

A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

President's Message

By Brian Timm, Director of Facilities at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium



Greetings from Omaha! I want to begin by thanking Marc Muller and everyone that contributed to putting on a tremendous conference this year in Washington D.C. The bar is continuously being raised and this year was no exception. The conference was extra special for me this year as I now have the honor

and privilege to be your next President. Fittingly, I received the gavel in our nation's capital. Thank you Allmon and all other Past Presidents for providing mentorship along the way. I hope that your shoes fit as I now walk in them. I am humbled, not by this title, but by the great things that this organization represents and the amazingly talented individuals that are involved. I look forward to the next twelve months.

Like many others in our organization, I spent a number of years in the construction industry before receiving an opportunity to work at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium. In 2012 our sustainability consultants reached out to the Cincinnati Zoo to ask some questions about their sustainability practices. It was then that Mark Fisher

invited me to come out to this "awesome conference" that he was hosting for the AZFA (yes, it proved to be awesome). I was greeted, like so many other newbies, by Bill Pawlecki who welcomed me to the group, filled me in on what the organization was about, and talked about where it was headed. He and many others encouraged me to get involved to help advance the mission of the AZFA. That was six years ago, seven conferences later, a conference host in 2016, committee involvement, and now President. I can proudly say that I got involved.

The number of first time attendees for our annual conference and new member counts for our organization continue to be impressive. We are at an all-time high and have the momentum rolling so please do your part to keep it going. Over the course of the next year I encourage all of you to become involved, especially those who are new to the AZFA. It is a great way to gain a better understanding of the accomplishments that have taken place and initiatives that are underway.

Involvement within your home institutions is equally as important. Continue to be, or find ways to become involved in the decision making processes that shape conservation efforts, sustainability efforts, exhibit design, and operational improvements at your institution. Some of us are al-

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ready there and some of us will need to step out of our comfort zone a little bit to accomplish this goal. Reach out to your peers and ask questions or share ideas. You will find that someone else has gone through the same thing or would be willing to join in the effort to find an answer, offer suggestions, or advance the cause. Take advantage of our website to find member information, post a question on the Forum, or get information from The Outlet. All are useful tools to become involved, so do not hesitate to take advantage of the knowledge and skills that are at your fingertips.

In closing, please take the time to thank your institution's leaders for being part of our organization. Let them know about the great things we are doing for zoos and aquariums worldwide and that it would not be possible without the support that they afford us. Let them know that the funding for you to attend conferences each year is money well spent.

I am honored to be your President and please reach out to me if you have any questions.

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Past President's Message

By Allmon Forrester, Director of Facilities, Planning, & Sustainability, John Ball Zoo

On the heels of another great conference it is a good time for all of us to be active. Whether it be networking, projects, work assignments, or for those who attended in D.C., putting into practice what you learned.



If you were privileged to attend the conference this year, make sure you not only thank your upline for the opportunity, but also acknowledge specifics of what you gleaned from the experience. Telling folks you had a great time networking, talking with vendors, and enjoying the education sessions is like hitting the "easy button". Instead of just hitting that button, actually put into 250 words or less specific information about your NETWORK, what new or intriguing ways to BUILD or maintain something you picked up, and what you learned to serve and PROTECT. Not only will this help you remember, but your upline will eat this up like a piece of cheese cake. Because of voice to text on most of our phones, you do not have the excuse that you cannot type well. Just simply voice your thoughts and then push print. If you would like someone to proof read, ask someone to read it for you. Heck, I will give it a shot if you email it to me.

For some folks it is automatic to attend conferences and for others it is rare or impractical. For those that were not able to attend, you can still benefit from this conference and past conferences by checking out presentations on the AZFA website. There are some real gems in those presentations. If something sparks your interest and you would like to find out more, we can help you get in touch with the presenter in most cases. You can also network today with over 400 professionals like

yourself by using the Forum or direct contact through the membership section. When you network or get assistance of any kind through the AZFA, make sure you make your upline aware of the benefits you are gaining as an AZFA member. Showing today that the AZFA plays a critical role to your success is a great way to start building the plan on attending a conference in the future. I cannot over emphasize the importance of using concrete examples to share with others.

