

FOR THE RECORD

ZOOLOGICAL REGISTRARS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



In this issue

Contents

Board of Directors' Update.....	1
Committee Updates.....	2
Annual Conference Committee	2
Bylaws Committee	2
Ethics Committee.....	3
Marketing & Outreach Committee ..	3
Membership Services	3
Nominations and Elections Committee.....	3
Professional Development Committee.....	3
Treasurer Report	4
Share your WOW!.....	4
Words of Wisdom	4
Words of Wisecracks	4
Words of Wonder	5
Say What?! the far side of daily keeper reports.....	5
Member Spotlights.....	6
Hello Michiko.....	6
Hello Kris	6
Survey Says	7
Zoo Registrars Take on Covid-19....	7
Welcome New Members	8
ZRA Vendor Members.....	9

2021 Issue 2

Apr – June 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' UPDATE

Spring has definitely rolled into the Pacific Northwest and with it, the SUNSHINE and surprising daffodils all over the place. After a long winter, it feels good to get a breath of fresh air. I encourage all of you, if you're able and working onsite, to stretch your legs and take a walk through your zoo/aquarium. Go before anyone else gets there. See the animals. Connect with keepers.

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

- 2021 Budget and Summary document
- 2021 Annual Conference Host application (SeaWorld), Program Chair
- History Committee Vice Chair appointment (Jasmine Alvarado)
- Special Election for vacant Director position
- Virtual Happy Hours!! If you haven't joined, you should!

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Mattox
ZRA President

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Annual Conference Committee

The Annual Conference Committee is pleased to announce that **Sea World Parks & Entertainment** has been approved as the 2021 ZRA *Virtual* Annual Conference Host!

SEAWORLD PARKS & ENTERTAINMENT™



- *Kaylin Ackerson, SeaWorld Orlando* (Host)
- *Melissa Cardenas, SeaWorld San Antonio* (Co-Host & Program Chair)
- *Lisa Winkler, SeaWorld Orlando* (Co-Host)
- *Heather Tapia, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay* (Co-Host)

Your annual conference hosts from left to right:

Kaylin Ackerson, Melissa Cardenas, Lisa Winkler, and Heather Tapia



The dates for the 2021 ZRA Virtual Annual Conference Committee are set for **October 3-9, 2021**. Block off those dates on your calendars and start thinking about possibly presenting something to our members/attendees. The committee will be meeting soon to begin planning all the exciting facets!

Remember to check out the committee's Facebook page for updates and stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Shelly Roach
Annual Conference Committee Chair

Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee is hoping to gain two or three more members, including one willing to fill the newly vacated position of vice-chair.

Barbara Outerbridge
Bylaws Committee Chair

Ethics Committee

No update

Holly Green
Ethics Committee Chair

History Committee

No update

Katie Kisner
History Committee Chair

Marketing & Outreach Committee

The Marketing and Outreach Committee continue to work on the membership campaign. They are welcoming new members to the group and super happy to have them join the committee.

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 is working on the nomination and election process to fill Board of Director positions at this time and in the upcoming months. Thank you for your participation in the process.

Jessica Grote
Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

Professional Development Committee

No updates.

Peter Grimm
Professional Development Committee Chair

Standards Committee

The Standards committee has adopted a new mission statement: *"The Standards Committee serves ZRA members by promoting, evaluating and developing standards and best practices to support and advance animal care, welfare and population management."*

A review was conducted of a proposed standard to address ATC/ATF content. General consensus is it is needed, but a survey of ZRA members should be done prior to development to ensure this is something members want or need. The goal would not be the creation of a standard form but a general guide or outline of items of importance to be included in an ATC/ATF.

Melody Brooks
Standards Committee Chair

Training Committee

No updates.

Donna Bear
Training Committee Chair

TREASURER REPORT

Welcome 2021!
We do good work, we have some fun!
We learn new things and when we're done
We teach others all we know.
Not scared to challenge the status quo,
It's what we do, it's how we grow.

Jayne Hardwick
ZRA Treasurer

INCOME	4186.30
TOTAL EXPENSES	958.26
NET INCOME	3,228.04
CASH ON HAND	
Checking	\$13,900.66
Money Market	<u>62,740.94</u>
TOTAL	\$76,641.60

SHARE YOUR WOW!

Words of Wisdom

The Communicative Registrar: Direct, Timely, and Informative

The Communicative Registrar does not rely on a computer records program to inform an owner of reproduction by an animal being held on loan. Why? Because this automated message remains within the records program and it may never be accessed by the owner's staff. Rather, the Communicative Registrar will, in a timely manner, directly inform all involved parties of a birth/hatch, even if the offspring does not survive to the time specified for allocation of ownership. Most breeding loans include a specified pattern of allocation of offspring; notification to all involved parties provides a record of the birth dates - and thereby, the order of birth - of all offspring. Timely notification of births/hatches to all involved parties should help to avoid future ownership allocation issues.

