Old Friendships New Friendships
So many of our friends and supporters were delighted to get news about Sue Ellen in our *Legends of Fauna* series this past summer that I wanted to make sure you knew how our Matriarch was doing and to continue from where we left off. We have had a busy few months indeed.

When I last wrote, Sue Ellen and Chance were working things out. Chance had come such a long way in the few months she spent on her own with Sue Ellen. Like most relationships in life, time apart is welcomed and appreciated. Chance was missing some of her friends, wanting to go back and visit with Toby and Rachel. She did go back and seemed really content to be with the group again and Sue Ellen welcomed her time alone.

All seemed calm in the chimphouse...that is until we noticed just next door that Spock was becoming more and more annoyed with some of Binky's antics. Binky, as you all know, is full of life and full of beans. The full of life we can all appreciate, but when he is full of beans, he is quite a handful for anyone. Spock needed a break. Binky craves attention and when he isn't getting all of the love he needs from everyone, he tends to cause a ruckus. He then gets attention, however it's generally not the kind he intended.
Binky
Spock and Sue Ellen
Together Again

Years ago, when Spock and Maya first moved to Fauna, they lived with Sue Ellen and Pepper for a short period. Pepper seemed to be more on guard and nervous when they were all together, so eventually they moved out. Things have changed with Pepper gone and Spock has become a very important family member over the years. It was noticed that he seemed to be hanging around the door next to Sue Ellen, often looking in her direction. One day he just refused to move, which was a good indication he was very happy where he was and once the opportunity was presented to us, we were able to give Spock the chance to join Sue Ellen again. You may remember Sue Ellen does not see very well and she is easily scared, especially by quick moving things—like active chimpanzees. Spock is far from quick. He is very calm and laid back. He seems to understand Sue Ellen’s stress when there is too much going on around her.

On the day they were introduced, he sat far away from her in the skywalk, patiently waiting for the door to open and for her to find him. Sue Ellen is always first to go through doors. She loves to explore and move from place to place and she was happy and excited to go through the open door, but certainly did not see him there...until, that is, she was very close to him. Then, of course she was startled. Spock was wonderful. He just sat there very calmly letting her figure out who he was by looking very closely and smelling him. Once she realized it wasn’t someone very familiar, she screamed. Spock’s reaction was to hug her; a great big hug in his big teddy bear way. A hug says it all and provides the love and comfort needed. All was good again. He is such a gentleman, so kind and considerate and he does something that is of great importance to Sue; he walks ahead of her, rather than behind her. Sue Ellen has always preferred following, perhaps because of her eyesight, or because she just doesn’t like anyone behind her. I’m not exactly sure, but what I do know is that she likes Spock’s company and how he takes care of things. He has been the perfect companion for her, while Chance is away visiting.

Two New Friends For Fauna

As many of you know, this past August two new friends, Tatu and Loulis, joined us from Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA. These past few months have been filled with lots
of new beginnings. Not only new chapters in the lives of Tatu and Loulis, but also new beginnings for Sue Ellen and all of Fauna’s residents, whose lives have changed in the most amazing way because of their arrival.

For more than three decades Tatu and Loulis were part of a small family group of five; Washoe’s family. They were surrounded by a loving human family in a wonderful home at the Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute, (CHCI) in Ellensburg, WA. The life that Tatu and Loulis knew there was coming to an end when a small group of “higher-ups” at Central Washington University decided it was no longer important to continue with the program and that Washoe’s remaining family members, Tatu and Loulis, would need to leave this place they had called home for so long. This safe home would no longer be available to them. Imagine the shock for all concerned...

Originally there were five in Washoe’s family. In 2002, Moja passed away and five years later in, 2007, Washoe died, leaving behind Dar, Tatu and Washoe’s adopted son, Loulis. The recent loss of Dar in November 2012 changed everything for Loulis and Tatu. Plans were already underway to make some changes to the existing building; plans that would have included rescuing some chimpanzees in need of a home so they could join Tatu and Loulis at CHCI. That is until the University changed their minds and backed out of their agreement.

