



# American Association of Zoo Keepers

Awards Ceremony  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
August 26, 2010



dedicated to professional animal care

# SaveNature.Org

## 2010 Conservation Prize



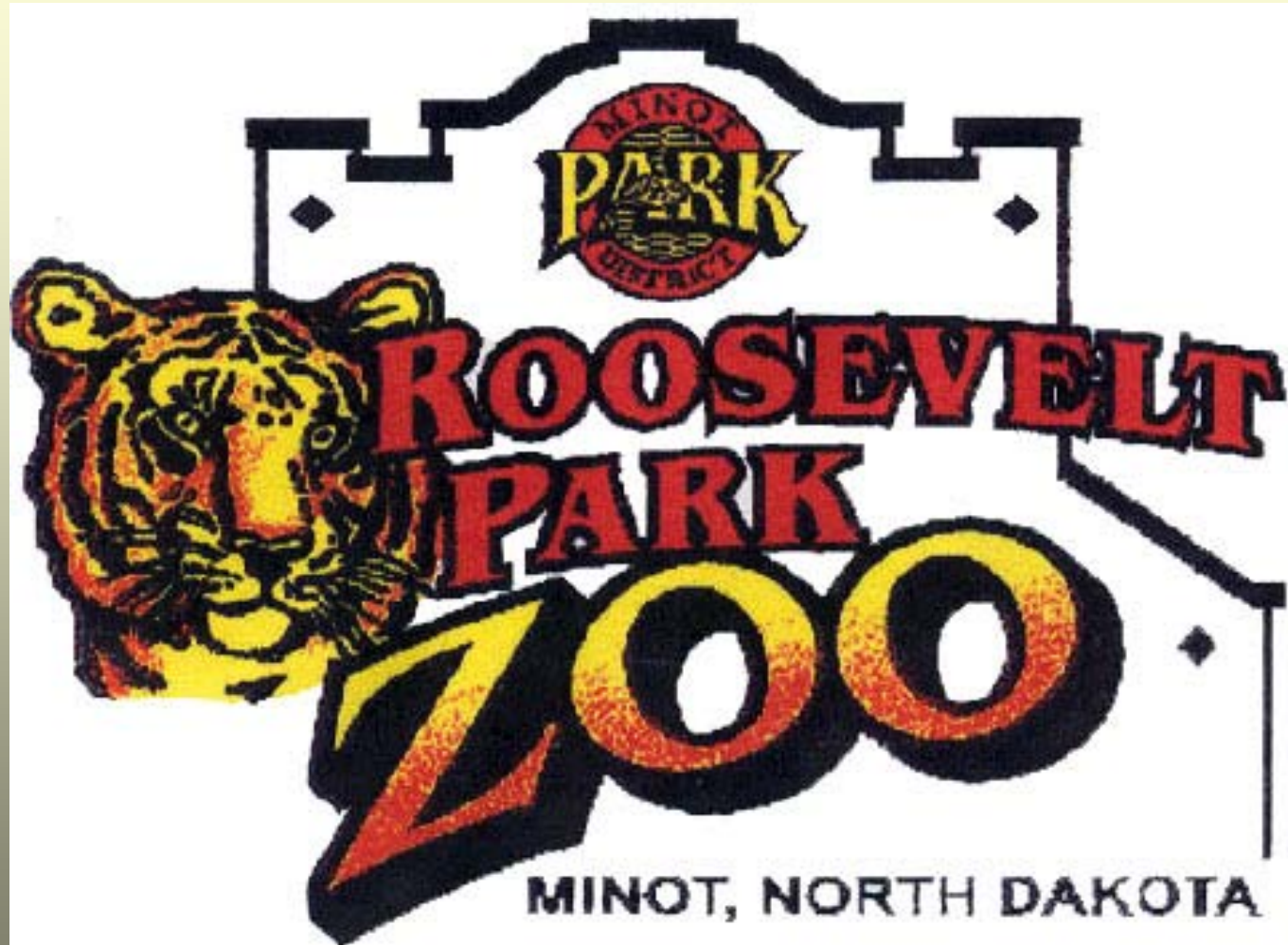
SAVENATURE.ORG

- Taking a leadership role in saving biodiversity.
- Creating conservation partnerships with a call to action.
- Saving threatened and endangered tropical rainforest, wild ocean and desert habitat in-situ.
- Conservation commitment that inspires the public to save nature.



