



2019 Calendar

Now through
January 8, 2020
**Yankee Candle
Sale**

(See article for details.)

October 19
**ACE Board
Meeting**

(Time and place to be
determined.)

All ACE members are
welcome to attend.

October 28
Gorilla Golf

The Oaks Golf Course
11240 Brown Bridge Rd.,
Covington, GA 30014

November 16
**ACE General
Meeting**
(to vote on new board
members)

December 7
**Gingerbreads
for Redheads**
at Jungle Bells
Zoo Atlanta



Want to Be An ACE Board Member?

Have you ever considered taking a more active role in Ape Conservation Effort? One way to do this is to become a board member. The continued success of ACE and our mission to save great apes in the wild depends on

the creative and devoted support of the board members.

If you can lend your talents and time to become more involved, this is for you. If you want to play a more supportive role in saving great apes in the wild, this is for you. If you have an adventurous desire to lead our wonderful group of ACE members, this is for you.

Terms of board members run for two calendar years. Board members selected at the November 16 meeting will serve during 2020 and 2021. If you are interested and have questions, please talk with a current board member. (The list is at the end of this newsletter.)

Please consider joining our board. Names of people running for the board need to be turned into a current board member by November 9, 2019.





Gingerbreads for Redheads

After an extended period of collecting suggestions and voting to narrow down the names suggested, we have arrived at the name of our new fundraiser -

Gingerbreads for Redheads. This catchy name points out two things: (1) building gingerbread houses and (2) funds will benefit groups working with orangutans in the wild.

We are excited to be holding this event as part of Zoo Atlanta's Jungle Bells on December 7, 2019. Reservations for gingerbread kits will be sold prior to the event, to be sure to have the correct number for participants. Details will be forthcoming from ACE and Zoo Atlanta.

Funds raised will be sent to conservation groups working with orangutans in the wild. Mark your calendar to participate in this new event - December 7 at Zoo Atlanta.



Let's Go Fundraising

by Leslie Martin

ACE is partnering with Yankee Candle again this year. Yankee Candle is the world's #1 candle brand, and they offer a wide range of premium candles, fragrances and decor items at a very wide range of prices.



But the most important things to know is that ACE gets a percentage of every sale.

To help support ACE, go to the website www.yankeecandlesfundraising.com or the Yankee Candle mobile app Yankee Candle Fundraising. **Don't forget to add our Group Number 990066937.**

Anyone can place an order, and it will be shipped directly to you! This promotion is good through Wednesday, January 8, 2020.



Still Time to Support a Golfer This Year

Gorilla Golf will be held on Monday, October 28. It's not too late for you to make a donation to support one of the golfers.

Go to the ACE website www.apeconservationeffort.org and click on Gorilla Golf. Choose a golfer and make a donation. Remember that the golfers must raise \$500 each to play in our tournament, so your help for them to reach that amount will be greatly appreciated.

Funds raised from Gorilla Golf will benefit the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. **Thank you!**



ACE Goes Green

by Lori Kirkland

The Amazon Rainforest is burning, glaciers are disappearing, the oceans are choked with trash and plastics, and the climate crisis is happening at a far more rapid rate than originally predicted. To further support and help slow the effects of some of these factors, ACE has decided to remove our activities from the waste stream as much as possible. What does this mean exactly? We will be using reusable plates, utensils, cups, tablecloths, etc. at all of our events. We will endeavor to use up-cycled, recycled, or environmentally friendly items when reusable is not an option, and we will recycle every item possible, i.e. wine bottles, beer cans and bottles, etc.

