



The Crash

Newsletter for rhino professionals

March 2017

President's Perspective:

It's hard to believe it's already spring 2017. Our upcoming Rhino Keeper Workshop in August will be the highlight of the year. Our second call for papers is due April 1st, be sure to get your paper in so you can be considered for a speaker spot, they're going fast! One of our keynote speakers will be Claire Lewis, Assistant Project Leader and Technical Advisor for North Luangwa Conservation Program. She and her husband have spent 10 years working with black rhino in the North Luangwa Ecosystem. Her team is responsible for the implementation of law enforcement within the park boundaries and deploying of staff including dog units. She will be sharing about canine detection units working with black rhino reintroduction programs, and monitoring of black rhino. Come to the Rhino Keeper Workshop and meet Claire in person!

We have two training articles this month, one on open mouth training at North Carolina Zoo, and another on toothbrush training! Mindy Scott of Columbus Zoo trained her rhinos for brushing their teeth. I should try her method on my 3 grandkids who fuss when they brush teeth!

Be sure to read Dina Corrales' article on KPDP at my favorite place, the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. All of our keepers said Dina was great to work with. While the Safari Park is a mentoring zoo for IRKA, we like to think that we are learning from everybody that visits us. Thanks for visiting Dina!

As part of our workshop we are going to be doing a body scoring analysis, be sure to read how you can participate. Another highlight of our Workshop will be a seminar where we discuss End-Of-Life; EOL decisions for rhinos of all ages will be discussed. We hope this information will become part of the Rhino Husbandry Manual for the AZA.

When you come to this year's Workshop you'll be able to meet my Rhino Buddy Ofat. He will also be sharing about his work in the Ujong Kulon with Javan rhinos. If you'd like a Rhino Buddy contact me!

Part of our pre and post conference trips involve a trip to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, one of our newest supporting institutions. If you're coming to the workshop this would be a great trip to make. They not only have black rhino but have the largest collection of giraffe in North America.

Please note in this edition of the crash the ad for a rhino keeper workshop taking place in the Netherlands, it's not us but it might be cool to attend if you can get to the Netherlands.

I'd like to close with an appeal to not lose hope. Since the last Crash went out we have seen horrific things happen to rhinos, including the poaching of Vince, a four year old rhino in the Thoiry Zoo in France, and the slaughter of 2 calves who were being hand raised in Thula Thula. PLEASE do not give up hope. While things may look bleak there are wonderful things happening with rhinos. When you go to work every morning you get the privilege of seeing the work we all do first hand to save rhinoceros. Claire Lewis, Dina Corrales, Mindy Scott, you, and I are all stewards of the earth and its rhinos. See you in August!

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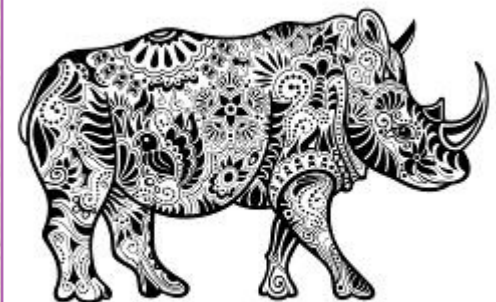
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Professional Development Program: Dina Corrales, Reid Park Zoo

Wow! What an experience! I was fortunate to be able to go to the San Diego Zoo Safari Park and learn about how they manage their rhinos as well as all the other animals that live with them. I went there with a lot of questions and left with more answers and experiences than I could have imagined. I'm a keeper at the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Arizona and work with white rhinos, one elderly and one youngster. I also work with other hoofstock animals and birds such as ostrich and crowned cranes. My goals for the trip was to see how they manage their rhinos to include the basic husbandry, breeding, reproduction, transportation, restraint, geriatric care, training, and enrichment. I was asked if I worked with other animals and if there were any other animals I would like to see. Since I did, they arranged for me to spend a day with the bird department. The keepers were great in taking me to other areas such as the hospital and those that would be of interest to me such as holding facilities and animal chutes. I was fortunate to get to experience a different area each day. The areas I visited were the Rhino Rescue Center, South/Central areas, East area, bird areas, Forest/North area.

My first day was with the Rhino Rescue Center where they are working on training the newly obtained 5 white rhino females to be part of the Northern White Rhinoceros Assisted Reproduction Program. Here the training consists of training the rhinos for ultrasounds and then eventually for artificial insemination. This is in hopes that they will become surrogates for Northern white rhino embryos. I was able to watch as they did their training and ultrasound of the rhinos. It took a lot of patience and the staff was amazing at how they trained each of the rhinos to come into the chute and stand for ultrasounds, etc. I learned a lot about husbandry, training, and enrichment on that day. They have a beautiful facility where I took lots of notes and pictures that can hopefully be implemented into a new barn or renovations of a barn back in Tucson in the future.

