



2020 Calendar

July 25

Board and General Meeting

*Place and time TBD
All members are welcome*

September 25

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

October-November Yankee Candle Sales

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-December HoneyBaked Ham Gift Card Sales

Details TBD

November 14 General Meeting and Election of new board members

Place and time TBD

December 1 Georgia Gives Day

Details TBD



ACE Helps Conservation Groups Hurt by COVID-19

COVID-19 pandemic has badly effected non-profit groups working in Africa and Indonesia. Several groups ACE has supported in the past reached out to us to give

us information about the situation and ask for assistance.

COVID-19 has had an effect on ACE fundraising this year too. So the ACE board evaluated the possibility of taking some funds from our General Fund account and asking the members for approval. Also ACE members were made aware of the situation and asked if they wanted to donate for this cause.

The COVID-19 Crisis Campaign ended on June 20, 2020, raising a total of \$3,400. The members voted to include \$4,000 from General Fund with the campaign donations.

Members voted overwhelmingly to send \$7,400 to PASA (Pan African Sanctuary Alliance) to help several great ape groups in the Alliance, including Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary who had contacted us for support too. The funds will help provide urgently needed food and medical supplies

for the animals and crucial salaries for the caregivers bravely risking their lives to protect these animals.

ACE thanks all of the members who supported this crisis emergency campaign. Your generosity and caring has made it possible to provide help for conservation groups hurting at this time. Thank you.



Spotlighting Non-Profit Groups ACE Supports

The mission statement of Ape Conservation Effort is as follows:

Ape Conservation Effort, Inc. (ACE), a 501c3 non-profit corporation, is comprised of volunteer members who share a passion for animals and a commitment to saving the great apes (bonobos, chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans). All of the great ape species are endangered in the wild. In the absence of effective protection of habitat, scientists predict that

several species of apes will likely be extinct in the very near future.

Members of ACE hope to raise awareness of the plight of the great apes and support for their conservation. ACE conducts fundraising activities from which 100% of profits will be distributed to internationally recognized organizations that work in the animals' homelands of Africa and Indonesia to save these animals from extinction and conserve their native habitats.

Since the founding of ACE in 2006, we have researched, voted and given financial donations to several non-profit groups working in the wild to save great apes. Our research has not only made us aware of conservation groups supporting great apes and habitat, but has given us first hand information of the situation on the ground. This column will be sharing information about the wonderful work the non-profit groups are doing. We have made friends in these organizations. Several have given presentations to us in Atlanta, and many continue to reach out to us for financial support and friendship.

The first organization to highlight is PASA. Most of the below information was taken from the PASA Annual Report 2019 and

research by Gene Todd. The article was written prior to the COVID-19 Crisis Campaign, but it will give more information about who those emergency funds will help. We realize that the charts are very small in the newsletter. If you would like to see larger charts, please contact Jane Barron.



The Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA), the largest association of wildlife centers in Africa, includes 23 wildlife centers in 13 African countries. Our members are securing a future for Africa's primates by working to stop the illegal trade of wildlife, rescuing, rehabilitating, and reintroducing orphans of the trade, protecting wild primate populations and their habitats, and educating and empowering communities.



PASA Member Wildlife Centers Across Africa

VISION:

The goal of PASA is to be an invaluable resource for primate sanctuaries throughout Africa. Recognizing the intrinsic value that wildlife sanctuaries provide as a nexus of long term commitment to enforcement of wildlife laws, animal welfare and conservation of wild primates, we will advocate for our member sanctuaries on these and other relevant issues and provide a readily accessible international communication network for these members. PASA's programs will evolve with the threats that face African primates and the needs of our members. We will continuously seek creative solutions to provide our members with the best tools to promote long term success in the fight to protect and care for Africa's primates.

We will accomplish this while maintaining PASA's Culture of Trust and Caring. We will

follow PASA's Code of Values which includes transparency, collaboration, fairness, competence, humility and respect both internally with our member sanctuaries and in our relationships with supporters, governments, and non-governmental organizations.

