Dear Friends,

Thanks for another great year. It has been a challenging time for all of us given the pandemic and the effects on our members, and we wanted to do our best.

AAZK Online was refreshed by removing outdated information and identified based on feedback from a membership survey and collaboration with the San Diego Zoo Global Academy. Access to new formats.

During the summer of 2020, AAZK took its first steps to reimagining and delivering ourtooltip, Animal Resource Engagement. A marketing plan was developed to introduce this new platform to the membership via email, social media and the membership. However, the work of AAZK and the membership was exemplary in adapting these opportunities to new formats.

Paul Brandenburger
AAZK President

President’s Message

The demands of operating AAZK during the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated growth and innovation in order to fulfill our mission. The cancellation of the 2020 AAZK National Conference was an especially challenging development. The Conference serves as a place to connect with professionals, provide learning opportunities, and engage with the membership. However, the work of AAZK and the membership was exemplary in adapting these opportunities to new formats.

In the absence of a typical Conference, virtual events were created in order to recognize the work of animal professionals at a time when uplifting news was greatly needed. Resources were produced and a platform is available on fundraising/volunteering opportunity opportunities were presented and shared by AAZK and chapters across the country, and members provided feedback to help guide the next steps for the membership.

Many of the initiatives we mentioned specify the face of financial hardship. This is just a snapshot of all that our members are doing to lead to a stronger and more resilient association as we move to a brighter tomorrow.

Paul Brandenburger
AAZK President

$492,839
AAZK Chapters contribution to conserving species and charities around the globe

28 AAZK Chapters donated $43,229 to their Host Facilities

2 AAZK Chapters donated $5000 to their Host Facilities

117 AAZK Chapters

1727 AAZK contributors

$50 AAZK contributors

Thank You!

Contribution to the preservation of all species in Asia and Africa

Animal Keepers’ Forum

UPDATE (This is Last Time “UPDATE” Section): The Animal Keepers’ Forum continue to be the main communication tool for keepers, sponsors and advertisers. The newsletter jam-packed with articles authored by members and supported through features such as Training, Enrichment Options and Conservation Stations. The Animal Keepers’ Forum highlights best practices and innovations in animal care, conservation success stories, new training and enrichment ideas, and other key topics of interest to keeper. Members can share experiences shared by their colleagues, and we are always interested in learning from you. Please send comments for the Editor or would like to submit an article or cover photo – please email Adam.Baehr@zoo.org.

Shane Good
Editor

AAZK Bulletins

AAZK Bulletins are sent out at least twice a year. To be included in future Bulletins, please contact the Editor at Shane.Good@zoo.org.

AAZK Chapters

AAZK Chapters are an important part of the AAZK membership and play a vital role in supporting the Association and its mission. AAZK Chapters are organized by geographic location and have a variety of activities, including educational programs, social events, and conservation initiatives. Membership in an AAZK Chapter is open to all members of AAZK and is aligned with the chapter’s mission and goals.

AAZK Committees

AAZK Committees are comprised of volunteers who are dedicated to advancing the Association’s mission and vision. Each committee is focused on a specific area of interest, such as animal welfare, professional development, or conservation. Members of AAZK Committees work closely with the Association’s staff to develop and implement projects and initiatives that align with AAZK’s strategic priorities.

AAZK Committee members are encouraged to participate in the AAZK National Conference and other Association events, and have the opportunity to engage with other members and leaders within their field.

AAZK Online

AAZK Online is the Association’s digital platform for members to access resources, connect with peers, and stay up-to-date on the latest news and developments in the animal care field. Members can access a variety of resources, including articles, webinars, and discussions, and can participate in virtual events and conferences.

AAZK Online provides a unique opportunity for members to network and collaborate with others who share a passion for animal care. Members can also access AAZK’s online library, which includes a wide range of resources, such as publications, training materials, and research studies.

AAZK Online is an important tool for members who work in animal care and are looking for ways to advance their careers and contribute to the field. Members can use AAZK Online to access professional development opportunities, connect with peers, and stay up-to-date on the latest news and developments in the animal care field.

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