Can you say “quasquicentennial”?  

We can, but only because we’ve been practicing. It’s a fancy word – coined by Funk & Wagnalls editor Robert L. Chapman in 1962 – and it means 125th anniversary. Maybe you’ll want to start practicing too. November 7 marks the Oregon Zoo’s 125th anniversary, and we’ll be celebrating our “quasquicentennial” this fall with a collaborative exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society.

In this issue of ZooTracks, we take a look back at our first 125 years, tracing the zoo’s progress from its unlikely beginnings as a collection of exotic animals donated to the City of Portland by pharmacist Richard Knight. It’s amazing when you think about it: The zoo has been community supported since 1888 – a time when there were no cars, no planes and only 38 states in the union.

We hope you’ll enjoy revisiting the past in these pages, and also hope you notice the important areas where the zoo has set its sights on the future. From a small menagerie in a downtown pharmacy to a world-class center for wildlife preservation and field research, the zoo’s 125-year journey has seen vast leaps in zoological knowledge and animal enrichment, and an increasing focus on sustainable operations, wildlife education and conservation.

And, of course, we could not do the work we do without you.

Thank you, voters, who approve bond measures and levies that help fund zoo operations and build new exhibits. Thank you, donors, for your commitment to animal welfare and investment in our community (see page 26 for our list of donors who helped the zoo in 2012). Thank you, volunteers, who weave your enthusiasm and knowledge into the zoo’s educational offerings. And lastly, thank you to our members and to all visitors who help fund the zoo’s work.

With your ongoing support, we will continue to build a better future for wildlife.

Kim Smith
Director, Oregon Zoo

Jani Iverson
Director, Oregon Zoo Foundation

Kim Smith
Director, Oregon Zoo

Jani Iverson
Director, Oregon Zoo Foundation
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1. Packy is surrounded by admirers on his 20th birthday. 1982. *Kennedy Foresman.*
8. Asian elephant calf, Me-Tu, is helped to her feet by Morgan Berry (left) and keeper Denslow Robbins (right) shortly after her birth in 1962. *Photographer unknown.*
14. Visitors aboard the ZooBoo Express during this former Halloween event at the zoo. Now visitors celebrate Hallowe'en with trick-or-treating annually. Date unknown. *Photographer unknown.*
Oregon Zoo Foundation

The Oregon Zoo Foundation Board of Trustees represents individuals in our community who share a passionate commitment to fostering community pride and involvement in the Oregon Zoo, and to securing financial support for the zoo’s animal welfare, conservation and education programs.

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Oregon Zoo Foundation

Save the Date!
Saturday, July 20, 2013

Mark your calendars for a spectacular evening of fine dining, live music, featured animals and so much more!

A benefit supporting the Oregon Zoo hosted by

Treat Mom to Something Wild and Wonderful this Mother’s Day!

Mother’s Day Brunch
at the Oregon Zoo

Sunday, May 12, 2013 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Menu features will include:

• Starters like house cured salmon lox with capers, onions, cream cheese and bagels
• Selection of salads using locally sourced produce
• Made-to-order omelet station
• Maple and chicory glazed ham carving station
• Traditional favorites like Eggs Benedict, French toast and Applewood smoked bacon
• Assorted pastries and desserts

Reservations Required – 503-525-4299

Adults (age 12 and older): $26 members, $29 non-members
Children (ages 2-11): $10.50 members, $12 non-members

More at oregonzoo.org
This November, the Oregon Zoo will officially turn 125 years old. And what a century and a quarter it’s been!

From its world-renowned Asian elephant program to its internationally recognized conservation and education efforts, today’s Oregon Zoo is a place where the joy of a child’s discoveries merge with the knowledge of a responsibility we all share – to conserve the world’s wildlife and natural habitats for future generations.

As we reflect on the zoo’s history – the achievements, the milestones and the growing pains – it is clear that the Oregon Zoo did not become what it is today, overnight. It is also clear that there are many things to be proud of: among them, the incredible community that has made this zoo part of the fabric of the Portland region since 1888.

The Oregon Zoo did not start with a grand intention, but with an unexpected gift. When the City of Portland accepted bears, monkeys and birds from a former sailor on November 7, 1888, it hadn’t planned to create a zoo. The community, though, was instantly enamored of these new animals living in a park above the city.

And so it began.
From a pharmacy, a zoo is born

It was the 1880s and Portland was evolving from a rough settlement into a proper city. Electric street lights had just been installed; a paid fire department organized; and in 1887 the Morrison Bridge opened, the first bridge to span the river. The Park Blocks were adorned by mansions and elms, while people of lesser means lived closer to the Willamette where shops, homes, mills, docks and warehouses lined streets flanked by wooden sidewalks.

A few blocks from the docks, British sailor and animal lover Richard Knight, set up a pharmacy on Morrison and 3rd streets, just east of the Pioneer Courthouse. Word on the street was that if you were a sailor ready to unburden yourself of that pet you’d acquired on your travels, a stroll over to Knight’s store offered a solution. Knight’s customers loved the squawks and chattering of parakeets, monkeys and other small mammals in his storefront, so he soon expanded his collection with a grizzly and brown bear, which he placed in a vacant lot next door.

In June 1888, with a business to run and family to care for, Knight decided the bears needed more space and attention than he could provide. He wrote to the City of Portland, asking whether it might want to purchase them. Rather than buy the bears, the city gave Knight two circus cages and a space to display them in City Park (now Washington Park). After five months of feeding and caring for them, Knight gifted the bears to the city.

So, as a symbol of a maturing, thriving city, the Portland Zoo was born on November 7, 1888. Eager Portlanders followed the animals from their home near the river to the hillside above the city.