DISRUPTING WILDLIFE CRIMES:

Now more than ever before, wildlife trafficking threatens the survival of great apes and monkeys throughout Africa. With thousands of gorillas, chimpanzees and other African primates killed annually for bushmeat, the exotic pet trade and ceremonial body parts, PASA and the Alliance are striving harder to stamp out the illegal wildlife trade across Africa.

Obstacles to combating wildlife crime include low governmental prioritization in some areas, lack of capacity in customs and border security, and disconnects between law enforcement and other agencies. We are striving to make new partnerships and strengthen our existing relationships with these agencies to fight wildlife crime. By connecting the dots in the wildlife trade supply chain, we can change the way wildlife centers and governments partner together to stamp

out this threat to primates' survival.

Lilongwe Wildlife Trust, a PASA member in Malawi, has developed the groundbreaking, highly effective Wildlife Crime Investigation Unit (WCIU). The WCIU is producing measurable results in arresting traffickers and reducing wildlife crime throughout Malawi. Since 2017, the WCIU has helped put over 120 traffickers behind bars. In 2019, PASA was able to help Lilongwe serve as a resource. As other PASA members sought to set up similar approaches to wildlife crime in their areas, Lilongwe experts were able to share data and best practices.

PRESERVING WILD PLACES:

PASA members provide a safe haven for Africa's primates while at the same time protecting natural habitat so that more primates may remain wild. In 2019, we saw three big wins in this area:

► Lola ya Bonobo, a PASA member in D.R. Congo, collaborated with Province of Equateur, Rainforest Trust, and Congolese communities to establish Ekolo ya Bonobo as a community forest reserve. Ekolo ya Bonobo now has 120,000 acres of conserved rainforest. Lola staff have been working for over two years to ensure that bonobos reintroduced

to the wild will live in a vast protected area.

► Projet Protection des Gorilles-Congo (PPG), a PASA member in Congo, has created a Federation of Village Associations which is comprised of 23 villages and includes 20,000 people living in the periphery of a national park. The Federation strengthens these communities and amplifies their conservation efforts to preserve the forest.

► Alette Jamart and the HELP Congo staff worked closely with communities and the Republic of Congo government to create the National Park of Conkouati-Doula.

ENSURING A HIGH STANDARD OF CARE:

All PASA members undergo a rigorous accreditation process which involves an extensive review of conservation programs, animal care, and organizational sustainability. This is a cornerstone of PASA's work to support a vibrant, high-caliber community of primate rescue centers. But it doesn't stop once a wildlife center joins the Alliance. In fact, building capacity within our members is a core function. In March 2019 we underscored our commitment to this with a Veterinary Workshop in Yaounde, Cameroon partnering with Ape

Action Africa, a PASA member.

Veterinary professionals from PASA's member wildlife centers across Africa attended the workshop to share ideas, troubleshoot problems, and set a foundation for PASA's new, multifaceted veterinary capacity-building program. The next Veterinary Workshop is scheduled for 2021 at Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary in Kenya.



2019 Veterinary Workshop
photo by PASA
2019 Veterinary Workshop

A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS:

CITES, a global treaty which regulates international trade in endangered species, held its 2019 conference in Geneva. The conference was marked by strengthened protections for wildlife and opportunities to build stronger worldwide networks to defend animals in peril.

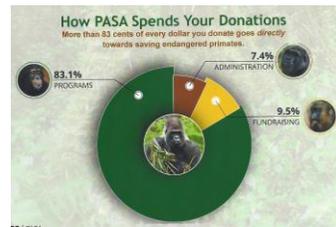
Our Executive Director, Gregg Tully, proudly represented the Alliance during the conference. On behalf of PASA, he signed onto statements speaking out for stronger animal protection. His attendance laid the groundwork for building relationships between

PASA and donors, government officials, and future partners. For example, he was able to connect with the West African Biodiversity and Climate Change (WABiCC) program, sponsored by USAID. These governmental and non-governmental relationships are critical for successful and timely transfers of confiscated chimps to member sanctuaries - and PASA's voice is crucial to this work, as we offer extensive insight from our members' decades of direct action in this area.

Gregg also attended a workshop addressing wildlife trafficking in Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, held in Freetown. More than 150 government officials from those countries attended, as well as Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, an Alliance member in Sierra Leone, and NGOs that fight the wildlife trade. It provided an opportunity to learn what is already being done about wildlife trafficking in West Africa, what still needs to be done - and where PASA can help bridge the gap.

