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

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2016 Board of Directors
John Valentino, Chair
Tom Richards, Vice Chair
Craig Salando, Treasurer
Sharon Levy, Secretary
Colin Dougherty
Chelsea Cates
Ed Gonzalez
George Nokes
Ken Price
Shari Rainwater

2016 Senior Management
Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director
Brian Goldman, Chief Financial Officer
Lyn Myers, General Curator
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
Lisa Condoian, Zoo Operations Officer

“IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT’S DONE.”
- Nelson Mandela

To be honest, there were times when it seemed like the expansion of the Zoo and the construction of a world class African exhibit were impossible tasks. While Fresno Chaffee Zoo has had incredible support from our community, the barriers and challenges to completing those projects were oppressive at times. Thanks to a devoted team and help from a great Zoo Corporation Board, Zoo Authority Board, City Council, County Board of Supervisors, remarkable work from Congressman Costa and past Mayor Swearingen, as well as many others, what seemed impossible was done.

2016 was the first full year for Fresno Chaffee Zoo to have African Adventure open. The results have been beyond our hopes. We had a record attendance of 964,091, a record number of members, and a great response from our guests.

This year also saw the first lion born at Fresno Chaffee Zoo in almost 50 years. We also confirmed a white rhinoceros pregnancy, the first in the Zoo’s history. Species that had been absent from the Zoo for many years: lions, rhinos, and cheetah, settled into their new homes, as did a number of species that had never been at the Zoo before, like meerkats, African elephants and wildebeest. Thanks to our in-house teams, we also opened a new Australian walk-through exhibit, Roo Walkabout, which features red kangaroos, wallaroo and wallaby.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo’s success is only possible through the amazing support we receive from our community. We hope you’re proud of what has been accomplished. There’s much more to come. We appreciate your 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 2016 successes with you here.

- Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director
2016 was a very busy year for our animal department. We had just opened our new African Adventure expansion in the fall of 2015 and all of us, animal and human alike, were still adjusting.

Our Kudu herd however, did not take long at all to get comfortable. Kudu pair Ivan and Mara produced the first animal born in African Adventure in 2016. Mapenzi, a female Kudu calf, was born on July 29.

On October 11, 2016, after a three month gestation period, our female lion, Kiki, gave birth to a healthy male lion cub. This birth was the first lion birth at our Zoo since 1968. The cub named Kijani, has assimilated well into our lion pride. The entire pride continues to be the “Pride of Fresno”.

We had several births and hatchings that were notable for the year. A male Chacoan peccary was born to our peccary herd. This little guy had a compromised foot which required hand rearing by our keeper and veterinary staff. Physical therapy and extra TLC worked well and this little guy was successfully reintroduced back into the herd.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo was proud to report significant hatchings of two critically endangered reptiles. A radiated tortoise and two Vietnamese box turtle hatchings all helped to increase captive populations. The successful hatching of a radiated tortoise was a first of its kind for our Zoo. The Vietnamese box turtle hatching is significant in that the Zoo has individuals to breed and captive populations are very low. These two tortoise species are threatened in the wild due to over collection for human food.

[Continued on page 6]
One of the greatest achievements for our staff was to be an instrumental partner in a release program of Guam rails that were hatched right here at our Zoo. In 2016, our Guam rail project produced five rail chicks, 4 of which were released into the wild. The fifth chick will remain as part of the captive breeding program for future generations.

In the summer of 2016, we opened our new Kangaroo Walkabout exhibit. This exhibit design and completion was a team effort by many departments within the Zoo. Many of the design elements were reclaimed materials from our old giraffe and zebra exhibit. This new exhibit offers our guests an opportunity to walk through the exhibit and get up close to four species: Tammar wallaby, red kangaroo, wallaroo and emu. New graphics challenge our guests to see how their jumping ability matches up to any one of our new macropods.

Jennifer, our 92 year old Galapagos tortoise was successfully moved to Honolulu Zoo to become part of a breeding program. That’s right, even at 92 years of age, there is still a chance that Jennifer could contribute to future generations of this endangered tortoise. Tortoises can reproduce their entire lifetime which for many species can be up and over 200 years.

