

LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

E-ulemur Latitudes e-newsletter December 2013 www.lemurreserve.org





<u>Click here to peek inside the Ako</u> <u>books and receive our special</u> <u>holiday offer for the six book</u> <u>series.</u>



watercolor by Deborah Ross deborahrossart.com

Thank You For Your Involvement & Support



Find organic spices from Madagascar in our Amazon store We have had a very successful and exciting year at the Lemur Conservation Foundation (LCF) with some significant achievements in our conservation, education, and outreach partnerships. Thanks to your involvement, we are able to increase our impact in the communities we serve, as well as meet the challenges facing lemurs, the most endangered primates species in the world, and Madagascar's important biodiversity.

At this time we invite you to join us as we build on our successes. For example, in 2012 all three of the rare Mongoose lemurs born in the United States belonged to LCF. In addition to the Mongoose lemur births, Ansell, a Ring-tailed lemur, gave birth to twins. Ansell is an experienced mother, who gave birth in the forest for the second time and reared her infants while leading her troop, marking a significant achievement for our freeranging colony.

This is why we ask you to consider a year-end gift to help us expand our success in lemur propagation, the core of our mission, onsite research opportunities, and education outreach that will help build awareness about lemurs and sustain their populations in the future.

In 2014 LCF's Ako Project, a series of six books for children 4 to 8 years old, written by Dr. Alison Jolly and illustrated by Deborah Ross, will launch a conservation education program in the United States. We are also implementing a continuing education program for teachers with our education colleagues at the Florida Association of Zoos and Aquariums. These Ako based workshops, along with our 'Teachers' Institute For Conservation Ecology' will help teachers become 'Ako Certified,' and bring this vital conservation message into



classrooms across the state. Your participation helps to make conservation education programs like these possible.

Please consider making a gift to the Lemur Conservation Foundation - to help advance lemur science, inspire young conservationists, and continue the success of our lemur colony, which holds some of the most genetically valuable lemurs in the world.

As yo u enjoy this holiday season we thank yo u for thinking of LCF, and the things we can achieve to gether for education, science, and lemur conservation.

<u>children's puzzle available in our</u> <u>Amazonstore</u>

Sincer ely,

Lee Nesler Executive Director & CEO Lemur Conservation Foundation

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Winterizing the Forest Domes - by Casey Krause, LCF Animal Husbandry Intern It's even winter in Florida! Just to be sure Jack Frostisn't nipping at any lemur noses, we started winter izing the forest domes! We winter ize to give the lemurs shelter from the cold and the wind during the colder, winter months. Although there are differences in climate based on the various geographic characteristics of Madagascar, low temperatures generally remain in the mid-40 s in July, the coldest month in Madagascar.



To keep temperatures within the typical range for lemur sin the wild, the mesh doors of the domes were shielded to reduce exposure to the wind. Infrared heat lamps were also added to the domes.

Knowledge of the lemurs' native habitat is critical to determining the best husbandry practices for our lemurs and ensures that we are providing the best possible care on the reserve.



Madagascar Prepares For Second Round Of Voting In Presidential Elections

We are all anxious to see the results of Madagascar's run off election scheduled for 20 December, and the impact it will have on the country, conservation, and efforts to manage lemurs and their habitats. Here is an article from Voice of America, with some information about the candidates:

ANTANANARIVO - Madagascar holds a second round of voting on Friday to complete its first presidential election since a 2009 coup that scared off foreign donors and investors.

The two contestants in the run-off vote are not political heavyweights, but are allies of the island's two main rivals the coup leader-turned-president, Andry Rajoelina, and the man he ousted with the army's help, Marc Ravalomanana. Ravalomanana and Rajoelina had agreed not to run in the election in a regionally-brokered deal to defuse tensions. A last minute attempt by Rajoelina to run when Ravalomanana's wife stepped into the race led to a court order blocking both.

