

## NEW ARRIVALS AT THE SANCTUARY

Last summer, Los Angeles chimpanzees **Daisy** (23), **Kenuzi** (12), **Jacob** (8), and **Jonah** (8) moved into their spacious new nighthouse built with the help of grant from the **Animal Actors Guild**.



*Kenuzi*

Jonah and Jacob are twins and turned 9 in February. They're nearly identical, but have slightly different pigment patterns on their faces. Kenuzi has been owned by at least two trainers (in Washington and in California). He "displays" by stomping around and throwing things like a normal adolescent male



*Twins Jonah and Jacob grooming each other.*

chimpanzee, but then usually ends up sucking his thumb. Daisy first was a circus performer in Florida when she was an infant, and then was sold to a trainer as a breeder to produce more babies for the business. All have settled well into the sanctuary's routine and seem particularly fascinated with their chimpanzee neighbors in Grub's group. Orangutans **Sammy** and **Geri** (both 15) originated at Parrot Jungle in Miami and were sold when they were only a year old to Los Angeles trainer, Bob Dunn. Both have worked for many years in television shows, advertisements, and movies.

### YOUR EFFORTS

Lives have been transformed at the sanctuary with your help. Apes that have arrived with physical and emotional scars heal and recover with kindness, space and good nutrition. Donations that help us care for these apes come from your love for animals and your commitment to them. With the rescue of more great apes, we've increased our needs. If you have the capacity to increase your giving, please do!



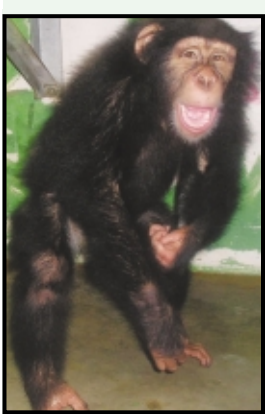
*Pebbles swinging on rope.*

Sammy played the starring role in "Dunston Checks In" as well as a part in the movie "Planet of the Apes". Geri and Sammy produced one infant (**Jam**, now age 3) who was taken from Geri and trained to perform. (Jam will arrive at the Center for Great Apes in March and be re-introduced to his mother Geri.) **Tango** (9) and **Pebbles** (4) are two very active and playful orangutan females who LOVE running and somersaulting through the chute system at the sanctuary. They have been introduced to 23-year old Mari (the armless orangutan retired from a cognitive research project in Georgia) and spend each day and night with her. Since Mari has never had her own infant, we were unsure how she would react to the "little girls". But Mari's life has been greatly enriched with their presence, and Pebbles especially seems to enjoy Mari's attention.



*Tango and Mari playing together.*

## Knuckles Fund



For Knuckles' 5th birthday in October, volunteer and donor **Lucie Easley** gave a gift of \$5000 to start the Knuckles Fund as an effort to raise the money to build a specially designed habitat for Knuckles. Another generous gift of \$5000 from the estate of **Jean Denton**

was donated to the Knuckles Fund by her husband **Tom Schafer** in her memory. It's a wonderful start to raise the funding necessary to build an enclosure with adaptations designed for Knuckles' special needs as he continues to grow.

Every day dedicated therapists, volunteers or staff work with Knuckles to help him reach his full potential and to minimize his handicaps from cerebral palsy. He's made tremendous progress, but still needs special care and modified facilities. Knuckles loves being with the other chimpanzees in Grub's group, but cannot cope with them all at once ... especially during normal chimpanzee "flare-ups" and arguments. We hope to build an enclosure that would be near Grub's habitat where Knuckles could be constantly near the group... and where one chimpanzee at a time could join him for play inside his own area. A nighthouse is also planned for Knuckles, and would be able to accommodate a companion chimpanzee with him. For those wishing to contribute to the effort for this special little chimpanzee, donations should be marked "Knuckles Fund".



*Knuckles walks along side the chimp enclosure as Brooks looks on.*



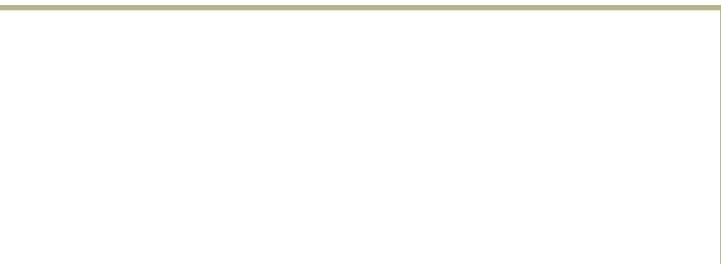
*Knuckles and Grub share some playtime together.*

## Center for GREAT APES



ORANGUTAN and CHIMPANZEE CONSERVATION

P.O. Box 488 Wauchula, FL 33873



### Address Service Requested



*Radcliff*

### The Member Event is Fast Approaching!

"Restoration and Renewal"  
Saturday, April 30, 2005  
12 to 3 p.m.

