

News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 14, 2008

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
St. Louis Zoo, 314/781-0900
Janet Powell, ext. 4633
Christy Childs, ext. 4639
Joanna Bender, ext. 4703

SAINT LOUIS ZOO WILL RECOGNIZE NATIONAL ZOOKEEPER WEEK

What: Informal keeper talks
When: Thursday, July 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Throughout Saint Louis Zoo

The Saint Louis Zoo will celebrate the profession of zookeepers the week of July 20-26, 2008, National Zookeeper Week.

“The Zoo is happy to honor this amazing group of animal specialists,” says Dr. Jeffrey P. Bonner, president of the Zoo. “Our zookeepers devote their lives to taking care of very special animals on a daily basis, to conserving species for the future and to educating the public about the need to preserve animals and their habitats.”

Keepers from each animal unit will give informal talks throughout the Zoo on Thursday, July 24, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- 10 a.m. - Humboldt penguin feeding and keeper chat at Penguin & Puffin Coast
- 10:30 a.m. - Hyena enrichment and keeper chat at River's Edge
- 1:30 p.m. - Takin enrichment and keeper chat at Red Rocks
- 2 p.m. - Primate enrichment and keeper chat at the Primate House outdoor exhibits
- 2:30 p.m. - Komodo dragon enrichment and keeper chat at Herpetarium
- 3 p.m. - Great ape enrichment and keeper chat at either Fragile Forest or Jungle of the Apes (Check signage for location.)
- 3 p.m. - Hippo enrichment and keeper chat at River's Edge
- 3:15 p.m. - Sea lion feeding and keeper chat at Sea Lion Basin
- 3:30 p.m. - Penguin feeding and keeper chat at Penguin & Puffin Coast
- 4 p.m. - Bear feeding and keeper chat at Bear Pits

Also, the St. Louis chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers (AAZK) will staff a booth from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. near the Malayan sun bears in the center of the Zoo to talk about zookeeping and the AAZK. The current St. Louis chapter was established in 2003 and is made up of zookeepers, Zoo staff and volunteers dedicated to professional animal care and conservation.

Admission to the Saint Louis Zoo is free. During summer months through September 1, 2008, the Zoo is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and until 8 p.m. on Fridays for Dinoroarus and Jungle Boogie. The Zoo will close at 5 p.m. on July 23 and August 27.

###