



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2013

WHAT'S **NEW** AT OCEANS OF FUN?

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www.oceansoffun.org

Colby's formal training !

At ten months old, Colby has officially begun his formal training! Since his birth, Colby's trainers have spent countless hours striving to make all of their interactions with him very positive. These interactions were all part of his informal training. Colby is now consistently eating about 7 pounds of capelin and herring every day, which means his formal training is underway!



The first step in Colby's formal training was learning to recognize and respond to his name. This was no problem for Colby as he mastered this skill in a matter of days! The focus of his training now is learning to target. To target simply means to touch. This behavior is the foundation for the training for all of our flippers friends. Each animal learns to target, or touch, their nose or any other body part to a target pole or a trainer's hand. Using this target, the trainers are able to guide the animal step by step through each behavior we want them to learn. Colby is currently learning to patiently touch the target with his mouth closed. Before long, Colby will be holding his nose to the target and following it to learn simple behaviors such as laying down which we call "sleep". Colby's trainers are thrilled with his progress. It looks like we have a new star on our hands!

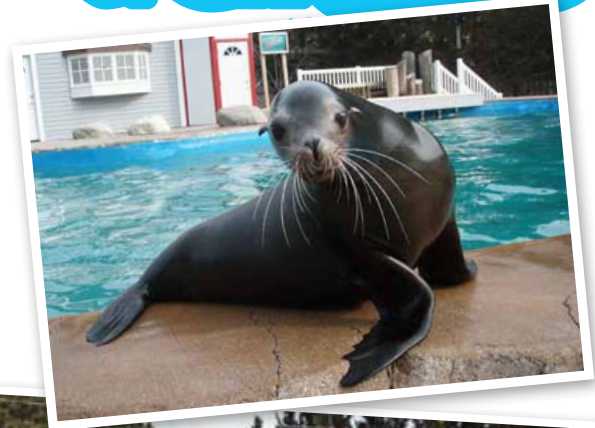


FEATURE ANIMAL OF THE MONTH

Geneva

Geneva is one sea lion that is often heard before she is seen and guests can't help but smile when they hear such a loud voice come from such a petite girl! Geneva is one of our adult female California sea lions. Born on June 29th 1999, she has grown to weigh approximately 200 pounds. Sea lions are known for communicating often through different vocalizations and Geneva is no exception to the rule, as she never fails to tell you what she is up to.

Always eager to learn and perform, Geneva can be found porpoising around the pool when trainers round the corner, ready for sessions. Recently, Geneva has been gearing up for her fourth season at Hersheypark in Hershey, PA where she will be joined by fellow flipped friends Diego the sea lion and Bumper the harbor seal. This threesome will bring the fun and educational experience of Oceans of Fun to the east coast. Guests of Hersheypark will know Geneva is back when greeted by her big hello heard all the way at the front gates! Oceans of Fun is thrilled to be able to share Geneva's unique personality with so many animal lovers across the country!





FEATURE PROGRAM: Underwater Journey

Are you looking for a one-of-a-kind summer camp experience? Look no further! Oceans of Fun offers a variety of summer camps to choose from! Each camp provides the opportunity to:

- Learn about seals, sea lions and other marine mammals.
- Explore animal adaptations and habitats.
- Train seals and sea lions.
- Interact with marine mammals and participate in sea lion presentations.
- Explore the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Summer Camps

For children ages 7 to 12, our 5-day summer camp favorite, the *Marine Mammal Camp*, provides a full week of fun as you get to know our animals personally. Each fun-filled day is designed around a specific theme, such as seals and sea lions, animal behavior, conservation, training and marine mammal care. You'll spend time exploring the zoo, visiting the special exhibits, playing training games, creating art projects and enjoying loads of fun at our sea lion pool! Our resident junior trainers are able to feed, interact with and participate in training sessions throughout the week. This camp will be the highlight of your child's summer!

UNDERWATER JOURNEY



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www.facebook.com/pages/OCEANS-OF-FUN/106815583641



Summer Camps (continued)

The *Animal Training Camp* for 10-12 year olds and the *Animal Behavior Camp* offered to 7-9 year olds are back this summer offering junior trainers an in-depth experience to learn more about our flippers friends. In addition to these action-packed camps, we are also offering a variety of new camps this summer season!

For those who really want to do their part to protect our Earth, check out these brand new ocean conservation camps. *Ocean Ambassadors* is a 2-day camp for 7-9 year olds focused on learning about the ocean and environmental issues. Campers will explore ocean animals and identify simple steps to help keep our oceans clean and blue. 10-12 year olds can become *Ocean Stewards* in our 2-day camp that covers environmental conservation topics with an emphasis on taking personal action to protect the earth.