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CONGRATULATIONS!





# These Are Wild Lives





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# Future Conservationists





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# Linking Children to Nature Inspiring Stewardship





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# Faces of Conservation

## Kunene Conservation Area, Namibia





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# Faces of Conservation

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# Faces of Conservation

## Kunene Conservation Area, Namibia





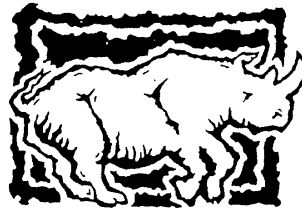
# Kunene Conservation Area

an opportunity to protect 13.2 million hectares

SAVENATURE.ORG

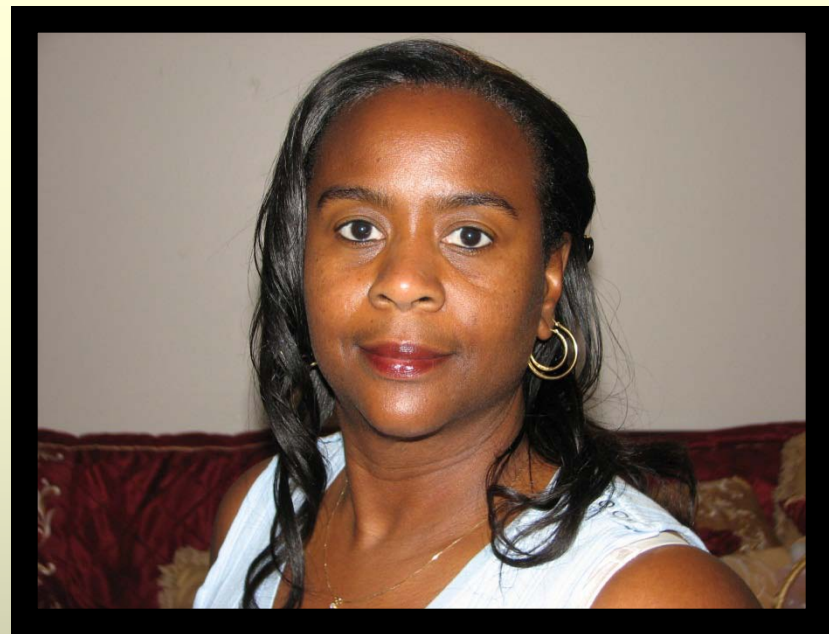
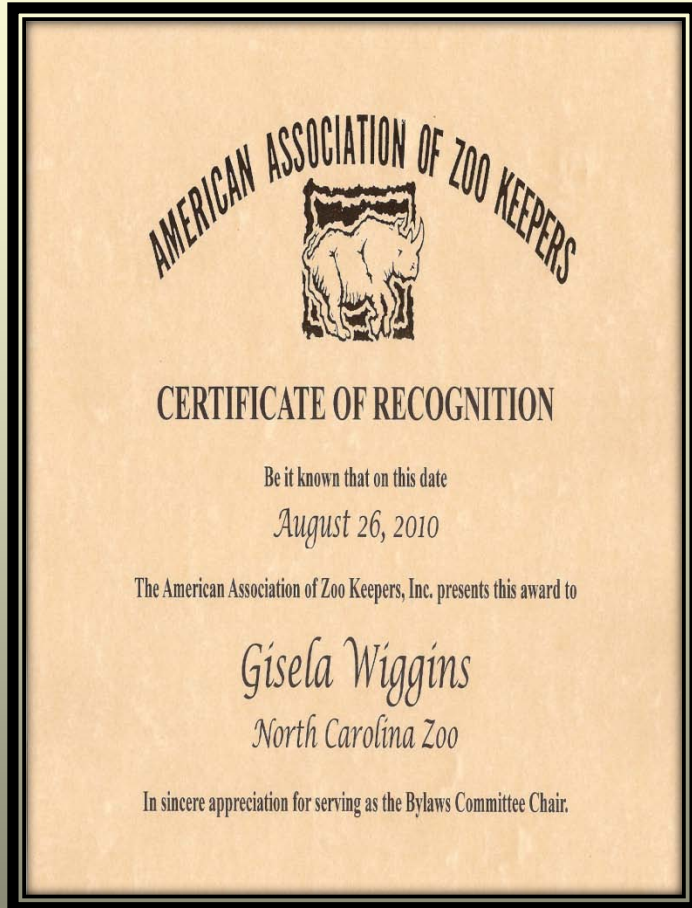