Portland pharmacist Richard Knight, in a persuasively written letter, offers to sell the City of Portland his “easily cared for” grizzly and brown bear. 1888.
The early years: pride, growth... and hard times

The zoo gets a keeper

In 1885, Charles Myers was appointed City Park’s first park keeper, a role that effectively made him the zoo’s first official animal keeper. A gardener and florist from Germany, Myers laid out City Park’s gardens and roadways using European parks for inspiration.

Myers loved animals as much as Knight did. His design for the bears’ enclosure was amazingly naturalistic and expansive for that era: a large, sunken bar-less grotto that allowed the bears a good deal of movement.

The zoo was small at first: an 1888 report lists one seal, one grizzly bear and six deer. But even then, the Portland Zoo was a destination, reached via meandering drives from Park Place, Burnside and Jefferson streets. Animals first lived in the area now occupied by Washington Park’s upper reservoir. In 1893, as reservoir construction began, they were moved to the hillside between Burnside Street and today’s Wright Avenue.

1890
The zoo’s first bear enclosure is built in a ravine, today occupied by the upper park reservoir.

1893
The zoo moves for the first time as construction of the park’s reservoirs begins in an area east of today’s Southwest Wright Avenue and above West Burnside Street.

1894
The number of animals grows to 300, mostly from North America.
Bears, chimps and a lion… oh my!
The beloved zoo grew quickly. By 1894, it housed 300 animals, mainly from North America, plus a few monkeys, foreign birds and a kangaroo. In 1895, two alligators arrived. In 1904 more kangaroos came, courtesy of Australian sailors. After its World’s Fair ended in 1905, Portland’s zoo added a lion, leopard, polar bear, two bison and elk from the fair’s exhibits.

1905
Portland hosts Lewis & Clark Centennial Exposition. The zoo acquires several animals when the Expo ends, including a lion and a polar bear.

1912
City Park is renamed Washington Park.

1913
The Zoo’s lion, Nero, escapes and is recaptured without serious incident.
**Hard times set in**

The Portland Zoo was also vulnerable to changing political winds. Despite public enjoyment of the zoo, in 1900, Portland's newly formed Board of Park Commissioners showed little interest in its operations. A few years later, Mayor Harry Lane declared existing animals could live out their lives, but no new animals would be added.

Still, the zoo endured. Portlanders took an increasingly proprietary air to it, even seeing it as a place where they could park and later retrieve pets or wild animals. This practice was common for zoos during that time – a far cry from the mission-driven work of today.

Adding to politicians’ ambivalence were two world wars and a severe economic depression that taxed the zoo’s ability to grow or even adequately house its animals. Enclosures became increasingly decrepit. The zoo’s first veterinarian, Matthew Maberry, recalled that after World War II, “The only thing holding that zoo together was the smell.”

---

**City Park Zoo’s Nero the lion was one of several animals purchased by the Board of Park Commissioners from the Lewis & Clark Centennial Expo of 1905. Circa 1908. Photographer unknown.**

**George the mandrill came to the zoo in the mid 1930s after a rough 9 years at the Jantzen Beach Amusement Park. He died in 1940; his remains sent to Oregon State University for study. Circa late 1930s. Photographer unknown.**

**“Polar,” the bear, acquired from Jabour’s Wild Animals, greets visitors in his new enclosure after his original was declared too small. Circa 1909. Courtesy of Nelson Family Archives.**

---

**1918**

World War I and its aftermath divert the city’s attention away from the zoo despite public interest. The zoo’s elk are taken by rail to Estacada and released into the forest.

---

**1925**

After nearby land is developed with homes, zoo moves from the hillside above West Burnside Street to a more remote, higher part of Washington Park.

---

**1930s**

The zoo accepts unwanted pets for exhibits. Citizens complain about poor living conditions for the animals.

---

“The zoo hobbled along as best it could for some time. Limited budget meant limited personnel, food and care for the animals. There seemed to be no one really concerned for The Zoo,”

– Jack Marks, zoo director from 1947 to 1971, speaking of the zoo in the 1940s.
A zoo in transition

The push for a modern zoo

By 1940, there were plans for a new, more humane zoo. Arthur M. Greenhall, who came to Oregon from the Bronx Zoo, became the zoo’s second director around this time – following the brief term of Carey Baldwin from the San Diego Zoo.

When Greenhall searched for a new zoo site in 1940, he was assisted by a man named Jack Marks. Both men had their eye on the 40-acre West Hills Golf Course – former site of the County Poor Farm – but with few funds, there was no opportunity to develop formal plans.

Post World War II, Portland dove into plans to update its run-down urban infrastructure. The zoo was no exception. In 1951, the Portland City Club recommended a new zoo, and after researching several sites it came to the same conclusion Greenhall and Marks did in 1940 – the West Hills Golf Course. A $3.85 million bond measure on the ballot to finance a new zoo came close, but failed to pass.

In 1947, when Greenhall left for the Detroit Zoo, Marks became director. As the longest tenured zoo director, he spent the next 24 years focused on improving facilities and animal habitats. His success at garnering international respect for the zoo set the stage for it to gain control of its own funding and management.

1938
Cary Baldwin is hired as the first zoo director. Hampered by a lack of city funding, his tenure is short.

1940
West Hills Golf Course – today’s zoo site – is first considered as a possible new location for the zoo.

1940s
World War II diverts the city’s attention from the zoo and other civic organizations. The zoo suffers from a lack of funding and animal enclosures become increasingly dated.
1947
Jack Marks becomes director, beginning 24 years of guiding and improving the zoo.

1951
The Portland City Council asks voters to approve a $3.85 million bond measure to finance construction of a new zoo, but it does not pass.

1952
Supporters regroup to put a funding levy on the 1954 ballot. The Portland Zoological Society forms to campaign for a new zoo facility.

A precious present
That’s when a well-timed gift changed everything. In 1953, Portlander Austin Flegel was working in Thailand. He and his wife wanted to give their hometown a gift, an Asian elephant they named Rosy in honor of Portland’s signature bloom. The gift was a turning point in the zoo’s history and a lasting symbol of the tremendous impact community support has had on the zoo.

