



Red Land Crab Migration
See story on page 7.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Jewels of the Rainforest <i>By Kevin Pratt, Amphibian Keeper</i>
2	Linda's Lowdown <i>By Linda Denomme, Volunteer Services Manager</i>
	Animal Update Report
	Three Cheers for <i>Run Wild for the Detroit Zoo</i> Volunteers!
3	Volunteer Opportunities
	Fall Festival Volunteers Rock!
4-5	Inside Tracks
6	Volunteer Spotlight <i>By Adrienne Polumbo</i> <i>Assistant Volunteer Services Manager</i>
	Docent Rep Report
	November Education Adventures for the Entire Family
7	Animals Around the World - Red Land Crab Migration <i>By Carla Riggsby, Education Specialist</i>
	EdZOOcation Stations
8	November Zoo Dates
	Macy's Shop for a Cause <i>By Alexi Means, Guest Relations Director</i>
	Volunteer Perk of the Month

DETROIT ZOO HOURS
Open Daily: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
(Effective November 1-March 31)
Closed Thanksgiving Day

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Open Daily: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (all year)



Jewels of the Rainforest

By Kevin Pratt, Amphibian Keeper

Throughout Central and South America, a wide range of biodiversity exists in vast expanses of tropical and seasonal rainforests. The faunas that reside in these environments hold many treasures. Poison dart frogs are considered by many to be the "Jewels of the Rainforest." There are 11 families (genera) and almost 200 species of poison dart frogs spread throughout Central and South America. Poison dart frogs, sometimes called poison arrow frogs, are an extremely toxic group deriving their name from a clever Amerindian hunting technique. Skilled indigenous hunters harvest dart frog secretions and lace projectiles with this potent toxin to help subdue prey. The toxins found in these tiny frogs are extremely powerful. The golden dart frog (*Phylllobates terribilis*) is said to have enough toxin to kill 15 adult humans. These bold forest floor dwelling frogs seem to be fully aware of their toxic potential. It is rare to find an adult frog in flight as they have few, if any, predatory threats. Dart frogs will graze throughout the day on tiny invertebrates such as beetles, termites, flies and ants. Many believe the poisonous ants that dart frogs like to graze upon are the reason for the toxicity of their skin. The frogs might seize and store the toxins produced by the ants in their colorful, glandular skin. This may explain why captive individuals have less or completely lack poisonous skin.

Unlike many amphibians, poison dart frogs are extremely parental. Many species deposit eggs in bromeliads, pitcher plants, logs and on broad leaves. Males tend to egg clutches laid by the female and prevent desiccation and fungal infections by urinating on the eggs. In roughly 2-3 weeks, tadpoles will immerse from their gel eggs. After hatching, some dart frog tadpoles will hitch a ride on the back of a parent to secluded locations in the forest canopy. It can take several days of parental shuttling to transport all of the tadpoles. Many species will actually lay infertile yet highly nutritious eggs for the tadpoles to eat. In about 70 days, legs and arms begin to develop and in three months,

(Jewels of the Rainforest continued on page 3)

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Linda's Lowdown

By Linda Denomme, Volunteer Services Manager

I've been on the road a lot the last few weeks and this is what I've learned: of all the electronic gadgets out there, a GPS unit is the coolest. I'm not one to embrace technology just because it exists, but I have to say I've been very pleased with this device.

While my unit got me to weddings in Jackson and Vassar, Michigan, one also came in handy for the annual bus trip; our driver Kay used hers throughout our adventures over the last weekend of September. Our visits to the Toledo Zoo, Cincinnati Zoo and Newport Aquarium were delightful. The rainy first day weather improved just in time for our dinner cruise on the Ohio River and was perfect for Saturday and Sunday. As a group leader, there is nothing more appreciated than having people standing there waiting for the group's arrival. Such was the case at all three of our stops. The hospitality and camaraderie of other zoos' volunteers is one of the most enjoyable aspects of this annual trip. Special kudos to the staff and volunteers at the Cincinnati Zoo who simply amazed us with their red carpet treatment. For those who make a regular trek down I-75, consider a stop in Findlay, Ohio at the Red Pig Inn. Dinner was delicious and it made for a fun last stop before returning to the Detroit Zoo. They now rival our previous favorite, Turkeyville, for our affections. I never thought it could happen.