ACE needs your help!! We need that stack of plates that has been in the back of your cabinets for years, and any tough plastic mismatched cups and tumblers, platters, any mismatched silverware!! We will also ask that if membership is

Life in the Zoo 'Hood

by Gary Hawsey

The Grant Park neighborhood and city park of the same name were established in the late 1800s. The architectural styles of the homes surrounding the park which is home to Zoo Atlanta include Victorian, Queen Anne, and Bungalow/Craftsman. In April of 2000, Grant Park was designated as a National Historic District. In 1889 the animals of a failed circus were donated to the city of Atlanta and the decision was made to locate the animals on a parcel of land in the park. That was the beginning of what would become Zoo Atlanta, and thus my reference to the neighborhood as the "Zoo 'Hood."



photo by Gary Hawsey
1930 Craftsman bungalow

I moved to Grant Park in July of 1997, purchasing a craftsman bungalow that was built in 1930. The house is a three-bedroom, two bath that has seen many, many renovations and additions over its 90-year history. In 1998 my life partner Jay moved in and we have worked to make our house the home that we

love. We both enjoy gardening and have transformed the weed patch front and back yards into inviting green space. In the back we have two fishponds, native azaleas, camellias, and a variety of mature towering trees. Our oaks, tulip poplars, and sweet gums give us the shade we need in hot Atlanta summers as well as providing habitat for birds and squirrels. We keep our bird feeders full and have plants and shrubs that are a food source for urban wildlife. Our yard is a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation and is a Certified Wildlife Sanctuary by the Atlanta Audubon Society.



photo by Gary Hawsey
Backyard

Most of the houses in Grant Park have front porches. We practically live on our porch in good weather months. Early morning routine is having a cup of coffee and reading the paper as neighbors walk their dogs, jog by on the sidewalk or stop to say hello and compliment us on what's blooming in our yard.

A special treat is being able to hear the roar of the lions at Zoo Atlanta (we miss the roar of the legendary Farasi). In the evenings we have a great view of the blazing lights of downtown Atlanta and the gold dome of the Georgia State Capitol building. Zoo Atlanta's Scaly Slimy Spectacular amphibian/reptile building rises above the canopy of trees in the Fort Walker historical site that is directly across the street.



photo by Gary Hawsey
View of downtown Atlanta
and Scaly Slimy
Spectacular building

Rough Around the Edges

Grant Park (or the Zoo 'Hood) is a very eclectic neighborhood. Although the area has been greatly gentrified recently, it still contains an element of diversity and urban bohemia. It is not unusual to see characters like the "boxer" who power-walks the park practicing his punches, or the white-haired guy parading by carrying the confederate battle flag, and the occasional homeless person knocking on the front door. The house directly next to us is Nicholas House, a shelter for

requested to bring treats, drinks, or baked good to an event, please use the most reusable and/or "green" container possible. Please no more plastic or aluminum throw away trays or one-time use utensils. We promise to keep your bakeware dishes and serving spoons in a place where they can be retrieved after the event. If anyone might have a water filter pitcher that they do not use any more, we will take several of these!

ACE is also open to any ideas that could help us become greener and more environmentally friendly. If you have any suggestions, please send them to Lori at president@apeconservati oneffort.org.



ACE Members Are Interesting People

Our interesting members highlighted in this issue are Gary Hawsey and Shelley DeWeese.

homeless families that houses up to 36 residents. In my first year of retirement I volunteered in the after school program tutoring some of the elementary age kids. The shelter has a large backyard with playscape and basketball court. It is a pleasure to hear the happy sounds of kids on the playground, reminds me of recess when I worked in the school system.

Like other intown neighborhoods, we have some incidence of crime; mostly petty theft and car break-ins. However, in August of 2012 we were the victims of a home invasion. Jay was getting ready to leave for school when a man with a gun forced his way into the house and started shooting. Jay was shot three times, but due to his military training was able to protect himself as much as possible. I was still in bed asleep but heard the shots. I grabbed my pistol and opened the bedroom door to the sight of this guy with his face covered, standing in the hall. He began shooting at me while Jay was able to crawl out of the line of fire. I returned fire, hitting him twice. He ran out of the house and collapsed down the street. Ironically, we all wound up at the Grady Hospital Trauma Center. Miraculously, the shots that Jay sustained were not life-threatening and

he has recovered, although he sometimes walks with a cane. We could not positively identify the shooter because he wore a bandana over his face. The emergency room physicians decided not to remove the slugs from his body, so the police could not compare them to my gun. He was not charged. We never figured out what the guy wanted, but the police think it might have been a rite of initiation into a gang that is prevalent in a neighborhood to the south of us.

