

**October 15, 2016
General Meeting
to elect
new Board
members**

Please plan to attend!



Coltan

What is Coltan?

Columbite-tantalite, aka. coltan. It is a dull black tar mineral found in the eastern areas of Congo. The Congo possesses 80% of the world's coltan. The primary exploiters of coltan in the Congo are Rwanda, Uganda,

Burundi and their militias. Rwanda and Uganda possess little or no coltan, but their exports of coltan due to smuggling continue to increase annually. Although the United Nations in its reports on the Congo do not directly blame the multi-national corporations for the conflict in the Congo, the United Nations does say that these companies were as "the engine of the conflict in the DNC."

Tantalum minerals are also mined in Brazil, Canada, Democratic Republic of Congo, China, Ethiopia, and Mozambique. Tantalum is also produced in Thailand and Malaysia as a by-product of tin mining and smelting.

When refined, coltan becomes metallic tantalum, a heat resistant powder that can hold a high electrical charge. These properties make it a vital element in creating capacitors, the electronic elements that control current flow inside miniature circuit boards.

How is it mined? Coltan is mined through a fairly primitive process similar to how gold was mined in California during the 1800s.



Coltan mining

Dozens of men work together digging large craters in streambeds, scraping away dirt from the surface in order to get the coltan underground. The workers then slosh water and mud around in large washtubs, allowing the coltan to settle to the bottom due to its heavy weight. The Congolese have few tools to mine coltan, and no safety procedures or experience in mining. A good worker can produce one kilogram of coltan a day.



Coltan mining in Congo

Coltan mining is very well paid in Congo terms. The average worker makes \$10 a month, but a coltan miner can make anywhere from \$10 to \$50 a week.

The path that coltan takes to get from central Africa to the world market is a highly convoluted one, with legitimate mining operations being confused with illegal rebel operations, and vice versa, making it difficult to trace the origin. Some electronics companies have publicly rejected the use of coltan from anywhere in Central Africa, instead relying on their main suppliers in Australia. American-based Kemet, the world's largest maker of tantalum capacitors, has asked its suppliers to certify that their coltan ore does not come from Congo or bordering countries. But it may be a case of too little, too late. Much of the coltan illegally stolen from Congo is already in laptops, cell phones and electronics all over the world.

Some of the products using coltan:

- ▶ laptop computers
- ▶ cellular phones
- ▶ jet engines
- ▶ rockets
- ▶ cutting tools
- ▶ camera lenses
- ▶ x-ray film
- ▶ ink jet printers
- ▶ hearing aids
- ▶ pacemakers
- ▶ airbag protection systems
- ▶ ignition and motor control modules, GPS, ABS systems in cars
- ▶ game consoles such as playstation, xbox, nintendo
- ▶ video cameras
- ▶ sputtering targets
- ▶ chemical process equipment
- ▶ cathodic protection systems for steel structures such as bridges, water tanks
- ▶ prosthetic devices for humans - hips, plates in the skull, also mesh to repair bone removed after damage by cancer
- ▶ suture clips
- ▶ corrosion resistant fasteners, screws, nuts, bolts
- ▶ high temperature furnace parts
- ▶ high temperature alloys for air and land based turbines

Approximately 71% of global tantalum supply in 2008 was newly mined, 20% was from recycling, and the remainder was from tin slag and inventory.



A coltan mine in Congo

Why are we concerned about mining coltan in Congo? The uncontrolled mining means the land is being eroded and therefore polluting lakes and rivers, affecting the entire ecology of the region. This has lasting affects on plants and wildlife and humans living in these areas.



Adult Grauer's gorilla

The Grauer's gorilla population, *Gorilla veringei graueri*, (formerly known as the eastern lowland gorilla) has decreased for many reasons. The core of Grauer's gorilla habitat lies in the vast low-altitude Congo forest, but the remaining gorilla populations there are extremely fragmented, due to poaching related to ongoing conflict and the presence of rebel groups, mining, the demand for bushmeat, and unsustainable usage by impoverished communities. In Central and West Africa an estimated 3-5 million tons of bushmeat is obtained by killing wild animals

(including gorillas) each year.