Friends of Washoe worked tirelessly to find a new and permanent home for their two beloved friends. Tatu and Loulis were very close to Dar and his death was very difficult for them, as one could imagine. With the University unwilling to allow more chimpanzees to join Tatu and Loulis in their home, it forced Friends of Washoe to make a move in order to protect Washoe’s family; to protect their family. They knew that Tatu and Loulis should not stay alone and that time was running out and so a decision was made to find a new home.

A few NAPSA (the North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance) sanctuaries were approached with the intention of relocating Tatu and Loulis.
It was not easy. Every sanctuary was completely full and most could not build in such a short time. Fauna had the space, but we had to secure permits. It is very complicated and there are a lot of rules and regulations that must be followed to bring chimpanzees into Canada. Thankfully we were able to jump through all the hoops successfully and open our doors to the two loved chimpanzees.

The move to Canada was bittersweet indeed. All of us involved knew there would be tears shed over the decision and there would be anger and confusion. Friends and supporters of Tatu and Loulis could not understand why it was all happening and had to accept that Friends of Washoe were making the right decision and that the University was making the wrong one. There was nothing anyone could do to change their minds.

The move to Canada was challenging and the process grueling for all involved. Sleepless nights, stressful days, but most of all, a deep concern
for the well being of Tatu and Loulis and for their future in a new place.

The two were flown to Canada, as this was the quickest and most efficient way of getting them across the country. They were accompanied by long time friend and family member, Dr. Mary Lee Jensvold. Also traveling with them was Dr. Jocelyn Bezner, one of our favorite chimpanzee veterinarians in the world. A few Canadian flags also made the trip, gifts from the folks back home.

The day my friends arrived was filled with great anticipation and excitement. We all prayed the journey would go smoothly; it did. We hoped there would be no complications; there were not. They landed and they were safe...and we were all so relieved!!

The first hours in their new home were exciting! They were so relieved and happy to be out of their small quarters and delighted to be in the fresh air again. They were very happy to see familiar human friends waiting for them and

Little known fact:

In 1995, I had the honor of meeting Washoe and her family while I attended an Earth Watch Mission called Caring for Chimpanzees. Meeting Washoe and her remarkable family, including her human family, Dr. Roger Fouts, Deborah Fouts, and Mary Lee Jensvold, changed my life forever.
even somewhat excited to meet some new ones. *Friends of Washoe* and Fauna made great efforts to make sure everything was as familiar as possible for Tatu and Loulis and that the two would not be surrounded by only strangers and unfamiliar things. So many details were taken care of; familiar blankets, dishes, foods, clothes, tires and favorite items like back scratchers, all came along with them on the journey.

Also waiting on arrival were their human friends. One of our employees, Anna Wallace, was someone they knew from CHCI and *Friends of Washoe* made arrangements for full time interpreter Meaghan Mas to be here, as well as Kaeley Sullins. We were grateful to have three friends from the University who could communicate and interpret for us and who had relationships with Tatu and Loulis. All these details made the transition so much easier. I could not imagine what it would have been like for them to arrive at a strange place and not have any familiar faces to greet them.

I have seen the sadness and despair when a chimpanzee is uprooted from their home and brought to a new place. It may be a nice place and it may have much to offer, but it simply is not home. It is scary, stressful and difficult. We saw this with Toby when he came to Fauna and his caregiver only stayed for three days. Then, he was on his own. It was very difficult for him. I saw this happen with some of the younger chimps, like Jethro and Regis when they moved from the lab and left behind the only life they knew. The transition was dreadful for them. Change is always scary and everyone knew how difficult a move like this was going to be.
Looking back on that first week last August, I can see how much Tatu and Loulis had to conquer. Tatu, not wanting to come out from under her blankets and Loulis, concerned about all the motorized vehicles arriving at the chimp house. Not knowing the place, the sounds and the people, they were rightfully nervous and scared. Tatu showed her stress by hiding in her sleeping bag under a mountain of blankets. Loulis showed his by running back inside and hiding, only peeking out the windows when new things happened.