Just like our Zoo, our animal collection will continue to grow and change. We look forward to bringing even more species to the Central Valley that can be used to educate and inspire our guests while also allowing us to make an impact on saving their species and habitat in the wild.

- Lyn Myers, General Curator
Zoo Camp Adventures

The fun and dynamic learning opportunities that Zoo Camp Adventures offer have continued to grow in popularity. The Education Department offers camp sessions for children in pre-school through 12th-grade. These 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 through the use of engaging hands on activities, biological artifacts, and opportunities to meet with a variety of zookeeper and veterinary staff members.

Our Fresno Chaffee Zoo Volunteer Team 36,622 Volunteer Hours

Volunteers assist and support the Zoo in many ways. All of the hours provided by our dedicated volunteers are a tremendous resource that allow us to have a much larger impact in the community.

Most people are aware of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Docents, our trained educational volunteers, who assist with school-based education programs and provide many activities out in the Zoo to engage and educate guests.

Teen LEADERS are a group of teen volunteers trained to conduct activities with guests on Zoo grounds. You may see these teen volunteers engaging groups of all ages with fun, conservation-based, learning activities to bring awareness through hands-on games and activities. Junior counselors are teen volunteers who assist our camp instructors during camp classes. These teen volunteers help facilitate positive play and provide a pair of helping hands to staff so we can keep our campers happy and entertained.

Animal assistants are volunteers who assist the zookeepers with the care of animals and exhibit areas. Many of our zookeepers started out as volunteers. Volunteering provides an opportunity to learn more about the responsibilities and skills of our zookeepers.

Events volunteers are groups of volunteers who assist with Zoo fundraising events and play a vital role in ensuring guests at these events have an enjoyable visit.

Our volunteers are selected through an application process. If you are interested in helping us as a volunteer, look for opportunities online at www.fresnochaffeezoo.org and in our quarterly membership newsletter, ZooNews.

School Based Programs

Fresno Unified School District - Zoo Careers Awareness Program

Everyone knows that zoos employ zookeepers, but many people, especially our local students, are not aware of the variety of occupational opportunities our Zoo provides. A partnership developed in 2015 with Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) The College and Career Readiness Office challenged education staff to develop a hands-on program that would provide 4th-grade students with an awareness of the diversity of jobs here at the Zoo. Since that time, the career lab program has served over 2,000 FUSD 4th-grade students. In the lab, students not only learn about the challenges of being a zookeeper but also learn about the importance of other staff positions such as aquarists, facilities staff, and educators.

Madera Unified School District - In-depth Standard-based Environmental Learning

In 2015, a partnership with Madera Unified School District (MUSD) began a journey to find a multi-faceted approach to standard-based environmental learning. Almost 1,800 5th-grade students in 2016 participated in off-site presentations conducted by Fresno Chaffee Zoo educators, which was subsequently followed by a visit to the Zoo, and supported with pre-assembled check-out kits designed for 5th-grade teachers to use in their classrooms.

Community Partnerships: Zoo 2 You

Fresno Chaffee Zoo Docents bring this fun and engaging camp experience to local underprivileged children through a partnership with local resource centers free of charge. Each summer, Zoo docents bring Zoo Camp to these resources centers and it is not only educational, but it allows the docents to share their passion for the world and for the values of stewardship, conservation, and love of learning. Each camp culminates with a sponsored trip to Fresno Chaffee Zoo with lunch included.

African Adventure

In 2016, the demand for educational programs for school field trip visits continued to grow. We have offered classroom-based learning for years. This year, we piloted a cart-based program which mimics the content of the classroom programs. Both programs, offer grade level based content and standard driven objectives. The learning is hands-on and inquiry-based with opportunities for self-discovery. For example, the African Adventure Station Cart Program features hands-on learning which explores the wetlands, savannah, rainforest and ocean environments. These carts can be placed on Zoo grounds so we are not limited to our classroom spaces. This year, we have been gathering feedback from participating schools and next year we will roll out a refined version. This new program will allow us to keep up with the growing school program demands. Our Energy and Conservation Cart Program offers a unique opportunity for middle and high school students to have in-depth conversations highlighting green practices used by our Zoo as well as the Tiger Species Survival Plan (SSP) and genetics, conservation projects we support and the importance of conservation. Additionally, the message of the Seafood Watch program and the importance of making sustainable food choices is also offered.