Sources used for this article: "What Is Coltan"

www.abcnews.go.com/Nightline/story?id+128631

www.congoweeek.org/en/coltan-facts

"Grauer's gorillas face steep decline" article, *The Dian Fossey Gorilla Journal*, Summer 2016

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coltan

Important Dates to Remember

ACE General Meeting -
October 15, 2016

Apes in the Arts -
November 5, 2016

Holiday Sale at Mega -
December 10, 2016



photo by Gene Todd

Dr. Karmelee Llano Sanchez

ACE Presents An IAR Conservation Talk with Dr. Karmelee Sanchez

On the evening of August 30, 2016, a very special event was held. It began with light refreshments and beverages, a lot of visiting with friends, and much bidding on silent auction items.



Photo by Gene Todd

The evening began with delicious munchies and beverages

Dr. Karmelee Llano Sanchez of International Animal Rescue (IAR) was the key speaker with updates for a very interested audience about the conservation of orangutans in Indonesia. As veterinarian, director and conservationist, Dr. Sanchez was introduced

by Lynn Yakubinis, vice president of ACE and lead primate keeper at Zoo Atlanta.

Indonesia is the home to incredible biodiversity and the only native home of orangutans.

Orangutan, translated literally to "man of the forest," is considered a flagship or umbrella species due to how their lives are intertwined with the native environment. But due to threats of deforestation, hunting and poaching plus the pet trade, humans have created a huge problem for the remaining orangutans.

The IUCN (International Union of Conservation of Nature) Red List has changed the status of orangutans to currently be listed as **critically endangered**. Between 1950 - 2010, sixty percent of forest habitat was lost. It is predicted at this rate, by 2025 there will only be 20% of native habitat remaining in Indonesia.

An alarming quote from Dr. Sanchez - **an average of six orangutans die every day from poaching and killing.**

What is causing this? Logging and timber businesses cut the forest for lumber products. The palm oil industry clear cuts forest to plant more oil palm. Clear cutting then results in burning stumps to make the area easier to plant. Forest

fires develop and go unchecked under the peat soil of what was the old forest. These peat fires are highly toxic and add about 15 - 20 million tons of carbon into the atmosphere, which is unhealthy for all animals, including human and orangutans.

Orangutans try to stay in the area where they have lived and fed off the land, but this is impossible when the logging and clear cutting palm oil businesses begin their destruction. Adult orangutans cannot survive. Death comes from respiratory problems created by the fires, starvation when the foliage is gone, and burning when caught in the fires.

Surviving baby orangutans are collected by IAR and taken to centers throughout Indonesia to nurture back to health - mentally as well as physically. As they advance, they go to "forest school" with the help of many dedicated IAR staff with the ultimate goal of releasing the healthy, self-sufficient orangutans back into a protected area of the forest. These released orangutans are radio-tracked for two years and have demonstrated the great success of this program. Also, this shows the dire need for more protected habitat for the released orangutans.

We need to become informed consumers and understand where products we purchase originate and how they effect biodiversity of living things in that area. We can send funds to groups helping (1)to save native species in Indonesia, (2)to care for orangutans hurt and traumatized by the loss of family and habitat, and (3)to purchase more land to become safe forest for the release of orangutans.

Dr. Sanchez ended her program with a well-produced video, and then she took questions from the audience. What an incredible evening!



Photo by Gene Todd

Dr. Sanchez and Dr. Murphy, Zoo Atlanta veterinarian, chat after the program

ACE announced that the sale of ACE items, the silent auction, and adoption of IAR orangutans resulted in a check presented to IAR for \$3,500.