Our new program Action for Chimpanzees, builds on relationships developed at both these gatherings to fight the burgeoning illegal chimpanzee trade in West Africa. It was launched in January 2020 and will

leverage PASA's greatest assets - the wisdom and experience of our members - to develop coordinated systems to fight wildlife crime.



How PASA Spends Your Donations

The PASA Staff	
Gregg Tully	Executive Director
Kaitlyn Bock	African Operations Manager
Lianne Crouthers	Development Manager
Jean Fleming	Communications Manager
Ruby Vise	Administration Officer

The PASA Staff

Some ACE members may remember meeting Gregg Tully, Lianne Crouthers and Pam Cunneyworth when they came to Atlanta to share updates with us in January 2019. Another person working with PASA is Liz Haseltine, who has attended Bingo for Bonobos, and we hope Liz will come again.



2020 Equator Prize Awarded

Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI) has shared the following information with ACE.

We are thrilled to announce that Vie Sauvage - our leading partner in the Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve - has won the 2020 Equator Prize. The prize, awarded by the United Nations Development Programme, celebrates local community and indigenous peoples initiatives that advance innovative nature-based solutions for conservation and sustainable development. Vie Sauvage is one of ten winners out of almost 600 applicants from around the world. BCI nominated Vie Sauvage in recognition of their pioneering efforts on behalf of bonobos and biodiversity.

Founded in 1999, Vie Sauvage is a local indigenous Congolese organization dedicated to promoting wildlife and forest conservation. Vie Sauvage helped spearhead the creation of the Kokolopori Bonobo

Reserve and is the reserve's designated manager, providing the lifesaving field teams who trek into the forest every day to observe and protect bonobos. Vie Sauvage also supports sustainable development projects in the areas of agriculture, health, and education, including the establishment of the Djolu Technical College. Their holistic, integrated approach has served as a model for the entire Bonobo Peace Forest, inspiring other local communities to launch their own conservation initiatives.

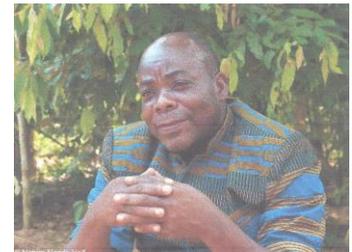


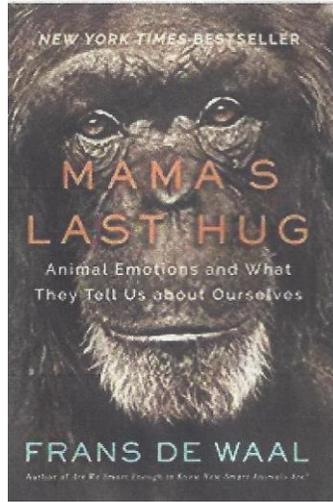
Photo by BCI
Albert Lotana Lokasoia

Albert Lotana Lokasoia, founder and president of Vie Sauvage, is a native of Kokolopori. He has represented the Djolu territory in the DRC parliament since 2011. His dedication to his home territory is unparalleled; much of the success of the Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve is thanks to his hard work and outstanding leadership. He shared, "It is a great pleasure for me and my community to be honored with the Equator Prize. It is an opportunity to

strengthen and disseminate our conservation model - one rooted in our culture and traditions - at a regional level throughout the Bonobo Peace Forest, using Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve as an anchor site. This award will help support the new generation of forest stewards of Kokolopori, educating them in how to use their traditional knowledge to foster rainforest conservation."

It has been our pleasure to collaborate with Vie Sauvage for the past twenty years, co-creating our vision for more sustainable future and bringing it to life. Their commitment is an inspiration to us, to the other communities of the Congo rainforest, and to the world. Thank you, Vie Sauvage, and congratulations!

Note: The Equator Prize comes with an award of \$10,000 USD and an opportunity to participate in the policy dialog discussed at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseille, France in June 2020. ACE had an article in October 2018 newsletter about Ashley Judd's support of this group and the Bonobo Peace Forest.