My next days were out in the field with the South/Central and East crews. Being out in the field was like you were in the savannahs and forests of Africa as well as being in Asia. There were rhinos (white rhino "Chuck" and black rhino "Eric") gemsbok, common eland, springbok, Masai giraffe, cape buffalo, gnu, and many more. I was amazed at how the staff managed all of these animals out in the field. Since it is the biggest mixed species exhibit I have ever been in with some very dangerous animals all around I was very impressed with how the keepers would handle any challenges that came up and appreciated them answering all my questions in regards to restraining animals, transporting, managing the dynamics of the animals, and the "what would you do if this happens" question. It was great to see how they "train-manage" animals out in the field using enrichment such as leaf eater biscuits. I did get to meet my first black rhinos, Eric in the south yard and then his mom Lembe in the central yard. Having only worked with white rhinos and only met a couple GOH rhinos it was a treat to meet a black rhino. It was great to finally see one close up and experience their big prehensile lips. Even though we were out in the field there were bomas that are used for housing some of the animals that also consisted of restraint chutes. This was neat to see how the bomas can be utilized for housing or for catch and releases. In the morning on the East crew I was able to experience the Asian antelope and GOH rhinos and in the afternoon I found myself in a truck in a CRASH, not a real crash, but we were at a feeding station and when I looked around there were white rhinos everywhere. It was really neat to see how the rhinos interacted with each other in a herd setting and actually vocalized with each other.

My last day was on the North/Forest crew. Here I was able to experience some medical procedures and see how the keepers and veterinarian staff work together seamlessly out in the field to accomplish this. This is when using leaf-eater biscuit training came in handy. It was pretty exciting to experience. While driving around out in the field my questions were answered regarding geriatric rhinos and how Nola was managed when she got older. I appreciate those questions being answered as we all know how hard it is to lose one of our animals especially one as special as her. This was only a fraction of what I experienced on my Keeper Development Program at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. It was an experience I will never forget and can't wait to apply what I've learned at my facility. I would love to do another one in the future.

I want to thank the IRKA, Jane Kennedy, and Joe Hauser for allowing me to participate in this program. I would also like to thank the staff at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park for allowing me to shadow you and have such an unbelievable experience. You went above and beyond to answer my questions and show me areas that might be of interest to me. Thank you to the Rhino Rescue Center keepers: Jonnie, Dion, and Wes. South Crew: Ken, Mike, Steve, Justin, and John. East Crew: Eric, Sylvester, and Kim. Bird department: Lauren and Ron. Special thanks to the Reid Park Zoo and Zoological Society for allowing me to participate in this amazing program!



Open Mouth Training At North Carolina Zoo : Jade Tuttle, North Carolina Zoo

Here at the North Carolina Zoo keepers have trained our herd of white rhinos an open mouth behavior. It began as we were involved in some intensive training and were trying to improve our timing with the reinforcement. The reward was switched from loose alfalfa to timothy cubes and our greedy little rhinos picked up on hand feeding quickly. It was a short jump of capturing the hand feeding behavior and, by prolonging the reward, increasing the time the mouth was held open. At this point a keeper will station the rhino facing them, touch the middle of the upper lip while saying “open” and the rhino will hold their lips wide for roughly 30 seconds.

Initially it was intended for a quick visual check of their teeth and the use of a laparoscope on our two older rhinos for regular dental checkups. However, we have found it a valuable tool in many ways. “Open” has made oral medications easier to administer, and curator is planning to start a body condition test with our herd that involves the rhinos ingesting a small volume of liquid. Our older bull has a cataract that is frequently checked by an optometrist. We’ve found he keeps his head steady longer while using the “open” cue and, therefore, we have better test results to track his health. Of course ‘meet and greets’ with our rhinos have gotten even better. People can now not only touch them, but safely feed them too by tossing a cube into that big mouth.

Some rhinos embraced the behavior much faster than others. For the more reluctant participants we had to up the value of the reward initially. Another trick we learned is to start with encouraging them to raise their head from the beginning. This seems to cue them into a training session and it keeps the treats from tumbling back out. By far the largest challenge is increasing the duration of the behavior. In our experience, starting with very small increments, asking the animal to reach a little further each time, and using a release command where the tools to create success.



Toothbrush Training: Mindi Scott, Columbus Zoo

Over the years, the black rhinos at the Columbus Zoo have participated in a number of husbandry-related training sessions such as blood draws, injections, and physical exams. In addition, tooth brushing has been a part of the rhino husbandry routine at the Columbus Zoo since 2009. Two years prior, Kulinda presented with sensitive gums and calculus buildup on her left side lower teeth. Her dental disease continued to progress so the decision was made to train each of our rhinos to accept the tooth brushing process.