Photo by Gene Todd

Silent auction had a lot of interested bidders

ACE was proud to work with Zoo Atlanta on this event. At the end of the evening guests were given a list of upcoming ACE events and an ACE magnet to post it on the refrigerator. A good time was had by all, and we hope to be able to bring more great ape updates from the field in future programs.

For more information: www.internationalanimalrescue.org

Bingo for Bonobos - A Fun Night

by Susan Smith

ACE held its first Bingo Night on September 22, 2016, benefiting the Bonobo Conservation Initiative. The event was modeled after the bingo games put on by AAZK. Participants enjoyed 10 games of bingo with great prizes awarded to game winners; pizza, drinks and brownies were also sold as part of the fundraising.



Photo by Leslie Martin

Some of the Bingo for Bonobo players/supporters



Photo by Leslie Martin

Some of the Bingo prizes

Shawn Whitman, Director of Membership and Guest Experiences at Zoo Atlanta, called the bingo games. Shawn's wit and banter kept the games exciting and the crowd entertained, even when a call of "bingo" meant the game was over for others not so lucky.



Photo by Leslie Martin

Shawn Whitman was caller

The membership of ACE selected the Bonobo Conservation Initiative as recipient of the evening's proceeds. Sue Ann Taylor, a Board Member with BCI, attended the event. During the break Sue Ann talked to the group about how BCI is working with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) government to create new protected areas and enforce the laws against hunting bonobos. BCI uses an integrated conservation model, supporting community development programs

while working with communities to protect the bonobos and the rainforest. Bingo for Bonobos raised \$580 and the ACE Board recommends that the membership approve adding an additional \$420, giving BCI a donation of \$1,000.



Photo by Leslie Martin

Sue Ann Taylor of Bonobo Conservation Initiative

Thanks to all that attended. A special thanks to the AAZK members from the Aquarium who attended and donated several animal paintings. Two visitors, Janet and Jean, docents at Roger Williams Zoo in Providence, Rhode Island, attended and donated two t-shirt to add to the prize table.

Now on to Apes in the Arts!!!!



photo by Zoo Atlanta

Raymond B. King

Raymond King Voted Most Admired Nonprofit CEO for Third Year

Raymond B. King, President and CEO of Zoo Atlanta, has been voted Atlanta's Most Admired Nonprofit CEO for the third year in a row. The honor was announced during an awards breakfast hosted by the Atlanta Business Chronicle on August 25, 2016.

Following a city-wide call for nominations from the Atlanta Business Chronicle in May, King was one of 50 chief executives to earn the qualifying number of nominations to progress into the public voting round, which began on June 10 and concluded on June 24. Nominees were evaluated based on leadership, outstanding company financial performance, vision, commitment to quality, commitment to diversity in the workplace and

contributions to the metro Atlanta community.

King has served as the Zoo's President and CEO since 2010. During his tenure, he has led Zoo Atlanta in raising \$64 million in philanthropic support - more than was raised cumulatively by the organization over the previous 25 years. This include more than \$42 million raised for the Zoo's: "Grand New View: Elephants, Events and Expansion" campaign, which was successfully completed in June 2016, ahead of schedule and ahead of expectations, against an original fundraising goal of \$38.1 million. The campaign launched with a \$20 million matching grant from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation in late 2014.

Additional highlights of King's leadership include a 36-percent increase in Zoo attendance, with consecutive five-year growth from 675,000 guests to 920,000 guests, and the successful \$18 million campaign to build the award-winning Scaly Slimy Spectacular: The Amphibian and Reptile Experience, which opened in 2015. In addition to being voted Atlanta's Most Admired Nonprofit CEO in 2014, 2015, and now 2016, King was named one of the 100 Most Influential Atlantans by the Atlanta

Business Chronicle in 2015.

Press release from Zoo Atlanta, August 25, 2016

We are thrilled for Raymond's latest achievement and honored to call him a member of Ape Conservation Effort.