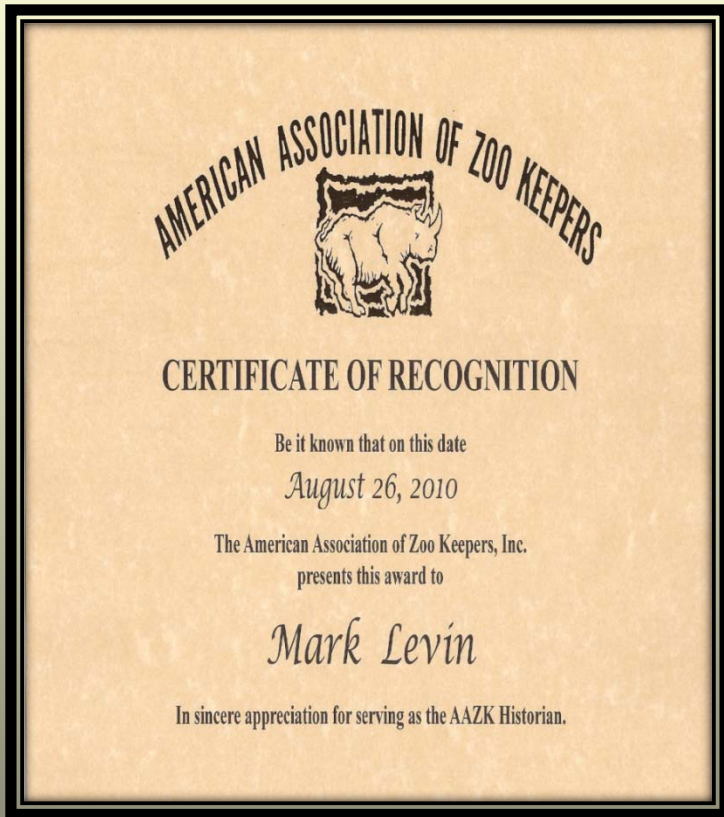
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS**

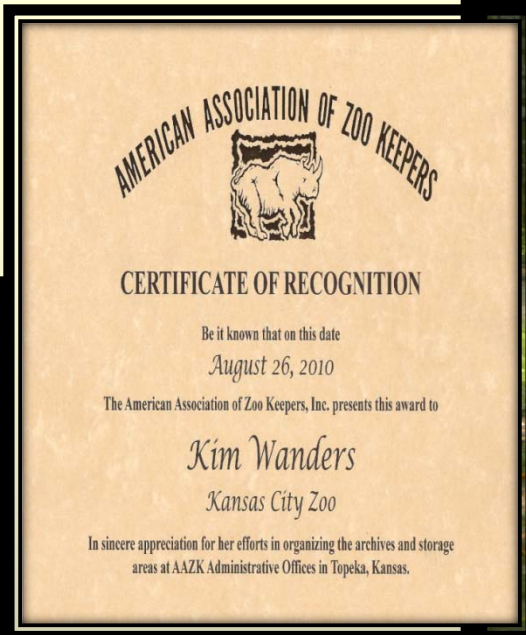
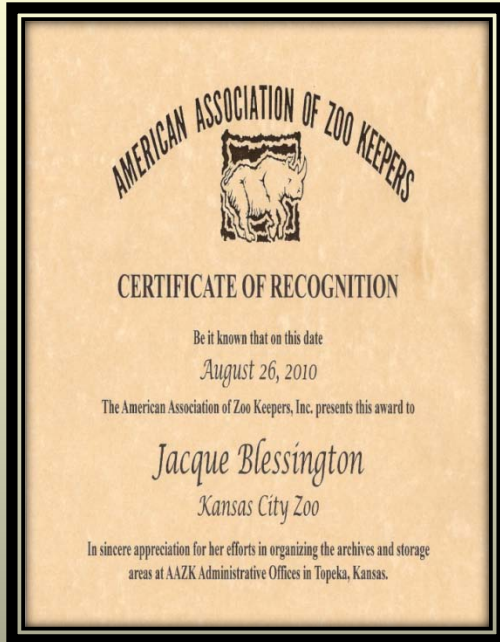


**CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION**

**The Certificate of Recognition is given by the Board of Directors of the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) to a member of AAZK in recognition of outstanding contributions to the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.**







**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS**



**MAZURI ANIMAL NUTRITION  
AWARD**

**The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) is the administering organization of the Mazuri® Animal Nutrition Award (MANA) presented by the AAZK Awards Committee. The purpose of this award is to recognize individuals in the zoological community who have been actively involved in projects/studies/research concerning zoo/aquarium nutrition. The award will carry a cash award of \$500.00 funded by the Mazuri® Foods Division.**

**The MANA was established in 2005. Mazuri® proposed the award to the AAZK Board of Directors. Bruce Elkins, Curator of Waters at the Indianapolis Zoo, and Heidi Bissel, nutritionist at the Memphis Zoo, assisted in the development of the judging criteria for this award. The award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.**



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



MAZURI ANIMAL NUTRITION AWARD

Be it known that on this date

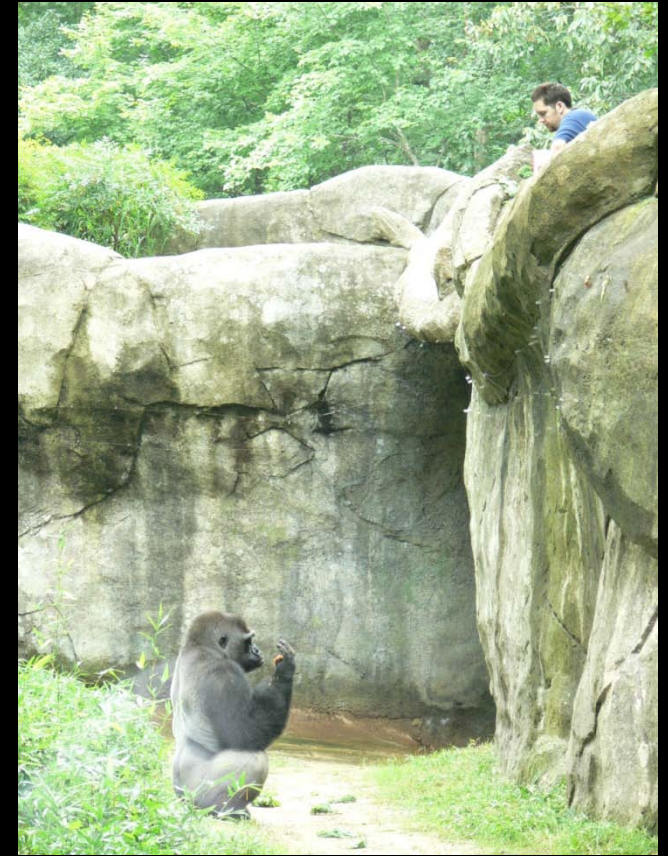
*August 26, 2010*

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. presents this award to

*Aaron Jesue*

*North Carolina Zoo*

North Carolina Zoo, for his outstanding work collecting, compiling, organizing and sharing information on the health and behavioral impacts of a more natural diet high in fiber and low in starch and sugars on the zoo's gorillas.





## CERTIFICATE OF MERIT IN CONSERVATION

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) is the administering organization of the Certificate of Merit in Conservation presented by the AAZK Awards Committee. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding keeper-initiated contributions to conservation of wildlife and their habitats. It is hoped that recognition of outstanding efforts by keepers to contribute to conservation will provide incentive to keepers to continue to be leaders in this important endeavor.