Rosie has not presented with any dental problems, but we decided to start brushing her teeth as a preventative measure in 2015. She enjoys her training sessions, so we did not anticipate having any major problems with the training process. The biggest challenge when it comes to training Rosie is that she is very easily distracted. Our off-exhibit stalls, our indoor exhibit, and the adjoining yard all have areas in which to work with Rosie. We started with the area of least distraction, the indoor exhibit, to establish her tooth brushing routine. In this area a horizontal bar can be removed so that Rosie can bring her head out but she cannot drop it down to the floor.

In this area a horizontal bar can be removed so that Rosie can bring her head out but she cannot drop it down to the floor.

Rosie was already trained to open her mouth when she came to the Columbus Zoo with the commands “lip” and “open”. While holding the index and middle finger in front of her mouth keepers give the command “lip”. The correct response is for her to place her upper lip on the keeper’s fingers and hold it there. Once her upper lip is in position her lower lip is touched and the command “open” is given. Rosie will then open her mouth wide enough for the keeper to see the front edges of her teeth. After each open she was released and rewarded with a small piece of apple.

The tooth brushing training began with the introduction of the brush itself. Rosie was asked to open her mouth and allow the handle end of the brush to touch her teeth, after which she was released and rewarded. The process was then repeated until I had touched each set of teeth, top and bottom. Rosie responded well to



The next step was to introduce the bristle end of the brush by simply placing it in her mouth and touching it to her teeth. She did not respond as well to this, and would pull back or turn her head to the side. After responding negatively to the bristles she would hesitate to open her mouth again, so we asked her for other behaviors that didn’t require her to move from the spot (like “eye” and “ear”) to get her focus back and reward her with a piece of apple. She was then asked her to open her mouth again and accept the handle end of the brush to earn a reward. After a few tries with the bristles it became clear that if we put the brush into her mouth and simply started brushing her teeth she did not pull back or turn away. We also learned that in order to get her to keep her mouth open wide enough and not drop her head it was necessary to keep our fingers under her upper lip while brushing. After brushing each set of teeth briefly Rosie was released and rewarded. Each day that we did a session with her the brushing time was increased until she would tolerate it for about 30 seconds on each side, top and bottom.

Continued from page 3

After a week's worth of sessions of good response with dry brushing each set for about 30 seconds, we introduced the paste (which is a simple mixture of baking soda and water.) Rosie did not mind the paste, and even seemed to like it. We would dip the brush in the paste, ask her to open her mouth, and then brush one set of teeth for a few seconds before releasing and rewarding her. We started out slowly and only brushed each set on the top and bottom for about 10 seconds at a time once we were sure she would not react negatively to the paste. After only a few sessions the brushing time was increased to about 30 seconds per each set of teeth.

Once she was having her teeth brushed on a regular basis, Rosie was introduced to the final step of the process which is a mouth rinse. The rinse is a 10% dilution of Chlorhexidine solution which is squirted into her mouth with a small spouted bottle. Rosie was asked to open her mouth and allow a small amount of the rinse to be squirted into her mouth on both sides. She did not mind this process, and seemed more concerned about the sound that the bottle made when it was squeezed than she was about the taste of the rinse. This has become her favorite part of the process and is almost a reward in itself.

Once trained, the tooth brushing process doesn't take much time to complete. The goal has been to brush and rinse Rosie's teeth at least three times a week, and the process is quite enjoyable for her. It is just one more thing we can do to provide her with excellent preventative health care.



2nd Call for 2017 Rhino Keeper Workshop Abstracts

The International Rhino Keeper Association is announcing the second call for abstracts for the 2017 Rhino Keeper Workshop in Denver, Colorado. We are accepting abstracts for all rhino related topics for presentation. The Workshop is a dynamic week of presentations about: in situ research, husbandry, care and training methods and accomplishments, ex situ medical case studies, reports from the field, ideas for fundraising. Additionally, there will be Keynote Speakers, expert led round table discussions, and Facility Focus presentations. Most presentations are 15-20 minutes, including time for Q & A. The Facility Focus is a five minute PowerPoint of your facility highlighting your zoo's rhino program. These are a great way for a novice speaker to gain public speaking experience in front of a friendly and supportive audience. Additionally, there will be a poster session and all topics are welcome for this session.

If you have an idea for a presentation and need help developing it further, please contact us! We encourage a lot of keeper participation in this Workshop and love having a variety of topics available for learning opportunities. Below are the guidelines for submitting an abstract for consideration and they are also posted on the IRKA website. Thank you so much for your ongoing support and participation in this organization and we look forward to what exciting topics you have to share with this group. Please submit a 500 word (maximum) abstract to Jonnie Capiro (jcapiro@sandiegozoo.org) no later than April 1, 2017. All presenters will be notified if their abstract was accepted by April 21, 2017. The Facility Focus template and abstract submission guidelines can be found on our website:

<https://www.rhinokeeperassociation.org/workshop-call-for-papers>

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European Rhino Keepers Workshop

This exciting event is the result of a collaboration between 'ABWAK' and 'Stichting De Harpij', and will take place on May 2nd & 3rd 2017 in Rotterdam Zoo, the Netherlands. The two day workshop aims to connect rhino professionals and share knowledge and experiences on rhino husbandry and research. The workshop will consist of presentations, discussion groups and a tour around Rotterdam Zoo's rhino facilities.