I think everyone was really worried about how Loulis would react to his new home, yet he was mostly very calm about things and he surprised all of us. He was very curious about everything and certainly nervous, but he managed to find a way to cope with the new sights and sounds. Whenever he found it overwhelming he would go inside to a quiet area far from everything and then wait until he felt calmer before coming out again. He was interested in his new home but was clearly very worried about Tatu. He went and stayed with her while she hid under her blankets. Hiding was also her way of coping, except she was hiding outside and he was hiding inside. Loulis was perfect. He was supportive, loving and attentive and he had to step out of his comfort zone to be with Tatu during her time of need.

We always find the Canadian flags in Loulis’s night nests. These great gifts that had been given to him before he left his home in Ellensburg and that accompanied him on the trip proved to be little pieces of fabric that provided great comfort and security for him in his new home.
The first week was indeed hard for all of us but it was especially difficult the final day I drove Mary Lee to the airport for her departure. Mary Lee went down to the chimp house in the morning to say goodbye to her dear friends. She told them she would return and see them soon. Mary Lee was leaving with a heavy heart, feeling very badly, not only because Tatu had signed “out” and “tree” her first days here, but that she was hiding under her blankets. Mary Lee was feeling rather guilty about the fact that she had told Tatu that her new home would have friends and apple trees that she could climb in. All those things would be coming and Tatu was only asking for what she had been promised. I think we focused on that, hoping Tatu was just disappointed.

Of course this was not the only thing Mary Lee was feeling sad about. She was deeply concerned about her dear friends and wanted what was best for them and for them to be happy. How could she ever explain to them what had really happened and why the University would betray them in this way. For more than 30 years Mary Lee has known Tatu and Loulis. Indeed, she should be deeply sad and deeply concerned. My heart broke for her as I said good-bye to her at the airport. I could never have been so strong, nor have found the courage to do what she had to do. Leave.

Most of the trees with apples are on the Islands, so of course it would be a while before Tatu could visit those trees. Naturally for Mary Lee this felt like betrayal. Even though it was going to happen, it was not as immediate as Tatu had hoped for. In fact, the whole situation seemed rather hopeless, not just for Tatu, but also for Mary Lee who felt so terrible about everything.

With a heavy heart, Mary Lee said good-bye to her friends, promising to return.
Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.
—Maria Robinson

Keeping an eye on all the comings and goings
We all knew it wasn’t about the tree or the apples or the friends. Everyone was sad and feeling guilty, which was normal. As hopeful and optimistic as we all are, this story is bittersweet. I can only imagine how difficult it was, for Friends of Washoe and everyone who has known and cared for these dear souls to trust that we would care for their precious friends in the same way they had been cared for before.

The quarantine period stopped Tatu from being with her new friends, from going onto the islands and from accessing the apple trees. She was disappointed and she showed it. Mary Lee felt it. We were both very discouraged about the situation and hoped Tatu would forgive us all. No one lied to her but we could not explain the concept of quarantine and why things could not happen right away. The fact that she would have to wait was not clear to her at all. Nor could anyone explain why her life was changing so much and where all the people she knew had gone? Why was she here for God’s sake? What on earth was happening?

Tatu slept outdoors on the sleeping porch those first nights, cozy under her sleeping bags, but very scared. Loulis would stay with her until he got too tired. I would go over in the night to relieve him of his duties and he would go inside knowing someone was keeping her company. Those first nights Tatu would sign to me and I had no idea what she was saying with my very limited vocabulary. I was learning that she was asking for a drink, or to get out. Then she would call me stupid when I did only half of what she wanted. I brought her hot tea, food, fruit, vegetables, warm blankets from the dryer, crackers, cheese, yogurt everything…but not what she requested—which was to go home. Of course she thought I was
stupid, she was right, I was giving her everything but what she really wanted. In the morning I would ask Mary Lee what Tatu was asking for and she would tell me what the signs were. I knew I had to do something fast to be able to help my new friend feel welcome and more secure. Tatu and Lou were not the only ones having sleepless nights, Mary Lee and myself were also up at night, checking on them and worried about their progress.

So I said goodbye to Mary Lee at the airport, feeling exhausted and rather concerned and discouraged myself. I returned home and was having some lunch and a cup of tea, wondering how on earth I could make the situation better, when, in the middle of my lunch, I heard a lot of chimpanzee calls coming from the chimp house. One was a call I did not really recognize. Naturally my heart sank. I was so scared something was wrong, which is always a first reaction when you have a sanctuary—especially one with new residents. You worry first. So, off I ran to see what was going on.

