

Animal Trading Card



Common Name: Scarlet Ibis
Scientific Name: *Eudocimus ruber*
Distinguishing Characteristics: Ibis has slightly webbed feet and a thin, down-curved bill. All Scarlet ibises are long-legged and long-necked wading birds, but they can be characterized by their stunning red feathers and their glossy blue-black wing tips. Although the adults are brightly colored, the young are dull, with a grayish-brown color and white underbellies. Females and males are identical in coloration, but the male's body size and bill length are much larger.
Habitat: Scarlet ibises can be found in northern South America. They prefer swampy environments, such as mud flats and shallow bays. They tend to nest on dense brush-covered islands near the mouths of rivers.
Wild Diet: Their main diet consists of crustaceans and mollusks. They search for food by either probing in water with their long bills or pecking for prey items on soil surfaces. Crayfish and small crabs compose a bulk of their diet, along with aquatic insects. They also tend to eat frogs, fish and small snakes.
Facts: The scarlet ibis is a gregarious bird, living, traveling, and breeding in flocks. In flight, ibises form diagonal lines or V-formations. This formation decreases wind resistance for trailing birds. When the leader of the pack tires, it falls to the back of the formation and another ibis takes its place at the front. Ibis are rather quiet birds, only grunting or croaking on breeding grounds. Both the male and female take turns in guarding the nest site until the chicks are large enough to defend themselves.

Jungle Jeff's Blog

Hey Everyone!
 Jungle Jeff here.
 Are you ever wondering what's going on at the Santa Ana Zoo at Prentice Park week by week? Curious about what new animals we're getting and where to find them? Well, now's your chance! I'm going to be keeping a weekly blog up on the website to give all of you the latest scoop...even if it's just how I helped scoop up some animal waste! I'll be keeping all of you updated on anything from daily activities at the Zoo all the way up to new babies and animals just put on exhibit!
 Check the website at www.santaanazoo.org to see my blog...and if you find me hanging out around at the Zoo and want to know what's going on, don't hesitate to ask!



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www.santaanazoo.org

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TO INSTILL A PASSION FOR THE NATURAL WORLD THROUGH RECREATION, CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION

Animal Tales

A
 LOOK
 AT
 WHAT'S
 INSIDE



Animal Trading Card
 Have you seen these birds in our walk-through aviary?



The New President
NEW FOSAZ
 President,
 "Rip" Ribble



Zoo-B-Que
 Members-only event preparing the grill for May 4

Winter 2007 - Volume 10 Issue 1

Did You Know: Navajo-Churro Sheep Compiled by: Cathy Miller

• Navajo-Churro sheep have coarse, long wool that comes in a variety of colors ranging from white to natural shades. The Navajo-Churro sheep descended from Churra sheep (an ancient Iberian breed).

• They were the first sheep breed to be domesticated in the New World and were brought to Mexico by the Spaniards over 400 years ago.

• The Churro sheep were acquired by Native Americans through raids and trades.

• The sheep play an essential part of the Navajo spiritual and creative life, where they are prized for their meat, milk, and wool.

• In the 1860s, the US Army decimated the Navajo flocks. In later years, the



numbers were further decreased by flock reductions imposed by the US government. Today the Navajo-Churro sheep is considered a threatened breed, with an estimated global population of fewer than 5,000 individuals.

• Our Navajo-Churro sheep are part of a breeding population, and the offspring may be returned to Native American tribes.



"ATTENTION MEMBERS!"

Your FOSAZ Board is recommending several changes to the FOSAZ Bylaws to keep them current and up-to-date with modern technology. You can view the proposed changes on our website at www.santaanazoo.org/bylaws.pdf. Each FOSAZ member is required to vote on the changes. A no-response, is taken as an affirmative vote. The deadline for voting is March 31, 2008.

Wish List for the Santa Ana Zoo

The Santa Ana Zoo is always looking for useful donations that can help our wonderful animals. So, while you're cleaning out your house or replacing old items, kindly keep the Zoo in mind. Please contact Kevin Jackson at (714) 953-8555 x17 about your donation.

