargo

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 percent off of all memberships purchased on Wells Fargo Wednesdays. Additionally, each month, Wells Fargo sponsors a school classroom to come to the Zoo, by covering the cost for both the bus and entrance.

Events

Frogs and Fairytale
Beautiful princesses, handsome princes and enchanting frogs thrilled their adoring fans at Frogs and Fairytales in March, with 1,542 guests in attendance. Sponsors of the event included Expo Party, Doug Out Cookies, Good Company Players, Something Enchanted, A Wish Your Heart Makes and Dreams Come True Entertainment.

Producers Dairy Ice Cream Zoofari
Producers Dairy Ice Cream Zoofari continues to be a favorite year after year and sold out, once again, with 3,515 in attendance. Producers Dairy Ice Cream flavors included animal inspired favorites such as Parrots in Paradise, Rocky Toad and Toucan Slam.

Valley PBS Kid’s Nite
Valley PBS Kid’s Nite (formerly Valley PBS Dino Nite) saw a huge increase in attendance and 3,726 guests enjoyed visits from several PBS characters. Curious George, Daniel Tiger, Alpha Pig, and Buddy from Dinosaur Train were on hand for photos and an episode of Dinosaur Train was shown at the end of the evening.

On behalf of the animals here at Fresno Chaffee Zoo we gratefully thank those who donated $1,000 or more in 2015.

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 percent off of all memberships purchased on Wells Fargo Wednesdays. Additionally, each month, Wells Fargo sponsors a school classroom to come to the Zoo, by covering the cost for both the bus and entrance.

Events

Frogs and Fairytale
Beautiful princesses, handsome princes and enchanting frogs thrilled their adoring fans at Frogs and Fairytales in March, with 1,542 guests in attendance. Sponsors of the event included Expo Party, Doug Out Cookies, Good Company Players, Something Enchanted, A Wish Your Heart Makes and Dreams Come True Entertainment.

Producers Dairy Ice Cream Zoofari
Producers Dairy Ice Cream Zoofari continues to be a favorite year after year and sold out, once again, with 3,515 in attendance. Producers Dairy Ice Cream flavors included animal inspired favorites such as Parrots in Paradise, Rocky Toad and Toucan Slam.

Valley PBS Kid’s Nite
Valley PBS Kid’s Nite (formerly Valley PBS Dino Nite) saw a huge increase in attendance and 3,726 guests enjoyed visits from several PBS characters. Curious George, Daniel Tiger, Alpha Pig, and Buddy from Dinosaur Train were on hand for photos and an episode of Dinosaur Train was shown at the end of the evening.
**Private Events**

Private Events continue to be successful with added catering options and happy return clients’ word of mouth endorsements. Seven weddings and 36 corporate events were held in our beautiful event venues throughout the Zoo.

**Birthday Parties**

2015 holds a new record for number of birthday parties at 142 bookings. Birthday parties are held in our outdoor party pavilion, Jungle Bungalow, and guests can choose from the Basic Birthday Package or the Zoopersized Package that includes three very special animal ambassadors brought right to the party.

**African Adventure Opening Festivities**

The Grand Opening of the African Adventure exhibit was the highlight of 2015. A full week of festivities were planned, including a beautiful VIP preview, member previews and a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by many city and county dignitaries, staff and docents.

**Safari Night**

Continuing with the African theme for Safari Night, the mood was set with cheetah inspired décor and beautifully decorated areas for our sponsors and special guests. Once again, our silent and live auctions were hugely successful, bringing in nearly $90,000 to benefit African Adventure. Our generous sponsors for this year’s event were Harris Construction, Regency Investments, Golden One Credit Union and Wells Fargo Bank.

**Toucan Dinner**

Jack Hanna, Director Emeritus of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, was our special guest for the Toucan Dinner this year, which was held in the Kopje Lodge. Our guests were thoroughly enchanted by Jack and absolutely entertained by the amazing view of the savannah. Guests also enjoyed a delicious dinner catered by our in-house caterer, Taste.

**Zoo Boo**

Zoo Boo sold out three out of four nights with attendance at a record 16,025 guests for this Halloween event. Star Wars was the added theme and guests enjoyed photo ops with several Star Wars characters from the 501st Legion, a local organization specializing in Star Wars costumes and theatrics.

**ZooLights**

ZooLights ran a total of 20 nights and the attendance was 20,493. The Star Wars theme was continued through Sunda Forest. New photo ops were located at the gift shop lawn and at Exploration Station. African Adventure provided a new and beautiful space for more holiday lights and a new indoor space for Santa’s Village.
In 2015, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund gave $79,213 to 35 projects in 25 countries.

The following 18 projects are supported long-term:

**Kibale Fuel Wood Project and Eco-Char Initiative**
This project is based in the Kibale National Park, Uganda. Eighteen-thousand adults and children attended the projects at four science centers. Six workshops were conducted and 300,000 briquettes were manufactured. Forty-thousand pounds of waste was traded for briquettes, 62 percent of the people in the target areas use fuel-efficient stoves and 72 percent grow their own firewood at home.

