

KEEPING TRACK . FOLSOM CITY ZOO SANCTUARY

October / November 2010

Henry!

Tah-dah! The Perfect bear cub's official name is – yes! - **Henry** with 51.4% of the vote. *Theodore* received 889 votes and *Zephyr* was last with a respectable 585. Handsome Henry has been growing well and is quick to pick up on what a bear needs to know. One of a zookeeper's jobs involves moving an animal from one area to another. When animals learn to associate their name with good things like food treats, life is easier for all involved. Henry's recent vet visit is a case in point. Staff noticed a place on his left hip under all his winter fur that could be something that needed attention. After **Dr. Mira Sanchez** darted Henry, the keeper called his name and Henry responded moving to the center of the den area before the drug took effect. Hair was clipped exposing a sizeable "hot spot lesion" on Henry's left hip. It was cultured and treated. A complete exam showed that two baby canine teeth were infected and slightly loose: they were pulled. The next day Perfect Henry seemed to have no trouble devouring his morning meal, including an uncooked artichoke.

Newbie Lotte

Beautiful and talented hen **Lotte** has joined other members of the Outreach Flock along with rooster **Baby Girls Baby** and **Henny Penny**. In another life, Lotte had a close relationship with feral pig **Templeton** with whom she spent most of her time hanging out in the pasture, sharing his food and frequently comfortably hunkered down on his hirsute back. This lifestyle change has come about because of a foot injury, possibly related to being stepped on by a pig.

Newbie Curley

Male squirrel monkey **Orinoco** and tiny female **Monita** have lived together for a long time. When male research monkey **Curley** arrived at the Zoo he was separated from the pair until it became apparent that all three monkeys are quite socially adept. In the past there were no other males so Orinoco had a hormonal imbalance (and possibly too many fatty foods) that caused fatty tissue to grow on chest and stomach areas. Insensitive - and given Orinoco's obvious male parts - unobservant visitors frequently asked when the pregnant monkey's baby was due. Rude. Within weeks of the arrival of another male, hormones and all, Orinoco's body is again sort of slender and hunk-like. You can see by his facial features that Curley is a different

sub-species, called, interestingly enough, *Gothic*. The other two monks are categorized as *Roman*. Who knew.

Newbie Donatello

Named by **Eddie**, a long-time volunteer at the Zoo Sanctuary, Russian tortoise **Donatello** has moved into a really big tub in the Classroom with a UVB light for his vitamin D3 calcium metabolism and a heat lamp to keep him comfy. Donatello is a "confirmed male" even though the *plastron* – bottom of the shell – doesn't show an indentation. Relatives range from China to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan where these hardy tortoises *hibernate* in the winter and *aestivate* in the harsh summers. He also has an attractive faux palm forest, water bowl, food bowl with lots of dark leafy greens and veggies and a cardboard box cave stuffed with alfalfa and grass hay. Having given notice that he's probably ready to hibernate a little, it's unlikely that we will see any Ninja behavior soon. We have time to wait: these guys can live to be fifty-years old.

Newbie Lindsay

Shiny tan-colored Glossy snake **Lindsay** has moved to the Zoo. Found in the Walnut Creek area, she was dropped off at **Lindsay Wildlife Museum**. Although there are glossy snakes in California, she happens to be *Arizona elegans*, a non-native. It's possible that she was purchased in a pet store and let go. (For some, pets aren't a lifelong commitment.) Lindsay's wild relatives are found in desert scrub lands. They're nocturnal and spend the majority of time underground. When threatened or harassed glossy snakes often vibrate their tails. They rarely bite when captured. These constrictors hunt small mammals, lizards, other snakes, and birds. Mating takes place in spring and a clutch of up to 23 eggs is laid in summer. Hatchlings appear in August.

Newbie Cockroaches

Hissing cockroaches are excellent Outreach animals. They're clean, attractive and tolerant of nervous little kids. 99% of all cockroach species are not "pests." They thrive in the detritus of forest floors scavenging for plant materials. At last count, there is one female cockroach in a tank and six babies in another tank. Mature males are easily differentiated from full grown females. It's those in-between ages that can lead to over-population issues. You have golden opportunity to **Name That Cockroach!** at folsomzoofriends.org.

