



**Upcoming ACE  
Events**

**October 16, 2018**  
*Gorilla Golf*  
Brookfield Country Club

**October 9, 2018**  
Dine Out at Yogli Mogli  
Virginia-Highland

**Oct. 20 -- Nov. 3 2018**  
Yankee Candle Sale  
See attached flier.

**November/December  
2018**  
HoneyBaked Ham  
Gift Card Sale  
See attached flier.

**November 10, 2018**  
Apes in the Arts  
Inspire Aerial Arts  
Amsterdam Ave.  
See attached flier.

**November 17, 2018**  
*Ace General Meeting*  
Zoo Atlanta  
12:15 - 1:15

**November 27, 2018**  
*Georgia Gives Day*  
#GivingTuesday

**December 8, 2018**  
*Mega Update  
and Holiday Sale*

**January 2019**  
"Jane" the movie  
Date and Place TBD



Bald Eagle

**Endangered  
Species Act  
Under Attack or  
Just Common  
Sense?**

**Become an ACE  
Board Member**

Election of new Board members will be held at the November 17 general meeting of ACE. If you want to be a part of the action and help ACE thrive in the future, consider throwing your hat in the ring.

If you want to know more about the qualifications and responsibilities of board members, please contact any currently serving board member for details. That list is at the end of this newsletter.

Rachel Carson wrote *Silent Spring* in 1962, and Americans became more aware of the environment. By 1970 while Richard Nixon was president, he took action to start the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Scientific studies pointed to a huge acceleration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere causing the greenhouse effect, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels and some deforestation. The EPA would deal with air quality, begin a lead tax on gasoline, regulate sea transport of oil, and examine waste treatment and dumping waste in the

Great Lakes. The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970.

The next landmark action was when Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973. The two federal agencies charged with administering the ESA are US Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The ESA is considered our nation's most effective law to protect at-risk species from extinction, with a stellar rate: 99% of species listed on it have avoided extinction.

While not perfect, ESA became the scientific standard for saving animals, plants and their habitats and has survived many tests through the years. Other countries use it as a guide to creating their own rules and agencies. The ESA also was broadened to include flora and fauna listed by CITIES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species), which would protect great apes, elephants, lions, and more.

Through the years there have been complaints from oil and gas industry, from ranchers and landowners, and others. Some complaints were made, but the scientific integrity of the Act

remained in tact, and the belief in federal protection was important. It overruled the states and individual rights. After all, endangered species don't adhere to state boundaries or fences or air boundaries. Today we have bald eagles thriving through a coordinated effort from the entire country, guided by the Endangered Species Act.



Black Footed Ferret

Due to the high standards of the ESA there are many success stories including the California condor, black-footed ferret, peregrine falcon, and American alligator.

Andrew Rosenberg, director of the Union of Concerned Scientists Center for Science and Democracy and who used to oversee endangered species protection for NOAA, said "the Endangered Species Act has a nearly perfect record of halting the oblivion of endangered species, even if recovery has proved more difficult. I think the Endangered Species Act is endangered." But he said it would be better for everyone if the government could halt population declines before they needed the

Endangered Species Act. "If you're saying let's not talk about climate change, but we're going to protect species or we're going to improve harvests...it's oxymoronic."

The current administration has begun to tear into the EPA and the ESA in ways not seen in the last 48 years. The EPA started talking about opening up coal mines for energy. Then it started deregulating gasoline.

The first attack on the ESA came when US restrictions changed on bringing back into the country trophies of endangered species. Justification was stated that the big payments for trophy hunting benefits the community, and besides we're not talking about "our" endangered species. (*Don't we remember the lesson: Give a man a fish and he eats one day, but teach him to fish and he'll eat for life.*) How can depleting the population of an endangered species benefit the community in the long run?

The proposed changes to ESA focus on protections in Sections 4, 4(d), and 7. Section 4 states the procedures for listing species, recovery and designating habitats. Section 4(d) defines protective regulations for species listed as threatened. Section 7 ensures that the USFWS and NOAA must be

consulted to ensure actions won't jeopardize endangered and threatened species or result in "destruction or adverse modifications" of critical habitat.

The proposed change to Section 4 removes the requirement that agencies list, de-list, or reclassify species "without reference to possible economic or other impacts of such determination." It also revises procedures for designating critical habitat. Section 4(d) revises FWS regulations and rescinds the current blanket rule which automatically conveys the same protections for threatened species as for endangered species. Section 7 proposes a 60-day deadline for informal consultations and deliberations of the FWS and NOAA responsibilities during a formal consultation. Scientific research can take longer than 60 days.

