



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2011

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

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www.oceansoffun.org

Oceans of Fun is proud to announce our recent professional accreditations.

Oceans of Fun is dedicated to the field of marine mammal science and education. It is our goal to provide the best possible environment, training and care for our marine animals with the focus of educating the public about marine life, environmental protection and conservation. To promote this mission, we pursued professional accreditation from two influential organizations in the marine mammal community last spring.

The Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA) is an international association representing marine life parks, aquariums, zoos, research facilities, and professional organizations dedicated to the highest standards of care for marine mammals and to their conservation in the wild through public education, scientific study, and wildlife presentations.

The International Marine Animal Trainers' Association (IMATA) is dedicated to advancing the humane care and handling of marine animals by fostering communication between professionals that serve marine animal science through training, public display, research, husbandry, conservation, and education.

We are proud to announce our professional accreditations from the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums and the International Marine Animal Trainers' Association!

Together we are working to bring marine mammal and environmental issues, education and conservation to the community we serve while providing the best possible care to our animals.

Thank you to a very dedicated and talented staff for making this goal a reality!



Oceans of Fun president, Shelley Ballmann proudly accepts a plaque in recognition of our program.

Accredited by the
ALLIANCE
of Marine Mammal
Parks & Aquariums



IMATA
International Marine Animal
Trainers' Association



FEATURE PROGRAMS: Interactive Learning

Oceans of Fun was the first marine mammal facility in the United States to offer interactive programs with seals and sea lions. Since 1997 we have been connecting guests with the amazing world of marine mammals and conservation through our hands-on, interactive programs.

There are many programs at Oceans of Fun that allow you to work up-close and personal with our flippered friends! From pool-side to in-water, afternoon to full day programs, we offer lots of ways for you to connect with our animals to learn about the ocean and our environment.

Check out our interactive programs at <http://www.oceansoffun.org/lrs/programs> to find a program that works for you!



With heavy hearts on November 8, we said goodbye to Sport. At 30 years of age, Sport was a founder animal within our organization.

She joined our team in 1990 and throughout the past 21 years has been an ambassador for marine mammal conservation in Wisconsin, educating and entertaining thousands of children and adults alike. She has mothered 4 pups of her own and is the grandmother to five! Sport passed away today due to old age and will be missed by her trainers and fans. We are sad to see her go but so thankful for all that she has shared with us.

Interactive Learning





Mark your calendars for the best deals of the year!

Take advantage of the lowest prices on interactive programs!

*Friday November 25th -
Sunday November 27th, 2011*

All 2012 interactive programs booked and program gift certificates purchased will receive 25% off the program price only during these 3 days! Be sure to watch for the Black Friday Flyer and book your program to receive huge savings on experiences that will make memories to last a lifetime!

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.

Program discounts for Black Friday:

Sea Lion Splash \$75.00 (\$25.00 savings)

Aquatic Adventure \$123.75 (\$41.25 savings)

Animal Trainer Job Shadow \$187.50 (\$62.50 savings)

SEA LION SPLASH



AQUATIC ADVENTURE

SEA LION SPLASH

FUN

UNDERWATER JOURNEY



GET CLOSER THAN EVER





New Summer Camp Opportunities for 2012!

Join Oceans of Fun in summer 2012 for the ultimate camp experience! If your child is between the ages of 7 - 12, we have a variety of camps for you to choose from. Our summer camps offer the chance to meet our seals and sea lions up close and personal while learning about marine mammals, animal care, training and conservation. From full week programs that immerse campers in the field of marine mammal science to 2-3 day specialty camps focused on animal behavior or animal training, Oceans of Fun has a program that appeals to every animal lover out there. We even offer a 2 day mini camp to introduce your child to the wonderful world of seals and sea lions. As an Oceans of Fun camper, children get the chance 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.
- Create works of art with the help of our flippers friends.

UNDERWATER JOURNEY



Underwater Journey

(Sea Lion Explorers and Marine Voyagers)

5 day camps: \$292.50 (\$97.50 savings)

3 day camps: \$191.25 (\$63.75 savings)

2 day camps: \$138.75 (\$46.25 savings)

Check our website for details on our brand new summer camp programs!

JOIN IN THE FUN!