To my utter surprise and amazement, the new calls and the vocalizing I was hearing were from Tatu! She was out from under her blankets and her sleeping bag…zooming around the skywalks. She was going in the building running from window to window, greeting the others, calling out in the most amazing way, expressing herself and letting all of Fauna and the neighborhood know that “Tatu” had ARRIVED!!

[She was] expressing herself and letting all of Fauna and the neighborhood know that “Tatu” had ARRIVED!!
HELP US SECURE THEIR FUTURE

They need our help—not just today but tomorrow too.

LIFETIME CARE FUND
Established in 2007, the Fauna Lifetime Care Fund is our promise to the Fauna chimpanzees for a lifetime of the quality care they so deserve.

MONTHLY DONATION
Please email us at info@faunafoundation.org to set up this form of monthly giving via cheque or credit card.

ONLINE
- CanadaHelps.org, enter the searchtype, charity name: Fauna Foundation and it will take you directly to the link.
- FaunaFoundation.org, donate via PayPal

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FAX 450-658-2202
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Carignan, QC
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They need our help—not just today but tomorrow too.
Help me keep my promise to them.

Your donation today in whatever amount you can afford means so much!

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☐ Check enclosed (payable to Fauna)
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☐ Monthly pledge $_____ ☐ Lifetime Care Fund $______
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Exp:___/___/_____ Signature:______________________________

Or give online at www.faunafoundation.org and click on “How To Help”
☐ Please send me information on how to remember Fauna in my will or trust.
We need your support...

Please help support Tatu, Loulis, and all of the Legends at Fauna. We have created these special edition souvenir items to commemorate this first issue. Whether for yourself or someone you love, we are sure you will enjoy these items and feel good knowing you have helped support the Lifetime Care Fund for the Fauna family.

Photography and Digital Art

For a limited time you may order the following art work from wildlife photographer NJ Wight. Images are printed on archival quality photo paper and are suitable for framing. Each print is signed. Little Man (10” x 8”) and The Thinker (8” x 10”), each $160

Original Photo Cards
A beautiful set of three unique Tatu, Loulis, and Spock photos, signed and mounted in cards measuring 5” x 7.” Cards come in a cellophane wrap and make a great gift! Cards by NJ Wight. 3 for $35

Please fill in your quantities and mail along with your cheque or credit card information to the address below. Or, you can email us at info@faunafoundation.org directly with your order. Please allow 6 – 8 weeks for order processing and delivery.

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- My check payable to Fauna is enclosed
- Please charge my _____Visa_____Mastercard

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It was remarkable! She went everywhere in the chimphouse she had access to and introduced herself to each and every resident of Fauna. They all saw her that day. She was shouting out her arrival and it has not been the same since. She had been hiding and staying out of the building those first nights, sleeping on the outdoor porch under the moonlight, far away from the others. Enough was enough I guess…

No one could believe what we were seeing. To say we were relieved and overjoyed would be an understatement. Bless her soul.

I feel she had an epiphany when Mary Lee left. She knew she had to do something because one of her very best human friends in the world was leaving—not for long, but for now. Her life had shifted dramatically once again, as it had when she was just a little girl living with the Gardner’s. The day she left them her whole world changed forever and now it was changing again. Tatu is remarkably strong and a very wise soul. She made a decision that day to move on, to get on with her new life and the new chapter in Tatu and Loulis’s story. She had decided to make the best of their destiny.

Tatu had a choice to stay hidden under her blankets and we all would have understood if she did, but she chose not to do that. I admire and respect her greatly for making that step forward and it took remarkable courage and strength. As hard as it was for Mary Lee to get on that plane, it was surely that hard for Tatu to come out from under her blankets.

Loulis was also remarkable, showing great courage and sensibility. He was astute enough to go inside when he felt scared, yet overcame his fears to be by Tatu, a loving supportive brother and friend. He found great comfort in having his things with him and of course, his friends. Having Mary Lee, Meaghan and Anna truly made a difference for him and helped him through his

“Anyone can give up, it’s the easiest thing in the world to do. But to hold it together when everyone in the world would understand if you fell apart, that is true strength.” —Anonymous

Tatu’s Hands

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Photo © NJ Wight

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first weeks. In the following weeks Kaeley Sullins, another human friend, joined Loulis and Tatu. I am so grateful to Friends of Washoe for making this possible. They wanted the best for their friends and certainly understood how traumatic a move like this could be.