Thanks to the volunteers who assisted with *Fall Festival* on Oct. 9 and 10. Perfect weather, fun fall activities, music and food came together once again to the delight of our guests. Those who helped are listed on page 3. We know we ask a lot of our special event volunteers at this time of year and we proudly list your names in appreciation of your efforts. Of course, we are in the midst of *Zoo Boo* as you read this and can most likely use your help for the last few nights. Please don't hesitate to call and ask if we need you. As we get closer to Halloween, the crowds increase and we learn how to adjust volunteer assignments. If you can be flexible about the job, there's a high probability that we can use your help.

Welcome to our newest volunteers – the 49 who attended our last 2010 orientation on October 9. This is your first edition of *Harambee Headlines* and we hope you enjoy it and look forward to reading it each month. As we explained at the meeting, those of you who use the internet are joining at a time when we are using it in a different way. You and about 800 veteran volunteers are learning to use the new **Volunteer Homepage: volunteers.detroitzoo.org** (user name = volunteers; password = password). Here you will not only access this newsletter (along with archived editions) but also important news and updates, including volunteer needs for events, open FEC exhibit shifts and EdZOOcation Station needs. Please start getting into the habit of checking it often and give us your feedback so we can make it as user-friendly as possible.

Consider volunteering weekends at the Belle Isle Nature Zoo this fall and winter. An orientation session on Sunday, November 14, 2-4:30 p.m. will provide all the details. Family Fun Saturdays and busy Sundays at BINZ offer opportunities to help with activities and interact with guests at the Deer Encounter while learning about the birds and the bees and other Michigan fish, reptiles and amphibians who make their home there. Let me know if you will attend or desire additional information.

Finally, there's some exciting news about 2011: *Dinosauria* is not extinct; it is back on the calendar! The dinosaurs are returning for the Memorial Weekend-Labor Day period. Watch for more information as Dino Guide training dates and details come together. There's just no end to the opportunities for busy Detroit Zoo volunteers! See you at the Zoo.

Animal Update Report

September 2010

By Nancy Butler, Zoo Registrar

Births/Hatchings

Reptiles

- 1 Star tortoise
- 2 Double-crested basilisks

Amphibians

- 7 Solomon Island leaf frogs
- 1 Dyeing poison dart frog metamorphosed
- 3 Iberian ribbed newts metamorphosed

Key: 1.1.1 = 1 male, 1 female, 1 unknown
(number by itself = sex unknown)

Three Cheers for Run Wild for the Detroit Zoo Volunteers!

There was great support from Detroit Zoo volunteers on September 19. Some brought spouses, family members and friends too! Community and school groups joined in as well for a total of 213 volunteers for this event. Thanks to Eastern Michigan University's Quiddich Team, Guardian Auto Glass employees, Macomb Community College Vet Techs, Sterling Heights High School National Honor Society and Wyandot Middle School Volunteers (year 14 for this group and their teacher Cheryle Kahl who organizes students to man the water stations along the course).

Thank you Zoo volunteers: **Aileen Barkume, Amber Blum, Linda Borushko, Carol Bradshaw, Sue Brehmer, Toni Brem, Diane Brischke, Gloria Brischke, Christa Byers, Nita Carman, New Sing Chin, John Curtin, Bernie Czerwinski, June Dean, Marie Dodson, Paul and Karen Emanuelson, Lindsay Fendrich, Lee Ann Fisher, Andrea Forster, Kelly Foster, Penny Franz, Jo Gardner, Camille Geck, Judy Gee, Eileen and Bill Glogower, Laura Gogola, Megann Graham, Bruce Griggs, Ann Gwinnell, Joel Hearshen, Bev Hogg, Karen Jensen, Ed Jones, Carole Kayden, Sarah Kindinger, Bob Klinkovsky, Barbara Land, Sheldon Leemon, Angela Lenda, Katie Loviska, Barbara and George Lubieski, George Lundin, Amy Martens, Carol Mayer, Kay McCaughna, Linda McNall, Constance Mileski, Peggy and Mike Millen, Rita Moore, Linda Opipari, Lynne Osborne, Sylvia Paddy, Nancy Patterson, Deni Ray, Cindy Rose, Roberta Russ, Donna Sager, Janet Schenk, June Schiller, Corinne Shoop, Jay Simancek, Millie Simon, Therese Sosin, Sandra Steutzler, Cheryl Szynal, Carol Thomas, Patti Truesdell, Margaret Walsh, Barbara Wheeler, Nancy Wolf.**