FEATURE ANIMAL OF THE MONTH

Abby

Oceans of Fun works collaboratively with fellow Zoos and Aquariums in establishing breeding loans to diversify genetics within populations and ensure success in future generations. Our most recent collaboration unites the Chicago Zoological Society and Oceans of Fun as two new California sea lions have recently joined our collection. Meet Abby and Sonoma our newest family members!

Abby is a 24 year old female California sea lion who will win your heart over in less than 30 seconds! This beautiful animal is highly inquisitive and was ready to meet her new pool mates and trainers immediately.

Abby never skipped a beat, entering her new environment she was immediately ready for a training session and plenty of love! She immediately greeted her new pool mates (through a fence line) and settled in enjoying the warm Wisconsin sunshine all afternoon.





FEATURE ANIMAL OF THE MONTH

Sonoma

If you've been around Oceans of Fun for a few years, you may remember Sonoma! Born right here 11 years ago, we've brought this little lady home! Sonoma spent a few years down at Riverbanks Zoo in North Carolina and two years ago made her way to the Brookfield Zoo in Illinois. Unfortunately she has not bred yet and we're all hoping that we may improve the odds here in Milwaukee. As Sonoma has a tendency to be a bit nervous in new, unfamiliar surroundings, we all prepared and expected her to struggle a bit with this relocation. Wonderfully, we were all in for a delightful surprise! We certainly don't know if she remembers her "home" but she is showing absolutely no signs of stress. Sonoma is relaxed, playful and even snuggled into her old sleeping area to get a great first night of sleep back in Milwaukee. Trainers from both facilities are impressed and excited over her response to coming home!

The first step in acclimating animals into a new environment is to ensure their health and comfort. We want to ensure that all of our animals are healthy, eating well, engaging in sessions and getting a good night sleep. Currently there is plenty of greetings and nuzzling occurring through the fence lines as all of our animals introduce themselves. As part of our preparation, training staff's from both facilities (Oceans of Fun and the Chicago Zoological Society) have spent considerable time working together both prior to arrival and currently to ensure that the animals acclimate smoothly into their new environment and routine. Wonderfully our initial goals are all being met as both Abby and Sonoma are doing beautifully!



SUPER CUTE!





CONSERVATION CORNER

Save Vanishing Species Stamps



In late September, Congress passed a piece of legislation that will help save vanishing species from extinction. Simply stated, the U.S. Postal Service has issued a special first class stamp that will raise money to benefit endangered species from around the world. With the image of an endangered Amur tiger cub, these stamps send a powerful message of the need to help protect endangered animals and their habitats.

These special edition stamps are available at 55 cents each--11 cents over the cost of a regular first-class stamp. Proceeds from stamp sales will help benefit conservation efforts to help protect Amur tigers, African elephants, Asian elephants, great apes, rhinos and sea turtles from habitat destruction, poaching and disease.

Proceeds from the “Save Vanishing Species” stamp will be transferred to the Multinational Species Conservation Funds that is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through its international Wildlife Without Borders programs. These funds are distributed as grants for on-the-ground conservation programs to save some of the world’s fastest-disappearing species in their natural habitats. These critically-endangered species have been admired by much of the American public and are favorites at zoos and aquariums. Unfortunately, these animals face many struggles in their native habitats. We can all make a difference by supporting these animals every time we mail a bill, letter or birthday card.

Saving Vanishing Species stamps are available in sheets of 20 for \$11 at your nearest post office and at the USPS online Postal Store. Please purchase the Saving Vanishing Species stamps—and help stamp out extinction!





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.*

Check out these “green” tips to consider when preparing for the holidays!

Back to School Green Tips:

- *Swap out paper napkins for cloth napkins while entertaining this holiday season. Cloth napkins are reusable, washable and make great decorations. They also keep unnecessary waste out of the landfills.*
- *Make your own greeting cards from old wrapping paper, postcards and other once-used paper materials. These cards add a personal touch to your holiday greetings.*
- *Get creative with your gift wrapping. Use old newspaper, maps, scarves or some other useful cloth item. If every family wrapped just three gifts this way, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields.*





INTERNS/VOLUNTEERS

Have you always loved marine mammals and been interested in the field of animal training? 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 for winter and spring 2011/2012 intern and volunteer positions. 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.



MAKE NEW FRIENDS

GET YOUR FEET WET



Gift Certificates



THINK OCEANS OF FUN FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING NEEDS!

Give the gift of a lifetime by purchasing 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



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

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

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!*