Retired to the 'Hood

I am a retired educator. I taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels and worked in the Fulton County Curriculum Department in the central office. In my last years before retirement I was the Curriculum Specialist at an elementary school in north Fulton County. Although I loved what I was doing, the commute was almost unbearable; 31 miles to school each way through Atlanta traffic! So, after 30 years in education, I retired.

In planning my retirement, I knew that I still wanted to stay active, and doing volunteer work seemed a logical option. A top priority for me was being able to find something to do that kept me in the neighborhood. In 2009 I started volunteering at Zoo

Atlanta and became a docent in 2011. Being a docent has given me many opportunities to continue my love of teaching and learning. I joined the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Docents and Volunteers (AZADV) and have served as Zoo Atlanta's delegate to the annual conference for seven conferences. In 2015 I completed the training required to become a Certified Interpretive Guide by the National Association of Interpretation (NAI). Of course my love and concern for the great apes led me to become a member of the Ape Conservation Effort (ACE).



photo by Gary Hawsey
Gary

Travel

Although it is great living in Grant Park and volunteering at Zoo Atlanta, I never pass up an opportunity to travel. I have had some wonderful experiences in traveling both within the United States as well as abroad. Some of the most memorable trips I have made include travels to

the American West, Alaska, the Caribbean, Costa Rica, Greece and Turkey. The river cruises to central and eastern Europe are unforgettable.

In 2016 Jay and I traveled to South Africa. We flew what at the time was Delta's longest nonstop flight: Atlanta to Johannesburg--over 15 hours. We stayed a couple days seeing the city, touring Soweto and visiting the Lion Park at Gauteng. After leaving Johannesburg, we made the three-hour bus transfer to the Zulu Nyala Game lodge near Hluhluwe.

At the game lodge we were introduced to our safari guide who would drive us out into the preserve each morning and afternoon on photo safari. On the preserve we would see cape buffalo, cheetahs, crocodiles, elephants, giraffes, hippos, impalas, rhinos, warthogs, wildebeests and zebras. One morning we happened upon a cheetah guarding her fresh-kill baby zebra, as the mama zebra wailed in the distance.



photo by Gary Hawsey
Elephant and rhino meet at watering hole

On one excursion we witnessed an encounter between a group of female elephants and a small crash of white rhinos. Our guide was driving us down a dirt road toward a watering hole or "dam" as the locals call it when we encountered about a half-dozen rhinos walking down the road, blocking our way. Coming from the opposite direction were three elephants; two adult cows and an adolescent female. Our guide backed us off onto a safe position on the side of the road to watch the confrontation. The elephants became increasingly agitated and began stomping and trumpeting. The rhinos seemed to be unphased as they continued toward the water. As the rhinos reached the water the adult elephants charged but would not allow the juvenile to accompany them. She was forced into the bush where she had a screaming tantrum. We could see her uprooting the vegetation. The rhinos continued to the dam and onto the bank as the elephants

tried to block them by getting into the water, splashing and trumpeting, spraying water with their trunks. The rhinos had their drink and slowly walked away. Afterwards it seemed as if the elephants were celebrating victory in the water as the juvenile joined them.



photo by Gary Hawsey
Elephant and rhinos at dam

It's difficult to pinpoint a favorite trip or vacation since the destination, time of life and traveling companions vary so much, but I can truthfully say that one of my favorites was our trip to Hawaii in June of 2014.

