

Heard It Through

# The Ape Vine

www.ape conservation effort.org

*April* 2017

A Membership Newsletter A



# Upcoming ACE Events

July 15

General Meeting 12:15 Location TBD

August 15
Bingo for Bonobos

#### October 7

Run for the Redheads in Grant Park

#### September 26

Gorilla Golf Brookfield Country Club

#### **November 18**

General Meeting and election of new board members





## Announcement of 2017 Board and Committee Chairs

At the General Meeting on January 28, 2017, the new board members, officers and committee chairs were announced. They are as follows: President - Donna Mayer Vice President - Lori Kirkland Secretary - Jane Barron Treasurer - Susan Smith Fundraising - Michele Dave and Lori Kirkland Research - Gene Todd Run for the Redheads -Leslie Martin Bingo for Bonobos -Leslie Martin and Susan Smith Gorilla Golf - Jodi Carrigan and Susan Smith Advertising and Marketing - Donna Mayer Todd Zoo Liaison - Michele Dave and Lynn Yakubinis Website - Susan Smith Georgia Gives Day -Donna Mayer Todd and Susan Smith Membership/Outreach and Education - Jane

With the leaders in place, we call on the membership to volunteer to participate in areas of their interests. We have something for every schedule and taste, so please contact the board or committee chairs about helping. Many events are

Barron

planned for 2017 to raise money to help save great apes. But we need everyone's help to be able to make every project successful.

Voting members must serve on one or more committees to fulfill the requirement to be able to vote on where we will donate ACE funds.

Non-voting members do not have to serve on a committee, but your support and help is valuable in making events successful.

You can email any board member about any topic at info@apeconservationeff ort.org. We look forward to hearing from you.



## What's the Significance of Numbers?

Numbers are everywhere. Some of us didn't like them in school, while others excelled in arithmetic, calculus, geometry, physics, etc.

We have numbers to specify our age, our street address, our blood pressure, the TV channel, bank accounts, car license tag, and on and on. We were constantly bombarded with poll numbers during the presidential campaign, and numbers were debated after the election about the number of people attending the inauguration and number of participants in the women's march the day after.

There are numbers in light-hearted songs, such as *Tea for Two* and *76 Trombones*. And numbers in more thought-provoking songs, such as *Seasons of Love* from *Rent The Musical* with the opening line: "525,600 minutes - how do you measure a year?... or the life of a woman or a man?"

The ACE board is always concerned with numbers - the numbers of members of ACE, numbers of committee workers, number of events for the year, the number of dollars it costs to put on an event, the number of dollars raised from the event, number of people participating, and size of our donation to groups trying to save great apes in the wild.

All of these numbers designate a tally or inventory that we use to help us understand and define the significance or the validity of what we are doing. We need this reference to help us measure progress.

The numbers that ACE highlights concerning our mission deal with the survival of great apes in the wild. While the numbers may vary depending on the source, they still demonstrate low numbers of great apes living in the wild.

AZA Ape Tag estimates the number of wild gorillas to be: Lowland gorillas - 125,000, Grauers - 2,000 - 10,000, Cross River - only 250 -300, and Mountain - only 880.

Lola Ya Bonobo estimates the number of wild bonobos to be 50,000 - 75,000.

World Wildlife Fund estimates the number of wild chimpanzees to be 172,700 - 299,700.

Orangutan Outreach estimates the number of wild orangutans to be: 35,000 Bornean and only 6,500 Sumatran.

With numbers like these, is there any question as to why the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s Red List of Threatened Species has given status of "endangered" or "critically endangered" to great apes. While the numbers show a slight status quo in some

populations, they also point to significant decreases in others.

We are familiar with the reasons that ape numbers decrease - loss of habitat from mining, logging, palm oil; illegal hunting and pet trade; disease, etc. Ape Tag states "It is estimated that some species of apes will be extinct in as little as one human generation (20 years)." There are those scary numbers again.

The thing about numbers is that they can change for the good too. That's the mission of ACE - to help groups working with great apes in the wild increase the numbers of gorillas, orangutans, bonobos and chimpanzees so the current estimated rate for extinction will never happen. Last year our guest speakers told us every dollar ACE sends them makes a difference. Karmele Sanchez of International Animal Rescue, Richard Zimmerman of Orangutan Outreach, Tara Stoinski of DFGFI, and Sue Ann Taylor of Bonobo Conservation Initiative are so thankful for every donation from ACE.