The administration says these proposed changes reduce the regulatory burden on the American people, make it more consistent and less confusing to navigate, and respect private property rights and economic interests.

The environmentalists concerns can be summed up in 4 points:  
(1)changes will wreak

havoc on the implementation of the ESA, (2) changes will severely weaken protections of hundreds of endangered species and plants on the list plus hundreds of imperiled species waiting to get protection, (3) change will open the door for economic impacts on species and habitats listed and those yet to be evaluated, and (4) changes will undercut the effectiveness of the ESA and put species at risk of extinction. In other words, the economic consequences of protecting plants and animals and habitats must be considered when deciding whether or not they face extinction.

The changes are being pursued through Executive Orders and congressional action. Generally speaking, it boils down to economics. Science is not as important as financial concerns, which is reinforced by the current administration failing to believe in global warming and loosening air quality standards for economic gains. Congressional support for the changes will shrink or withhold funds from EPA, ESA, FWS and NOAA. A key person who was the voice of environmental support in the Senate and stood against these changes in the past died when

Senator John McCain recently passed away.

Efforts to weaken the ESA were often met with some bipartisan resistance. However, now opposition to environmental regulations has become more the GOP and administration's identity. "This is the first time that we've seen an orchestrated effort by the president, Republican leaders in the House, the industry and the Interior Department, all working together in a concentrated effort to eviscerate the Act," said Bruce Babbitt, who served as the interior secretary for eight years in the Clinton administration.

The successes of the ESA are numerous and well-known, including the American alligator, the gray whale, and the bald eagle to name a few.



Gray Wolf

The current success story receiving the spotlight is the gray wolf and habitat in Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota. In the mid-1990s the gray wolf became a protected species and efforts to save it began.

To look at one area, in 1995 fourteen wolves were released into

Yellowstone National Park. The wolves bred and began hunting deer, which led to a decrease in the deer population. Parts of the national park began to regenerate without the deer, including aspens and willows and more bushes with berries and bugs. The birds began to come back to the area even the bald eagles. Beavers came and built dams, making habitats for otter, muskrat and reptiles. Small mammals came back, like red foxes, badgers and weasels. The increase in vegetation produced less erosion and stabilized river banks. This demonstrates the power of efforts and nature to save an endangered species - the gray wolf - and its ecosystem. And it did not happen "overnight."

Now the ranchers and the FWS say the population of gray wolves has increased substantially, enough to remove them from the endangered species list. When ranchers suffered a loss in livestock from wolves, they were financially compensated. If the species is removed from protection, the states will be able to set hunting and trapping regulations for wolves, and individual ranchers will be allowed to shoot wolf predators to their livestock. This would eliminate the need for government compensation for loss of livestock to predators. The idea is that the states

and individuals know how to control their wolf populations, and this will be good for states and property rights.

Was this way of thinking what originally put the gray wolf on the endangered species list? When does the federal government take the lead to protect species and when should the states take the lead? What happens to the science in the decision-making if it is not considered or diminished? Does the success in Yellowstone National Park indicate success in the other states that are wolf habitat?

Reaching out to several ACE members for their thoughts and comments, two major themes were expressed. The first theme was that the ESA is very complex and complicated to understand. Mary Alice Shinall can "appreciate partnering with landowners to help with conservation efforts but there still needs to be a balance. We want to protect all species, while at the same time not put unneeded or unintentional burden and expense on landowners and perhaps too much government spending."

Another ACE member (name withheld) said, "while I realize some people are hurt by the ESA, I would like to think we can find some compromise that doesn't

put at risk animals and ecosystems on the fast track for demise. Not addressing threatened species until they are too far gone does not make sense."

The second theme expressed was more openly critical of the current administration's efforts to weaken the ESA. Nancy Schultz expressed this direction as "pandering to the big money of big game hunters and ranchers. Wiping out all native wildlife seems to be the plan. It seems that removing all protections and regulations of the *previous* administration is what is driving the current one - out of jealousy and rage - not good sense."

Rae Furcha's comments expressed sadness and disappointment. "I think that the current administration has no respect for the natural world. Everything I care about is in danger of going away. The ESA is just one of the things that are under attack."

