



To promote and establish good relationships among professional zoo keepers.

To promote and establish a means to stimulate incentive and greater interest in the zoo keeping profession.

To support deserving conservation projects that include educating the general public about the need for preserving our natural resources and animal life through these worthwhile efforts.

To establish materials beneficial to zoo keeper education.

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The Keeper

The American Association of Zoo Keepers San Diego Chapter Quarterly Newsletter – Winter 2013

President's Message

By Yvette Kemp, SDAAZK President

As the year nears its end, I am proud to look back at what our San Diego AAZK chapter has done. It really is amazing what a group of people working together can do! Here's an overview of what happened in 2013.

We started the year by joining the Carlsbad Marathon as one of its official charities. Between our "Running for Wildlife" team, training sessions, and the marathon spaghetti dinner, January was an exciting month with new ideas. We are happy to announce that once again in 2014 we'll be back participating with the marathon as an official charity and sharing our message of conservation to a larger audience.

Presentations throughout the year included speakers from the International Rhino Foundation, Cheetah Conservation Fund, and Cheetah Outreach. Supporting conservation organizations is an important part of our mission and we were happy we could contribute to their causes. Swap meets are a major fundraiser for our chapter too. Thanks to donations from our friends and the San Diego Zoo, we are able to cover chapter costs and add to conservation organizations.

As part of our commitment to be involved in the community, SDAAZK participated as mentors for Eagle Scouts, supported Marathon Heroes, and took action in community projects. Our partnership with the San Diego River Park Foundation and contribution with the CA Coastal Cleanup gave us the opportunity to give back locally. Sharing information with fellow animal care professionals at the 2013 National AAZK Conference and Parque del Nino Zoo is a just a small part of what our organization and members do.

Of course our biggest annual fundraiser, Bowling for Rhinos, took place in May and it was our most successful one in the 23 years since it has begun. Thanks to our amazing fundraising team and volunteers, we raised \$25,340, the #2 top fundraising amount in the U.S. and Canada!

New and old successful fundraisers included Brew Nights, Pints for Preservation, the Photo Contest, Dunk Tank, Safari Caravan, and Croctober Fest. Each event was dedicated to a different cause and gave us the opportunity to contribute to them financially.

So what did we do this year? A lot! We are proud we were able to raise and distribute over \$35,000 to conservation and have a direct impact on our community. 2014 looks to be another exciting year. Join us and help decide which way we should head.

SDAAZK's 4th Annual Photo Contest

By Maureen O. Duryee, San Diego AAZK Vice President

San Diego AAZK was excited by all the entries to our 4th Annual Photo Contest. The challenge was to capture photography's role in worldwide conservation issues. Photos were judged on content, overall impact, and their artistic quality. This year's judges for the Best In Show portion of the contest were Yvette Kemp, President of SDAAZK chapter, and 2 people from the San Diego Zoo: Carmi Penny: Curator of Mammals, and Tim Mulligan, Chief Human Resources Officer. Our friends on Facebook were able to vote for their favorite photo in the People's Choice category. The number of contestants increased this year making it more challenging to choose. Thank you to everyone who submitted their incredible photos and congratulations to our two winners below. To see all the photos entered in this year's contest, visit our website and click on the events tab.



The Gift of Life

Received: Best in Show by Kelly Salamone

Deep in the Amazonian Rainforests of Ecuador, the trees are the foundation of local life. The local Kichwa culture is working hard to stop the destruction of their rainforests. They have been working hard to create sustainable practices and tourism in the area. As I looked up at this enormous tree our guide told me, "This tree is as important to us as our own families. It feeds the ground, gives shelter to the animals, and fills our chest. We would have nothing if we didn't have these trees." Local grassroots conservation can be the most powerful tool to helping save our planet's most delicate ecosystems.

