

Upcoming ACE Events

February 2019
"Jane" the movie
Date and Place TBD



Election of ACE Board Members

Election of new Board members was held at the November 17 general meeting of ACE. We are pleased to announce that three people were elected to serve on the 2019-2020 board, and they are **Joshua Baker, Leslie Martin and Susan Smith**. Congratulations to them and welcome to the board. Also, let us take this opportunity to

thank **Michele Dave** for her work while a board member. Michele is going off of the board but still plans to remain very active in fundraising and ACE activities.



photo by Michele Dave
 Appalachian Trail sign

Hiking the Appalachian Trail

by Michele Dave

This past June, I had the opportunity to hike the last 35 miles of the Smokey Mountains. A friend and I had hiked the first 40 miles last year and had decided to finish the last 30-something this

year. We left Friday, June 8, 2018, after making sure one last time we both had everything we would need in our giant backpacks.

We would be hiking for four days and then head home on the fifth day. Friday was our short day, only three miles. In the Smokey Mountains, you are not supposed to tent camp when on the Appalachian Trail if you are not a through hiker (heading all the way from Georgia to Maine in one go). We set our days in advance based on how far away the shelters were. Once we had everything planned out, we found out there was aggressive bear activity at one or two of the shelters and had to go back to the shelter map. The days now consisted of a 3, 15, 15, and 4 mile hikes. I will admit, I was a little nervous. I have done a 13-mile hike before in a day, but this particular hike consisted of mostly downhill trails and my bad knee and newly acquired plantar fasciitis were not super excited about the fun that

was to be had. I was ready though! I had my good hiking shoes and all the first aid supplies I cared to carry. ONWARD!!

The drive up to Newfound Gap went well. We parked, we looked out over the overlook and it felt real. You can plan all you want, but when you get out there and look out, and realize the adventure that is about to begin, words can't describe how freeing and cathartic this hike is for me. This was going to be amazing! I just started section hiking with my friend who had four more years than I did under his belt. The goal: MAINE.....you know, when I am 80 years old and have a couple of bionic knees and a cane instead of hiking poles.



photo by Michele Dave
Michele begins her hike

The hike started and after about an hour and a half, we reached our first shelter. We set up our sleeping area, which was shared with several other hikers. We laid out our things to make dinner and after eating just cleaned up and looked out at the views. It is great to even just meet our fellow hikers and hear their

stories where they started, where they will end, the wildlife they have come across, the obstacles they encountered and how they got out of them...maybe that can help you in the long run.

Now the 15 mile day! We woke up, made breakfast, broke down camp, packed our "house" back up and headed out. There were so many side trails you can take to see lookout points. We did most, well....I did most, since my feet were hurting, I felt I should save my energy so I didn't make it that extra 1.2 miles in to the tower and back. I wrapped my feet instead.

My feet started to hurt so I took precautions early on. I walked sideways down the wooden steps that make up part of the trail. I wrapped my feet and put mole skin on the parts of my toes that were now rubbing and banging against my shoes.

Apparently your feet still grow even as an adult and when you do long hikes that can also cause a bit of growth. My perfect shoes that I had worn just the year before on a longer hike had now tried to cripple me on just the second day. I felt a tad bit screwed.



photo by Michele Dave
Snail on a twig



photo by Michele Dave
White flowers on the trail



photo by Michele Dave
The Appalachian Trail

The third day was another 15 mile day...ALL Downhill minus a few spots of up and flat. But we were going to be staying at the last shelter they have in the Smokeys with a bear gate around it. And the rains came. And the downhill. Did I mention the downhill? It was really a pretty hike. The moss and the trees and the overlooks and the flowers. There was A LOT of downhill...Then, like I said the rains came. We were on a pretty steep

downhill and I had to take my glasses off and put on my rain jacket. I had to cut holes into my shoes since my toes were in such awful pain. I didn't cover my backpack like I should have; I thought it would be kept dry with the dry bags and large black trash bag I lined the backpack with. We finally got down to the shelter. There was one lone man in there already and we lucked out it was just us 3 at that shelter. We had to take all of our clothing off and hang it to dry. We had to try to scrounge for dry and semi dry clothes to wear for the next (and last) day.

