

AIKMAN

Wildlife Adventure

December 2022

Dear Friends,

If this is your first newsletter, welcome. You will receive the newsletter once a month to update you on the happenings at Aikman Wildlife. Our wish is for you and your family to have a Merry Christmas and a blessed 2023.

The AWA Team



FEATURED ANIMAL FOR DECEMBER

This month we are featuring our Sable Antelope, which is located in our Museum of Prehistoric Life. The Sable is considered one of Africa's most impressive antelopes and a member of the horse antelope Tribe Hippotragini (family Bovidae) because of their compact powerful build, erect mane and thick necks. They are a large antelope, standing about 46–55 inches tall. Bulls weigh about 517 pounds and females around 480 pounds.

The Sable represents the nonprofit partner of Aikman Wildlife, which is S.A.B.L.E., Inc., (Saving Animals by Lasting Encounters). The mission of S.A.B.L.E is to take part in conserving wildlife and endangered species, to educate people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and to support Aikman Wildlife Adventure in providing food, homes, and care for all wildlife in need.

Did you know that you can adopt the animals at Aikman Wildlife Adventure? We have adoption fees ranging from \$100 to \$5,000. These would make great Christmas presents. You can get more information on our website or call Teri Moore at (217-246-5869).

Experiences Make Great Christmas Presents

For being a member of our newsletter, we would like to reward you with a special Discount Code! Use code News15 when purchasing an adventure online and receive 15% off!

Pathway of Lights

Please join us for our last Pathway of Lights evening this holiday season. Entry is by donation (suggested \$5.00 per person). The lights run from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on December 17th. New this year: the drive-thru is open and features the story of the Birth of Christ.

December 17th – Our special guest will be old Saint Nick himself. Come get a photo with Santa and tell him what you would like for Christmas. Also, there will be photo opportunities in the loft of our red barn. It makes a great backdrop for those family photos. Milk & Honey, from Mattoon, will be here with some delicious beverages and great cookies.

During the evening we will be offering wagon rides and animal encounters. Hope to see you here!



Toast to Wildlife Banquet Was a Great Evening

The Toast to Wildlife Banquet to support our nonprofit SABLE (Saving Animals by Lasting Encounters) was a great success this year. More than 170 people attended the event on November 18th. This year's proceeds benefitted the renovation of the first floor of our petting zoo barn, which will allow us to house more animals in the winter. It will also enable us to offer more encounters and promote long-lasting memories during the winter.

Guests dined on delicious food from Yoder's Kitchen. There were many silent auction items, and guests bid on original paintings, animal encounters, airline tickets, and many other wonderful experiences. Many visited the Museum of Prehistoric Life and had encounters with some of the animals. The evening ended with a walk through the Pathway of Lights. One of the most popular animals of the evening was our Toucan, who is just a few months old.

Mark your calendars for next year's Toast to Wildlife Banquet to be held Friday, November 10, 2023.



Before



After

New Animal

We would like to introduce our newest animal.



Pumpkin Patch Tarantula

- ♦ Scientific name:
- ♦ Hapalopus sp Colombia
- ♦ Family: Theraphosidae
- ♦ Classification: Arachnida
- ♦ Place of Origin: Colombia
- ♦ Lifespan (in wild): Males 3-4 years, Females 8-10 years
- ♦ Weight: 0.5-1oz.
- ♦ Body Size: .5 to 2
- ♦ Diet: Carnivore

Thank you to our Banquet Sponsors



Adventure Science Center
Old Towne Trolley
Memphis Botanical Garden
Sun Studio
Edge Motor Museum
Timi's Tours
Coles Moultrie
Tim Hoel
Janet England
Morgan's Meat Market
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum
Kentucky Horse Park
Kentucky Mansions Preservation
Creation Museum
Muhammad Ali Center
Louisville Slugger Museum
Chicago Botanic Garden
Field Museum
Northlight Theatre
Neal Tire (Charleston)
Agri-Fab
Funny Bone (St. Charles, MO)
Yoder's Restaurant
YMCA (Mattoon)
Holiday World
Boos Block
Libman Company
Das Holz Haus
Tuscola Stone Company
Rustic Inspirations
Shae's Pub
Monical's (Arcola)

Chewy
Bark Box
Bullymake
Knight's Action Park
Willow Ridge Winery
St. Louis Cardinals
Missouri Botanical Gardens
Chicago White Sox
Papa Murphy's Decatur
Elevate Trampoline Park
Riverfront Museum
Baldknobbers
Hughes Brother's Theatre
Grand Country Music Hall
Celebration River Cruises
Portillo's
Magic House
St. Louis Aquarium
Mark Twain Cave
Mark Twain Boyhood Home
Dollhouse Museum
Little Theatre on the Square
Papa Murphy's (Decatur, Pekin, Normal)
Cave of the Mounds
EAA Aviation Center
Alcatraz East
Peel Wood Fired Pizza
Timeline Theatre
Rempy Bumpo Theatre
Red Orchard Theatre
Volo Museum