

Heard It Through

The Ape Vine

www.apeconservationeffort.org



Upcoming ACE Events

January 20, 2018 ACE Board Meeting TechLab Zoo Atlanta

March 17, 2018

A Magic Night: Don't Let Great Apes Disappear World Studio Zoo Atlanta

Apríl 14, 2018 *Run íor the Redheads* Grant Park

September 18, 2018 Gorilla Golf Brookfield Country Club

November 27, 2018 Georgia Gives Day #GivingTuesday



A Magic Night -Don't Let Great Apes Disappear

March 17, 2018

ACE has a new fundraiser - A Magic Night: Don't Let Great Apes Disappear. Our first magic event will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at 7:30 pm in the ARC at Zoo Atlanta.

We will let you know when tickets for the event go on sale beginning in February.

We are thrilled to have international awardwinning James Brandon starring in our Magic Night. James is a professional magician with an impressive background including working in Las Vegas for 13 years. His comedy and magic skills will be fun for the entire family, so please invite the kids to come, too!



photo by J Brandon James Brandon, Magician

There will be snacks and a silent auction beginning at 7:30. The magic show will begin at 8 pm. You will have time to make your last bid on auction items after the show ends.

The non-profit recipient of the profits from this event will be determined by voting members in January 2018.

See you March 17 for A Magic Night!

2018 Board Members Announced

The last 2017 general meeting of ACE members was held on November 18, 2017. One important item on the agenda was the election of new board members. Board members Michele Dave. Leslie Martin and Susan Smith were elected last year, so their term will expire at the end of 2018. Board members with terms expiring at the end of 2017 were Jane Barron, Lori Kirkland, Donna Mayer Todd and Gene Todd. All of these four put their names up for re-election. Also on the ballot for the first time were Barbara Cebula and Shelley DeWeese. Since our By-Laws state the ACE Board may have 5-19 members, all six people were on the ballot to become 2018 - 2019 board members.

With a quorum of voting members present, all six people nominated were elected unanimously! So our board next year will have 9 members, leading ACE on committees, projects, and fun. Congratulations to our new board! They are Jane Barron, Barbara Cebula, Michele Dave, **Shelley DeWeese, Lori** Kirkland, Leslie Martin, Susan Smith, Donna Mayer Todd and Gene Todd.

The new board will meet on January 20 to elect officers and decide on committee chairs and cochairs. Also, a calendar of events and meetings will be published for the membership.

"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they will never sit in." Greek proverb



ACE Programs Available for Outreach

At the November 18 general meeting, the **Education Committee** gave a "3-in-1" presentation. The presentation was a composite look at 3 of the 4 PowerPoint slideshow presentations developed by the committee. Knowing that the treatment of subject matter and how it is presented varies by age group, the committee decided to prepare presentation for (1)Ages **4 - 8** (developed by Donna Mayer Todd), (2)Grades 3 - 6 (to be

developed by Julie Whitehead), (3)Grades 7 - 9 (developed by Jane Barron), and (4)Grades 10 - 12 and Adult (developed by Susan Smith).

The "3-in-1" presentation at the meeting offered a sampling of three of the age groups, so the members could see the subtle changes in pictures used, vocabulary used and depth of discussion of problems facing great apes.

All presentations identify the four species of great apes, acknowledge problems with them existing in the wild, and suggest positive ways to help. The presentations were developed with pictures, maps, and notes which will give any ACE member the tools to make a presentation at a school or civic club. An inventory list of supplies and visual aids is available, and items can be checked out for use with any presentation.

One last step in getting the presentations ready for school groups is to state how our programs comply with Standards for different age groups and different subjects taught in the schools. This will be included in promotional materials as well as listed within the instructional materials.

We encourage ACE members to search out

places and groups who might want to learn about great apes and how ACE is working to help save them.

Please contact Jane Barron for more details. The Education Committee will be glad to assist you if needed, but we are sure these presentations will be just what you need to spread the mission of ACE to help great apes.

Thanks go to Lisa Westin for her design of the PowerPoint slides and to Gene Todd for his research and purchase of a projector to use with the PowerPoint slideshows.