Volunteer Opportunities

For the opportunities below, please contact **Melissa** or **Adrienne** at (248) 541-5717 ext. 3802 or volunteer@dzo.org. Remember, ongoing opportunities exist for volunteer shifts in the FEC Exhibit Gallery (see Volunteer Spotlight, pg. 6) and at the EdZOOcation Stations (see article, pg. 7).

Holiday Tree Spectacular – Saturday, November 20

Shift Time: 1-4 p.m.

Twenty volunteers are needed to “spruce” up the Detroit Zoo for the holiday season! We are looking for volunteers to assist with decorating trees for our Holiday Tree program. Hot chocolate and light refreshments will be provided.

Breakfast with Santa – Saturdays, December 4, 11 and 18

Shift Time: 7:45-10:30 a.m.

Ho, ho, ho! Santa Claus is coming to town and he’s stopping at the Detroit Zoo for breakfast in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery. Volunteers are needed in the following positions:

Costumed Characters – 3 volunteers per day

Costumed Character Escorts – 3 volunteers per day

Arts and Crafts Assistants – 2 volunteers per day

Photo Assistants – 3 volunteers per day

Check-In/Registration – 1 volunteer per day

Holiday Tree Tear Down – Monday, January 3

Shift Time: 1-3:30 p.m.

We are looking for 20 volunteers to assist with the tear down of our Holiday Tree display. Hot chocolate and light refreshments will be provided.

BINZ Brigade Volunteer Opportunities

Contact **Linda Denomme** at (248) 541-5717 ext. 3806 or ldennomme@dzo.org to offer your assistance. To join the BINZ Brigade and volunteer for weekend shifts this fall and winter, plan to attend the new volunteer orientation on Sunday, November 14, 2-4:30 p.m. Please contact **Linda** in advance if you will join us.

Family Fun Saturdays – November 13 and 27; December 11 and 18

Shift Time: noon-3:30 p.m.

Assist staff with activities on seasonal themes, and staff the Deer Encounter.

Sunday Afternoons – ongoing

Shift Time: 1-4 p.m.

Visitors have discovered the pleasures of a Sunday afternoon on Belle Isle; you will greet them upon arrival and assist with the Deer Encounter feedings.

Jewels of the Rainforest

(continued from page 1)

froglings will emerge from their aquatic habitat. Upon complete metamorphosis, the parental care ceases and froglets are left to fend for themselves.

In captivity, keepers and hobbyists attempt to mimic natural environments that will promote natural behavior and even stimulate reproduction. Successful captive breeding programs have been in existence for decades but additional efforts are still an asset to further captive reproduction of dart frogs. Many subtle factors need to be taken into consideration for proper care. Ideal temperature and water quality is only the “tip of the iceberg” for proper captive amphibian management. Proper food items, plants, plenty of hiding places and egg deposition sites, among other things, are essential for a reproducing dart frog pair.

Superior parental skills and minimal predation leads to rapid population growth, yet these frogs face many understated pressures we may not recognize. Like many amphibians, dart frogs may likely be on the threshold of extinction. Habitat destruction due to booming third world development of tourism, agriculture and urbanization begins a downward spiral to extinction. Developing infrastructure will many times prevent mating, disrupt parental care of tadpoles and even limit territorial area. This fragmentation of habitats prevents migration of novel individuals into a population causing in-breeding. As with many animals, the allure of having such a beautiful and deadly animal increases the risk of harvest from the wild. Such was the case with Panamanian golden frog (*Atelopus zeteki*); these dart frogs are regularly harvested from the wild to be sold on the pet trade. Finally, amphibian chytridiomycosis (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* – a potentially deadly fungus) is perhaps the current leading cause of amphibian extinction, profoundly affecting all amphibians on every continent but Antarctica.

