



**2022 Calendar
of Events**

**Spring
HoneyBaked Ham
gift card sale**
April 1 - June 15
(Flyer attached.)

**Fall
Gorilla Golf**
(Date and location TBD)

**ACE Board
Members Meet**

New Ideas for 2022

On February 17 five of the six members of the ACE Board met to discuss plans for 2022. It was decided that the Board will work as a team, the Executive Committee, and the goals for 2022 will be driven by projects and events. Due to financial and administrative processing, we will still have Susan Smith as Treasurer and Jane Barron as Secretary.

Any member who wants to help with a project or event can do so by letting an Executive Committee member know. There will be no standing committees. just a team of people who want to work on projects as they come up.

There are several ideas for projects for this year. Some of you will recognize them, and some might be new. Either way we hope you will get

involved as you decide how to help ACE.

Briefly some of the proposed projects/events for 2022 and the Executive Committee member heading it up are below:

- Newsletter** - Jane
- BCI Project** - Donna and Gene (see article for more details)
- Gorilla Golf** - Susan
- Virtual Bingo** - Leslie
- Amazon Smiles** - Leslie
- Website** - Susan
- Virtual Race** - Leslie
- Recognition** - Donna
- Georgia Gives** - Donna

If you have questions about any project and want to get involved, please contact the person listed with that project. *Apes In The Arts and Gingerbreads for Redheads have been rescheduled for 2023.*

We are going to have a great (but different) 2022!





Virtual Race Help Needed

by Leslie Martin

The Board thought it would be a good idea to do a virtual race.

I need help with the **design for the t-shirt**. I am looking for something original that will catch someone's eye and will not cost too much to print. The money we raise is going to help **bonobos**, so we would like to have a bonobo on the shirt.

If you have an idea, please send it to me at : lmzoogirl@yahoo.com. Thanks.



"When it rains, look for rainbows. When it's dark, look for stars."

Oscar Wilde



Springtime - Time for HoneyBaked Ham

by Susan Smith

Spring 2022 is looking good and there are many events, celebrations, where a HoneyBaked Ham gift card can come in handy. This year's campaign will run from April 1st through June 15th and is just in time for all the springtime events - Easter, Mother's/Father's Day, graduations, etc. You can have some good food as part of your celebration and at the same time ACE receives 20% of your purchase price to help us save the great apes.

Gift cards, electronic or plastic, can be ordered online at : https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/ACE_Spring_2022.

Remember when ordering plastic cards to allow extra time for processing and delivery.

Help us spread the word about this fundraising opportunity (flyer attached) to support ACE and our mission to save the great apes. If you have any questions, contact Susan Smith at 404-226-7738 or email susansmith9008@comcast.net.



Welcome to the Bonobo Peace Forest

by Donna Mayer Todd

The ACE board met to begin planning for 2022 and decided to focus on the Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI) and their Bonobo Peace Forest program for the first half of the year. We intend to share information about the progress BCI has made and is making. This could be an exciting project. We will designate BCI as the recipient of any funds raised during this time. If anyone feels concern about this plan, please let one of us know.

BCI's Bonobo Peace Forest is an ongoing development to extend protected habitat for bonobos and other animals in the Congo Basin, creating opportunities for them and for the local indigenous communities to thrive. They work through partnerships with governments, the local communities, and international organizations. But let's start at the beginning:



photo by Martin Surbeck, www.bonobo.org

***15,000 bonobos remain in the wild in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (only).**

They are recognized as peaceful, intelligent, loving and **ENDANGERED great apes.*

**The closest relatives to the bonobos are humans and chimpanzees.*

**Bonobos remain the least known of the great apes.*

**The Bonobo Peace Forest is the result of 20+ years of collaboration, and is still growing.*

**BCI has headquarters in Washington, DC and in Kinshasa, the capital of the Congo.*

**The information in this article comes from the BCI website www.bonobo.org.*

The vision of the Bonobo Peace Forest is a connected network of community-managed and protected reserves. The sites where BCI and their partners work, and those in development, are all part of the Peace Forest. Its conservation model is the Congo rainforest itself, an integrated and harmonious ecosystem. BCI's holistic approach brings about a thriving forest, thriving wildlife, and thriving human population. The

communities are integral to the vision, united in their goal to secure the future of their forests and the bonobos that live there.

