

FOR THE RECORD

ZOOLOGICAL REGISTRARS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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2021 Issue 1

Feb – Mar 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

Another year has come and gone... where did the time go? I don't know about you, but my time spent during this pandemic seems to have both stopped and sped up! I hope you're all doing well and staying healthy in the new year. Here's to a BETTER year!

Over the last three months, the Board has reviewed, considered, edited and approved all of the following:

- Quote for a Permits Resource Page on the ZRA website – currently in the testing phase now
- TCP user surveys
- ZRA member awards—Committee Member of the Year (CMOY)
 - Gloria Rivera – Training, Standards, and Professional Development
 - Karen Poly – Membership Services
 - Jessica Grote – Governance
 - Donna Bear – Bonus CMOY, Website Management
- Z-CAP minutes
- Business Meeting minutes
- Strategic Plan finalization
- Support letter for Species360 IMLS grant
- Director Standing Rules
- Annual Conference survey
- 2021 Committee member rosters
- 2021 Virtual Conference announcement
- 2020 Budget reconciled
- Marketing & Outreach Committee marketing letter

In addition to all of that, the Board continues work on these topics:

- BOD/History Committee working on document retention
- TCP sustainment
- Standing rules
- Changing conference/webinar platform
- Changing online credit card processors
- Website Task Force website wish list spreadsheet

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Mattox
ZRA President

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Annual Conference Committee

The Annual Conference Leadership Team has been busy since closing our first VIRTUAL conference!

A revised Annual Conference Survey (reflecting the change from an in-person to virtual conference) was sent to both attendees and membership. We received 78 responses with some wonderful suggestions to work on incorporating into the 2021 Virtual Conference. No reveal just yet but stay tuned!! Overall, it appears the majority of the attendees were happy with the 2020 Virtual Conference. Joann Watson put together all the Zoom video recordings and made them accessible to the attendees/membership. Krista Adelhardt compiled all the Questions & Answers (Q&As) for each session and organized them nicely. Both the conference recordings and Q&A links were sent to the attendees/membership. If you did not receive the eBlasts for either of the links, please let the conference committee know and we will get the links to you. The links are also located on the ZRA website in the Conference Updates section. ZRA is incredibly grateful for your support and we are excited to begin working on the next Virtual Annual Conference for you!!

The Annual Conference Committee is working on identifying the 2021 Virtual Annual Conference Host, to be announced as soon as the contract is signed. Once signed, the committee will begin putting it all together for you!!

The team continues to use Facebook to promote and disseminate information about upcoming conferences. All members are welcome to join the closed group named ZRA Annual Conference. Official announcements will continue to be available on the website and sent to the whole membership prior to posting on Facebook.

Shelly Roach
Annual Conference Committee Chair

Bylaws Committee

No Update

Barbara Outerbridge
Bylaws Committee Chair

Ethics Committee

No Update

Holly Green
Ethics Committee Chair



History Committee

Gone, yet not forgotten!

In March 2021, it will be a year since we celebrated Alan Rost's memorial at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens. The memorial had a great turn out as Alan was a friend and colleague to so many people.

While some registrars were able to attend the memorial including Donna Bear, Katie Curran (Kisner), Pam Krentz, and Rachél Rogers, many of you were there in spirit. Six decades of former and current Jacksonville Zoo employees as well as a couple Dickerson Park employees were present at the memorial to honor him. Many stories were shared by friends and colleagues that night including a beautiful video presentation put together by Jasmine Alvarado and Donna Bear. Alan will never be forgotten and will always be remembered as a great man dedicated to his passion and an appreciator of history.



Katie Kisner
History Committee Chair

Marketing & Outreach Committee

The Marketing and Outreach Committee started a membership campaign with North American non-ZRA facilities. The committee is in the process of mailing out informational packets to introduce ZRA to these facilities. Fingers crossed for some new members!

Ashley Arimborgo
Marketing & Outreach Committee Co-Chair

Membership Services

No updates.

Matt Seguin
Membership Services Chair

Nominations and Elections Committee

The Nominations and Elections Committee will begin working on the 2021 goals we set for the committee. We also welcome Jennifer Diehl from Fort Wayne's Children Zoo to our committee!

Jessica Grote
Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

Professional Development Committee

No updates.