The Certificate of Merit in Conservation Award was established in 2010 by the Conservation Committee, Amanda Kamradt, Chair. The award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT IN  
CONSERVATION AWARD**

Be it known that on this date

*August 26, 2010*

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.  
presents this award to

*Chimpanzee Keepers*

*Beth McChesney, Kelly Murphy, and  
Becky Klopfefefer of the North Carolina Zoo*

for the Chimpanzee Keepers outstanding work developing the  
"Kendall Project" and website that is working to raise awareness  
of the status of wild apes while coming to the aid of some of  
their captive counterparts.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR  
ZOO KEEPER EDUCATION**

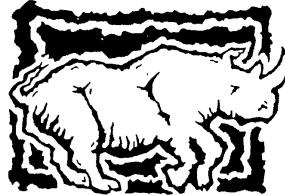
The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) is the administering organization of the *Certificate of Merit for Zookeeper Education (CMZE)* presented by the AAZK Awards Committee. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals, institutions and organizations in the zoological community most actively promoting educational programs for zookeepers. Examples of such support are: reimbursements for formal education, keeper training courses and staff seminars.

The CMZE was founded by Jeff Roberts, 1976-1978 CHAIR, in 1978, to compliment the work of the AAZK Education Committee that had been formed at that time. The award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.



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# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



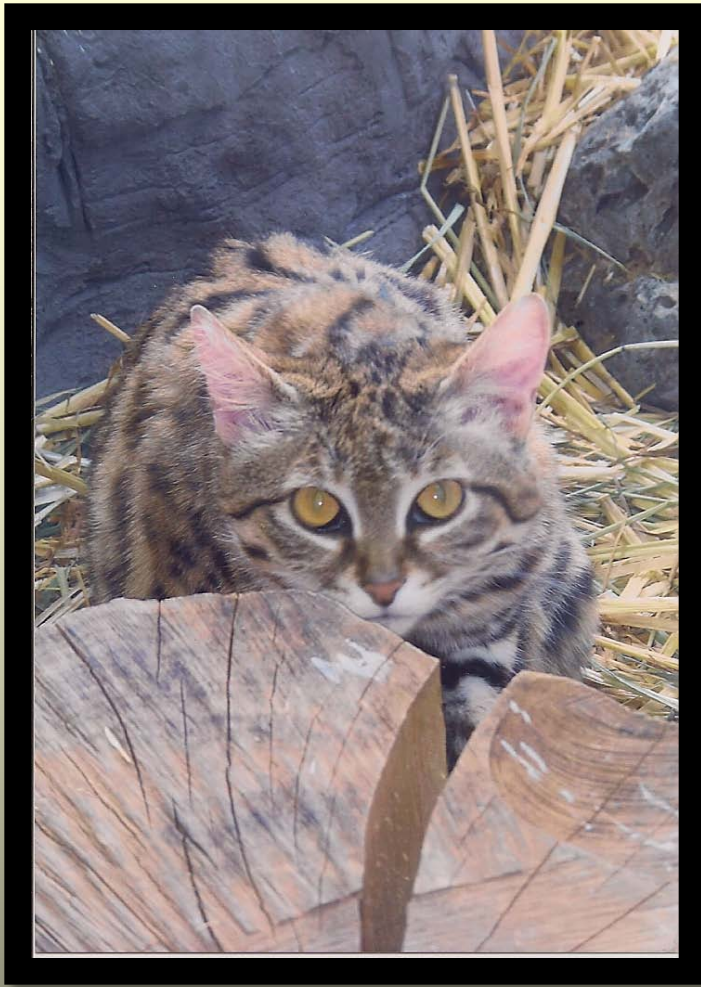
## CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN EXHIBIT DESIGN RENOVATION

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) is the administering organization of the *Certificate of Excellence in Exhibit Renovation (CEER)* presented by the AAZK Awards Committee. The purpose of the award is to recognize institutions or organizations in the zoological community for the design and renovation of existing animal facilities which involved active keeper participation in the process.

The CEER was established by Janet McCoy, 1990 CHAIR. Bill Whittaker proposed the award to the AAZK Board of Directors. The award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.

The evaluation of each nomination is broken down into four categories based on the general guidelines outlined for the award. The four categories are: Keeper Involvement, Exhibit Functionality, Exhibit Management and Visitor Point of View/ Other Information.







# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



## LEE HOUTS EXCELLENCE IN ENRICHMENT AWARD

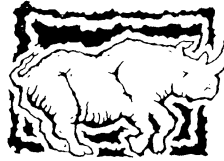
The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) is the administering organization of the Lee Houts Excellence in Enrichment (LHEE) Award presented by the AAZK Awards Committee. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding keeper-initiated contributions to the art and science of environmental enrichment. It is hoped that recognition of outstanding efforts by keepers to improve animal care and welfare through environmental enrichment will provide incentive to keepers to continue to be leaders in this important endeavor.

