

Issue 76

JULY 2014



Photo by Garth Sealander

NEW ZOO & ADVENTURE PARK

# The WildTimes

## Spotlight on: the Orange Baboon Tarantula

Ask anyone and they'll most likely remember the charming story of a friendly spider who helps save the life of her barnyard companion, Wilbur. *Charlotte's Web*, the classic children's book written by E.B. White, tells the story of how Charlotte befriends Wilbur the pig and protects him by writing special messages about him in her web. Compassionate, loyal and kind describe Charlotte, but after all, she is only a fictional spider and nothing at all like the spiders we encounter, whether they are at home on our bedroom ceiling or behind a glass case at our very own NEW Zoo.

The Orange Baboon Tarantula (*Pterinochilus murinus*) is just one of the many creatures you'll find lurking behind a glass enclosure here at the zoo. Originating from Africa, the orange baboon tarantula, or "OBT," averages about 8 to 15 centimeters in size and displays a very distinct coloration. As their name implies, they are bright orange in color but some can be deep red or pale yellow. They also have a starburst shaped marking on their carapace.



Photo from  
[www.lizardssnakestarantulas.com](http://www.lizardssnakestarantulas.com)

Because of their unique appearance, they are highly sought after by tarantula owners and have become common in the pet trade.

The OBT is semi-arboreal, meaning it spends some time living in trees or bushes and other time living on the ground. They like to dig burrows and line them with webbing to detect the vibrations made from any incoming prey. Small mice, birds and lizards are the typical diet of an OBT but in captivity they are fed crickets, cockroaches and grasshoppers.

The Orange Baboon tarantula is an extremely aggressive spider with a painful bite prompting some owners to refer to them as "Orange Bitey Things" or "Orange Demon Spiders." They lack the urticating hairs commonly found in

other tarantula species and have to rely on their venomous bite as a defensive mechanism. Their venom leaves an intense burning sensation followed by swelling, numbness and muscular cramping. In addition to their bite, the OBT is also very fast and will retreat when there is a threat.

You'll find the zoo's Orange Baboon Tarantula, Usambar, on display in the Education and Conservation Center. Not one for crowds, she can usually be seen hiding under a piece of bark or in the corner of her glass enclosure (see picture below!). And although you won't find any special messages written in her web, she still would appreciate the visit!

Submitted by Intern Missy Homan

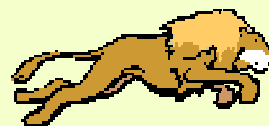


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### The July 2014 Paws & Claws Gift Shop Special is:

*10% off all LION items*



## Curator Report: May 2014 by Carmen Murach

Recent additions to the animal collection include:

A young female North American River Otter was transferred from the Potter Park Zoo in Michigan. Bonnie comes with a breeding recommendation from the River Otter Species Survival Program. The new otter has completed quarantine and is getting along very well with male Skokie. Our elderly female otter Minnie is, however, less willing to welcome the newcomer so the two are taking turns spending time on exhibit with Skokie.

On 5/22/14 Keepers were surprised to find we had new Cotton-top Tamarin twins. The birth was unexpected as the mother had a birth control implant in place. The birth control failure was reported to the AZA Contraceptive Center. The babies (one male, one female) are healthy and the entire tamarin family (mom, dad and 4 older siblings) take turns carrying them around the exhibit. Plans for exhibit expansion to accommodate the growing family are under way.

Also on 5/22/14, Keepers were happy to discover the long anticipated birth of Red Wolf pups., pictured below at five weeks old The NEW Zoo has been involved with the Red Wolf Recovery Program for the past 15 years and this is the first birth at this facility. The 6 pups (4 males, 2 females) have just begun to leave the den and explore the exhibit. The species is critically endangered in the wild in part due to their low reproductive rate. There are currently more Red Wolves in captive breeding facilities like the NEW Zoo (approx. 200



*Pronghorns Sherman and Medora get along very well!*

animals) than exist in the wild (more than 100 animals). Captive bred wolves continue to be released into the wild to bolster the population.

5 Trumpeter Swan cygnets (below right) hatched on 6/11/14. As always, at the end of the season, when the youngsters have reached full size, the NEW Zoo will donate the birds to the Iowa DNR Trumpeter Swan Recovery Program to be released into the wild.

Sherman, the young male pronghorn has been fully introduced to the other animals in the North American Plains prairie grassland exhibit. He is now living there full time and we hope that he and Medora will produce offspring in the future.

The young male White-tailed deer, Roebuck, has joined the does in the deer exhibit in the Wisconsin Trail section of the zoo. We will use birth control measures to prevent reproduction as the species is doing quite well in the wild and there is no need to make more.

Zookeeper Katie Ferris was promoted from a Limited Term position to a full

time staff position. She replaces Keeper Liz Johanek who left for an opportunity to advance her career at the San Antonio Zoo.

Zookeeper Drew Dinehart traveled in the zoomobile to Lansing to pick up the new female otter. He was also able to spend a day with Keepers at the Potter Park Zoo to network and learn about their techniques.





