



PHOTO: KELLY TONE

Josie Croll of Barrington, CZS Vice Chair and Trustee of BACTrust Betsy Bramsen, Laura Matthys of Kildeer, Kendra Croll of Barrington, Dottie McManus of Barrington, Kathleen Amatangelo of Barrington, DeDe Zwilling of North Barrington, CZS Women's Board Member Susan Ahern of Barrington, and Leslie Roberts of Inverness.

The 36th Annual Whirl at Brookfield Zoo

CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S WHIRL
FUNDRAISER SURPASSES \$1.2 MILLION

THE WOMEN'S BOARD and Board of Trustees of the Chicago Zoological Society hosted the 36th annual *Whirl* at Brookfield Zoo on April 29, 2017. The fundraiser, which celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Women's Board, raised more than \$1.2 million. Proceeds will support the animals at Brookfield Zoo, as well as the Chicago Zoological Society's conservation and education programs.

More than 620 guests had opportunities to meet many of Brookfield Zoo's animal ambassadors, as well as animals from Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. The animals included a tamandua (a small anteater), a prehensile-tailed porcupine, a Major Mitchell's cockatoo, a two-toed sloth, a serval, a Cape porcupine, a wallaby, a wood duck, a great horned owl, a red-tailed hawk, a serval, a black-footed penguin, and a fennec fox.

The Grand Tent was adorned in white and silver décor with stunning centerpieces created by Kehoe Designs. Food for Thought catered the evening's three-course dinner, which featured a duo of salads followed by a main course of red wine braised short rib of beef with accompaniments. A delectable dessert of a chocolate mousse dome concluded the meal. After dinner, guests danced to the music of Maggie Speaks.

The black-tie gala also featured a live auction and paddle raise, announced by auctioneer Jason Lamaroueux. Guests bid on the privilege of naming Brookfield Zoo's infant orangutan; a 14-person sky-box to see the White Sox this summer; stunning blue topaz and diamond earrings set in 18-karat white gold courtesy of A. Marek Fine Jewelry; and a sports package featuring seats at Chicago Bears and Chicago Cubs games.

Co-chairs for the fundraiser were Stephanie Bryan Kangas of the Women's Board and William C. Kunkler III of the Board of Trustees. The evening's emcee was Judy Hsu, ABC 7 Chicago news anchor. Stuart Strahl, Ph.D., CEO and president of the Chicago Zoological Society, recognized the founding members, as well as current members of the Society's Women's Board.

In addition, Racquel Ardisana, Ryanne Hanley, and Dr. Rhiannon Ardisana-Cleveland, three sisters who each pursued a career in the field of animal welfare and conservation, spoke about how the Brookfield Zoo's youth volunteer program had inspired them and how the Women's Board provided them with college scholarships.

Since its inception in 1992, the Women's Board has raised more than \$30 million for the Society, presented nearly \$200,000 in educational scholarships, and hosted tens of thousands of children at Brookfield Zoo through its outreach endeavors. For more information, visit CZS.org.



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A) Dottie and Brian McManus of Barrington B) Josie and Bryan Croll C) Romana Malinowski of Hinsdale and CZS Trustee Barbara Bradford of North Barrington. D) Joe Ahern of Barrington, 2017 Whirl Emcee ABC7's News Anchor Judy Hsu, and CZS Women's Board Member Kathleen Amatangelo.