UPDATE ON OUR 5-YEAR EXPANSION PLAN

We’ve made wonderful progress in the first three years of our five-year expansion plan and capital campaign, and we’re half way through our master plan goals!

- The South Nutrition Center, a spacious kitchen for ape diet food preparation, was the first project we started and was completed two years ago. It was built with a gift from our dear-trustee Greta Smith. Greta lives in New York, but comes down each winter to volunteer and help us with many chores and projects.

- The Bob Barker Great Ape House (aka “Den/or” Plan) was built with an initial gift from Mr. Barker’s DJ&T Foundation and completed with gifts from many generous donors, including Susan Hill Clay, Debby Manette, and the Windfall Johnson Clive Foundation. This large facility is intended to accommodate future chimpanzees retired from research, entertainment, and the cosmetic pet trade who will need a sanctuary home.

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- As the only accredited orangutan sanctuary in North America, we hurried to make room for these lovely new arrivals after we accepted the acceptance of six beautiful orangutans now living at our sanctuary. Ranging in age from 3.5 to 12 years, Sunshine, Affeeta, Bailey, Harry, Kragan, and Archie are related to many of our orangutans (including BamBam, Louie and Pebbles), and have a similar history and background.

- At the beginning of 2017, with the generous support of Dr. Howard, Brenda, and Josh Sheldon, we completed the renovation of our veterinary clinic and the addition of the Sheldon Surgery Center. This building project with an architectural design donated by William Mudgett, has doubled the size of our veterinary hospital and helps our veterinarian continue to provide excellent health care for our great ape residents!

- Still to be built in our 5-year-plan:
  - an outdoor open-top habitat attached to the new chimpanzee nighthouse;
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  - an education center to help with the sanctuary’s long-term sustainability plans.

- Our members and donors have helped us every step of the way to make the Center for Great Apes a world-class sanctuary, and we are so grateful for your wonderful support!
We were all amazed (on both sides of the world) to realize this special connection between Toddy and Milky. Toddy, one of the oldest and largest orangutans, and the newest orangutan at the Noichi Zoo in Japan, a special connection in dear Toddy’s 45-year life with mobility issues. Toddy is gentle and Trusty, giving him much needed chimpanzee companionship. A year ago, we heard about another chimpanzee living at the Noichi Zoo in Japan who is affected with cerebral palsy. The Center is looking into ways to help the chimpanzees and chimpanzees with our estate planning, please call us at 863-767-8900 or email Volunteer@CenterforGreatApes.org.

RECURRING GIFTS
Do you want to get involved with the Center and help in tangible hands-on ways? Then become a CGA volunteer and join our volunteer training classrooms on July 15th, July 17th, and July 19th. Are you interested in becoming a volunteer or learning more about volunteering opportunities at the Center? Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Joy Weiss at 863-767-8903 or email Volunteer@CenterforGreatApes.org.

THE MARY LAB
Jennie Weiss Block, a long-time friend of our founder, gave a generous gift to the sanctuary of new diagnostic lab equipment in honor of the memory of her daughter and new member to the Center, Zisko Apeza. Jennie, a geneticist, and Zisko dedicated the name of the vet clinical laboratory area “The Mary Lab” in memory of Jennie’s mother Mary Belle Weiss and Patti’s mother Mary Weiss who were both remarkable women and dear friends many years ago. This wonderful donation of equipment forming a new microscope, an anesthetic machine, technical digital stethoscope, surgery monitor, and other clinic items will help our veterinary team manage the care of the apes for years to come. At a recent gift of $10, you will receive exclusive benefits just for Apes Allies members. Benefits include:
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There are many “ naming opportunities” for our expanded facilities, as well as new fundraising efforts and campaigns that will be launched this coming year to help accomplish these projects and goals.

Save the Date!
Annual Holiday Open House December 9, 2017 12:30 – 3:30 PM

Check out our Online Presence and Social Media sites!
Welcome Home!

At 35 years and the oldest of the recent arrivals, Samburu is a venerable lady. She spent most of her time with the two youngsters in the group (Jaxson and Archie), but she likes to be alone part of the day. Samburu occasionally shows a serious side, but we’ve also found her to be playful with the two younger orangutans as well as our caregivers.

29-year-old Jethro is a really sweet heart! He’s a gentle male and still a bit shy. What do you talk to him, he turns away and then slowly and carefully turns around to peer at you. He’s a bit like her lady drinks like tea in the morning and enjoys snuggling outside in a hammock in the afternoon. He’s the older brother of Archie and Maddie, all having been born at the same Miami breeding facility (from the same mother).

Samburu

Jethro

Toddy then arrived here at our sanctuary from the same breeding facility 19 years ago! So, our Toddy is actually little Milky’s grandmother, and you can most definitely see the family resemblance! We were so pleased to have both sides of the world to realize such special connections between Toddy and Milky. Toddy, our staff was honored to welcome Milky’s caregivers and therapists from Japan when they traveled to the Center for Great Apes in March, to meet Toddy and learn more about Knuckles’ past progress that might help one day.