For more information: rkwrotterdam.wordpress.com





International Rhino Keeper Association 10th Biennial Rhino Keeper Workshop



DENVER ZOO

INTERNATIONAL
Rhino Keeper Association's 10th biennial

RHINO KEEPER WORKSHOP
August 7-11, 2017
Hosted by Denver Zoo

Topics to include:
assisted reproduction
RPU enforcement
captive management
And a visit to the "Repository"



"Paraceratherium & White Rhinoceros compared"
Copyright © Walter Myers
<http://www.arcadiastreet.com>

"Where will we be in 100 years?"
Go to rhinokeeperassociation.org for more details on pre and post trips



August 6th-10th, 2017

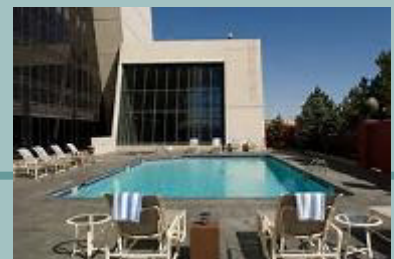
The Rhino Keeper Workshop will be held at the Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel

Registration and Icebreaker on Sunday, August 6th

Presentations begin on Monday, August 7th

Room rates are \$139/night from August 4-August 12, 2017

<https://www.rhinokeeperassociation.org/workshop>



10th Biennial Rhino Keeper Workshop, Denver Colorado
 August 6th-10, 2017
 Pre-RKW trip August 5th
 Post-workshop trips August 11th and 12th, 2017

Please read everything on this page before you complete and submit your registration form online.

Important note, if you are submitting an application from outside of the US, please add \$10 USD to your total cost as a processing fee. Thank you.

There are only two ways to submit your Workshop Registration and payment:

1. Complete the online form at the bottom of this page, using PayPal or credit card as a form of payment.
2. Download and mail a paper form with a check payable to "IRKA," to:

IRKA
 581705 White Oak Road
 Yulee, FL 32097

(Please note we cannot process credit cards by mail or phone)

REGISTRATION FEES			
FULL REGISTRATION FEES Includes icebreaker, refreshments, zoo visit and BBQ	Professional Member rates	✓	
Early registration before 31 January 2017	\$250.00 USD		
Registration from 1 February-June 15, 2017	\$285.00 USD		
Registration after June 16, 2017	\$315.00 USD		
	Associate Member rates	✓	
	\$260.00 USD		
	\$295.00 USD		
	\$325.00 USD		
	Non-member rates	✓	
	No discount		
	\$330.00 USD		
	\$355.00 USD		
DAILY RATES*	Professional Member rates	✓	
Monday August 7, 2017	\$75.00 USD		
Tuesday August 8, 2017	\$90.00 USD**		
Wednesday August 9, 2017	\$85.00 USD		
Thursday August 10, 2017	\$75.00 USD		
	Associate Member rates	✓	
	\$75.00 USD		
	\$90.00 USD**		
	\$85.00 USD		
	\$75.00 USD		
	Non-member rates	✓	
	\$85.00 USD		
	\$100.00 USD**		
	\$100.00 USD		
	\$85.00 USD		

*Daily rates will be accepted only after all full registrations have been processed.

**Daily rates for the Arsenal will be limited, and will be awarded to members before non-member requests are processed.

Rhino Keeper Workshop Agenda:

August 5th: Optional Trip: Dinosaur Ridge Tour and Hike at Red Rocks Amphitheater (See Pre-Post trip description and payment information)

August 6th: Registration and Icebreaker (Light Dinner and 2 free cocktails provided)

August 7th: Talks 8:00-5:00 pm (Light continental breakfast, lunch provided)

August 8th: Talks 8:00 –12:00; Tour of Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Repository (Light breakfast and lunch provided)

August 9th: Zoo Day 9:00 to 9:00; Tours, Lunch, Dinner and Cocktails, Silent/Live auction and world class comedy of Josh Blue!