Newbie Mountain Lion Kitten

The Zoo Sanctuary is providing 24-7 care for a very young female mountain lion. When she was confiscated in the Santa Cruz area by the **California Department of Fish & Game** she was emaciated and quite ill. She weighed slightly less than four-pounds when she arrived at the Zoo in mid November. She's thriving and will ultimately join males **Ventura, Rio** and **Flash**.

October Attendance: 6,382 visitors enjoyed visits with the animals, Docents, the Gift Shop & Fisher's Beastro.

Marching Along Together

Llamas **Dolche & Palino**, mini-horse **Dasher** and mini-donkeys **Spicy Jalapeno & Rosarita** marched with Zoo Docents in the exceptionally fine **Folsom Veteran's Day Parade**. Gifted Docents designed and stitched up garments for the donkey girls: tie-on orange and black tiger striped body covers complete with white ruffles, and for Dasher, manly blue without ruffles. Docents have been working for months to expand the outreach capabilities of Zoo livestock: they walk to **Old Town** to **Karen's Bakery** for *Storytime*. Ditto the **Library**, and pose for photos and petting in front of **City Hall**.

Where Are The Birds?

Mark III Construction has begun dismantling the old (historic) aviary. The **Folsom Zoo Sanctuary New Aviary Project** is funded by generous donations from **Bosack and Kruger Charitable Foundation, Friends of the Folsom Zoo Sanctuary** and the **Zoo Trust**. Plans for temporarily relocating the animals were made months ahead. Taking advantage of the site of the former Zoo Ops building, strong volunteer **Latter Day Saint Missionaries** moved a ton or so of decomposed granite and erected temporary off-exhibit cages. The cages, now supplied with bird furniture like limbs, etc. have become motels for hawks **Sedona** and **Redford**. African Gray parrot **Mesa** and Goffin's Cockatoo **Pogo** have moved inside so ravens **Canyon, Diego** and **Sam** can hang out in their vacated exhibits.

Marcus

You may have noticed a really big white dog in the Zoo pasture. This would be a **Marcus**, a **Turkish Akbash** Livestock Guarding Dog puppy who has been at the Zoo Sanctuary several months. He hangs out with grown-up LGD **Annabelle** for "training." While Annabelle had some bad habits when she was a puppy (chicken chasing/killing) she has reformed to the point that she exhibits dismay when student Marcus has chicken issues. He's serious, catching, dispatching and burying his unfortunate fowl

and considers standing his ground when zoostaff approaches with rescue in mind. As pups do, Marcus has mellowed. A training exercise was implemented and Marcus could be in the pasture only with staff present and with a six-foot lead attached to his collar so he could be caught up. Big feral pig **Wilber** was spotted one day with one end of the lead in his mouth and a thoughtful Marcus on the other end.

The Skunk In The Office

Since, according to the **Daily Keeper Journal**, "his timbers were shivering" little skunk **Gizmo** moved into the Ops Office along with roommate ringtail **Chaos**. Has it been mentioned the Gizmo is descended? While some "pet" skunks have not had scent surgery, their people are very careful not to startle their skunk.

Holiday Party for the Animals
Saturday December 11
Traditional Party!
Animals open festively gifts starting at 11 a.m.
Holiday Shopping in the Gift Shop!

Wild Nights and Holiday Lights
The Zoo Sanctuary Transformed!
Thousands of LED efficient lights create a
memorable Holiday Experience.
Ride the Steam Train!
Holiday Carols! Holiday Goodies & Drink!
A Warming Bonfire! Carolers!
Special visitors from the North Pole!
HOURS: 6-9 P.M.

Dec. 2 & 4	Dec. 9-10-11	Dec. 16-17-18
Dec. 19-20-21-22-23		

\$5 Adult, \$4 ages 2-12, \$4 Seniors 55+, free under age 2

- **A Holiday Visit with the Animals!**
- Music is Joy To The World, Columbia Minstrels, Amazon.com.
- Thanks Brainy Docent for Video Creation!
- **CLICK!** Below.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mV-DEGfMY6A>