

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

American Association of Zoo Keepers San Diego Chapter

Quarterly Newsletter - Summer 2014

President's Message

By Ann Knutson, AAZK San Diego President

The last couple of months have been very busy for AAZK San Diego.

We finished the 2014 Tri-city Medical Center Marathon as an official charity, began our workshop series, and had a very successful Pints for Preservation. On top of this we unveiled our new level of Professional Membership opportunity.

Over the last few years we have been spending a lot of time focusing on the fundraising aspect of our mission statement and want to start concentrating on some of the other aspects. We are hoping that this will be more beneficial to our members within their careers.

AAZK San Diego's Mission Statement

- 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 to 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

Not only have we begun a fantastic workshop series that Ashley Roberts, our Professional Development Officer, has been putting together, but we have also joined Collabornation.

Collabornation is a great learning tool that was not available to all of our members until now! It is an interactive, online program that provides many learning products and topics, a place to communicate with other AAZK members, and a great place to share resources. Our Professional Members are now able to take online classes that are beneficial to our profession. "The Fundamentals of Animal Learning," "Neonatal Ungulates," "Solving Behavioral Problems," and "Climate Change and the Polar Bear" are just a few of the great topics our members can find. AAZK San Diego's goal is to also be able to share our local workshops and presentations with our Professional Members who cannot attend in person on our space at Collabornation.

Both Collabornation and the workshops are new learning opportunities available to all of our Professional Members that we hope you take advantage of.

We are very excited to be able to offer this opportunity and hope to help further everyone's professional growth.

The Keeper – Summer 20

The Lewa Experience

By Ann Knutson, AAZK San Diego Chapter President

As the season for Bowling for Rhinos (BFR) begins, we are getting very excited about all we have to offer this year!

There are two great presentations to help motivate you to raise funds and join in the final event.

On April 25th, AAZK San Diego hosted Bill Konstant from the International Rhino Foundation. Check out the article with a summary of the amazing information he shared. After hearing his presentation last year, I was inspired to raise more money for BFR than I ever had before.



On May 5th, I will be giving a presentation on my experience in Lewa. I'll share how much the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (LWC) does for the surrounding communities and how they are working to help the entire Northern Rangeland Trust. I was so very fortunate to be able to travel to Kenya and experience LWC and see first hand all the work they do! If hearing about their work isn't enough to inspire you, then I suggest you come see my presentation and see the photos of the abundant wildlife! My presentation will be **May 5th at Rondavel** (2:30 social, 3:00 presentation). The Lewa trip is up for grabs again for the person who is the highest fundraising Professional or Full AAZK Member nationally for BFR 2014, yet another piece of inspiration.

During all of this, Robbie Clark, our amazing Social Media Officer, will be posting facts about why rhinos are so incredible! So far the posts have been enlightening and inspiring. Not only is this a great learning tool, but you can use the posts to help motivate your friends and family to donate to the cause! If you haven't already, join us on Facebook to see Robbie's posts.

If you can only attend one thing, please put the Bowling for Rhinos event on your calendar! The event is on **Friday,** May 16th from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm, at Kearny Mesa Bowl. It is one of the most fun events we do all year, where we have raised record breaking funds that go straight to rhino conservation. My favorite part of the evening is the costume contest, seeing how creative all the groups are! But a second favorite activity is the dance contest. And new to this year's event is Karaoke! Karaoke will start at 8:00 pm and I cannot wait to hear the performances that come out of our coworkers, friends, and family.

So come join us for a fun night of bowling, dancing, and most importantly raising money and awareness to save rhinos. Please join us in our effort to make a difference in the world!



3rd International Flamingo Symposium

By Grace Porreca, AAZK San Diego Chapter Conservation Officer

The Flamingo Symposium begins October 5th with an evening icebreaker and features three days of presentations, October 6th through the 8th. Presentations will be held at the Bahia Resort Hotel at 998 W. Mission Bay Drive, San Diego CA, 92109.

The venue is located near SeaWorld San Diego. Surrounding motels are conveniently close to the international airport, fifteen museums, beaches and recreation areas. The San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park are located nearby and accessible by car or public transportation. There are only 30 spots each for the pre and post symposium trips.

The scientific content of the presentations will focus on all aspects of flamingo conservation including basic ecological studies, wild population accounts, zoological behavior, and husbandry studies. Workshops will focus on collaborations and conservation.

