



Issue 5 | May 2021

Chimp Chatter

A Freedom for Great Apes Newsletter



Emma



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Message from the Board

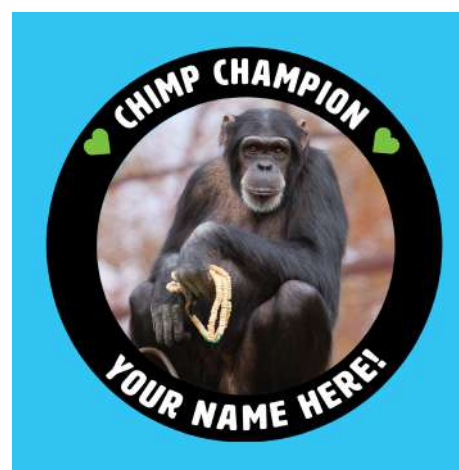
Spring is here along with sunshine and rays of hope! The pandemic is stressful and has created change for everyone. On the bright side, FGA established successful operational changes, instituted health screening measures, limited volunteers, and increased preventative measures.

The chimpanzees remain healthy and continue to live their best life at the sanctuary! Many of the team members are now vaccinated, further reducing the risk of transmission of the virus to the chimpanzees as well as to other people. Though we are hopeful restrictions will begin to lift this summer, nonprofit organizations will have to follow prevention protocols, including the postponement of in-person events for fundraising.

Without in-person events, we will continue missing out on sharing our achievements and connecting with our community. For those who are able, we hope you will consider making a donation to support the exceptional care of the chimpanzees. Healthy food, veterinary care, innovative enrichment, skilled and experienced care staff, and the social companionship necessary for the chimps to live their best lives all happens because of donors like you!

Join the Circle of "Chimp Champions"

Become a Chimp Champion with a recurring donation in any amount. By providing even a small monthly donation, you are making a commitment to the chimpanzees far into the future. Recurring funds help us secure essential funding and address the immediate needs of our favorite great apes.



A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION!

JACKSON TURNS 20

Jackson turned the big 2-0 this January! With stacks of wrapped boxes filled with tasty treats and fun novel objects, the caregivers created a festive treasure hunt and hung birthday banners and crape paper while the chimpanzees eagerly watched from the above tunnels. Herbie and Jackson played and panted to one another as they waited for the people to finish the preparations. Emma and CJ were more reserved - turns out they were planning which goodies they wanted as they were the first two party goers to run into the play yard. A child's corn popper was donated to Jackson for his birthday, and when he found it, he grew so excited he displayed loudly with it like a proper adult male chimpanzee. Everyone spent the afternoon playing with their party favors and looking for all the hidden treats. Happy Birthday Jackson!



LITTLE EMMA TURNS 19

On April 15, little Emma turned 19! She came to the sanctuary one month before her 5th birthday, and has since spent a lot of time growing – both physically and psychologically. A victim of the pet trade, Emma was removed from her mother too early so she could be sold. Unfortunately, this trauma leaves chimpanzees psychologically scarred and lacking in the learned social behaviors baby chimpanzees normally learn from their mother. Emma needed very special care to integrate with the other chimpanzees. Thankfully, with the help of Thiele and the other chimps, Emma has grown into adulthood as an important member of her chimpanzee family. To celebrate her birthday, we threw a party with all her favorite treats and new toys.



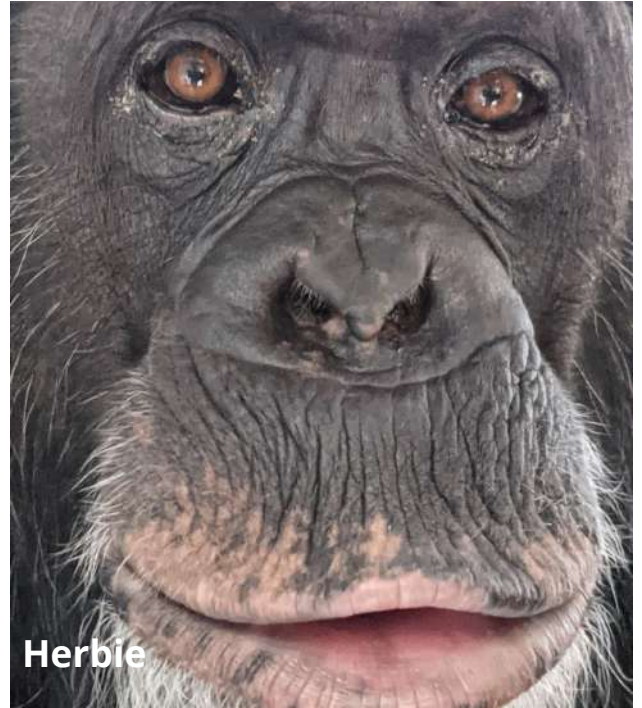
Though her family was more than excited to enjoy the party, little Emma was a bit shy and chose to sit in the aerial tunnel and watch for a while before 'arriving' fashionably late. Once she discovered a hidden stash of popcorn, her happy, heart-warming food grunts could not be contained. Happy birthday, Emma!