Since she first ventured out from under her blankets, Tatu has been a non-stop adventurer while Loulis sat back, content to observe all the comings and goings of Fauna. He worked at conquering his fear of motorized vehicles. He could relax now that Tatu was doing better and he was “off duty” for a while. Loulis took advantage of that time to get to know the humans at Fauna, forming some really wonderful new friendships. One of the first people he saw when he arrived at the airport was my brother Glenn. Mary Lee said that Lou liked him and she was absolutely right. When Glenn is around, Lou is content. He likes his company and it has been lovely to see their relationship grow…yes grow…

As my dear friend Theo would say, Tatu is a “pistol.” She is fast, outspoken, curious and incredibly intelligent. Tatu has taken over all conversations in the chimp house, her voice ringing out whenever she is happy, excited or mad. I am reminded of a phrase from a Bruce Springsteen concert; Ladies and gentlemen, The Boss is in the house! Well, at Fauna, it is Ladies and gentlemen, Tatu is in the house!!

Tatu Meets Sue

Tatu was ready to meet new friends and explore her new home. Each and everyday was a new and encouraging one. Out from under her blankets she was ready to turn the page and start the next chapter in her life.

The first neighbor Tatu met was Sue Ellen. Sue was beside herself when she saw Tatu and Loulis for the first time. She was anxious and so excited to be close to them and she very clearly wanted to meet them. She was vocalizing and pacing and she wanted “in.” Tatu understood Sue Ellen’s excitement and after greeting her through the plexi glass, she started signing “in” and “in there.” Although Sue Ellen does not sign, it was clear by all her body language and vocalizations that she too wanted to go “in” with Tatu. For several days
Tatu stayed close to the door signing to her new friend, while an excited Sue Ellen sat on the other side. After a period of time and great insistence by Tatu, the door was at last opened and Sue Ellen, waiting in total anticipation, greeted this new friend. It was absolutely amazing! They embraced each other instantly, groomed, hugged and followed each other everywhere. It was a wonderful day.

During all this, I was reminded of a time way back in the early years, when Annie wanted me to open a door and seemed to be requesting she wanted to join Donna Rae, Sue Ellen and Pepper. I questioned Annie and I was so scared to do it, but she was insistent. I opened the door that day as Annie requested and it was life-altering for everyone. The four of them remained friends forever and after knowing Sue Ellen for these past 16 years, I know that she will now be good friends with Tatu no matter what. That is just who she is.

Lou, meet Sue

Within a few days of observing Tatu and Sue Ellen together and seeing how happy Tatu was to have a new friend, we knew Loulis should have the same opportunity to meet Sue. Their introduction went just as well and Tatu was there with Loulis the entire time. It was calm, relaxed and just wonderful. Loulis was loving and kind and seemed to understand Sue was not a threat, but someone to be followed and respected. He was amazing with our dear frail Sue and I love him for that. The entire encounter was wonderful.

Some of you may wonder how we keep track of all these encounters? Meg Mas and Kaeley Sullins not only interpret for Tatu and Loulis, they also take notes and log all the activities of the day in a journal. Anna Wallace also has keen intuition and adds insightful input on her observations. These notes are sent to Mary Lee and myself daily. From this journal and video footage we have, we are able to analyze almost everything that is going on in the chimp house. The notes are valuable tools and have given us insight into what is happening between the chimps on a daily basis. No decisions are ever made without reviewing all the interactions and witnessing the relationships and encounters first hand.

It was heartwarming to see Tatu, Lou and Sue Ellen spending time in Sue’s favorite lookout: sitting in the skywalk under the morning sun eating their breakfast, having apple eating parties, taking strolls in the skywalk down to the pond where hoards of Canada Geese play every day and laying...
together in grooming circles with each of the three taking their turn in the middle. Each day the choice is given to Tatu. If she signs “in there” to where Sue Ellen is, we open the door for her to go visit. At the end of the day, Tatu and Loulis usually return to their own space and the doors are closed so they can be on their own at night and Sue Ellen gets to have her much appreciated privacy. It is a peaceful night for all three.