Symposium Scientific Committee Members include: Cathy King, Rebecca Lee, Stephanie Costelow, Laurie Conrad, Felicity Arengo, and Arnaud Bechet.

To find out more, visit: http://www.3rdinternationalflamingosymposium.com/



Check out the Palm Oil Guide and Scanner the El Paso Zoo has developed. It helps find which products contain palm oil and how to find alternative products without palm oil. From hand lotion to cosmetics and cookies – and even some "healthy" and organic items – palm oil is used in a variety of products we purchase every day.

But the true cost of palm oil is the destruction of tropical forests. Oil palm plantations are expanding around the world as they clear rainforests to make way for larger and new palm production operations. Join the international boycott against products that contain palm oil and purchase similar products that do not contain palm oil. The choices you make every day will help decrease the demand for products that contain palm oil and help increase demand for products from responsible companies. Encourage companies that use palm oil to use alternative oils or palm oil that comes 100% from sustainable plantations that have agreed not to destroy wildlife habitats. Make the right choice today and help protect millions of wildlife and plant species like elephants, tigers, orangutans and countless other rainforest animals.

This scanner is designed to help you make better choices at the store when you purchase food and cosmetic products that might contain palm oil. The choices you make are critical to the survival millions of plants and animals, global efforts to protect biodiversity, the health of the ecosystem and the quality of life for people everywhere.

Sponsored by the El Paso Zoological Society (http://www.elpasozoo.org/takeaction-orangutans.php).

Visit http:// www.Conservationfinder.com for this and other links.

And join AAZK San Diego as we assist with local Community Projects:

June 5 & 6 we will be at the California Wolf Center August will find us at The San Diego River Project September the Annual California Coastal Clean-Up





Check our website http://sdaazk.com/events/ for specific dates and times.

The Keeper – Summer 2014

International Rhino Foundation Speaks to AAZK San Diego

By Grace Porreca, AAZK San Diego Chapter Conservation Officer

Bill Konstant, Program Director for the International Rhino Foundation (IRF), recently spoke to our AAZK San Diego crowd about IRF's work in rhino conservation and how AAZK's BFR events play an integral part in IRF's efforts.



Since the inception of Bowling for Rhinos in 1990, AAZK has raised \$481,448.21.00 and we are quickly approaching the \$5,000,000.00 mark.

IRF helps support rhino conservation in 2 major areas of the world, Africa and Asia. In Africa there is the Zimbabwe Lowveld Rhino Program, while in Asia 3 parks and programs benefit from IRF: the Javan Rhino Conservation Program in Ujung Kulon National Park in Indonesia, the Sumatran Rhino Conservation Program located in Bukit Barisan Selatan, Gunung Leuser, and the Way Kambas National Park in Indonesia.

In Indonesia, the Javan and Sumatran Rhino are the least abundant rhinos but they also have had the best success rate in regards to protection. Poaching here is due more to the need for food, and this need also affects tapirs, tigers, birds, deer, and other species. The success of these programs are demonstrated in the fact that no Sumatran or Javan Rhino have been killed since 2006.

On the African continent the story is quite different. Unfortunately for the black rhino, 3 are killed every day. At this rate, it is believed that we will be losing a breeding population quite soon. The poachers in Africa resemble something more akin to criminal activity, a gangster mentality. They usually consist of 2-4 members who go on a hunt for 3-4 days hiring professional guides, carrying automatic weapons with silencers or tranquilizer guns. They then escape across the boarder into Mozambique where they cannot be pursued.

But on a bright note, the Indian white rhino has a very sustainable population. In places like Kaziranga National Park, 70% of the world's population can be found. Bill stated it was similar to seeing cattle in fields everywhere you look.

Rhinos need help and AAZK San Diego BFR event is a great way to show your support. Our Bowling for Rhino's fundraiser is on May16th at Kearny Mesa Bowl on Claremont Mesa Blvd. Sign your team up on our website at http://sdaazk.com/events/bowling-for-rhinos-2014.

It is and evening of guaranteed fun and excitement, all for a great cause!





RHINOS IN CRISIS

Javan Rhino: 35-44 Sumatran Rhino: -100 Greater One-horned Rhino: 3,333 Black Rhino: 5,055

White Rhino: 20,405

Raising Money for Great Reasons

By Yvette Kemp, AAZK San Diego Chapter Liaison

As we recently celebrated Earth Day, it made me think about all the great projects that are out there supporting various causes. There is a large probability that we each know someone who is involved in at least one of these worthwhile projects. From environmental topics such as climate change, palm oil awareness, bush meat crisis, and animal protection, to topics dealing with human rights, fighting illnesses, and eliminating weapons. Speaking with anyone involved in any of these projects elicits measurable passions in each one of us.