Georgia Gives Day Is A Success

Our second year to participate in Georgia Gives Day resulted in donations to ACE totaling \$1,305.00. This was an increase from last year. We are thankful for those members who helped to spread the word, and we hope to have even greater participation next year. Overall the Georgia Gives on #Giving Tuesday raised \$6.8 million for nonprofit groups in Georgia. And the giving tradition continues: Mark your calendar for November 27, 2018 when the next

Georgia Gives Day rolls around.



photo: World Wildlife Fund

New Species of Orangutan Announced

World Wildlife Fund article, Nov. 2, 2017

A new great ape species the Tapanuli orangutan was officially announced by an international team of scientists today. With 800 or fewer individuals, the Tapanuli orangutan is the rarest of all great apes.

Previously, two species of orangutans were known the Bornean orangutan and Sumatran orangutan. This new third species lives in North Sumatra, but is genetically and behaviorally distinct from the two other species.



photo: World Wildlife Fund

An international team of scientists described the new species in *Current Biology*. The Tapanuli orangutan (Pongo tapanuliensis) is distinguished from other orangutan populations based on morphological and genomic evidence. The new species is endemic to 475 square miles of upland forest in the Batang Toru Ecosystem of Sumatra and is believed to have been isolated from other orangutan populations for 10,000-20,000 years.

The Tapanuli orangutan was first discovered in 1997 during an orangutan survey in the region. Over the next decade, the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP), together with other non-governmental organizations, universities, and Indonesian authorities, focused on learning more about the population. By 2006, a research station was established to study the orangutans' behavior and genetics.

A breakthrough came in 2013 when researchers examined the skull of a male orangutan killed in human-wildlife conflict. When compared to orangutans from other populations, the skull from Batang Taru showed noticeably different characteristics. This discovery prompted the largest genomic study of wild orangutan to date. As a result, the data collected clearly identified three distinct evolutionary lineages among all orangutans.

The discovery of a new species of great ape in the 21st century is a cause for celebration. But it is also a call to action. Like all orangutans, the Tapanuli is under serious threat. Human encroachment - in this case from mining and plans for a hydroelectric dam - as well as hunting put these orangutans in immediate peril.



photo: World Wildlife Fund

"If steps are not taken to reduce current and future threats to conserve every last remaining bit of forest," the scientists point out in their article, "we may see the discovery and extinction of a great ape species within our lifetime."

WWF has identified the Batang Toru landscape that includes the Tapanuli orangutan's habitat as one of its priority landscapes for species conservation.

"This discovery not only demonstrates how much we still don't know about the biodiversity on our planet, but also sheds further light on the precarious position species like the Tapanuli orangutan are in as their forest homes are increasingly threatened by conversion," said Nilanga Jayasinghe, senior program officer for Asian species, WWF. "It's critical to address the many threats to their habitat if we want to secure their future."

www.worldwildlife.org



Run for the Redheads Rescheduled for April 14, 2018

Even though the construction around Grand Park continues, we are hoping to have Run for the Redheads on April 14, 2018. We will keep you informed on our progress in securing race permits from the city of Atlanta.



Tarzan's True Jane

The following article is taken from an October 6, 2017, article in the <u>Wall</u> <u>Street Journal.</u>

In 1940, when I was 6, my mother saved my life. She and her friend, along with four of us children, were staying at a bedand-breakfast near Poole, on England's southern coast. Lunch was available at noon, and if you missed it, you didn't eat at all.

On this particular day during World War II, we were at the beach. The fastest way back was a direct trail. Despite the objections of her friend, my mother insisted we all take the path over the dunes and through the fields and woods.

Along the way, a German plane appeared and unloaded its bombs. My mother threw my younger sister and me down and lay on top of us. The bombs fell on the trail that she chose not to take. My mother always had a mystical premonition.

The family first lived in Weybridge, about an hour southwest of London. After the London Zoo's first chimp was born in 1935, my father brought home a three-foot-tall stuffed chimp named Jubilee from Hamleys toy store on Regent Street.

Jubilee was named for the zoo's baby chimp and had a music box in its tummy. The tiny box played when you squeezed it.

My father enlisted soon after Britain declared war on Germany in 1939. During the war, my parents divorced. They didn't get along even before he left.

After our bed-andbreakfast stay in '40, my mother, Vanne, moved us to Bournemouth, into my grandmother's 1872 Victorian house. We had a big garden and lots of trees. My two aunts were already living there with my grandmother.

My sister, Judy, was four years younger than me, but we shared a birthday -April 3 - so we needed only one cake. Childhood was quite austere.

