A Year In Review: 2011

Tiger Tour Hours

Jan 1st- March 31st Closed Tours by RESERVATION only April 1st-Nov Thursday-Sunday 11am-3pm

Crown Ridge Tiger Sanctuary

19620 State Route B Sainte Genevieve MO 63670

Program Coordinator: Jeri Meeker 573-883-9909 j<u>meeker@crown-ridge.com</u>

For the most updated information visit our Facebook page while our website is being revamped.

Visit us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/tigersanctuary

A Sad Goodbye

It is with great sorrow and sadness that we announce the recent passing of Mohan, our 20 year old white Bengal tiger at Crown Ridge Tiger Sanctuary due to kidney failure and severe arthritis. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him, especially the staff at CRTS. He touched our hearts with his unique personality, his unforgettable old man groans, and who could forget his endearing love of chicken. Although white tigers, like Mohan, are extremely beautiful animals, all suffer from a wide variety of birth defects due to inbreeding. Mohan was no exception with his crossed eyes, but that made him even more special to us. While we take solace in knowing that we have provided the best care possible to Mohan, it is never easy when we must say good bye to one of our dear friends. We would like to thank you for making it possible for us to rescue these endangered animals and provide them with the best time of their lives.

We will be having a memorial for Mo sometime this spring. If you have any suggestions for the memorial please feel free to email <u>vconaway@crown-ridge.com</u>. Thanks.



Internships

Crown Ridge is offering internships where students will gain valuable knowledge and working experience with tigers and lions. We have 2 internships to offer this summer and 2 this fall. Our internships are non-paid but students can receive credit in some cases and will receive valuable hands on experience. Interns will participate in the daily care and management of tigers and lions (diet prep, exhibit maintenance, etc.), participate in public tours, and gain a better understanding of animal training, enrichment, and behavior. Students will also learn about the operation of a non-profit sanctuary, fundraising, and USDA regulations. Lodging is available for interns free of charge. We ask that interns make a 10 week commitment, working generally from 8am-4pm four days a week, including weekends. For more information or to apply please email Jeri Meeker at jmeeker@crown-ridge.com with your letter of intent, resume and three references.

Event Highlights

Easter

This year was our first Easter event. Although it was a bit rainy everyone seemed to have fun. Kids did an Easter egg hunt while the tigers enjoyed finding their eggs as well (pictured below).



Earth Day

During our Earth Day event this year kids got to help us with our new garden. They planted new flowers and painted pictures on rocks for us to form a border around the garden. All the tigers received paper mache "earths" filled with meat. We had great attendance for this event and hope to have the same success in 2012!

Free Day

As always, Free Day was our biggest event of the year. We had over 900 people attend and raised over \$1,000 for the tigers! This is the most successful event yet! Guests enjoyed snow cones, tours, Fizzy Izzy floats, games, crafts, live music by the Pernikoff Brothers and much more. Thanks again to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped at this event. If you are interested in helping with an event please contact Jeri Meeker at jmeeker@crown-ridge.com.





Roar Fest

In October, kids and adults came to help the tiger's celebrate Halloween! Kids in costume joined the party for free and could participate in the costume contest. They also wrote notes and drew pictures for the tigers to stuff the paper mache pumpkins with. The staff then added meat to the pumpkins and our first place winner of the costume contest got to throw the pumpkins to the tigers! The tigers loved ripping open the paper mache pumpkins and searching for the meat inside.

Our costume contest winners included a tiger fish, a vet with a hurt tiger, and a hobo. Our judges had a hard time just picking three winners; all of the costumes were fantastic! Our tigers have never seen kids in costume before so they were all extremely intrigued by the kids dressed up. Since we can't actually put costumes on our tigers we have photoshopped the tiger's in their costumes so they could have some fun too! Check them out below.

All kids received a treat bag and each family took home a pumpkin. The staff and tigers had lots of fun with everyone and we hope our guests enjoyed themselves as well!

