READ MORE HERE



Click on the image above to enjoy The Alice Farley Dance Theater's performance of 'Shadows' at Philadelphia's Kimmel Center

The Alice Farley Dance Theater at LCF's Evening of Lemur Enchantment

Although visual art is an important part of LCF's education and outreach efforts, we love art of all kindsespecially the Alice Farley Dance Theater. The dancers performed at 'An Evening of Lemur Enchantment' at Michael'son East. The Alice Farley Dance Theater performs at venues from the Andy Warhol Museum, to Wildlife Conservation Society's Bronx Zoo, and the World Financial Center Winter Garden.

'For me, the province of dance is to speak that which cannot be spoken. Make the invisible, visible.' - Alice Farley

Like Ms. Farley, LCF believes that art is a uniquely important part of articulating complex messages, and is an access point for application of high level skills in problem solving and the expression and comprehension of complex issues.

'An Evening of Lemur Enchantment' was a great success for LCF, raising funds for lemur conservation at our Myakka City Lemur Reserve, and raising awareness of lemurs and their conservation status. LCF currently holds six species of lemurs, all of which are listed on the International Union For The Conservation of Nature's Red List as Endangered or Vulnerable. Here is a list of the lemur species at the Myakka City Lemur Reserve and their conservation status:

Red ruffed lemur (Varecia rubra), Endangered; Ring-tailed lemur (Lemur catta), Vulnerable; Sanford's lemur (Eulemur sanfordi), Endangered; Common brown lemur (Eulemur Fulvus), Vulnerable; Mongoose lemur (Eulemur mongoz), Endangered; and Collared lemurs, (Eulemur collaris), Vulnerable.

Thank you to our 'Evening of Lemur Enchantment' friends and supporters, the organizing committee, and our generous sponsors.

ALICEFARLEYDANCETHEATER.COM



These lemur species at LCF's Myakka City Lemur Reserve are listed as endangered by the IUCN.

Adopt A Lemur -You Can Help Provide Care For Our Colony

Did you know that Madagascar is one of the most important biodiversity spots on our planet? 80% of its plants and animals are endemic to the island. Or that the top 4 species of endangered primates are lemurs? Did you know that over 10% of listed, endangered species are lemurs? According to the IUCN Red List lemurs are very likely the most endangered primates in the world.

'Ninety-one percent of the 103 known lemur species are threatened, conservationists concluded, at a 2012 workshop of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The committee met in Madagascar's capital, Antanarivo. Twenty-three of the species are now considered "critically endangered," 52 are "endangered," and 19 are "vulnerable" on the IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species, compared to 10 percent, 21 percent and 17 percent, respectively, at the time of the previous assessment carried out in 2005.' (Live Science, July 2012)

LCF has six species of lemurs at the Myakka City Lemur Reserve; three of them are listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN: Ring-tailed lemurs (*Lemur catta*), Common brown lemurs (*Eulemur fulvus*), & Collared lemurs (*Eulemur collaris*). The other three species at LCF are endangered: Red ruffed lemurs (*Varecia rubra*), Sanford's lemurs (*Eulemur sanfordi*), and Mongoose lemur, (*Eulemur mongoz*). In 2013 all three rare Mongoose lemur infants were born to Mongoose mothers owned by LCF.

Because of your support the Lemur Conservation Foundation is able to provide exemplary care including freerange foraging in protected forests, attention to socialization and family groups, participation in Species Survival Plans (SSPs), extensive prenatal care, and medical monitoring appropriate to the life cycle and species of each lemur in our reserve. Because some lemurs, like those with medical conditions or that have been kept as pets, cannot survive in a forest environment, your gifts also help us provide enhanced nutrition and other supportive care that an individual lemur needs.

Click Here to 'Adopt-A-Lemur,' and become a partner in the lemur conservation. We'll send a special thank you package... and you will help ensure a future for lemurs.



These lemur species at LCF's Myakka City Lemur Reserve are listed as vulnerable by the IUCN.



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