It has been a privilege to serve the AZFA this past year as President. To serve following Bob Wengel and to be followed by Brian Timm is pretty humbling. When you get involved you realize how special the folks are that keep our organization running.



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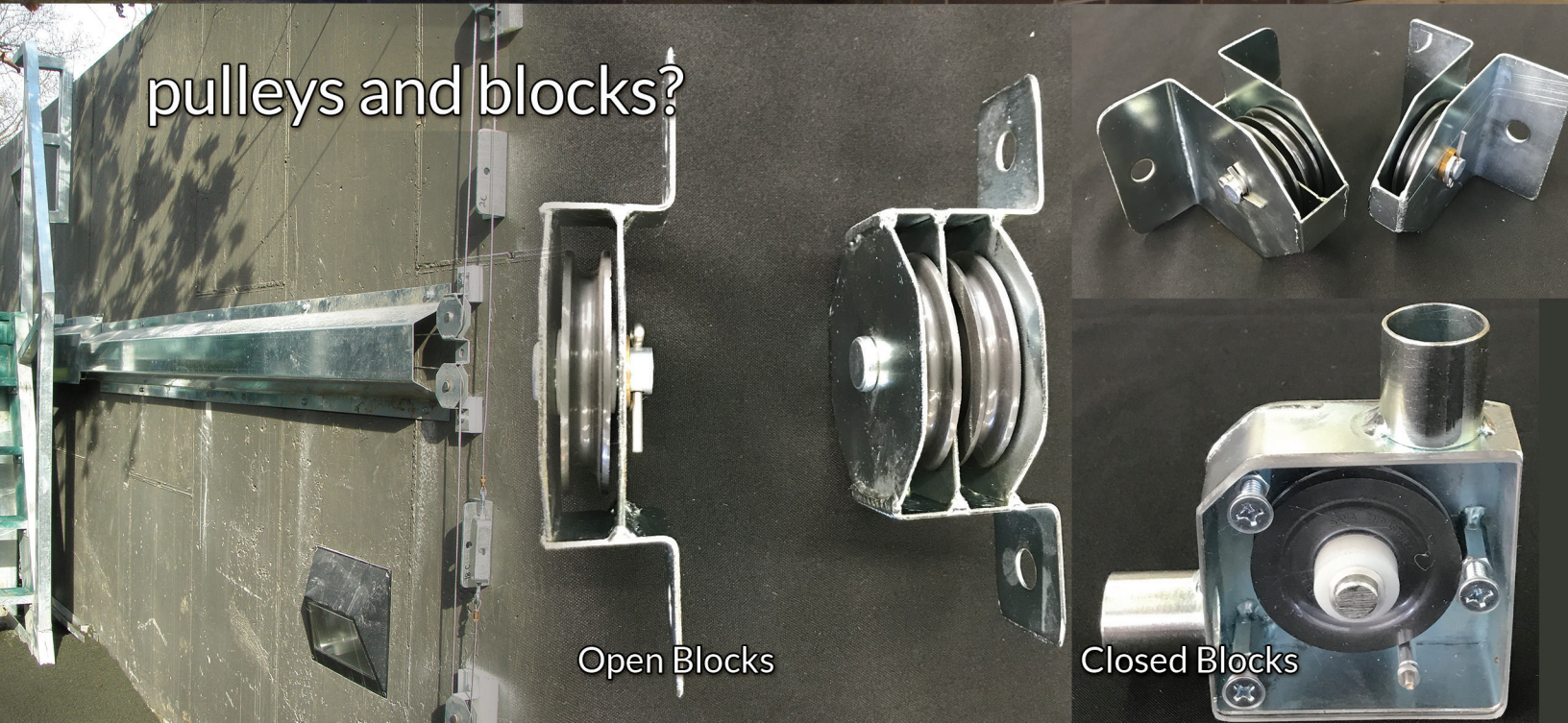
operators?

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Closed Blocks



2018 Annual Conference

By Marc Muller, Resident Engineer, National Zoological Park & Conservation Biology Institute

This year's AZFA Conference was highlighted with:

64 Practice Rounds of Golf at our Team Building Event

Ice Breaker Event at Hazy Air & Space Museum and Dinner at Clyde's

First-Timers Breakfast

Welcome Presentation

21 Training Sessions

30 Exhibitors

4 Meet & Greet Receptions

3 Lunches

Zoo Day

Closing Banquet

21 Event Sponsors

All this was shared with a great spirit of friendship and comradery from within the Aquarium and Zoo Facilities Association community.