So it should come as no surprise that people who work in our field tend to be involved in and aware of several conservation and environmental programs. A lot of us tend to look up articles about the animals we work with or the things that are affecting their natural habitats. We participate in local activities that help our communities. And we raise funding to help the projects we hold dear to make an impact in helping the cause.

Are we environmentalists then? I recently read an article by Jai Goulding, (http://fleurcom.org/blog/what-is-a-real-environmentalist/) that caught my attention for various reasons (see what I mean when I say we tend to read certain types of articles). It defined an environmentalist as someone who "supports the goals of the environmental movement." I wouldn't really think of myself as someone who is part of any "movement" per say, but I am interested in protecting the environment. I also don't see myself as participating in protests, but rather one who is interested in bringing awareness through education and fundraising. There are many projects that I would like to be involved in and contribute to, but with a keeper's salary and work schedule, that's just not going to happen. With that in mind, I am glad I can make a larger impact working with others through AAZK. I also enjoy supporting my friends with their projects when I can. And one of the best things I can do is help educate by passing on any information that is shared with me.

For example, I love what Grace, our AAZK San Diego Conservation Officer, is doing through Conservation Finder (www.conservationfinder.com). Conservation Finder is an excellent way to share your favorite conservation program or bring attention to a great project. Some of the programs you read about there can always use some kind of help.

One great cause many of us participate in is Bowling for Rhinos. Rhinos are a flagship species for AAZK and rhino conservation has been an important part of our organization. Chapters throughout North America host many different functions to bring awareness and funding to save rhinos, cheetahs, and many other species. But did you know that there is another fundraiser that helps Lewa and rhinos in Africa? A marathon runs through Lewa while raising funds for conservation. If you're a runner and have been thinking of going to Africa, this might be the way to do both. Check it out at

http://marathontours.com/index.cfm/page/Safaricom-Marathon-and-Half-Marathon-%28Kenya%29/pid/10226.

There are so many programs, so many great causes that need our help and attention. I invite you to share your favorite one. You can send us an article to publish in our newsletter, share your project in Conservation Finder, or

environmentalists and conservationists in our own way. But more than anything, we are people who are aware of the needs of our environment and the many species in it.

post to our Facebook page. Let's face it, we are all

We can all bring awareness to some of our favorite projects, participate in our communities, and continue to educate those around us. And of course, help raise funding when possible. Bowling for Rhinos is on May 16th... that looks like a good day to join in.



AAZK San Diego Mentoring Future Leaders

By Yvette Kemp, AAZK San Diego Chapter Liaison

This is the 3rd year in a row that the Boy Scouts of America has requested someone from AAZK San Diego to mentor one (or more) graduating Eagle Scouts. AAZK SD board member Kym Janke, her husband John, and I all had the privilege of attending the Eagle Scout Recognition dinner on April 29th and meeting 3 young men who were interested in wildlife management, environmental engineering, and zoology.

THANK YOU!

To our Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner Committee and Sponsors

Event Chairman: Charles Hartford | Program Chairman: Christopher Vaughan Committee: Russ Christensen, Greg Deering, Pam Dixon, Debbie Lenart, Judge David Gill, Doris McCarthy, Dennis Pate and John Shotwell Buck Knife Sponsor: Dr. & Mrs. Ernest Latham

Event Sponsor: Hon. David M. Gill, Judge, Superior Court, State of California, Mrs. Marcia Gill Educational/Non-Profit Sponsors: Ms. Liz Foster Georgia Tech University, Ms. An Nguyen Georgia Tech University, Ms. Kym Janke American Association of Zoo Keepers,

Ms. Yvette Kemp Ámerican Association of Zoo Keepers

Distinguished Eagle Scout Sponsors: Mr. Donald Belcher, Mr. Greg Deering,
Mr. Jesse Muniz, Mr. John Witt, VADM (Ret.) Charles Wurster

Special Thanks to: Dr. Ernest and Della Lathan for their generous sponsorship of Buck Knives

Eagle Scout Sponsors:

In attendance were 133 graduating scouts and

their mentors. The evening included an interesting presentation by guest speaker, and former Eagle Scout, Aaron Linsdau, the 2^{nd} American to have skied solo from the coast of Antarctica to the South Pole.

