



2020 Calendar

**Spring 2020
HoneyBaked Ham
gift card sale**
April 1 - May 31

**June 27
General Meeting**
9:30 am
TechLab
All members are welcome.

**July 25
Board Meeting**
Place and time TBD
All members are welcome

**September 25
Apes in the Arts
Inspire Aerial Arts**
6:30 - 8:30 PM

**October 2020
Gingerbreads for
Redheads
Haunted Gingerbread
Houses**
Date and details TBD

**October 19, 2020
Gorilla Golf**
The Oaks Golf Course
Covington, GA
(Flyer is attached.)

**October 25
Board meeting**
Place and time TBD
All members are welcome.

**November 14
General Meeting
and Election of new
board members**
Place and time TBD

**December 1
Georgia Gives Day**
Details TBD

**Earth Day
at 50**

(The following are excerpts taken from an article in Sierra Magazine, March/April 2020.)

The United States had never experienced anything like it: On April 22, 1970, nearly one in 10 Americans flooded the streets and the woods and the seashores to call for an end to the merciless pollution of the country's air, waters, and landscapes. In the words of Senator Gaylord Nelson, the Wisconsin Democrat who conceived the idea of Earth Day, the goal was to force the issue of environmental protection "permanently onto the national political agenda" - and in that, the effort succeeded. The conservation movement that existed before 1970 was largely made up of white, affluent outdoors-people who mostly focused on the protection of birds and other wildlife, the preservation of wilderness, and the

*Happy
Earth Day
April 22*



establishment of parks and preserves. The environmental movement that was born on Earth Day aspired to something larger - a multiracial cause, propelled by the same passion that spurred the civil rights and anti-Vietnam War movements, dedicated to preserving urban environments as well as wild ones, and inspired by the ecological insight that our home is the whole planet.

Bigger Than Earth Day

by Denis Hayes

On Wednesday, April 22, 1970, I had high hopes for the day - the first Earth Day. Organizers had sweeping demands for breathable air and clean rivers as well as banning DDT, halting offshore drilling, saving the whales, and removing lead from paint and gasoline. I thought we would score some victories, but I never dreamed how fundamentally Earth Day would alter the political, cultural, and economic landscape.

The following morning, the wire services estimated total national participation at 20 million people. In November, we were able to capitalize on the strength by defeating several anti-environment villains in Congress in the first "Dirty Dozen"

election. In December, when Congress passed the Clean Air Act with only one dissenting vote, I began to comprehend how deeply Earth Day had altered the political topography.

Our immediate outcomes included the passage of the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act, the establishment of the EPA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the banning of DDT, the removal of lead from gasoline, and the passage of the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Together, they transformed modern America more fundamentally than any other governmental action, with the possible exception of the New Deal.

Today, the need for a similar transformation is dire. The 50th anniversary of Earth Day - #EarthRise2020 - will mobilize a grassroots movement against a threat to the planet as great as that posed by nuclear weapons at the peak of the arms race. Humans face many urgent issues today, but only the climate crisis poses an irreversible threat to the habitability of the planet.



Earthrise, December 24, 1968

Taken by
Astronaut William Andes
during Apollo 8 Mission

Making Time for Time

by Jenny Odell

Earthrise, the famous photo of Earth as seen from the moon, was made back in 1968, about 16 months before the first Earth Day. The photograph is so familiar that we take it for granted today, but at the time it was published, it was a lesson in perspective and momentary alienation, an opportunity to look back as our earthly home from a position outside it.

As an artist, I spent many years working with satellite imagery - collecting, cutting out, and arranging banal human structures like swimming pools, parking lots, and landfills. Spending those hours scrolling across the globe, I encountered a strange irony: Although the satellite view was not a human one, it was from this perspective that our built environment looked the most human, in all its fragile specificity.

Just as a satellite view shocks us with the strange beauty of our seemingly

familiar home, Earth Day has the potential to give us a new temporal perspective. I would like Earth Day to be like that: a pause for consideration, a day unlike other days, a time for thinking about time. Some things are visible only from a remove. Let this day be a porthole through which we look out on the vastness of ecological time, laughing in retrospect at our small-minded schedules and wondering how we might think and act in different ones. If we agreed to do that, I wouldn't be surprised if the effects of Earth Day cascaded into all our other days.

An Earth Day For Life On Earth

by Jedediah Britton-Purdy

There's no doubt that we should have Earth Day. The question is, *which* Earth Day?