This exciting frog is quickly becoming one of the more popular herpetological attractions at zoos and may be the ideal animal to help bolster efforts in amphibian conservation. Dart frogs are an attractive and exciting addition to a captive amphibian population. Their unique lifestyle and bold coloration turns heads. By tying in a simple message of conservation, zoos and aquariums can easily reach a broad audience. This group of frogs is surprisingly easy to breed in captivity with proper care. Proper rearing practice with breeding pairs can easily reproduce over 100 froglets in a year’s time. The Detroit Zoo’s National Amphibian Conservation Center has recently had success in breeding blue, (*Dendrobates azureus*), dyeing (*Dendrobates tinctorius*) and Golfodulcean (*Phylllobates vittatus*) dart frogs with hopes to continue their efforts in dart frog captive practices.

A flashy habitat brings in crowds but a flashy habitat with a purpose educates the masses. Surplus dart frogs are in high demand throughout Association of Zoos and Aquariums accredited institutions because they help diversify captive populations and have exhibitory value. Because these animals face real threats, visitors are seeing a tangible example of how conservation can be well worth the effort. Their ease of care and vibrant displays make poison dart frogs the perfect poster child for amphibian conservation. The Detroit Zoological Society and its poison dart frogs are taking great leaps to make sure these captive treasures do not go unnoticed.

Fall Festival Volunteers Rock!

Thanks to the efforts of these volunteers, some of whom contributed multiple shifts, *Fall Festival* was a success. Kids loved the array of activities, everybody loved the hayride and none of it would have been possible without assistance from: **Annie Anthony, Janet Applebee, Sally Arrivee, Chris Baker, Bernie Baxter, Kelli Blair, Linda Borushko, Elaine Bozin, Carol Bradshaw, Diane Brischke, Gloria Brischke, Paula Brose, Joyce Bruno, Yvonne Busby-Dean, Christa Byers, Nita Carman, Debra Carter-Bridges, Pat Colloraffi, Marie Dodson, Lyn Dunkerley, Andrea Forster, Nancy Gassel, Sue Glynn, Linda Grembi, Jessica Gualdoni, Jeff Guthrie, Joel Hearshen, Jan and Bill Heitman, Karen Jensen, Jane Jurek, Carole Kayden, Ron Kloeckner, Kristen Kozlowski, Barbara Kriigel, Lauren Kunysz, Tamara Kuropas, Shelley Lake, Lisa Lane, Mary Jo La Porte, Ellie Ledbetter, Julie Lenda, Clif Levin, Katie Loviska, Lee Marks, Margaret Marsh, Amy Martens, Dave and Lorraine Mattis, Liz McClain, Mary McIlhargey, Linda McNall, Cindy Mitskavich, Rita Moore, Sylvia Paddy, Josie Palu-ay, Nancy Patterson, Jim and Nancy Ranieri, Sandee Rellinger, Margaret Ritter, Barbara Rogulski, Al Ruiz, Pauline Saxon, Therese Sosin, Michael Stack, Marjorie Townsend, Amy Troup, Margaret Walsh, Ruth Ann Williams, Marcia Zacks.**

New Faces

A warm welcome to the new member of the DZS family:



Becky Kennedy
Human Resources Coordinator

Happy Birthday to You (You Work in a Zoo)

Best wishes to the DZS staffers celebrating birthdays in November:

Karen Adelman
Irene Bevington
Nancy Butler
Roman Chantal
Tamara Colt
Cortez Culberson
Lisa Forzley
Leslie Gaines
Megan Garrett
Jody Harper
Michael Hoger
Christine Kenny

Christopher Kwilas
Leslie Lee
Christine Mack
Gena Meadows
Kevin Naumann
Cynthia Owens
Erica Shaw
Brittany Smith
Christine Smith
Robert Stanton
Stephanie Yester

Who Said That?

"Quality in a service or product is not what you put into it. It is what the client or customer gets out of it."