Piping Plover Fledgling

Received: People's Choice by Ann Knutson

The Great Lakes population of the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) was at a perilously low level. But intensive conservation efforts have seen the number of breeding pairs steadily climb from a low of 12 in 1983 to 66 currently. This fledgling was pulled from the wild as an abandoned egg and raised to be released into the wild in time to migrate south for the winter and hopefully return to breed. The project is an example of different agencies and organizations working together to benefit a species in peril.



Parque Del Nino

By Yvette Kemp, SDAAZK President

I have always believed that people who work with animals and in conservation are known for their "busman's holidays." Ask most keepers where they went on vacation or what they did over their weekend and many times the answer will include visiting a national park, a wildlife area, a zoo, or working on a conservation/community project. So when I asked friends and co-workers if they'd like to join me to visit a zoo outside of Tijuana, Mexico, I was not surprised that before the end of the week there were 27 interested people. About 6 years ago I was invited to and attended a conference in Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico. A good friend of





mine worked at the local zoo and they were hosting the AZCARM Conference. AZCARM is Mexico's equivalent to our AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums). It was during this conference that I met Fernando Gastelo, director of the Parque del Nino zoo located in Valle de Guadalupe, the zoo that our group was going to visit that day on September 14th. The intention was to get to know the zoo and share any information that could help them improve their facility. Parque del Nino is a new zoo, only 5 years old, and Fernando is an architect by profession. Although the zoo's goal is to teach conservation to children in the area, he admits that his knowledge of the needs of the animals is not his strength. Therefore he was hoping that our group

could meet with his staff and share information that would make their zoo better. That's the beauty of animal people, no matter where they are, they want to share information and make animal care better. Reason: we all have the same goals – conservation, education, and animal care.

The day started early due to the 2 hour drive from the border to the zoo. Luckily our hosts had arranged transportation and a bus was waiting for us on the Mexico side of the border. Our group arrived with every intention of touring the zoo and working with the staff to come up with ideas regarding enrichment, exhibit design, and animal natural history. Once we arrived and introductions were made, we began an extensive tour of their facility. Parque del Nino is not only a zoological institution with over 50 species, but a waterpark and recreation area so there was a lot to see. The staff took us throughout the zoo and we discussed ideas as we went about. Our plan of working more extensively on ideas did not quite work out though. Turns out they had an alternative plan for us... tour us throughout their facility and the area (known for its vineyards) and make us want to come back.

They did a great job of showing us how dedicated they are to their animals. We are happy to say we will be back in December for a few days working on projects and sharing information. Our group has come up with ideas to share with their staff and ways to implement them. It'll be exciting and a great opportunity for SDAAZK participants to accomplish several of our missions: establishing good relationships among zoo keepers and exchanging information that will lead to greater understanding of the needs and requirements of all animals. We are looking forward to a fun and stimulating relationship!



San Diego AAZK In The Community

By Grace Porreca, SDAAZK Conservation Officer, SeaWorld San Diego

August 18th found our AAZK members helping out at the Point Loma Native Garden. Before our day started we were treated to a tour of the Garden and a brief history of the Garden.

The Point Loma Native Plant Garden is a hidden gem that features many rare and endangered native plant species that are found along the San Diego River. Some of the plants in the collection are not found naturally anywhere else in the world but in our region. This wonderful garden also features a native plant nursery where they nurture seedlings grown from seed and cuttings harvested on site.

The 2nd opportunity to give back to the community was on September 21st at the 29th Annual Coastal Cleanup Day. While there were 102 different cleanup sites throughout San Diego that day, SDAAZK participants met at the Sweetwater Regional Park. An estimated **7500 volunteers removed 75 tons from the cleanup sites** across San Diego County, more sites than ever before! These accomplishments were made possible by volunteers that donate their Saturday morning to help preserve and protect San Diego's outdoor areas.



We invite you to stay tuned for future project events and help San Diego AAZK give back to the community!



Lola Ya Bonobo and Claudine Andre's Story

By Linda Henry, SDAAZK P.R. Officer

On 27 September, SeaWorld San Diego and the San Diego Zoo each hosted separate events featuring speaker **Claudine Andre'** to share about her rescue work with Bonobos in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Claudine founded the organization **Lola Ya Bonobo** in 1994 and has since been the first to rescue, and now return, bonobos to their natural habitat.