For myself, I not only had an opportunity to be able to share experiences and provide guidance, I was also excited to see that there are still young people interested in conservation. I was paired with Mackenzie, a senior from Ramona High School, who is planning on attending Humboldt State University (go Lumberjacks!) to major in wildlife management. Mackenzie seemed like a very nice and dedicated individual. He had participated in the Safari Park's Conservation Corp, volunteers regularly at The Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona as well as occasionally at Lions Tigers & Bears, and choose to make owl boxes for his Eagle Scout project. In school he's taken the various science related classes and goes to the after school Advanced Program class that focuses on care for exotic animals.

What I really enjoyed was listening to him talk about what he hoped to accomplish in life. His ultimate goal is to reintroduce native species to areas where they have disappeared, primarily in Europe. But he told me that he would be happy anywhere as long as he was able to help the environment.

One of the things we spoke about was how many of us in the conservation field tend to have had a basic idea of what we wanted to do with our lives from early on. Mackenzie commented on how many of his friends still don't know what they want to do "when they grow up" but that he has always known he would work with animals.

It was a fun evening overall, but was made even better by knowing that there will be 3 more people that will be involved in conservation in a few years. It brings me hope for the future. I am honored that the Boy Scouts have chosen AAZK San Diego to help guide these individuals!

Thank You To Our AAZK San Diego Sponsors & Supporters







Amy Jankowski, SDZG's Library Services Associate Director

By Megan Anthony, SJSU SLIS Grad Student

Editor's Note: Every once in a while, we have guests attend the AAZK San Diego meetings to learn more about our organization. Recently, Megan Anthony joined us and agreed to share her interview with SDZG's Associate Director of Library Services, Amy Jankowski.

Megan is a grad student at San Jose State University who is in the process if working on her Masters degree in Library & Information Science. As part of an assignment for one of her library classes, Megan had to interview a special librarian to discuss the major issues that are occurring in the field. Megan chose to interview Amy because "a Zoo Librarian is something I never thought was a possibility as a profession." As those of us who have used the San Diego Zoo Global's library know, it is a great and needed source of information as knowledge is constantly advancing. Here is Megan's interview with Amy. AAZK San Diego would like to thank her for sharing her article.

First and foremost it is important to note that the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in Escondido is affiliated with the San Diego Zoo in Balboa Park. The San Diego Zoo is a "100-acre (40-hectare) Zoo is home to over 3,700 rare and endangered animals representing more than 650 species and subspecies, and a prominent botanical collection with more than 700,000 exotic plants. It is located just north of downtown San Diego in Balboa Park," while the San Diego Zoo Safari Park "is an expansive wildlife sanctuary that is home to more than 2,600 animals representing more than 300 species. Its renowned botanical collection represents 3,500 species and 1.5 million specimens. Over half of the Park's 1,800 acres (730 hectares) have been set aside as protected native species habitat. It is located 30 miles (48 kilometers) north of downtown San Diego in the San Pasqual Valley near Escondido, California" (About San Diego Zoo Global).

Tuesday, March 25th I interviewed Amy Jankowski at the Beckman Center, near the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research in Escondido. She provided great feedback to me regarding the major issues in her field, responsibilities and struggles, how the zoo library contributes to the zoo's staff, its patrons, and more.

The budget remains constant for the library, showing no signs of depletion. Running off of operational costs, the library is non-profit. The library holds around 10,000 items, and is open to staff, volunteers, and students within the realm of zoology and/or library science. With 2 on staff, Amy and an assistant librarian work on collection development, reference management, e-journals, fact sheets, and much more. Animal fact sheets are made for frontline staff (employees that work directly with customers) and/or volunteers to have during zoo tours. The fact sheets provide knowledge that animal care staff has requested to be included, as well as detailed research and references for patrons to have during their tour of the zoo. Zoo librarians of the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park also answer targeted research on specific questions. Amy also mentioned that the librarians on staff assist with InReach, an HR resource to frontline staff. Amy brought up a great resource that she has access to: Zims, an International Species Information System. A worldwide database for tracking animal movement, (birth and death, for example), registrar, and animal management, Zims is a great resource for zoo librarians.

Amy informed me that the library used to be located in the San Diego Zoo, near the cafeteria. Seeing as the zoos are geographically dispersed, she often needs to be creative in how to reach people. Some of the struggles she mentioned are space, she has to experiment on finding places to put new material, and has tiny climate control space. The archive room can be a struggle, constantly regulating the temperature. The lower the temperature, the easier it is to manage the humidity, which should be about a 35-50% level. Digital preservation can be a conflict for her, with the solution involving the need of more people to assist.