When Rosy’s ship arrived in Portland, the dock was thronged with so many people that the truck carrying her off could barely maneuver through the crush. Later, at a “Welcome Rosy” parade, 100,000 people cheered in downtown streets for the elephant riding the float. Rosy went to so many openings and anniversaries that people complained she was never at the zoo. She was the ideal ambassador for an updated zoo. When a second measure to fund a new zoo appeared on the ballot in 1954, Portlanders voted yes to a new zoo and construction began the next year.
The Portland Zoological Gardens open
When the Portland Zoological Gardens opened in 1959, it included not only state-of-the-art exhibits for that time, but also the Portland Zoo Railway, a true community-led undertaking. Thanks to the efforts of Union Depot Manager John H. Jones and Edward M. Miller, assistant managing editor of The Oregonian, a 4-mile, 35-minute rail loop was built around the zoo’s perimeter. This unlikely addition was completed, as Jack Marks said, because Jones and Miller “…mooched, wheedled and browbeat materials, parts, designs, labor and equipment from anyone they could.”

They had plenty of help from other sources, too: Train enthusiasts pitched in with suggestions, fundraising and labor to build the track. School children sold ‘stock’ at $1 per share. Sales of a children’s book, “Cickety Clack and the Bandits,” helped pay for the new Portland Zoo Railway. The first train, the Zooliner, pulled away from the zoo station on June 9, 1958. More than 50 years later, it is still the primary train on the railway.

Oregonians’ love for their Asian elephants swelled far beyond the state’s borders in 1962 when Packy was born to Belle. The birth was featured in Life and Readers Digest magazines and made international headlines. That year, zoo attendance topped one million for the first time. With Packy and several successive elephant births, the zoo grew famous for having the world’s most successful elephant breeding program, which continues providing the field with valuable research and knowledge today.
Modernization takes hold
Throughout the 1960s, the zoo continued to modernize, with exhibits designed in the streamlined, space-age style of the era. The Children’s Zoo opened in 1963 to satisfy one of the zoo’s largest cohorts of supporters: baby boomers. During this time, young visitors enjoyed petting domesticated animals, floating on boats through a canal, riding a merry-go-round and exploring the depths of the Mole Hole, an underground tunnel with burrowing animals on exhibit.

1959
The newly named Portland Zoological Gardens opens with 60% of the original plan complete. The zoo railway is completed with donations of time, money and materials.

1960s
Naturalistic exhibits are not yet common. State-of-the-art zoo design places animals in enclosures filled with bold colors and asymmetric structures.
The Zooliner, a half-size replica of GM’s Aerotrain, was built in Portland. It was the first train to operate on the zoo railway.

Circa early 1960s. Photographer unknown.

The zoo was becoming more than just a Portland place, evolving through the 1960s into a regional source of pride and interest. In 1971, the Portland Zoological Society took over zoo management from Portland Parks and Recreation. Five years later, the Oregon legislature moved the zoo from the jurisdiction of Portland to the regional government – now known as Metro – and the Portland Zoo was renamed the Washington Park Zoo.

The region’s voters reaffirmed their commitment to the zoo in 1980 when they approved a three-year $15 million serial levy to remodel habitats. A new era was about to begin.

The zoo railway began carrying U.S. mail in 1961, making it one of the first recreational railroads with its own postmark. Circa 1960s. Photographer unknown.

1961

The zoo railway began carrying U.S. mail, making it one of the first recreational railroads with its own postmark.

1962

Packy, the first elephant born in the United States in 44 years, receives international attention. Annual zoo attendance exceeds one million.

1963

The Children’s Zoo opens with domesticated animals, boat rides and a merry-go-round.
A modern zoo with a purpose

As animal welfare evolves, so do exhibits

Early zoos weren’t far from their menagerie predecessors, where animals were seen as wondrous curiosities but with little attention given to actual animal welfare.

Through the 1920s, some of the zoo’s animals ranged in natural conditions on the hillside above Washington Park’s reservoirs, but even until the 1950s, many others, like chimpanzees, were housed in cages lined up along park roadways. Visitors could drive by, hop out, view an animal and drive on. The bars of some cages from that era were made of pencil-thin iron so soft that the chimpanzees could spread them apart and slip through. Maintenance staff constructed so many reinforcements that it became hard to even see the chimps.

With the mandate to improve the zoo in the 1950s, Portland architectural firm Lawrence, Wallman and Tucker toured the nation, visiting 34 zoos and aquariums to find the best features to include in Portland’s animal exhibits. They were influenced by the age they lived in, when scientific knowledge about disease and its prevention was making huge strides. Cleanliness was increasingly understood to be vital to health. Small, hard-to-clean cages gave way to larger enclosures that were sparsely furnished and easily sterilized.

Later, in the 1970s, conservation and ecology – the scientific study of relationships between living organisms and their environment – began to infiltrate the national consciousness. The zoo we know today began its increasing emphasis on naturalistic habitats that fostered animal welfare, as well as visitor education and wildlife conservation beyond the zoo’s borders.

1971
The Portland Zoological Society assumes zoo management, with funding continuing from the City of Portland.

1975
The zoo’s volunteer program begins. The zoo now has 1,400 volunteers.

1976
The Oregon legislature places the zoo under Metro. Voters approve a five-year, $10 million levy for operating and capital expenses. The zoo is renamed Washington Park Zoo.
Voters approve a three-year, $15 million serial levy. A remodel provides larger outdoor areas for Asian elephants and state-of-the-art handling facilities. The primate house is also remodeled.

1982

Cascade Stream and Pond opens, constructed with private funds, and wins the top exhibit award from the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

1983

Remodeled Penguinarium opens.