Nor does the Communicative Registrar rely on the computer program to inform an owner of the death of an animal being held on loan. The holder must remember that unless specified otherwise in the Loan Agreement, the carcass still belongs to the owner - who has the right to direct what is done with the remains. Direct contact with an appropriate staff member of the owner as soon as possible after a death is therefore essential.

Words of Wisecracks

We asked registrars to submit some cute and clever names for their animals. Here are a few names that stuck out:

Jennifer Wilson was browsing through her records the other day and stumbled onto a chicken named "Cluck Norris". Henry Doorly Zoo also happens to house a chinchilla named "Chakira".

Sarah Triplett at the Butterfly Pavilion really loves the name of their white-spotted hermit crab, "Leonardo Da Pinchi" (pictured right).





Words of Wonder

Last fall, Mesker Park Zoo's Eastern Hellbenders bred successfully. This is the first recorded successful breeding of Eastern Hellbenders in a captive environment! Here's an article from their local news for more information: <https://www.tristatehomepage.com/news/local-news/mesker-park-zoo-achieves-first-eastern-hellbender-breeding-in-captivity/> (egg pictures to the left)

Mesker Park Zoo is also slated to open their brand-new penguin exhibit this summer.

Zoo de Granby is proud to announce the birth of two Amur leopard cubs on March 5th! [https://zoodegranby.com/en/news/double-](https://zoodegranby.com/en/news/double-natural-birth-amur-leopard)

[natural-birth-amur-leopard](https://zoodegranby.com/en/news/double-natural-birth-amur-leopard)

Zoo Miami also had an extremely exciting and cute announcement: 2.1 North American River Otter pups were born on February 5th (GAH—so cute)!



Have something fun and exciting you would like to add? Share your WOW with us!

SAY WHAT?! THE FAR SIDE OF DAILY KEEPER REPORTS

- Keeper informed him that his foot is still closed and he keeps it up in the air when he is standing.
- The lump feels harder and more defined. Even the vet felt the same way.
- Keeper noticed her right eye larger than left, also an excessive amount of drooling.
- Keeper noticed that she has a dry patch of skin in the groin area of her left thigh.
- Today at 12pm keeper saw fresh blood present on the inside of his left rear thigh next to his testicles.
- Keeper was able to see a small part of the wound on her butt this AM while she was sitting sideways on the bed. It is definitely above her anal area and does look a bit swollen.
- Kira kookaburra did not eat her PM moose tonight, but she ate her pinky
- Put in a footblock to begin desensitization.
- 0.1 Muntjac was able to cut a few sutures out voluntarily but there is still a few left in.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Hello Michiko

Name: Michiko Berceau

Position/Institution: Registrar / Veterinary Technician @ The Loveland Living Planet Aquarium

Number of years in your position: 2

Hometown: Bangor, ME



Why/How did you become involved in the world of all things Registrar? It was purely by accident. During my time at the Tracy Aviary, the previous registrar moved to a new position and I "absorbed" the role!

What is your favorite part about being a Registrar? I absolutely love organization and everything looking so pretty and neat on my desk. I love the feeling of a clean desk, with nothing on it and the satisfaction that everything is in its place!

Who inspired you to become a Registrar? I can't answer this directly, but I would like to point out one person who is overall just inspiring - which is Rachel from Zoo Miami - that girl knows her stuff and she is always SO helpful, willing to share, etc. - I don't know what we (the registrar community) would do without her! Keep it up Rachel!!!!

Besides the obvious tools of the trade, what is one item on your desk you cannot live without? So, this may be obvious - but my scanner! If you don't have a document scanner, you NEED one - it is the best thing that will ever happen to you! Otherwise - my coffee!

What challenges do you face when working with animal keepers? The animal keepers are my favorite! I am so lucky to work with basically a "dream team" of keepers and aquarists who are always so kind and helpful. My biggest challenge is that I sometimes feel like I could do more for them, but don't have enough time!

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received? After I moved out for the first time in my life, one of my very first roommates told me "you are wasting your life thinking about it" which I will always remember - we waste our lives thinking about things that DON'T matter - we should focus on the stuff that does, that's how a difference is made and how movements are created!

Before working at your current institution, what was the most unusual or interesting job you've ever had? I worked for the swap meet selling knives when I was 16!



Hello Kris

Name: Kris Willis

Position/Institution: Zoo Registrar (Acting), Los Angeles Zoo

Number of years in your position: about 6 months

Hometown: San Bernardino, CA

Why/How did you become involved in the world of all things Registrar? I have always loved history and historical records, and even did genealogy (human) as a

hobby. As a keeper, I knew I wanted to become a registrar when I was able to work with LA Zoo's previous registrar during a light duty stint.