August 10th: Final day of Talks, close of Workshop (Light breakfast and lunch provided)

August 11th: Optional trip to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo (See Pre-Post trip description and payment information)

August 12th: Optional trip to Pikes Peak Cog incline Railroad (See Pre- Post trip description and payment information)

OR

Climbing for Rhinos: Conquer a fourteener! Climb to the top of Mt. Bierstadt for RHINOS! (See Pre- Post trip description and payment information)



2017 IRKA Rhino Keeper Workshop Update and Information



10th Biennial Rhino Keeper Workshop (RKW)

August 6^h-10th, 2017

Pre and Post trips : August 5th, 11th and 12th

Hosted by Denver Zoo

Please email Sara.Wunder@BuschGardens.com for more information & to sign up!

Also, look for the Closed Group on Facebook, '2017 Pre & Post Rhino Keeper Workshop Trips'.

(Note: All Pre & Post Trips will have limited capacities! You are welcome to find your own transportation if needed.)

Pre RKW Trips:

Saturday, August 5th- Dinosaur Ridge Tour & Hike at Red Rocks Amphitheater

(limited capacity of < 20 people)

Dinosaur Ridge is a local hiking area that offers very low cost access & tours. It features fossil remains including those of extinct rhino species.

Costs include transportation \$15 pp. Must sign up ahead of time! Pay the day of!

<http://www.dinoridge.org/>

<http://redrocksonline.com/the-park/recreation>

August 6th- Registration & Ice Breaker

August 7th- 10th- Rhino Keeper Workshop

Held at the Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel

(Book your rooms here too!)

Post RKW Trips:

Friday, August 11th- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo **(limited capacity of < 45 people)**

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo features the largest herd of giraffe in North America, houses a black rhino, & features many species of interest.

Costs include transportation, admission, tour, & lunch \$25 pp.

Must sign up ahead of time! Pay at registration!

<http://www.cmzoo.org/>

Saturday, August 12th- Pikes Peak Cog Incline Railroad **(limited capacity of < 20 people)**

Pike's Peak is one of the most beautiful regions in North America. It features Pike's Peak at 14,115 feet. The Cog Railway winds up the mountain offering one of a kind view of the Rocky Mountains region. The trip will include admission to the Cog Railway & transportation.

Trip is 1:20-4:30pm. Transportation leaves hotel at 11am.

Costs includes transportation \$30 pp. Must sign up & pay by July 12th!

Please send payment to:

IRKA

581705 White Oak Rd.

Yulee, FL 32097

<http://cograilway.com/>

<http://dayhikesneardenver.com/mt-bierstadt-trail-on-guanella-pass/>

OR (Cannot do both!)

Saturday, August 12th- "Climbing for Rhinos"-Climb to the top of Mt. Bierstadt for RHINOS!

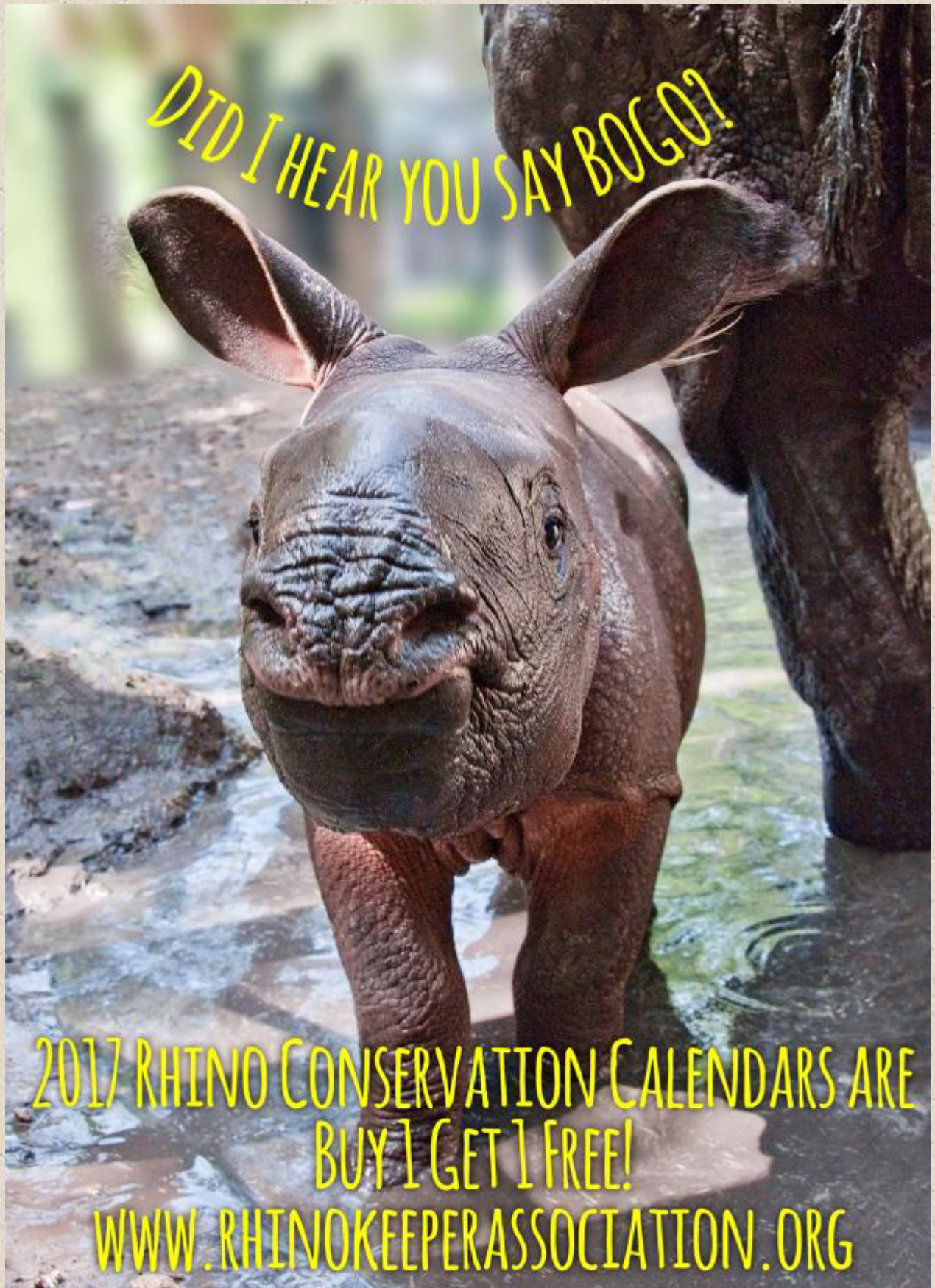
(limited capacity of < 15 people)

