

News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ZOO INVITES VISITORS TO BRING FAVORITE PHOTOGRAPHS
Saint Louis Zoo Gets Ready To Celebrate Its Centennial in 2010!

What: Zoo Memory Days. Visitors are invited to bring their favorite photographs of family and friends enjoying the Zoo to be scanned for the 2010 Centennial Exhibit

When: Friday, June 12, 4 to 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 14, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Where: Tent near the Sea Lion Basin

The Saint Louis Zoo is asking its visitors to make history. Literally.

The Zoo is making preparations to celebrate its centennial – Zootennial - in 2010. The celebration will include a special exhibit at the Zoo designed to reveal to St. Louisans a history they never knew and to reconnect them to the history they lived.

Over the next year, visitors will have a number of opportunities to share their memories in the form of family photographs and stories that will be included in the exhibit, created in partnership with the Missouri History Museum. The first opportunity is coming this weekend.

On Friday, June 12, from 4 to 7 p.m., and Sunday, June 14, from 12 noon to 4 p.m., the Zoo will host its first Zoo Memory Days. Visitors are encouraged to bring in a favorite photograph taken at the Zoo. The Zoo is not seeking animal photos, but rather photos of family and friends enjoying their visit at the Zoo. Zoo staff will make scans of photos at a tent near the Sea Lion Basin, and these scans will appear in the exhibit's digital memory wall next year. Donors of photographs at the Zoo will receive an "I Made History at the Saint Louis Zoo" button.

The Zoo has also launched a web page in conjunction with the centennial celebration. The Zoo Memories web site at www.stlzoo.org will include slideshows of some of the Zoo's historic photos, as well as videos of stories from staff and visitors. Visitors to the site are welcome to add their favorite memories, linking their personal history to the Zoo.

"The history of the Zoo could be told in any number of ways - through attendance figures or timelines or honors received," says Dr. Jeffrey P. Bonner, Dana Brown President & CEO of the Zoo. "We prefer to examine our history through the voices of the people who not only welcomed the Zoo into their city but who welcomed it into their hearts."

Zootennial will include the special exhibit beginning in May, 2010, plus activities, lectures and public events throughout the year. Both the celebration and exhibit will be presented by First Bank.

Zoo Memory Days will be scheduled throughout this summer:

June 12, 4-7 p.m. and June 14, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

July 17, 4-7 p.m. and July 18, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

August 14, 4-7 p.m. and August 16, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

September 26 and September 27, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on the Zoo Memory project, call (314) 646-4899.

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