I would like to extend a special thank you to the presenters for sharing their expertise and experiences; our event sponsors for contributing to the financial success of the conference; and last but not least to the many unsung heroes that work to make each year a great success.

Elections took place during our annual business meeting and I am pleased to announce the 2019 Board:

- **President** - Brian Timm, Director of Facilities, Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium
- **Past President** - Allmon Forrester, Director of Facilities, Planning, & Sustainability, John Ball Zoo
- **President-Elect** - Tommy Bryant, Director of Facilities, Oklahoma City Zoo
- **Vice President** - Sean Woods, Facilities Manager, Louisville Zoological Garden
- **Treasurer** - Andrew Marti, Director, Facilities Management, Saint Louis Zoo
- **Treasurer-Elect** - Nikki Myers, Director of Facilities Operations & Sustainability, Denver Zoo
- **Secretary** - Dean Violetta, Director of Planning & Exhibit Design, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden
- **Directors-at-Large** -
John Kanzia, Kanzia, Environmental Quality Manager, Brookfield Zoo,
Bob Wengel, Vice President, John G. Shedd Aquarium
Mark Fisher, Vice President of Facilities, Planning & Sustainability, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

I look forward to seeing you at the 2019 conference at the Oklahoma City Zoo & Botanical Garden.



First Ever Black Rhino CT Scan

By John Kanzia, Environmental Quality Manager and Ron May Manager of Exhibits, Brookfield Zoo

On April 23rd Layla, a 7-year old, 2,300 pound Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) at the Brookfield Zoo, became the first living member of her species to ever receive a head CT scan. Layla had a mass in her nasal cavity that was starting to restrict her ability to breathe, and would not be able to survive if the mass was not removed. But first, a CT would need to be done to determine the size and density of the mass. Months of planning, preparation, and training went into the procedure, which involved the entire veterinary care team plus outside specialists, over a dozen keepers, and a half dozen facilities and grounds staff.

Since we would not be able to get Layla into our Animal Hospital to our stationary CT scanner, a portable Samsung Body Tom CT scanner was brought in for the procedure with support from SOUND Technologies and NeuroLogica. The Samsung Body Tom is the world's first battery-operated, portable CT scanner. The initial plan was to build ramps to roll the Body Tom into a stall adjacent to Layla's. However, it is extremely delicate, and the decision was made to leave the Body Tom in the public space within the Pachyderm House and figure out how to safely get Layla to it.

It was determined that the best way to get Layla to the scanner would be to immobilize her in her holding area, get her on a plastic glide (easier to move plastic "sled"), pull her out into her yard, forklift her out of the yard to the entrance of the building onto a heavy hydraulic gurney, and then get her into the building to the CT scanner. Easy peasy, right?

A 5'x7' wooden skid was built to support her weight at our carpenter shop, but the catch was that no metal parts could be used on the part of the skid supporting her head that would be going into the CT scanner. The small section of the skid for supporting Layla's head



Wooden Forklift Skid

was glued on, and remained clamped for a full day to ensure a strong bond. The glide was trimmed to fit the skid and CT scanner. The yard was graded so that the fabricated skid would sit flush with a concrete pad at the entrance to the yard so Layla could be positioned correctly. Wooden ramps were built for either side of two shift door thresholds that Layla would need to pass through on the glide to get outside to the skid. Heavy pachyderm yard doors were removed to allow a Caterpillar 906 wheel loader in and out with the skid. When ready, Keeper staff would manually position Layla on the glide after immobilization, on the skid, and guide her on a gurney into the building.

Two dry runs were done with 2,300 pounds of bags of cement laid out in Layla's approximate dimensions (standing). It was determined that the move out to the CT scanner and back would take approximately 3 hours. We found out that the hydraulic gurney was unable to raise until the gurney height was above 26", but the gurney was unstable when being moved with the cement bags on it. It was decided that it would be safer for Layla to move her with the gurney down, and then forklift the skid once inside the building to allow

the gurney to be safely extended. As it turned out, Layla was slightly longer laying than standing, so she needed to be lifted up and over the exhibit walls with the 906 during the actual moves. The concrete was not lifted during the dry runs.