Claudine is a passionate advocate for the bonobo, painting vivid word pictures of the bonobos she has known and her life with them in the Congo. Despite being the daughter of a veterinarian Claudine never envisioned she would work with animals. But she went on to describe how, after her home and business had been looted as a consequence of the ongoing Congolese war, she was asked to visit the Zoo where she found the animals to be neglected and starving. Claudine said she simply returned to her home where her husband sat at a makeshift desk fashioned from boxes and a broken door and said, "We must do

something for the zoo.” And he said, “But of course.” And so from nothing came something. Claudine took her first steps in a 20-year journey toward bonobo rescue; it was a young and sick bonobo brought to her at the zoo that sparked her focus on this species.

Since then, though she has developed her program to include a sanctuary area for bonobo release and monitoring, it is still “three ex-pat volunteers” and a host of Africans doing the work of rescuing bonobo from the bush-meat trade, from snare injuries and the like. Claudine’s motto is “Conservation is education”. She now hosts more than 30,000 children at her facility annually to connect them with the natural world and with bonobos. Her organization is supported by the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund and San Diego Zoo Global.

Claudine’s is a story of hope despite incredible challenges. I was inspired by Claudine’s story because, for me, she exemplifies the power that we each have as individuals to take action for change no matter the circumstances or challenges—Claudine has persevered in the midst of war. Claudine has endeavored to save one of the world’s seven great ape species but she is also making a difference in the lives of single bonobos. Each of us working in the field of conservation and education can look to Claudine as an example of what one person can do to make a positive change in the world—if only one small part.

Look for more about Claudine in the recently published book *Wildlife Heroes: 40 Leading Conservationists and the Animals They Are Committed to Saving* by Jeff Flocken and Julie Scardina. Her website is <http://www.lolayabonobo.org> where you can click on the English version supported by Friends of Bonobos. Debbie Sandler, Friends of Bonobos, should be thanked for supporting Claudine’s visit to the US.

Carlsbad Marathon 2014, SDAAZK an official charity again!

We are once again an official charity for the Tri-City Medical Center Carlsbad Marathon & Half. This gives us a pedestal to reach thousands of people to share our passion for conservation and an opportunity to raise much needed funds that help to continue our grants and events promoting conservation.

There will be many fun events that will lead up to the marathon and we hope that you will join us as we prepare for the race that will be held on January 19th, 2014.

Join us for our training runs, spaghetti banquet on January 18th at **Café On Park**, and much more. We will also be creating a marathon committee and are looking for anyone who is interested in helping. You can visit our website for details.

Please contact Ann Knutson at aknutson@sandiegozoo.org for more information or if you would like to join the marathon committee.



Dunk Tank Fundraiser

By Yvette Kemp, SDAAZK President

Because of everyone's participation and support at the September 30th dunk tank fundraiser, we were able to raise \$1,343 for the San Diego Zoo's newest exhibit, Africa Rocks. Along with Mark Stuart and Tim Rupe's match of \$1,000 and Ernest Rady's match of \$ 0.50 for every \$1.00, our final contribution was \$3,477 for the Africa Rocks exhibit!

It was a very fun day and I took many pictures that are posted on the SDAAZK Facebook page. We had 31 people sit in the dunk tank for 10 minutes each. No one left the tank dry since everyone was dunked at least one time.



The person who won the prizes for "Person who had the most tickets sold to dunk them" and the "Person most dunked" where one in the same: Denise Caballero from San Diego Zoo Global's payroll department. 17 tickets were bought to dunk her (with 3 balls per ticket) and she was dunked a whopping 11 times! For being such a great sport, she won 2 gift certificates to Cafe on Park.

Thank you to everyone for joining San Diego AAZK in this great fundraiser. And thanks to all the new people who joined us this year; hopefully you'll be willing again next year. It was our 5th year hosting this fundraising event and it was the best outcome yet!