ACE will sponsor a number of events this year to raise funds to support the groups working with the wild great apes. The success of those events depends on the number of ACE members who get involved to put on the event, the amount of money made from the event, and the donation we can send to groups working in the wild. While ACE is thankful for each \$20 membership, we want to be able to send larger donations to help save more apes, and memberships alone cannot do this. We will only be able to have the number of fundraisers and the success of the fundraisers if the membership gets more involved.

YOU can help us make ACE events successful with the number of hours you donate to the event that in turn will increase the number of dollars the event makes. We all want great apes to survive for many, many years to come. You can make a difference in the numbers! Get involved!

If you are not currently signed up to work on a committee and would like to, please contact a board member so we can get that information to the correct committee chair.

Now is the time to make ACE numbers shout that we are serious about saving great apes and member participation.

We can only make our numbers with your

help.



## Run for the Redheads Returns October 7

by Leslie Martin and Susan Smith

It is that time again to get your running/walking shoes on. This year's Run for the Redheads will be held in Grant Park and the surrounding neighborhood on Oct. 7, 2017. The race will start at 8:00 am in the Zoo Atlanta parking lot on Cherokee Avenue. We moved the race to Grant Park to draw a new and hopefully larger crowd to our event. We have also enlisted the help of a new race management company.

We are very excited that Runners Fit will manage this year's race. They handle a lot of races in the Atlanta area and some that are run in Grant Park. They have set up the webpage to start registration https://runsignup.com/run forredheads and have already listed us on some of the race websites around Atlanta and the State.

In addition to the actual race, we have also added a "Virtual Runner." This

is a phantom runner who can pay the entry fee and get a t-shirt without actually being at the race. It's a good way for us to get people interested in ACE from other parts of the country/world who cannot physically come to the race.

As a result of the recent vote, the money from this year's race will go to Orangutan Outreach. The mission of this organization is to protect orangutans in their native habitat while providing care for orphaned and displaced orangutans until they can be returned to their natural environment. You can find out more about Orangutan Outreach and the work they do by visiting their website at www.redapes.org.

A large part of the success for this event relies on obtaining sponsors for the race. This is how we make the most money and this is how YOU can get involved. Sponsor packages will be emailed to all ACE members stating various levels of sponsorship. Contact your friends, family, employer, restaurants you visit, establishments where you regularly do business. Anyone can be a sponsor.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Leslie Martin at lmzoogirl@yahoo.com.



Photo by Atlanta Magazine Tara Stoinski

# ACE Welcomes Tara Stoinski at January Meeting

By Susan Smith

ACE held its first General Meeting of 2017 on January 28 and welcomed Tara Stoinski, President and CEO/Chief Scientific Officer of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. Tara is not only leading the DFGFI organization but she is also a founding member of ACE. Her presentation centered around the 50th anniversary of DFGFI, the status of gorillas in the wild, what has been accomplished and future plans.

Dian Fossey founded the Karisoke Research Center in September 1967 to monitor and protect the mountain gorillas in Rwanda. Today DFGFI is monitoring multiple groups of mountain gorillas in Rwanda and the Grauer's gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Along with protection and research,

DFGFI provides conservation education and assistance to local communities, by employing local residents as trackers and providing health care.

Tara also thanked ACE for the support that we have provided through the years and explained how the funds they receive are used. ACE will add to that support again this year by hosting the 7th Annual Gorilla Golf Tournament on September 26 to benefit the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International.

## **ACE Volunteers Support GPB-TV**

By Gene Todd

ACE on TV!

It was the afternoon of March 11 when volunteers from ACE met at Georgia Public Broadcasting to help with their pledge drive by manning the telephones and taking calls from people all over the Southeast. There were two programs aired that day. During the breaks, raffles were drawn and prizes were handed out to volunteers holding the lucky tickets.

The afternoon started with lunch provided by Carol Parks Catering. There was training on using the phone system, before going into the studios for the airing of

the shows. The two hosts for the programs were Monica Thornton and Shelley Hammell, long-time volunteers with GPB.