Current items of need:

- Pet food dishes, nonbreakable. Almost any size and shape will do. The no-tip ones are especially good.
- Rodent chew blocks, bird toys, rubber dog chew toys, Kong toys, horse toys
- Outdoor cooling mist machines
- Bales of hay for the Train Depot Plaza rental area
- Screw drivers, wrenches, nut drivers, wire cutters, hacksaws, handsaws, post-hole diggers, pliers, vise grips, and a large rolling tool cabinet to store these items in.

Zoo Info:

HOURS:

Gates Open10 AM
 Gates Close4 PM
 Grounds Close.....5 PM

The Santa Ana Zoo is open daily except Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

ADMISSION:

Adults (13+)\$6.
 Children (3-12)\$3.
 Seniors (60+).....\$3.

FOSAZ members, disabled persons, and children 2 and under are FREE

Train Rides.....\$3.
 11 AM-2 PM Every Day

Subject to change without notice.
 Call for further information (714) 836-4000.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Recorded Zoo Info:

(714) 835-7484

Education Dept.:

(714) 647-6575

Gift Shop:

(714) 542-9650

Friends of Santa Ana Zoo:

(714) 953- 8555

WEB SITE:

www.santaanazoo.org

About This Publication

Animal Tales is published by Friends of Santa Ana Zoo (FOSAZ), a nonprofit corporation organized to develop financial support, growth and community awareness for the Santa Ana Zoo.

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FOSAZ Staff

Cathi Decker, Executive Director
cdecker@fosaz.org
 Vanessa Anderson, Manager of Accounting
vanderson@fosaz.org
 Kevin Jackson, Director of Operations
kjackson@fosaz.org
 Tom Decker, Director of Technology and Communications,
tdecker@fosaz.org
 Debi Raven, Fundraising Coordinator
draven@fosaz.org
 Estela Gomez, Membership & Rentals Coordinator,
egomez@fosaz.org
 Kristy Banks, Communication & Events Coordinator,
kbanks@fosaz.org

Special Events 2008

EVERY SECOND TUESDAY of the month:
 FREE Santa Ana residents' day.

March 1 - 2 Zoo Birthday Party

All-Zoo party with music, games and fun;
 10AM-2PM - General Public - FREE WITH PRICE OF ADMISSION; Members - FREE.

March 18 Sheep Shearing Festival

Sheep Shearing demonstrations for school groups and the public. 9:30AM-Noon - Free with price of admission.

April 26 Membership Appreciation Day

Party for the Planet! - Members get FREE train rides and extra discounts. Celebrate Earth Day at the Zoo: 11AM-2PM.

May 4 Zoo-B-Que

Members only event: 4:30-7PM.

May 17 - 18 University of California

Master Gardeners — Fun activities and helpful information for the gardening enthusiasts: 11AM to 3PM. FREE with admission.

June 8 Sunset at the Zoo

Bring a picnic and join us for an evening of live music, coffee, dessert, train rides and animals: 5:30-7:30PM.

June 21 All Zoo Volunteer Recognition Dinner

— Zoo Volunteers only.
 Amphitheatre. 6:30-8PM.

June 29 Sunset at the Zoo

Bring a picnic and join us for an evening of live music, coffee, dessert, train rides and animals: 5:30-7:30PM.

July 20 Sunset at the Zoo

Bring a picnic and join us for an evening of live music, coffee, dessert, train rides and animals: 5:30-7:30PM.

Dates are tentative and subject to change. For additional information on any event, please contact Kristy Banks with Friends of Santa Ana Zoo at (714) 953-8555 x12 or email her at kbanks@fosaz.org.

New to the Zoo by Ron Glazier, Zoo Director



I'm sure the photo above of the newly born Churro lambs was the first thing that drew your attention. I have been in the zoo profession for 36 years, and there still is nothing more exciting than the birth of an animal. It makes no difference what the animal is-although you've got to be partial to those with big soft eyes-it is the most gratifying part of zoo work. This birth is particularly special because it is of a rare domestic breed. Interestingly, some of the rare domestic animals are less abundant than are some of the exotic endangered species.