2016 Totals

ON-SITE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Field Trips</td>
<td>96,830</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Hours</td>
<td>Non-fee-based</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask Me Cart</td>
<td>247,857</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alpaca Encounters</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Llama Encounters</td>
<td>19,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raptor Encounters</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Story Tellers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen LEADERS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainforest Tours</td>
<td>Fee-based</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoo Previews</td>
<td>5,154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoo Tours</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher Workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Programs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Behind the Scenes</td>
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<td>Backstage Tours</td>
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<td>Birthday Encounters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twilight Safaris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overnights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tot Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo Academy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cubby Camp</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoo Adventure Camp</td>
<td>3,194</td>
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<td>Shadow a Keeper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Naturalist Classes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OFF-SITE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoomobile</td>
<td>Fee-based</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoo Talks</td>
<td>15,414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beach Clean-up</td>
<td>Non-fee-based</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>6,084</td>
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<td>Community Events</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>421,532</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
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Financial Report

Sources of Funding

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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Measure Z Operating</td>
<td>$4,172,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Fresno</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>$4,099,886</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$717,083</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>$1,323,499</td>
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<td>Gift Shop and Concessions</td>
<td>$1,275,563</td>
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<td>Event Income</td>
<td>$704,314</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations &amp; Grants</td>
<td>$372,624</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stingray Bay</td>
<td>$296,588</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>$405,903</td>
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<td>Rental Income</td>
<td>$604,641</td>
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<td>Giraffe-Feeding</td>
<td>$450,638</td>
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<td>In-Kind Donations</td>
<td>$131,769</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$61,312</td>
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Total Revenue: $16,118,452

Use of Funds

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Construction in Progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Equipment and Facilities</td>
<td>$1,899,735</td>
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<td>Contracted Services</td>
<td>$700,467</td>
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<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$681,102</td>
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<td>Animal Services</td>
<td>$460,911</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$607,546</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$358,205</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repairs and Maintenance</td>
<td>$266,287</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food and Catering</td>
<td>$416,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>$277,517</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing and Postage</td>
<td>$254,005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$179,461</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$251,436</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service/Bank Fees</td>
<td>$196,302</td>
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<td>Staff Development</td>
<td>$116,054</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>$109,044</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Expenses</td>
<td>$112,264</td>
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<td>Computer Hardware and Software</td>
<td>$54,455</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>$51,231</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialized Services</td>
<td>$50,432</td>
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<td>Uniforms</td>
<td>$36,706</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fleet</td>
<td>$21,643</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$36,050</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Expenses: $14,669,510

Net Surplus: $1,448,942

1 Sales tax revenue from Measure Z is available based upon expense reimbursement claim forms that are submitted by the Zoo. During 2016, the Zoo received $4,172,432 in reimbursements.
2 Towards projects with shared costs between City of Fresno and Fresno Chaffee Zoo.
3 Contracted Services include Winged Wonders Bird Show, event entertainment, and contracted IT and custodial services.
4 Professional Services include legal, audit, payroll and exterminating services.
5 In-Kind Donations include items that are exchanged for services of equal value.

Attendance

New Record!

964,091 guests!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>429,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>418,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>443,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>511,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>580,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>693,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>703,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>808,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>964,091</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Membership

New Record!

18,854 households!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Memberships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>9,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>8,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>9,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>10,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>12,089</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>13,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>14,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>17,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>18,854</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2016, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund supported nine long term projects based in Africa, six long term projects in other parts of the world and seven United States based projects received support, four of which were California species. In total, the Zoo gave $153,448 to 22 projects in over 20 countries.