The Lee Houts Excellence in Enrichment was established in 2001 by the AAZK Enrichment Committee. Lee Houts proposed the award to the AAZK Board of Directors. The award was renamed in Lee's memory, and to honor her many contributions to the field of enrichment, following her death in 2005. The award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.



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# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



## JEAN M. HROMADKA EXCELLENCE IN ANIMAL CARE AWARD

The purpose of this award is to recognize achievement and determination of an individual in the animal care field and in fostering professionalism. Animal care is a science combining zoology, biology, animal management, behavioral observation and daily record keeping on the species in their care. This is essential knowledge for maintaining a species effectively in captivity. The excellent animal care professional must excel in one or more of these areas.

The Jean M. Hromadka Excellence in Animal Care Award is named in memory of her outstanding contributions to the furtherance of AAZK through her work as President of the Association. This award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.

The winner of the Jean M. Hromadka Excellence in Animal Care Award receives a cash award in the amount of \$500.00, endowed by a generous donation through the Lutz Ruhe Family Educational Trust for the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. The award is endowed by the Ruhe Trust primarily to aid winners in making travel and registration arrangements to attend the AAZK National Conference in the year of their award, to receive the award and be recognized in person at a gathering of their peers.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



**JEAN M. HROMADKA EXCELLENCE  
IN ANIMAL CARE AWARD**

Be it known that on this date

*August 26, 2010*

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.  
presents this award to

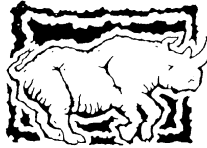
*The Predator Ridge Team*

*(Mike Murray, Andrew Rowan,  
Heather Genter, Laura Morrell and  
Shaina Aguilar) of the Denver Zoo*

for the Predator Ridge Team's outstanding efforts working together daily in a rotational exhibit with three species of social carnivores (hyena, lions, wild dogs). The five keepers have excelled in the areas of animal husbandry, behavior management, interaction with visitors, research and working interdepartmentally to help achieve Denver Zoo's mission "Secure a better world for animals through human understanding". Also noted was their combined activities and involvement helping them make significant contributions to conservation and education.



# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



## **Lutz Ruhe Meritorious Achievement AAZK Professional of the Year Award**

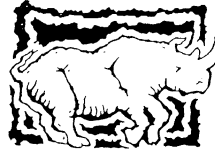
The purpose of this award is to recognize professional members of AAZK, in good standing in the association, for their day-to day professionalism within their facility. This includes participation in AAZK/AZA conservation projects, dedicating time to other facility-related projects or programs (BFR, conservation, wildlife education and individual breeding projects). Commitment and dedication to AAZK at a Committee or Chapter level enhances the nomination. The award was established in 1982 as a means of recognizing work done above and beyond the criteria of the Excellence in Animal Care Award. You have to be a professional member of AAZK in order to qualify.

The winner of the Lutz Ruhe Meritorious Achievement Award - AAZK Professional of the Year Award, receives a cash award in the amount of \$750.00, endowed by a generous donation through the Lutz Ruhe Family Educational Trust for the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. The cash award is endowed by the Luhe Trust primarily to aid winners in making travel and registration arrangements to attend the AAZK National Conference in the year of their award, to receive the award and be recognized in person at a gathering of their peers.



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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOO KEEPERS



## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. (AAZK) is the administering organization of the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the AAZK Awards Committee. This award is to be given at the end (retirement) of a keeper's career. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding commitment to professionalism as a zoo keeper over a long period of time and significant contributions to the community.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was established by the 1993 Awards Committee, Janet McCoy, Chair. Rachel Rogers proposed the award to the AAZK Board of Directors. The award is presented at the annual AAZK National Conference.



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# CHAPTER OF THE YEAR



For extraordinary initiative and support  
of the American Association of Zoo Keepers  
and its' worldwide membership, for the Chapter's  
commitment to conservation and helping to fulfill the vision  
of animal care professionals.



Detroit AAZK Chapter