In addition to the Churro lambs, you might look for another one of our newly acquired animals, a male black-necked swan, which can be seen swimming in the moat at Amazon's Edge with his female companion. We are always in the process of acquiring new animals for the collection; for example, in quarantine is a silvered leaf monkey and a female golden lion tamarin. Just released from quarantine but going through the introduction process to each other and their new exhibit is another pair of golden lion tamarins, which we hope will become a breeding pair. Look for all of these to be out on exhibit soon.

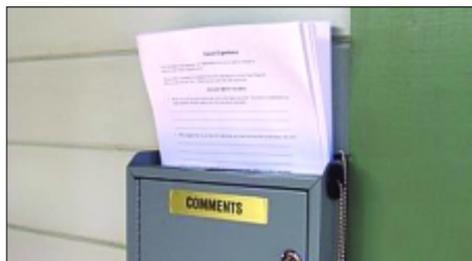
We are also looking to add more exotic and colorful birds to the Colors of the Amazon aviary.

Unfortunately, some of the Zoo's favorite animals have passed away-as all must do eventually-but we will be replacing them as they become available from other zoos. These include the bald eagle, the two-toed sloth, and the African crested porcupine, so be sure to visit the Zoo often as we are constantly expanding and improving the animal collection.

I am often asked how we decide which animals to choose for the Zoo. There are several factors. The first is: Will the animal advance the Zoo's mission to instill passion for the natural world and fit with the primary Neotropical (read South American) theme of the Zoo? Additionally, we consider education and conservation values, and the appeal to our visitors. We also consider the availability of the animals in the zoo community. Finally, we make sure we can provide an exhibit that will ensure the health and well-being of the animal, which in turn improves the chances of having successful births like those of the Churro sheep mentioned above.

Make the Zoo Yours!

You may have noticed that we have put up some Guest Experiences Boxes around your Zoo. Please take advantage of them at the Zoo exit and at the Train Depot by filling out the forms and dropping them into the boxes to let us know what we can do to improve your Zoo experience.



RIBBLE Selected FOSAZ PRESIDENT

"Rip" Ribble has been selected by his fellow Board Members to lead the FOSAZ Organization, beginning his two-year term of President in January 2008.

Rip comes from a 35-year background in public service, retiring in 2004 as the Executive Director of the Santa Ana Parks, Recreation and Community Services Agency. He's also a former U.S. Marine and Ride Operator at Disneyland.

According to Rip, one of his favorite accomplishments was the expansion, development and completion of the Crean Family Farm, where hundreds of daily guests enjoy seeing the many "rare domestic breeds" of animals.

If not engineering the train at the Zoo, or out playing golf with his wife or buddies, you can usually find Rip at his home, working in his garage, making signs and wooden display figures for the Zoo. Everyone has enjoyed the wooden three-dimensional Santa-Land characters displayed during



the past holiday seasons.

Because of his many past and continuing efforts, the new Rip Ribble Education Stage was named in Rip's honor. Look for that Stage to be hosting a variety of entertainment and animal educational shows throughout the coming summer months.

Rip and his wife, Karen, reside in Yorba Linda, and they recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary by "ziplining" in Kauai. They are also proud of their two grown children. Scott works with the Mercedes Benz company in the Sacramento area, and Sherri is a first-grade teacher in the San Clemente area.

Rip simply loves most everything about the Zoo. He looks forward to leading the FOSAZ "Team" and is thrilled to be working with the outstanding Board Members, the FOSAZ and Zoo Staff, and the many Volunteers who make the guests' experiences so special at the Santa Ana Zoo.

Zoo-B-Que 2008

Hold your horses and prepare yourselves for some good old-fashioned fun the Santa Ana Zoo way because we're bringing our annual members-only spectacular event, Zoo-B-Que, back to the Zoo! Held on Sunday, May 4th, from 4:30 to 7:00 PM, the event will feature FREE train rides, live music and dancing, crafts, games, an opportunity drawing and animal guests. BBQ hot dogs and hamburgers will be served, too, so be sure to bring your appetites!