We flew to Maui with two of our friends, rented a car and settled into a condo on a beach in Kihei. Maui is incredibly beautiful and there are many things to do and see. We snorkeled at Turtle Town, rented jet skis in Lahaina, toured the Maui Pineapple Plantation and hiked through Haleakala National Park. The Road to Hana takes you on a stomach-in-your-throat drive along the coast through gorgeous tropical scenery and ocean vistas. Along the drive we visited the Keanae Arboreum, Wailua

Village Church and the black sand beaches of Waianapanapa State Park. As a side trip we flew to the Big Island where we stayed two nights, touring Volcanoes National Park, Hilo, Akaka Falls, before returning to Maui.

The very best part of our trip was our wedding day! Our condo overlooked the ocean and had a gorgeous beach which is where we had our ceremony. Our two lady friends/witnesses to the marriage found tropical gowns that complimented the white tuxedos that Jay and I wore. We scheduled the ceremony for 6:30 p.m. to coincide with the sunset which turned out to be spectacular. A local minister performed a traditional Hawaiian ceremony with vows and exchange of leis in both English and Hawaiian. So, on June 24, 2014, which was the sixteenth anniversary of our life partnership, we became legally married.



photo by Gary Hawsey
Gary and Jay in Maui sunset

We Can Make a Difference!

by Shelley DeWeese



photo by Shelley DeWeese
Shelley DeWeese

When it comes to the question of why I got involved with Ape Conservation Effort (ACE), it comes down to a couple of personal core beliefs. From my perspective, God provided us with all the resources we need to thrive on this planet. It is up to mankind to be good stewards of those resources.

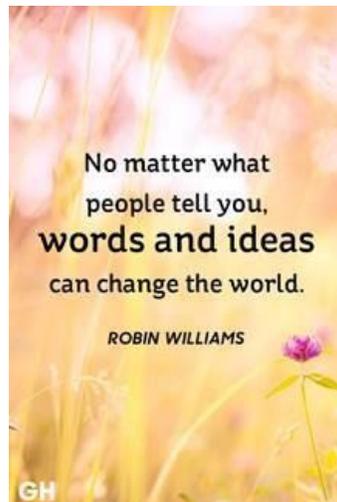
All of us have a connection to other life forms (circle of life) for our well-being. One example is the re-introduction of the wolf into the wild. This predator helps keep small animal populations under control. Some of these small animals carry ticks which give humans Lyme disease. Through the Great Ape Heart Project at Zoo Atlanta, we've become better informed about how the heart functions and our physical similarities. As someone who has benefited in far too many

ways from the circle of life, I want to do as much as possible to advocate for the preservation of the Great Ape.

The other core belief is that every person has gifts. These gifts are natural talent towards the daily task of some kind or the other. Some gifts are shared, but we all have the gifts. As part of those gifts are strengths, which every person has, but don't use it to maximum potential. Being a football person, my favorite example is Rudy who played for Notre Dame and Joe Montanan who played for the San Francisco 49ers. Rudy was not a good football player. He dedicated a lot of time and energy to only end up playing in one game at Notre Dame. Joe Montana worked on his skills to become a multiple Superbowl champion. What did the world miss out on by Rudy not maximizing his strengths through his gifts?

Tara, a primate researcher, wanted to raise funds for her work while including her husband. From that idea Gorilla Golf was born. Every year this events makes a significant difference towards the preservation of the Great Ape. Through one idea and the work of many, ACE is changing the world. I know that I will not find the cure for cancer. I do know in my

humble little way of active participation in ACE, I'm helping to change the world. When I have a conversation about the Great Apes, I'm helping to change the world. When I make responsible choices to use sustainable palm oil, I'm helping to change the world. When I donate raffle items for Gorilla Golf fundraiser, I'm changing the world. Even though I now live in Knoxville, instead of Atlanta, the idea of conservation is a core value for me. The work done by ACE is crucial towards the survival of the Great Apes. I may not be able to do as much as I would like to do for the Great Ape. However, I am active! I am involved! I donate! I continue to push myself to use my gifts to their maximum potential! I challenge my fellow ACE members to rededicate yourself to the cause. Get out there! Get involved! You're needed now more than ever!