Mama's Last Hug Animal Emotions and What They Tell Us About Ourselves

by Frans De Waal

*A book review by
Barbara Cebula*

"Mama's Last Hug" starts with the death of Mama, a 59 year old chimpanzee matriarch at Burgers Zoo in the Netherlands, who formed a deep bond with biologist Jan van Hooff. When Mama was dying, van Hooff took the unusual and courageous step of visiting her in her night cage for a last hug. The encounter was an absolute first. Millions were very moved by the way Mama embraced van Hooff with a big smile, while reassuring him by patting his neck. The gesture is typically considered human but in fact is shared by other primates.

The filmed encounter forms the core of de Waal's book. De Waal states that other species have the capacity for love, hate, fear, shame, guilt, joy, disgust and empathy as do humans. Darwin suggested in his book *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals* that all primates have similar emotions to humans. There is an emotional continuum between human and other species. Our emotional lives are shared with other primates.

All emotions are mixed with knowledge. Emotions are never simple and never separate from an evaluation of a situation. Apes are thinking beings who try to understand every problem they face. Emotions are mental states that make our hearts beat faster, our skin change color, our faces tremble, our chests tighten, our voices rise, and our tears flow.

De Waal distinguishes between instincts and emotions. Instincts are rigid and reflex-like whereas emotions do not dictate specific behavior. "Emotion" senses things about the environment that individuals may not be aware of. Emotions constitute a flexible response system superior to instincts.

When we feel what others feel, we are getting close to real empathy. On

average, women score higher on empathy than men. An important finding in their research is that empathy emerges early in life.

The author distinguishes between empathy and sympathy. Prior to using the term empathy, empathy was embodied in sympathy. Empathy seeks information about another and helps us to understand their situation. Empathy can contribute to a cooperative society in which individuals can count on one another.

Some of the emotions shared with primates include guilt, disgust, gratitude, revenge, reconciliation, forgiveness, and hope. De Waal offers illustrations from his chimpanzee and primate observations of these shared emotions. De Waal also describes primate behaviors, exhibiting guilt, shame, and remorse. Remorse is usually exhibited by primate subordinates except in the case of bonobos. Dominant bonobos seem to demonstrate guilt and remorse. Guilt urges us to make amends and correct the harm we have inflicted. It is a survival issue for social animals who have a deep desire to belong and to be forgiven.

De Waal also examines the will to power within groups of chimpanzees

and bonobos. The desire to control others is a driving force. Chimpanzee males are enormously driven to reach the top. The most cooperative human enterprises such as large corporations and the military have the best defined hierarchies. Chain of command beats democracy when decisive action is needed. Within the chimpanzee community, controlling meat and its distribution is a method of wielding power. As opposed to the chimpanzees exhibiting violence, bonobo culture is peaceful. There are far fewer incidents of killing one another in bonobo society. Bonobos are generally glad to see other members of different groups and share their meat across territorial boundaries. Bonobo brains have more developed pathways to control aggressive impulses. The female is typically in charge of a bonobo colony whereas a male is typically in charge of a chimpanzee colony. (Mama was considered the most influential member of her chimpanzee colony.) Bonobos resolve power issues with sex whereas chimpanzees resolve sexual issue with power. Power is a greater obsession with males than females: the will to power however is not restricted to males. Emotional and power issues faced by primates

are also experienced by humans. De Waal also reviews emotional intelligence and sentience. Both humans and animals have emotional intelligence. Animal and human senses of fairness are similar as it leads to cooperation, keeping the group together and cohesive.

De Waal argues that the science regarding animals is evolving from focusing on behavior to examining emotions related to animal behavior. Emotions drive behavior and infuse everything with meaning. De Waal predicts that the science of emotions will be the next frontier in the study of animal behavior.

Frans De Waal is a C.H. Candler Professor in the Psychology Department at Emory University and Director of the Living Links Center at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center in Atlanta. In 2007, he was named one of *Time Magazine's* 100 Most Influential People.



ACE Members Are Interesting People

Our interesting members highlighted in this issue are Sandra and Bob Edwards. They have been active in ACE and Zoo Atlanta, and you will smile when they share their personal experiences with the zoo's great apes.

