CELEBRATE FIVE LEMUR-PALOOZAS AND FIFTY YEARS OF LEMURS!

BY JANICE KALIN, COMMUNITY AND FOUNDATION RELATIONS MANAGER

Bring a blanket and join us for a picnic, music, dancing, and loads of lemurs as we celebrate our fifth Lemurpalooza from 5 to 8pm on Saturday, June 4th, 2016! This will be a special event to mark 50 years of caring for lemurs at The Duke Lemur Center. Join us for special guests, exciting prizes and lots of learning!

Meet the animals featured in our adopt-a-lemur program! Keepers and education docents will be available to answer all your questions about each of the fascinating lemur species up for adoption.

When you adopt a lemur, you not only help cover the \$7,400 per year cost it takes to care for each animal, but you will also support our work

in the U.S., Madagascar and around the world to study and save these endangered animals.

Reservations are required as this event sells out quickly! Call to reserve your spot and mark your calendar to meet your new friends at the Duke Lemur Center. Tickets are \$50 per car and are fully tax deductible. Your \$50 ticket price may be used towards your symbolic adoption of a lemur.





3911919-693600 Duke University Duke Lemur Center 3705 Erwin Road Durham, NC 27705









THE DUKE LEMUR CENTER TURNS 50! BY ANNE YODER. DIRECTOR

Ready, set, CELEBRATE!!! The Duke Lemur Center is about to enter its prime at the age of 50, and to mark the occasion, we are going to have a scientific symposium and celebration of our first half century! Twenty-five speakers from around the country and around the world are lined up to provide two days of electrifying talks on topics ranging from behavioral ecology to brain sciences. evolutionary ecology, microbial metagenomics, comparative genomics, biomechanics, One Health disease dynamics, aging and demography, biodiversity conservation, paleontology, climate change, comparative physiology, speciation genetics, sensory biology, and more. Events will begin on September 21st with a welcome reception, followed by two days of talks, posters, and other presentations, and concluding on September 23rd with a Plenary lecture by Dame Alison Richard and a Gala Celebration that will be THE event of 2016. Please join us. It won't be a party without you!

But this is about much more than the number 50 --- it is about a lot of numbers! 2,273 lemurs (and counting) have been born at the DLC over the past 50 years. That is more than 2,000 lemurs that would never have existed were it not for the work that we do. A total of 39 species of endangered primates have been housed at the DLC over the past 50 years. Many of those species still have a toehold on this rapidly changing and challenging planet thanks to the work that we do. As of this writing, 1,055 peer-reviewed publications have been logged in our database, no doubt an underestimate over our long history. That is more than 1,055 novel insights into the workings of the biological world that would never have been glimpsed were it not for the research programs supported by the DLC over the past 50 years. And 35 is the number of years that the DLC has been involved with onthe-ground conservation work in Madagascar. Working with our Malagasy partners, lemur populations and the forests that they inhabit are better protected, thanks to the work that we do together. And though we only have precise numbers for the past five years, during just that small fraction of the DLC's history, more than 400 students from 98 institutions have engaged in research and/ or training activities at the Center, and in Madagascar. Some simple arithmetic tells us therefore that thousands of students (including yours truly, many years ago) have been inspired and enriched by the lemurs and programs of the Duke Lemur Center.

We think of it this way: Fifty years of saving the planet, one lemur at a time.

Who could have known that the idea hatched by Peter Klopfer and John-Buettner Janusch, and made reality by the beloved Bill Anlyan more than 50 years ago, would blossom into the multi-faceted conservation, education, and research institution that we now know as the Duke Lemur Center? We are very proud of all of our accomplishments, past and present, and filled with gratitude for the institutional support that we have enjoyed from our great University, and most especially, from all of you, our wonderful donors. So please, mark your calendars for September 21st - 23rd and join us as we Discover, Engage, Protect --- and CELEBRATE!

PhD, Director

THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO DLC **50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS!**

Welcome Reception: Wednesday, 9/21/16, 6:00pm-9:00pm

Symposium Session I: Thursday, 9/22/16, 9:00am-5:30pm

Poster Session and Reception: Thursday, 9/22/16, 6:30pm to 9:00pm (at Duke Lemur Center)

Symposium Session II: Friday, 9/23/16, 9:00am-5:00pm

50th Anniversary Gala Dinner and Dancing: Friday, 9/23/16

Cocktails and Dinner with Alison Richards, Plenary Speaker: 6:00pm-8:30pm

Dancing with Malagasy superstar, Razia **Said:** 10:00pm -12:00am

All events, unless otherwise noted, at Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club, Durbam, NC.