Mark has already committed \$1,000 to Africa Rocks through the Zoo's web site. This contribution fulfills our commitment to AAZK for the dunk tank fundraiser to support Africa Rocks. Their gift will be contributed "In Honor of AAZK and its Members" by Mark Stuart and Tim Rupe.

Thank you Mark, Tim, and everyone for your help!



Cheetah Conservation Fund

By Kym Janke, SDAAZK Board Member and CCF SoCal Rep

San Diego AAZK was happy to welcome Matti Nghikembua, Cheetah Conservation Fund's (CCF) chief ecologist, to the zoo on October 14th.

A native Namibian, this was Matti's first trip to the United States and he was an animated and compelling presenter. Matti described some of the great programs run by CCF aimed at saving the cheetah from extinction. CCF uses a multi-faceted approach to conservation relying not only on their research but also on the community.

Some of the programs that Matti highlighted were:

1. the Bushblok program where CCF is combating brush encroachment into cheetah habitat by turning it into a combustible fuel source,
2. a new dairy through which they are teaching farmers about alternative incomes from their livestock,
3. the livestock guarding dog program pioneered by CCF and which is now being used by many conservation organizations in several countries,
4. the re-wilding and release of cheetahs in Namibia, and of course
5. their ecology and education programs.



Interestingly, Matti shared that it was through an education program he attended at CCF while in middle school that prompted him to pursue a career in biology and conservation earning him a Master's degree in Environmental Management and the position of chief ecologist at CCF.

Farmer education seeks to not only educate the farmers on the importance of the cheetah and conservation but also aims to help the livelihoods of families and communities. Farmers learn more efficient farm management techniques aimed at reducing predation, how to differentiate and identify predators that have taken livestock, and are taught alternative and additional ways to make income. You can learn about all of CCF's programs by visiting www.cheetah.org.

Even though CCF is located in Namibia there are chapters all around the world who are working tirelessly to raise awareness and funds to support cheetah conservation and all of the great conservation initiatives pioneered by CCF. If you are in Southern California, please visit www.ccsandiego.weebly.com to get involved with our chapter as a volunteer or to stay updated on events and fundraisers coming soon. If you are outside of Southern California, you can visit www.cheetah.org to learn about chapters in your area.

Another amazing way to get involved with CCF is through the volunteering opportunities in Namibia! Anyone can volunteer at CCF and people with a wide range of skills are needed to keep the conservation centre running.

Zoo Keepers are especially beneficial to CCF since part of the conservation program is a compound where they house non-releasable cats and also a re-wilding program for cats that are hopefully set to return to the wild. CCF offers a discounted rate on food and board to zoo keepers that travel to Namibia and volunteer at the compound.

I spent 5 weeks at CCF in 2009 and it was one of the most amazing and inspiring experiences I have ever had. I learned first-hand the challenges of in-situ conservation efforts, had a chance to participate in
The Keeper – Winter 2013

educational programs offered to local ranchers, participated in data collection for various genetic and physiological studies, and helped the CCF keepers with some tricks of the trade to make everyone's lives a little easier. The food was delicious, the scenery was breathtaking, and the accommodations were much nicer than I expected. But most of all, the people were friendly and passionate; I made friends with folks from all over the globe.

If you are thinking about a volunteer opportunity please do not hesitate to contact me and I can go on for hours about all the incredible experiences that are waiting for you in Namibia!

40th Annual AAZK Conference in North Carolina

By Grace Porreca, SDAAZK Board Member

This year's 40th Annual AAZK Conference was hosted by the North Carolina Zoo with the theme of "Connecting Zookeepers to Wildlife." The conference site itself was held at the Sheraton Greensboro Four Seasons while the ice breaker was held at the Greensboro Science Center. It was a wonderful event of getting together with old friends and meeting new ones.