SPECIAL VISITORS FOR KNUCKLES AND TODDY

Since his arrival here fifteen years ago, 17-year-old Knuckles, a male chimpanzee with cerebral palsy, has done very well with devoted care at our sanctuary. He has a special companion in dear Toddy, a 49-year-old orangutan with mobility issues of her own. Toddy is gentle and sweet with Knuckles, giving him much needed companionship.

A year ago, we heard about another chimpanzee living at the Noichi Zoo in Japan who is affected with cerebral palsy. Milky, mother of the now-29-year-old Chelsea, was sent there from Calabria after working in animal research; and that same Chelsea was born to Milky here at the Center for Great Apes in March shortly after he arrived in March.

Sunshine occasionally shows her serious side, but we’ve also found her to be playful with the two youngsters in the group (Jaxson and Archie).)

THE MARY LAB

Jennie Weiss Block, a long-time friend of our founder, gave a generous gift to the sanctuary of new diagnostic lab equipment in honor of the wedding of her daughter and new husband, Chelsea Azaka Apana, Jennie, Genevieve, and Zoka, dedicated the lab to the vest clinical laboratory area “The Mary Lab” in memory of Jennie’s mother Mary Beth Weiss and Patti’s mother Mary Virginia Weiss, who were both considered romantic and dear family members for many years. This wonderful donation of equipment including a new microscope, autosampler, centrifuge, veterinary digital radiography, ultrasound monitor, and other critical items will help us to see further into the root causes of the ape’s use of medicine.

KNOWLEDGE OF MEDICINE

The Center for Great Apes has been caring for great apes from the entertainment industry, research, and the chimpanzees, and some other chimpanzees, have also become involved in the knowledge of medicine. The fact that they are directly helping better the lives of the orangutans and chimpanzees is our care.

As a member of Ape Allies, you will be making a difference every single month, with 100% of every dollar going directly towards the daily care of the orangutans and chimpanzees. If you would like to know more about the Ape Allies team, visit Center for Great Apes online monthly giving or call a member of the Donor Relations Team at 863-767-8903 or email Volunteer@CenterforGreatApes.org.

July 15 and July 29

Workshops are $25 for current members and $30 for non-members. For more information or to register for a workshop, please contact Education & Outreach Coordinator Lauren Burditt at 863-767-8903 ext 222 or email Volunteer@CenterforGreatApes.org.

NEW WAY TO GIVE...

Are you ready to be a part of something special? With the recent addition of six new orangutans, our annual sanctuary costs have increased and additional support is needed. Providing quality care for 48 great apes is expensive with the increasing costs of balanced and healthy diets, veterinary care, and compassionate care by experienced staff. Your donations are the backbone that sustain our work. We are forever grateful for our current dedicated monthly donors; those who continue helping us with these expenses. However, we need more donors coming in to help make a difference in the lives of these orangutans and chimpanzees. By joining Ape Allies, you will become a part of our Ape Allies monthly giving program. With a minimum gift of $6 a month, you will receive exclusive benefits just for Ape Allies members.

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The Center for Great Apes does not receive any type of government or state funding. 100% of your contribution goes directly to the care of the orangutans.

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Welcome Home!

At 35 years and the oldest of the recent arrivals, Sunshine occasionally shows her sunning throughout the day. She is a venerable little grunt sound that she makes any time with the two youngsters in the group. Bailey and Archie. (Age 23) is a lovely female orangutan in the group. Bailey likes hot drinks like tea in the afternoon. The youngest orangutan in the group of new arrivals (and also the youngest orangutan in the Centre) was born in Miami to Toddy 30 years ago! So, Toddy is actually little Milky’s grandmother, and you can most definitely see the family resemblance! We can see Toddy’s youth in both sides of the world to realize this special connection between Toddy and Milky. Toddy, and staff was honored to welcome Milky’s caregivers and therapists from Japan when they traveled to the Center for Great Apes in March to meet Toddy and learn more about Knuckles' past progress that might help her one day.

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MEMBERSHIP

The Center for Great Apes has been caring for great apes from the entertainment industry, research, and exotic pet trade for over 24 years. Your membership gift helps provide these orangutans and chimpanzees with a balanced and healthy diets, veterinary care, and compassionate care by experienced staff. Our membership drive is the backbone that sustain our work. We are forever grateful for our current dedicated monthly donors, who have continuously helped us with these expenses. However, we need more current donors to help make a difference in the lives of these orangutans and chimpanzees.

By the end of 12 months, you can become a part of our Apex Allies monthly-offering group. With a minimum gift of $5 a month, you will receive exclusive benefits just for Apex Allies members.

Benefits include:
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OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED...

VOLUNTEER CLASSES

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The Center for Great Apes has a special educational opportunity called Ape-redemption. Ape-redemption workshops allow participants to work alongside the Center’s residents with topical talks and unique opportunities to visit the sanctuary. Ape-redemption workshops will be held on 9th, 10th, 15th, and August 12th.

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