



Avian Scientific Advisory Group

AVIAN SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP/AVIAN TAG AGENDASaturday, March 25**8:00 am - 5:00 pm**

ASAG Strategic Planning Session - Room 205B

Sunday, March 26**9:30 am - 11:30 am**

Turaco/Cuckoo TAG (CLOSED) - Room 205A

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Raptor TAG Steering Committee (CLOSED) - Room 204

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Coraciformes and Bucerotiformes TAG - Room 209

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Galliformes TAG - Room 209

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Penguin TAG - Room 209

Piciformes TAG - Room 206

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

ASAG Wine and Cheese - 5 Moons Room, Omni Hotel

A minimum \$20 donation will get you entry, a drink ticket good for wine, beer, call drink, or soda and cheese. Come flock with the coolest birds around!

Monday, March 27**8:00 am - 9:00 am**

SAFE Andean Highland Flamingo - Room 207B

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Sihek/Koko (Guam Kingfisher/Guam Rail) Program Update - Room 206

8:00 am - 10:30 am

SAFE African Penguin (CLOSED 8:00 am - 9:00 am) - Room 204

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Andean Condor Workshop - Room 207A

- 8:00 am - Introduction (Ron Webb and Erin Massey, San Diego Zoo Safari Park)
- 8:05 am - Breeding Updates
 - Akron Zoo - Joe Golgosky and Shane Good
 - Zoo de Granby - Chantal Routhier
 - Denver Zoo - John Azua
 - National Aviary - Kurt Hundgen
 - San Diego Zoo Safari Park - Ron Webb and Erin Massey
- 9:45 am - Pair Formation & Aggression Management Group Discussion
- 10:15 am BREAK
- 10:45 am - Housing & Socializing Juvenile Condors Post-Fledge (Ron Webb & Erin Massey, San Diego Zoo Safari Park, John Azua, Denver Zoo)
- 11:15 am - Andean Condor Conservation and Release Programs
 - Ecuador - Kurt Hundgen, National Aviary
 - Colombia & Peru - John Azua, Denver Zoo
- 11:45 am - Andean Condor Egg Database (Ron Webb, San Diego Zoo Safari Park)

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Anseriformes TAG - Room 206

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Ciconiiformes, Phoenicopteriformes & Pelecaniformes TAG - Room 206

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Flight Toward the Future Workshop - Room 209

- 1:00 pm - 1:55 pm: Avian Influenza: How Zoos and Aquariums have been impacted and where do we go from here
 - Dr. Jimmy Johnson, Head Veterinarian, Denver Zoo
 - Mike Houlihan, Curator of Birds and Ambassador Animals, Audubon Zoo
 - John M. Sykes IV, DVM, DACZM Clinical Department Head, Zoological Health Program and Marilyn M. Simpson, Distinguished Veterinarian, Wildlife Conservation Society
- 2:00 pm - 2:20 pm: Lending a Helping Hand - Breeding Management for Yellow-billed Storks
Breeding and rearing long-legged wading birds always comes with challenges. At the Dallas Zoo, we have had to adapt and evolve our management strategies for our yellow-billed stork flock to help maintain chick health. I will discuss our hands-on strategies that have helped us to achieve the most successful breeding flock of yellow-billed storks in the SSP.
 - Marcie Herry, Assistant Zoological Manager, Dallas Zoo
- 2:20 pm - 2:40 pm BREAK
- 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm: The Evolution of the US Zoo Bird Collection
The history of birds in US Zoos for the last 150 years will be reviewed. While much propagation had already taken place over 100 years ago, and many of today's bird management protocols were already in practice by the 1950's, collections of 100's of taxa of birds, with an emphasis on exhibition, were widespread until the imposition of Exotic Newcastle's Disease restrictions in 1972. (San Diego Zoo held 3,465 birds of 1,126 taxa on 31 December 1969). The 1980's saw an increasing effort towards establishing endangered birds as self-sustaining populations. Since the 1990's TAG's and SSP's have exerted an increasing influence on Institutional Collection Plans, so that much of what is standard practice today would appear to be science fiction to Zoo bird staff of the 1970's.
 - Josef Lindolhm III
- 3:20 pm - 3:40 pm: Managing aggression in a breeding flock of Lorikeets
While many zoos have lorikeets, not enough of them breed so they are dependent on outside breeders to supplement their flock. Managing a flock that breeds on exhibit can give smaller facilities the ability to increase their flock size without adding space they don't have. At Nashville zoo we produce multiple clutches each year on exhibit, but it's not without its challenges. From nest box placement, to territory management, I will discuss the issues we have faced while creating a successful breeding area on exhibit.
 - Ashley Gwaltney, Area Supervisor- Lorikeet, Nashville Zoo
- 3:45 pm - 4:10 pm: Evolution of a hatchery - It's not just for spring chickens
In the mid 1990's, the Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center built a rearing facility to raise and release cranes into the wild. The hatchery pens have been in use every year since, but their scope has changed to cover so much more. I will review the details of how this hatchery was built, the design features that keepers love or hate, and how it has evolved to be used year-round for more than just chicks.
 - Heather Holtz, Senior Avian Propagation Keeper, Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center
- 4:15 pm - 4:35pm: Using "Unusable" Spaces; Creative Habitat Modifications at Zoo Atlanta
Zoo Atlanta has been thinking outside the box and has creatively adapted spaces to improve bird welfare. From modifying hallways to creating "pop-ups", our team has been able to expand and improve our avian holding by being able to look at things a little differently.
 - Lauren Wilson, Curator of Birds, Zoo Atlanta
- 4:40 pm - 5:00 pm: Mixed- Species Opportunities for Larger Crane Species
In many AZA zoos, the larger crane species are often maintained in single- species habitats. Single- species management can limit the number of individuals that can be held at a facility, and can have negative impacts on the ability to maintain large enough population sizes to ensure a robust, genetically stable ex- situ population. The Red- Crowned Crane SSP was called on to develop a mixed- species resource for larger crane species, and data was gathered on Eurasian, hooded, red- crowned, sarus, Siberian, wattled, and white- naped cranes. The results of these findings and the development of mixed- species habitats will be discussed in this presentation.
 - Taylor Keddie, Zookeeper, Fresno Chaffee Zoo