Sue Ellen is a wonderful soul who has had so many losses and has seen her family fall apart over and over again. She is so much stronger than we realize, something that became so obvious after Pepper died. She has become a big sister to Tatu and Loulis, but she is also the matriarch of Fauna. She is just too frail to be in the groups. However, from her side of the caging she can still discipline the others. She screams at them when they are out of line, positioning herself between Tatu, Loulis and the others, watching out for everyone. My heart swells with love for her and the way she touches the lives of those around her is heartwarming. Sue Ellen is simply fabulous.

One of the greatest things we now see is how happy Sue Ellen is with all the cool things her new friend Tatu has! There is all kinds of great stuff that Sue can borrow including masks and capes. She is in heaven with this new arrangement. Tatu shares and doesn’t seem to mind at all. Lou is probably thinking “Oh no, not another diva.”

Tatu and Loulis are very brave and they have made huge steps forward. Every day is a new adventure, a new beginning—not only for Tatu and Loulis but for all of Fauna’s residents. These past few months have certainly been a turning point for Sue Ellen. She has friends her own age, with similar lifestyles and who treat her with great respect and understanding. This has enhanced her life in ways I cannot even express and she seems so content to spend her days with Tatu and Lou and her evenings with Spock. They are all so remarkable.

A Skywalk for Tatu, Lou and Sue

Many of you responded to our call for help in building a new section of skywalk for “Tatu, Lou and Sue.” You have now read about Tatu’s adventurous nature and her desire to go everywhere. Once she started making friends

Thank you for your help in building a new section of skywalk for Tatu, Lou and Sue!
on the other side of the protective barriers, she continually wanted to be with the others. However, Loulis is much more reserved and cautious. His new friendship with Sue Ellen was rewarding and fulfilling, but it seemed important that we make a more private place they could call their own. We decided to build an additional connecting skywalk where this new group could get to know each other without distractions from the others. For instance, Lou was showing great interest in Spock, and vice versa, but because he is nervous, often when they tried to get closer something would scare him and he would run off. We felt a new access would enhance their environment and give them more choices. So the skywalk idea was born!

Spock is a dear and wonderful fellow, so calm and gentle. He has been a friend of Sue Ellen’s for a while now and part of our dream was to one day see Spock living with Tatu, Loulis and Sue, but with a little more privacy and distance from the group. Before that could happen a new area needed to be created and so construction started on a new and special space!

Thanks to all of you and Friends of Washoe who generously matched the funds raised, 130 feet of new skywalk was constructed! This new home is fun, has an awesome view and even has a crab apple tree so close that Tatu can reach out and grab her “own” fruit. At last she has a tree with apples! Loulis has a place where he can see even more of the activity of Fauna and gets to watch his new friends. Sue Ellen always loves a new location where she can see who’s coming to visit and this one is just perfect.

I cannot thank you enough for your immediate response to this request. Your generosity was remarkable. Because of all of you and Friends of Washoe, we completed this project in record-
breaking time! I know how dear these remarkable chimpanzees are to everyone and I know how much you want to support and help them. You certainly proved it! Bless you all for making it happen.

A Special Visit

In the autumn, as promised, Mary Lee returned to Montreal. It was a wonderful visit and Tatu and Loulis were clearly happy to see her, following her everywhere they were able to. They listened to her every word and looked forward to their time alone with her. One day the three of them took a stroll down the skywalk, Mary Lee on the ground, Tatu and Lou over-head, inviting her to “go there” towards the pond. It was an important day for these three friends for many reasons: a promise was kept, a new life had begun, there were friends as promised, trees with apples and so much more. Mary Lee could now look into Tatu’s eyes and not feel so bad. She could see that Tatu was happier and less stressed than when she left her and of course Mary Lee was overjoyed to see that Loulis was also doing well.

It was a turning point and so much changed after that visit. Imagine the reassurance for Tatu and Loulis knowing they were not alone and that their dear friend had returned. They had not been abandoned and she was there for them. Everything seemed to change on that visit; another page turned, another chapter begun.