Today, Earth Day is almost inevitably about climate change, because at long last there is a massive mobilization of conscience around the crisis. I would guess that if you asked people at random about Earth Day, they might confuse it with the climate strikes. After all, the events look much the same; people of all ages, but especially

young ones, rallying with pictures of the planet and making pleas for political action to stop ecosystem destruction.

The environmental movement, however, is not the same as the movement to save civilization. Environmentalism also does something else. It speaks for the value of nonhuman animals, for helping ecosystems flourish whether or not they have a human benefit, and for the ideal of wilderness, which has plenty of problems but is also precious.

Earth Day should be, among other things, a festival for those who wish to remind everyone that we should let other living things be just because they are alive, and that we should preserve places that, to the greatest extent possible, have nothing to do with us.

From The Pond To The Streets

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Five decades later, calls to "make every day Earth Day" predictably follow every annual tree-planting or trash-pickup event. This is good. But corporations using Earth Day as an occasion to "green their brands"

while they continue exploiting our resources the other 364 days of the year, that's not good. I fear that the fierce energy of the first Earth Day has softened into a kind of green complacency - if we just recycle more and buy green products, all will be well. Or we've adopted the counternarrative that we are powerless to change the fearsome trajectory. Neither story will save us.

There was a time - before we knew better - when we trusted that incremental ecological action would propel the collective shifts that we need. The problem is we don't have time. Earth Day as usual, a polite exercise of stewardship, is wholly inadequate considering the scope and urgency of the climate emergency.

On a recent Earth Day, I spoke with a beloved student who was about to graduate and go into environmental activism. "I'm sorry," I said, "that you have to still fight these battles. I thought we would have this figured out by now." She responded, "Don't you see that this is the best possible time to be alive?" Climate chaos? Extinction crisis? I didn't get it. She looked me in the eyes and said, "We are on the precipice. When everything hangs in the balance, it matters where I stand. How wonderful to live in a

time when everything that I do matters."

A World Worth Fighting For

by Reverend Lennox
Yearwood Jr.

The human species is at a crossroads. Today, young people are creating new momentum by following the science, organizing, and speaking out - doing everything they can to fight for their existence.

Can we re-create the passion of the original Earth Day, but also build an indestructible movement? Yes.

To do this, we need to integrate the environmental movement, break down the walls that divide us, and become more diverse and inclusive. We do this by empowering frontline communities, ensuring that everyone has a seat at the table, and creating culturally relevant platforms to educate, organize, and mobilize.

We can ignite the passion of the original Earth Day and turn it into a political power necessary to solve the climate crisis before it is too late. If we do this, we have a fighting change to prevent climate meltdown and leave future generations with a world grounded in justice and love - a world worth living in and fighting for.

Let's Return Earth Day To Its Revolutionary Past

by Jamie Margolin

I hate Earth Day. Or at least the modern-day, Hallmark-card Earth Day I grew up with. People would talk about recycling and being "nice" to the earth. My classroom walls were plastered with drawings of the planet with a smiley face on it and cheery slogans about using fewer paper towels.

It was as if one day a year everyone said, "Let's do the absolute bare minimum for the planet" and then went on with business as usual, feeling good about themselves, when I knew that what needed to happen to save my future was revolutionary, systematic change.

In 2020, it's time to bring back the revolutionary spirit of Earth Day. No more greenwashing, no more corporations using the holiday as an excuse to make a few half-assed tweaks here and there and pretend that those are going to substitute for the radical change actually needed for us to save all life on Earth.

In fact, the whole notion of environmentalism has to change. No more can it be something that people take on as an act of charity. True

environmentalism is about overhauling the systems that caused climate change in the first place. It's about holding accountable the corporations responsible for climate disaster.

On Earth Day 2020, everyone all over the world needs to hit the streets in massive numbers. Tens of millions. This Earth Day, we need a mobilization so big that no one can ignore us, so big that the world will literally stop for climate action and environmental justice.

If we mobilize on the 50th anniversary of this historic day like we did for the first Earth Day, then I will be proud to report that I no longer hate this annual event. Half a century after the first Earth Day, it's time for us to start acting like it's zero hour to respond to climate change -- because it is.

Will I see you in the streets?



Spring for a HoneyBaked Ham

by Susan Smith

We may be celebrating a little differently this year, but we can still enjoy some good food and help save the great apes at the same time. ACE is again working with HoneyBaked Ham to raise funds through the purchase of HoneyBaked Ham gift cards. You can call ahead and then pick up your order.