International Tiger Day

International Tiger Day is celebrated around the world in order to help save tigers from becoming extinct. This September we took part in this global event. We provided lots of fun activities that helped educate people on the plight of the tiger. One of the most popular activities we had was our scavenger hunt to find facts about tigers around the sanctuary.

Feeding Tours

Our brand new feeding tours went over very well this year! Guests helped prepare animal diets and then fed the tigers. This is our most interactive tour that we provide and also the only tour to get up close to the tigers. We will continue to do these tours once we open again in the spring for only \$35 a person.

Look for upcoming events at the sanctuary in April!

Thank You!

We'd like to give our ROARING big thanks to all of our supporters in 2011. We appreciate all of the schools, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts coming to our facility for Educational Tours. Also a big thank you to all of our Adopters. Mohan and Gracie were adopted the most this year. (If you are still interested in adopting Mohan, we have a form to "adopt in memory of Mohan".) Towards the end of the year we received TONS of meat donations which is a tremendous help. Even 1lb of food donated helps the sanctuary and tigers. Thank you to all of our followers on the blog and Facebook. Lastly thank you to all the supporters who made donations, big or small, every bit helps more than you know.

New Adopt-A-Cat Members

Thank you to all of our new Adopt-A-Cat members for your support. Our sanctuary is completely nonprofit so every donation helps out our animals. Don't forget to check out your favorite cat on the tiger blog at crownridge.com! The tigers thank you as well!

Paula Wagner Nicholas Mauck Nora Vandivort **Yimling Yeung Brooklyn Mauck** Allison Mauck Eileen Jenckerson Sandi Heidorn Parker Voigt Todd Unger Lane Watkins-Parker Sarah Mantia Alicia Martin Pam Schweitzer Gina Martin Karen Jurich Zozanti Joans Jenna Marston Scott & Megan Fleming **Cleveland Vandover Connie Sorenson** Amy Tripp Caitlin Knipp Dan Conniff Gina Passante Liz Ford Michael Knaus Amelia Schmid Lynn Kulosa Nino Miletic Veronica Dominguez Rebecca Andersen Todd Siddle Melissa Briggs Mary Strong Dan Frare Caleb Hill Rebecca Staughan Laura Signaigo Nick Crouch Sutterer Family Isabella Solano

Michelle Feltes David Bigler Gina Berlotti Peggy Courtright Havdee Reed Gannon Family Stephanie Stevenson Sydney Fisher **Rachael Chum** Susie Lvon Catherine Diaz The Green Family **Evie Dickerman** Tracie & Kevin Todo Riedmever Ashlyn Schmied The Molner Family Laura Brutcher Kami Marshall Hannah Peters Laura Schneider Violet Juanita Marilee Theresa Johnson Kasey Hamby Jessica Heale Kristen Brvant Jean Moore Jonie Buck **Deborah Mertens** Tristan & Cameron Bill Cate Jennifer Miller Nelson Wainwright Menon Family Nischal Direcha Sejal Sekhan Jordan Stegall Sydney Stegall J.L. Llovd Sherri DeBose

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Abby Wilson Mrs. Tate's 3rd Grade Class Christina Hummel Hailey Steward Katrina Steward Seckman LCCE Kimberly McClelland Melissa Heitman **Rebecca Weingart** Nancy Giannasi Lori Frieze **Gary Streeting** Nancy Arnold Autumn Rapert Katie Trudo Aaron White Morgan Cornett Lisa Thompson Page Knight Amber Hodges Erin Wyant Roshan Abraham Stephanie Arzavala **Colene McEntee** Jessica Steckler Zach Kauflin Constantine Fraya Gunnar & Lydia Boucher Paul Hayes Amanda Grace Mayfield Linda Rands Kathy May Montandon Family

Pack 786, Den 3 (Connor Gusky, Zachary Bostrom, Ryan Whorton, Kyle Schultz, Cole Adams, Noah Withers, Ashton Beattie)

Girl Scout Troop 2442