The conference started with keynote speaker Vanessa Woods, the bestselling New York Times author of "The Genius of Dogs" and "Bonobo Handshake". A second keynote speaker later in the week was Dr. Mike Loomis, North Carolina Zoo's Veterinarian. Dr. Loomis has been involved in elephant conservation and research projects in Cameroon, working in conjunction with the Cameroon Ministry of Forests and Wildlife.

The conference consisted of 19 paper sessions with topics covering Bowling for Rhinos, birds, carnivores, primates, conservation and animal management and hosted 32 workshops such as *Anseriformes* and *Wildlife Monitoring Through Radio-Telemetry*.

Included in the conference was a trip to the North Carolina Zoo. The zoo is located just south of Asheboro and sits on a 2,200-acre tract of land in the Uwharrie Mountains. Approximately 500 acres of this property have been developed into one of the largest "natural habitat" zoos in the United States. You won't find cages made of steel and concrete here; their animals are given enclosures that mimic their natural habitats to include trees, ponds, rocks, grass and dirt.



At the end of the conference the attendees were invited to a closing banquet consisting of a silent auction and dance. Congratulations to the North Carolina Chapter for a spectacular event! I'm sure everyone is looking forward to next years' event at Disney's Animal Kingdom.

Cheetah Outreach

By Maureen O. Duryee, San Diego AAZK Vice President



Recently SDAAZK extended their resources to help raise over \$500 at the "Wild Optimism" event held at the Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery in La Jolla, California. The event was organized by Linda Drabova, a board member of Zoofari Foundation, a non-profit partner of Wild Wonders, and included speaker Deon Cilliers, Livestock Guarding Dog Project Manager from Cheetah Outreach. Accompanying Deon were two local Anatolian shepherd dogs, Duke and his younger understudy Zuzu.

What can domestic dogs do for exotic cheetahs? They help to protect livestock on farms in Africa by detouring the predatory disposition of the cheetah from hunting easy prey. The Anatolian shepherd makes it harder for the cheetah to catch fenced-in livestock. The cheetah will then return to hunt their natural food source, gazelle, making this a win-win situation for everyone.

The monies raised on the night of September 13th helped to fund the life of the placed Anatolian shepherds for their first year's stay on the African farm including veterinary assistance. It only takes one year before the farmer is convinced of the dog's merits and then assumes the responsibility.

This program has been promoting the survival of the free ranging Southern African cheetahs through environmental education and delivering conservation initiatives for over 15 years, a worthwhile and successful program.

Annual Safari Park Caravan – What A Wild Ride!

By Ashley Roberts, San Diego AAZK Professional Development Officer

Have you ever wanted to go on safari across African plains to watch herds of gazelle, giraffe, birds, and rhinos in their natural habitat? I know I do! Well, if you're like me and on a tight budget, the next best thing is to visit our Safari Park!

This year SDAAZK partnered up with the Safari Park to set up another special photo caravan experience for our members and their guests. On October 20th, 27 excited supporters of the American Association of Zoo Keepers headed out on two covered trucks on our very own safari! I have worked at the San Diego Zoo for nearly ten years now and I had always wanted to visit the field exhibits at the Park but had never gotten the chance.



I was beyond excited and lucky for me, that place doesn't ever fail to impress! Everyone had an amazing time, snapping once in a lifetime pictures, feeding giraffes and rhinos, getting close up views of amazing

wildlife, learning from our wonderful guides all while supporting our park AND our chapter. Our guides, Dani and Ashley, were very knowledgeable and engaging. They kept everyone laughing throughout our two hour adventure!

One of the things I appreciated the most was that I was able to attend without breaking the bank. The photo caravan tours at the Safari Park usually cost over \$130, but for supporters the price this year was only \$30. The price was even better if you were a local chapter member, with the cost of only \$15. Best of all, if you were a local and national AAZK member, like me, it was FREE! You just can't beat those prices! Not only are the prices amazing, the money raised goes toward SDAAZK conservation projects.

I'd like to thank SDAAZK and our chapter secretary Kim Janke for setting up this amazing opportunity, the Safari Park for donating the park admission and two caravans for all of our attendees, and all of our supporters who came out to enjoy our beautiful park and it's truly wonderful animal ambassadors!