**African Projects**

**Kibale Fuel Wood Project and Eco-Char Initiative**
This project is based in the Kibale Forest in western Uganda. In 2016, staff conducted eight workshops on fuel efficiency, manufactured nearly 200,000 eco-briquettes and traded 49,083 pounds of plant waste for eco-briquettes. People with efficient stoves use 80 percent less wood. Citizens around Kibale saved more than 4.6 million pounds of wood in 2016.

**Action for Cheita in Kenya**
Funds for this project continue to be used to study cheetah ecology and populations. One tool is scat detection and analysis which confirms cheetah presence and individual cheetahs as well as identifying prey species.

**Tarangire Elephant Project**
Located in the Tarangire Forest in Tanzania, this project has identified over 1,000 individual elephants, creating the largest elephant database. Their work is focused on identifying and protecting wildlife migration corridors and dispersal areas outside the wildlife parks where the animals live. In 2016, a Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) was implemented for use by village game scouts.

**Sahara Conservation Fund**
This project supports a variety of projects. Conservation efforts focus on the preservation of a number of desert species such as addax and oryx. Work also continues to assess threats and develop population management strategies for desert and a number of carnivore species throughout Tunisia, Senegal, Algeria and Chad.

**Reticulated Giraffe Project**
In the last 20 years, reticulated giraffe populations have declined dramatically. This project is working on the conservation and management of the remaining giraffe in northeast Kenya in the Samburu National Reserve. Poaching for food and habitat destruction due to growing human populations are major factors in this decline. In addition, efforts focused on environmental education and population studies continue in Ethiopia and Somalia.

**Ruaha Carnivore Project**
The Ruaha landscape is located in Tanzania and is home to the 2nd largest population of lions. Besides doing research through camera tracking and footprint analysis for population studies, this project also works with the local communities to change attitudes toward lions. In 2016, anti-poaching efforts and anti-poaching efforts while also supporting applied research that can help to improve the chances for long term survival of all carnivore species. IPF funds and operates field programs in Asia and Africa targeted to the rhino species most in need of and most appropriate for intensive protection and management.

**International Rhino Foundation**
In response to the global crisis in rhinoceros conservation, the International Rhino Foundation (IRF) protects particularly threatened rhino populations in the wild with education, monitoring, and anti-poaching efforts while also supporting applied research that can help to improve the chances for long term survival of all rhino species. IPF funds and operates field programs in Asia and Africa targeted to the rhino species most in need of and most appropriate for intensive protection and management.

**Grevy Zebra Trust**
The project is based in Kenya where it is home to 37 percent of the Grevy’s zebra population. The Trust employs local men and women as scouts to collect data on the population, improve positive behavior toward the species and engage local school children. The Grevy’s zebra count program is having a positive effect on the communities that employ scouts. Livestock and zebra can become more accepting of zebra sharing the land.

**Lowland Tapir Conservation Initiative**
One of the main achievements of the Atlantic Forest Tapir Program has been working with local communities on the establishment of agro-forestry projects to restore tapir habitat (corridors, stepping-stones) identified through tapir telemetry monitoring, while creating economic alternatives for local farmers. Camera trapping and radio collar research gather data on habitat use and behavior as well as genetic and health status of the population. Outreach and awareness initiatives as conservation also help to conserve this species.

**Hornbill Nest Adoption Program**
Villagers in Thailand collect data on the hornbill species and educate locals about the importance of hornbill conservation. There are seven species that are studied, four of which are endangered. For $310, a hornbill family can be adopted. This project provides valuable data about the adopted hornbill, location of the nest and the species and characteristics of the tree in which the nest is located, accompanied by photographs of the actual tree.

**Turtle Survival Alliance**
Their mission statement is: Transforming passions 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.

**Giant Armadillo Project Brazil**
Giant armadillos range over much of South America, yet due to their cryptic behavior and low population densities these animals are rarely seen and little was known about them prior to the Giant Armadillo Project based in Brazil. This project successfully established the first long-term ecological study of giant armadillos. The main goal of the project is to investigate the ecology and behavior of the species and understand its function in the ecosystem using radios transmitters, camera traps, homes surveys, resource monitoring, resource mapping and interviews.