**Sahara Conservation Fund**
They have several projects that they are working on and our funds were distributed to be used on any of the projects. They have conservation efforts for antelope reintroductions, oryx, ostrich, carnivores, and Pan Sahara Wildlife surveys in Niger, Tunisia, Senegal, Algeria and Chad.

**Lowland Tapir Conservation Initiative**
The project was established in 1996 in the Atlantic Forest on the coast of Brazil. They are building a scientific basis for tapir conservation through research and designing strategies to protect their remaining habitat. They are doing outreach and awareness initiatives to spread the word on conservation using tapirs as a flagship species and providing hands on field experience to the general public through scientific tourism. In 2014, they GPS collared 37 individuals and collected hundreds of genetic samples for further studies.

**channel Island Fox**
They are using our funds to replace many of the aging live traps. They use these annually to do trappings to estimate population size and trends. The second project is testing blood samples of foxes for evidence of canine diseases. Currently, disease outbreaks are the most pressing threat to the populations and recovery.

**The Ape Taxon Advisory Group**
This TAG was used for all of the projects they have recommended for support in 2015. The projects are for orangutans, chimpanzees, gorillas and gibbons.

**The North Bay Western Pond Turtle**
This program in Northern California is a head-start program that released 75 turtles back into the wild.

**Reticulated Giraffe Project**
In the last 10 years, reticulated giraffe have declined 80 percent, from 30,000 to approximately 5,000. This project is working on the conservation and management of the remaining giraffe in northeast Kenya, Samburu National Reserve. The focus is environmental education and population studies.

**Turtle Survival Alliance**
Their mission statement is, “Transforming passion for turtles into effective conservation action through a global network of living collections and recovery programs.” They have projects in 17 regions across the globe.

In 2015, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund supported eight long term projects based in Africa, 10 long term projects in other parts of the world and 16 projects were awarded a one-time grant.
Our funds were used to develop and test the effectiveness of a scat detection program using dogs to locate and confirm chelonia presence and identify individual chelonioids.

This project focuses on Ridge to Reef curriculum for Vaquita, the smallest known species of porpoise and most endangered marine mammal in the world. Funds were used to develop student activities to promote education and conservation efforts with the Ridge to Reef curriculum which may be applied to a teacher workshop series that will take place in San Felipe, Mexico.

This project is based in Kenya which is home to 37 percent of the grey zebra population. They employ local men and women to collect data on the population, imprint positive behavior toward the species and engage local school children. The grey 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. In addition, the attitudes of the locals are becoming more accepting of zebra sharing the land.

This foundation is dedicated to the survival of the world’s rhino species through conservation and research. In response to the global crisis in rhino conservation, the International Rhino Foundation protects particularly threatened rhino populations in the wild, while also supporting applied research that can help to improve the chances for long-term survival of all rhino species. We have already made great strides in preventing further decline of these magnificent animals and turning rhino population trends around in the areas in which we work.

This project focuses on Ridge to Reef curriculum for Malayan Tiger. This project works on anti-poaching efforts and tiger-themed education and outreach for local communities. Our funds went toward the anti-poaching efforts. They have patrols on foot, vehicle and boat and work to catch poachers and dismantle snares, seize weapons and put up road blocks for check points to stop illegal trade.

This project is located in Thailand and uses 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. If you adopt a hornbill family, which you can for $150, they will send you details of the adopted hornbills, location of the nest and the sex and characteristics of the tree in which the nest is located, accompanied by photographs of the actual tree.

This project works on anti-poaching efforts and tiger-themed education and outreach for the local communities. Our funds went toward the anti-poaching efforts. They have patrols on foot, vehicle and boat and work to catch poachers and dismantle snares, seize weapons and put up road blocks for check points to stop illegal trade.

This project is located in Brazil where they are tracking density and demography, habitat use and behavior as well as a genetic and health status of the giant armadillo population. They are also doing education and outreach to schools, land owners, rural workers, and eco-tour guides.

This project develops conservation and awareness education in local communities, to include both student and adult populations, for the protection of the critically endangered Ball Starling in Ball, Indonesia.

This project is associated with a nest monitoring program located in southern California (Santa Barbara Zoo). Whooping Crane Grant - This project looks at the effects of captive rearing techniques on the ability of whooping cranes to suvive reintostriction into the wild.

This project is an endangered exotic canid with an estimated transport of wild harvested chicks to the hand-rearing location. Alligator Lizard - This project has an established multi-pronged approach to addressing the Conservation Action Plan for the Southern Ground Hornbill. We look to enhance the equipment used to provide best practices neonatal care environment, during the care and feeding behavior and determined optimal conditions for the survival of the species, like the minimum size of the forest patches for the survival of the species.

This project is associated with a nest monitoring program located in southern California (Santa Barbara Zoo). Whooping Crane Grant - This project looks at the effects of captive rearing techniques on the ability of whooping cranes to suvive reintostriction into the wild.

This project is an endangered exotic canid with an estimated transport of wild harvested chicks to the hand-rearing location. Alligator Lizard - This project has an established multi-pronged approach to addressing the Conservation Action Plan for the Southern Ground Hornbill. We look to enhance the equipment used to provide best practices neonatal care environment, during the care and feeding behavior and determined optimal conditions for the survival of the species, like the minimum size of the forest patches for the survival of the species.