Mount Bierstadt is a fourteener in Colorado. Fourteeners are mountains with at least 14,000 feet of elevation at their summit. Bierstadt is a great mountain to start on for those that are new to hiking fourteeners. It is still strenuous on beginner hikers, but manageable if you pace yourself. It is highly recommended to prepare yourself physically before attempting any fourteener, plus getting in shape beforehand will make the experience that much more enjoyable. Conquer a fourteener! Funds will go to Nepal- Chitwan National Park to complete their vet hospital that handles hand raising orphaned Greater One-Horned Rhinos. **Email Christine Bobko rhinoqueen@yahoo.com**

Costs include transportation \$15 pp. Must sign up ahead of time! Pay at registration!

No more than 15 people due to time constraints in giving everyone the best opportunity to summit!!

<http://www.hikingincolorado.org/bier.html>



DID I HEAR YOU SAY BOGO?

2017 RHINO CONSERVATION CALENDARS ARE
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE!

WWW.RHINOKEEPERASSOCIATION.ORG

Body Condition Scoring Assessment

We will be conducting a Body Condition Scoring (BCS) Assessment at the upcoming August 2017 Rhino Keeper Workshop (RKW) in Denver.

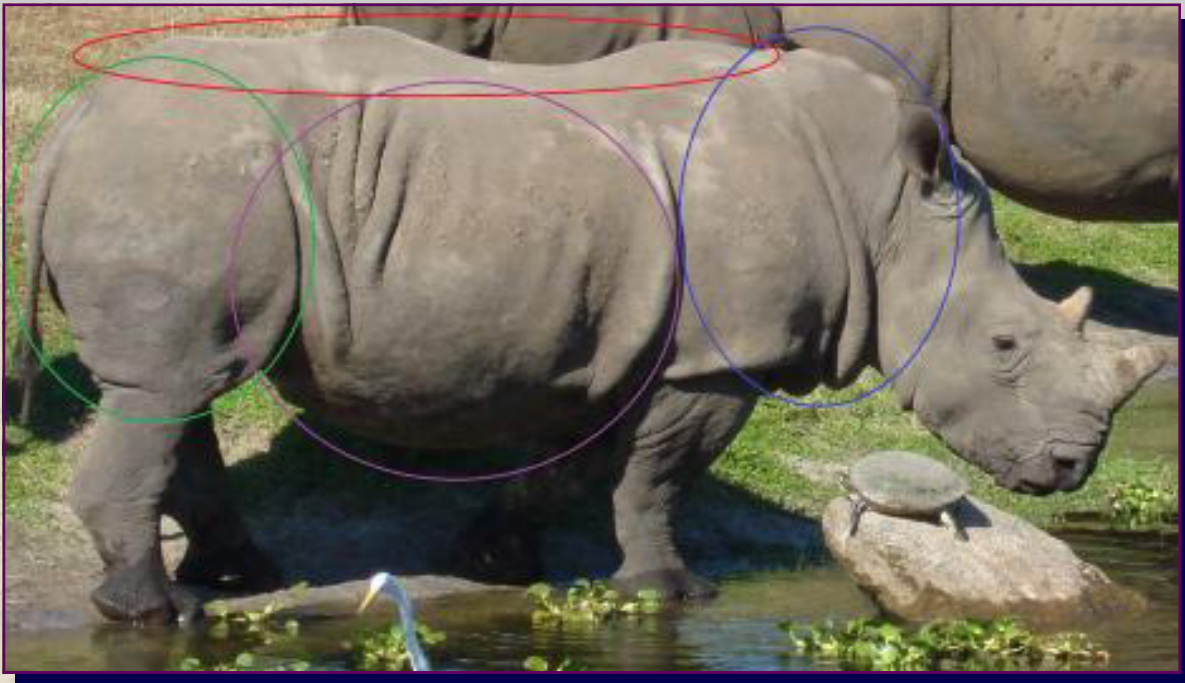
All BCS Assessments will be done by rhino keepers at the RKW.
All photo submissions will remain anonymous & the scores will be given to submitters at the end of the RKW.