HERBIE'S 35TH BIRTHDAY

The preparations for Herbie's 35th birthday party took a colossal amount of effort – from party decorations and fun browse foods to the coolest enrichment presents designed by the caregivers.

Surprise parties are hard to keep quiet around the sanctuary so when the caregivers pulled out the gifts covered with glittery paper, a clamorous chorus of pant hoots echoed through the sanctuary. Herbie, Patti, Thiele, Emma, Jackson, and CJ all gathered in the aerial tunnels, bouncing up and down and hooting with excitement and great anticipation.

When everything was ready, the caregivers opened the door to the play yards and the chimpanzees dashed out to find all the presents. Immediately, a silence fell over the group except for some food grunts while everyone intently focused on finding the hidden browse.



Herbie found a special hat with some popcorn in it. After enjoying the treats, he carried his special gift around for the rest of the afternoon. Patti, the strategic one, grabbed all the small presents she could carry and took them to her big blanket nest, where only then she opened them to explore the new toys and treats. CJ beelined it to the tippy top of the playscape to score some presents up there, and Emma followed suit after being tipped off by CJ's happy food grunts. Thiele climbed atop each cement culvert to reach the out of sight gifts, while Jackson was more interested in cajoling a caregiver into a game of chase along the fence line than looking for treats. A quiet afternoon followed the birthday party, and Herbie was seen napping later with his new hat and magazines. Happy birthday to our illustrious alpha male.



SOME-BUNNY VISITED THE CHIMPS

The annual chimpanzee Easter egg hunt was a festive day! Thanks to our amazing volunteer, Tess, we had many Easter eggs filled with goodies to hide. The chimps could peek while caregivers hid the eggs around their big outdoor play area. However, Jackson and Herbie got so excited they missed some of the hiding of the eggs because they started playing. Nothing got past CJ, she knew just where to go and zoomed to the top of playscape to get her eggs.

Patti considered using one of the baskets to gather her eggs but opted to streamline her hunt by keeping her hands free for optimal goodie grabbing. Herbie was hampered in his hunting strategy because he couldn't contain his excitement and had a new celebration of hooting and shouting with glee every time he found an egg. Emma and Jackson were more reserved and focused in their hunts, while Thiele was more like Patti and kept a fast pace as she searched.

FGA IN THE COMMUNITY

CONNECTING FIRST GRADE STUDENTS AND CHIMPANZEES



Public outreach and education are integral part of FGA's mission. Before the pandemic, FGA would go to the classroom and present on a variety of chimpanzee conservation topics. In an effort to continue our education program, we've gone virtual! Amy Hassett WSES first grade teacher was among the first to host a virtual FGA classroom session.

"When my student, Evelyn Grendel, enthusiastically exclaimed that her mom worked with "chimpies" in Bend, OR, I was intrigued and curious to learn more, it just so happened that our upcoming concept of the week was "how people work with animals". Evelyn's mom, Paula works at the sanctuary and graciously offered her time and lesson ideas for all three of our first-grade classrooms at Westside.

The project we decided on was cheerio necklaces (made with 120 cheerios), which also seamlessly tied into our math lesson of counting to 120. The necklace project was followed up with a virtual educational presentation from Paula. The presentation was tailored in a way that truly engaged all of our young students. They learned about why the chimpanzees needed a safe haven, about their unique personalities, their day-to-day activities, and other interesting facts. Students were bubbling over with questions and ideas.

Finally, a video was taken of the chimps on the big "necklace delivery." Students were happy to see the chimps discovering their necklaces and the impact of their hard work! This was the ultimate, real-life, hands-on, learning project and it will surely be a most memorable experience for our first graders. Students were completely enthralled and delighted to learn about these amazing animals."