– Peter Drucker

Getting to Know... Son Koral



You've heard the phrase, "there's an app for that", but how many people do you know who can say, "I *made* an app for that?" With help from mobile solutions company AVAI, Detroit Zoological Society (DZS) webmaster **Son Koral** developed the Detroit Zoo's iPhone and Android applications. He joined the DZS as a temporary employee in January, and was hired full-time in August. During that time he also overhauled, updated and created more functionality to the Zoo's website. While there is no such thing as a typical day for Son (rhymes with "zone"),

updating and maintaining the website and mobile applications and developing new online technologies are essential daily tasks. The Internet expert studied business and technology at Concordia University in his hometown of Ann Arbor. Son and his wife, Jin, have six children: Maekong, 14, Damon, 10, Brooklyn, 7, Alexander, 5, Andrew, 3, and Isabella, 1. Frequently, the entire family strolls around the Zoo together and checks out the animals before heading home to Canton. His free time is spent with family, trying exotic foods, creative writing and developing websites. Son also enjoys an occasional getaway to South Haven's Gingerman Raceway, where he buckles up and puts the pedal to the metal in his 1995 Honda Civic SI to burn some serious rubber. His favorite animal? The penguins, "because they're cool."

My childhood ambition was: To travel.

If money was no object, I would: Travel with my family to Vietnam where I was born.

In case of a fire, I would grab: Kids, wife and the portable hard drive that holds all our family pictures and important documents (and the folder with the hard copies).

My favorite movie is: "Blade Runner".

My greatest self-indulgence is: I spent \$800 on a prop cell phone from the movie "The Matrix".

My biggest pet peeve is: When people say the phrase, "To tell you the truth..."

My idea of a perfect day is: Eat as much as I want and make some money while in a foreign location with family.

One thing people would be surprised to know about me is: I'm a lot older than I look.

Caption This

How would you caption this photo of the wolverine? Email your best ideas to PR1@dzs.org by November 1 at 5 p.m. Captions will be published in the next issue of *Inside Tracks*.



Don't Make Me Sick!

You wake up one morning with a scratchy throat, sniffles and a slight fever, but drag yourself to work anyway. You open doors, turn on lights, make coffee, make copies ... and potentially make your co-workers sick! When we're sick, the people with whom we come into contact – or who touch something that we have touched – are at risk of catching our illness. At the Detroit Zoo, the risk is magnified for employees who work with animals.

Since everything we do has a ripple effect, the illness you pass along to a co-worker may be then passed along to one of the Zoo animals, making your decision to come to work sick even more troubling. Bear in mind that the flu can be deadly to certain species. It's one thing to inconvenience co-workers by giving them your illness. It's quite another thing, medically and morally, to pose a serious health risk to an animal.

Some may think it's a mark of good character to come to work even when we're under the weather, but we are simply not being fair to our co-workers, to the animals or to ourselves. You would understandably be upset to realize that the cold or flu you are now nursing could have been avoided if a colleague had stayed home the day he or she came into contact with you. Wouldn't the same be true in reverse? You may feel as though you're letting people down or making work for others if you don't come in, but your colleagues are more likely to be upset if you give them your cold or flu than if you take some time off.

Your decision to come to work sick is also unfair to yourself. When you have a cold or the flu you need to take time off to get better. This means sleeping as much as you can, taking it easy when awake, drinking plenty of water and taking appropriate medicines.

The Burning Question

Who is the most famous person you've met?

David Anthony - I came close to meeting Robert De Niro when I accidentally walked through one of his movie scenes in New York City about a year ago.

Jennifer Clarke - Back in the day, my girlfriend and I, then 17, met and chatted with John Denver and his buddy on a street corner in Aspen. They asked us to join them for dinner but we declined. Bummer!

Kim Collins - Comedians Chelsea Handler and Josh Wolfe from the television show "Chelsea Lately" on E!

Robin Dunlop - *Sophia Loren, who is even lovelier in person.*

Charles Henke - I met Gene Simmons at the last Detroit Grand Prix.

Sylvia Ingram - I was in Las Vegas waiting for a cab when Wayne Newton and Kid Rock walked up behind me. When I turned around I couldn't even speak; I just kept staring.

Leslie Keys - I rode in an elevator with Tom Selleck at Harper Hospital. We were both visiting our mothers.

Patricia Janeway - Oprah Winfrey, Paul Newman, Hugh Jackman, Joan Rivers, Diane Sawyer, Peter Jennings, Jeff Daniels.

Jeff Jundt - Sandra Bullock and Jesse James when they were dating. I gave them a private showing of feeding and training some crocodiles.

Lara Marcinkowski - Billy Idol. Great guy; actually a very sweet man.