Sandra and Bob Edwards

Sandra's love of primates started during her childhood in Knoxville, Tennessee. She had many opportunities to visit the Knoxville Zoo while her father photographed the animals for the promotion of the Zoo's new habitats in conjunction with the Appalachian Zoological Society. One of her favorite photos from that time was of Sandra handing a peanut to an ape.



photo by Sandra Edwards
That special moment

Once Sandra heard about a special art exhibit called "Apes in the Arts" (sponsored by ACE), she learned of the wonderful

paintings that many of the gorillas and orangutans produce for enrichment. The first painting that she purchased was "Inferno" by Ivan; this was Sandra and Bob's first introduction to Ivan the gorilla and his story.



photo by Sandra Edwards
"Inferno" by Ivan gorilla
with Bio and
Certificate of Authenticity

The Beastly Feast permitted Bob and Sandra to purchase another painting by Satu and Miri and to win a private tour of the Primates with Charles Horton. This tour enabled them to feel a bond with several of the primates, such as seeing Ivan with his burlap bag so that he did not have to feel the ground when he wanted to sit down.

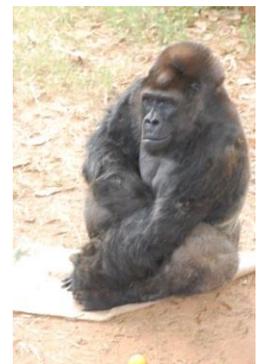


photo by Sandra Edwards
Ivan
sitting on his burlap sack

They also got to meet Chantek face-to-face (not too close) which was truly an awesome experience. They got slightly closer to the very inquisitive two year old (at that time) Dumadi who was staring intently at Sandra's shiny watch. What an exciting day!!



photo by Sandra Edwards
Inquisitive Dumadi

The Edwards won another behind-the-scenes tour which allowed them to share their love of orangutans with four of their friends who thoroughly enjoyed watching Madu demonstrate her mathematical abilities while using a computer. Remy, one of her many foster children, was doing his best to distract her as any good child would do.

Bob's view of zoos changed dramatically when he saw the Ford African Rainforest ape habitat and could feel a mature silverback's mystic power; stillness in a space that permits solitude. (Chantek, on the other hand, could convey the same mystical stillness in a crowd with baby orangs capering about.)

The behind the scenes view of the cognitive research was eye-opening. (Madu does not just understand that $2 + 2 = 4$; she comprehends the relationship of those values in a sense perhaps not yet quite understood.) Our great Zoo is a life-center for our City's people, a research and conservation institution and a joyous celebrations of creation.



photo by Sandra Edwards
Sandra and Bob
at 2019 Beastly Feast

Sandra and Bob have become more involved through Beastly Feast Planning/Executive Committees for several years. Sandra is also on the Leadership Council for the Zoo.

Sandra has had a long time dream of volunteering with orphaned baby orangutans in Borneo.

Sandra and Bob have not yet traveled to see any primates in the wild, but are looking forward to joining a trip with Tara Stoinski and the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund to Rwanda to see the Silverbacks.



photo by Sandra Edwards
Chantek



Did you know?

A deadly coronavirus sweeps the world in the worst pandemic since the Spanish Flu of 1918, killing thousands and devastating the global economy.

Climate change sets off a devastating plague of locusts in East Africa.

Warmer temperatures, drought and deforestation are reducing the ability of tropical forests to absorb atmospheric carbon.

Wells Fargo joins JPMorgan Chase, Goldman Sachs, and more than a dozen other financial institutions in ruling out funding for oil and gas projects in the Arctic.

Earth acquires a new moon the size of a car called 2020CD3.

The items above were taken from Sierra Magazine, May/June 2020.



Gingerbreads for Redheads Re-Scheduled for 2021

Haunted gingerbread houses will be decorated for Halloween in 2021. Due to the COVID-19 situation, we felt this year would not be a good time to introduce our new fundraiser. Delaying this activity for another year will give us more time to plan and secure the materials. If you would like to work on the committee, please let Vivienne Ferguson or Jane Barron know.



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

Fundraising events:
fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org

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

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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