Photo by Leslie Martin
Acro poses at new ACE fundraiser

Acro for Apes Is A Success for A New Audience

by Lori Kirkland

A new fundraising idea/event happened for ACE and the apes on August 1, 2016. It was Acro for Apes. The acroyoga community of Atlanta opened up their minds, hearts and studio to ACE to let us not only get our message out to a new crowd of people, but also for some to try their hand at some beginner's acro poses and

movement. It was a small group, which was beneficial because everyone got personal, focused attention, not only from the instructor but from ACE to tell the story of our organization and how passionate we are about apes.



Photo by Leslie Martin
Balancing acroyoga style

We raised a total of \$200 for the evening, and inspired a few people about ape conservation. It was a good and challenging time had by all. We stepped out of the box and learned something different and new! We hope to make this a regular fundraising event.

Thank you so much to Intown Tumbling for hosting us and for Diane Boothroyd for donating her time and expertise for AcroYoga!!!



Apes in the Arts Will Be November 5

by Lori Kirkland

November is ever creeping up on us. Where does the time go anyway? Everything for Apes in the Arts is coming together quite nicely. I have been in contact with Connie from The Space and working with her to get the aerialists ready for the event. There is also an event page for Apes in the Arts on Facebook now, and tickets will be going on sale soon. \$30 in advance, and \$40 at the door. Go to the ACE website to purchase them

The paintings are slowly filtering back in from the human artists, and there is SUCH a wide variety of "completion" that there is definitely something for everyone!



Photo by Lori Kirkland
"Before" painting by Miri and Satu



Photo by Lori Kirkland
"After" painting
by Mike Groves
of Pain & Wonder Tattoo

Here is another before and after, this is definitely one of my favorites! We will have a couple of "not-touched-by-humans" ape paintings for auction as well. So clear your calendars folks for Saturday evening, November 5, 2016 from 6:30 - 8:30 for a night of beautiful and moving performances, awesome art and yummy treats!

www.thespaceatl.com
and on facebook:
www.facebook.com/thespaceatl.



goodshop

by Lori Kirkland

We've teamed up with Goodshop to bring you thousands of coupons from all of your favorite stores. Each time you shop, a percentage is donated back to ACE.

So when you purchase new shoes, book a weekend getaway, or buy those hard-to-find gifts, you'll be giving back. Help save these amazing primates, while you save!

See: www.goodshop.com
and
www.goodsearch.com



Gorilla Golf Was Held

Due to timing of the tournament, the article about the 2016 Gorilla Golf will appear in the January 2017 issue of *Heard It Through The Ape Vine*.



Did you know?

The conservation status of the Grauer's gorilla has been officially raised to **critically endangered** by IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Quote: "The earth has enough to provide for every man's needs, but not every man's greed."
Mahatma Gandhi

2016 ACE Board

President - Donna Meyer Todd
president@apeconservationeffort.org

Vice President - Lynn Yakubinis

Secretary - Jane Barron

Treasurer - Susan Smith

Board members at large:

Lori Kirkland

Leslie Martin

K.C. Thyne

Gene Todd

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Run for the Redheads 5K:
redheadrun@apeconservationeffort.org

Gorilla Golf:
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Fundraising events:
fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org



Presents



An evening of Apes, Artists and Aerialists
Working together to save Great Apes

Join Us on : November 5, 2016

Where: *The Space*, 4260 S. Atlanta Rd. SE Suite A, Atlanta 30339

When: Saturday, November 5, 2016 — 6:30 to 8:30 PM

What: Silent auction of framed paintings where the Artists are Apes and Humans. Some items for sale will be note cards, ape-painted ornaments, Gorilla Sacks and more. During the auction there will be performances by aerialists, acro yoga practitioners, and belly dancers.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door.
(Hors d'oeuvres & beer/Wine included in ticket price)

Advance tickets can be purchased at www.apeconservationeffort.org.

Funds raised will benefit Orangutan Outreach working to save orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra.