

Upcoming Events for 2024

**January 20
ACE General
Meeting
TechLab 12 -2**
Bring your lunch and
hear the plans for 2024.

**March through
May
HoneyBaked Ham
spring gift card
sale**
More details and a flyer
will be sent in early
March.

**September - Oct.
Gorilla Golf**
Location TBD

**November 3
Georgia Gives
Giving Tuesday**



Election for Board Members

After the membership voted on November 20, 2023, we are pleased to announce that Shelley DeWeese and Susan Smith have been elected to the ACE Board for the 2024-2025 term. Please congratulate them when you see them.

We have great leadership in this board, and we are looking forward to ACE fundraising and growth in the coming years. If you want to get more involved, please contact any board member.



**ACE
Donations
to Save
Great
Apes
Total
\$302,944
!!!**



Jane Goodall

The Road To Change An Interview with Dr. Jane Goodall

by Jeff Flocken,
president of Humane Society International

The following are excerpts from this article that was published in All Animals, Humane Society of United States, Winter 2024 issue

JF: In many ways, your career and life's work have relied on the power of stories - your initial work at Gombe, for example still resonates with people in part because you were able to capture such nuanced details of chimpanzee behavior and describe them vividly. What do you think is the role of storytelling in animal advocacy and creating empathy for non-humans?

JG: I believe that storytelling is the most successful way of helping people understand the true nature of animals. There are such extraordinary stories about the intelligence of animals, from apes and dolphins, rats and birds, and of course the octopus. Sometimes stories can be

illustrated with photos or video to make them even more powerful.

JF: You've worked with young people through the groundbreaking global Roots and Shoots program and other advocacy and education initiatives. Why have you chosen to invest so much energy in young people?

JG: It has been my experience that most children have a natural love for animals unless they have been brought up to see them as mere things. Once young people understand the problem - understand that animals have personalities and emotions like us - and once they are empowered to take action, they start to create change. They influence their parents, grandparents, teachers, friends.

JF: Activism and advocacy don't always have to be serious - you often carry stuffed animals on your talks to help illustrate your points. What other ways can we make the message of compassion one that people can relate to?

JG: I think having a sense of humor is really important. When talking about similarities in chimpanzee and human behavior, I describe two males facing each other, hair erect, swaggering from foot to foot, looking as big and dangerous as

they possibly can - and say how this reminds me of certain politicians. It always raises a laugh, especially when I add, "I'm mentioning no names." People relax and are more receptive to stories about animal sentience.

JF: What is the most important thing that ordinary people, young and old, can do to protect chimpanzees and other animals?

JG: Learn about the issues. Find what it is that you really care about so you can devote real energy to a cause. Different people can help in different ways

Jane Goodall My four most important reasons for hope.

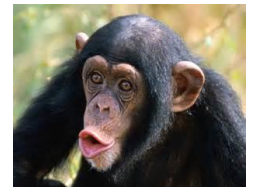
1. **The passion, determination and energy of young people**, once they know the problems and are empowered to take action.

2. **The human brain**. We know other animals are way, way more intelligent than science used to admit - but no animal could invent telescopes that let us understand some of the secrets of the universe or computers that enable people to talk via Zoom from all around the world. And finally we are beginning to use our brains to solve some

of the problems we have created: renewable energy, ways of capturing tons of CO2 from the atmosphere and so on. Politicians and corporations are starting to put the issue of climate change to the top of the agenda. And more people are thinking about their own environmental footprint and trying to live more sustainably.

3. **The resilience of nature**. Given a chance, and perhaps some help, places we have utterly destroyed can once again support wildlife. JGI (Jane Goodall Institute) began our method of community-led conservation, Tacare, in 1994,. It is very holistic. People understand protecting and restoring the forest is not just for wildlife but their own future. People need hope, for without it they become apathetic and do nothing. And this can lead to disaster.

4. **The indomitable spirit that forces people to tackle seemingly hopeless problems**. And so often they succeed. We all have that spirit - we must nurture it and set it to work to make our world a better place for people, animals and the environment.



Chimpanzee

In Memoriam

We were saddened to learn of the death of Jennifer Mickelberg.

Jennifer was Vice President of Collections and Conservation at Zoo Atlanta and she had been a supportive member of ACE since 2016. We will miss Jennifer and we extend sympathy to her family and friends.



We regret that due to circumstances beyond our control, Gorilla Golf was cancelled this year. We hope Gorilla Golf will return again in 2024.

The membership voted to designate the funds raise from Georgia Gives Day to Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. Please see the Georgia Gives article for more details on funds raised.



Georgia Gives on Giving Tuesday – We Did It!

By Donna Mayer Todd

Well, we were working with the motto of "Better Together" (borrowed from GPB) and we did do better together! Everyone who mentioned GA Gives, or wrote an email about it, or sent out a message on social media of any type, or made a donation has a part in our success. Thank you! We performed better in 2023 than any previous year with a total raised of **\$2428**. We had small, medium, large and extra large donations and every one helped. They really add up. The matching grant of \$1,000 from our very generous anonymous friend and donor surely helped.

This opportunity is made for us, and we definitely need to take advantage of it every year it's occurring for the good of the great apes and ACE.

As approved by your votes in November, **\$2390** (original amount raised minus fees charged) was sent to Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International (DFGFI) to aid in their great work to

save mountain gorillas and their habitat, as well as the indigenous communities in the area. Feel good about this, y'all, and remember that feeling next year when GA Gives rolls around again. It should be on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving once again.



Mountain gorilla



Gingerbreads for Redheads

We were pleased with the success of this new fundraiser - Gingerbreads for Redheads. Each kit contained a plastic reusable "gingerbread" house, instructions on decorating, information on palm oil and RSPO Halloween candy, a bag of bugs, bats, etc. to use in decorating the house

for Halloween, and a trick or treat bag. We only had 25 kits to sell because the plastic house kits have been discontinued.

ACE members voted to send the profits from this fundraiser to the Borneo Orangutan Survival (BOS) Foundation. Twenty kits sold resulting in \$1,000 for BOS. An additional \$2,000 from the General Fund was approved by ACE membership making our total donation to BOS \$3,000. This donation means even more to ACE members knowing that Lynn Yakubinis, an ACE member and Zoo Atlanta primate keeper, traveled to Borneo in 2023 and worked with BOS. She was able to see first-hand the good work they are doing.

We would love to see photos of the houses decorated for Halloween and Christmas. Please send them to info@apeconservationeffort.org.



Bornean orangutan mom and baby





Winter HoneyBaked Ham Campaign Results

By Susan Smith

Thank you to everyone who purchased HoneyBaked ham gift cards and supported our 2023 winter campaign. We set a goal of raising \$300 and we almost made it, raising \$289, 96% of our goal. These monies will go into the General Fund and be distributed to great ape organizations during 2024.

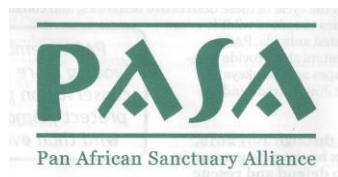
Your chance to participate in this fundraiser will return in the Spring campaign which will begin the first of March and run through the end of May. This timeframe will cover all of those spring events - Easter, Mother's Day, graduations, bridal showers - where HoneyBaked Ham and sides can be part of the celebration.

Detailed information and a flyer will be sent out the first part of March. Again, thanks for supporting ACE.



Overwhelming Vote for PASA Donation

2023 was a successful fundraising year for ACE. The Board recommended to membership that \$3000 be taken from General Funds to donate to a group working with chimpanzees. The membership overwhelmingly approved this even before January 2 which was the last day to vote. \$3000 has been sent to PASA directed to projects with chimpanzees.