National recognition

As the zoo improved in the 1970s and 1980s, citizens and donors continued their support.

In 1974, the zoo became just the second in the country to achieve accreditation by what is now known as the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. As a symbol of the zoo’s progress, many new exhibits opened in the coming years – starting with Cascade Stream and Pond in 1982 through Red Ape Reserve in 2011.

As the zoo evolved, so did its name. In 1998, the Washington Park Zoo became the Oregon Zoo to better reflect the zoo’s regional appeal and emphasis on wildlife of the Pacific Northwest.

Today, the Oregon Zoo has five major exhibit areas: Great Northwest, Fragile Forests, Asia, Pacific Shores and Africa, which include 23 specialized exhibits. New and upgraded exhibits like Predators of the Serengeti and Red Ape Reserve allow animals to live on natural soil, grass or other porous, well-drained flooring. Another, more subtle change is that newer exhibits give animals access to vistas that let them scan the horizon to see beyond their habitats to other parts of the zoo. Like other features, this encourages natural behaviors.
A beaver swims by some visitors at the Cascade Stream and Pond exhibit. Kristine Torres.

Female African lions relax in the Predators of the Serengeti exhibit, which emphasizes natural surroundings and surfaces for the animals. Carli Davidson.

“The Oregon Zoo is on the leading edge of zoological exhibits in North America.”

—Jim Maddy, president and CEO of Association of Zoos and Aquariums, 2010

The zoo’s focus on large, naturalistic habitats has been recognized by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums on more than one occasion. In 1983, Cascade Stream and Pond won AZA’s top exhibit award and in 2010, Predators of the Serengeti won AZA’s top award for new exhibits.

Future exhibits, including those being built for elephants, polar bears and primates, allow the animals to make choices about how and with whom to spend the day – to choose to live outdoors under the sky or to find shelter from the elements, or even from other animals within their habitat.
An enriching role in animal welfare

As modern zoos continued to evolve, it was no longer enough to simply provide animals with what had once been deemed sufficient care – food, water and shelter. Animal husbandry was moving far beyond that.

In the 1980s, Oregon Zoo keepers and researchers began introducing activities to ensure that the zoo’s animals were experiencing the best possible lives – physically, mentally and emotionally. They did this by offering them stimulating physical environments, a changing array of objects that present challenges and rewards, and activities that promote problem solving and autonomy.

This concern for the animals’ welfare soon permeated every aspect of the zoo’s operations; in fact, the science of animal enrichment has its roots here in Portland.

In 1993, staff conservation scientist David Shepherdson led the first-ever conference on environmental enrichment for zoo animals here at the Oregon Zoo. (The conference is now held internationally every two years.) The conference – a unique blend of science and practice – spawned a book by Shepherdson and colleagues in 1998; Second Nature quickly became the go-to book for the science of enrichment.

Now, zoo visitors can see animal enrichment in action every day whether it’s encouraging animals to follow their natural predatory instincts, creating opportunities for them to forage for food or providing them with places for shelter when seeking respite from their roommates.

“Providing good animal welfare means ensuring that animals don’t just survive, they thrive.”

—Kim Smith, director, Oregon Zoo
Wildlife technician, Rachel Lamsen, holds a Columbia basin pygmy rabbit about to be released in the native shrub steppe in Central Washington. *Photographer unknown.*

A California condor receives assistance hatching at the zoo’s Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation. *Photographer unknown.*

Conservation: The unbreakable thread

Wildlife conservation is the unbreakable thread that is woven into every idea, action and program of the Oregon Zoo. The zoo’s focus on conservation began in the early 1960s, about the time when its veterinarian, Matthew Maberry, informed the world that an Asian elephant’s gestation was not 18, not 20, but 22 months long. Since then, the zoo has helped preserve wildlife through a mix of meticulous observation, fieldwork, lab studies, authoring of scholarly articles and books, and of course, the release of endangered species into the wild. In the process, the Oregon Zoo provides millions of people with information that inspires them to act on behalf of wildlife.

Just what does conservation look like in action? At the Oregon Zoo it looks like a California condor riding thermals above rocky pinnacles in California. In 1987, only 22 condors – the continent’s largest bird – remained in the wild. Today, thanks to the zoo and its partners, 200 condors fly free, and 180 more live in breeding facilities like the zoo’s Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation in Clackamas County. Many of the condors born there have returned to their native habitats.

It also looks like a tiny grey pygmy rabbit burrowing under a sagebrush plant in Central Washington. For 12 years, the zoo and its partners collaborated to study, breed and release these endangered animals so that they could thrive again on protected lands. In 2012, the breeding program officially ended; a new wild sub population of pygmy rabbits is now well on its way to being successfully established.

1996
Voters approve a bond measure to construct the Great Northwest exhibit and a new entry village.

1997
The Oregon Zoo Foundation merges with the zoo’s development office.

1998
The zoo is renamed the Oregon Zoo to better reflect its location and emphasis on native wildlife. The new entrance and Cascade Crest, the first phase of the Great Northwest, open.

1998
The Oregon Zoo Foundation secures over $1 million to support the zoo, including funds to complete Cascade Crest.
Conservation at the Oregon Zoo is sometimes as simple as removing invasive English Ivy from zoo grounds, or as complex as working with an international team to develop emergency response strategies for polar bears as their sea ice habitat disappears. From the zoo’s scientists to its youngest visitor, wildlife is the reason for it all. And the community supports these efforts in so many ways, including a conservation surcharge on each admission ticket, gifts from individuals, funding from corporations and grants from foundations through the Oregon Zoo Foundation.

This past fall, the zoo’s conservation work was recognized nationally by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums with two North American Conservation Awards for the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly captive rearing program and the Oregon Spotted Frog reintroduction project.

Environmental education in action
Where will you find the largest environmental education program in Oregon? Portland Public Schools? University of Oregon? Good guesses, but the right answer is the Oregon Zoo.