Day four! We were heading out to hike the last four miles. We had an amazing path that day! I couldn't believe the views! It looked like a zoo rainforest exhibit, as if we were walking through an aviary full of waterfalls and bridges and I was just waiting for some tropical birds and monkeys to come flying and swinging through the air. My camera could not do justice to the view. Once we left this and exited to power lines and a road, it took a minute to adjust to civilization and cars and road sounds. We walked following the AT symbols on the ground and the long bridge and walked under an overpass. We hit a gravel road which we learned several UPS drivers hike

during their lunch breaks, parking at one end and swapping trucks just to meet back up and swap back.



photo by Michele Dave
Michele and hikers at camp



photo by Michele Dave
Hikers' shoes planters at the end of the trail



photo by Michele Dave
Is this the rainforest?

We headed back into the woods and it was a good steep uphill and then back down, where we met back up with the famed gravel road. We could have taken the easier path up the road, but that was NOT the AT. Half an hour later, or 1.3 miles later, we saw the hostel! We saw the tree house we booked. We saw a dog! We saw other people who had been at the hostel for a little while. We met back up with the two through hikers we met on our first night. The hostel manager made us spaghetti and meat sauce. It was sooooo good! We just had to leave a few dollars. This was an amazing place with an even better story. But that's for another time. Look up Standing Bear Hostel.

<http://www.standingbearfarmhostel.com/>

Day five. We woke up and packed up. We ate and walked around the hostel. We took our last pictures and petted the sweetest dog on the trip one last time. Clearly I was going through puppy withdrawal since you cannot hike dogs in the Smokeys. I left my cut up shoes there to be made into planters. We waited for our ride to take us an hour and half drive back to the car at Newfound Gap. 70 something miles down, roughly 2,127 miles to go!

You know it's a good hike when you finally get "trail names." Thanks for reading my story, Michele Dave AKA "Bleeding Turtle", AKA "Pudding Cup", AKA "Off Kilter"

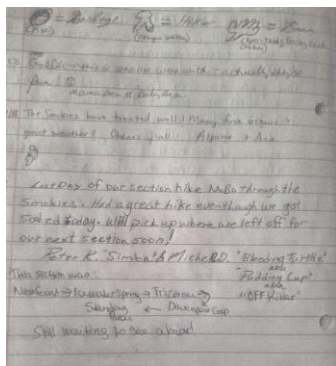


photo by Michele Dave
Hikers message book



Goin' West Our Visit to Yellowstone

by Gene Todd

Donna and I just returned from an awesome trip to Yellowstone National Park. The size of this park is almost beyond belief - 3471 square miles! It is not uncommon to drive more than 100 miles a day in the park, and during our stay, we put about 1,000 miles on our rental car.

The trip started with a Delta flight from Atlanta to Minneapolis with a bit of delay getting out of Atlanta. This delay and a close connection to Bozeman made for a quick dash to the next gate, two concourses away. As we arrived at the gate, boarding had already begun. Loaded into our seats and catching our breath, we waited for the familiar instructions, and then we were ready for a quiet flight to Bozeman, Montana. We picked up

our rental and headed for West Yellowstone where we were booked into the Lakeview Suites, which we selected sight unseen but it sounded nice.

We had read some reviews, and they were about 50-50 good to poor, but any place can have a bad day so we were optimistic. Signing in was less than superb as you spoke to a gentleman through a window instead of a counter. Things could be worse, and they would be. Upon receiving our key cards, we climbed the stairs to the breakfast area to get to our room. To say the smell of garlic in the breakfast area was a bit strong is an understatement. The room reeked of garlic to the point of making your eyes water. No breakfast here.