For more information and registration options, please visit: Lemur.duke.edu/50

DFP

BY GREGG GUNNELL. DIRECTOR DFP

With the recent announcement of the upcoming 50th anniversary celebration of the Duke Lemur Center (DLC), it seems an appropriate time to look back at the history of the DLC Fossil Division as well. While the DLC started in 1966, it wasn't until the arrival of Elwyn Simons as the new Director of the Duke Primate Center (now DLC) in 1977 that the Fossil Division came into being. Simons came to Duke from Yale where he had spent 15 years as Curator of Fossil Vertebrates at the Peabody Museum. Simons brought with him a deep-rooted interest in the fossil history of primates as well as a desire to better understand living primates from a historical perspective.

While at Yale in 1961, Simons initiated field work in the Western Desert of Egypt at a place called the Fayum where some of the earliest ancestors of monkeys and apes could be found. The Yale Fayum expeditions took place every year through 1967, after which the Six Day War between Israel and Egypt ended field work possibilities. Simons turned his attention to other areas of field exploration but the Fayum was never far from his mind.

When Simons came to Duke he made certain that the DLC received official designation by the Federal Government as an accredited institution for collection and storage of fossil specimens from the USA and elsewhere a procedure which, for all intents and purposes, created the Division of Fossil Primates. The timing could hardly have been better for Fayum field work because in early 1977, then President Jimmy Carter had reinitiated Middle East peace talks between Egypt and Israel. These talks resulted in the signing of the Camp David Accords by Menachem Begin and ultimately led to the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty of 1979.

Simons was ready to move as soon as it was possouthwest and the north. Over the course of those sible to return to Egypt, and he led his first Duke expediexpeditions Simons and his crews collected nearly 5000 tion to the Fayum in the fall of 1977. This initiated a field cataloged subfossils (specimens ranging in age from program that spanned the next 34 years and resulted 500 to 5000 years old) as well as large lots of unsorted in the accumulation of an iconic and virtually unique collection of fossil vertebrates from a critical interval of material. Finally, when he had the time and resources time spanning the origin and diversification of higher Simons also led field expeditions to Wyoming during primates. During those field seasons over 160 students the summer. All told, over the course of 35 years Elwyn and colleagues accompanied Simons to the Fayum and Simons and his trusted field manager Prithijit Chatrath, these expeditions took on a legendary aura. Those who led expeditions that amassed over 35,000 fossil vertenever had the opportunity to go to the Fayum clamored brates that are now housed at DFP. This is a legacy that for the chance, and those who returned over and over we are carrying forward as we plan for new expeditions again could never get enough. All told over 20,000 fossil in Madagascar, Wyoming and Indonesia. Collectionvertebrates from the Fayum have been cataloged into the based research remains alive and well at the Division of collections at the DFP as a result of these field seasons. Fossil Primates. The last Simons Fayum expedition took place in 2010 and

DIVISION OF FOSSIL PRIMATES



the last DFP expedition was in 2012. We are in constant contact with our Egyptian colleagues, and we hope to reinitiate field work in the Fayum as soon as possible.

Despite the heavy collecting schedule in Egypt Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister each fall, Simons initiated an additional field program in Madagascar beginning in 1983. Between 1983 and 2008, Simons led fifteen trips to Madagascar in search of subfossils, mostly from caves and sinkholes in the

regularly scheduled diagnostic exams, including lab work and radiography, so the animal's progress (or lack of progress) can be closely monitored. All this takes significant amounts of precious vet staff time. Consider this update vet Cathy Williams recently wrote concerning one of our older male Coquerel's sifaka: "6207 Tiberius (poor appetite, weight loss, old as the Malagasy hills): Tiberius' 27.9 years are starting to catch up with him. The last several weeks his appetite has been poor and his weight has been dropping. Repeated physical exams, ultrasounds, radiographs, and lab work have yet to identify the reason for his lack of appetite. So he is on a drug regime designed to cover the most likely suspects; stomach acid reducer to treat potential gastric ulcers or sour stomach, antibiotics in case there is a bacterial infection, analgesics to treat low grade pain that he may have given the advanced state of his joints, and a powdered critical care nutrient powder that is given orally to provide calories and nutrients. Folks caring for him should monitor his food intake and behavior closely and let the vet department know of any dramatic changes."