**International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)**
In 2016, IFAW supported 37 marine mammal conservation projects in the U.S. and 20 in other countries with a total of $1,200,000. For the first time, the Marine Mammal Conservation Program awarded grants to projects that support conservation of species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), including humpback, fin and gray whales.

**Great Churchill Wildlife Trust**
In 2016, the Trust received funds to continue their work on polar bear research and anti-poaching efforts. They have been tracking bear movements in the Churchill region using radios and biotelemtries and have learned that the best way to manage the situation is to manage the human-wildlife conflict.

**Gorilla and Chimpanzee Conservation Fund**
The Gorilla and Chimpanzee Conservation Fund supported 15 projects in 2016, 11 of which were new and focused on wildlife protection and management.

**Great Ape Project**
Funds were used for all of the projects recommended for support in 2016. The projects are for both African and Asian species: gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutans, and gibbons. The AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) APE TAG (Taxon Advisory Group) Fund was used for all of the projects recommended for support in 2016. The projects are for both African and Asian species: gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutans, and gibbons.

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**North American Projects**

**Vaquita Conservation**
The Vaquita is the smallest known species of porpoise and most endangered marine mammal in the world. Funds supported both conservation efforts and a local educational program called Ridge to Reef. This program developed student activities for use in a teacher workshop series in San Felipe, Mexico to promote education and conservation efforts, specifically for the Vaquita.

**American Kestrel**
Funds supported the installation and monitoring of Kestrel nest boxes in Delaware as well as community awareness about the species. This project was sponsored by Brandywine Zoo and the Peregrine Fund.

**Southeastern Salamander Project**
Chytrid fungus has been found in a number of amphibian species worldwide, often with devastating consequences and dramatic species declines. This project seeks to test salamander species native to the Virginia area and determine if the fungus is present in local salamanders.

**Western Pond Turtle, Northern California**
Grant funds will support a sustainability project to implement genetic testing throughout Northern California. This testing will identify current captive populations, develop population augmentation/reintroduction plans and continue to assess and update husbandry best practices.

**Save the Bay Oakland, CA Wetlands Restoration Project**
Located in Oakland, the Wetlands Restoration Project is a year-long project which will enhance and maintain a 2-acre project site within the Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline. Nearly 500 student and adult volunteers will contribute to this project, impacting Federally-endangered species along with 80 different migratory waterfowl and other marsh-dependent species.

**Channel Island Fox**
Funds provided radio tracking collars for collecting disease control and population management data. Fox-saver trash bins for protection of wildlife, rabies and distemper virus vaccinations and education and community awareness programs and events were also provided by this project. Island fox populations have increased and remain healthy. On August 11, 2016, the three sub-species on the northern islands of Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa and San Miguel were taken off the U.S. Endangered Species List. This was the fastest recovery of any mammal in the United States. The foxes on Catalina Island were downlisted to “Threatened” status.

**California Condor Conservation**
The California condor, once nearly extinct, is being reintroduced to southern California. The problem of nest failure has been dramatically decreased and nest success has increased from 0 percent (2001-2006) to 6 percent in 2014, allowing for many more chicks to thrive and grow. This successful program includes nest monitoring by trained observers, collection of behavioral data and development of intervention strategies. (Santa Barbara Zoo)

**Fresno Chaffee Zoo**
Fresno Chaffee Zoo expanded its conservation focus in 2016 to include a stronger presence in local conservation efforts. In 2016, seven North American species were provided support with a total of four California species. In addition, Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) has identified a number of animals which need conservation support and focus efforts of multiple zoos and aquariums to present a united effort in the Save Animals from Extinction (SAFE) program. FCZ conservation funds support the North American SAFE species: Western Pond Turtle and Vaquita.