From the lodging it was twenty miles to West Yellowstone, which was our intended destination as it is right at the west gate to the park. It was Donna's suggestion that we go to the visitor center. It was like many other visitor centers with maps, souvenirs, bathroom and someone to talk to. Donna and I had already decided that we needed to move, so I asked the lady there if she knew of another place. She introduced herself as Angie, and we proceeded to explain our situation being too far away from the park and the breakfast

area needed some work. Angie pointed out the hotels and other large places had pricing in the range of \$400 - \$600 per night, but some of the smaller motels were quite affordable. On our behalf she made a phone call and told us the Pioneer Motel had space for our time there, and the cost was very reasonable.

We thanked her for assistance and headed directly for the Pioneer Motel, where we met Cheryl, a very pleasant woman, and told her we would be back later to check in, but we had to check out of Lakeview Suites first. Back in the car and twenty miles later we arrived back at the lodging where we gathered our belongings and packed the car for the trip to the Pioneer Motel.

We had had to pay for our entire stay at the Lakeview Suites up-front, so we requested a refund. In speaking with the gentleman through the window, he informed me that he could not make a refund. Needless to say it did not thrill me to think we were about to lose \$2,200.00 I explained to him that this was not going to happen and that the distance to drive from this location was not acceptable. With English not being spoken well, he told me that I would have to contact the travel company through which the booking was made. After two phone calls and

a hold please, I spoke with one of their representatives, explaining the distance from the activities we had planned. She then called and spoke with the gentleman, and I listened as the conversation went back and forth. The final result was we were given the refund without any penalty for early departure.

Back to the Pioneer Motel and check in. An older but cleaner and more comfy room with bed and bath - nothing extra, no chocolates on the pillow or stocked bar.

Across the street was the Running Bear Pancake House - great pancakes! This would become our breakfast spot.

Time to go into the park; with our Lifetime Senior pass and showing some ID, onward we drove. The air was fresh and the sky blue and cloudless. Both of us having been here before, it was beautiful to be back.

The first stop, a rest area with the needed facilities in a beautiful area next to the Madison River. Couldn't help noticing marks on a tree. Looking closely we discovered they were bear claw marks - yes, this is bear country and we are in their house.



photo by Gene Todd

Bear claw marks on tree

As we moved further into the park we saw evidence of past fires and the new growth throughout the burn areas. Fire is an important part to the health of the forest.



photo by Gene Todd

Bison resting

Our first encounter with wildlife was along the Madison River -- bison! We made our way into the pull-off area, along with throngs of others with the same idea. We waited for awhile to see if he would get up, but to no avail, he did not. So a couple of photographs of a guy fly-fishing and back to the car. Or course, on the way back to the car, the bison stands up. Oh well, there will be more bison, many more.



photo by Gene Todd

Beside the animals, I am sure the main attraction of the park are the geysers. The best known is Old Faithful. It is not the largest geyser but it is the most regular in it's eruptions. Knowing that Yellowstone is just the caldera of a super volcano, the magma chamber continues to evolve and affects when the geysers erupt. About 25 years ago Old Faithful erupted approximately every 55 minutes. Timing now is about every ninety minutes.

The landscape is ever changing with new fissures continually opening and claiming sections of forest for its own. Anywhere in the area of geothermal activity, the air was laden with hydrogen sulfide gas, and it was comical to hear and see visitors complain about the rotten egg smell. That's nature for you.



photo by Gene Todd

Hydrogen sulfide gas release

Waterfalls, waterfalls, everywhere, rushing, cascading, ever flowing in a hurry to get to the sea only to start all over again as rain and snow. The sound of the water crashing down is nature's

music if only you stop to listen to it. There were many falls - each trying to outdo the previous.