"OUR FIRST GRADERS REALLY ENJOYED LEARNING ABOUT THE DIFFERENT CHIMPANZEES AND THEIR PERSONALITIES. BEING ABLE TO MAKE CHEERIO NECKLACES ALLOWED THEM TO CONNECT WITH THE CHIMPANZEES AND PROVIDED THEM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK TO OTHERS. THIS BROUGHT THEM SO MUCH JOY!"

- STACEY DOSS WSES FIRST GRADE TEACHER

ROOTS AND SHOOTS

For over 13 years, Charlie Graham's Roots & Shoots club of 5th and 6th graders from Tom McCall Upper Elementary School, have been making enrichment for the chimpanzee residents at FGA. "Each year, they get a voice to decide what issues and projects they feel the passion to do, and they almost always want to do what they can for the chimps" says Graham. The overall purpose of Roots & Shoots is to empower children with the knowledge that their life decisions do matter and make a difference, and it is up to them to make positive differences.



Roots & Shoots is the Jane Goodall Institute's international program for youth. It started in Africa 30 years ago and is now in nearly 100 countries. All groups strive to design and implement activities that improve the environment, improve the lives of animals (wild and domestic), and improve our human community. Due to the pandemic and new precautionary measures, "this year's 'Chimp Enrichment Necklaces' project was a challenge" says Graham. These keen students worked on-line during several virtual meetings to discuss issues surrounding the exploitation of chimpanzees. They also spent time getting to know the individual stories and personalities of the FGA chimpanzees. The materials had to be purchased and distributed to each individual student and instructions for how to make the enrichment had to be achieved on-line.

Thank you, Charlie Graham's Roots & Shoots!



MIRROR MIRROR ON THE WALL...

Did you know that children don't learn to recognize themselves in the mirror until they are around 20 months? Before that, they regard their reflection in the mirror as either another baby or something different. In fact, only a few animals can actually recognize themselves in a mirror, and chimpanzees are one of them!

Indestructible mirrors are a great enrichment item for the chimpanzees. Some chimpanzees simply enjoy looking at themselves, while others may use a mirror to spy on their friends hanging out behind them. In any occasion, mirrors are a great enrichment item for our residents.

Our friends at **Trees for Tigers, USA** generously donated an oversized indestructible Looky Lou mirror and we knew the chimpanzees would have fun with it. Thiele who was the first one to check it out spent time admiring herself, turning the rocker mirror in different positions so she could see herself from different angles. CJ, on the other hand, was more interested in watching her breath fog up the mirror, then disappear. And for Herbie, like many adult male chimpanzees, needed to check out the 'indestructible' factor of the enrichment.

Thank you, Trees for Tigers, USA for enriching the lives of the chimpanzees!

GIVING GRATITUDE FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

UNMASKING OUR APPRECIATION

This April was National Volunteer Appreciation month and we want to send a giant THANK YOU to all who volunteered their time and made an impact at Freedom for Great Apes. Just over a year ago, our in-person events and on-site volunteer program were suspended. Even though the pandemic has kept volunteers at home, their generosity certainly didn't stop! They continued to give their time and energy making enrichment, delivering totes of blankets, collecting bottle deposits as part of the Cans for Chimps fundraiser program, running errands in town, picking up produce donations, and helping plan virtual fundraisers. FGA is honored to work with such an extraordinary group of people who come together for one purpose – to give the chimpanzees the freedom to live their best life! We thank our volunteers for all they do for us. Because of them, we're able to fulfill our mission. Thank you!

PRIMETIME, INC.

Thanks to PrimeTime's generous donation, the sanctuary now has a fully integrated cloud-based time and attendance management program. This software helps streamline managing employee timecards and paychecks. Because of their generosity, the dollars and time saved from HR management can go directly to program and services that support Herbie, Patti, Thiele, Emma, Jackson and CJ. A massive heartfelt **THANK YOU** to Tim and Alina Regan from PrimeTime, Inc. www.primetimecorp.com



Patti

TRADER JOE'S OF BEND, OREGON

Patti loves her fruits and vegetables! And like all the chimpanzees at FGA, she eats about 6 pounds of fresh produce every day with fresh food ranging from lettuce, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, broccoli, watermelon, and corn to name a few! Feeding a family of chimpanzees a well-balanced and nutritious diet is a huge task and we couldn't do it without our friends and supporters at Trader Joes' - Bend, Oregon. **Thank you** for your weekly donations of fresh delicious food!

WHAT'S NEXT ON THE CALENDAR?



T-Shirt Fundraiser

We are excited to once again be partnering with our friends at FLOAT-For Love of All Things! **Starting June 7th and ending the 14th** you'll have a chance to order a limited edition t-shirt with custom designs unique to Freedom for Great Apes. Because a tee for you means sanctuary for them!

