Friends of the Pana’ewa Zoo

Friends Of The Zoo Invites you to:

Tiger Fun Day!

Saturday, July 1, 10:00-3:00
Parking available at the Equestrian Center with Shuttle to the Zoo

Entertainment
Games! Fishing, Treasure Chest & Wheel of Fortune
Terry & Tammy Tiger
Andy Alligator
Face Painting
Petting Zoo
Smoothies, Coffee, Tea, Soda, Water, Hot Dogs, Pizza, Braddah Pops & Snacks available for purchase

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Pam Mizuno
What’s New in the Zoo

Summer is definitely upon us and with it the heat and humidity! Alligators Lilo & Stitch, Aldabra Tortoise Darwin and Jake the Snake are all basking in this sunshine and warm weather, while other animals are spending more time taking it slow and easy in the shade. The sound of children enjoying the playground all day is a sure sign that summer is in full swing!

Our Sacred Ibis have been actively courting and nest building this spring and have presented us with 2 new chicks during the past 6 weeks. It is simply amazing how fast these chick develop and grow. By the time they are a month old it’s difficult to tell them apart from the adults! Below is a photo of the newest arrival at 3 weeks of age.

Texel Guinea Pigs and are a breed unlike any other “piggies”. They are crossbred guinea pigs that are highly sought-after breed because of their unique and curly long coat. Here at the zoo we have 5 Texel piggies at petting zoo for you to touch and feel their unique coat.

Our creative staff has been working hard at prepping a new exhibit for the Ring-Tailed Lemurs. By recycling and putting together pieces of old playground equipment that has been removed from county parks, adding some old fire hose that the fire department donated to our cause and using some thick

We have two new petting zoo residents at the barn. Sweet Pea and Musubi are Guinea Pig sisters that would love to have you visit with them between 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays! These girls are
pieces of trunk from the invasive strawberry guava, Zookeeper Kyle Arakaki with assistance from several staff members came up with a wonderful design and constructed our new Lemur play land! With help from Friends of the Zoo who purchased the copper sheeting needed to complete the job, the new exhibit has been made slug resistant. This was the last and most important step in the project as Lemurs are susceptible to Rat Lung Worm. The copper sheeting helps to keep the slugs out of their area to prevent infection.

See you all in the zoo!

Pam Mizuno
Zoo Director

We are all excited that the Ring-Tailed Lemur troop will soon be moving into their new digs next to the Binturongs!

Tiger, Tiger where are you? Are you ready? Sriracha and Tzatziki have grown up so fast in the past 16 months since they arrived, and they’re getting ready to celebrate their second birthday on June 24th (Sriracha) and July 3rd (Tzatziki) with the Friends of the Zoo Tiger Fun Day Celebration!! Mark your calendar as you definitely won’t want to miss all the fun!!
Volunteer Spotlight on Barbara Thomason

Part of being the President of an organization like Friends of the Pana`ewa Zoo is getting to know and appreciate the talents that the members bring to the Board. Last newsletter, I highlighted the work that Shirley Howard, our Facebook lady, does for your Zoo. This newsletter, I will introduce Barbara Thomason, who, although she is not an officer, takes on more work that many of us on the Board.

Barbara came to Hilo with her husband, Paul Taylor, in 2003. They had previously decided it was time to think about retiring. Both of them were looking for a place different from Anadarko, Oklahoma, where they were living at the time. Barbara’s stipulation was that she wanted a place where “the wind didn’t blow and it rained”, these conditions being the opposite of weather in Oklahoma. So they took a vacation and came to Hilo. The first time, they spent a couple of days. They pretty much knew they liked it here so their next vacation, they looked at houses. Paul’s intention was to fix up a house slowly while he decreased the days of work in his dental practice in Oklahoma. But he liked it so much in Hilo he decided to sell his practice to move here with Barbara right away.