Today there are 9 million acres of active sites, and new reserves are being created by new communities who wish to join the Peace Forest.

A large map of the current and planned Peace Forest sites can be seen at www.bonobo.org.

The work of the BCI in the Peace Forest has been recognized for its conservation model. It was also the subject of Deni Bechard's 2013 award-winning book *Of Bonobos and Men: A Journey to the Heart of the Congo*. ACE has a few copies of the book available if you would like to read it. Contact Donna Mayer Todd to work out an opportunity to borrow one.



ACE has donated to BCI in the past. In August of 2019, we sent BCI a check for \$1,000 after our Paint the Ape fundraiser. \$400 was for general use

and \$600 was for the adoption of 6 bonobos for 2 years. Another donation at \$2,500 was made in December 2021. This largely came from the GA Gives on Giving Tuesday efforts.

Watch for our next installment about BCI. We'll focus on their sustainability efforts.



Letters of Thanks



Dear ACE:

From all of us here in Atlanta - but especially from our teams in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo - thank you for the Ape Conservation Effort's generous gift to the Fossey Fund and your commitment to this critical work.

Your compassionate gift of \$11,800.00 received on 12/9/2021 enables high impact results for wild gorillas, their ecosystems, and for the communities of people who reside near them in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

We know that people around the world are currently facing

unprecedented challenges, and your support means more to us now than ever. During this uncertain time, there is one thing you can be certain of - the Fossey Fund is continuing our daily work to ensure the protection of gorillas and their habitats. In our 54 plus years we have never left the gorillas, and we do not intend to start now!

Together, we've seen the mountain gorilla population in Rwanda increase to just over 600 individuals - up from an all-time low of 240 just 30 years ago. In fact, mountain gorillas are the only great ape whose population is increasing, and they remain one of the world's few conservation success stories.

Your steadfast support of the Fossey Fund not only sustains our daily gorilla protection work, but it is also an investment in a healthier planet for all of us. Thank you again for being part of this work - we truly couldn't do it without you!

With Gratitude,

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



*Dear ACE
Thank you for your generous gift on 12/20/2021 of \$2,500.00 to the Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI). With*

your help, we are protecting the world's second largest rainforest and providing a safe haven for bonobos - humankind's closest great ape relatives. Founded in June 1998, BCI has been at the forefront of bonobo conservation for over 20 years.

The Bonobo Peace Forest is growing - thanks to you! This network of community-based reserves currently includes two legally protected nature reserves spanning nine million acres - and additional conservation sites in key areas of the bonobo habitat. We have made important steps toward our goal of gaining legal protection for another two million acres in the Bonobo Peace Forest, and your gift brings us that much closer! Each acre protected is a win for rainforest species, local communities, and the global climate.

To keep our programs going strong, we've been developing sustainable funding mechanisms, such as carbon credits. We're thrilled that Carbon Streaming Corporation has made an initial investment in the Sankuru Nature Reserve and the Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve! Your support for our programs created this opportunity to increase the impact and effectiveness of the Peace Forest.

In the field, we continue to foster collaboration and cooperation. Our local partner Vie Sauvage won the 2020 UN Equator Prize, a testament to the strength

of our community-based approach. Our ongoing collaboration with researchers from Harvard University is yielding vital information about our sister species, helping us understand how better to protect them. Your thoughtful contribution makes all of this progress possible.

Thank you again for your generous support of our efforts. Working together, we can ensure a brighter future for our sister species and its rainforest home. We deeply value the trust you have placed in us and appreciate your partnership in this important work.

Sincerely,

Sally Jewell Cox
President



Background Noise - Want a New Project?

by Shelley DeWeese

There is a phrase which comes to mind these days. The more I know equals the less I know.

Yet the wonder of what I do not know from what I do know leads me to nuggets of new knowledge. One of those moments happened while listening to a news show in the background. The story discussed how the production of fabric such as viscose (rayon viscose) is made of pulp mainly from trees located in the rainforests of Indonesia and Malaysia. The lack of sustainability through the fabric creation process contributes to rainforest deforestation and loss of orangutan habitat.

After my oh duh moment, I wanted to know more about the fabric making process. Research began! The website "Style Considered" broke it down into a few steps (see infographic from Style Considered). Here's a link to the site to help with your own research and/or curiosity.