A Very Successful Holiday Bazaar

By Susan Smith

ACE held its annual Holiday Bazaar sale on December 9 after Mega Update at the zoo. It was very successful. Thanks to the support of all of our enthusiastic shoppers, we raised \$900! As usual the big ticket items were the ape-painted ornaments, including those that had been painted previously by Biji orangutan. Also, this year for the first time, two ostrich eggs were painted - one by Taz gorilla and one by Madu orangutan. Raffle tickets were sold and the winners were drawn and announced at the end of the Bazaar.

ACE would like to thank all of those who donated items for the sale. We would also especially thank our gorilla and orangutan artists, as well as their "assistants" who gave their time and artistic skills to this fundraiser. We would not have been as successful without your efforts. The funds raised will be used to support great ape-organizations in 2024.



List of Non-Profit Groups ACE Supports

Since our founding in 2006, Ape Conservation Effort has donated funds to a number of non-profits working in Africa and Indonesia. We have made donations to benefit all four species of great apes. Usually we highlight the organization prior to the fundraiser so people participating in the event will know ahead what the event will benefit. When there is no fundraiser, we want to still make donations between the four great apes from funds assigned to the General Fund, such as memberships, donations, gifts, etc. We want to donate to non-profits of all sizes, and sometimes the smaller groups will send an appeal to us that they are facing a tough time and would appreciate any help we could give.

Several members have requested a list of non-profit groups that we have supported in the past with the total of donations to date. Below is a list that might have some familiar names, and others that aren't as familiar you might want to research. (When the non-profit group was highlighted in an article in Heard It Through the Ape Vine, the date of that issue is listed. Back issues can be

found on
www.apeconservationeffort.org.

If there are additional groups not listed that you want ACE to consider in the future, please contact a board member and give them the information about the new group.

. [Bonobo Conservation Initiative \(BCI\)](#) **\$7,725**
(highlighted in 4/2022, 10/2022, 4/2021 newsletters)

. [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund \(DFGFI\)](#) **\$158,168**
(highlighted in 4/2018, 1/2017 4/2015, 7/2014 newsletters)

. [Lola ya Bonobo](#)
. [Friends of Bonobos](#) **\$9,285** (highlighted in 1/2022 newsletter)

. [Ganung Palung Orang Conservation Program](#) **\$3,000**

. [Goualougo Triangle Ape Project](#) **\$15,235**
(highlighted in 1/2011 newsletter)

. [International Animal Rescue](#) **\$10,020**
(highlighted in 10/2016, 1/2016 newsletters)

. [The Jane Goodall Institute](#) **\$7,000**
(highlighted in 10/2022, 4/2015 newsletters)

. [Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project](#) **\$500**
(highlighted in 7/2021 newsletter)

. [The Orangutan Conservancy](#) **\$13,500**
. [Orangutan Land Trust](#) **\$9,069**

. [Orangutan Outreach](#) **\$31,054** (FYI donations to BOS go through OO)
(highlighted in 10/2022, 10/2020, 1/2019 newsletters)

. [Sumatran Orangutan Society](#) **\$3,000**

. [Pan African Sanctuary Alliance PASA](#) **\$16,000**
(highlighted in 7/2020, 1/2019 newsletters)

. [Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary](#) **\$2,850**

. [Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme](#) **\$4,668**
(highlighted in 4/2015 newsletter)

. [SOCP - Tripa Peat Swamp](#) **\$1,000**

. [Bornean Orangutan Survival](#) **\$6,000**

ACE also made donations to REACT **\$200**, Ape Tag **\$3,000**, Center for Great Apes **\$640**, and Partners in Conservation **\$1,030** during our early years. These are ape conservation groups but not non-profits working in Indonesia and Africa. Since then we have focused only on groups working in situ as our Mission Statement states.



Did you know?

"Humor is mankind's greatest blessing."
Mark Twain



"When asked if my cup is Half-full or half-empty, my only response is that I am thankful I have a cup."
Sam Lefkowitz



"People are just as happy as they make their minds to be."
Abraham Lincoln



2024 ACE Board

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