

Peter Gros

Television

All Animals, All the Time. As Mutual of Omaha's special Wild Kingdom ambassador, Peter Gros shares his love for wildlife and wilderness with families and children throughout the country.

He was featured in two *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom* specials on Animal Planet: "Cheetah: Race Against Time" in 2005 and "Magnificent Moments" in 2007. He also served as co-host of the original *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom*.

The original *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom* series – a program honored with 41 major awards, including four Emmy Awards and an endorsement by the National PTA for television programming recommended for family viewing – was one of the best known and longest-running series on nature and the animal world.

Gros is a frequent guest on *LIVE! with Kelly* and the *CBS Early Show*. In addition, he has appeared on numerous talk shows, including the *Tonight Show with Jay Leno*.

Active Conservationist

On behalf of Mutual of Omaha, Peter Gros is intimately involved in a nationwide conservation education program conducted at the local community level. Gros' research expeditions have taken him to Lake Baikal in Siberia to explore the wonders of the world's largest, oldest and deepest lake, and to the Amazon Basin where he led an expedition of 39 six-graders from Zeeland, Michigan, to study the Peruvian rain forest. He has also studied the effects of ecotourism on wildlife in Venezuela, Costa Rica, Belize, Mexico and the Galapagos Islands.

In addition, Gros has served as the U.S. representative on the Citizen Ambassador Program's research study of tigers and rhinos in the Chitwan National Forest in Nepal. In his travels throughout the world, Gros and his animal friends help teach about the importance of caring for the world around us.

Nationally-Recognized Authority

Peter Gros has nearly 30 years of field experience with captive wildlife. In his former position as director of Land Animals and vice president at Marine World/Africa USA, he established breeding programs for hundreds of endangered animals. He also developed a rehabilitation program for birds of prey, as well as the largest captive breeding colony of ostriches in the United States. He is a licensed Exhibition & Animal Educator for the U.S.D.A. and an active member of the American Zoo and Aquariums Association, Association of Wildlife Educators and Zoological Association of America. Gros is also on the Board of Directors of the Suisun Marsh Natural History Association and a trustee for the Cheetah Conservation Fund.

He is a frequent lecturer on conservation and preservation at universities, zoos, nature and science centers and theaters around the United States and Canada. His mission is to excite people about wildlife and teach them to understand and care about the natural world. Gros currently serves as president of the Green Valley Center for Wildlife Education. "My goal is to advance the understanding of our planet and its inhabitants while inspiring stewardship for our natural world," Gros said. "It is possible to use our natural resources in a sustainable manner. We simply need to educate our nation's youth about the importance of wildlife conservation."