ACE Donates to Bonobo Conservation

ACE was able to adopt six bonobos when we donated \$4000 that was raised from Paint the Ape. Bonobo Conservation Initiative selected our six, and we know you'll enjoy getting to know them too.



photo by BCI
Eben

Eben is an adult female bonobo who is part of the Ekalakala Group. She is a personal favorite of the actor/activist Ashley Judd. Ms. Judd has traveled to BCI field sites three times over the past year and grew fond of Even as she watched her frolic and play in the Bonobo Peace Forest.

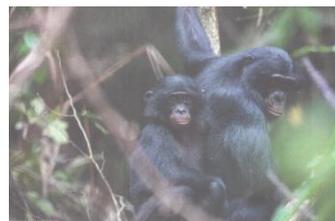


photo by BCI
Freddy and Fitz

Fitz (Fitzgerald) is an adult female bonobo and mother to Freddy, who is a juvenile male. They are part of the Kokoalongo

Group. Fitz is known for her fluffy face and long hair. She is a skilled hunter, especially when it comes to flying squirrels! She often monopolies her catches and always gets the biggest share of meat. Freddy became a big brother May 2018 when Fitz gave birth to another son Falco.



photo by BCI
Murray

Murray is an adult male bonobo and part of the Fekako Group. The Fekako bonobos were discovered by researchers in 2018. Trackers initially thought that the bonobos were members of the Bekako group. When our research camp manager began tracking and naming the Bekako group, she quickly realized that the individuals in question belonged to a different group altogether. They were jokingly referred to as "fake Bekako" which then was shortened to "Fekako."



photo by BCI

PJ

PJ is an adult female bonobo, part of the Bekako Group. The Bekako Group, identified in 2006 by BCI and local partner Vie Sauvage (VS) shares the Yete forest with the Ekalakala and Nkokoalongo groups. The average size of the Bekako group is 20, including nine juveniles and infants.



photo by BCI

Tupak

Tupak is a male bonobo born in March 2017. His mother is Tyler and they are part of the Kokoalongo Group. Tupak is a frisky little guy and enjoys acrobatics in the trees. He lives in the Bonobo Peach Forest with the rest of his group members. The Kokoalongo group is often seen interacting peacefully with the Bekako and Ekalakala bonobos.



Did you know?



photo by Anup Shah (Minen Pictures)

Chimp fishing for termites

For decades, scientists have been documenting complex skills and customs practiced by wild chimpanzees in Africa that vary from group to group. These include techniques for using tools (such as sticks to "fish" for termites, right) followed by one group of the primates but not another. Now, a major investigation by an international research concludes that these local cultural traditions are disappearing as human intrusions spread into previously undisturbed chimp habitat, disrupting the animals' ability to learn from one another.

During a 10-year period, the team ran field studies at 46 locations in 15 countries and compiled additional data on 144 chimp groups, spread throughout the animals' range. Based on 31 behaviors the scientists examined, they found that

behavioral diversity was, on average, reduced by 88 percent in areas where human impact was highest. Writing in *Science*, the researchers call for "a more integrative approach to conservation." Says coauthor Hjalmar Kühl of Germany's Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology: "Our findings suggest that strategies for the conservation of biodiversity should be extended to include the protection of animal behavioral diversity as well."

National Wildlife,
August-September 2019

July 2019 surpassed July 2016 as the hottest month in recorded history.

Sierra Magazine
September/October 2019



2019 ACE Board

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

Board Members At Large:
Joshua Baker
Barbara Cebula
Shelley DeWeese
Leslie Martin
Gene Todd

Primary contact:
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Digital art project contact:
president@apeconservationeffort.org

Fundraising events:
fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org

APE CONSERVATION EFFORT

9th Annual

GORILLA GOLF TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 2019

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

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Enjoy a day of
All Inclusive Golf
including:
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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