**California Projects**

**The Raven Fund**
The Raven Fund, from Ross Laird’s Winged Wonders Bird Show raised a total of $13,436 in 2016.

The bird show is a free-flight presentation of birds from around the world demonstrating their unique characteristics. At the close of each show, Alex, a white-necked raven collects paper money from guests who wish to donate to conservation, and places it in the clear collection box. Essentially, closing the gap between guests and wildlife.
Frogs and Fairytales
This event, now in its fourth year, is a favorite for all aspiring princes, princesses and frog lovers alike. “Leaping” forward into spring, this event offers educational opportunities to learn about frogs and other reptiles as well as photo opportunities with princesses, hair and makeup booths, games and crafts. Attendance for this event was 1,215.

Breakfast With The Animals
Breakfast with the Animals, presented by Der Manouel Insurance Group, saw record attendance this year largely due to relocating this year’s event to the beautiful Canopy Grove in African Adventure. Although it rained ‘tigers and wolves’ all morning, it didn’t dampen the spirits of 2,945 guests and their appetites! We are grateful for the many volunteers who come out for this event each year and especially to the Lions Club, our remarkable pancake specialists.

Dreamnight
Dreamnight at the Zoo, a free event for children with chronic illnesses held at Zoos around the world, was attended by 3,108. Our honored guests received brightly colored leis and were welcomed by a group of Polynesian dancers as they entered the Zoo. Giraffe feeding, a special presentation by Ross Laird’s Winged Wonders Bird Show, behind-the-scenes adventures and keeper chats were specially designed for this exceptional evening.

Valley PBS Kid’s Nite
Adventure Cat was a new addition to this year’s ValleyPBS Kid’s Nite. Guests also enjoyed meet-and-greets with Buddy from Dinosaur Train, Curious George, Super Why and Daniel Tiger. Attendance was 2,640.

Producers Dairy Ice Cream Zoofari
Producers Ice Cream Zoofari continues to be a favorite year after year. Enjoying ice cream flavors like Peppermint Peccary, Vanillagator and Orangatan Orange Sherbet, our 3,297 guests were encouraged to “go green” by using their special color changing spoon for ice cream at each station. We are extremely grateful for our long time partnership with Producers Dairy for their donation of hundreds of tubs of ice cream and supplies for this event.

Safari Night
African Adventure was an amazing addition to this year’s Safari Night. Welcoming our VIPs into the Zoo through a special entrance, hosting a private bar and hors d’oeuvre area on the patio overlooking the savannah and creating an exclusive tented space in the Event Garden also added some glitz and glamour to a beautiful summer evening. Tamed Fire wowed our guests once again and the Valley Cats had everyone dancing until midnight. We would like to thank Regency Investment Advisors and our many table sponsors, restaurants, wineries and specialty businesses who participated in our largest fundraising event.
ZooBoo
Our Zoo Boo event is four nights of fun and fantasy for guests of all ages. With a total attendance of 14,488, this event remains one of the favorites!

Zoolights
Thanks to PG&E, the Zoo was once again transformed by miles and miles of brilliant lights, beautiful decorations and lively holiday music. The pathways in African Adventure were lit with African themed patterns and the Twiga Terrace bridge was shining bright with beautiful, sparkling yellow lights. Our attendance was 29,122 for the 22 day event.

Private Events
With the addition of Canopy Grove and the Simba Room in African Adventure, the number of private events soared to 65 this year. Guests were treated to beautiful views of the savannah and lions playing just outside the window of their event space. Significant groups this year included a dinner for 600 for Adventist Health, an afternoon picnic for over 1,200 for Lyons Magnus, a special evening event for Valley Children’s Healthcare and our very first wedding in African Adventure!

Festival de los Niños & Día de la Familia
Festival de los Niños in April drew great crowds as guests visited local vendor booths and enjoyed the Zoo and the bands playing at the Bird Show Amphitheater throughout the day. Día de la Familia, the sister event sponsored by Univision held in August, was also well attended. The total guest count for both of these events was 15,018.

Birthday Parties
Fresno Chaffee Zoo has become THE place to have a birthday party! The number of birthday parties increased from 142 to 180 this year. The beautiful Jungle Bungalow pavilion provides a wonderful space for parties up to 60 guests. Adding a specialty birthday menu from our in-house caterer, Taste, has increased revenue and made these events stress-free for our clients.
The past 12 months have been full of excitement at Fresno Chaffee Zoo! The veterinary team is excited to share a brief review of some of the events that were particularly impactful in 2016.