## Conclusion

How do we know that species and ecosystems are in danger if we don't use science? Isn't it true that science should help us understand if the species or ecosystem should be removed from the list? Should science be considered *or* should economic impact to

habitat and industry be a more influential determination in the consideration? Can we trust that the proposed changes to the ESA regarding habitat will not lead to more fracking, more polluted streams, more bad air? Wasn't it a local economic decision and not science that gave Flint, Michigan their lead-tainted water?



Golden lion tamarins

Like Jennifer Mickelberg told us at Mega regarding the status of the golden lion tamarin: If you only take a snapshot picture of one year of recovery, it will not be a true picture of the status of that species. Like the golden lion tamarin, some past years have looked better in recovery than others. But now there is a new factor, yellow fever, that could wipe out the remaining GLTs in the wild. Isn't science important in learning the whole picture of recovery and not just seeing a peak on a graph?

Shelley DeWeese views the big picture. "The proposed changes to the Endangered Species Act remove the language which ensures regulators make choices based on scientific factors not

economic factors. Potentially, it would be easier for companies to obtain approval for damaging construction projects such as roads, pipelines and border walls. Given the protection of land is a protection of habitat, drastic changes to the land would make a change to the ecosystem leading to the potential loss of multiple species.



Red Wolf

"In the 1970s the Red Wolf was nearly eradicated from the south as protection for human's fears. However, the impact on the ecosystem was not considered. As a predator, their food chain included small foxes which carried a species of ticks that give humans Lyme disease. When the Red Wolf ate the small foxes, the Lyme disease risk was reduced. The reintroduction of the Red Wolf has improved the status of the ecosystem which in turn helped protect humans and various threatened plant and animal species."

Shelley continues, "It is my belief that there is a fine line we need to walk when it comes to the need to make money and protecting endangered

animals. Further to that belief, all creatures have a purpose in the greater picture of the world ecosystem. There are farmers who have successfully developed techniques for sustainable farming of palm oil. In an area of Africa, there are goat ranchers who use a type of thorny tall surround fencing at night to protect their livestock from prey animals such as lions. In both examples, there is a protection for the ecosystem while at the same time good money is made for the farmer or rancher.

"As the Red Wolf is important to the bigger picture of the ecosystem, how many other plants and animal species are of importance to that same big picture? Can we really protect our economic future by only looking at money side of the Endangered Species Act? Or are we being short-sighted as a human race taking all we can for our own personal gain from limited resources? Somewhere in the middle is the solution. My hope is that all relevant individuals can come together for respectful collaborations toward a solution with a clear view of the big picture."

Should we rely on science to save species? Should we take into consideration the financial impact on the

rancher, a business, the USA? As stated earlier, this is a complex and confusing proposal. We know that all things in nature are related. Can we afford to push that aside for the sake of the dollar? Are the proposed changes to the Endangered Species Act helpful or hurtful?

**Extinction is forever.**

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World Wildlife Action Network: URGENT-Time's running out to stop Trump, September 19, 2018

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## Apes In The Arts

by Lori Kirkland

**When:** November 10 at 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**Where:** Inspire Aerial Arts, 549 Amsterdam Ave., NE #5, Atlanta, GA 30306



**What:** Silent Auction of cool art created between humans and apes, aerial performances, live paintings from

*Massive Burn Studios, games, food and drinks!!!! Whew!!!*

**Beneficiary:** All profit dollars go to Orangutan Outreach

**Special Treat:** Not only will Richard Zimmerman, Executive Director of Orangutan Outreach be gracing the event with his presence, he will be doing a lunch-time brown bag at the Zoo on Friday, November 9 at 12:00 - 1:00 pm. Volunteers and staff invited!

*Event Flier and Event Page with updates coming soon to Facebook!!!!*



## Gregg Tully To Present Brown Bag at ZA in October

Zoo Atlanta has announced that Gregg Tully, director of Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) will be presenting a one hour

brown bag talk on Friday, October 26, 2018. The presentation will be from noon - 1:00 pm in the World Studio.



## Richard Zimmerman to Present Brown Bag at ZA in November

The day before Apes In the Arts, Richard Zimmerman of Orangutan Outreach will present a brown bag. The presentation will be on Friday, November 9, 2018 at 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm at Zoo Atlanta. Take the opportunity to hear an update on the orangutans living in Borneo and Sumatra. Plus you'll understand that ACE is excited to donate all profits from Apes In The Arts to Orangutan Outreach.

Hope to see you at the brown bag AND at Apes In The Arts.



