

ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS

mid-year meeting

february 28 - march 5, 2010 virginia beach

photo credit: Paul Crump, Houston Zoo Inc.



you

PROGRAM GUIDE

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Thank you

Thank you Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center Conference Committee, and the staff at the Virginia Zoological Park for their hard work and dedication to making the 2010 AZA Mid-Year Meeting a success!

VIRGINIA AQUARIUM & MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Lynn Clements, Executive Director

Mark Swingle, Director of Research & Conservation

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Beth Firchau, Curator of Fishes

Crystal Matthews, Curator of Birds

April Strickland, Annual Fund Manager

Pam Sandloop, Development Specialist

Beth Caverno, Marketing Coordinator/Webmaster

Kathleen Reed, Volunteer Coordinator

Katie Schumacher, General Manager, Sodexo

VIRGINIA ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Greg Bockheim, Executive Director

Annie Vogt, Director of Development and Communications

Program Schedule & Special Events



Unless otherwise noted, all meetings and workshops will take place at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. The General Session room, Ballroom One, Level 1, will be open all day, Tuesday - Thursday should you want to have an impromptu meeting. Snacks and beverages will be available throughout the day.

Sunday, February 28

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Wildlife Conservation Management Committee (WCMC) - closed Room 2A, Level 2

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Parrot TAG Room 5AB, Level 2

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

AZA Board of Directors Tower Boardroom, Level 2

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Cuckoo/Turaco TAG Room 5AB, Level 2

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Coraciiformes TAG Room 5AB, Level 2

1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Kookaburra Animal Care Manual Working Meeting Room 5AB, Level 2

Monday, March 1

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waterfowl Management Workshop Room 5AB, Level 2

The Anseriformes Taxon Advisory Group will be conducting an ASAG sponsored waterfowl captive management workshop.

Population Trends in Waterfowl

- Robert Wester, Toledo Zoo

Waterfowl RAFT Program

Review of current RAFT program and the impact it has had on DERP species management for the TAG and waterfowl exhibit management in zoos.

- Steve Sarro, National Aviary

Waterfowl Management for Zoos and Aquariums Part 1

Presentation of waterfowl management strategies as it relates to collection sustainability. Topics to include creative waterfowl housing options, pair vs. multi-pair groupings, mixed species exhibits, zoogeographic management, regional zoo collaboration programs, and waterfowl in education programs.

- Keith Lovett, Palm Beach Zoo
- Juan Romero, Central Park Zoo

Waterfowl Husbandry and Nest Box Design

- Mike Lubbock, Sylvan Heights Waterfowl Park

Wildlife Conservation Society and Central Park Zoo Sea Duck Program

The science and collection management of sea ducks.

- Susan Cradillo, Central Park Zoo

Waterfowl Management for Zoos and Aquariums Part II

Presentation of waterfowl management strategies as it relates to collection sustainability. Waterfowl quarantine management and facility design, health monitoring of waterfowl populations, waterfowl rearing methods, creative rearing options, and waterfowl nursery design.

- Keith Lovett, Palm Beach Zoo

Problem Solving

A question and answer session on waterfowl management with potential topics to include husbandry, sustainability, transportation, off-exhibit holding design, and private aviculturist role in waterfowl management.

- Steve Sarro, Sherry Branch, Mike Lubbock, and Keith Lovett

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

AZA Board of Directors Tower Boardroom, Level 2

Thick-billed Parrot SSP Master Planning Room 4B, Level 2

Only open to current Thick-billed Parrot holders.

Wildlife Conservation Management Committee (WCMC) - closed Room 2A, Level 2

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Joint Public Relations and Marketing Committee Meeting 1D, Level 2

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Business Operations Committee 4D, Level 2

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

FrogWatch USA Training Session 4A, Level 2

Monday, March 1 - continued

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Public Relations Committee **1C, Level 2**
Marketing Committee **1D, Level 2**

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Lunch **Ballroom One, Level 1**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Field Conservation Committee **1B, Level 2**

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Trends Committee **2D, Level 2**

1:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Ratite Management Workshop **Room 5AB, Level 2**

The Ratite Taxon Advisory Group will be conducting an ASAG sponsored ratite workshop.

Population Trends in Ratites

- Robert Webster, Toledo Zoo

Cassowary and Ostrich Handling and Training

- Donna Bear Hull, Jacksonville Zoo
- Scott Tidmus, Disney's Animal Kingdom
- James Balance, Zoo Atlanta
- Shelly Norris, Nashville Zoo

Cassowary Conservation

Who is the Australian Rainforest Foundation (ARF)? How ARF, AZA/EAZA/ARAZPA Ratite TAG's have joined forces to support cassowary conservation and how Ethotrak will be utilized. Progress report on the formation of International Cassowary Recovery Team.

- Nicole LaGreco, San Diego Zoo

Raising Ratites

This talk will summarize methods of successfully raising greater rheas, cassowary and ostrich. Handrearing and parent rearing methods will be discussed.

- Sara Hallager, National Zoo
- Lee Schoen, Audubon Zoo
- Greg Bockheim, Virginia Zoo

Kiwi Husbandry

This presentation will discuss the exhibit requirements for displaying kiwi (inside and outside), nutrition, health related issues, breeding boxes, incubation practices and rearing of young.

- Kathy Brader, National Zoo

Problem Solving

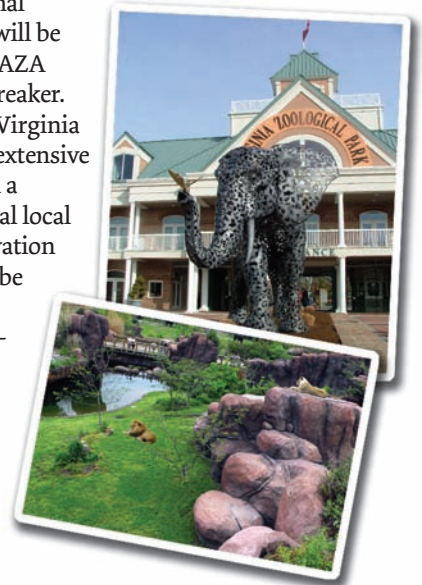
Cassowaries: Should they be a SSP? What are the pros and cons to elevating this species to a SSP level. How do we encourage more zoos to exhibit this species and provide dedicated space?

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Icebreaker at the Virginia Zoological Park

Located two miles from downtown Norfolk, the Virginia Zoo's 53 acres of lush landscape, expansive animal exhibits and open spaces will be the backdrop for the 2010 AZA Mid-Year Conference Icebreaker. Over the last 10 years, the Virginia Zoo has gone through an extensive rejuvenation and has been a dedicated partner to critical local water and wildlife conservation initiatives. Attendees will be given a sneak peek of the newest \$18+ M expansion – "Asia - Trail of the Tiger" is set to open in the fall of 2010.

Shuttle busses will pick up attendees from the Doubletree Hotel beginning at 5:30 pm.



Hosted by the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center



Tuesday, March 2 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Spend the afternoon exploring over 800,000 gallons of immersive exhibits with exclusive behind the scenes access at the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center. Check out hundreds of hands-on exhibits, outdoor aviary, nature trail, and marshlands. Plus you won't want to miss our 3D IMAX® theater. Be sure to see the new \$25 million Restless Planet with dozens of exhibits, 110,000 gallons of new aquariums, and four immersive habitats: Malaysian Peat Swamp, Coastal Sahara Desert, Red Sea, and Indonesia's Flores Island.

Transportation will be provided to and from the Virginia Aquarium. Buses will leave from Door B of the Virginia Beach Convention Center at approximately 12:45 pm and will run continuously between the Convention Center and each of the Aquarium's two pavilions throughout the day, with service approximately every 20 minutes.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS: ANIMAL AREAS

Behind the scenes tours will be available continuously from 2-4 pm in the following areas:

- Komodo dragons – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- Red Sea tunnel and Coral Aquarium – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- Tomistoma crocodiles – Bay & Ocean Pavilion

Tuesday, March 2

7:00 am – 8:00 am

ASAG Steering Committee Meeting **5AB, Level 2**

7:30 am

Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors **Ballroom One, Level 1**

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Avian TAG Chair Meeting **5AB, Level 2**

8:00 am – 9:30 am

General Session with Dr. James P. Collins **Ballroom One, Level 1**

Opening General Session Keynote, Dr. James P. Collins will explore the first modern extinction event across an entire vertebrate class, with amphibian declines serving as a lens through which to see more clearly see the larger story of climate change, conservation of biodiversity, and a host of profoundly important ecological, evolutionary, ethical, philosophical, and sociological issues.



9:30 am – 10:00 am

Break with Exhibitors **Ballroom One, Level 1**

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Zoo Conservation Outreach Group (ZCOG) - closed **2B, Level 2**

ASAG General Meeting **5AB, Level 2**

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Collaborative Thinking Sessions

Topic leaders explore specific topic areas with active discussion by participants. These roundtable discussions challenge attendees to share experiences, examples and learn from others' mistakes and successes.

Room 3E, Level 2

Pay to Dive: Fee-based SCUBA Experiences as Visitor Enhancements (10:00 – 11:00 am)

• Michelle Ruthenburg, Ripley's Aquarium

Record Retention: How Long is Long Enough? (11:00 – 12:00 pm)

• Natasha Scott, Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center

Room 3A, Level 2

Zoo & Aquarium Visitor Evaluations

• Vicki Searles, Cleveland Metropark Zoos

Room 2D, Level 2

Education Program Animals

• Kevin Hills, Knoxville Zoo

• Ron Fricke, Toledo Zoo

Room 3B, Level 2

Social Media - Marketing and Public Relations

• Holly Braithwaite, Hogle Zoo

Room 3D, Level 2

Animals Inc.

• Jill Nicoll, Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Lunch with Exhibitors **Ballroom One, Level 1**

Say hello to our exhibiting companies and thank them for their support! Lunch will be served.

1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Aquarium Day

Aquarium Day

ANIMAL AMBASSADORS & ANIMAL PROGRAMS

Educators and animal ambassadors will be stationed in the Conservation Station in the Restless Planet, Bay & Ocean Pavilion, and in the Marsh Pavilion continuously from 1-4 pm, including:

- 1:00 pm Umbrella cockatoo program – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 1:30 pm Great horned owl program – Marsh Pavilion
- 2:00 pm Turkey vulture program – Marsh Pavilion
- 2:30 pm Sugar glider program – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 3:00 pm American kestrel program – Marsh Pavilion
- 3:30 pm Great horned owl program – Marsh Pavilion
- 3:30 pm Reptile program – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 4:00 pm Hedgehog program – Bay & Ocean Pavilion

The following feeding, training, and enrichment programs are scheduled for viewing in the public aisle:

- 1:00 pm Seal behavioral session* – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 1:30 pm Sea turtle feeding – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 2:00 pm Komodo dragon feeding and training* – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 2:00 pm Otter behavioral session* – Marsh Pavilion
- 2:15 pm Shark and fish feeding – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 2:30 pm Aviary feeding – Marsh Pavilion
- 3:00 pm Eagle ray feeding – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 3:00 pm Seal behavioral session* – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 3:30 pm Seahorse enrichment – Bay & Ocean Pavilion
- 4:00 pm Otter behavioral session* – Marsh Pavilion

*Behind-the-scenes access is available for these sessions, however space is limited. Most sessions may be viewed from the public aisle.



More activities and open houses will be available to Aquarium Day attendees, including tours of the Virginia Aquarium's Ocean Explorer research vessel and vehicles from the Outreach Education fleet including the Ocean in Motion, behind-the-scenes tours in the IMAX projection booth, an IMAX film screening, sponsor booths and activities, and information booths showcasing the Aquarium's education programs, Green Team, Sensible Seafood Program, and Stranding Response Program.

Attendees will enjoy a cocktail reception from 4:30-6 pm in the Bay & Ocean Pavilion.

Wednesday, March 3

7:30 am

[Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors](#) **Ballroom One, Level 1**

8:00 am - 9:00 am

[General Session with Dr. Claude Gascon](#) **Ballroom One, Level 1**

Join us as Conservation International's Executive Vice President of Field Programs Dr. Claude Gascon, will share his global experiences in saving amphibian species.

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

[Galliformes Management Workshop](#) **5AB, Level 2**

The Galliformes Taxon Advisory Group will be conducting an ASAG sponsored Galliformes captive management workshop.

Population Trends in Galliformes

- Robert Webster, Toledo Zoo

Pheasant Management

Managing multiple species of pheasants in a single aviary. Possibilities for housing pheasants for temperate zoos.

- Jeff Sailer, Central Park Zoo

Congo Peafowl Update

A general overview of how the AZA population is doing and the needs of the program i.e. holding space, institutions registering for the species with Antwerp, etc. that will ensure a population in the future within AZA programs.

- Hannah Bailey, Houston Zoo

Attwater's Prairie Chicken

Revisiting a regional conservation program which could be used as a model for the development of other N. American Galliformes. Lessons learned and where the program stands with its goals.

- Hannah Bailey, Houston Zoo

The Curassows Past and Present

An overview of both past and present of the three managed populations and an update on how these species are doing within AZA collections. What steps should be taken in the future to increase involvement in these programs and how these programs can be utilized in the country of origin of these species.

- Chris Holmes, Houston Zoo

The Horned Guan Program

Problem Solving

The problem solving aspect of this workshop will concentrate on determining a way to increase interest in exhibiting galliformes and ways to alleviate holding issues.

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

[Accreditation Hearings - closed](#) **Doubletree Hotel**

[Hearing Room](#) **Cedar**

[Pre-Hearing Room](#) **Royal Palm**

[Post-Hearing Room](#) **Crepe Myrtle**

8:30 am - 12:15 pm

[Antelope and Giraffe TAG](#) **2B, Level 2**

9:00 am - 10:30 am

[Practical Applications of Research for Zoo & Aquarium Evaluation](#) **4DE, Level 2**

- Vicki Searles, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

[Diversity Committee](#) **3C, Level 2**

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

[New World Primate TAG](#) **2A, Level 2**

[Professional Development Committee](#) **3DE, Level 2**

[Research and Technology Committee](#) **2C, Level 2**

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

[Government Affairs Business Meeting](#) **2D, Level 2**

10:30 am - 11:00 am

[Evaluating a New Exhibit-Restless Planet](#) **4DE, Level 2**

- Chris Witherspoon, Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center

11:15 am - 12:00 pm

[Climate Change Communication-National Aquarium in Baltimore's Process and Plan](#) **4DE, Level 2**

- Nancy Hotchkiss, National Aquarium in Baltimore

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

[Lunch with Exhibitors](#) **Ballroom One, Level 1**

Continue networking and sharing ideas while visiting with exhibitors over lunch.

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

[Partnering with in situ Conservation](#) **4DE, Level 2**

- LeAnn White, Greenville Zoo
- Jennifer Rawlings, Riverbanks Zoo & Gardens

1:15 pm - 2:45 pm

[Ungulate Care Session](#) **2B, Level 2**



1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Columbiformes TAG **5AB, Level 2**

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Extending The Reach-Successful Diversity Programs **3C, Level 2**

One of the objectives of the AZA's Diversity Special Committee is to provide resources to the member institutions for addressing issues focused on embracing diversity. This session will assemble three institutions with successful diversity programs in place. The speakers will describe each of their programs including a brief program summary, its objectives, and its overall success at reaching out to the targeted audiences.

- Moderator: Dana Brown, Director of Human Resources, Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens

Teen Mentoring Program
 • Kathy Sider, Seattle Aquarium

Zoo Ventures Juvenile Justice Program
 • Melinda Mendolusky, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo

Programs for Disadvantaged Youth
 • James Mills, Milwaukee County Zoo

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Regional Communication Plan: Examples of Success **4DE, Level 2**

- Kevin Hills, Knoxville Zoo
- Jill Karlson, Brandywine Zoo

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
USFWS Strategic Planning for International Conservation **2D, Level 2**

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Pelecaniformes TAG **5AB, Level 2**

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Climate Change Initiative Working Group - closed **3C, Level 2**

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Ungulate TAG Research Symposium **2B, Level 2**

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Penguin TAG **5AB, Level 2**

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Wildlife Conservation Management Committee (WCMC) Program Leaders Meeting **2D, Level 2**

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Green SAG - closed **3C, Level 2**

AZA 2011 | MID-YEAR MEETING

Save the Date

MARCH 19-24, 2011
 Chattanooga, Tennessee



TENNESSEE
AQUARIUM

Hosted by the Tennessee Aquarium



Thursday, March 4

7:30 am
Continental Breakfast **Ballroom One, Level 1**

8:00 am – 9:00 am
General Session with Dr. Carl Hershner **Ballroom One, Level 1**

Dr. Carl Hershner, Director of the Center for Coastal Resources Management and Associate Professor of Marine Science at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) at the College of William & Mary will present on the effects of climate change on coastal habitats and species, with implications directly relevant in research on amphibian declines.

8:00 am – 9:00 am
Ciconiiformes TAG **5AB, Level 2**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Accreditation Hearings – *closed* **Doubletree Hotel**

Hearing Room	Cedar
Pre-Hearing Room	Royal Palm
Post-Hearing Room	Crepe Myrtle

8:30 am – 10:30 am
Cattle TAG **2B, Level 2**

9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Animal Welfare Committee – *closed* **3AB, Level 2**
New World Primate TAG **2A, Level 2**

9:00 am – 10:00 am
Charadriiformes TAG **5AB, Level 2**

9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Research and Technology Committee **2C, Level 2**

9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Conservation Education Committee – *closed* **4DE, Level 2**

9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Professional Development Committee **3DE, Level 2**

10:00 am – 12:00 pm
USDA-AZA Emergency Management Response Plan **2D, Level 2**

10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Alcids Animal Care Manual Working Meeting **5AB, Level 2**

10:45 am – 11:45 am
Cervid TAG **2B, Level 2**

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Lunch **Ballroom One, Level 1**
 Catch up with those colleagues you haven't yet had the chance to. Lunch will be served for all registered attendees.

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm
Equid TAG **2B, Level 2**

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Conservation Education Committee **4DE, Level 2**

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wild Pig, Peccary, and Hippo TAG **2B, Level 2**

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Climate Change Initiatives Among AZA Facilities **4DE, Level 2**
 Discussion of current and pending projects and report from the Climate Change Initiative working group.

3:15 pm – 6:00 pm
Caprid TAG Working Meeting **2B, Level 2**

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Sustainability of Living Collections Task Force **Room 2D, Level 2**
 Topics will include preliminary recommendations regarding program management and processes, and legislative and regulatory issues as they relate to sustainability.

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Why Zoos and Aquariums Matter—Train the Trainer **4DE, Level 2**

Friday, March 5

8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Okapi SSP PMC Meeting **2A, Level 2**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Animal Welfare Committee – *closed* **3AB, Level 2**