Please submit a photo of your rhino(s) to
Sara.Wunder@BuschGardens.com by April 1st, 2017!

Please make certain your photo is a lateral view of the entire rhino & includes the following:

- Neck & Shoulders
- Scapula & Ribs
- Spine
- Rump & Tail Base
- Abdomen

Example:



“Rhino Buddies”

Sponsor an IRKA Professional Membership for an International Rhino Keeper!

The International Rhino Keeper Association is based in North America. Membership dues are based on American costs of living and English is our primary language. The brain child of our past president Adam Felts, the Rhino Buddies program helps our international colleagues be part of the association. Those members who can afford to sponsor an out of country member pay the annual dues for another, paying forward to anyone who would like to be a "Rhino Buddy." Members are paired and then establish an electronic connection, developing each other's skills as rhino caretakers and growing a friendship in the process.

We invite you to either be a recipient or a sponsor. We will pair you with an international rhino caretaker and get the ball rolling. There is an easy to fill out form for each position. You can also request someone you already know, and we can pair you as Rhino Buddies and let you take it from there. If you are interested in connecting with someone outside of your country please contact me and we will connect you with someone who will help you develop your rhino knowledge, and you help develop theirs. We will try to connect like minded members, meaning a professional will connect with a professional, a supporting professional will connect with a supporting professional, and an associate member will connect with an associate member. Exceptions to this rule can be requested when Rhino Buddies already know each other. For more information contact me at jkennedy@sandiegozoo.org or janeknedy_rka@cox.net.

I hope you consider becoming a rhino buddy, helping to expand our membership and better serve our charges, the rhinos *Note: Please be aware that English may not be your sponsored Rhino Keeper's first language! If you do speak a language other than English, please let us know. Otherwise, please be understanding of the language barriers and remember- you are both share a passion for RHINOS!

Jane Kennedy

President, IRKA Learn. Share. Save



Correspondence Updates:

The IRKA send our congratulations and celebrate with the following institutions:

- Fossil Rim- Birth Southern white male
- White Oak- Birth Southern White and a Greater one-horned
- Fresno Chaffee Zoo- Birth Southern white male
- San Diego Zoo Safari Park- Transfer: “Monica” Greater one-horned female
- Pittsburg Zoo: Birth Black Rhino female
- Phoenix Zoo: Transfer: female Southern White Rhino “Lou Lou” from SDZSP



The IRKA sends our thoughts and sympathy to the following institutions:

- Phoenix Zoo- “Half Ear” Southern white female
- Virginia Zoo- “Alfred” Southern white male
- Columbus Zoo- “Kulinda” Eastern Black female
- Knoxville Zoo- “Mondo” Southern white male
- Thoiry Zoo - “Vince” Southern white male



In memory of beloved “Vince”