The tech staff knew it was time to get imaginative with new healthy additions to Tiberius' standard diet to tempt the old guy to eat more. In the weeks to follow he would receive, several times a day, treats such as almond milk gruel, peanut butter, coconut, sweet potato baby food, chard, avocado, parsnip and butter beans. After days and days of efforts locating and preparing these extra trays of choice food items, Tiberius rewarded us by gaining over 200 grams!

Every lemur born at the DLC or received from another institution is immediately assigned an accession (ID) number. These days, accession numbers are assigned sequentially. Drusilla's sifaka infant born January 17th received #7233, the next animal to be born, whether sifaka, aye-aye or mouse lemur will be 7234. (In the early days of the DLC, accession numbers were not necessarily assigned sequentially which explains why we are now using numbers in the 7000s when over the decades, there have "only" been a total of 4,234 animals living here).

When I first started working here in 1982, the largest diurnal lemurs were being assigned numbers in the 5500 range and by 1985, we were already in the 6000s. Hence some of the first lemurs I got to know when I was a technician in training, animals that made that all important life long lasting first impression, had accession numbers in the 5000s. It is with some sadness that I note that only two "5000" series lemurs now remain. They are 5850 Hesperus and 5942 Harmonia, born three months apart in 1984, each now 31 years old and cage mates, they make an adorable geriatric pair. They are also some of the most beloved lemurs among the members of our animal care staff, even those who have worked at the Center only a year or two. You don't have to be an oldster yourself to recognize the specialness of a geriatric lemur couple in their 30s. They are passing their last stiff and creaky days together with quiet lemur-like dignity. They have their every need catered to by an attentive and adoring staff; their very longevity a testimony to the dedication and care every member of our animal care staff provides to each of their animals.







DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE? STUDYING COLOR VISION IN RUFFED LEMURS USING SUBJECT-MEDIATED AUTOMATIC REMOTE TESTING APPARATUS (SMARTA) ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY RAYMOND VAGELL, RESEARCHER



Do ruffed lemurs (Varecia variegata and Varecia rubra) use color vision to find ripe fruit in green leaves? We're not sure. What we do know is that only some females see color, while all males are color blind and can't tell red from green. This is similar to humans, where most color blind people are men.

My research aims to help science better understand ruffed lemur color vision. To that end, I designed and built a "Subject- Mediated Automatic Remote Testing Apparatus" or SMARTA. It's a fully-automated machine with built-in food dispenser and touch screen tablet used for testing color vision with animals. I work with both black and white ruffed and red-ruffed lemurs at the Duke Lemur Center (DLC).

Lemurs are trained to use SMARTA with raisins or dried cranberries for reinforcement, which they love. You should see their excited little faces when they're rewarded with these treats! Helping me train these lemurs are my research assistants, Stephanie Tapper and Isabel Avery, and Meg Dye, DLC's Behavioral Management Coordinator and trainer. The hardest part of training is reinforcing specific behaviors. We use a bridge, which is just like when your dog does a trick and you say "good dog" before giving a treat. "Good dog" is the bridge between the right behavior and food reward. At DLC, we use a whistle for this. Once lemurs are trained to use SMARTA, they participate in testing trials where they're shown colored squares on

Once lemurs are trained to use SMARIA, they participate in testing trials where they're shown colored squares on the touch screen: either red and gray, or, later, red and green. In science, we call this a "two-choice discrimination task." The lemurs are trained to always touch the red square, which gives a food reward.

Why start the test with red and gray squares, you ask? It's because we want to test the validity of this study: all



lemurs should be able to tell red from gray most of the time. Later, the lemurs have to tell red and green apart and that is when they will be confused if they do not have color vision.

Trials are administered automatically by SMARTA without any researcher being in the same enclosure as the lemurs. SMARTA also uploads all trial data online, eliminating any mistakes humans might make.

Training these lemurs isn't easy! Some of them ingeniously learned to cheat the system: they would leave their hand on one side of the screen, which eventually hits the correct square even though it's randomly on the right or left. It took us nearly a month to correct this behavior using our whistle and lots of training. Of course, I have to mention my star student, black and white ruffed lemur Halley, who took less than two weeks to be fully trained. Some of the other lemurs took more than two months! My study is still in progress, and I hope to share some interesting results soon.