Since April, Layla has had two more CT scans and several more procedures, and I am happy to report that she is doing better, and celebrated her 8th birthday on October 18th. Thanks to the Brookfield Zoo Plant & Facilities and Grounds departments for their part in making Layla's lifesaving procedures possible!

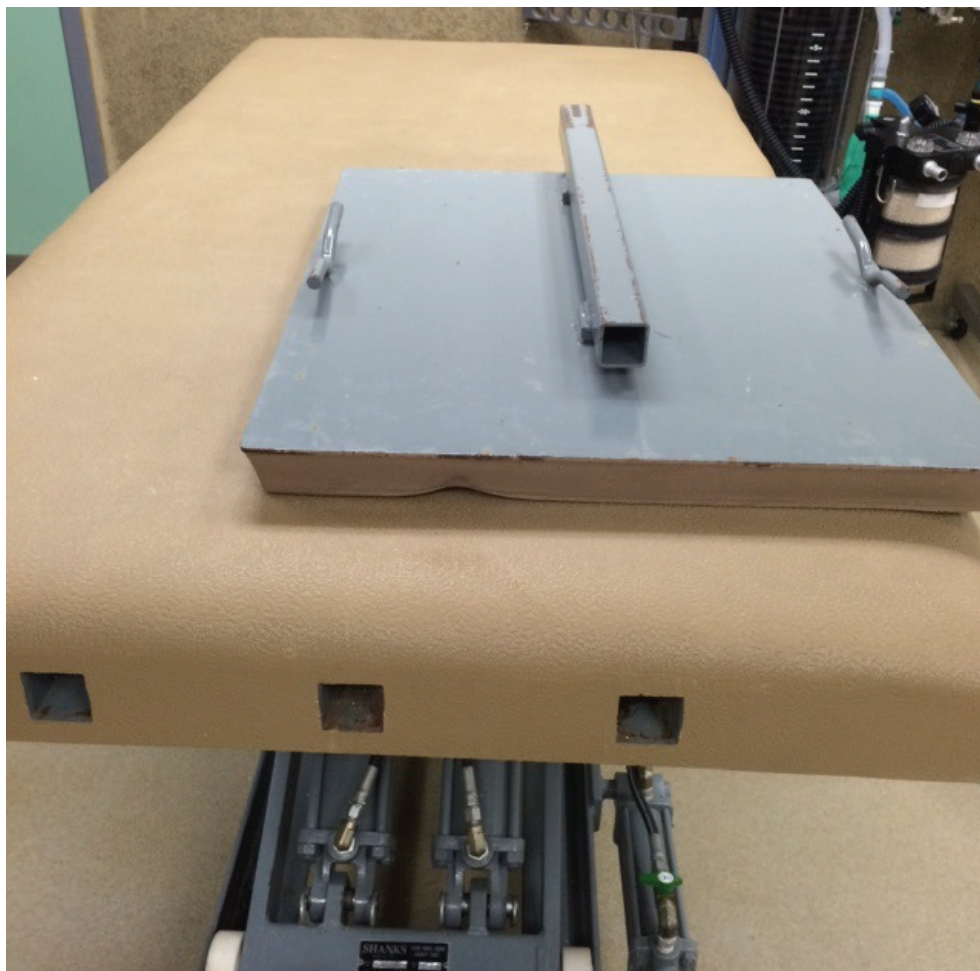
Links to Layla's story on YouTube:

Procedure

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDv_NTDPRQw

Update

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q87ZuKy7dOc>



Large Animal Gurney

Community Collaborations Enrich Exhibit Design at Woodland Park Zoo

By, John Borgmeyer, Exhibits Manager and Zosia Brown, Resource Conservation & Sustainability Supervisor, Woodland Park Zoo

What do gorillas and firefighters have in common? More than you might think. At Woodland Park Zoo (WPZ) both groups get quite a bit of use out of thousands of feet of firehose every year! Through a longstanding partnership with the Seattle Fire Department, donations of used firehose are just one example of a strategy that WPZ is using to increase sustainability; breathing new life into reusable materials and closing the loop on waste.