Our fundraiser will run from April 1 through May 31 to cover celebrations for Easter and Mother's Day. The cards (both electronic and plastic) can be purchased in any \$5 denomination and they never expire. The great part is that ACE received 20% of the value of all cards purchased.

We are using the online process to purchase the gift cards. All you have to do is go to the following website <https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/ACEshb> and place your order. You can request actual plastic cards (will take a few days to deliver to you by mail) or choose

your card in electronic form. It's just that simple, (The spring flier is attached.)

As always, ACE encourages everyone to be responsible consumers. HoneyBaked Ham turkeys and hams contain no palm oil.



Changes to By-Laws Pass

With no dissenting votes the January 2020 proposed changes to the By-Laws passed and are now in effect. The changes reflect the theme of the importance of responsibility and participation of all members: (1)The organization philosophy is that all members of ACE have a stake in the decisions that the organization makes and their impacts; (2)Every member has the same rights and responsibilities to participate and vote; and (3)Decisions will be made by majority rule of members attending meetings or responding to emails for votes.

There will be no voting and non-voting members. There will be no quorums needed to take votes. It is important for every member to understand the need for their participation in all aspects of Ape Conservation Effort for ACE to continue to succeed in supporting non-profit groups working to save great apes in the wild.

To become more involved and work on a committee, please see a current board member for more information.



Officers and Committee Leadership Chosen at ACE Meeting

Saturday, January 25, 2020 ACE held the first meeting of the new year. Lori Kirkland welcomed everyone, and she said she's fired up for the new year of ACE.

The first order of business was selection of officers. They are **President** Lori Kirkland, **Vice President** Donna Mayer Todd, **Secretary** Jane Barron, **Treasurer** Susan Smith, and **At Large Board members:** Barbara Cebula, Leslie Martin, Gene Todd.

Also approved are **committee chairs and co-chairs** as follows: **Fundraising** Leslie Martin chair, Lori Kirkland and Michele Dave co-chairs; **Apes in the Arts** Lori Kirkland chair, Josh Baker co-chair;

Gorilla Golf Jodi Carrigan chair, Susan Smith co-chair; **Research/Donations** Gene Todd chair, Barbara Cebula co-chair; **Membership/Outreach/Newsletter** Jane Barron chair, Gene Todd co-chair; **Advertising/Marketing** Lori Kirkland and Jenny Reineck co-chairs; **Georgia Gives Day** Donna Mayer Todd chair, Susan Smith co-chair; **Bingo for Bonobos** Leslie Martin and Susan Smith co-chairs; **Magic Night** Jane Barron chair, Barbara Cebula co-chair; **Website** Jenny Reineck chair, Josh Baker co-chair; **Education** Lori Kirkland chair; **Gingerbread for Redheads** Jane Barron chair, Vivienne Ferguson co-chair.

There is something for everyone, so look over the list and let the chairs know where you want to serve. With so many fundraisers planned for this year, your help will be very valuable.

A calendar of ACE events was drafted. The calendar is presented on page 1 of each newsletter. We hope we can stick to this schedule, and we invite you to pencil in the ACE activities on your calendar to be sure you are available to attend.

Additional items discussed at the meeting

can be found in the minutes of the meeting. If you did not receive a copy of the minutes, please let a board member know. We want everyone to be up-to-date on ACE information. You are invited to attend any ACE meetings to put in your "two cents."

There was discussion about changing the By-Laws to have only one category for membership. Another item was to do away with only a category of members able to vote and serve on committees. The presentation was given to voting members who decided that these were proper changes to the By-Laws. The new changes were effective immediately. Anyone with questions, please contact a board member.



ACE Members Are Interesting People

Our interesting members highlighted in this issue are Adie Miller and Lisa Dempsey.

WE LOVE GORILLAS

by Adie Miller and Lisa Dempsey

Our interest in gorillas began in the late 90s when we met a wonderful woman on a message board for Disney World enthusiasts. Her name was Kathy Sauviac, and she had ALS and lived in a motorized wheelchair with all her nutrition and life support connected. She was an amazing positive spirit who loved gorillas and would post about visiting Pangani Trail at Disney's Animal Kingdom where silverback Gus would appear when he heard her chair approach. They had a wonderful communication. This fascinated us and we began to talk to her about ape characteristics and behavior and would spend time at Animal Kingdom with her. (Kathy died several years later of lung cancer, but before she died she lovingly gifted us many of her gorilla collectibles.)