Amy is well spoken and seems to really love her job. I enjoyed interviewing her and I thank her for setting time aside to speak with me.

AAZK San Diego Memberships in the Community

As part of our effort to support deserving organizations, AAZK San Diego chapter is proud to join the CA Wolf Center and Lions Tigers & Bears as members of their organizations.



AAZK San Diego Membership Form

	☐ Check here if you are renewing	
	Professional (must already be an AAZK National; adding local San Diego membership w/access to online courses)	\$25.00
	Full (must already be an AAZK National; adding local San Diego membership)	\$15.00
	Supporter (local AAZK San Diego Membership Only)	\$15.00
	Institutional (organizations/institutions; requires board approval)	\$50.00
Name		
Address		
City	State/ Zip	
Email _		
Zoo Affi	liationJob Title	
Work aı	reaSpecies you work with	
Special 1	Interests:	
Professio	nal AAZK San Diego Member. Benefits include:	

- Access to online animal professional courses offered through CollaborNation Collaborative Learning Environment
- Free admittance to all our hands-on workshops and events
- Opportunity to sign-up for hands-on workshops before it is offered to others
- One-year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, The Keeper
- Free admission to special presentations by guest speakers
- Support of local and international conservation projects
- Free admission to our annual AAZK SD photo caravan at the Safari Park
- Ability to participate in local board member elections
- All National AAZK membership benefits

Full AAZK San Diego Members. Benefits include:

- One-year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, *The Keeper*
- Free admission to special presentations by guest speakers
- Support of local and international conservation projects
- Free admission to our annual AAZK SD photo caravan at the Safari Park
- Ability to participate in local board member elections
- All National AAZK membership benefits

AAZK San Diego Supporter. Benefits include:

- One-year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, The Keeper
- Free admission to special presentations by guest speakers
- Support of local and international conservation projects

Please fill out form and send to:

AAZK San Diego Membership P.O. Box 632984 San Diego, CA 92103

AAZK San Diego P.O. Box 632984 San Diego, CA 92103

Tel: (619) 231-1515 ext. 4672

 $Email: \underline{The KeeperSDAAZK@cox.net}$

Web site: www.sdaazk.org

FaceBook: http://www.facebook.com/sdaazk



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CALENDAR 2014

visit www.sdaazk.org for updates

- May 5, 2014: AAZK San Diego Presents: Ann Knutson, The Lewa Experience. Ann Knutson who was the Top Fundraiser at the 2013 Bowling for Rhinos event and won the trip to Kenya to see Lewa up close and personal. Join us as she shares her experience. Come see the amazing sites and work done through the money raised at the BFR event. Time: 2:30 social, 3:00 5:00 presentation. Location: San Diego Zoo's Rondavel Room. This event is free and open to all.
- May 6: AAZK San Diego Board Meeting. Location: San Diego Zoo Warner Building Small Conference Room. Time: 5:00 pm. Email us at TheKeeperSDAAZK@cox.net for details. Our meetings are open to all. Become more involved in what your AAZK chapter does!
- May 16, 2014: Bowling for Rhinos at the Kearny Mesa Bowl. Join SDAAZK at our annual rhino fundraiser where 100% of the profits raised go directly towards rhino conservation. Event includes bowling, silent auction, special drawings, awards for best dressed team, dance-off, live music, and more fun than any fundraiser should contain! Teams and individuals are welcome to join.
- Make your own BFR Fundraising page: Raise funds and awareness for rhinos with your own fundraising page. All money raised will go to the BFR National Fund! Person with the most funds raised will win a great prize.
- Purchase BFR T-Shirts: Choose from 2 great designs and support Rhinos.
- May 24, 2014: Golf For Wildlife Fundraising Tournament Benefitting the San Diego Zoo's Wildlife Conservancy. Time: 11:00 am 3:00 pm. Location: Balboa Golf Club. Cost: \$66 per person. Contact: Jeremy Fontaine at jfontaine@sandiegozoo.org.
- TBD: AAZK San Diego Professional Series: Hoof Trimming, Part I. Details to come.
- June 1 August 31: AAZK San Diego's 5th Annual Photo Contest. Photo submission is June through August; winners will be announced in September. Details coming soon.

Details about these and all our events available on our website at www.sdaazk.org!

Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sdaazk