Peter Grimm
Professional Development Committee Chair

Standards Committee

No updates.

Melody Brooks
Standards Committee Chair

Training Committee

No updates.

Donna Bear
Training Committee Chair

TREASURER REPORT

With 2020 gone, yes gone Remember ZRA's the one!	INCOME	\$8,428.84
We rise to the occasion strong We work together, we get along	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,973.95
ZRA supports its peeps By giant bounds and quantum leaps	NET INCOME	\$4,454.89
Jayne Hardwick ZRA Treasurer	FUNDS ON HAND	
	Business Checking	\$10,672.62
	Money Market	\$53,011.30
	TOTAL	\$63,683.92

SHARING RECORDS DISCUSSION FROM LISTSERVE

Ashley Traina

Towards the end of 2020, many institutions began receiving information regarding a pilot program that enables veterinary advisors to view shared data through ZIMS. The prospect of this new feature was promising but brought about an interesting discussion on security and management of access.

Conceptually, the program should provide increased security compared to the “old way” of sharing records with veterinary advisors. Up until now, we have either emailed a (sometimes massive) PDF file or provided access to an entire institution to enable records sharing for specific individuals. With PDF files, there’s no way to regulate where the file goes once it’s been sent. It could be forwarded on in a million different directions with no end in sight – how terrifying! Enabling institutional access offers the veterinary advisors convenient and constant access to the animals they advise. However, it also grants their entire institution access to the records of those individuals at your institution. This means a lot of hands in the cookie jar, and if you have cookie jars at home, you know how devastating this can be. This pilot program offers more security in an effort to maintain institutional confidentiality. The records are accessed by an individual with their own mnemonic, which means no other individuals at their institution have the same access.

Going forward, we must consider how this information can be utilized. Should formal agreements be written by regional associations to dictate exactly what the information can be used for, or should the formal agreements be written by each participating institution instead? Can we prevent misrepresentation of data? How can we prevent unauthorized records use in third party research? Stay tuned as we dive deeper into this new ZIMS feature! Records sharing is an excellent tool to help facilities further promote animal welfare and improve conservation strategies. Laying a firm foundation now will prevent unmitigated problems going forward and provide us all with happy veterinary advisors and registrars.

SAY WHAT?! THE FAR SIDE OF DAILY KEEPER REPORTS

- Vet was unable to ultrasound his neck/jaw area due to the density of his hair.
- She was sleeping and woke up and was vocal while changing towels and food.
- The cartilaginous* came be today and did not see anything that was unusual (*cardiologist).
- Hurried, stripped & cleaned the front stall.
- Vet was in the area and visually examined her. She ate half an avocado during the examination.
- Evidence on exhibit that the capuchins caught a bird yesterday. I guess they wanted to celebrate Thanksgiving too. Only feathers remained.
- Keeper (DB) observed breeding.
- Ended Enrofloxacin (0.02 mls) and Meloxicam (.01 mls) due to euthanization.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ANNUAL INVENTORY

Judith Block

If you are interested in a brief history of the annual inventory, a.k.a. year end report, here's how I remember it:

Very few zoos kept inventories of their collections before the mid-1970's, though many did submit numbers to the "Census of Rare Animals" published annually by the International Zoo Yearbook (IZY). Under the leadership of T. H. Reed, W. Conway and R. Reuther, the National, Bronx and Philadelphia zoos got together as a group; they called themselves the Zoo East Species Trust (ZEST) and it was the precursor of the SSPs, etc. (The first meeting of the group was at Philly and Ralls and Ballou presented their seminal findings on inbreeding there.) One of the first ZEST activities was to compare the three collections, looking for species in common and seeing which species might be managed as a single unit. - a novel idea at the time. In order to compare the collections, N. Duplaix at Bronx, pulled together a list of species we had in common (I recall that it was a huge task as only NZP routinely published an inventory). At the same time, T. H. Reed was president of the IUDZG (International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens, now WAZA), and, as such, he had advocated the use of the Rotterdam Zoo annual inventory format - sort of an accounting balance sheet - as the standard for all zoos around the world. He wanted the ZEST zoos to be an example and a result was a paper in the IZY*. Another result was an emphasis on keeping records of animals as individuals, a concept that was just beginning to be adopted by zoos. With zoos producing annual inventories and sharing xerox copies it was possible to compare all sorts of things, including reproductive success and mortality rates, even before the universal adoption of ISIS. When ISIS ARKS first came out, one of its earliest goals was to be able to produce these annual inventories as a report in the standardized balance sheet format. The format enables zoo managers to assess their collections and successes on a yearly basis.