As part of the routine health assessment surveillance of our animals, we also perform routine radiographs (x-rays) with their exams to look for any abnormalities. We are very lucky to work with such talented trainers at FCZ - many animals are trained for these procedures so that no anesthesia is necessary. In 2016, during routine radiograph surveillance, we found that one of our harbor seals, Ariel, had accidentally ingested coins that had been thrown into the exhibit by guests. We also found that the youngest and smallest sea lion, Little Sur, had ingested an enormous amount of small stones and fruit pits that had also been thrown into the exhibit by guests. While marine mammals have very large esophagi, they have very small intestines and these items were not able to pass through their gastrointestinal tract and were stuck in their very small intestines and these items were not able to pass.

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Early one morning last spring, we were delightedly surprised to find a baby Chacoan Peccary amongst the herd. This was really quite the surprise as the females had received contraceptive implants as we were planning an holding off breeding until their larger exhibit was renovated. Investigation into how this pregnancy occurred revealed that the adult females somehow all managed to remove their implants and we welcomed two litters and a total of three peccary youngsters in 2016. Unfortunately, with the first born peccary, it quickly became apparent that he was unable to keep up with the herd and he was not using his left rear leg appropriately. The difficult decision was made to separate him from the herd to check on the leg and it was revealed that he was suffering from a contracted tendon that caused him to knuckle over. He was fitted with a supportive hoof extension to help him walk normally but when we attempted to return him to the herd within a few hours of his departure, his mother was no longer interested in caring for him. Multiple attempts were made to reintroduce the two but the mother could not be convinced and she refused to care for him. His care was left to our dedicated zookeepers and veterinary staff to raise this rambunctious youngster. Due to an injury he had sustained from one of his family members prior to his separation, he had a large scar on the side of his muzzle that prompted the nickname that stuck with him, “Harvey Dent”. Harvey thrived under his supportive care and has since been successfully reintroduced to his father, whom he adores. He and dad are currently on exhibit together and if you are lucky, you might catch him playing his favorite game of race tag with keepers along the fence line of the peccary exhibit.

Late last summer, we were excited to find the African lions had finally worked through the introductions and were forming a unified family pride. Our animal care staff quickly trained the lion pride to lay on a specialized table with a drop down window under their abdomens so we could perform ultrasounds. In July 2016, all of that training paid off and we were able to get the first glimpses of our young cub, Kijani, while he was developing in utero. On October 11, Kiki went into labor and a little after midnight, Kijani was welcomed to Fresno Chaffee Zoo. He was the first lion to be born at the Zoo since 1968 and the little ball of energy is absolutely beloved. We are very lucky to have trained the lion pride to lay on a specialized table with a drop down window under their abdomens so we could perform ultrasounds. In July 2016, all of that training paid off and we were able to get the first glimpses of our young cub, Kijani, while he was developing in utero. On October 11, Kiki went into labor and a little after midnight, Kijani was welcomed to Fresno Chaffee Zoo. He was the first lion to be born at the Zoo since 1968 and the little ball of energy is absolutely beloved and spoiled rotten by his family.

This year has been an exceptional one with heartwarming successes and some heart breaking losses. Through all of the ups and downs, we are so grateful for the incredible support we receive from our board, our director, our curators, coworkers and guests. Thank you all so much for all you do every day to help us continue to learn more, do more, and be our best!