Tuesday, March 28**11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Avian TAG Chairs (CLOSED) - Room 205B

Wednesday, March 29**9:30 am - 11:30 am**

ASAG Steering Committee - Room 204

SAFE Asian Hornbill, Western Pond Turtle, NA Songbird, Radiated Tortoise, and Giraffe - Room 208B

1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Avian SAG General Session – Room 209

- 1:00 pm - 1:05 pm: Welcome and updates
- 1:05 pm - 1:15 pm: Plume Awards – Steve Sarro, Curator, National Zoological Park
- 1:20 pm - 1:50 pm: Keynote Presentation
 Museum Genomics can Aid in Captive Collection Management and Conservation
Museum collections around the world contain thousands of wild specimens of parrots from around the globe and are the foundational source of information for different research and conservation efforts. In these collections, are historical holdings of endangered species with their accompanying data that provide baseline information useful for captive-breeding efforts, reintroduction, wildlife management and policy recommendations. Using a combination of samples obtained from both the Field Museum's ornithological study skin collection and captive populations (both zoological and avicultural), it is possible to identify where individuals in captivity ancestrally come from in species' native ranges as well as how captive populations are doing in comparison to wild populations. Especially significant are data on genetic variation within and between wild populations. These data can inform captive breeding efforts and conservation policy, benefit aviculture populations, and inform reintroduction efforts. As case studies, I present genomic data for the Blue-throated macaw (Ara glaucogularis), Golden conure (Guaruba guarouba), Blue-headed macaw (Primolius couloni) and Green-cheek conure (Pyrrhura molinae).
 - Taylor Hains, PhD candidate, University of Chicago
- 1:50 pm - 2:05 pm: Egg transfer from USA to México and hand-rearing of Adelie penguin (Pygoscelis adeliae)
 - MVZ. Daniela Fernanda Herrera Prado, Guadalajara Zoo
- 2:05 pm - 2:20 pm: Mary Healy Keeper Grant Recipient - We built a barn! A Story about Saddle-bill Stork Welfare and Breeding
 - Amanda Baca, ABQ BioPark
- 2:20 pm - 2:35 pm: Shipping Birds to the EU...Are You EU Certified?
 - Jacob Kraemer, Aviary Director, Pinola Conservancy
- 2:35 - 2:55: USDA Update
 - Dr. Cody Yager, DVM, MPH, Avian Specialist, USDA
 - Dr. Ryan Sadler, DVM, Dipl ACZM Board Certified Specialist in Zoological Medicine TM, NPS – Avian Specialist, USDA
- 3:00 pm - 3:15 pm BREAK
- 3:15 pm - 4:00 pm: Keynote Presentation
 In situ conservation actions to protect the Blue-throated Macaw & Red-fronted Macaw in Bolivia and the Lear's Macaw, Grey-breasted Parakeet, Sun Conure and Pfrimer's Parakeet in Brazil
Bennett has been developing the protection of the Blue-throated Macaw & Red-fronted Macaw for two decades in Bolivia. The Blue-throated Macaw conservation program has expanded to protect 35,636 acres of habitat in two reserves with 125 nest boxes fledging on average 11 chicks per year. Records on the Barba Azul Nature Reserve have increased from 28 individuals, to 228 last year. The Red-fronted Macaw has a successful conservation lodge that supports three local indigenous communities. Bennett with American Bird Conservancy has been working closely with the Grey-breasted Parakeet project in North-eastern Brazil, which is now in a process of repopulating extirpated populations. The Lear's Macaw conservation program has gone from a few hundred birds, to over 2,000 in the last decade. Conservation work now is concentrating on full life cycle protection including fighting a wind turbine project and securing the Lear's Macaws preferred palm nut. ABC has also supported conservation evaluations of the Sun Conure and Pfrimer's Parakeet in order to better understand the threats to the species.
Special thanks to the St. Augustine Alligator Farm for funding this presenter
 - Bennett Hennessey, Managing Director, American Bird Conservancy US & Asociacion Armonia, Bolivia
- 4:05 pm - 4:20 pm: Mary Healy Keeper Grant Recipient - Flock This Way: Techniques to Facilitate the Removal of Birds from a Large, Free-flight Aviary
 - Carter Kleoppel, Sedgwick County Zoo
- 4:20 pm - 4:35 pm: Flying Gardeners
 - Marissa Boyd, Senior Keeper of Birds, Phoenix Zoo
- 4:35 pm - 4:50 pm: AZA Transport Class
 - Rachel Rogers
- 4:50 pm - 5:05 pm: Family Matters: Trials and Triumphs of Managing a Family Group of Southern Ground Hornbills
 - Dana Issac, Lead Zoologist – Birds, Dallas Zoo
- 5:05 pm - 5:20 pm: Managing aggression in a breeding flock
 - Ashley Gwatney, Area Supervisor – Lorikeet, Nashville Zoo

Thursday, March 30**8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

Lady Ross' Turaco Planning Meeting – Room 203

9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Southern Ground Hornbill Workshop – Room 301