Every year, more than 200,000 people – from toddlers to teens to adults – walk away from a zoo camp, class or field trip with new knowledge about everything from animal adaptations to being a conservation-minded consumer. Beginning with the Ladybug Theater in the 1960s, education at the zoo has evolved into a multi-platform experience. The zoo’s website – oregonzoo.org – features an immense, searchable database of animal facts, zoological research and conservation programs – perfect for school research projects and for all curious learners.
Educating tomorrow’s scientists, one youth at a time

In this era of tight school budgets, the zoo has widened its educational reach. In addition to seasonal camps and ongoing classes, it offers paid, three-year internships to low-income teenagers through its Zoo Animal Presenters (ZAP) program. Each fall, the zoo works with public and alternative schools, and social service agencies to recruit teenagers between 15 and 17 years old for ZAP. It’s a selective lot: only one in 10 applicants makes the cut. ZAP teens are trained by the zoo in animal handling, presenting to groups and natural science education so that they can represent the Oregon Zoo at parks, Boys and Girls Clubs and organizations serving low-income kids. ZAP teens not only learn about natural sciences, but gain valuable career experience that will help guide them into the future.

But that’s not all: Second-year ZAPs lead the zoo’s Urban Nature Overnights, which teach low-income, urban third to fifth graders outdoor recreation skills and environmental concepts while camping at the zoo and in local areas. ZAPs become part of a conservation team that participates in field work, and conducts animal and habitat surveys in natural areas and forests – along with working in the zoo’s endangered butterfly conservation lab.

In 2012, the zoo continued to expand its education offerings by integrating its camps, classes, and volunteer and youth programs with the education programs led by Metro naturalists and waste reduction experts. The idea is for the community to use the zoo as a gateway to the region’s natural areas and parks, and discover their local connections to the natural world.
LED bulbs, all 1.3 million of them, help keep ZooLights on the cutting edge of beauty while reducing the zoo's energy use. John Holly.

At the Oregon Zoo, green is a way of life
Portland's modern history is noted for a progressive attitude toward social causes — but perhaps none more than the environment. Long before climate change was on the national agenda, Portland led the way in advocating for more sustainable living.

So it should come as no surprise that the Oregon Zoo stands out from its peers as one of the most environmentally progressive zoos. In 2012, it was honored with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' coveted Green Award for reducing the environmental impact of its operations.

One of the zoo's goals is to serve as a community model for sustainability practices, demonstrating that even small positive changes can make a difference for wildlife.

Walking the talk
In 1991, the Oregon Zoo became one of the first zoos in the nation to establish an in-house Green Team to reduce waste. Each year the team — representing every aspect of zoo operations — establishes goals that range from installing motion sensor lights in restrooms to cutting water use.

Reducing the zoo's impact on the environment is a central tenet of the projects funded through the 2008 Oregon Zoo bond. A new water filtration system for the zoo's penguin pool means that 7 million gallons of water are saved annually.

In the zoo's new Veterinary Medical Center, rainwater is harvested from the roof to a 30,000-gallon silo; it is used to flush toilets, hose down animal areas and irrigate landscaping. Electricity use is reduced by funneling natural light into windowless areas via light tubes. The building, opened in 2012, is certified as a LEED-Gold facility by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The new water filtration system for penguins not only lets the birds enjoy cleaner water, it reduces water consumption by 7 million gallons annually. Michael Durham.

2004
Eagle Canyon opens. The Trillium Creek Family Farm opens, the first U.S. zoo exhibit operated exclusively by teenage volunteers.

2005
The zoo's first-born condor chick is released at California's Pinnacles National Monument.

2006
Cougar Crossing opens. The zoo reaches more than 40,000 member households.
2007
Visitors begin paying an admission surcharge to support Northwest conservation programs. *Black Bear Ridge* opens. Washington pygmy rabbits bred at the zoo are released into the wild.

2008
The Oregon Zoo Foundation leads a successful public support campaign for a $125 million bond measure for zoo improvements, including six new animal exhibits, an education center and a veterinary medical center.

2009
With $6 million provided by the Oregon Zoo Foundation during a three-year campaign, *Predators of the Serengeti* opens to the public.

Many existing buildings and facilities have also been retrofitted to make them more energy efficient. More than 90 percent of zoo offices now have sensors that turn off lights and heat when rooms empty; in administrative areas, computers shut off automatically at night.

**A recycling culture**
These days, recycling at the zoo is widespread—from making recycle bins available to guests and employees, to turning construction waste into reusable materials. (For instance, 91 percent of construction waste from the Veterinary Medical Center was recycled.) Waste from herbivores is recycled into compost called Zoo Doo, which is used in plantings around the zoo and throughout Washington Park.

Looking ahead, the Oregon Zoo’s focus on environmental sustainability will continue. Remaining bond projects all incorporate stringent environmental elements—each building will be LEED-Silver or above, for instance—as the zoo continues to model sustainable values for the community and fellow zoos around the world.

Above: The Oregon Zoo has been making—and sometimes marketing—Zoo Doo for 26 years. More than 13,000 yards of animal waste is used for Zoo Doo annually. Circa 1980s. Jesse Karr.

Left: A truck delivers a new pile of Zoo Doo. Photographer unknown.

Funded through the 2008 bond and opened in 2012, the new LEED-Gold Veterinary Medical Center is a true symbol of the zoo’s sustainability efforts. This 30,000 gallon galvanized tank (seen at right) collects rainwater runoff from the main roof that is used to flush toilets, hose down animal holding areas and irrigate landscaping. Michael Durham.
The best is yet to come

From a bear pit in City Park to 64 acres of lush forested ground, the Oregon Zoo has come a long way. Today, the zoo welcomes roughly 1.5 million visitors annually who come to learn about its more than 2,000 creatures representing 240 different species.