We traveled further north in the park on the way to Mammoth Hot Springs, but we made a stop at a place called Paint Pots that Donna had visited some years ago. A very interesting and dynamic geothermal area. What came to my mind was a passage from *Macbeth*: "Double, double, toil and trouble. Fire burn and cauldron bubble." This area was a veritable pallet of color that greeted the visitor's eye.



photo by Gene Todd
Bubbling hot springs

Mammoth Hot Springs is a magical place in Yellowstone. Over millennia the mineral laden water has formed terraces and pools, nature's artistry at work. We saw evidence of life's complete circle in the leg bones of an elk on a trail. Mammoth seems to have a resident herd of elk, primarily composed of female and young. This being the beginning of the elk rut, we heard a male off in the distance, bugling to announce his

readiness to mate. It would not seem that the sound emitted from this 1,000 lbs. plus animal would be so high pitched.

Steamboat is the largest geyser. On our visit to this attraction, we were informed that it had just started erupting every five days after lying dormant for 45 years. Here we were arriving around 3 PM and Steamboat erupted about 11 AM. All we saw were volumes of steam escaping from a hole in the ground. We learned that there had been two eruptions - the first had a clear water rising a couple hundred feet into the air - the second contained a lot of mud as evidence that some underground channels had collapsed.



photo by Gene Todd
Donna and Gene ready for horseback ride

Donna's birthday was during our trip, so to celebrate we went horseback riding in Gallatin National Forest. The scenery was stunning and the horses knew the way as the trails were very familiar to them.

We continued to enjoy the majesty of the park until it was time to call an end to a most memorable trip. On our last day in

West Yellowstone, we visited the Grizzly Bear and Wolf Center. All of the animals there were considered a problem in the wild, but they now have a place secure and safe to live. Hearing a wolf howl is more stirring than I would have ever thought. Time to go home, so with a trip back to Bozeman for a 6 AM flight to Atlanta, we said good bye to Yellowstone with feelings that we will return some day.

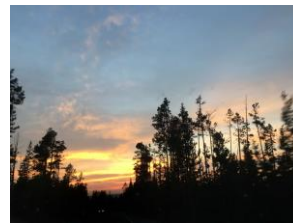


photo by Gene Todd
Montana sunset



Run for the Redheads Adopts Orangutans

Donations to Orangutan Outreach from ACE made possible the adoption of several orangutans for several years. We worked with Richard Zimmerman of OO for recommendations that would include orphaned orangutans being helped by several organizations. The selections are as follows:



Gracia and her kids from Borneo Nature Foundation

Gracia is 25+ years old and has three kids - daughters Georgia and Gretel and baby boy Gara. They live in one of the largest populations of wild orangutans on earth - Sabangau Forest! The part of the forest where they lived was completely burned during the catastrophic fires of 2015.



Krismon, a big cheekpadder from SOCP

Krismon is being cared for at the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme orangutan rescue center. His mother was killed in 1997, and he was kept as a pet by a member of the Indonesian army and his family. When he was an infant, the family treated him as a human child, keeping him in the house and even taking him on family vacations. Once he began to grow, however, they placed him into a small, rusted cage, and fed him a diet consisting mainly of rice. This is where he remained until his rescue by OIC in 2016.



Topan from Borneo
Orangutan Society Nyaru
Menteng

Topan was confiscated from a local village by the forestry authorities in October 2017. She was suffering from severe dehydration and malnutrition, and weighed only three and a half pounds. As is so often the case, the villagers claimed to have "found" Topan weak and alone by a river bank. A mother orangutan would never willingly abandon her infant. Little Topan is now taking her first steps in Borneo Orangutan Society (BOS) Baby School



Gatot from International
Animal Rescue Ketapang

A man from the village said he found the baby alone in the forest whimpering loudly. The man said he felt bad for the baby so he took him home and kept him as a pet. We know a mother orangutan will never leave her infant behind and will fight to the death to protect her baby from aggressors. So what really happened?



Jumbo from Borneo
Orangutan Society Nyaru
Menteng

The passengers of a van pulled up at the main gate with a baby orangutan. The man claimed to have found the baby when he was out with his hunting dogs. The dogs ran towards the mother who quickly disappeared behind the trees. The man grabbed the infant, who he claimed she'd left behind. Orangutan mothers never leave their babies! The little guy, named Jumbo is now in BOS Baby School.