Marty Mitton - It's a tough choice between President Gerald Ford and Tammy Wynette.

Peg Tallet - The most famous person I have ever met was Bill Gates...on two occasions. Very interesting and charming man.

Aaron Tockstein - I met Barry Sanders on the golf course once. He made a particularly nice shot and I was so nervous I exclaimed, "Nice shot, Gary!"

Dawn Wagner - The most famous people I've met are the Queen of England, Richard Nixon, Elvis Presley and Reba McEntire.

Lindsay Walton - I got to meet Michael Jordan in Atlanta, Georgia. My friends and I were walking to a party and he was standing on the corner.

Comic Relief

Mother Goose & Grimm by Mike Peters



GRIMMY, INC. KING FEATURES SYNDICATE (Reprinted with permission)

Inside Tracks is published monthly in *Harambee Headlines* with entertainment and information for and about employees of the Detroit Zoological Society. If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact **Public Relations Interns** at ext. 3726 or PR1@dzs.org.

Volunteer Spotlight

By Melissa Pletcher,
Volunteer Services Assistant
Manager

Happy autumn everyone! What a wonderful October we've had. The weather was beautiful on several weekends which brought tons of visitors to the Zoo. The weekend of *Fall Festival* was particularly nice and thousands enjoyed the fine weather and special activities. I would like to give a special word of thanks to everyone who volunteered to help throughout the Zoo on these busy days. Your assistance was much appreciated.

I'd like to make a special plea for assistance with the new Inuit art exhibit in the FEC Gallery. We'd really like to have every shift covered for the next three months. The daily shifts are 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. It's a beautiful exhibit that is receiving a lot of positive feedback. Gallery assistants welcome guests and provide a presence in the room. Background material is provided for you to read but there's no special training required. Please contact Volunteer Services to sign up.

It's always good to receive feedback, both positive and negative. We've received a lot of both regarding our new volunteer newsletter procedure. We realize that it will take some time for everyone to get used to but we really do believe that in the long run this is a positive direction to move in. And like everything else, practice makes perfect. On another topic of feedback, about a month ago we conducted a survey of the Mob Squad. Survey results are in. If you'd like to see a copy of the results, please see me.

Unfortunately, cold and flu season is upon us. Here's just a friendly reminder that you should wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes. Should you become ill, please stay home and rest. Zoo staff and volunteers are not allowed to come to work when they are ill. This is for the health of the animals as well as your co-workers. If you must call in, please call (248) 541-5717 ext. 3802. **Linda, Melissa and Adrienne** are all able to receive calls on this line. If you are a docent, please call the Docent Office at (248) 541-5717 ext. 3801.

Docent Rep Report: Sharpening Your Skills

By Ellen Kulie, Docent Representative

The go-to professional organization for sharpening your skills as a Detroit Zoo volunteer is the Association of Zoo and Aquarium Docents. (AZAD) provides opportunities to attend conferences, talk to professionals, network with other zoo volunteers, read publications and serve in leadership positions. AZAD's website provides access to conference papers and a message board where you can post comments and questions. The conference papers are excellent references and the message board provides an easy way to connect with other zoo volunteers. It's good to know that these resources are available.

If you've always wanted to attend an AZAD conference, consider registering in 2013 when the Detroit Zoo is the host. Several Brookfield Zoo volunteers paid the full registration costs so they could attend the 2010 conference as participants; they explained to me that they had not been able to attend in the past and were thankful for the opportunity. They enjoyed learning and networking. The conferences are a great place to learn new interpretation skills and broaden your knowledge.

Docents **Aileen Barkume, Laurine Cybulski, Jeanne Daigle, Paul and Karen Emanuelsen, Mary Haga, Anne Hengesbach, Nancy Wolf** and I attended the 2010 AZAD conference. **Mary Haga** was elected as the Membership Chairman and **Anne Hengesbach** was elected to the Chair of Bylaws Committee. **Karen Emanuelsen** gave two successful and well-received presentations on our winning AZAD grant. We thank **Dr. Irma Hamilton** and **Kim Sneden** for supporting our grant submission. Attendees were very impressed with the PowerPoint presentation and all of us helped answer questions after Karen's talk. Watch for Karen's paper to be posted on AZAD's web site. Mary, Anne and **Karen** enjoyed their leadership experiences.