Each day, nearly 200 zoo and foundation staff approach their work with one shared vision: to inspire the community to help create a better future for wildlife. From conservation to education to sustainability, this vision is woven into every plan, project and action.

This vision also inspires the 1,400 volunteers who play a crucial role in daily zoo operations – tackling everything from feeding and cleaning, to observing animal behaviors for keepers to hosting education programs for youth. The zoo’s 400 ZooGuides receive training on all aspects of the zoo before they venture out to assist visitors.

Community makes it possible

Starting in the 1950s, voters, individual and corporate donors, zoo members and volunteers have played a huge part in the zoo’s transformation. Thanks to this community support, the zoo emerged from a politically neglected place mid-century, to a state-of-the-art collection of habitats and leading conservation facility.

Financial support provided through the Oregon Zoo Foundation – the nonprofit fundraising arm of the zoo – means the zoo can offer conservation education to everyone from toddlers to retirees, it can support wildlife conservation research around the world, and it can invest in infrastructure that uses precious resources with minimum waste. Of course, it also means providing the very best welfare for each animal at the zoo.

Elephant Lands and beyond

The Oregon Zoo may have come a long way in the past 125 years, but there’s still much to be done.

Today, Director Kim Smith is leading the zoo through the early stages of implementing a 20-year master plan that will transform the Oregon Zoo into one of the world’s premiere zoos. Some projects, like the Veterinary Medical Center, are complete – funded by the $125 million bond measure approved by voters in 2008 in combination with gifts from generous donors.

This summer, the zoo breaks ground on a visionary new habitat for its Asian elephant herd. Elephant Lands – which greatly expands the current exhibit – will be one of the most natural, moving and spectacular elephant experiences in the world. The habitat will encourage choice and activities that honor the intelligence and social needs of these amazing animals, bringing to life the zoo’s philosophy that all animals should be able to choose how they spend their time. Elements such as sand floors, a network of streams and time-release feeders replicate natural environments. This one-of-a-kind experience opens in 2015.

Elephant Lands

This rendering shows off the new California condor exhibit opening in late 2013, which celebrates these magnificent birds and the Oregon Zoo’s role in their recovery.

2010
With funding from the Oregon Zoo Foundation, Red Ape Reserve opens. The zoo reaches 49,000 member households.

2010
Predators of the Serengeti receives the top exhibit award from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

2011
More than 500 donors to the Oregon Zoo Foundation fund equipment for the Veterinary Medical Center.

2012
The Veterinary Medical Center, constructed largely with bond funds, opens with a LEED-Gold rating. Asian elephant Packy turns 50.
Later this year the zoo will bring California condors on-site with a new exhibit that will continue to raise awareness of these endangered birds that once soared over Oregon. New exhibits for polar bears, primates and rhinos will follow, as well as a new, larger home for the zoo’s conservation education and outdoor education programs.

Every day, the Oregon Zoo works to make a positive difference in the lives of all animals in its care and wildlife everywhere. It has been through many changes throughout its 125 years – but one thing remains constant: the community’s vital role in the zoo’s progress and success. The Oregon Zoo is your zoo, and as we look toward the future, we can’t wait to write its next chapter together.

The Oregon Zoo would like to extend a special thank you to Don Nelson for serving as a resource on this piece. Don’s book, *Portland’s Washington Park: A Pictorial History*, is available for sale in the Oregon ZooStore.

Learn more about the Oregon Zoo’s visionary, long-term master plan.

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2013
Zoo breaks ground on *Elephant Lands* in early summer, an expanded 6-acre, world-class habitat for Asian elephants.

2013
The Oregon Zoo celebrates its 125th anniversary on November 7. A new condor exhibit opens in late fall.

2015
*Elephant Lands* opens to the public.
Private support from individuals, corporations, organizations and foundations is vital to the progress and success of Oregon Zoo. The Oregon Zoo Foundation is deeply grateful to our many members and friends for their generous support of Oregon Zoo’s programs and services. We are pleased to recognize gifts of $250 or more received during 2012.

$100,000+$
Banfield Pet Hospital
The Clark Foundation
Candace Clark Holzgrafe and Jon Holzgrafe
Bureau of Land Management
The Edward and Romell Ackley Foundation
Fred Meyer
Haven Clark
Brittney Clark and Christopher Brooks
$50,000-$99,999
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Regence BlueCross BlueShield
John and Jill Inskeep
The ESCO Foundation
Mark and Ruth Ann Dodson
Clark/Lewis Family Foundation
Mike and Tracey Clark
$100,000+
Zoo’s programs and services. We are pleased to thank all of these organizations and foundations for their generous support of Oregon Zoo. The Oregon Zoo Foundation is deeply grateful to our many members and foundations for their generous support of Oregon Zoo’s programs and services. We are pleased to recognize gifts of $250 or more received during 2012.