CAMP SPECIALS

For campers interested in becoming a vet, check out our *Pinniped Practice* 1-day camp! Marine Voyagers (10-12 year olds) will explore marine mammal medicine and practice husbandry behaviors with the seals and sea lions of Oceans of Fun.

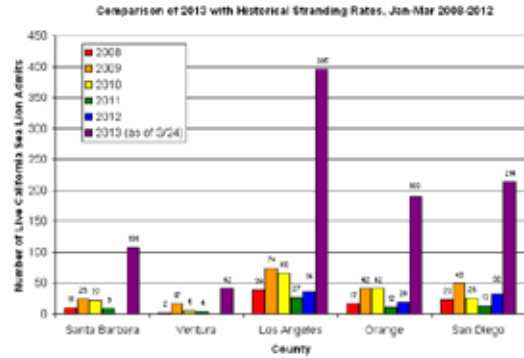
CONSERVATION CORNER

Sea Lion Pups in Need

This year is proving to be a struggle for California sea lion pups out in the wild. From January 1st to March 31st of this year, over 1,100 pups have stranded themselves along the California coast spanning from Santa Barbara to San Diego. This number is seven times more than it was during the same period of last year.

Stranding centers, such as the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito, CA. are taking in as many pups as possible in hopes of rehabilitating them and releasing them back to the wild. The pups are coming into the centers extremely dehydrated, malnourished and most of them are extremely underweight for their age. The rescue centers are working around the clock to hydrate these animals and get them to the point where they are eating fish on their own. Once a pup has gained enough weight and appears to have no other medical conditions, it is released

back to the ocean.



Due to this dangerously high number of strandings, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has officially declared an Unusual Mortality Event (UME). The Marine Mammal Protection Act, established in 1972, states that a UME is “a stranding that is unexpected; involves a significant die-off of any marine mammal population; and demands immediate response.” Due to the increasing amounts of UMEs over the past several years, efforts to study carcasses and live stranded animals have increased dramatically. Through studying these strandings, researchers and facilities are able to gain a better understanding of pollution threats and stressors, as well as over all ocean health.

The UME allows for a team of investigators to come together and extra funding to be provided in order to hopefully determine the cause. Until now, only speculations have been made as to the reason for these strandings. One hypothesis is that the supply of



CONSERVATION CORNER

Sea Lion Pups in Need (continued)

anchovies and sardines, small fish that are essential to the sea lions diet, is very limited, which results in mothers not being able to sufficiently nurse their young. Infectious diseases and ocean pollutants are also thought to potentially contribute to these numerous strandings.



DONATE NOW!

What you can do to help

Oceans of Fun is part of AMMPA's team of accredited facilities that is ready to step up and assist with rescue and rehabilitation efforts. If you would like to be apart of helping Oceans of Fun during this time of need for California sea lion pups, please click here to make your donation today! All donations will go directly towards providing fish and medical care for the stranded California sea lion pups, as well as towards the research efforts to help prevent future UMEs.

Sources

Marine Mammal Center:

www.marinemammalcenter.org

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

www.noaa.gov

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

www.nmfs.noaa.gov

The Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA) is coordinating a support system of accredited facilities for the current UME and future UMEs. AMMPA is developing the ability to be a resource of communities the are able to react and respond to UMEs in order to assist with animal rescue, rehabilitation, release, and research when the need arises.



CONSERVATION CORNER

Green Ideas

What does going “green” mean?

Going “green” is simply making eco-friendly choices in the products we purchase and the food we consume for a healthier lifestyle.

Spring is in the air! Here are some steps you can take to help the environment this spring!

- **Check your car’s tire pressure.**
The warmer weather affects tire pressure and if your tires aren’t inflated properly, you may be reducing your fuel efficiency by up to 3%!
- **Use the sun’s energy to dry your clothes and sheets!**
Not only are you saving energy by not using the drier, but your clothes will smell wonderful!
- **When you bring out the spring clothes, take the time to go through your wardrobe and **donate** anything you don’t wear any more to a **thrift store**!**
- **Turn the lights off!**
Take advantage of the sun’s natural light and do as much of your activities outside as possible. You will also get your daily dose of vitamin D, which helps to maintain your calcium balance and aids in boosting your immune system!



Reduce your carbon footprint by taking these simple steps today! To learn more visit our Carbon Footprint page! - www.oceansoffun.org/index.php/136



INTERNS/VOLUNTEERS

Have you always loved marine mammals and are interested in the field of animal training? Are you passionate about education and want to assist with our mission for conservation? Do you love the earth and want to help make a difference? Then our volunteer and internship programs are a great fit for you!