When we traveled for various events around the country, we would include visits to zoos where we would study information about each zoo's gorillas in advance. Then usually I would strike up a conversation with a volunteer or keeper to learn more while Lisa snapped some terrific pictures. One day, while at Zoo Atlanta in June 2008, we hung out with long-time docent Polly Heyward and later that day Jodi Carrigan, a Keeper 2 at the time, came out to do a talk and feeding at the bachelor group. We struck up a friendship that day, and ended up traveling with Jodi and three others to Rwanda in September 2008 to have the "what we thought at the time" was the trip of a lifetime to see mountain gorillas. Since then we have returned four times! The 2010 trip is one of my favorites, because it included several members of ACE who eventually became good friends.



photo by Lisa Dempsey
Lisa and Adie sitting with gorillas in Rwanda

Subsequently, our efforts at fundraising for the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International took shape

over the years, particularly with volunteer work on ACE's fall fundraiser Gorilla Golf (our 10th is coming up this year!). We even made donating to DFGFI our only wedding registry back in 2014.



Photo by Lisa Dempsey
What a great experience!

Our interest in apes has increased and led to becoming docents at Zoo Miami, where we have gorillas, orangutans, chimps, siamangs and gibbons. We have to laugh that we are known among the other volunteers as "The Gorilla Girls." Our favorite volunteer job is to talk to the public about these amazing animals and to help transmit a message of conservation. Our goal is to visit every zoo in the US and Canada that houses gorillas, (I think we have 12 more to go) and to continue to expand our knowledge by attending as many conferences as possible. It was an honor to be able to help with the International Gorilla Workshop hosted by Zoo Atlanta in 2014, and we plan to work on one in 2022 in Chicago hosted by Lincoln Park Zoo. The greatest honor is to have met so many truly

dedicated people -- educators, volunteers, keepers, animal health specialists, and gorilla enthusiasts -- who work so hard to make sure all great apes thrive in this ever-changing world. Lisa and I will continue to do our small part to help in that important effort.



Humans and Other Dancing Animals

by Susan Pinker
Wall Street Journal,
January 25-26, 2020

Most of us have heard of dancing bears or dogs that can do the samba, but those animals are trained to perform: none of our animal friends can spontaneously cut a rug. Or so I thought.

Now a study published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* shows that chimpanzees exposed to electronic music will sway along with the beat. Like us, they are better at matching their moves to the music when they are standing, as opposed to sitting or crouching on all fours. But make no mistake, these chimps move in a way that looks an awful lot like dancing. "The chimpanzees mostly

swayed their whole body, but rhythmic movements of body parts, such as hand clapping or foot tapping were also observed," the study reports.

Pan troglodytes, to use the scientific name for chimps, is one of our closest evolutionary ancestors. They have previously been known to bang rhythmically on tree trunks and to hoot and call to each other in a way that sounds like call-and-response singing. But the observation that chimps can move their bodies in time to music is new. It suggests that dancing has existed in higher-level primates - a group that would include us humans - for at least six million years. That's roughly how long ago humans split off from other higher apes, like chimps.

The authors of the new study - Yuko Hattori, a researcher at the Kyoto University Primate Research Institute, and Masaki Tomonaga, a professor of language and intelligence there - discovered this rhythmic ability by playing two-minute audio clips to seven chimps in their lab. The music sounds like a series of thrumming bass chords played on an electronic piano. The cadence and tempo of the recordings changed at regular intervals so that

the researchers could assess whether the chimpanzees could sync their movements to what they were hearing.



A new study finds that chimpanzees will dance to a musical beat.

Though the chimps in this study seemed like they were grooving to the beat, not all primatologists would call that dancing. "It depends on what is meant by dancing," according to Richards Wrangham, a Harvard University anthropologist who is an authority on chimpanzees. "Jane Goodall called the male group displays given at the onset of rain or heavy wind 'rain dances,' but that seems an exaggerated use of the term," he told me in an email. "I have seen horses and hartebeest respond to heavy rain by galloping about. The more conservative view that I prefer is that the capacity for dancing is more than six million years old."

That capacity has been observed in other species too, like sea lions, bonobos and parrots. In

fact, members of the parrot family, like budgies and cockatoos, are even better at syncing their movements to a beat than chimpanzees are, wrote Dr. Hattori.