Invitations will be mailed to members the first week of April, so please renew or join now.

Come meet the newest sanctuary residents this year. Stroll through the sanctuary for visits with our really **GREAT** apes, and then join us for a light lunch. The annual silent auction of beautiful art pieces and special primate items will be "called" at 2:30.

Non-members wishing to attend may purchase memberships at the gate, but must RSVP by April 25. 863-767-8903



*Sammy playing with his chalk as Geri looks on.*

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## Center for GREAT APES



ORANGUTAN and CHIMPANZEE CONSERVATION

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www.prime-apes.org

# PrimeApes

Newsletter of the Center for Great Apes

By Patti Ragan

This has been the most eventful year in the Center for Great Apes' 12-year history. While there were certainly challenges enduring and recovering from three major hurricanes hitting us directly in a 6-week period last summer, many wonderful things have happened at the sanctuary this year.

One week before the first hurricane hit us, one orangutan (Tango) and four chimpanzees (Daisy, Kenuzi, and twins Jonah & Jacob) arrived at the Center. All had been performers in television shows, movies, and advertisements but had grown into adolescence and had become too strong to work in entertainment.



*Jacob, 8 years old, one of our newest residents.*

The issue of whether to provide sanctuary to these primates is complicated because so often trainers just want to "dump" their too-big, too-strong, and suddenly too-dangerous young apes so that they can be replaced with new babies for their business.

Not wanting to contribute to this unending misuse of great apes, often these ex-entertainers are refused at sanctuaries and end up in inappropriate roadside zoos or with breeders who continue their exploitation by producing more babies to be pulled from their ape mothers and used for the pet trade or entertainment ...starting the cycle once again.

However, with this group of apes, the trainer indicated that he wanted to downsize and was thinking about getting out of the apes-in-entertainment business. After many discussions and negotiations, an agreement was reached

where the trainer decided to permanently stop working chimpanzees and orangutans. And with the help of a grant from the Arcus Foundation, the Center for Great Apes agreed to accept the trainer's remaining chimpanzees and orangutans for permanent sanctuary retirement.

Three more orangutans (Sammy, Geri, and Pebbles) arrived in Wauchula in December and are now getting to know Pongo, Christopher, Mari, and Radcliffe while awaiting the completion of their permanent habitats.

We are overjoyed that these former entertainment chimpanzees and orangutans can now live their lives with a secure future interacting with their own species in spacious habitats at the sanctuary. Some of the youngsters who were removed from their mothers so that they could be trained to work while still infants and juveniles will be reintroduced to their ape mothers (as we did with Kenya and her mother Toddy 6 years ago), and family groups will live together.

We are tremendously grateful for the generosity and commitment of the Arcus Foundation for their support of this event. With their help, new nighthouses and outdoor habitats for these ex-entertainment apes are under construction this spring. Because of the Arcus Foundation's dedication to the principle that great apes have the right to live with dignity and compassion and free from exploitation, these chimpanzees and orangutans are out of the entertainment business for good!



*Pongo*

# HURRICANE SEASON

On August 13, category 4 Hurricane Charley devastated the sanctuary grounds by uprooting hundreds of trees, damaging staff houses, breaking water & camera lines, and damaging some of the ape facilities. In September, hurricanes Frances and Jeanne knocked down at least 50 more trees, flooded some areas at the Center, and destroyed two utility buildings. After each hurricane, the Center struggled to cope without power and limited access to water. But scores of volunteers from all over



**Tropical Gardens in Miami, the Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care, Disney's Animal Kingdom, Monkey Jungle, and Broadmoor Gardens** in Kentucky. A youth group from **Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots** chapter in north Florida came to pick up branches... and the director of a big cat sanctuary in north Florida came with her employees to chop trees. Members of the **Executive Association of Greater Miami** helped lay new water lines and clean debris, and members of two South Florida Volkswagen clubs, National Guard volunteers, and Hardee County prison work crews moved trees out of driveways and off of fences. Several church groups, as well as university students from **Stetson, Rollins, FSU, FIU, FAU, UF, and USF** all came to our aid the first weeks after Charley hit us.



Fallen trees surround the Orang dome after Hurricane Charley

Florida, as well as out-of-state, came to our aid after Charley with donations of food supplies for the apes and the staff... generators, gas, water, ice, coolers, tarps, chain saws, wheelbarrows, and dozens of gardening & pruning tools. For nearly a month after the first hurricane, volunteers did a lion's share of the clean-up work by helping us cut through paths, pull trees off houses and cages, remove huge branches from around the habitats, and drag debris out of the property.