The conferences also feature the ever-popular Zoo Day, where everyone wears their uniform and the hosts often provide special behind-the-scenes experiences. We are not the only Zoo using red polo shirts for uniforms! The most unique is always the scout-type sash worn by the Saint Louis Zoo docents. (It does provide plenty of space for pins). At the Brookfield Zoo, special highlights included tours of the giraffe building, zoo hospital, nutrition center and library. The staff members and volunteers were very generous in sharing their time and knowledge. Between the tours, there's time to explore the host zoo at your own pace and take photos. It's always helpful to read the signs and graphics about animals we also have at the Detroit Zoo – it's a fun way to pick up additional information.

Many of the attendees at the 2010 conference told us that they are looking forward to experiencing the Detroit Zoo in 2013. Fellow volunteers from the nearby John Ball, Potter Park and Toledo zoos are excited that we are bringing the AZAD community here to join in *Celebrating and Saving Wildlife*. We hope to see many registrants from the Midwest and Eastern U.S. as well as the rest of the country. They will find out, as we already know, that the Detroit Zoo is a wonderful place. (For more information, go to azadocents.org.)

November Education Adventures for the Entire Family

Animal Extremes

Take a look at some amazing animals at your own Detroit Zoo! You will discover some of the extreme abilities of a variety of animals like the world's tallest, the most poisonous and the most agile. A guided tour and interactive activities will be included for all.

Cost: \$15 for non-member adults, \$10 for member adults and \$5 for all youth under age 16.

Date: November 13, 1-3 p.m.

Adult Art Programs

Brush with Wildlife: Beginning Painting for Adults

Experience the wild world of color in the many native and exotic animals in the Detroit Zoo's collection of living animals and exciting wildlife art. You will learn the basic principles of painting in a variety of water-based media and incorporate your new skills with paint and brush into your very own animal-inspired masterpiece!

Cost: \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members.

Adults 16 years of age and up. Materials will be provided.

Two sessions offered (same class). Choose from either:

Saturday, November 6, 1-4 p.m. **OR** Sunday, November 7, 1-4 p.m.

Drawn to Nature: Beginning Illustration for Adults

You'll use the Detroit Zoo's collection of living animals and exciting wildlife art to inspire you as you sharpen your skills in observing nature and learning the basic principles of simple illustration.

Cost: \$25 for members, \$35 for non members.

Adults 16 years of age and up. Materials will be provided.

Two sessions offered (same class). Choose from either:

Saturday, November 13, 1-4 p.m. **OR** Sunday, November 14, 1-4 p.m.

Animals Around the World – Red Land Crab Migration

By Carla Rigbsy, Education Specialist



In November, 120,000,000 red land crabs are on a mission: reach the island's shores within three days of the moon's last quarter. Here they will breed and send their eggs out to sea. This species of crab is actually one of the 14 types found on Christmas Island, a mostly humid rainforest located in the Indian Ocean.

Red land crabs are usually solitary and spend the better part of the year roaming on the rainforest floor. These crabs will dig a burrow with one entrance leading to a single chamber. August is the start of the dry season. For protection against drying out, these smart crustaceans will take leaves and enclose themselves in their humid

burrows during the hot daytime hours. When the temperatures drop, the crabs will emerge and search for food. They will feed on fallen leaves, fruit and flowers. Not strict herbivores, they will occasionally eat dead crabs or birds.

When the November rains start to fall, the crabs know that they need to start moving. Overcast skies signal the time to start their journey toward the water. About 1,000,000 crabs will not make it to their destination. Heat exhaustion and being hit by cars and trains bring about numerous fatalities. The migration can take anywhere from eight to 18 days. Older and larger males will start the journey first to arrive and set up burrows for the incoming females. When they reach the water, they will refresh themselves by drinking from rock pools before preparing for battle for the best burrowing spots. Burrow building will be complete by the time the females arrive.

After mating, the males will leave the ocean view and head back to the rainforest. Females will spend about 12 days in the burrow while the eggs develop in a pouch under her tail. Egg-laying is synchronized with the tide. At night, just at the turn of high tide, many crabs will stand at the water's edge and shake out their thousands of eggs. This can be dangerous for the female, as she can be swept into the ocean along with her eggs.