Remember, this is a MEMBERS-ONLY



event. Please call (714) 953-8555 x13 to find out more about membership or go online to www.santaanazoo.org.

The cost is \$16 for adults and \$8 for children (ages 3 to 12).

Also note that Zookeeper Club members receive 2 FREE admissions. Curator, Director, and SAZOO Club members receive 4 FREE admissions. Call (714) 953-8555 x13 to claim your free admissions or to upgrade your current membership to one of these higher levels. We hope to see you all there!

KIDS ZONE - Zoo Fable #12: The Rabbits and the Hawk

Before Isabeau, the Swainson's Hawk, came to the Santa Ana Zoo, she would often search for rabbits, one of her favorite foods.

The rabbits, of course, were well aware of this, and they had devised an elaborate scheme to warn and protect one another whenever they saw Isabeau, or any other hawk for that matter.

But one young rabbit, who had been put in charge of setting the alarm and warning the others, often amused himself by yelling "HAWK, HAWK!" so that he might laugh at all the other rabbits as they scurried for their rabbit holes and set up their defenses. This succeeded several times, and the other rabbits grew weary of the young rabbit's calls.

"You should not tease us this way," warned one of the rabbit elders. "Our entire defense relies on the honesty of

those put in charge, and you have put us all at risk."

The very next day, Isabeau came flying over the rabbit village, and the young rabbit immediately saw her and cried, "HAWK! HAWK!" But the rabbits, supposing him to be up to his tricks again, paid no attention to his cries, and Isabeau ate well that night.

Zoo Moral: He that tells lies is not believed, even when he speaks the truth.

Kids, send your Zoo art (along with your name and age) to:

Tom Decker, Friends of Santa Ana Zoo, 1801 E. Chestnut, Santa Ana CA 92701 or e-mail artwork to tdecker@fosaz.org.

WORD SCRAMBLE From Zoo Fable

1. BIESUAA (name of hawk)



2. COPERTT ("scheme to warn and ____")



3. KWAH (the little rabbit liked to yell this)



BONUS:

Now unscramble the letters circled above to discover this Santa Ana Zoo animal!



Hint: This animal can be found in the "Did You Know?" section of this newsletter.



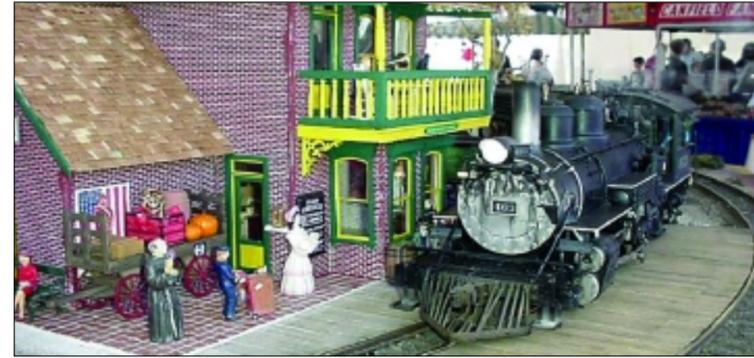
Choo Choo Chatter

By Paul Mac Farland

"What makes them go?" (Part Two)
We found out last time that the first trains burned wood for fuel. But when wood became less abundant, where did the train engineers turn? Well, they found out there was a lot of coal, similar to the charcoal used in the family barbecue. So, the railroads started buying coal to burn in their locomotives instead of wood. And as the tracks and trains moved westward, the railroads dug water wells and then built large water tanks next to the tracks at about every 50 miles so the engines could stop and fill up their tenders with water.

Coal was the primary source of fuel for steam engines until the early 1940s when the cost of coal became so expensive that the railroads converted many of their locomotives to run on oil, instead of coal. Since this was cheaper, steam engines were then powered mostly by oil until the steam engine era came to an end in the mid 1950's.

