



NEWS RELEASE

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TICKETS: Visit www.sbzoo.org or call (805) 962-5339

ZOOFARI BALL HAS RETRO TIKI THEME **TICKETS ON SALE FOR “TIKIFARI BALL” ZOO FUNDRAISER** **HELD ON AUGUST 26**

- Fundraiser for the Zoo’s Animals is Presented by Union Bank
- Tickets are \$350; Available Online at www.sbzoo.org/zoofari
- Costumes or Safari Attire Encouraged
- Festive Annual Event Expected to Sell Out at 600+ Revelers

Santa Barbara, CA; August 9, 2017 – Paradise awaits at the “TikiFari Ball,” a retro-inspired party straight out of the South Seas, presented by Union Bank, held on Saturday, August 26 from 5:30 to 11 p.m. This is the 32nd annual Zoofari Ball, a fundraiser for the animals at the Santa Barbara Zoo.

“TikiFari Ball” tickets are on sale now and cost \$350. This event is expected to sell-out, with more than 600 revelers attending. For tickets, call (805) 962-5339 or visit www.sbzoo.org/zoofari to purchase online. Ages 21 and older only.

Guests will don their tackiest Hawaiian shirts or kitschy getup to chill out under the palm trees and enjoy an icy cold cocktail (garnished with a paper umbrella, of course). Balmy ocean breezes blow as guests appease the gods by bidding on exotic silent auction items, then partake of a scrumptious buffet worthy of Don the Beachcomber. Dancing amid fellow revelers ensues, under a tropical moon. Guests are encouraged to come in costume relating to the theme or in safari attire.

“Zoofari is informal and unconventional,” says Zoo Director Nancy McToldridge. “But it’s always been that way. In recent years, we’ve had a pirate theme, a secret agent theme, and those related to New Orleans, ocean cruises, the Wild West, and rock and roll. It’s now the Zoo’s biggest fundraiser of the year, and the proceeds support the animals.”

New at this year’s “TikiFari Ball” is a raffle to win an exclusive 7-night Tahiti & Society Islands cruise for two aboard the m/s Paul Gauguin, courtesy of Robertson International Travel

Consultants and Paul Gauguin Cruises. Only 200 tickets are being sold, at \$100 each. The winner is drawn at random at *Zoofari Ball*; winner need not be present to win. For more information, visit www.sbzoo.org/zoofari.

The evening includes ice-cold cocktails, a Polynesian-inspired dinner catered by Zoo Catering Services by Rincon with wine donated by Brander Vineyard (www.brander.com), and dancing to the beat of the Replicas (www.thereplicasmusic.com). Zoofari Ball is designed by Behind the Scenes Event Design (www.behindthescenesfloral.com). It is coordinated by Behind the Scene's Lisa Carter and the Zoo's Nancy McToldridge and Kelly Whitaker, and organized by a committee of community volunteers and Zoo staff. This year's honorary co-chairs are Peter and Pieter Crawford-van Meeuwen.

The Silent Auction features trips, dining, jewelry, artwork, and special one-of-a-kind experiences including dinner prepared by Oprah's chef for 20 at a private estate, a custom made tiki play house, a visit to the set to watch filming of "NCIS LA," a three-night stay at a Princeville, Kauai condo, and private dinner for four inside the lion exhibit (while lions are off-exhibit), among others.

ZOOFARI BALL SPONSORS

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As of August 8, 2017

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*The Zoofari Ball directly benefits **Sana Barbara Zoo** animals and visitors. Known as one of the world's most beautiful zoos, the Santa Barbara Zoo is located on 30 acres of botanic gardens and is home to nearly 500 individual animals in open, naturalistic habitats. It is accredited by the [Association of Zoos & Aquariums](#) (AZA), representing the highest level of animal care, and participates in AZA endangered species programs for Asian elephant, California condor, Channel Island fox, and Western lowland gorilla, among others. A private 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, the Santa Barbara Zoo depends on community support, not tax dollars, for operations and improvements. Visit www.sbzoo.org.*