## Almost Here How You Can Help

by Shelley DeWeese

The annual Gorilla Golf fundraiser will be on Tuesday, October 16, 2018. With each golfer working so very hard to raise money for the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, we do our best to have an awesome raffle items selection every year.

Because of your generosity, ACE has historically been able to meet the needs for the raffle. Thank you!

If there is anyone who would like to donate items such as gift cards, wine, scotch, golf stuff, electronics, spa items, sports equipment, etc...but was not able to attend the last ACE meeting, I will be in town on Saturday, October 6th. Please contact me to schedule a drop off meeting location. I can be reached at [shelldeweese@gmail.com](mailto:shelldeweese@gmail.com) or 404-216-5779.

Looking forward to seeing fellow volunteers and golfers at Gorilla Golf! Thank you for all you do!



photo by Jodi Carrigan

Dr. Jamartin of BOSF presents HOPE presentation

## HOPE Dr. Jamartin Sihite Presentation on September 4, 2018

by Vivienne Ferguson

Lynn Yakubinis introduced Dr. Jamartin Sihite from the Bornean Orangutan Survival Foundation to the group comprised of Zoo Atlanta Staff, keepers and volunteer on Sept. 4, 2018.

The BOSF refers to orangutans as the Gardeners of the Forest. They earned this designation in two ways: first from the seeds which are distributed after passing through their digestive systems, and secondly from their nest building activities each night. By removing excess foliage and branches from the forest to build their nests, sunlight can reach the ground floor of the forest to nourish the soil and

new plant life. When orangutans occupy the forest, other species such as birds have access to the fresh air and water as a result of the regenerative processes that occur from the orangutan activities there.

Wild orangutans face many threats including mines, fires, illegal logging and the illegal wildlife trade. The mission of Dr. Jamartin and BOSF is HOPE - Helping Orangutans, Protect Earth.

BOSF operates two centers for the rescue, rehabilitation and release of orangutans into the forests in the East and Central Kalimantan regions of Borneo. The BOSF was formed in 1991 and currently has over 400 Orangutan Warriors performing very challenging work in difficult conditions.

Orangutans that are rescued by BOSF are evaluated based on four criteria: age, health, skills and behavior. If an orangutan is able to be released into the forest, BOSF will transport these individuals to protected areas where they are able to live as wild orangutans would. If they cannot be released, the BOSF will care for those that are unable to take care of themselves or will rehabilitate them so that they can be released when they have learned the skills needed to live on

their own. From 1991-2001, 400+ orangutans were able to be released back to their native forest. However, from 2002-2012 there was not enough available forest for any orangutans to be released. As a solution to this problem, the BOSF bought forested islands for their own use and also bought the logging license to prevent the land from being used by logging companies.

These actions allowed them to re-start the release program in 2012. Once released on their land, BOSF is able to monitor the success of the individuals that have been released. They have had no failures among wild rescued or independent orangutans that were born and raised on the islands. The ultimate goal is to have 11 wild born infant orangutans in the forest.

Going forward Dr. Jamartin noted that the future of orangutans is in our own hands. Simply by using our smart phones and sharing this information with others, we can help BOSF fulfill their mission to Help Orangutan, Protect Earth HOPE

## ACE Participates in World Gorilla Day

On September 22 Zoo Atlanta celebrated the second annual World Gorilla Day and asked ACE to participate. We were thrilled to do so.

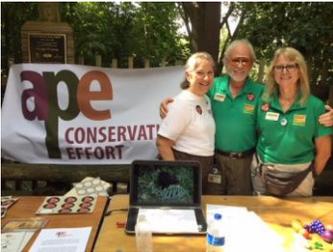


photo by Zoo Atlanta

Poising at the ACE tables are Donna Mayer Todd, Gene Todd, and Vivienne Ferguson. Not pictured: Jane Barron

Our tables on the gorilla deck had "I Love Gorilla" stickers, gorilla coloring pages for the kids, plastic "gorilla food" fruits and vegetables, and two videos. One video was our generic ACE promotion video of pictures of great apes and fun facts. The other video was a special treat - a slideshow of the gorillas of Uganda and Rwanda that Donna and Gene saw on the trip last year.

We were happy to participate along side of Zoo Atlanta and Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International. We look forward to the third annual World Gorilla Day next year!



### Did you know?



photo by BCI

Ashley Judd interviews Josephine Mpanga, Sally Jewell Coxe, and Bijou Longenge Mpako during the recent expedition to Kokolopori.