It took a little while for Barbara to become interested in the Zoo. She grew up on a farm in Oklahoma and took over the family farm when her parents passed away, so she knew about animals. She became a FOZ member and received the newsletter. In about 2005 Faith Elarianoff, Board Member Emeritus now, was looking for people to work with the animals to enrich their zoo lives. It started with Barbara and Faith taking Mele, our Miniature Horse, for walks around the Zoo. When that worked out okay, gradually, as they got more Enrichment Team members, they were able to add to the numbers of animals that got the opportunity to leave their enclosures to walk around the Zoo. It is now one of the highlights of the Zoo experience for people to pet the animals outside their cages, thanks to the steady work and dependability of Barbara and Faith. Barbara also takes all the volunteer information to submit to the Zoo’s Manager.

But more than helping to head up the Enrichment Team with Faith, Barbara is also the Chair of the Membership Committee. That means she sends out reminders in January to 289 FOZ members and welcomes new members when they apply. As the Membership Chair, she also keeps track of the Board members and their length of time on the Board as required by the By-Laws.

Barbara also chairs the Annual FOZ Plant Sale which just completed its 18th year. FOZ is able to increase the funds available for helping with Zoo projects with the proceeds of the plant sale. She is the Chair of the Food Committee for the upcoming July 1st Tiger Fun Day, and with help from many volunteers, provides food items for sale during this annual fund raising event.

Barbara brings tools to the zoo whenever they need to install something in the gift shop or add items to the Petting Zoo enclosure. She is an invaluable member of the Board. We couldn’t do without her. Thanks for all your contributions to the many needs of the Zoo, Barbara.

Pat Engelhard
FOZ President
Successful Plant Sale Once Again

Friends of the Zoo's 18th annual plant sale was a big success. The plant vendors that support us brought wonderful plants again this year. It was a rainy Hilo day, but people came early with their umbrellas to get first choice. When the sun came out even more customers arrived to buy that special plant.

A big Mahalo to the vendors, volunteers and especially customers who supported our plant sale.

Barbara Thomason
FOZ Board Member

Monkeying Around

Q: What do you call a monkey with a banana in each ear?
A: Anything you want, it can’t hear you!
Q: What did the monkey say when he cut off his tail?
A: It won’t be long now.
Q: Where should a monkey go when he loses his tail?
A: To a retailer!
Q: Why did the monkey like the banana?
A: Because it had appeal!
Q: What did the banana say to the monkey?
A: Nothing, bananas can’t talk!

Calendar

Tiger Fun Day, July 1
FOZ Board Meeting, July 21
FOZ Annual Meeting, August 19

Ways to Help

Amazon Smile: FOZ is now included in the charities able to participate in Amazon Smile. When a customer chooses us we will receive .5% of their order. Use the following link and send it to your friends: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/99-0248039.

Recycling: Designate FOZ as the beneficiary when you recycle your HI-5 items at The Arc of Hilo, Mr. K’s Recycle and Atlas Recycling Centers.

Adopt any animal at the Zoo for a year. For a donation of $25 you receive: adoption certificate, fact sheet and photo of your "adoptee."
Einstein — One Smart Bird

Einstein is an Umbrella Cockatoo or White Cockatoo named in Latin Cacatua Alba. His species is indigenous to tropical rainforests throughout Indonesia. The undersides of their wings and tail are a lovely lemon yellow but are only visible when in flight or during an emotional display, such as great happiness, versing occasionally but he has few actual words. He says his name, I love you, and I love you, too, along with yeahhhhhhh. Mostly, though, he says woogie woodgie woodgie blah blah blah. Sorry about that. It was my response to folks who asked what he was mumbling to me and now he says it.

If you've visited him, you may notice the piles of wood chips on the bottom of his enclosure. Einstein LOVES to chew up his wooden toys. He gets four a week plus a multicolored straw contraption that keeps him busy and engaged. If it's raining don't run for cover, you may get to see him take a bath. All in all, he is a most engaging parrot.

Carol McGrath
FOZ Board Member

agitation, or a bath. Umbrellas are noted for their white concave crested, which displayed when excited along with a deafening scream. Einstein can be heard from one end of the zoo to the other when he chooses.

As one of the favorite zoo destinations, Einstein courts everyone but has a few favored aunts with whom he will share some hugs and cuddles. Beware, though, that beautiful black beak packs an average of 400 pounds per square inch! You may hear him con-