$100,000-$24,999
Anonymous (2)
Allen & Overy Veterinary Referral Center, Inc.
The Bland Family
Jim Buchanan and Jim Driscoll
terence DeManuelle and Mr. John Woodrude
Jim Edwards and Michie Mass
Foley Frischkorn Wildlife and Conservation Fund in memory of Louise H. Foley
Fred’s Marine
Cherie and Greg Sprando
GlobaGiving Foundation
Kroks Family
Mark and Diana Loomis
NW Natural
The Oregon Community Foundation
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Beverly and Milo Ormseth
The Oregon Zoo Foundation
Oregon Natural History Museum
Portland General Electric
Property Management
Mark and Ruth Ann Dodson
Bureau of Land Management
The Edward and Romell Ackley Foundation
Fred Meyer
Haven Clark
Brittney Clark and Christopher Brooks
$50,000-$99,999
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Brettby Clark and Christopher Brooks
Haven Clark
Fred Meyer
Portland Metro Toyota Dealers
$25,000-$49,999
The Edward and Romett Ackley Foundation
The Boeing Company
Bureau of Land Management
Colin Ma and Laurie Christensen
The NW Natural - Mark Dodson
Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Estate of Doris Grossoehme
The Glen Holden Family Foundation
Ambassador and Mrs. Glen Holden
JFJ Foundation
Frederick D. and Gail Y. Jubitl Foundation
Janeen and Malli McMinnim
Kim and Craig Overhage
Ray and Karolcette Peterson
Portland General Electric
Estate of Louise C. Smith
Spirit Mountain Casino
Walmart
$1,000-$4,999
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Aguilar & Bobadilla, PC
Scott & Mary Lee Alder
Shenly and J.P. Alexus Jr. Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Alliance Charter Academy
Lee and Becky Alfred
Dean and Susan Alterman
Anthro Corporation Technology Furniture
Leonard and Brenda Aplet
Atelier Dreisell
Ray and Jean Auel
Michael and Angela Baehr
Bank of America
Dr. David and Linda Barro
Heidi and R. Bryan Bell
John and Patricia Bentley
Dave and Pat Berkeley
Lawrence S. and Susan W. Black
Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Bonneville Power Administration
Ken Bostrack and Lisa Bostrack
Aires Bradshaw
Bruce and Mary Stevenson
Foundation
W. Ray Carder
Greg and Olga Carlson
Maureen Casey and Marlin McKeever
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The Cavola Family
Michael and Chery Cebula
CFM Strategic Communications
James and Mary Chaise
Chateau Ste. Michelle
Damiel & Tina Christian
CLR Design
Mary Cobey
James, Julie, and Dillon Cody
Elizabeth and Alan Cohen
The Colt Family Foundation
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Tim and Debbie Deering
Debette
Jaime and Nicholas Derler
Linda and Garth Dennis
Deschutes Brewery
Dr. and Mrs. Lance Dicker
Thien Do and Jill Grunkemeier
John and Anita Drew
Element Power
Max Enquist and Colum Enquist
Wayne and Sandra Erickson
Robert and Gina Erickson
Carnett and Ruth Falconbury
FedEx Corporation
Robert Feldman and Jula Mangold
Andrew and Lisa Ferguson
Patricia and Richard Ferguson
Renee Flint
The Flora Family Foundation
Debra Foster
Peggy and Bob Fowler
Dr. Robert and Catherine Franklin
Karen and Steve Freeman
Bruce and Terri Fuller
Sue and David Gay
Elizabeth and Thomas Gwecwee
Charles and Mary Gibbs
Greg S. Gibson
Deana Goldston and Brad Fetter
Gramasipet Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Steffeni Mendoza Gray and Richard Gray
The Grubb Family
Raimund Grube and Krishin Bishop
Nancy and James Guiter
Gerald and Andra Haase
Kregg and Andam Hanson
Oylene and Sherry Harmon
Hibler Frankie Foundation
Gary and Jane Hiblets
Nancy and Robert Hennen
Ronna and Eric Hoffman Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Gary and Mike Heseldin and Justin Homsley
Bob and Ann Hougum
Bruce and Mary Stevenson
Foundation Fund C
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Bannan Liebman LLP
Leslie J. Fordham
Hoffman Construction Company
Jari Iverson and Michael Deserault
Jackson Foundation
Lease Cruichet Lewis
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Agrim, Inc.
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W. Ray Carder
Greg and Olga Carlson
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Gary and Jane Hiblets
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Ronna and Eric Hoffman Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Gary and Mike Heseldin and Justin Homsley
Bob and Ann Hougum
Bruce and Mary Stevenson
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The Hug Family
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The Oregon Zoo is proud to have a strong history in working with Oregon-based companies like Banfield Pet Hospital®. For over 10 years, Banfield has worked closely with the zoo from partnerships in children’s education programming via Animal Investigators’ Camp, to sharing best practices in preventive healthcare, to providing equipment for the zoo’s Veterinary Medical Center.

“Besides learning from each other professionally, Banfield’s partnership with the Oregon Zoo is incredibly valuable in educating the community about the important role animals play in the lives of adults and children. It’s a natural fit, and we are very proud to work alongside the zoo to promote the health and well-being of all animals.”

—Tony Ueber, president and CEO, Banfield Pet Hospital
Foundations like The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation (based in Redmond, Oregon) have a long history of supporting the Oregon Zoo's animal welfare and conservation programs. A 1988 grant began the effort to bring the first female rhino to the Oregon Zoo, and their most recent grant helped fund the zoo's newly renovated aviary. As a lifelong wildlife advocate, funding from The Johnson Foundation's Ruth H. Manary Advised Fund and her estate has also supported new zoo exhibits, veterinary equipment, and the care and wellbeing of the zoo's family of chimpanzees.

“The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation has been proud to have been able to support the good work being carried out at the Oregon Zoo throughout the past 25 years. The zoo is a treasured resource for Oregonians and visitors to the Pacific Northwest. We appreciate their tireless efforts in conservation and education, and look forward to seeing the zoo's exciting new additions as they take shape in the coming years!”

—Betsy Johnson, president, Samuel S. Johnson Foundation

Rich and Janette Hoslé
Ron Housholder and Maggie Westling
Cheryl Howell and Brent Howell
Steve Hudson and Kris Hudson
Teresa and Brian Huffman
Jeffrey Hulse and Megan Cavanaugh
Andrea Hungerford and Richard Cohn-Lee
John Hussa and Marilyn Hussa
Shilo Hutton and Vanessa Hutton
Brittanie & Zach Hzyer
Jeff & Amy Ingalls
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In Honor of All Jokela from Carol's Estate
Ceci Jones and Richard Jones
Linda and Gregory Jones
Lydia Jordan
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Candace Jumes and Grady Jumes
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Jennifer and William Karon-Flores
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Gayle Whitehurst's relationship with the Oregon Zoo goes back to 1953 when, as a child, she collected pennies alongside her parents to help adopt an Asian elephant Rosy from Thailand. Gayle's family support and involvement with the zoo has continued for several generations now.