This project is an endangered exotic canid with an estimated transport of wild harvested chicks to the hand-rearing location. Alligator Lizard - This project has an established multi-pronged approach to addressing the Conservation Action Plan for the Southern Ground Hornbill. We look to enhance the equipment used to provide best practices neonatal care environment, during the care and feeding behavior and determined optimal conditions for the survival of the species, like the minimum size of the forest patches for the survival of the species.

This project is associated with a nest monitoring program located in southern California (Santa Barbara Zoo). Whooping Crane Grant - This project looks at the effects of captive rearing techniques on the ability of whooping cranes to suvive reintostriction into the wild.

This project is associated with a nest monitoring program located in southern California (Santa Barbara Zoo). Whooping Crane Grant - This project looks at the effects of captive rearing techniques on the ability of whooping cranes to suvive reintostriction into the wild.

This project is an endangered exotic canid with an estimated transport of wild harvested chicks to the hand-rearing location. Alligator Lizard - This project has an established multi-pronged approach to addressing the Conservation Action Plan for the Southern Ground Hornbill. We look to enhance the equipment used to provide best practices neonatal care environment, during the care and feeding behavior and determined optimal conditions for the survival of the species, like the minimum size of the forest patches for the survival of the species.

This project is associated with a nest monitoring program located in southern California (Santa Barbara Zoo). Whooping Crane Grant - This project looks at the effects of captive rearing techniques on the ability of whooping cranes to suvive reintostriction into the wild.

This project is an endangered exotic canid with an estimated transport of wild harvested chicks to the hand-rearing location. Alligator Lizard - This project has an established multi-pronged approach to addressing the Conservation Action Plan for the Southern Ground Hornbill. We look to enhance the equipment used to provide best practices neonatal care environment, during the care and feeding behavior and determined optimal conditions for the survival of the species, like the minimum size of the forest patches for the survival of the species.

This project is associated with a nest monitoring program located in southern California (Santa Barbara Zoo). Whooping Crane Grant - This project looks at the effects of captive rearing techniques on the ability of whooping cranes to suvive reintostriction into the wild.

This project is an endangered exotic canid with an estimated transport of wild harvested chicks to the hand-rearing location. Alligator Lizard - This project has an established multi-pronged approach to addressing the Conservation Action Plan for the Southern Ground Hornbill. We look to enhance the equipment used to provide best practices neonatal care environment, during the care and feeding behavior and determined optimal conditions for the survival of the species, like the minimum size of the forest patches for the survival of the species.
On October 15, 2015 the future of Fresno Chaffee Zoo changed forever. As staff, members of the community and media lined the entrance of African Adventure on that crisp, fall morning, they remembered the 22 months and $56 million that it took to get to that day. Soon after, the ribbon was cut, and the rest is history.

The largest project in the Zoo’s history – and likely the largest project the Zoo will ever take on – is a feat that is cause for celebration. The 13-acre expansion is home to cheetahs, lions, rhinos, elephants and much more! It features animals in naturalistic exhibits – some even in multispecies exhibits - spread out over the African savannah.

In addition, the brand new dining option, the Kopje Lodge, offers menu items as grand as the views. Complete with an espresso bar, a pizza oven, gourmet soups and sandwiches and even beer and wine, the Kopje Lodge provides guests with a relaxing seating area and food options galore. With glass viewing into the lion exhibit, it’s hard to imagine a better view.

This adventure doesn’t just belong to Fresno Chaffee Zoo, it belongs to all of Fresno County. Because without the support of dedicated residents, African Adventure wouldn’t have been possible.
Although African Adventure is open to the public, Fresno Chaffee Zoo is hardly finished bringing new exhibits and animals to the Central Valley. Design of phase two of African Adventure will begin in 2016. This exhibit will bring hippos back to the Zoo along with other, yet to be determined, species.

Another project in the Zoo’s near future will be an Asian forest exhibit featuring brand new exhibits for both Malayan tigers and sloth bears. Opening in mid-2016, the Zoo will also unveil a new Australian walk-through exhibit where guests can experience kangaroos, wallaroos, and kookaburras in a mixed setting.

All of these projects wouldn’t be possible without the support from Fresno County residents through Measure Z. The tax measure required two-thirds of the voters to approve a Fresno County tax of one-tenth of one percent – or one dime out of every $100 spent on retail transactions – to go to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo capital improvements.

In addition to allowing the Zoo to build spectacular new exhibits, Measure Z also helps keep the Zoo affordable for families and all Fresno County residents. The low entrance fees, improved exhibits and improved visitor amenities have drawn so many people to visit the Zoo that attendance has increased 58 percent over the past five years and has set records each year since 2011.

Since Measure Z was renewed for another 10 years in 2014, the Zoo can continue to provide excellent animal care, upgrade existing exhibits, establish new exhibits, and provide educational and conservation opportunities for families throughout Fresno County and to all who visit Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

In November 2014, the voters of Fresno County voted, for the second time, to Keep Our Zoo.
To inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.