1st Annual Croctober Fest

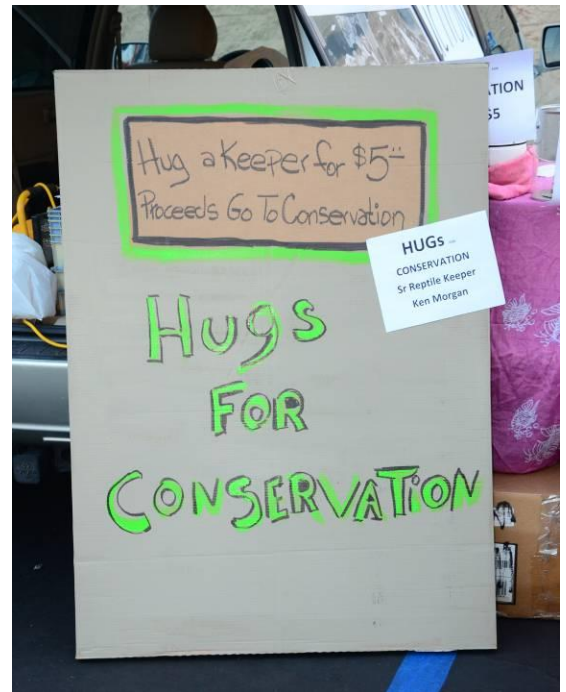
By Kim Lovich, San Diego Zoo Reptile Associate Curator

We would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out and supported our first Croctober Fest! Whether you volunteered at the event, donated an item for the auction, helped with the raffles, assisted with the set up or tear down, we could not have had such a successful event without all of you!

This fun event was held in San Diego on October 21st at Ono Grind's Café & Grill, with a buffet style authentic Hawaiian style BBQ pig with all the fixings. The closed auction items varied from beautiful framed reptile photographs to ZooMed terrariums, to cute stuffed crocodiles and Sea World passes. There were also fabulous live auction items such as a package of California Wolf Center tours, an official commemorative basketball and poster signed by Bill Walton, and an autographed NFL football made all the more special by the Charger player himself coming out to support our event. The band Steel Parade came all the way from Long Beach and made the night even more festive. Of course the good beer helped as well.

The event itself raised \$4,565.77 and that does not include the online donation amount of \$1,070 for a current total of \$5,635.77!

All of this serious fun was for the benefit of crocodiles with 100% of all proceeds raised going towards crocodylian conservation. Half of the funds raised will benefit the Gharial Conservation Fund managed by the San Diego Zoo, and the other half will go towards the Association of Zoo's and Aquarium's Crocodile Advisory Group's Crocodylian Conservation Fund (AZA CAG) and will go towards helping conservation efforts for the Jamaican Crocodile.



The Jamaican crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*) population is in dire need of conservation intervention. It is currently being extirpated due to habitat loss, killing out of fear, and subsistence hunting. While some field surveys are already underway, additional surveys, population monitoring, public awareness building, habitat protection and education programs are desperately needed if this population is to remain in Jamaica. Some population estimates for this species range between 150-300 individuals.

The Indian gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List. Recent surveys estimate the entire wild population of adults at just around 200 individuals, showing a 96 to 98 percent decline since 1946. Funds raised for this species will provide support for imperative field work which is essential to understanding gharial ecology. With over 80% of gharial habitat already lost, this in situ conservation work is crucial in implementing proper management and protecting this species from extinction.

Of the 23 species of Crocodylians known to science today, six are listed as Critically Endangered, 7 are Endangered, and 3 are considered Threatened, making them one of the most imperiled orders in the animal world. To learn more, visit <http://www.cag.crocodylia.com/conservation.html>.

Crocodyles thank you for all of your support and so do we!

Sincerely, San Diego Zoo's Herpetology Department & the San Diego chapter of AAZK

Join The SDAAZK Board

By Ashley Roberts, San Diego AAZK Professional Development Officer

Hey you! Yes you! We want you!

