This summer Chimp Haven’s oldest resident, Sarah Anne, passed away, just shy of her 60th birthday. Sarah Anne came to Chimp Haven in 2006, and her intelligence, feisty attitude, and regal disposition quickly made her one of the most beloved personalities at the sanctuary.

Before coming to Chimp Haven, Sarah Anne was involved in one of the earliest nonhuman-ape language acquisition studies in which she learned to communicate through the use of symbolic tokens. She was featured in the book, *The Mind of an Ape*, and even has her own Wikipedia page.

She was never without her favorite soft cuddly blankets, which she carried with her wherever she went and often used to wrap herself up into a cozy “chimp burrito.”

All of us at Chimp Haven are so grateful to have had 13 years with Sarah Anne, in which we got to be part of her extraordinary life. She will be remembered as the “epitome of a queen.” Thank you to everyone who loved and supported her and gave her the best chimp life possible. She will be dearly missed.

In her honor, I asked staff members who worked closely with her to share their favorite memories of Sarah Anne.

**Amy Fultz, Director of Behavior and Chimp Haven Co-Founder**

As a chimpanzee behaviorist, I read about Sarah Anne in the book, *The Mind of an Ape*, long before I met her in person. She was something of a chimpanzee celebrity in the world of animal behavior. So when I heard she would be coming to Chimp Haven and I was chosen to accompany her on the journey, I felt honored — but not nearly as honored as I now feel, having had the chance to get to know Sarah and count her among my friends.

She came to the sanctuary with some youngsters — Emma and Harper. She and Harper were particularly close; I remember them, sitting side-by-side on a blanket thumbing through the pages of *The Jungle Book* as if they were on a picnic. She was very patient, particularly with Henry, a former pet chimpanzee who didn’t know how to act around other chimpanzees. Sarah Anne gently groomed Henry and calmed his anxiety when she first met him. Sarah Anne also once lived with Grandma, an elderly female chimpanzee who loved large stuffed animals, particularly those that looked like gorillas or chimps. When their group needed to move from place to place, Sarah Anne would wait for Grandma to gather her “babies” (some of which were larger than her) and wouldn’t move until Grandma was also ready to go.

When I said goodbye, I was crying. Sarah Anne, in her calm way, reached out to reassure me that everything was okay. I will always treasure the times spent with Sarah Anne, an incredible and insightful chimpanzee.

**Katy Rushing, Veterinary Technician**

Sarah Anne was the first chimp that made an impression on me when I started at Chimp Haven. She was so smart, sweet, and fun to interact with! She quickly became my favorite because of her sass and personality. Sarah could...
definitely be demanding, but I lived to serve and she was all about that! Every time I got to see her it brightened my day. It meant so much to me when she eventually became excited to see me, too! She loved anything pink, blankies, and having her juice from a tea set; she was a proper lady!

Dr. Raven Jackson-Jewett, Attending Veterinarian

Sarah Anne, being the true lady that she was, loved diamonds. Unbeknownst to me, several years ago my now-husband worked with Chimp Haven staff to coordinate his marriage proposal. Knowing how near and dear the chimpanzees are to me, he wanted to include them in our special day. After receiving my ring I immediately went to Sarah Anne to show off my new diamond. She was overjoyed and gave her stamp of approval. More recently, while feeding her, she casually reached for my gloved hand, and I realized she wanted to see my diamond. I quickly gave her a glimpse, and she quickly showed her satisfaction. Even in her final day, as staff came by to say their goodbyes, she patted at the mesh to those who were shedding tears, as if to say, “It’s ok, I’m ok.” Sarah Anne is a true testament to our Chimp Haven mission, the dedication of our staff, and the rewards of providing lifelong care to chimpanzees.

Lives You’ve Touched
Help us give a big Pant-Hoot to our Newest Arrivals.

Austin Powers
That handsome guy with the sweet eyes is Austin — or Austin Powers — as he’s been dubbed by staff. He’s a chimp’s chimp through and through and is especially close to his half-brother, Chester. (Don’t tell him, but we think he leans on Chester a little more than Chester leans on him.)

Chester, Austin’s half-brother, is a no-nonsense kind of guy who can sometimes be a little overbearing when he hugs his groupmates. He’s a strong personality and his groupmates give him plenty of room when they know he’s grumpy in the morning — especially around breakfast.

Sindee is a lower-ranking female in the group, but she’s very good at navigating social dynamics. She likes to stand back and keep an eye on things so she’s always one step ahead of any happenings. Though it doesn’t happen often, she can definitely turn on the sass to get what she wants when she needs to.

Marcus likes his alone time and is totally comfortable doing his own thing. He’s taken special notice of the girls across the hall, and staff says he’s very polite when he flirts. “He’ll softly knock on the floor until a lady looks his way, then he’ll quietly display — it looks like he’s smiling the whole time,” they shared. “It’s kind of like he’s sweetly saying, ‘Hey! It’s me, your honey bun.’”

Hannah Staff describes Hannah as a bit of an oddball in the best way. “You’ll usually see her walking around with head tilting — it’s like she’s listening to her own music all the time,” they shared. She’s good pals with Coco Bean and she’s not shy about eating.