# N.E.W. Zoological Society News

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## “FEAST WITH THE BEASTS” TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Capital Credit Union is proud to announce the 15<sup>th</sup> annual “Feast with the Beast” event will be held on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the NEW Zoo. This popular event, sponsored by the N.E.W. Zoological Society, Inc. and the Wisconsin Restaurant Association, will run from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The Feast will feature 45 of your favorite food, beverage, and music vendors located throughout the zoo.

### Check out our amazing participant line up:

1951 West, 95.9 KISS FM, 104.9 NASH, al corso restaurant, Anthony Nguyen-Singer, Caliente, Culver's, Dean Distributing, DeGrand Family Restaurant,

Edible Arrangements, Fajita Republic, Four Way Bar & Restaurant, General Beverage, Grazies, Green Bay Distillery, Hagemeister Park, HuHot Mongolian Grill, Indulge Catering, Kay Distributing, Krystal Kleer, Legends, La Java, Los Banditos, The Marq, Michael Gillespie and the Trio, Noodles & Company, Olsen's Piggly Wiggly, Pepsi, River's Bend, rustique pizzeria + lounge, Sam & Louie's Pizza, St. Brendan's Inn, Subway, Texas Roadhouse, Titledown Brewing, The Bottle Room, Triangle Distributing, Tundra Lodge, Woodfire Lodge, Zesty's Frozen Custard

### Tickets are limited and are on sale now for \$30.00 at the following locations:

1951 West                      Denmark State Bank (Bellevue location)                      Los Banditos (East & West)  
Olsen's Piggly Wiggly (Howard)                      NEW Zoo Gift Shop (Check or Cash Only)

Or by calling the Society at 920-434-6814

\*Tickets will be \$35.00 at the door

### Thank you to our Wonderful Sponsors:



### We would like to thank the many volunteers that make this event happen!

All proceeds from this event will support the missions of the N.E.W. Zoological Society, Inc., and the Wisconsin Restaurant Association-Green Bay Chapter. Both are 501 (c) 3 non-profit organizations.

**We hope to see you there!**

## Adventure Park Updates

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### Like to Zip Line?

You can now *double* your pleasure by zip-lining a second time (same day) for just \$8!



### Have a Large Group?

#### Adventure Park Group Pricing is Now Available

Effective **July 1<sup>st</sup>**, the Adventure Park will offer a discounted package rate for groups of **15** people or more. Your group can each experience all three of the area's newest attractions

**(Zip Line ~ Ropes Challenge Course ~ Climbing Wall)**  
for the low cost of **\$20** per person.



To inquire or book a team building experience, please contact Matt Kriese, Assistant Park Director, at (920) 448-4464. Time slots for team building are 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon daily.



# Have you enjoyed our NEW ADVENTURE??

Have you experienced the Adventure Park yet?? Summer is a great time to come out and enjoy our new adventures — the Zip Line, Ropes Challenge Course, and the Climbing Wall! The Adventure Park is open daily starting at 10am. Details and pricing are pictured right.

Adventure Park Feature	Daily Pricing	Age & Weight Limits
Zip Line Approximately 35 minutes	\$10 per person	8 years & up  Weight Limit 80 – 275 pounds
	\$8 per person, same-day additional Zips	
Ropes Course Approximately 35 to 60 minutes	\$8 per person	
Climbing Wall Approximately 30-35 minutes* <small>*participants may attempt three climbs</small>	\$7 per person	
“All Three” Package Approximately two hours <small>Includes Zip Line, Ropes Course and Climbing Wall</small>	\$23 per person	8 years & up  Weight Limit 80 – 275 pounds
	\$21 per Zoo Pass Members	
Kid’s Aerial Course	\$2 per person	
Group Rate for “All Three” Package For groups of 15 people and up	\$20 per person	





**NEW ZOO & ADVENTURE PARK**

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***There's always something new at  
YOUR NEW Zoo.***

*Your NEW Zoo is an always new, natural adventure that promotes  
recreation, education, and conservation through  
encounters with live animals.*

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at 920-662-2405 or through email, at  
[education@newzoo.org](mailto:education@newzoo.org)!*

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*We are your only AZA Accredited Zoo in Northeastern Wisconsin.*

**ASSOCIATION  
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## Upcoming Events & Things to Remember

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July 4th

- **Independence Day.** We are open 9am to 8pm! Adventure Park opens at 10am.

July 7th through 25th, Mondays through Fridays

- **Summer Zoo Camp.** 8:45am to 2pm daily. Limited spaces remain and registration is required. Email [education@newzoo.org](mailto:education@newzoo.org) or call 920-662-2405 to register your child(ren)!

August 4th

- **Feast with the Beasts.** 6pm to 8pm. Advance tickets \$30; at-the-door tickets \$35

**Every Wednesday through August 31st:**  
Admission is half-price from 6pm to 8pm.

**Remember SUMMER Hours began JUNE 1st!**  
**We are open DAILY from 9am to 8pm**