Our chapter is growing and we are looking for some new faces and new ideas! Are you interested in working with likeminded, enthusiastic individuals to make an impact on our keeper community and conservation efforts on both local and global levels? Then you should join us in helping make this chapter the one to beat!

Here are just a few highlights from this last year:

- Bowling For Rhinos! Not only did we have an amazing turn out and a super fun event but we were the second highest fundraising chapter in the nation, raising almost \$25,000 for rhino conservation!
- We helped with several community service projects in our local area. From planting trees with Acres for Atmosphere, to cleaning up areas with the San Diego River Park Foundation and the CA Coastal Cleanup, and helping the California Wolf Center and Lions, Tigers & Bears with projects at their facilities.
- We rolled out two new fundraisers with Pints for Preservation and Croctoberfest (with the San Diego Zoo's reptile department). Pints made over \$2,000 for the Philippine Eagle Foundation and Croctoberfest raised over \$5,600 for Jamaican Crocodile and Indian Gharial conservation!
- We became an official charity of the Tri-City Medical Center Carlsbad Marathon and Half Marathon and had several members complete the race!

And these are just a few examples. As you can see, this is an exciting time for our chapter... with more new opportunities in the works!

Speaking of opportunities, did you know that SDAAZK board member elections are coming up in February? We will have 4 spots open, so bring your talents and enthusiasm and join in on the fun! All are welcome and encouraged to take part in either a support or an executive position of the board. It is a great way to develop and hone skills, a fantastic networking and professional development opportunity, a

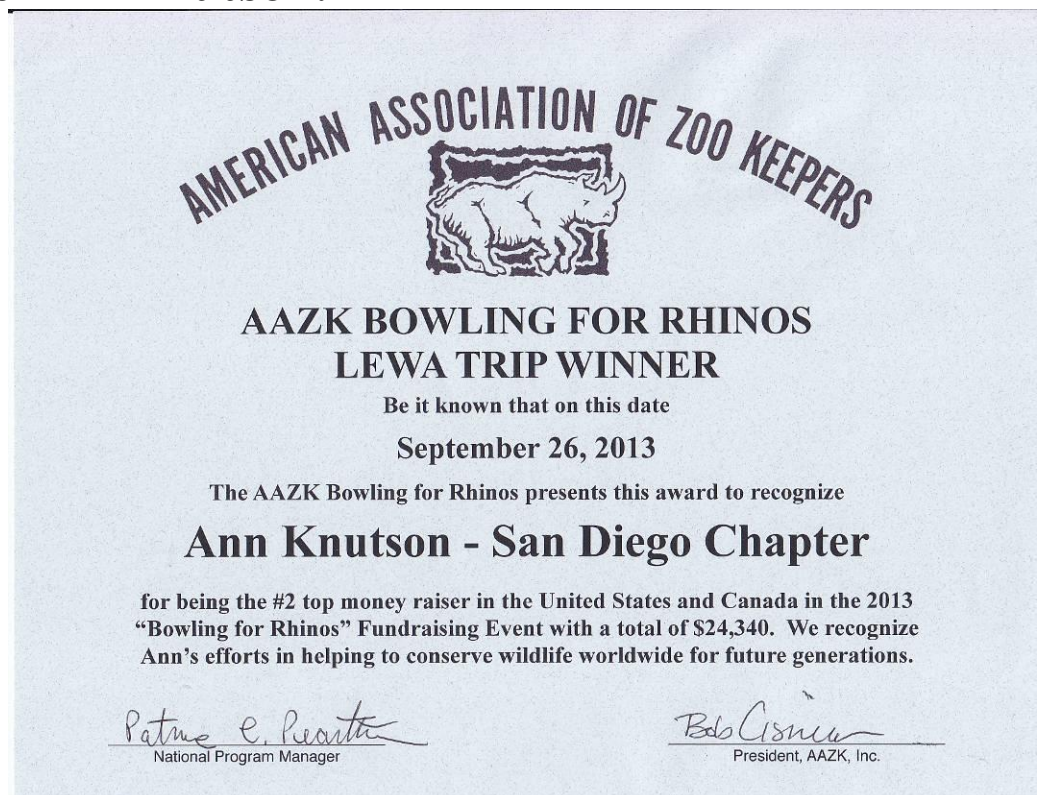
rewarding way to give back to our community, and actively support worthwhile conservation projects and institutions!