As reported in our last newsletter, actor and activist Ashley Judd loves bonobos. This summer she met with the Bonobo Conservation Initiative (BCI) President Sally Jewell Coxe and community leaders in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This has led to the exciting economic initiative to benefit women living in the Bonobo Peace Forest.

This economic initiative partners with Josephine Mpanga, founder of the Women's Network for the Development of Djolu (REFED) to launch a new soap making project in the heart of the Bonobo Peace Forest. Soap is a critical need for health and hygiene and currently there is no high quality locally-made soap in Djolu. This project will employ about 75 local

women in making soap and selling it in surrounding markets. The women involved will gain new skills, an economic lifeline, and exposure to female-led entrepreneurship.

Their goal is to replicate this project in other Bonobo Peace Forest sites. While the ultimate cost of this enterprise will be around \$45,000, the pilot program only requires \$1,500 for supplies, equipment, and transport. The project is already underway, but they need your help. Please check out [www.bonobo.org](http://www.bonobo.org) for more information. Go to tab: News & Knowledge for Latest News from BCI, and open "Exciting opportunity for Congolese Women."

## 2018 ACE Board

*President* - Donna Mayer Todd  
[president@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:president@apeconservationeffort.org)

*Vice President* -Lori Kirkland

*Secretary* - Jane Barron

*Treasurer* - Susan Smith

Barbara Cebula

Michele Dave

Shelley DeWeese

Leslie Martin

Gene Todd

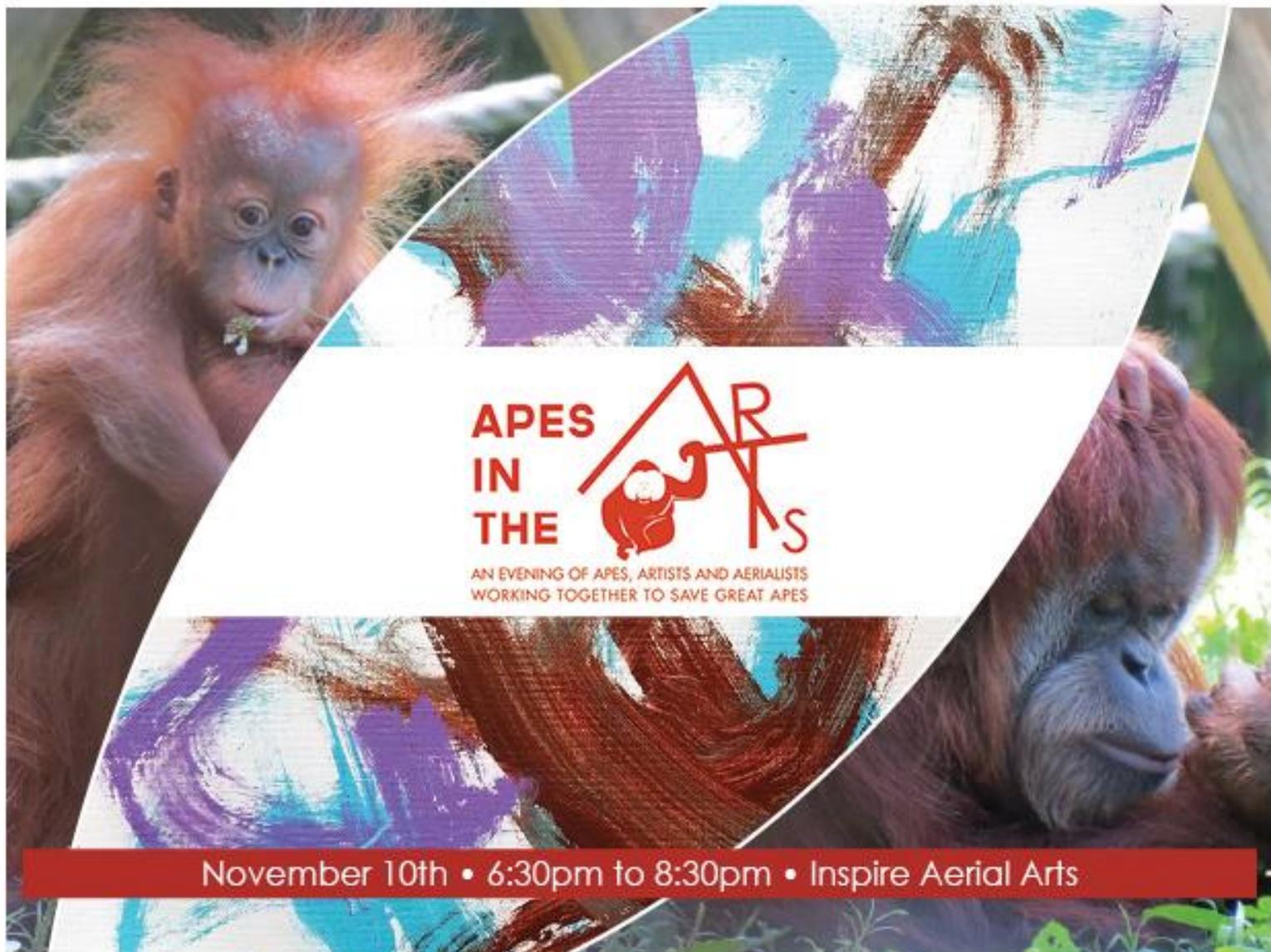
[ACE contact addresses:](#)