- Dr. Shannon Nodolf, Chief Veterinary Officer

Photos:
Top row (left to right): Harbor seal, Ariel, undergoing an endoscopy procedure to remove coins from her stomach with Dr. Stephen Davis and technician Apple Ramirez from Saint Agnes Medical Center, Dr. Shannon Nodolf, Dr. Lewis Wright, and Christine Bateman RVT by her side - Total coins removed from Ariel’s stomach - Medical team performing an endoscopy on California sea lion, Little Sur - Radiograph of Little Sur’s stomach contents showing stones and fruit pits that could not pass through her digestive system.
Bottom row (left to right): Mark Halvorsen, Curator, bottle-feeding Chacoan peccary, Harvey, as he gains strength on his malformed leg - Dr. Shannon Nodolf gives Harvey chin scratches before his next feeding - Ultrasound confirming African lion, Kiki’s, pregnancy - African lion cub, Kijani, born to Kiki on October 11, 2016.
Each day at Fresno Chaffee Zoo, we remember that our community has invested in our Zoo and made it what it is today. We have become a world-class zoo thanks to the support and dedication of our community.

While we are a non-profit organization, we are so grateful to our community and know that, in our own ways, we can give back to the community and say THANK YOU!

1,840 general admission tickets. 1,476 were donated to families in Fresno County, while 364 were given to neighboring counties.

8,652 $10 Membership discounts given to Fresno County residents.

$1,095 in Fresno Chaffee Zoo Camp scholarships were awarded to 10 campers!

41 Memberships in Fresno County

28 visits by Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Community Outreach –totalling 5,203 attendees
Thank You

On behalf of the animals here at Fresno Chaffee Zoo, we gratefully thank those who donated $1,000 or more in 2016.

AZA Docents
Sandra Baronian
Stephen Bettencourt
David Bonetto & Eric Gomez
Don & Ruth Bricker
Timothy & Wendy Brox
California Classic Weekend
Taga Cardoza
Jean Chaffee
Collins Electrical Company, Inc.
Brad & Lisa Condoian
Nelson & Lynne Davis
Audrey Demirjian
Jim & Dotty Doyle
Tom & Karen Ferdinand
Fishman Larsen Callister Law Corp.
George & Nancy Goehring
Heartland Financial USA Inc.
Ryan & Ashley Jacobsen
Kristine Kizer
Don & Lynnette Kizirian
John & Pam Lamborn
Jason & Kristine Lowe

Tyler & Kate Lunn
Gerald & Nannette Lyles
Lyons Magnus
Mario & LaQuita Manfredi
Michael D. McHugh Estate
Louis & Dena Mc Murray
Jesse Merrell & Travis Rockett
Mojave Gold, LLC
Christopher & Michelle Morse
Nathan & Francesca Negri
Don & Lynne Nelson
Nippon Express Foundation, Inc.
Nancy Osborne
Jim & Marie Pardini
Jim & Linda Parnagian
Ross & Alison Parnagian
John Eric Pennestri
Pepsi Bottling Group LLC
PG&E
Premier Valley Bank
Rabobank, N.A.
Dennis & Nancy Ralston
John Paul

Tom Richards & Sue McDiarmid
Riverpark Properties
Devin & Shannon Sackett
San Joaquin Valley Children’s Health Association
Phyllis Sarto
Billy & Ernestine Schuh
Service System Associates
Debi Steele-Castro
Pauline Trainer
United Way of Fresno County
Jim & Terri Walls
Jerry & Rosemary Waters
Wells Fargo Foundation
Ryan & Elisabeth Wilson
Stuart & Lisa Woollf

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 memberships purchased at the Zoo’s admission booth 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.
FUTURE PLANS

Walt Disney said, “Disneyland will never be completed. It will continue to grow as long as there is imagination left in the world.”

That motto seems to be working and we believe it also rings true for zoos. Since we have the good fortune of a supportive community and Measure Z, that dream is a reality we can live by. Fresno Chaffee Zoo is hardly finished bringing new exhibits and animals to the Central Valley.

The design of phase two of African Adventure began 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 horizon will be an Asian themed area featuring brand new exhibits for both Malayan tigers and sloth bears.

In 2016, the Zoo also unveiled a new Australian walk-through exhibit where guests can experience kangaroos, wallaroos, and kookaburras in a mixed setting.

In 2017 and 2018, guests will see the warthogs move to a new home in African Adventure and a water play area that will be a great place for the kids to cool off on those hot Valley days.

All of these projects wouldn’t be possible without the support from Fresno County residents through Measure Z. The tax measure requires 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.
To inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.