So mark your calendars for the next chapter meeting and come see what's happening in your chapter. It will be in the board room of the Warner Building at the San Diego Zoo on Monday, November 11 at 5:00 pm. If you have any questions or will need assistance getting on grounds for the meeting, please email Yvette at thekeeperSDAAZK@cox.net. We hope to see you there!

Thank You To Our SDAAZK Sponsors & Supporters



Congratulations Ann Knutson!



Become a San Diego AAZK Member Today!

Join SDAAZK and be a part of an organization dedicated to conservation!

SDAAZK has 2 different participation categories:

- 1) To become a **member** of SDAAZK, you must already be a member of National AAZK. SDAAZK recommends becoming a member of both local AND national AAZK.
- 2) You may join only SDAAZK and be acknowledged as a **supporter** of SDAAZK. Your contribution will go towards all SDAAZK conservation projects.

SDAAZK membership includes the quarterly newsletter, "*The Keeper*," the ability to vote during elections, free admission to local SDAAZK events, and discounts for special activities. If you are not sure of your National AAZK status or would also like to become a National AAZK member, please contact National AAZK at <http://aazk.org>

SDAAZK supporter includes our quarterly newsletter, "*The Keeper*," involvement in our conservation projects (local and international), and participation in our local SDAAZK events.

To join, visit our website at www.sdaazk.org or print, fill out, and mail the application form below with your payment to:

San Diego Chapter of AAZK
P.O. Box 632984, Hillcrest Post Office
San Diego, CA 923103

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

FaceBook: Yes _____ No _____ Twitter? Yes _____ No _____ Be sure to follow us at www.Facebook.com/sdaazk

Other contact information: _____

Zoo Affiliation: _____

Job title: _____

Work area: _____

Species you work with: _____

Special interests: _____

SD AAZK membership category (please check appropriate box):

- \$12 .00 – San Diego AAZK Membership; already a National AAZK member
- \$12.00 – San Diego Supporter, not a National AAZK member

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CALENDAR 2013 & 2014

visit www.sdaazk.org for updates

November 11, 2013: SDAAZK Meeting. Location: San Diego Zoo's Warner Conference Room. Time: 5:00 pm. Let us know you'd like to join us at TheKeeperSDAAZK@cox.net. Our meetings are open to all and we'd love for you to join us! Become more involved in what is happening in your AAZK chapter!

December 4, 2013 & January 8, 2014: Scheduled training sessions with runners to help with questions about training and events to motivate and inspire those participating leading up to the race or for those just wishing to exercise. Each session has a suggested donation of \$10 and last for approximately 1 hour (usually 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm unless otherwise stated) and includes a fun treat, meal, or raffle afterwards. Visit our website to sign up.

January 18, 2014: Running for Wildlife Spaghetti Dinner Carbo-Load/Fundraiser. WHERE: Cafe on Park, 3831 Park Blvd., San Diego 92103. **TIME:** 5:30 pm. **COST:** \$15 pp. Includes pasta dish (with a vegetarian choice), salad, dessert and a non-alcoholic beverage. Other beverages can be purchased. **DETAILS:** To show support for those who are participating in the Tri-City Medical Center Carlsbad Marathon as SDAAZK "Running For Wildlife" runners, we are offering a special "carbo load" Spaghetti Dinner the evening before the race. Sign up soon on our website!

January 19, 2014: Carlsbad Marathon. Participants and volunteers needed. Visit our website to sign up!

- To see pictures from our events, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sdaazk