The first Saturday after Charley, there were more than 60 volunteers working to clear debris so the apes could get back outside into their enclosures. Besides our regular volunteers, many helpers the first week were employees of Tampa's **Lowry Park Zoo, Miami MetroZoo, Fairchild**

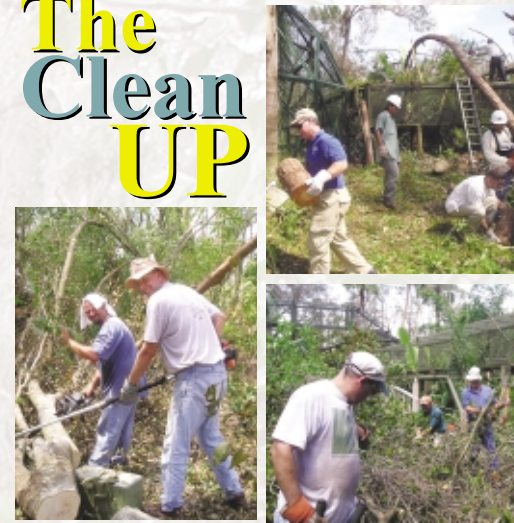


Before and after photos of the Orangutan dome show the change of scenery after 3 hurricanes hit the Center.



of our beautiful wooded habitat housing the sanctuary, we were bolstered by amazing support from hundreds of our long-time members as well as many new friends who genuinely care for the Center and pitched in to help in a crisis. And the most important thing... all staff and all apes remained safe and unharmed throughout the storms!

## The Clean UP



Dozens of groups of volunteers came out (from all over the state) to help with the clean up effort.

With over \$100,000 in damages to fences, cages, staff houses, out buildings, water lines, and security cameras.... and with debris removal costs so far in excess of an additional \$90,000.... the Center was faced this year with overwhelming expenses. But with compassionate generosity from the **Batchelor Foundation** (helping us also provide shade for the apes), **Austin Weeks**, the **Arcus Foundation**, and hundreds of members and supporters, these costs were covered with generous donations so that no funds intended for the care of the apes were used for clean up.

We are humbled and so appreciative for the care and concern expressed to us as well as for your support. Thank you from all of us at the Center for Great Apes!

**Yes!**  I want to participate in this tax deductible effort to help chimpanzees and orangutans.

- Individual (\$35)
- Family (\$50)
- Chimpanzee Family (\$100-249)
- Orangutan Family (\$250-999)
- Great Ape Family (\$1,000+)
- Founder's Club (\$10,000)

Please make checks payable to: **CENTER FOR GREAT APES**

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Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Our Ape Angels....

This year, more than any previous year.... We have so many to thank! We are extremely grateful for all the thoughtful and generous donations and help with this project... for your memberships, your special gifts for projects, your emergency funding, and your volunteer help.

**In addition to our members and supporters whose kindness keeps this project going, we wish to thank:**

**The Arcus Foundation** for their commitment to great ape welfare and for their generous grants that have helped us grow in staff, facilities, and acreage in order to meet the needs of our growing sanctuary.

**The Batchelor Foundation** for a wonderful gift that aided our efforts to provide shade for the apes last summer and hire professional tree services to remove the mountains of dead debris and fallen trees the resulted from the hurricanes.

**Steven Karbank** for a generous gift of funds to purchase over 150 twenty-foot tall bamboo plants as we work to replant areas of the woods for future shade and camouflage.

**The New England Antivivisection Society (NEAVS)** for their assistance with funding to support the introductions of some of our chimpanzees to each other... as well as helping us with transportation costs of some recent arrivals ... and again for hurricane clean up.

**Jane & Steuart Dewar** and the **Gorilla Haven** sanctuary in Georgia for their immediate response to our emergency needs last summer

and their kindness in matching many gifts sent in to help our recovery efforts.

Our fellow primate sanctuaries and animal groups who generously donated funds to help us get on our feet after the hurricanes...including the **Primate Rescue Center** in Kentucky, the **Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care** in Ft. Pierce Florida, the **International Primate Protection League** in South Carolina, **Chimps Inc.** in Oregon, **Chimp Haven** in Louisiana, the **Great Ape Trust of Iowa**, the **Simian Society of America**, and various chapters of the **American Association of Zookeepers (AAZK)** from zoos around the country.

**Jessica Dauksz** and **Teri Wood** of Ethan's Pizza in Webster, MA for their ongoing donation of fresh produce to nourish our apes. The **Animal Actors Guild** for a grant which helped to fund the construction of a new chimpanzee nighthouse for our recent arrivals.

NBC photographer **Jeff Guerra** for an outstanding donation of a beautifully edited video story (on DVD) about the Center and our great ape residents.