2017 New and Renewing Members to IRKA

Jennifer McNaughton	Busch Gardens	Molly Kainuma	Denver Zoo
Brian Teasdale	Dicerus Boots	Courtney Lewno	Miami Zoo
Kayla Rethwisch	Caldwell Zoo	Dave Johnson	Denver Zoo
Bonnie Reda		David Backus	Lion Country Safari
Roxane Losey		Amy Toman	Birmingham Zoo
Meg Carter		Angela Binney	Disney's Animal Kingdom
Barbara Hammershoy		Jeremy&Heather Kenyon	Two Drunken Celts
Sara Steward	Busch Gardens	Paul Kilby	Kilby Photography
David&Lynn Rice	San Diego Safari park	Dorothy Forman	
Louis Keeley	Blank Park Zoo	Priya Bapodra	Columbus Zoo
Amy Rose		Paige McNickle	Phoenix Zoo
Victoria Salmons	Kansas City Zoo		
Katherine Heffernan	Great Plains Zoo		
Jason Faessler	Nashville zoo		
Daniel Ziegler	Rhino Resource Center		
Amanda Siegel	Maryland Zoo		
Jessica Burchard	Kansas City Zoo		
Stephanie Reid	Columbus Zoo		
Jacqueline Ziegler			
Cody Cseplo			
Lisa Henderson	Wild Adventures, GA		
Alisa Sandor	Cleveland Metroparks Zoo		
Kristin Forker	Busch Gardens		
Sara McGinnis	Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure		
Lexi Buchanan	Tanganyika Wildlife Park		
Chrissy Martin	Brevard Zoo		
Michael Skidmore	Lincoln Park Zoo		
Eric Reinsh	Nashville Zoo		
Hennie Erwee	The Ark, Limpopo S.A.		
Candice Dymek	Tanganyika Wildlife Park		
Jami Guernsey	Henry Doorly zoo		
Tony Smith	Dallas Zoo		
Tami Decker	SPCA Monterey County		
Elana Kopel	Jacksonville Zoo		
Jonathan Moss	Knowsley Safari Park		
Susan Hoss			
Arianna D'Urso	worldrhinos.com, Italy		
Sani Gabriele			
Tess Stevens			
Allisa Gottfreid	Racine Zoo		
Garry White	Zoo Ausburg, Germany		

Supporting Institutions:

- ◆ Columbus Zoo
- ◆ Denver Zoo
- ◆ Supporting Institutions New or Renewing
- ◆ The Wilds
- ◆ Columbus Zoo
- ◆ Tulsa Zoo & Living Museum
- ◆ Lowry Park Zoo
- ◆ International Rhino Foundation
- ◆ Jacksonville Zoo
- ◆ Austin Savanna
- ◆ Fossil Rim Wildlife Center
- ◆ Brian Caldwell– Hyland Way Productions
- ◆ Taronga Zoo and Taronga Western Plains Zoo
- ◆ Henry Vilas Zoo
- ◆ African Lion Safari
- ◆ Cincinnati Zoo
- ◆ White Oak
- ◆ Tanganyika Wildlife Park
- ◆ The Maryland Zoo
- ◆ Rhino Resource Center
- ◆ Horns and Heroes Project
- ◆ San Diego Zoological Society
- ◆ Cheyenne Mountain Zoo



Keeper Professional Development Program:

The International Rhino Keeper Association (IRKA) has developed a program that will provide rhino keepers the opportunity to expand their knowledge and husbandry experience. This program has been designed to enable rhino keepers to work at other institutions to familiarize themselves with different management styles. Due to the professional nature of this program, it is only available to Professional or Supporting Professional Rhino Keeper Association members.

The IRKA has selected facilities with different management styles to maximize the keepers' potential for enhancing their expertise. It is the hope of the IRKA that the institutions participating in this program will take this opportunity to share their trials, tribulations, triumphs and successes with their professional colleagues. At this time, the hosting institutions are: Busch Gardens Tampa, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens, The Wilds, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, San Diego Zoo Safari Park, and Denver Zoo. The concept of the program is quite simple, but we feel it is an invaluable tool for expanding the skills of rhino keepers by providing them the opportunity to work alongside their colleagues and learn the nuances of that institution's husbandry practices.

Approval process:

The keeper participating in this program must not only have their institution's authorization, but agreement to pay their wages. The institution's approval requires that employee is covered by their institution's workmen's compensation and will provide documentation of personal health insurance. This will provide assurance that the hosting institution will not be liable to cover medical costs. When application has been approved, there will be a fee of \$10 to be contributed to the IRKA scholarship fund.

Participating Institutions include:



Institutional Supporters

The Supporting Institutional Membership is for any conservation organization, or zoological institution which supports rhino conservation in accordance with the objectives and purpose of the IRKA. These memberships are available for \$100, \$500 and \$2000. Why should your zoo be interested in joining on this level? If your institution contributes on the \$500 level then all rhino keepers membership fees at your zoo are waived! It is important that as the IRKA grows that we continue to garner the support from all facilities that are responsible for the protection and management of all species of rhinoceros. We would like to extend our appreciation for this substantial support to the following institutions, and hopefully we can add your zoo to this growing list! If you have questions about institutional memberships or any other questions please contact us at

internationalrhinokeeperassoc@gmail.com.

Partners



2017 Sponsors at \$2,000 and Above

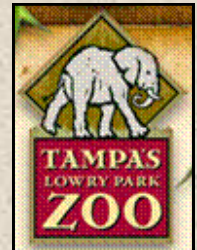
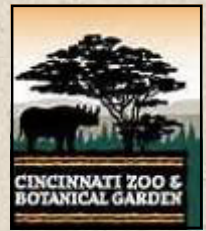
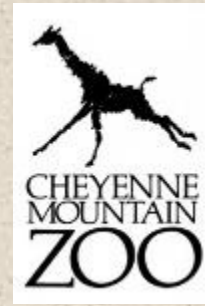


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