<https://www.styleconsidered.com/is-viscose-a-sustainable-fabric/> The questions next on this path of wonder were about the chemical use, water use/origin and fair trade.

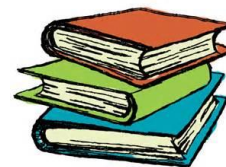
Shortly followed by the reality that I am not going to research every style purchase choice. Yet, I can keep in mind the different sustainability icons on the tags.



I can read labels for the type of fabric then consider if the fibers used fall into any of these eco-friendly kind of fiber classes.

Recycled Fibers - made with waste material
Plant-Based Fibers - low environmental impact (organic cotton, linen, hemp, ramie, natural rubber)
Animal-Based Fibers - produced in sustainable way
Semi-Synthetic - low environmental impact (Lyocell/Tencel, orange fiber, pineapple fiber, sustainable viscose, cupro)

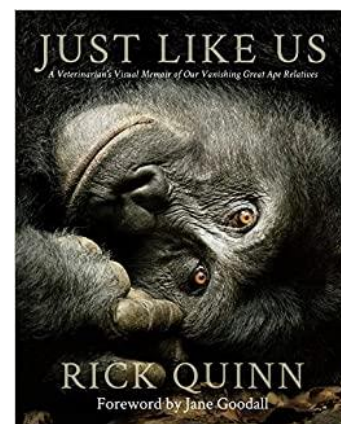
From this news story heard in the background, there is more of what I know now while inspired to discover what I do not know. The new story followed by my own research-inspired me to create a quilt or two or three from Orangutan habitat preservation friendly fiber. Anybody interested in joining me? What if we put together a quilting and/or fiber arts group? It would be a great way to foster awareness while having some fun! If interested, please reach out to me at shelldeweese@gmail.com or (404) 216-5779.



Book Review

by Jane Barron

I received this book as a Christmas present. I enjoyed it so much, I am thrilled to share it with you.



Just Like Us by Rick Quinn

Dr. Rick Quinn is a veterinary ophthalmologist who lives in Canada. He, like most of us, knew there was a need to protect endangered animals and habitats, but it was for others to do. One day when he decided to clean off his desk, he found an article in a veterinary periodical that he had saved because it was about some unusual veterinarians in Africa - the Gorilla Doctors. "Their surgical theater was the rainforest, where these brave field doctors were part of an international effort to protect the critically endangered population of mountain gorillas."



photo by Rick Quinn
Mountain gorilla mom and infant,
Volcanoes National Park,
Rwanda

This triggered a memory from years ago of a *National Geographic* article that had mentioned Gorilla Doctors. It told of the slaughter of a family of gorillas, all killed by gun shots, except for one infant saved by the park rangers. Gorilla Doctors was brought in to handle the necropsies. These two articles opened up a new picture of wildlife veterinary medicine. And why would anyone want to shoot a gorilla or an entire gorilla family? He needed to know more and so started his journey to help great apes.

He got his friend and fellow veterinary ophthalmologist Dr. David Ramsey interested, and the two decided they would contact Gorilla Doctors, offer to teach some workshops in eye surgery, and take them some supplies. What they wanted in return was to visit mountain gorillas in the wild so Quinn could photograph them. He had taken trips to western Canada and the Galapagos to study animals and use those photos in presentations given at veterinary conferences.

The two gathered the supplies to donate to the Gorilla Doctors

(ophthalmoscopes, pen lights, lenses, eye medications and equipment), created their eye workshops (on medical and surgical treatment of diseases of the eyes), and completed all of the governmental paperwork needed for the trip.

They were embarrassed by their lack of knowledge about great apes, so they began to research. How did the creation of the continents result in great apes only living in Africa and Indonesia? What are the characteristics of each of the great ape species? How close are humans to great apes in DNA? How did the research on great apes begin? (Dian Fossey, Jane Goodall, and Biruté Galdikas) How did Gorilla Doctor's begin? (To refresh your memory about the start of Gorilla Doctors, please see *Heard It Through The Ape Vine*, July 2021.)

Problems being experienced by ape populations are presented as if it were part of the Zoo Atlanta docent program - so much that we are familiar with but told in a fresh new way. Problems include poachers, civil wars, pet trade, mining, habitat destruction and palm oil, snares, and diseases.



photo by Rick Quinn
Palm oil fruit for sale roadside
Bukit Lawang, North Sumatra,
Indonesia

Their trip was quite an education for them. The workshops went well, because the Gorilla Doctors staff has a desire to learn and become updated on anything that could help the gorillas.