MY TRIP TO MADAGASCAR ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVE COOMBS, PRIMATE TECHNICIAN



This fall, after working as a Primate Technician at the Duke Lemur Center for more than nine years, I traveled to Madagascar. I was very fortunate that the DLC sent me for two weeks to visit the SAVA region to see for myself Duke's conservation initiative. I was doubly fortunate that I was able to extend my stay to visit other places in Madagascar on my own time. In doing so I was able to see some favorite lemur species which used to be housed at the DLC, species that I did not think I would see again. Truly the trip of a lifetime.

I was joined on this trip by Kris Arnold, a Senior Zookeeper from Busch Gardens in Tampa. She was sent by Busch Gardens/ Sea World to see Duke's SAVA Conservation Initiative, in particular a fish farming project that received one of the many grants that Sea World makes to conservation projects around the world.

After arriving in Antananarivo and recovering from the long flight, our first trip took us by road to Parc Ivoloina with a stop in Andasibe. At Andasibe I woke up to the vocalizations of Indri coming from the nearby Analamazaotra Reserve. We spent the morning in the reserve, up on a ridge searching for indri and diademed sifaka. I was thrilled when we found a group of diademed sifaka that came close for excellent views. As one of Romeo's (a diademed sifaka who lived at the DLC from 1993 to 2011) former keepers, I was amazed to be in the forest surrounded by these beautiful animals. I could have spent all day with them but I re-

luctantly moved on to join the search for the indri. Our local guide did an excellent job of finding them, leading us off the trail through the tangle of the forest. We were rewarded by the sight of a family group of indri, the largest of the lemurs. We had great views of an infant as they crashed through the trees close overhead. The volume of their distinct calls rivaled that of the loudest of the DLC's animals, the ruffed lemurs.

Our next stop was at Parc Ivoloina where the DLC's own Andrea Katz and Charlie Welch worked for so long. The zoo's staff took obvious pride in showing us their well cared for animals. Kris and I gave a couple of impromptu seminars on enrichment and animal training to the Ivoloina keepers who joined in enthusiastically in the discussion. Our visit coincided with the two-day celebration of World Lemur Day at the park. The first day's activities included a parade in Tamatave, a panel discussion on lemur conservation and a dance party. The second day was celebrated in the park with activities for the local children and a concert. The band was still jamming when we had to rush to the airport for our flights to Tana and Sambava.

Once we were in the SAVA region, we were well taken care of by the DLC SAVA Conservation staff for the next two weeks, particularly by project manager Lanto Andrianandrasana and environmental educator Joxe Jaofeno. Two days were spent in Andapa visiting the conservation projects of local partners Guy Tam Hyock and Rabary Désirè. Guy showed us his private fish ponds and those of the village co-ops. Désirè guided us into his private reserve, Antanetiambo, where we saw bamboo lemurs and other wildlife. We also visited a pépinière, a nursery for native trees supported by the SAVA initiative.

The next ten days were spent in Marojejy National Park ably guided by local partners Rabary Désirè and Jackson. Their years of experience in the park are unmatched. We spent the first three nights at Camp One, surrounded by bamboo lemurs. Then we climbed up to Camp Two to spend a week with the silky sifaka in breathtakingly beautiful surroundings. The main trails through the park are well maintained but to reach the silkies you need to carefully bushwhack on small side trails that cling to the side of the mountain. The hike is well worth it since the silky sifaka group let us approach closely for photography and observations. I was also treated to observations of red-bellied lemurs, white-fronted lemurs and a variety of herps on night walks. The bungalows we stayed in were comfy, and we ate well with all our food brought up by an army of local porters. The guides, porters and cooks are all locals with a strong desire to protect the park, land that was used by their families for generations.

The time in the park went by quickly and soon we were back in Sambava. Kris had to go back to the States

GERIATRIC LEMURS BY DAVID HARING, REGISTRAR/PHOTOGRAPHER



As I approach retirement age after 35 years at the Lemur Center, I sometimes find myself wistfully thinking about how cool it would be to be a member of the Center's lemur colony. And why not? The medical care and emotional support I would receive as the inevitable breakdown of old age commenced would far surpass anything that Duke University, Medicare, Social Security or any other organization could provide.

From the moment a newborn DLC infant first clings with a vicelike grip to its mother's belly fur, until its death (perhaps decades later), our lemurs, if they become sick or injured, receive round the clock medical care. Animal care technicians making their daily rounds are constantly checking their charges for any injuries or signs of illness, noting even the minutest scrape, swelling or change in behavior. Anything out of the ordinary is immediately reported to the supervisor or lead technician, who, if the condition warrants, quickly conveys that information to one of the DLC's two veterinarians or two veterinary technicians.

