Thank you for caring!

The chimpanzees and staff at Chimp Haven want to send our appreciation to all the individuals and organizations who have supported us over the past year. We have much to celebrate this Holiday season.
Life Changing Surgery for Jerry Allen

In September, Dr. G.E. Ghali, a well-known oral and maxillofacial surgeon at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, was asked to assist Chimp Haven with the removal of what appeared to be tumors on a male chimpanzee. The 44 year old male named Jerry Allen had two large masses protruding from his mouth that likely made it difficult for him to eat and drink. This was the second time Dr. Ghali was asked to perform surgery on a chimpanzee. In 2009, he removed a similar tumor from a young male chimpanzee, Emmitt.

When Jerry arrived at Chimp Haven in late August, Dr. Raven Jackson, the veterinarian at Chimp Haven, examined his tumors. She suspected they were osteoma or periostial growths and asked Dr. Ghali to advise on the case because of his previous assistance with Emmitt. Dr. Ghali agreed to perform the surgery and a team of doctors and nurses arrived at Chimp Haven to assist in the tumor removal.

Dr. Ghali and his team spent a half hour extracting the tumors, a short time considering it took years for the tumors to grow to the sizes they were. Once the tumors were removed, Jerry’s mouth appeared normal and healthy. He now is able to eat and drink normally. Jerry’s prognosis is good. The tumor was benign. When asked the cause of these types of growths, Dr. Ghali responded, “Bone growths or ossifying fibromas occur sporadically. They are often seen in humans who grind their teeth. They are slow-growing and benign. They are typically removed when they first appear. If they reappear after being removed, they can be extracted again.”

Chimp Haven is thankful to Dr. Ghali for making such a positive difference in Jerry Allen’s quality of life.
Chimp Haven’s Classrooms that Care Program Continues to Grow

Chimp Haven’s Classrooms that Care program is designed to educate children in grades K-12 about chimpanzees. The program provides a classroom presentation by one of Chimp Haven’s staff members, followed by a visit to the sanctuary. Class presentations are grade specific and follow grade level expectations (GLE’s) of the Louisiana Department of Education. Students typically receive a Power Point presentation that includes chimpanzee vocalizations and videos as well as the opportunity to participate in hands-on experiences or activities – touching chimpanzee hair, walking like a chimpanzee, or becoming part of a food chain. Teachers also receive supplemental lesson plans that incorporate information about chimpanzees into many different subjects, as well as a poster for their class.

During the class visit to the sanctuary, students are taken on a guided hay-ride, have the opportunity to “chat” and ask questions of staff members, and most importantly, observe the chimpanzees in their forested habitats. Students may also participate in making enrichment items for the chimpanzees, helping with the gardens for the chimpanzees, or collecting donations of food or toys for the chimpanzees. This fall, Chimp Haven has already visited three classrooms, with two others scheduled. This successful and special program is only available to the students through the very generous donations of sponsors who provide $1000 for each classroom. Thanks to our 2011 sponsors! If your organization or company would like to sponsor a Classroom, please contact Jennifer Whitaker at (318) 925-9575.

Gift Ideas

Become a Best Friend by sponsoring a chimpanzee. As a chimpanzee’s Best Friend, you will learn about a special chimpanzee at the sanctuary and help to underwrite the cost of his or her excellent care. Visit www.chimphaven.org for more details.
Doc, Murphy, Flick, Pierre & JoJo
ARE HOME AT LAST!

After spending three decades moving from one biomedical laboratory to another, Doc, Murphy, Flick, Pierre and JoJo ended up in an animal orphanage in Texas that took care of them for several years. Then, it went bankrupt, leaving the five male chimpanzees once again in need of a home. All infected with the HIV virus, these “orphans” were the untouchables. No other sanctuary in the country could take them. Chimp Haven came to their rescue this past September.

Living in two groups at their previous home, the chimpanzees were immediately reunited at Chimp Haven and have adjusted well to living together in a temporary area. They enjoy playing with one another and also enjoy the human attention they receive from the Chimp Haven care staff.

While the chimpanzees enjoy life in their temporary quarters, construction crews have been busy building their indoor housing and moving earth to make way for a water moat that will nearly surround the new, multi-acre habitat. Once it is completed at the end of December, they will be able to roam through the meadows and forest, resting in the sunshine and enjoying the company of their friends. What an amazing outcome for these five chimpanzees who have been through so much.

Chimp Haven was able to bring the five orphans to their “forever home” through the collaboration of many individuals and organizations. The New England Anti-Vivisection Society made a visionary gift early this year that provided for future rescued chimpanzees. Then, Bob Barker made an exceedingly generous donation that allowed Chimp Haven to commit to taking the five. Since then, additional significant support has come from the Coypru Foundation, the GAEA Foundation, the National Anti-Vivisection Society, the USDA and individual donors. Please join them and consider making a gift to our Rescue Fund today to help us raise the $100,000 still needed to finish building this permanent new home for Doc, Murphy, Flick, Pierre and JoJo.

Doc
Murphy
Flick
Pierre

Gift Ideas
Shop online at GoodShop. GoodShop is a shopping portal that donates a percentage of almost every purchase from more than 2,500 stores (including Gap, Target, Staples, and Macy’s) to Chimp Haven. Visit http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx to start your holiday shopping!
Chimp Haven enjoys hosting special visitors. So, when Wayne Pacelle, President and CEO of The Humane Society of The United States (HSUS), traveled to the sanctuary in October, he received a grand tour. It was a balmy, fall day; so, the chimpanzees were enjoying the outdoors.

Some of the chimpanzees were doing their best to get Pacelle’s attention. But the chimpanzees who were of particular interest to the HSUS President were 16 who came from a research laboratory to Chimp Haven in the fall of 2011. HSUS adopted them this year, which means that they funded 25% of the chimpanzees’ care that is not paid for by the United States government. Pacelle found those chimpanzees soaking up the sun in their spacious habitats and reveling in the company of their new friends—clearly content to be in their new home.

Fall Events Support Chimp Haven’s Education Program

Chimp Haven hosted several fundraising events this fall to support our growing Education Program.

On October 16, over 100 students, teachers, friends and supporters attended a lecture by Frans de Waal, Ph.D. Based on his new book, The Age of Empathy, Dr. de Waal demonstrated that many animal species have the ability to be compassionate. The lecture concluded with a meet and greet event and a book signing with Dr. de Waal. Chimp Haven would like to thank Centenary College for partnering with us to make this event a success!
Chimp Haven is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

TAKE A LOOK AT Chimp Haven’s NEW WEBSITE!

This month, Chimp Haven is launching a new website filled with fresh pictures, videos and stories about our chimpanzee residents. Be sure to visit www.chimphaven.org to stay up-to-date on chimpanzee-related news.

GIFT IDEAS

Support Chimp Haven by purchasing a gift from our online store. We offer adult and children’s t-shirts, tote bags, travel mugs, water bottles, caps, decorative items, and more! Visit www.chimphaven.org/support/store/ for more details.