Photo by Gene Todd
Donna Mayer Todd
interviewed by Shelley
Hammell at GPB-TV

During the second program, Donna Mayer Todd, President of ACE, was interviewed by Shelley Hammell as to what ACE is and the mission statement. Donna described how important it is to raise funds for field conservation groups attempting to save the great apes and their natural habitats. With this interview, more people are now aware of Ape Conservation Effort and the plight of the great apes. Throughout the afternoon, the ACE logo was periodically broadcast during the shows along with images of volunteers on the telephones.

A very special thank you to the members who were able to take time to go to Georgia Public Broadcasting and assist with their pledge drive:

Jane Barron, Barbara Cebula, Bob and Sandra Edwards, Sharon Ellis, Vivienne Ferguson, Ginger Hatcher, Lori Kirkland, Leslie Martin, Belinda Matonak, Donna Mayer Todd, Janelle Nord, and Susan Smith.



Photo by Gene Todd

ACE members

with May at GPB-TV



### Did you know?

DFGFI reports that it takes \$30 to provide food rations for one patrol member for one week.

It takes \$50 in fuel to get the patrols to the national park every morning.

\$100 is the cost of protecting one gorilla group for one day.

If you want to personally help re-equip DFGFI trackers and camps in Rwanda and Congo, find out more and make a donation to:

www.gorillafund.org.

"I like to envision the whole world as a jigsaw puzzle...If you look at the whole picture, it is overwhelming and terrifying, but if you work on your little part of the jigsaw and know that people all over the world are working on their little bits, that's what will give you hope."

Jane Goodall

#### 2017 ACE Board

President - Donna Mayer Todd president@apeconservation effort.org

Vice President - Lori Kirkland

Secretary - Jane Barron

Treasurer - Susan Smith

Michele Dave

Leslie Martin

Gene Todd

#### ACE contact addresses:

Primary contact: info@apeconservationeffort .org

Run for the Redheads 5K: redheadrun@apeconservatio neffort.org

Gorilla Golf: gorillagolf@apeconservatio neffort.org

Fundraising events: fundraising@apeconservati oneffort.org

# **APE CONSERVATION EFFORT**

7th Annual

# GORILLA GOLF TOURNAMENT

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2017

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:15 A.M. • SHOT GUN START AT 10:00 A.M.

#### **BROOKFIELD COUNTRY CLUB**

100 Willow Run • Roswell, GA 30075 www.brookfieldcountryclub.com

BEST BALL TOURNAMENT
Each Participant must raise a minimum of
\$500.00 in sponsorships.

Enjoy a day of
All Inclusive Golf
including:
Continental Breakfast
and
Buffet Lunch!

All Beverages Included

UNIQUE AWARDS

Top Three Groups, Longest Drive

& Closest to the Gorilla Contest

Proceeds from the tournament will support The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International For more information and registration visit <a href="www.apeconservationeffort.org">www.apeconservationeffort.org</a> Call 404-427-4998 or e-mail <a href="mailto:gorillagolf@apeconservationeffort.org">gorillagolf@apeconservationeffort.org</a>











# Just in time for Easter and spring parties ACE is selling HoneyBaked Ham gift cards.

Gift cards can be purchased in any denomination and can be used at any HoneyBaked Ham store and online.

They never expire and there is no limit to the amount you can purchase.





An easy and impressive FEAST...

Gift cards can be purchased through April 7th by contacting Susan Smith at info@apeconservationeffort.org or fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org

Easter is April 16th this year, so don't delay in getting your order to Susan. She can mail them to you or for Zoo Volunteers, they can be delivered at the Zoo Atlanta Mega Update on March 25 (order by March 23).







ACE receives 20% of the purchase. You get your party food and ACE helps save great apes in the wild. Everyone wins!

Ape Conservation Effort is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission to help save great apes in the wild.



Where: Grant Park

300 Cherokee Ave, SE Atlanta GA 30315

When:

Saturday, October 7, 2017

7:00am - 11:00am

What:

Run for the Redheads

Walk, Run, Brachiate - a 5K run to save orangutans!

1 Mile Great Ape Gallop

Phantom Runner - Virtual

#### **Support the Redheads!**

Dress as your favorite redhead! Paint your hair red!

Dress as an orangutan! Wear red! Help save orangutans!

Register at: <a href="https://runsignup.com/runforredheads">https://runsignup.com/runforredheads</a>

Benefitting: Orangutan Outreach

www.redapes.org