Just like us, as a lemur ages, health problems develop, usually in a slow progression. These ailments range from significant diseases like kidney failure or cancer, to the more mundane aches and pains of old age such as toothaches or stiff joints. By the time a lemur is officially classified as "geriatric" (defined by our vets as being twenty years old or older for diurnal lemurs), techs and vet staff may be spending significantly more time (and expense) on its day to day care than they do on a vounger lemur. Currently 43 of the Lemur Center's 229 animals can be classified as geriatric- nearly 19%. From an animal tech standpoint, the care of a geriatric animal might take more time for a variety of reasons. Due to the inevitable wear on teeth in any old lemur, the veggie portion of its diet might need to be cooked, and the chow portion softened with juice. More exotic



diets might need to be concocted to bring fading appetites back to life. Older lemurs, no longer nimble enough to deftly leap from branch to branch, might require their techs to design, construct and install geriatric cage furniture, such as the custom made ramps which allow the lemurs to move easily from indoor to outdoor enclosures, or the installation of a denser network of branches so that elderly lemurs can travel

wherever they choose without risking painful or dangerous jumps. And of course all aged prosimians are supplied with

an ample supply of fleece blankets which line their favorite sleeping areas and cushion and insulate sore joints! Caring for an older lemur also requires techs to spend more time observing feeding and social behavior, to assure they are maintaining good appetites and are not being out-competed for food by younger animals. And sometimes the old guys have to be separated from the group for feeding, just because it takes them longer to chew their food.

If a declining lemur is diagnosed with a significant medical problem(s), our vets institute a treatment regime specific to that animal. They begin more frequent,

MY EXPERIENCE AT THE LEMUR CENTER

BY ROSE SMILEY. DLC SUPPORTER

My work-study job at the Duke Primate Facility (the original name of the Lemur Center) was my first and most memorable job working with animals. The work-study job was a part of my undergraduate financial aid package. The job paid an impressive \$2.00 an hour. Okay, maybe not that impressive, but every little bit helped.

I heard about the facility in 1974, halfway through my freshman year. It sounded like a step up from my first semester job, which I spent filing paper in the Duke Hospital Personnel Office.

I called and spoke to David Anderson, who was the interim Director of the Center at that time, and managed to talk my way into a job. They had never had a student work there, but he was willing to give me a try. My audition was to be able to capture a lemur. She needed eve drops to treat her glaucoma, but was unwilling to sit still for them. She sprinted around in her cage like something out of a Tasmanian devil cartoon. It took an embarrassing amount of effort to grab her and win the job.

I started with cleaning cages and rooms and feeding the lemurs monkey chow, a variety of plants and fruit, and of course a grits meal on Sundays. I can remember the first time I saw an infant lemur riding piggyback and the ring-tailed lemurs sunning outside. The lemurs were always excitable, but they

were loudest on banana day. It wasn't all cleaning and feeding, I was able to work on a behavioral research project with the supervision of Dr. Peter Klopfer. We studied visual communication in ring-tailed lemurs. I went on to take as many lemur and primate related courses at Duke that I could.

I couldn't stay away from my lemurs. There were no free ranging forest dwelling lemurs in those days and the only large outside cage I can remember was a cylindrical grain silo with a metal top. Maybe it wasn't really a grain silo but that is what it reminded me of (editor's note: Rose is correct, the Lemur Center still uses six grain silos to house animals on our summer tour path: they make excellent lemur housing!) There were chain link fence outside enclosures for a score of lucky lemurs. The facility was terribly crowded, partly because of a baby boom. Cages lined all the halls. Yvette and Yves were two of my favorites-they were collared lemurs. The first sifakas, Reginald and Charlotte, who were Nigel's parents, arrived some time



from Madagascar while I was working at the center. I named one of their first offspring, Mango. There was a mouse lemur named after me, as we are both rather small compared to our fellow primates.

At one point, Duke was facing a budget problem and was planning to close the primate facility and the school of forestry. We had little contact with the public in those days, so I was surprised when students gathered to protest in "Save the Primate Facility" t-shirts. I think it was thanks to those protests that somehow the university found the money to keep both facilities active.

After my four years at Duke I had to move to Philadelphia to go to veterinary school at The University of Pennsylvania. Even though I focused my career on small animal care, I never stopped thinking about my lemur buddies. I started donating to the Lemur Center soon after finishing veterinary school. Even when money is tight, the Center comes first.