Oceans of Fun is actively interviewing Summer 2013 intern and volunteer positions at our Milwaukee, WI location. Our programs teach individuals how to be an animal care and environmental specialist. Learn about animal diets, facility care, animal training, medical programs, and assist our staff in educating the public and our Milwaukee county zoo guests on how to care for the environment.



GET YOUR FEET WET



Gift Certificates



GIVE THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME!

Purchase a gift certificate for an Oceans of Fun interactive program! These unique, up-close and personal experiences with our seals and sea lions will create lasting memories in the lives of your family and friends.

Gift certificates are available for a variety of experiences including day camps, junior training programs, in-water adventures and job shadow opportunities. Whether you are 5 or 100, there is a program for everyone!

For more information on our programs or to make a reservation please visit us at www.oceansoffun.org or call 414-453-5527 ext. 1



More Info!



SPONSOR A SEAL OR SEA LION

Oceans of Fun is a privately owned Wisconsin corporation, located inside the Milwaukee County Zoo. It is our goal to provide the best possible environment, training, husbandry, and care for our marine animals with the focus of educating the public about marine life, environmental preservation, and conservation. You can help care for our animals by donating items from our wish list and by sponsoring one of our beautiful animals!

BECOME A SEAL AND SEA LION SPONSOR!

By sponsoring one of our seals and sea lions, you will be contributing directly to the animal's care. Sponsorship is a great way to get involved and can also be a wonderful gift for that special occasion or holiday! When you sponsor an animal we will send you a special gift of appreciation for your donation. Choose any one of our amazing animals at Oceans of Fun to sponsor and see the chart below for special gifts. To sponsor an animal, contact us at 414-453-5527 ext. 1.

Sponsorship Gifts of Appreciation

Oceans of Fun Sponsorship Levels	Annual Donation	E-Newsletter & Updates	Personalized Adoption Certificate	5 x 7 Photo Of Your Animal	Official Oceans Of Fun T-Shirt	10% Discount At the Sea Lion Shoppe	Sea Lion Show Tickets	Painting Session for One With an Animal	Original Seal or Sea Lion Canvas Painting	Private Behind The Scenes Tour	Private Animal Training Demo 15 min
Copper Sponsor	\$50	X	X	X							
Bronze Sponsor	\$75	X	X	X	X						
Silver Sponsor	\$125	X	X	X	X	X	4 Tickets				
Gold Sponsor	\$250	X	X	X	X	X	10 Tickets	X	X		
Platinum Sponsor	\$500	X	X	X	X	X	15 Tickets	X	X	15 Guests	15 Guests

Which Animal Should I Sponsor?

Choose any one of our animals to sponsor! To view information about each of our animals, visit us at www.oceansoffun.org and select our animal page for biographies on each of our slippery stars. Then, once you decide which animal you would like to sponsor, contact us to sign up for a one year sponsorship!

Learn More About the Oceans of Fun Animals!

Meet Slick...

Slick is our Dominant Male California Sea Lion. He weighs in at over 700 lbs!



Meet Satara...

Satara is our 16 year old female Atlantic Harbor seal. She weighs 120 pounds and has a fun, spunky attitude!





SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Sponsorship Gifts of Appreciation

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Copper Sponsor	\$50	X	X	X							
Bronze Sponsor	\$75	X	X	X	X						
Silver Sponsor	\$125	X	X	X	X	X	4 Tickets				
Gold Sponsor	\$250	X	X	X	X	X	10 Tickets	X	X		
Platinum Sponsor	\$500	X	X	X	X	X	15 Tickets	X	X	15 Guests	15 Guests

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL: _____ **DONATION AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** _____

DESIRED ANIMAL'S NAME: _____ **DATE:** _____

BUYER'S NAME: _____ ***CHECK NUMBER:** _____

(MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: OCEANS OF FUN)

BILLING ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____ **STATE:** ____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

(LEAVE BLANK IF INFORMATION IS THE SAME AS ABOVE)

SPONSOR'S NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ **CITY:** _____ **STATE:** ____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

**CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS AVAILABLE BY PHONE: 414-453-5527 ext. 1.*

**CASH PAYMENTS AVAILABLE AT OUR SEA LION SHOPPE AT THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO.*

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR DONATION ALONG WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM TO:

OCEANS OF FUN
10001 W. BLUEMOUND ROAD MILWAUKEE, WI 53226
414-453-5527 ext. 1 www.oceansoffun.org

**Once your payment is received, all animal sponsorships and donations will be processed and gifts of appreciation will arrive to your mailing address in 7 – 10 business days. Thank you!*