Growing up, I was shy and always wanted to be outside playing. Most often I could be found sitting high in the limbs of a beech tree in our backyard. I read and did my homework up there. I loved being in nature.

I also loved "Tarzan of the Apes." I fell passionately in love with Tarzan and was jealous that he married the wrong Jane. While reading Tarzan, I began to dream about going to Africa. I'd live with wild animals and write books about them.

Everybody laughed at me and told me I was just a girl. Except my mother. She said that if I really wanted something, I had to work hard, take advantage of opportunities and never give up. I never forgot her advice.

In high school, I enjoyed learning but hated school. I wanted to be out in nature. After I graduated, my mother only had enough money for me to take secretarial courses.

While working for a documentary film company in 1957, I received a letter from Clo, a school friend. She invited me to visit her family farm in Kenya. I spent the next five months working to save for the passage. Once there, I worked as a secretary and told new friends about my love for animals.



Louis Leakey

Someone suggested I meet famed paleontologist Louis Leakey, who headed Nairobi's natural history museum. I called to make an appointment to see him. He was impressed by how much I knew about animals. I had read many books and spent hours in London's Natural History Museum.

Leakey let me accompany him, his wife and one other young Englishwoman named Gillian on a three-month fossil dig in Tanzania.

One evening, Gillian and I encountered a male lion who followed us until we climbed a gorge. Around the campfire, Leakey told me I had done everything right. It was then that he decided I was the one to study chimpanzees.



Leakey and Goodall

When I left Britain for Tanzania's Gombe Stream Chimpanzee Reserve in May 1960, my mother joined me for a few months. Local authorities wouldn't let me live on my own in the bush without a companion.

We lived in a tent. When my mother left after a few months, I remained for a year studying wild chimpanzees. After returning to Britain, I earned my Ph.D. and founded the Jane Goodall Institute. Over the years, I've returned often to Tanzania to see the ongoing research.

Today, I travel often, but when I'm in England, I live at my childhood home in Bournemouth. We kept it in the family, and Judy lives there with her daughter, two grandsons and a friend.

I have my own little space there. Remarkably, everything has remained the same from when I was a child, including the beech tree I used to climb.

In my room, Jubilee still sits on my dresser. His hair has been worn thin after years of petting and moths, but his Swiss music box still works. The jingly tune is eternal. --As told to Marc Myers

Jane Goodall, 83, is an ethologist and conservationist known for her research of wild chimpanzees in Tanzania. She is the founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and the subject of "Jane," a new documentary film directed by Brett Morgen. The movie "Jane" is currently showing in theaters. Check it out.



2018 Gorilla Golf

Mark your calendars -Our Eighth Annual Gorilla Golf tournament will be September 18, 2018 at Brookfield Country Club.

This year's tournament was very successful and had the largest number of golfers participating than in the past. So put the word out to your friends and family to make sure September 18 is the day to tee up to save great apes!



Did you know?

People attending the 2017 AZADV Conference in North Carolina were treated to a wonderful banquet speaker - Gregg Tully, Executive Director of the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA). He has a Ph.D. in animal behavior from the University of California Santa Barbara. He turned his attention to the nonprofit sector, working in various positions and groups

throughout the years. Some examples are Development Director of the Nepal Youth Foundation, in the Marketing and Communications department at the Marin Humane Society in California, Communications Manager of the Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre, and the CEO of Soi Dog Foundation (the largest stray animal protection organization in Southeast Asia).



Now at PASA, Gregg is working with the largest association of wildlife centers in Africa, including 22 organizations in 13 countries which are securing a future for Africa's primates and their habitat. They do this by rescuing and caring for orphaned apes and monkeys, protecting primates from extinction; working to stop the hunting of endangered species and the illicit pet trade, educating the public, and empowering communities. PASA unifies its member wildlife centers and advocates on their behalf at the international level, provides vital support and works with them to raise awareness globally about

wildlife conservation issues.

Thanks to Babs Fry for sharing this with us. To find out more information about the work of PASA, go to www.pasaprimates.org.

 $\diamond \diamond \diamond$

2018 ACE Board

Jane Barron

Barbara Cebula

Michele Dave

Shelley DeWeese

Lori Kirkland

Leslie Martin

Susan Smith

Donna Mayer Todd

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