We hope to follow their stories and situations throughout the years. Updates are added to redapes.org website a couple of times a year. Also there will be post a notes on social media and information sent out by email newsletter.



Apes In The Arts

by *Lori Kirkland*

2018 brought another installation of Apes in the Arts. This year it was held on November 10 at Inspire Aerial Arts in the Amsterdam Plaza in Atlanta. Half of the art pieces were human and ape collaborations, and the remaining pieces were ape-only pieces of work.



photo by Lori Kirkland
Painting by Kekla and
Christina

Our very own Gene Todd framed all of the pieces! Lori Kirkland was curator of the decor walls and lighting and was Mistress of Ceremony for the night.



photo by Gene Todd
Silent auction display

For the first time Zoo Atlanta donated three pieces from various art shows to help ACE raise more money. Miles Davis from Massive Burn Studios did a live painting during the two-hour silent auction, and he also did a collaborative piece with silverback Stadi that was sold at auction.



photo by Lori Kirkland
Painting by Kidogo
in Silent Auction



photo by Gene Todd
Miles Davis with his
finished gorilla painting

There were four aerial performances scattered throughout the night. Beer, wine and a wide selection of finger foods were available for all of the guests to enjoy.



photo by Gene Todd
Kimberly Sende and our talented aerial performers

Orangutan Outreach was selected as the recipient of the profits raised. Richard Zimmerman, Founding Director of Orangutan Outreach, made a special trip to Atlanta to attend the event. He and Robin lucked out and went home with several of the art pieces from the auction.



photo by Lori Kirkland
Richard and Robin Zimmerman with Lori Kirkland

This year ACE also had pins designed by Christina Ward of Colors of Conservation which utilized Instagram's Free

Art Friday scavenger hunt to spread the word on social media and to specific places in Atlanta. Josh Baker filmed the entire event and created a vibe video for ACE to use for advertising future events. The link and video can be found on ACE's Facebook and Instagram accounts.



photo by Lori Kirkland
Pin used in scavenger hunt

Apes in the Arts raised over \$5,000.00 for Orangutan Outreach, and all of the artwork was sold.

We would like to thank all of the ACE volunteers that helped put this whole event together. To Kimberly Sende, owner of Inspire Aerial Arts for opening her wonderful studio for us to have this event. To Miles and Merissa Davis of Massive Burn Studios for the live painting - it was so compelling watching Miles work his magic! It was a hugely successful night, and we are already planning the one for 2020!



Party people working 2018 Apes In the Arts



PASA Brown Bag Finds Interested Audience

On Friday, October 26, 2018 a very interested group of volunteers, staff and keepers were introduced to the work of PASA Pan African Sanctuaries Alliance. The guest speaker was Gregg Tully, Executive Director of PASA. He began with the status of African primates in the wild. Three fourths of primate species are declining. Sixty percent of these are threatened with extinction, and we lose about 3,000 great apes every year in the wild.



photo by PASA
Gregg Tully

Why? We know that logging, mining, agriculture, palm oil, pet trade are some of the main factors. As for the pet trade, Greg commented that if the baby primate is too little to eat it will be sold as a pet. He showed some ads for trading babies that were quite disturbing.

Now for the good news: PASA is trying to combat these problems. PASA consists of 23 member organizations which operate in 13 countries. PASA is the leader in wildlife conservation, employing 500 African people with programs generating \$3 million into the African economy locally. PASA organizations work together to coordinate rescues of confiscated animals, getting them the veterinary care needed to help them return to the wild when possible. PASA also puts pressure on governments in Africa to end pet trade of primates, hires patrols for secured areas, and creates education programs for local children to encourage reading through conservation books and videos. PASA encourages programs in

clean water and planting indigenous tree species. The pet trade in chimpanzees has been totally eliminated.

Of course this all costs money, so PASA is able to create the central point of donations, which can be tricky trying to send funding to African countries. Knowing the wide range of projects and immediate needs, PASA is able to direct that money to the places it can have the most impact.