As loyal donors, Zoo Parents and members of the zoo, they gave generously to help fund the Predators of the Serengeti exhibit and the current elephant habitat. They continue to share their love of the zoo with their family, often bringing their grandchildren to events at the zoo and helping inspire the next generations to create a better future for wildlife. In 2012, Gayle's esteemed role as a longtime Royal Rosarian made her part of the knighting ceremony for Sir Knight Packy as part of his 50th birthday celebration.

The Oregon Zoo Foundation strives to recognize its donors in the manner requested. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions and appreciate being notified of changes required for future recognition. Contact Tony Arnell at 503-220-5738 or tony.arnell@oregonzoo.org.
On February 1, 2013, the Oregon Zoo Foundation launched a new membership structure that simplifies the categories and benefits. We are excited that we can now offer all members access to great benefits such as free entry to ZooLights and four Sunset at the Zoo events, which will return this July and August by popular demand.

For those who haven’t had a chance to check out the new membership categories – here’s a little “cheat sheet” that compares the old with the new:

**Oregon Zoo membership at a glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Category Name(s)</th>
<th>New Category Name</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual (Basic) or Individual (Plus)</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZooTwo (Basic) or ZooTwo (Plus)</td>
<td>Dual</td>
<td>$89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family (Basic) or Family (Plus)</td>
<td>Household</td>
<td>$114</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>$145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefactor</td>
<td>Benefactor</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Circle</td>
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<td>$1,000+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can learn more about all the benefits associated with each level at oregonzoo.org/membership.

**Update on the transition to paid parking**

As we first announced in the last issue of ZooTracks, the zoo and our Washington Park partners continue to work with Portland Parks & Recreation on implementing a paid parking system throughout Washington Park for all visitors, including members.

The Washington Park Transportation Management Association (WPTMA), which is in charge of overseeing the new parking system, is giving careful consideration to the type of system that will result in maximum safety and convenience for all park visitors. Ensuring that everyone who parks in the lots has safe access to pay stations and all attractions is the group’s first priority.

It is anticipated that the cost will be $1.60 per hour, with a maximum rate of $6.40 per day during peak season and $4 per day during the off season. This is the same hourly rate that drivers currently pay for street parking in downtown Portland and comparable to the $4 per day that non-members currently pay for zoo parking.

Revenues collected from parking fees will be directly reinvested in much-needed parking and transit improvements throughout Washington Park, including improved lots, traffic flow and shuttle service. As of this date, WPTMA still anticipates that pay stations will be installed and active by late spring/early summer 2013. For more information, visit washingtonparkpdx.org.

**Flock this way…flamingos have arrived!**

Even if we’re still seeing overcast days in Portland, we guarantee that a piece of paradise awaits you at the Oregon Zoo. Just in time for spring break, a flock of 21 lesser flamingos made their debut in the zoo’s newly remodeled Africa Rainforest aviary. Funded by individual, corporate and foundation contributions through the Oregon Zoo Foundation, the birds’ new pad boasts a specially-designed pool, new nesting area and separate holding area. Flamingos were last at the Oregon Zoo in the early 1950s, so we are tickled pink to welcome them back!
Concerts are coming!
Oregon Zoo Summer Concerts will be here soon! The season is shaping up nicely, with Huey Lewis & The News, The B-52s and Lee Brice, to name a few. Watch the web and your emails for the full line-up to be released in mid-April. Tickets will go on sale to the public on Friday, April 26, but members will get a special pre-sale code via email valid on Tuesday, April 23. If you are a member and not already on our email list, and want to be notified of the pre-sale, please email us at ozf@oregonzoo.org. Oregon Zoo Summer Concerts are supported by Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, your local Toyota dealers and U.S. Bank.

Sign up for Summer Camp today!
It will be summer again before we know it and the zoo is looking forward to hosting young campers for programs full of fun and educational opportunities. For more than 30 years, the Oregon Zoo’s professional staff has been guiding children in exploring and discovering the wonders of the zoo and the natural world through hands-on experiences and exciting learning. Be sure to visit oregonzoo.org to see a complete program guide and program information for camps offered each week during the summer months. Registration is already open and spots are going fast, so reserve your camper’s spot today!
All events and dates are subject to change. For event updates, please visit oregonzoo.org.

SECOND TUESDAYS (REDUCED ADMISSION)
APRIL 9, MAY 14, JUNE 11
9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Sponsored by the Walmart Foundation with support from The Standard.

RABBIT ROMP
SATURDAY, MARCH 30
9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Join us for candy eggs every 20 minutes on the concert lawn. Hunts are divided by age groups. Children 10 and younger. Cost is free with zoo admission.

ELEPHANTASTIC – PACKY’S BIRTHDAY
SUNDAY, APRIL 14
10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

AN EVENING WITH THE EXPERTS – LECTURE
THURSDAY, APRIL 25
7:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.
Join polar bear researcher and expert, Dr. Tom Smith from Brigham Young University, for a lecture on maternal den studies in polar bears. Tickets available online at oregonzoo.org. $10 for general admission, $8 for members and students with valid student ID.

ANIMAL ENRICHMENT - ZOO MOTHER OF THE YEAR
FRIDAY, MAY 9
10:30 A.M.

MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH
SUNDAY, MAY 12
9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Reservations are required. Call 503-525-4299. See page 4 for more details.

SUMMER CAMP
9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Weekly sessions June 17 to August 30 for age 4 to youth in 8th grade.
Information and registration at oregonzoo.org

ZOO SUMMER HOURS BEGIN
THURSDAY, MAY 25
9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Address Service Requested

Stay on top of all our zoo events and updates on Facebook and Twitter!