Coco, known as Coco Bean to staff, is one sassy lady. If you ask staff, Coco Bean is really running the show in this group. She makes sure everyone sticks together when it’s time to move indoors or outdoors, and she likes to keep the whole group nice and calm.
While summer is technically over, here’s a glimpse of the summer fun that was had by the chimps.

Spoon Tickles: Chimp Haven is a “no touch” facility, meaning that we don’t actually touch our chimpanzees with our hands. Instead, we use long-handled spoons or sticks for interacting. This is for our safety and theirs. Some of the chimps are ticklish when we interact with the spoons and hearing their breathy laughs is one of my favorite things. “I tickled Jonah’s toes with a spoon this afternoon and he loved it.”

Baby: This is a term we use to refer to the objects the chimps sometimes adopt as “babies” and carry around for an extended period of time. Opal is one of our most consistent baby carriers. She has a set of plastic children’s keys with or around her at all times and sometimes more than one set is in play. Other notable favorites include: Gracie carrying around hats and Latoya’s love for a specific type of small stuffed monkey. “The chimps got stuffed animals today and Ellie has adopted a stuffed puppy as her baby.”

Chimp Tetris: We refer to rearranging groups of chimps as “chimp tetris.” Occasionally we will ask groups of chimpanzees to move outdoor spaces to provide change of scenery or to address maintenance needs in their current space. These moves can be complicated and require a lot of planning to meet the needs of the group being moved and also the other groups that occupy the space around them. Because of all the careful planning and thinking ahead involved in these moves — chimp tetris was born! “We did some chimp tetris this morning and Jonah’s group is loving their new yard.”

Nan: This is the shortened form of “banana.” “While I was passing out nans today Axel was being really sweet.”

Food Toss: The process of throwing food over the top of our open-air corrals or placing it in the troughs attached to our play yards is called a food toss. This is what encourages the chimpanzees to come outside when we are shifting and how they get their main meal each day. “When I did Zort’s food toss, Fancy was really invested in her kale.”

Hosey Squirt: Giving the chimps a drink from the hose is referred to as a hosey squirt. The chimps always have access to multiple water sources in their rooms or outdoor space, but sometimes the hose water is too good to pass up. It’s very common for a few chimps to wander up and wait, (sometimes patiently, sometimes while making loud raspberries with their lips) for a quick drink. “Hulk got so many hosey squirts today.”

Baby Earl: We refer to our small pressure washers as “Baby Earl.” Apparently, the idea was tossed around that these “baby” versions of our larger pressure washers should each be designated an individual name, but Earl stuck for all of them and has ever since. “I baby earl-ed the driveway today and it looks so good!”

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And finally “Pant-Hoot.” A pant-hoot is a low and breathy call that rises into a louder scream-like call, and it often accompanies a display. Or as we like to call it ... a “shout-out.” “We give a big pant-hoot to all our supporters for making the Chimp Life possible!”

SAY GOODBYE TO SUMMER.

While summer is technically over, here’s a glimpse of the summer fun that was had by the chimps.
Expansion Update: Moving Day Is Finally Here!

With 31 new chimps joining us at the sanctuary so far this year, the Chimp Haven family has now grown to nearly 300 chimpanzees. As we prepare for more new arrivals this fall, we continue to make progress toward our sanctuary expansion to make room for nearly 200 chimpanzees who still remain in research facilities waiting to come to Chimp Haven.

This summer, we reached an exciting milestone in our expansion journey with the completion of the first of two 15,000 square foot corrals!

A group of fabulous climbers from Risen Rock Climbing generously donated their time to make sure the new corrals were safe for the chimps before they moved in. We know that if a human can find their way out of the corrals, a chimp can too, so the Risen Rock crew gave it their best and helped us verify that the corrals are ready for our smarty-pants chimps.

Slim’s family moved into the new corral in two groups. As staff watched on, the first five chimps moved through the chute system to their new home on day one, followed by the remaining six chimps on day two.

Riley (left) and the other youngsters loved exploring their new hammocks and structures. After the very first night, staff discovered hay in one of the hammocks, which means one of the chimps in the group decided to make their nest outdoors under the stars!

And Angela (aka Big Ang) has surprised everyone with a sudden new interest in physical activity. Staff has spotted her doing laps around her new space and even making her way up to check out the highest platforms!

It’s safe to say that Chakema (left) and her friends are loving their new home.

In addition to brand new bedrooms, the new corral space also features a metabolism room. This room will allow our vet team to more easily acquire a chimp’s body weight simply by training them to voluntarily come into the room and sit on the scale. In the first week, the team successfully captured body weight for three chimps in Slim’s family.

What’s Next?

In the coming weeks we’ll:
- Continue work on three new multi-acre forested habitats
- Begin work on new chimp bedrooms and vet spaces for the multi-acre habitats
- Continue road work to allow easier access to new chimpanzee areas

With the sanctuary very close to capacity, we’re excited to continue this large-scale expansion so that we can welcome even more retired chimps. Learn more about how you can be part of the Welcome Them Home campaign at www.chimphaven.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

There are just a few chances left to visit the sanctuary this year! Learn more at chimphaven.org/events or @ChimpHaven on social media.

Chimpanzee Discovery Day

Chimps, learning, and pant-hoots await at these family-friendly discovery events, offered just a few times each year. October 19th and November 16th