Some costs mentioned were:

- * \$2,000 to send a representative from each PASA organization to a conference where updated training and information are shared.
- * \$1,000 to give 200 children an education package of a pencil, a book, and a certificate for each child.
- * \$3,000-\$4,000 to produce an entertainment film to educate children and adults on animals and conservation.

You can help. Spread the word about PASA and the good work they are doing. Join PASA and contribute money to their projects. Purchase and wear PASA merchandise from their website to show people you care.

Stay in the loop to receive information about primates and work in Africa.

PASAprimates.org

facebook.com/PASAprimates
Gregg@pasaprimates.org



photo by PASA
Pamela Cunneyworth

The second speaker was Pamela Cunneyworth, Director and Primatologist for Colobus Conservation in Diani, Kenya. Pam was proud to tell the group that Colobus Conservation had begun in 2003 and had become a PASA member organization in 2012.

Diani is located on the eastern coast of Africa, and the Colobus Conservation project runs from Kenya and Tanzania to Mozambique. This is a popular tourist area with hotels, strip malls, a hospital and beautiful beaches on the Indian Ocean. But the tourist business has been hard on the six species of monkeys that Colobus Conservation is working to save. Roads and destruction of the forests have brought the monkeys closer to the humans.



The Colobus Conservation is in this area and consists of a veterinary clinic in the forest, a nature trail, and an education center. Years of data collected point out problems and decline of the monkey population. Showing this data to governments has gotten them on board for projects that can help prevent the decline. Working with hotel management can help with the "nuisance monkey" problem, but turnover in management staffing presents a need to retrain every two years.

The road running parallel to the coast line destroyed monkey habitat, and many monkeys have been hit by cars trying to cross over the road. One solution to this was to install "colobridges" which are cables strung over the road from trees on each side of the road. This creates a bridge that the monkeys, especially the arboreal monkeys, will use to cross the road. A creative solution for a unique problem.

Pam spoke of working to educate the locals on bushmeat, but changing a behavior is more difficult

than just spreading knowledge. This project continues.

Biodiversity is key to the success of Colobus Conservation. When more jobs are created from this, the local people prosper, and when this happens, conservation becomes easier. For more information: www.colobusconservation.org
pam@colobusconservation.org

Both speakers answered many questions from the interested audience. We appreciate the work Gregg and Pam are doing, and we are glad to have a better understanding of their organizations.



Georgia Gives Day

by Donna Mayer Todd

ACE participated in the GA Gives Day 2018 or #Giving Tuesday, the online international day of giving to charities. It was the third year for us and we've become a little better each time. To any and all of you who took part in sharing about ACE on social media for #Giving Tuesday, please know the awareness

brought in \$1,315.00 from 10 donors. That's more to send off to help save the great apes and their habitat, and the neighboring communities that share their homelands.

The day is about awareness of non-profit work as well. The professionals who offered advice told us it is our passion, when shared with our family and friends, that is most likely to encourage them to contribute to our cause and/or want to learn more. Telling them why we care enough to volunteer for ACE, in personal terms, or sharing a story from an activity or about a great ape can speak volumes to our social media friends.

We were thankful to have one big donor commit a substantial amount. Also thankful for every other donor, including one or two who were new names to ACE, our total added up. Other than some social media time spent talking about the great apes we all care for, it is a very easy way to spread the word and receive some end-of-the-year contributions for the good.

Thank you to all who participated, and let's grow that number in 2019!



Richard Zimmerman Presents Brown Bag at ZA

The day before Apes In The Arts, Richard Zimmerman, founder of Orangutan Outreach presented a brown bag at Zoo Atlanta. The day was rainy and cool, but there was a great turnout for the talk. Lori Kirkland, vice president of ACE, greeted the group telling them about Ape Conservation Effort and inviting them to Apes In The Arts on Saturday night. Then she introduced Richard Zimmerman.