I have visited the lemurs many times after graduating and regaled my husband and three boys with lemur stories their whole lives. I would love to retire to Durham and volunteer at the Lemur Center, as my heart is never far from my lemur buddies.

but I had one more trip to make, up to Daraina to see That evening while waiting under an ave-ave nest to see if they would return, there were golden- crowned sifaka in the area. As the light faded they were moving to see. Finally they faded away in the darkness but I My time in Madagascar allowed me to observe first-I was able to spend the next day observing the goldenhand the challenges of environmental degradation that the country faces. While they are daunting, I was impressed by the commitment to protecting the forest shown by all of the DLC's local partners. Their pasnity to experience Madagascar first hand.

the golden-crowned sifaka. Seeing them again was well worth the rough road to reach them. The drive from Sambava to Vohemar is on a good national highway but through the forest. Little by little they became harder after Vohemar the highway becomes 40 kilometers of rough jeep trail to Daraina. I soon forgot the day's travel knew they were still there. The next morning lying in when we arrived just as the sun was going down in time my sleeping bag I heard another group calling nearby. to see an aye- aye, a hoped for but not guaranteed treat. A very satisfying farewell to these beautiful animals. crowned sifaka and crowned lemurs. The most moving part of my whole time in Madagascar was watching a family group of the golden-crowned sifaka from close range. For twenty minutes I had them to myself. There was an infant in the group that was beginning to explore sion is evident and gives one hope for the future. I am off its mother's back and was sampling the leaves. These grateful the Duke Lemur Center gave me the opportuwere all familiar behaviors from watching the animals at the DLC. It is satisfying to watch lemurs in the wild exhibiting the same behaviors that we see in our colony. I take it as a sign that the lemurs we have at the DLC are well cared for and healthy.



MAGICAL MADAGASCAR BY JANICE KALIN, COMMUNITY AND FOUNDATIONS RELATIONS MANAGER

As anyone who has been there quickly discovers, travelling to Madagascar makes your heart forever yearn to return, affects the way you see the world and makes you fall madly in love with lemurs. You now have the opportunity to travel to this magical country with one of the world's foremost expert on Madagascar and its flora and fauna: Charlie Welch, Duke Lemur Center's Conservation Coordinator. Charlie has forged extensive and long-term partnerships in Madagascar, and with the Duke Lemur Center, allowing you one of a kind access to experts and facilities on the island. Madagascar is a nature lover's dream. It is also an exceptional photographic destination, where many of the animals are habituated, providing remarkable photographic opportunities. Our exciting itinerary is custom-designed by Charlie and the experts at Terra Incognita Ecotours.



June 12-29th, 2016

Join Charlie Welch and his team to travel to Madagascar. For more information see http://dukealumni.com/learn-travel/magicalmadagascar-2016 or call 1-800-FOR-DUKE.

Please note, this trip is not exclusive to Duke Alumni. All lemur lovers are encouraged to travel with us!



the animals to be comfortable with a variety of behaviors. Husbandry related training goals will teach goals range from teaching animals to enter a kennel (which helps for research, too) to voluntary ultrasound exams. For research related training, behaviors will range from teaching selected lemurs to wear a helmet (with a 1 oz camera attached) for an upcoming eye-tracking project that will look at the evolution of locomotor decision making, and to teaching mouse lemurs to use a touch screen for memory tasks. We look forward to the challenge and will keep you updated on our progress! has chal-5 animals training department has With approximately DLC. for our of the hehaviors 50 newIn honor lenged its working v



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The Duke Lemur Center Leaps into its 50th year!





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Please help us shape the next 50 years as we continue to Discover, Engage, Protect...... CELEBRATE!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BY CHRIS SMITH, INTERIM EDUCATION MANAGER

They say, "Do anything for 10,000 hours, you'll become an expert." Considering tha the volunteers at the Lemur Center recorded a collective 9,262 hours of service, i think we have the best volunteer experts of any organization. Sunday, January 24, was our opportunity to show our gratitude and appreciation to this incredible group of devoted helpers. Although 14 hours of sleet and snow had only recently subsided dozens of staff and volunteers gathered at tyler's Taproom in Durham for delicious

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food, drinks (Greg Dye had at least 4 Diet Dr. Peppers), fantastic raffle prizes and even free billiards. The atmosphere was fun and relaxed – a great opportunity to meet new faces and enjoy the company of our volunteers without scrubs, hoses and tour guests. Every year, we relish the opportunity to show our volunteers how much they matter and how much they improve the daily life of the animals in our care. To all of our volunteers in every department and role, we send our thanks!