The **Orlando Science Center** for the creation and layout of a new brochure and a moving 2-minute video loop about the Center for Great Apes which was a shown at the museum in a special exhibit about our sanctuary last summer.

**Karen McKenna** and the staff at **CENVEO** for the wonderful donation of printing our newsletter in color again this year... and also to **Eddie Lorenzo** of **E-Grafix Plus, inc.** for contributing the graphic layout of this newsletter.

**TappedInto.com** and **Judith Newby** for the

## Center for GREAT APES



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continuing contribution of our streaming video website link (and some new video clips will be added soon!)

**Tom McMillan** of **Baldwin Pole & Piling Company** for the gift of a truckload of fortyfoot poles for holding more chutes in our expanding tunnel system for the apes.

**Charles Poillion** of **CP Enterprises of Apopka** and **Frank Giglea Jr.** for the contribution of 300' of new shade cloth for shading the ape habitats next summer.

**Mara Trumbo** and her art students of **One Stroke Painting** for the design and painting of jungle scenery in our new ape night houses.

### And again....

To all who have helped us with donated funds, supplies, and volunteer labor....

We say a most heartfelt **THANK YOU** for your kindnesses!



who are these people from Arcus??!

## In the News...

In June, a feature story was aired on the national **ABC "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings"** about the Center for Great Apes and our efforts to provide a permanent home for apes coming out of pet situations and entertainment venues. And, after the hurricanes came, several different stories about storm damages and recovery work at the Center were filmed by ABC in Tampa, NBC in Miami, CBS in Tampa, CBS in Ft. Myers, and FOX13 in Tampa.

In October, a Japanese documentary film crew visited the sanctuary and filmed a one-hour story about the Center for Great Apes. Filming took 9 days, and the documentary was aired recently on

Japanese TV. Internet contacts from Japan via our website have been arriving since the story aired.

Several front page stories about the sanctuary in the **Orlando Sentinel**, the **Miami Herald** and other Florida newspapers led to an opportunity to partner with the Orlando Science Center museum with an outreach focus on chimpanzees. As the Orlando Science

Center presented the film "Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees", they also designed an exhibit in the museum about the Center for Great Apes as well as brochures about our sanctuary for their visitors.

## NEW DVD AVAILABLE

A wonderful gift of a 9-minute video about the Center for Great Apes, its purpose, its facilities, and its residents was filmed for us by NBC videographer **Jeff Guerra**. Jeff has filmed two previous news items about the Center's search for a permanent sanctuary site and our move from Miami to Wauchula.

This new 2004 DVD is a continuation of the Center's story and features some of the newly rescued chimpanzees and orangutans, ape habitats & chute systems, as well as beautiful scenery of the sanctuary (before Hurricane Charley).

Jeff donated a hundred copies of the DVD. While supplies last, we'll send them free to members who Join or Renew

at the \$100 Chimpanzee Family level or higher. If you would like a copy of this inspiring DVD please write "2004 DVD" on your donation envelope or send us an e-mail along with your website donation.



## EXPANDING OUR BORDERS...

With a generous grant from the Arcus Foundation, we have expanded our sanctuary size to a total of 100 acres by purchasing orange groves surrounding the Center. This additional acreage will provide a buffer area for the sanctuary in future years.

## In Memoriam

We were saddened by the loss of several of our members and friends this year. Generous contributions honoring these people and their love for animals were made to the Center for Great Apes by many friends in their memory.

We are grateful to the families of **Martin Moss** of Sarasota, **James Branam** of Miami, **Jean Denton** of Winter Haven, **Mary Celette** of Key Biscayne, and **Mary Olliff** of Wauchula for their thoughtfulness in naming the Center for Great Apes as a chosen charity for memorial gifts in honor of their loved ones.

Gifts were also sent honoring USDA veterinarian **Dr. Sylvia Taylor** who passed away suddenly in January 2005. Sylvia was our USDA inspector as well as the Primate Specialist for USDA. She was passionate about improving the life of all animals in captivity and contributed tremendously to the welfare of animals throughout the country. Her passing is a huge loss to the captive primate world and the animals she protected.

As this newsletter goes to press, we have word that our dear friend and longtime supporter, **Austin Weeks**, has passed on. We are reminded of the important part Austin played in the development of this sanctuary. His was the first major gift the Center received, which in 1997 built our first two geodesic dome habitats & nighthouses, our well & water system, and the perimeter fence around the sanctuary. Another later grant from Austin established the beginning of our Endowment Fund so necessary for the future care of the apes here. Austin Weeks was devoted to animals and gave generously to several organizations involved in animal care and welfare. We will always be grateful to him for his confidence and support in helping us build the Center for Great Apes.