Briefly Richard said that he founded Orangutan Outreach in 2007 when he saw a critical need to get supplies, staffing, education, and coordination to the groups working in Indonesia. That's the job of Orangutan Outreach, helping the non-profits already in the field.

What is an orangutan? It is one of the great apes and the only great ape in Asia. In Malay and Bahara Indonesian

language "Orang" means person and "hutan" means forest, so orangutans are people of the forest. They are intelligent with 97% of DNA same as a human, our closest relative. There are now three species of orangutans: Bornean, Sumatran, and Tapanuli. All species are critically endangered, mainly due to habitat loss. Males are about 4.5 ft. tall with an 8 foot armspan. Females are smaller with heights of 3.5 feet. They are tree dwellers, building a new nest every night. They can live a long life of 60+ years. Males live alone and wander, but females stay in the same area and may have a baby every 6-7 years. The mother/child bond is very strong.

The Tapanuli orangutan lives in Sumatra but has many characteristics of the Bornean orangutan, and even has a different vocalization. It is believed that only about 800 of these apes exist today.

Where is Indonesia and Malaysia? In the south Pacific the islands of Borneo and Sumatra are the only native homes to orangutans. Borneo is about the size of Texas, and Sumatra is about the size of California.

Why are orangutans endangered? The biggest threat today is deforestation due to palm oil farming. Other

reasons include mining, human disease, forest fires, the illegal pet trade, poaching and bushmeat. But all of these reasons point to humans.

Borneo and Sumatra in 1950 were covered with forests and the orangutan population was plentiful. Today the forests are being destroyed by commercial palm oil plantations. Every minute of every day there is a forest area the size of 6 football fields destroyed in Indonesia. This has put Indonesia in third place in the world for emitting the highest amount of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere.

Palm oil is everywhere and in most everything, so a ban or lobbying against palm oil is impossible. That boat has sailed. It is necessary now to work with the palm oil companies and local populations to establish rules to contain the deforestation.

Another issue is bio-diesel fuel. By cutting down the forest to use trees as a "green fuel," more harm is being done in the name of a clean fuel. However if the trees were left in tact, it would have helped more to clean the air of the greenhouse gases than cutting trees in this stupid green fuel attempt.

Mining and illegal logging produce

poisonous runoff into the rivers - the same rivers that the humans use for drinking water.



photo by Gene Todd
Richard Zimmerman

Richard admits that he is obsessed with a love of orangutans. Orangutan Outreach is a 501(c)3 non-profit working with many partners in the field. Some of the partners are BOS, SOCP, OIC, IAR, BNF, and COP. Please refer to the website for information about these groups. www.redapes.org

Since its beginning in November 2007, Orangutan Outreach has donated \$3 million to these groups working in Borneo and Sumatra. Quite an accomplishment, Richard proudly states. He says that the majority of funding comes from online orangutan adoptions for only \$10 per month. The orangutans listed online are constantly changing and being updated, but it has resulted in over 14,000 adoptions. Richard commented that he thought Ape Conservation Effort

(ACE) had adopted most of the list on the website. He was so proud to share with the group that Georgia, a daughter of Gracia, is now pregnant, so we look forward to hearing when the baby is born. ACE adopted Gracia and her kids with funds from Run for the Redheads this year.

Many groups reach out to Orangutan Outreach to join in supporting the work done. A few of the fundraisers and awareness activities include the following:

MOM - Missing Orangutan Mother, started in 2008, and celebrated by Zoo Atlanta for Mother's Day annually.

International Orangutan Day is celebrated on August 19.

Businesses helping: XTINCTIO.com features fine jewelry made in Italy.

Mahkana.com makes beaded bracelets to benefit endangered species.

Creeper: Rainforest Punks, is a UK band who loves orangutans and sells patches at their concerts, raising \$2000 to date.

Details about these and other campaigns are found on redapes.org.

Richard often questions himself on why he

continues to do this work when the picture sometimes looks depressing for orangutans. But his conclusion is that he must continue to help because it is so desperately needed. He encourages us to continue the fight to save orangutans. He reminds us that we CAN make a difference.