After the workshops, they were ready to "meet" the gorillas in person, but this was an education too. The jungle is hot and humid, the paths are steep and covered with vegetation, and Quinn learned just how heavy his camera equipment was. He praises the trackers, the guides, and the porters for all of the help they gave him, and also for their devotion and love of the gorillas.



photo by Rick Quinn
Chimpanzee,
Kibale National Park, Uganda

When Quinn arrived back home in Canada, his mind was constantly being drawn back to the apes. So more trips were developed through the contacts he had made. His desire to photograph all species of great apes in their natural habitats was not easy. He tells of being scared, being filthy, sleep deprived, wet, bugs and parasites, and excitement - but all of the bad left him when he was able to see the apes. His wife accompanied him on one trip, but most trips he did alone.



photo by Rick Quinn
Chimpanzee mom
grooming infant
Kibale National Park, Uganda

There are descriptions of lots of planning, so much government papers, bribes to pay, air travel (international and bush planes), boat travel (in flat boats and hollowed-out canoes called piragues), traveling on primitive and muddy roads in various vehicles, and so much hiking.



photo by Rick Quinn
Pirague, DRC

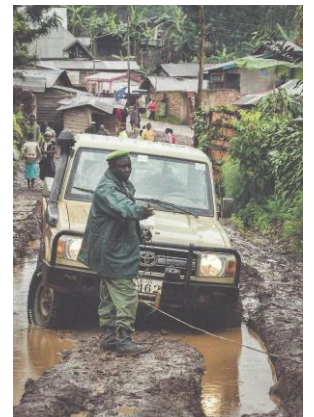


photo by Rick Quinn
Muddy road
outside Kahuzi-Biega National
Park, DRC

Chapters divide up Quinn's travels by ape and country - Eastern Mountain Gorillas in Rwanda and Uganda, Grauer's Gorillas in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Western Lowland Gorillas in Central African Republic and DRC; Chimpanzees in Uganda and DRC; Orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra; Bonobos in DRC.



photo by Rick Quinn
Adult female bonobo
Lola ya Bonobo Sanctuary
Kinshasa, DRC

Quinn has enormous respect for the rangers and trackers, as well as their families. While becoming a park ranger is a very prestigious and competitive job, it is low paying. These people train for 4-5 months in wildlife and tourism. They become devoted to their animals. They must exhibit skills in communicating with tourists. They usually work for one month, and then travel to visit with their families in distant villages for about eight days before returning. They must pay for most of their expenses, including vaccinations they need for this work. They are concerned about disease they could give and get from the apes and the jungle.



photo by Rick Quinn
Quinn and his support team
wading in water
Nouabele-Nkoki National Park,
DRC



photo by Rick Quinn
Two Sumatran orangutan kids
Medan, Sumatra, Indonesia

Quinn's travels continued for seven years into seven countries in Africa and Indonesia. The photography throughout the book is impressive, and includes all ape species plus other primates as golden monkeys, proboscis monkeys, and mandrills.

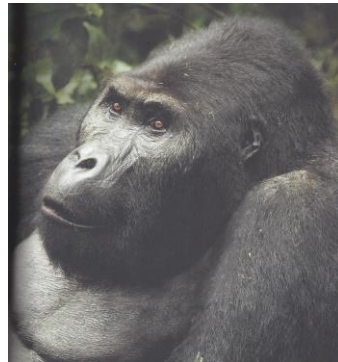


photo by Rick Quinn
Grauer's gorilla silverback
Kahuzi-Biega National Park, DRC

Quinn started a not-for-profit corporation with charitable tax status in Canada called DOCS4GREATAPES. Their mission is to increase awareness at home of the great apes, their ecosystems, and their plight. In addition they support colleagues in the field working with great apes. They also want to connect with people with ideas and resources to deliver medical education that expands the veterinary and human health care. They promote the "One Health" concept of linking the health of humans, animals and environments together.



photo by Rick Quinn
Western lowland gorilla juvenile
Ozanga-Ndoki National Park,
Central African Republic

The final messages deal with what we can do now.