Take Snowball, the cockatoo, whose fancy footwork, timed to Queen's "Another One Bites the Dust," has become clickbait. After Harvard psychologist Aniruddh Patel saw videos of Snowball on YouTube, he decided to investigate. Given that parrots are superb mimics, could Snowball have been imitating someone outside the frame? Or was he trained to dance?

The answer to both questions was no: Snowball was independently bobbing his head and high-stepping to the song. Like Akira, the best dancer in the chimpanzee study, his brain seems wired for music. Clearly, our human brains also have evolved to sway, shimmy and shake our bodies along to music. But so far, anyway we're the only ones who know the words and can sign along.



2020 Gorilla Golf

Gorilla Golf will be held on Monday, October 19, 2020. Attached is the flyer with information. Please help us spread the word and invite your friends who are golfers. All the golfers have told us what a fun day this is every year.

We have begun collecting items we can use as raffle prizes and include in golfer goodie bags. If you have anything to donate, please see Susan Smith.



photo by Jodi Carrigan
2019 Gorilla Golf golfers are ready for 2020!



Gingerbread for Redheads Will Be in October

Haunted gingerbread houses will be decorated for Halloween at a new October fundraiser. *(Date, time and place will be announced later.)* We will be using reusable plastic gingerbread houses. So you can decorate and enjoy your haunted house throughout Halloween, and then wash off, and decorate it again for Christmas.

We are excited to have a new fundraiser that will include children and adults, recycling, a palm oil message, and a lot of fun. If you would like to work on the committee, please let Vivienne Ferguson or Jane Barron know.





Did you know?

She Walks With Apes

Premiering April 22 at 9 PM on BBC American Cable TV

This documentary profiles pioneering primatologists Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey and Biruté Galdikas, dubbed the Trimates. They went to live among, respectively chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans to better understand our closet genetic relatives - and witness a different kind of swingin' '60s.

TV Guide
John Hogan



Dian Fossey, Jane Goodall and Biruté Galdikas

Apes, monkeys among 30 animals killed in German zoo fire

January 2, 2020, AJC
A fire raced through a zoo in western Germany in the first few minutes of the new year, killing more than 20 animals, including apes, monkeys, bats and birds, authorities said. Police said paper sky lanterns launched nearby to celebrate the arrival of 2020 were probably to blame.

Several witnesses saw cylindrical paper lanterns with little fires inside flying in the night sky shortly after midnight Wednesday near the Krefeld Zoo, Gerd Hoppmann, the city's head of criminal police, told reporters.

"People reported seeing those sky lanterns flying at low altitude near the zoo, and then it started burning," Hoppmann said.

He said investigators also found used lanterns on the ground that hadn't burned entirely. They were over 13 inches long, made out of white paper with an opening at the bottom where a small fire would be suspended. The first heats the air inside, making them fly and shine at night.

Police and firefighters received the first emergency calls at 12:38 a.m.

The zoo near the Dutch border said its entire ape house burned down and more than 30 animals - including five orangutans, two gorillas, a chimpanzee, and several monkey - were killed as well as fruit bats and birds.



2020 ACE Board

President - Lori Kirkland
Vice President - Donna Mayer Todd
Secretary - Jane Barron
Treasurer - Susan Smith

Board Members At Large:
Barbara Cebula
Leslie Martin
Gene Todd

Primary contact:
info@apeconservationeffort.org

Digital art project contact:
president@apeconservationeffort.org

Fundraising events:
fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org

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info@apeconservationeffort.org

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APE CONSERVATION EFFORT

10th Annual

GORILLA GOLF TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2020

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

THE OAKS GOLF COURSE

11240 Brown Bridge Rd. • Covington, GA 30014

www.golfoaks.com

This will be a best ball tournament.
No need to have a partner, we'll pair you up.

UNIQUE AWARDS

*Top Three Teams, Longest Drive
& Closest to the Gorilla Contest*

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

Proceeds from the tournament will support The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

For more information and registration visit www.apeconservationeffort.org

Call 404-427-4998 or e-mail gorillagolf@apeconservationeffort.org





Just in time for Spring celebrations



**ACE is selling
HoneyBaked Ham gift cards.**

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

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



NEW ON-LINE PROCESS

Gift cards can be purchased from April 1st thru May 31st

<https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/ACEshb>



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

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