Tatu Meets Spock

Tatu has been busy making more friends and after weeks of grooming Spock through the caging and signing “in there,” she was ready to get close to this new friend and the door was at last opened.
I am not sure any of us have seen anything sweeter in our lives than Tatu and Spock together. He weighs at least one hundred pounds more than her and is a big Teddy Bear for Tatu. Her arms barely reach around him. The day Tatu pointed to the lock on the door and signed “in there” to go visit Spock was calm and wonderful. She asked, he saw her and they both knew the lock was coming off and that the door would be opened. He sat back and waited for her to come into the room, calmly and sweetly he let her approach. She did and they have been friends ever since.

Spock and Tatu are wonderful together. Spock prefers to sit and let Tatu literally walk all over him. She joyously bops him on the head, holds his hands, cups his face, tickles him, pulls his feet and slaps his back in a loving playful way. She even climbs on and over him. He loves it and he seems to get great pleasure from her playful antics. They drink tea together and stroll the skywalks together while Sue Ellen looks on. Sue is always watchful and protective of Tatu … it’s a girl thing. Sue Ellen is fiercely protective of her girlfriends, old or new … it’s just who Sue Ellen is.

After some time of seeing Tatu, Spock and Sue living together, Loulis started to show interest in this new friend of Tatu’s. We gave Spock and Lou the opportunity to get close and observed them closely. It went very well with no upset on either side of the window. When the door was opened for Spock to meet Loulis, Tatu was there with them both as a mediator and friend. Tatu was amazing. She was perfect in all her actions, offering reassurance to Loulis and to Spock, sitting between them both and keeping things under control. Initially there were no big hugs or playing but after a while, Spock was able to inch himself closer to Loulis without Loulis moving away.

Before meeting Sue Ellen and Spock, Loulis had never met new friends without his adopted mom by his side. He was a baby with Washoe and she was there for him always. When she passed away, he always had Tatu and Dar by his side. One can only imagine how scared he must have been doing this alone for the first time, but with Tatu there and Spock having such an amazing personality and great social skills, the whole situation went remarkably well. Today, Spock, Sue Ellen, Tatu and Loulis live as a group, splitting daily to return to their own space, then joining each other again the next day if they wish. Sometimes it’s just Tatu, Lou and Sue while Spock goes off to visit with his old friends, or Spock and Lou hang out, while Sue Ellen supervises Tatu’s adventures with Toby, Chance, Rachel, Jethro, Regis and all the others. Lots of coming and going, making choices and making friends.

While we are all in utter amazement at the progress that Tatu and Loulis have made and totally thrilled to see these new beginnings at Fauna, we are deeply sad about the condition of one of our longtime residents and dear friend Yoko.

While one chapter begins at Fauna, another is coming to an end. Our dear Yoko is in palliative care and has been failing these past months. Although we do not know exactly what is wrong with him, we know for sure it will be horrendous … like all the others who have endured years of extremely invasive biomedical research. Based on his medical records, Yoko endured more than most others. It is deeply sad and heartbreaking to see how badly Yoko wants to be part of all the new activities. In the past few months he has been interacting and keeping his eye on the lovely Tatu and most definitely would have wanted to

If everyone howled at every injustice, every act of barbarism, every act of unkindness, then we would be taking the first step towards a real humanity.

—Nelson DeMille.
meet her. Yoko has always been a charmer and has always loved the company of the ladies.

There are no words to express how difficult it is to see Yoko want to be with everyone, but not have the strength to join his family. He has spent the past months resting in his favorite locations with Regis and Jethro never far away. In the skywalk, under the midday sun, he tries to get all the energy he can from the rays of light and heat and from the peace he finds outdoors. Now with winter upon us, we see him miss one of the greatest things in his life: the ability to spend all day outdoors with his family. He doesn’t have the energy to go anymore and when he does it is not for long.

Thankfully another project “windows without bars,” funded by The Greenbaum Foundation, and many of you, is now letting in more light and sunshine and has given Yoko a place where he can sit and let the warmth and light fall on his body. Regis and Jethro are always there, grooming him and keeping him company.