- (1) Support NGOs in the countries where great apes live.
- (2) Support wildlife sanctuaries.
- (3) Purchase products that help protect great apes (look for RSPO labeling)
- (4) Travel consciously.
- (5) Ask the right questions when investing your money.
- (6) Speak up.
- (7) Make it personal

This recount of Quinn's travels and his delightful writing style makes this book fun and informative. Since there are so many great photos in the book, it was difficult to narrow them to just a few in this newsletter. I hope you enjoy the photos I chose, and consider reading the book and seeing all of his photos.



photo by Rick Quinn
Bonobo infant
Lomako-Yokokala Faunal
Reserve, Equateur Province, DRC



photo by Rick Quinn
Bornean orangutan infant
Tanjung Puting National Park,
Borneo, Indonesia

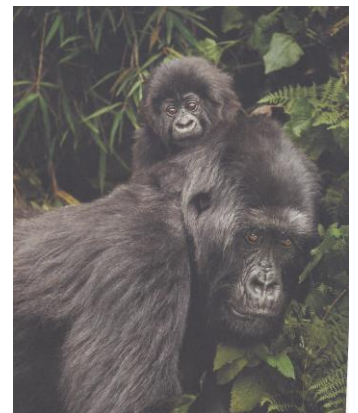


photo by Rick Quinn
Adult female mountain gorilla
with infant
Volcanoes National Park,
Rwanda

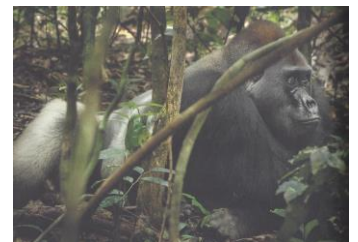


photo by Rick Quinn
Western lowland gorilla
silverback
Volcanoes National Park,
Rwanda





photo by DFGFI
New Entrance to the Ellen Campus

DFGFI Opens New Home in Rwanda

DFGFI Gorilla Journal, March 2022

Our new home in Rwanda is now open. A dream becomes reality



photo by DFGFI
The 3 Main Buildings on the Ellen Campus

The Ellen Degeneres campus of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund opened in January 2022, right next to Volcanoes National Park. This is the first permanent center for all programs and activities. The campus consists of three main buildings.

The Cindy Broder Conservation Gallery Visitors can explore the exhibits to learn more about the day-to-day work of protecting endangered gorillas, or watch a virtual-reality

film in the Irmelin DiCaprio Theater, a 360-degree immersive theater.

The Sandy and Harold Price Research Center Science is at the core of this state-of-the-art facility aimed at advancing research in areas like genetics, physiology, and paleontology

The Rob and Melani Walton Education Center This is at the heart of the facility, a 9,000 square-foot- space that will serve as a hub for many education activities. This contains a science and conservation library, computer laboratory, classrooms and space for hosting public lectures, educational programming for schools, community leaders, scientific conferences and more.

The future is brighter for the Fossey Fund with the opening of the Ellen Campus.

For more information see DFGFI Gorilla Journal, March 2022 or the website: www.gorillafund.org.



Did you know?

Leslie Martin Supports ACE When Shopping Online

Did you know you can add your Amazon account to Amazon Smile (smile.Amazon.com) and Ape Conservation Effort can benefit? ACE is an option for support, and we will receive 5% for every eligible purchase. I have been doing this for years, and my lifetime contribution is \$269.06.

Recently I found out that if you use any type of tablet to checkout, your account is not connected to Amazon Smile, and the charity does not get the contribution.

I have found a work-around. Now I add items to my cart either on my tablet or phone, but when I check out, I always do so on my phone. When you get ready to do the final submit, you will see Supporting: Ape Conservation Effort.

This is a little something you can do to support ACE without much effort.



2022 ACE Board

- Jane Barron
- Barbara Cebula
- Leslie Martin
- Susan Smith
- Donna Mayer Todd
- Gene Todd

Primary contact: info@apeconservationeffort.org

Fundraising events: fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org

Gorilla Golf: gorillagolf@apeconservationeffort.org



Just in time for Spring 2022 celebrations



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

**Gift cards can be purchased various denominations
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.



ON-LINE PROCESS

Gift cards can be purchased from April 1st thru June 15th
https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/ACE_Spring_2022



**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.*