The anniversary of Earth Day, April 22, 1970, seems an appropriate time to mark an important, exciting and fertile decade in zoo history.

Judith

---email jblock222@gmail.com

Judith Block

Washington, DC

* [method of zoo inventory reporting](#)

International Zoo Yearbook

Volume 17, Issue 1, January 1977, Pages: 205-207, JUDITH A. BLOCK, ALLEGRA HAMER and ANN HESS

Article first published online : 18 DEC 2007, DOI: 10.1111/j.1748-1090.1977.tb00910.x

HAPPY GRADUATION DAY TO TWO OF THE ZOO'S PATIENTS



Happy Graduation Day to Two of the Zoo's patients from the Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington, Illinois—a pair of Snow Leopard cubs!

The male and female, both born on August 4, 2020, were brought to Omaha about two months ago to undergo physical therapy for “swimmer’s syndrome”. With this congenital condition, the cubs were unable to tuck their legs beneath their bodies to walk normally.

While in Omaha, the cubs were in physical therapy three times a day, seven days a week.

“We just continued what they started and were fortunate enough to have the staff and resources to allow us to provide more intensive therapy,” said Dr. Sarah Woodhouse, Director of Animal Health. “It’s so amazing what zoos can accomplish for animals when they are willing to work together.”



Dr. Woodhouse, along with Darlene Klimek, Senior Keeper of animal Health and the cubs’ primary keeper in Omaha; and Jay Tetzloff, Miller Park Director and Snow Leopard Species Survival Plan Coordinator, addressed Omaha media last week to

celebrate the cubs’ departure home. Link to the press conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUdQoMdEnGI&feature=youtu.be>



Dr. Cheryl Morris, Vice President of Conservation, added, “Every animal is critical to the sustainability of the population; therefore, cooperation among zoos for their care and management is absolutely necessary. I am so proud of our team here in Omaha for helping ensure these cubs will become members of the Snow Leopard Species Survival Plan. This effort demonstrates our commitment to help save the species.”

TLC from the Hospital veterinarians and especially Senior Keeper, Darlene Klimek (left), hobbles and lots of physical therapy (they ran the steps at the Zoo Hospital!) to strengthen leg muscles and ligaments all paid off.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Professional

Robin English, Veterinary Technician, Seneca Park Zoo
Sara Wheaton, Registrar, Wildlife Safari
Kerry Sweeney, Manager of Animal Programs, Brevard Zoo
Sebastian Carcano, Animal Registrar, Brevard Zoo
Mirjam Pulleritts, Tallinn Zoological Gardens

Associate

Allison Homler, Donor Services, Associate, Bronx Zoo/ Wildlife Conservation Society
Taylor Woods, Zookeeper, Henry Vilas Zoo
Brianna Voight, Administrative Assistant, San Diego Zoo
Wouter Van der Ven, Zoological Assistant, ARTIS Royal Zoo
Melissa Young, Senior Zookeeper, Happy Hollow Park and Zoo
Amara Petrovich, Animal Records Assistant, Detroit Zoological Park
Jennifer Shorey, Helen Woodward Animal Center
Elise Ward, Zookeeper II Supervisory Assistant, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
Rachel Atkins, Happy Hollow Zoo
Hannah Rios, Graduate student, San Jose State University
Leslie Traywick Silva, Temporary Keeper, John Ball Zoo

2020 – 2021 Board of Directors

Emily Mattox, President
Stephanie Eller, Vice President
Adrienne Horrigan, Secretary
Jayne Hardwick, Treasurer
Joann Watson, Director / Board Liaison
Jennifer Wilson, Director/Board Liaison



OUR MISSION

ZRA CONNECTS, TRAINS AND
EMPOWERS THE COMMUNITY
OF ZOO AND AQUARIUM
REGISTRARS.

ZRA VENDOR MEMBERS



Global information
serving conservation.