\$8 from every purchase is donated to Freedom for Great Apes and directly benefits our chimpanzee residents.

Looking for a Father's Day gift? A new t-shirt for dad is a great way to support the chimpanzees. Follow us on social media to get the link for purchase.

HAVE A QUESTION? ASK A CAREGIVER!

Want to know something about the chimps or the sanctuary? Follow us on social media and tag your questions and posts with #askacaregiver!



@freedom_for_great_apes



@freedomforgreatapes

Birthday Alert!

One of our most high-ranking females has a birthday coming up! Thiele is about to celebrate her 35th birthday. That's right, it is Thiele's big day on July 14th. Like all the chimpanzees, Thiele loves to party. We celebrate with colorful streamers, big banners, special presents, and exciting enrichment. Do you want to help us make her celebration one to remember? For \$100, you can sponsor Thiele's birthday party! We will post information about the sponsorship on our social media.



Thiele

ADOPT A CHIMPANZEE

By adopting a chimpanzee here at the sanctuary, **your one-time donation of \$150 or just \$12.50 a month for one year** gives freedom for each chimpanzee to live their best life for years to come at their permanent, forever-home. Your adoption package will include an 8x10 photo of the chimpanzee along with his or her extensive biography, a certificate of adoption, a subscription to the FGA newsletter, and an invitation to our annual tour of the sanctuary.



Topo was the first chimpanzee to retire to the sanctuary. With a kind heart and personality for days, you could never miss a Topo-laugh. His confidence and poise helped him maintain his alpha status until his passing on August 5, 2020. A friend to many, Topo is dearly missed.



Thiele is stoic and socially aware. She is a higher ranking female who keeps her eye on everything her chimp and human friends do. She is a natural nurturer and assumed that role when Emma, the youngest female, arrived at the sanctuary in 2007.



Patti is the sanctuary's matriarch and oldest female. She's smart and clever - often observed making and using tools. Her ingenuity helps her get every last morsel of food out of the simulated termite mound. Patti spends most of her time lounging in the sunshine or snuggling in a blanket outside.



Jackson is our youngest male resident and is often described as being high-spirited and playful. He enjoys a good game of chase outside. When he's tuckered out from playing he can often be seen nestled up to a stuffed animal peering outside the Play House windows.



Herbie is a remarkable and resilient chimpanzee. He prefers to be the center of attention and is often heard making loud vocalizations or raking hard objects against the wall. Herbie enjoys gathering up his favorite hats, shoes, and magazines.



Calamity Jane (CJ) is a socialite who tends to get along with all of the chimps. If she's not grooming with one of the females, she can likely be seen flirting with one of the two boys. She is easily distinguished by her small frame and spiked hair.



Emma is a young, energetic, petite chimpanzee. Even though she is a low-ranking female she has a strong bond with Thiele, which surely helps her social status. Emma is most often found climbing the towers and swinging on the ropes.



**FREEDOM FOR
GREAT APES**

DONATE TODAY



THE GIVING GARDEN IS THRIVING!

The FGA Giving Garden is planted and looking magnificent – where edible plants, flowers, vegetables, fruits, and interactive garden decor will entertain & feed all our foraging, inquisitive chimpanzees. This is your chance to make an immediate difference for great apes. You will not only be helping feed the troop, but have the chance to see your donation at work year after year.

Sponsor a chimpanzee's favorite edible flower on our website or check the box on the donation form provided below!



Flat of Edible
Flowers or \$20



Pot of Summer
Tomatoes or \$15



Strawberry
Plants or \$10



Mix of Veggie
Plants or \$5



Wildflower
Seeds or \$5

Yes! I Want To Support The Chimpanzees!

Please fill out this portion of the donation form and return with the enclosed envelope.

Your Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to adopt (insert resident's name) _____

This is a gift, please send to the following recipient:

Recipient's name: _____

Street Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Birthday Sponsorship

☐

Symbolically Adopt a Chimp

☐

One Time Donation

☐

**IF YOU ARE PAYING BY CARD PLEASE FILL OUT THE CREDIT CARD PORTION ON
THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED TO YOU IN THE NEWSLETTER.**

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO....

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thank you

We want to thank you for making a difference in the lives of rescued chimpanzees. Because of you, Patti, Thiele, Herbie, Emma, Jackson and CJ can live free from exploitation.



**FREEDOM FOR
GREAT APES**