Primary contact:  
[info@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:info@apeconservationeffort.org)

Run for the Redheads 5K:  
[redheadrun@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:redheadrun@apeconservationeffort.org)

Gorilla Golf:  
[gorillagolf@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:gorillagolf@apeconservationeffort.org)

Fundraising events:  
[fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org)



**APES  
IN  
THE**  **ARTS**

AN EVENING OF APES, ARTISTS AND AERIALISTS  
WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE GREAT APES

November 10th • 6:30pm to 8:30pm • Inspire Aerial Arts



— ACE PRESENTS —

A Silent Auction of Human and Ape collaboration paintings along with aerial performances and live painting by Miles Davis of Massive Burn Studios. Proceeds benefit Orangutan Outreach: A 501(c)(3) organization working to save orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra.

— WHEN —

Sat, November 10, 2018 • 6:30pm - 8:30pm

— INSPIRE AERIAL ARTS —

549 Amsterdam Ave NE #5, Atlanta, GA 30306

— TICKETS —

\$30 in Advance, \$40 at Door



For Tickets and Information, visit [www.apeconservationeffort.org](http://www.apeconservationeffort.org)

## YANKEE CANDLE SALES

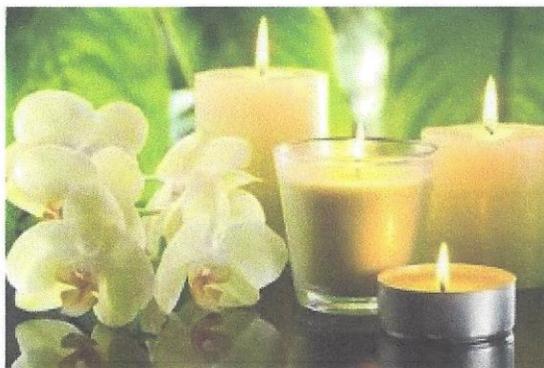


OCTOBER 20- NOVEMBER 3, 2018

GO TO OR COPY AND PASTE THE LINK TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS

<https://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com>

Group Number if prompted to enter one before shopping: 990066937



Orders will be shipped directly to you. See the fine print for shipping details.

If you have any questions please email Michele at [fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:fundraising@apeconservationeffort.org) or contact any of the board members of ACE.

**Thank you for supporting our efforts to save the great apes in their native habitats.**



**Just in time for Thanksgiving and holiday parties  
ACE is selling  
HoneyBaked Ham gift cards.**



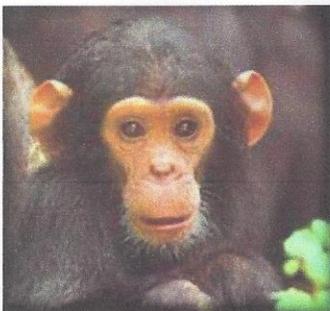
**Gift cards can be purchased in any denomination  
and can be used at any HoneyBaked Ham store  
and online.**

They never expire and  
there is no limit to the amount you can purchase.



Gift cards can be purchased  
by contacting Susan Smith at [info@apeconservationeffort.org](mailto:info@apeconservationeffort.org)

For Thanksgiving (11/22), orders must be placed by November 13.  
For Christmas (12/25), orders must be placed by December 14.



**ACE receives 20% of the purchase. You get your party food and  
ACE helps save great apes in the wild. Everyone wins!**

*Ape Conservation Effort is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization  
with a mission to help save great apes in the wild.*