As soon as the eggs hit the water, they hatch immediately. They will undergo several changes as they conquer the ocean, attempting to avoid the many predators that lurk in the water. About 25 days after hatching, they will undergo their final transformation, and tiny crabs will emerge from the ocean and make their first journey to the rainforest floor. In about four years, when they are mature, they will make their own mating journey to the sea shore.



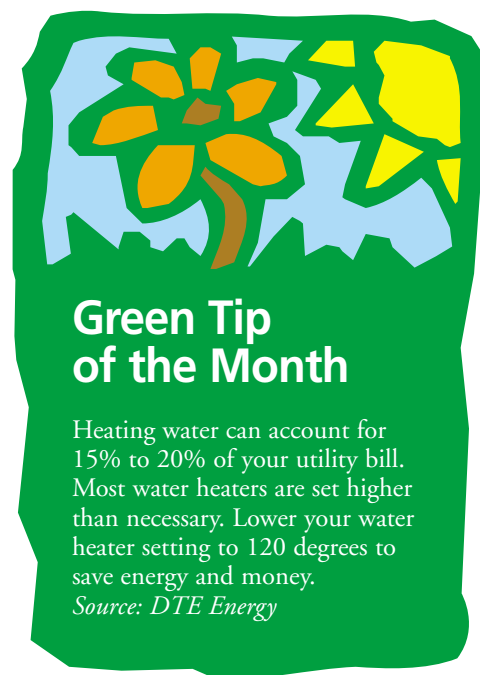
EdZOOcation Stations

Want to get more out of your next visit to the Detroit Zoo? Stop by an EdZOOcation station! EdZOOcation Stations are hands-on activity centers located throughout the Zoo at scheduled times. Station themes change on a weekly basis and cover a variety of topics while keeping in line with our three main goals – humane education, animal welfare and environmental stewardship. Over the summer, our Station Staff interacted with over 3,500 guests! Petopoly, nature walks, African masks and storybook reading were just a few of the many exciting activities offered. EdZOOcation Stations will continue on weekends throughout the fall and winter. Check out our online calendar or consult a staff member for more information.

During the month of November you can find us inside the Ford Education Center.

- November 5-7, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Gourd Stamping
- November 12-14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Recycling
- November 18-20, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Corn Husk Dolls

Volunteer shifts are available; contact Volunteer Services at volunteer@dzo.org or call (248) 541-5717 ext. 3802.



Green Tip of the Month

Heating water can account for 15% to 20% of your utility bill. Most water heaters are set higher than necessary. Lower your water heater setting to 120 degrees to save energy and money.

Source: DTE Energy

Seasonal Update

Effective November 1:

- Detroit Zoo closes at 4 p.m. daily until April 1, 2011
- The Tauber Family Railroad closes for the season
- The Giraffe Encounter closes for the season (unless weather dictates an earlier closing)
- The Membership Tent closes for the season
- The Wild Adventure 3-D/4-D Theater and Wild Adventure Ride continue normal daily operating schedules



Mob Squad Winter Shifts

The Australian Outback Adventure will remain open this winter on a daily basis. Shifts will be 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. beginning November 1. Please let Volunteer Services know if you'll be staying on the winter roster.

Detroit Zoo
8450 W. 10 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

November Zoo Dates

Tuesday, November 9

Gallery Guide Meeting, 1 and 6 p.m.
Wildlife Interpretive Gallery Theater

Wednesday, November 10

Day Captain Meeting, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, November 17

Docent Meeting, 1 and 6 p.m.
Ford Education Center

Saturday, November 20

Holiday Tree Spectacular
See Volunteer Opportunities, page 3

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Day
Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo Closed

Volunteer Challenge – Holiday Tree Spectacular

The Detroit Zoo's annual Holiday Tree display will again greet guests as they enter the Zoo. We invite Zoo volunteers to participate in this tradition by sponsoring a tree for the fourth year in a row. The goal is to raise \$500. You can mail in or drop off donations to Volunteer Services. Checks should be made payable to DZS. If you have an idea for a creative theme for this year's tree, feel free to share it with **Linda, Adrienne** or **Melissa**. Just keep in mind that any decorations must withstand weather conditions and hands-on visitors!