What is your favorite part about being a Registrar? Solving old mysteries and filling in gaps in historical records.

Who inspired you to become a Registrar? Bob Barnes originally, and then Karen Poly was my mentor.

What is your least favorite/biggest challenge to working as a Registrar? Permits, Amirite?!

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment to date? As a keeper, I was the first-place fund raiser for national AAZK's Bowling for Rhinos event in 2015. I won a trip to visit Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Besides the obvious tools of the trade, what is one item on your desk you cannot live without?

My zombie pen holder. The pen is stabbing him in his belly!

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received? Karen once told me that everything happens when it's supposed to. I've tried to be patient since then, and it all has truly worked out for me!

What are you most looking forward to at the next ZRA conference? Meeting all the super friendly and extremely helpful registrars with whom I've had the pleasure of corresponding, and being able to finally put faces to names!

Do you have an office nickname? A few - Kriswillis (all one word), Kaydubs or simply KW.

Besides being a Registrar, what else do you do for fun? I like to ghost hunt, go to musicals and travel. I've scrapbooked a bit. I also have a giant family so there's always a game night, birthday dinner, a nephew in a play or a niece graduating, etc.

What is one item on your bucket list? I'll be crossing off my 50th state this spring!

SURVEY SAYS

Zoo Registrars Take on Covid-19

We had 52 responses to the survey. The comments will be emailed to the membership; but below is a snapshot of the responses:

1. During COVID-19 were you employed:

● Full Time	43
● Reduced hours	7
● Fuloughed	0
● Furloughed and then returned...	2

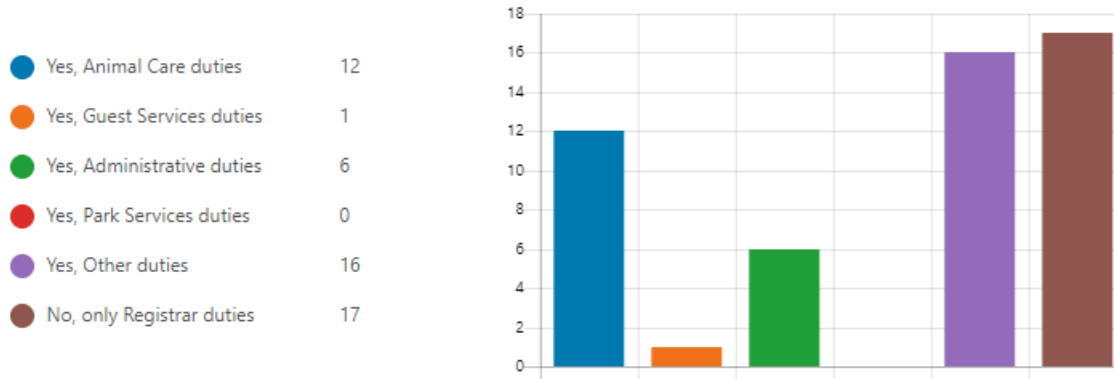


2. During COVID-19 did you work:

● On workplace campus	19
● From home	7
● A combination of on campus ...	26



3. During COVID-19 did you perform duties other than Registrar duties?



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Professional

- Alexa Swenson, Assistant Registrar, San Diego Zoo Safari Park
- Sarah Villareal, Associate Registrar, Dallas Zoo
- Mike Lee, Senior Keeper/Registrar, Como Park Zoo
- Mark Roth, Registrar, The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens
- Alex Lovern, Registrar, National Aquarium
- Madison Szathmary, Manager of NatureWorks, Orlando Science Center
- Meredith Williams, Vet Keeper/Assistant Registrar, Lee Richardson Zoo
- Dr. Caitlin Hadfield, Veterinarian, Seattle Aquarium
- Lauren Moulis, Animal Care Manager, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center
- Barrett Christie, Director of Animal Husbandry, The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk
- Jasmine Alvarado, Species Management Specialist, Jacksonville Zoo
- Risa Daniels, Diagnostic Coordinator, Regulatory Specialist, National Marine Mammal Foundation
- Holly Otocka, Registrar, Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center

Associate

- Cory Scott, Senior Animal Keeper at Prospect Park Zoo
- Rachel Bartlett
- Rachel Stein, Associate Director of Animal Husbandry, The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk
- Bryan Whittington, Zookeeper II, Audubon Zoo
- Gavin Livingston, Corporate Animal Collection Manager, Zoofari Parks LLC
- Peter vonLehe Ruegner, Operations Manager, Lowcountry Biosource, Inc.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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
Donna Bear / Board Liaison



OUR MISSION

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

ZRA VENDOR MEMBERS



Global information
serving conservation.