There are more successes than bad times, but the work is far from over, as all of these OO partners know. So it is up to us to help keep orangutans from extinction. We want to keep making others aware of their situation. We have to try to save the remaining wild orangutans. We must!



Gorilla Golf 8 Years and Counting

by Susan Smith

October 16th, 2018 saw another beautiful day to play golf and save great apes, for that was the date of the 8th Annual Gorilla Golf Tournament presented by ACE. This year 22 golfers participated, raising a minimum of \$500 each to play in the tournament. Many of these golfers have played in several of the events and for some this was their 8th tournament.

The day started off at the Brookfield Country Club in Roswell with golfers signing in and being paired up in teams. After a continental breakfast, all of the teams got started. While on the course playing "best ball," players had the opportunity to win "closest to the gorilla" at one hole and "longest drive" at another.

2nd Place
Dave Singer
and Mike Zeldes



photo by Gene Todd
 Hole Sponsor sign and
 Gorilla and ACE Info. sign



photo by Gene Todd

3rd Place
Josh Meyerchick
and Bretton MacIlrath



photo by Gene Todd

Closest to Gorilla
Dave Singer



photo by Gene Todd

Longest Drive
Jenny Reineck



photo by Gene Todd

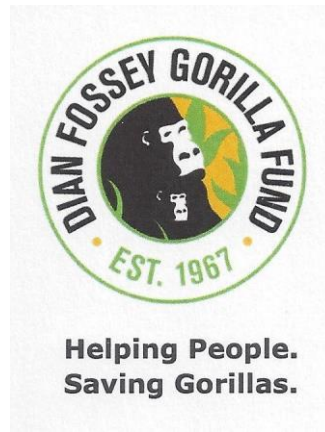
1st Place
Brian Buckelew
and Ryan Carrigan



photo by Gene Todd

This year's tournament raised \$12,741.00 for the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International (DFGFI) bringing ACE's total donation from this event to \$131,581.00. Golfers

and volunteers alike are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the date for the 9th Annual Gorilla Golf Tournament in 2019.



**DFGFI Says
 Thank You**

The following comments are taken from a thank you letter from DFGFI.



You are truly at the heart of gorilla conservation. From all of us here in Atlanta - but especially from our teams in the field of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo - thank you for all that ACE has done and continues to do through its gifts to the Fossey Fund. Your membership in the Gorilla Council is essential to gorilla conservation and protection.

Partners like you truly sustain our critical work - YOU make protecting the planet's last wild gorillas

365 days per year possible. Simply put, your compassionate gift of \$12,741. received on 11/19/2018 means more daily gorilla protection, additional scientific research, further educational opportunities for the next generation of conservationists, and an increase in programs aimed at improving the lives of those located near gorilla habitats.

We are pleased to have APE Conservation Effort as a Gorilla Council member, and look forward to our continuing partnership.

Gratefully,
 Tara Stoinski, Ph.D.
 President and CEO/Chief Scientific Officer



Did you know?

Atmospheric CO2 levels are higher than they have been in 800,000 years,

Fossil fuel companies have spent nearly \$2 billion since 2000 lobbying the government not to take action on climate change, outspending climate activists by a factor of 20 to one.

North Atlantic waters are too warm to cool nuclear power plants in Norway and Finland, leading to shut down.

Sierra magazine, Nov.-Dec. 2018

The status of Mountain Gorillas has been changed from "critically endangered" to "endangered" announced Tara Stoinski, CEO and Chief Science Officer of Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. This was reported by IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, and it means that due to so many protections and concerns in place, the Mountain Gorilla population has increased sufficiently to lower their status. However, the status of all other gorilla groups remains at "critically endangered" due to steady ongoing declines.



2019 ACE Board

(Officers will be decided during the January Board Meeting.)

Joshua Baker
Jane Barron
Barbara Cebula
Shelley DeWeese
Lori Kirkland
Leslie Martin
Susan Smith
Donna Mayer Todd
Gene Todd