Because of the high costs to run and then to repair steam engines, in the late 1930s a new type of locomotive known as a "diesel" began to slowly replace the aging steam engines. These engines ran on



conventional diesel fuel instead of steam, and contained large powerful motors similar to today's diesel trucks that we see on the highways. By the mid 1950s, just about all of the American railroads had replaced all of their steam engines. A diesel locomotive is what you see today at the front of modern freight trains. Diesel engines are much more powerful than the early steam engines and are much cheaper to operate.

So, over the past 160 years or so, trains

have been powered by burning wood, then burning coal, then burning oil, and then steam engines disappeared completely in favor of diesel locomotives that burn diesel fuel similar to large trucks. So, the next time you see a freight train, check out the diesel engines up front and you will see a large tank underneath the engine between the wheels that holds all the diesel fuel.

So, that's what makes them go! See ya' next time, and remember to Keep on Track!

A Big THANK YOU to our Year End Appeal Donors!

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Family Adventure Classes

A variety of natural science workshops are offered to the public on Saturdays. All sessions are geared to a variety of ages and provide an exciting opportunity to learn about animals and nature firsthand. **Reservations and payment must be made in advance.** Call the Zoo Education office at 714-647-6562 for information.

Breakfast With the Beasts

Join us early Saturday morning for a light breakfast of muffins, fruits and juice. In the new Crean Family Farm help the zookeeper feed the animals their breakfast - all before the Zoo opens to the public! This single-session workshop is designed for both adults and children of all ages. Workshop meets from 8:30 - 10 AM. Fee is \$8 per FOSAZ member (\$10 per person non-member). Children two and under are free. Fee includes Zoo admission. Reservations must be made in advance.

Saturday, March 29

Saturday, April 5

Saturday, May 17

Saturday, June 28

Scout Patch Program

Designed for Scout groups, this program combines a variety of nature topics such as animal classification, endangered species and predator/prey relationships. Topics are chosen to help fulfill the requirements for various Scout badges and Try-Its for the Brownies. Program includes an animal presentation with live animals and artifacts, paper and pencil scavenger hunt, notebook and embroidered patch for the Scouts. Program is available on select Saturday afternoons from 2-4:30 PM. Price is \$8 per scout and \$6 per adult, which includes Zoo admission. Advance reservations are required.

Saturdays, May 3, 17 & 31

Zoo Camp

Zoo Keeper Camp is an exciting week-long summer day camp offered at the Santa Ana Zoo for children ages 7-11. Campers become Junior Zoo Keepers as they learn about how the Zoo cares for its animals and study how animals survive in the wild. Activities include hands-on science lab sessions, animal shows, games, crafts and a field trip to the Los Angeles Zoo.

Zoo members will be able to enroll for a special reduced rate for the camp session the week of August 4-8. For information and registration, please call Estela Gomez at (714) 953-8555 x 13.



Night Safari For Scout Groups

For our Scout groups, this is a great evening program to see what the Zoo looks like at night and to watch our nocturnal animals! We provide a nocturnal animal presentation, a flashlight tour of the Zoo plus a barbeque hot dog picnic dinner and dessert. Please bring your own flashlights. This single session workshop is designed for Scout groups of all ages. Workshop meets from 7:00 - 10:00 pm. Fee is \$15 per person and includes a pass to return to the Zoo another day. Reservations and payment must be made in advance.

Friday, April 18
Friday, May 16 • Friday, June 6



Family Adventures Reservation Form

Parent Name _____

Child(s) Name(s) _____ Age(s) _____

Child(s) Name(s) _____ Age(s) _____

Complete Mailing Address / Street / Apt.# _____

City / State / Zip Code _____

Home Phone Number(s) — very important _____

Name and Date of Workshop _____

Number of Spaces Reserved _____

Total Amount of Check: \$ _____
Make Check Payable to:
CITY OF SANTA ANA

Please mail Reservation Form and Payment to:

Education Department
Santa Ana Zoo at Prentice Park
1801 E. Chestnut Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92701



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