He also has extraordinary caregivers. One of the things your donations pay for are the salaries of the wonderful people who come here daily to care for the chimpanzees, monkeys and farm animals. These donations are so critical and they mean that Yoko has the attention and care he rightly deserves in this difficult time. While Yoko has been in palliative care these past several months, someone

We are each of us angels with only one wing. And we can only fly by embracing one another. —Luciano de Crescenzo
Yoko... 16 years of happiness and joy, of sunshine, friendships and adventures.

Yoko has looked in on him every half hour. If he is sleeping we leave him be, but if he looks up, sits up or makes a sound, we offer him fruits or drinks and other treats he enjoys. We always give him choices. These women, his guardian angels have been patient, reliable, loving and strong showing such tremendous love to Yoko in this time of need. Bless them.

Yoko’s story is deeply sad and is one of the most tragic I have ever heard. He has the will and the desire to live and he has fought long and hard for many years. However, the damage done to his body is more than his strong will can overcome. It is deeply disturbing for all of us to witness, to see someone who wants to live but is losing the battle. The suffering he has endured at the hands of research is unforgivable and unjust. Not one soul should ever have to go through the things Yoko has had to withstand and it makes it hard to remain calm about the suffering of all animals in research. If ever we should be filled with rage and demand to see it come to an end, it is now. How many more stories like this do we have to hear? We can do something and many are trying, but we must not ease up and think that everything is okay: It is not! It is not over yet and we still have to do more. Howl my friends howl! We need to speak out so loud that they will have no choice but to stop it. I am comforted by knowing that Yoko wants to carry on.
It is a testament to his sanctuary life, his family, his home and his friends. He has a reason to get up each day and he wants to be part of life. His desire to see old friends and meet new ones tells me he has not given up and has things to look forward to each day. He is just so very tired but he is fighting. He is not giving up.

What you have all done for Yoko and his family over the years has given him a life worth living.

He has had a second chance; 16 years of happiness and joy, of sunshine, friendships and adventures. None of this could have been possible without you. The love and friendship you have shown over the years for each one of Fauna’s residents, old friends and new ones, go towards making the world a much better place for them and in turn, for all of us.

Your kindness, your giving and your efforts to help end research are what make the difference and having your support is essential if this story is to have a happy ending. Life is filled with ups and downs, happiness and sadness. It is how we live our life that matters most, isn’t it? We need to be kind to others and to share and give of ourselves in any way … small acts of kindness, giving love and committing to being in service to others. It is why we are here. We should not benefit from the suffering of others but help deliver others from suffering.

You, my special friends, do that. You make a difference. You are doing that everyday for the chimpanzees in our care and I pray you continue to do so. Without you, there could be no home for these chimpanzees, no space to explore, no pleasure from tasting fresh fruits and vegetables, no medical care to ease the pain, no friendships and family. Without you they would be missing the most important thing of all in their lives: love.

I pray you stay with me and continue to walk with me on this journey. Let us share all of the joys and hardships together and please remain committed to your friends and family at Fauna. I admire each and every one of you and respect the love and devotion you have shown. Your acts of kindness never go unnoticed. Your dedication to Fauna’s residents is not only appreciated, it saves lives and has renewed life for those who had given up. You make a difference. Having you there is such a comfort and always an inspiration to me. I hope you know that and that I tell you enough. I have said it before and I will say it again, I love who you are and what you do. “may your life be filled with the same love and kindness you show others”

Are you aware that only a very small percentage of the population give to animal sanctuaries or to animal causes? You are an exclusive and special group indeed. What you are doing for the chimpanzees of Fauna is remarkable and admirable. I need you in my life and I know how much the chimps need you in theirs.

Bless you and from the deepest part of my heart, I thank you.

May your life be filled with the same love and kindness you show others.

May all that have life be delivered from suffering.

—Guatama Buddha
RIP YOKO
04-07-1974
30-01-2014

“There is no death. Only a change in worlds.”
Chief Seattle
Please help secure a healthy future for Sue Ellen and her friends by donating generously to the Fauna Foundation Lifetime Care fund. For more information visit us at: FaunaFoundation.org.

Or, you can send your donation to: 3802 Bellerive, Carignan, QC, J3L 3P9.