Woodland Park Zoo is on a mission to save wildlife and inspire everyone to make conservation a priority in their lives. To do this, Woodland Park Zoo's Exhibits department is constantly on the lookout for ways to engage community partners to contribute to animal welfare and enrichment, and extraordinary guest experiences, while keeping valuable materials in use.

"Our staff love to feel like they are helping contribute to the best quality animal care, and leading by example through exhibit design," says John Borgmeyer, Exhibits Manager at Woodland Park Zoo. The Exhibits and Facilities department has spent years cultivating partnerships that benefit Woodland Park Zoo, the animals that call the zoo home, and the local community. This relationship building is having a positive impact across the board. "When sourcing materials, don't limit yourself to reaching out to the obvious partners. Collaborations can come from unexpected places."



Exhibit Techs at Woodland Park Zoo transform a fire hose into a vine for siamang use



Vines and deadfall in use at Woodland Park Zoo's gorilla exhibit

A few examples of places that WPZ has been able to make connections include City partnerships:

- Through a longstanding partnership with the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department, WPZ has procured thousands of pounds of dead fall to provide enrichment for our animals, in particular brown bears. The deadfall is carefully examined and catalogued, and put to use as part of a long term study examining brown bear behavior.
- The Seattle Fire Department gathers and provides used fire hose that has passed its prime for combatting blazes, but still has plenty of strength and life left for our animals to climb and hang from. Exhibits staff spend weeks painting, embossing and curing fire hose to transform it into realistic looking vines for use in exhibits and behind the scenes for the more active of our animals, such as orangutans and siamangs. Once installed, the vines can last 20 years or longer.
- Seattle Center Horticultural department stepped in last year to help provide the Zoo with additional browse (woody shoots and branches eaten by herbivores) when Dave, our male giraffe, had a diet alteration that required more specialized greens in higher quantities than we could grow ourselves.

Public/Private partnerships:

- Renovation of the Key Arena at Seattle Center resulted in an opportunity for Woodland Park Zoo to partner with the Oak View Group to give a second life to 10 mature trees for use as perching and enrichment items in exhibits. The trees were brought to the zoo and will be used in rhino, sloth bear, and brown bear exhibits, as well as in creating live edge benches for our patrons.

Sustainability is about more than LED lights, efficient equipment, and LEED certified buildings. To build long-term sustainability, zoos that engage their communities and create partnerships not only support their own resource conservation goals, but bring the “circular economy” to life, and inspire passion for animal care and conservation in those around them.

To bring some of these benefits home cast your net wide! Look beyond well-established partnerships to build relationships with new organizations already aligned with the zoo’s mission. Take the time to carefully match material source to potential exhibit end-use to ensure the best possible animal enrichment outcome and durability of your design. Lastly, be sure to recognize partners. One of the best ways to inspire others to join a conservation movement is to tell the story of how donations and collaborations have made a difference in animals’ lives and the guest experience. Give them a chance to see how their actions help out.

New Members

By **Samanthe Peterson, San Antonio Zoo & Aquarium**

Professional

Jeff Balke, John Ball Zoo

Mike Fruhner, John Ball Zoo

Tony Knight, John Ball Zoo

Les Lawrence, Plumber, Tennessee Aquarium

Joey Turnipseed, Carpenter, Tennessee Aquarium

Nancy Saldana, Craftsperson, San Antonio Zoo

Raul Valadez, Facilities Manager, San Antonio Zoo

Brittany Wilson, Welder, San Antonio Zoo

Sam Olsen, Maintenance Technician, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium

Jack Hunter, Maintenance Technician, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium

Mahra Al Blooshi, Director Facilities Management, The Zoo & Aquarium Public Institution in Al Ain

Saeed Alkatheeri, Manager Facilities Management Control, The Zoo & Aquarium Public Institution in Al Ain

Trisha Crowe, Project Manager, Houston Zoo

Rick Holzworth, Operations Support Manger, Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

Kevin Haupt, Director of Facilities, San Diego Zoo Global

Mary Kate Kunzinger, Conservation Sustainability Manager, Houston Zoo

Joy Courson, General Manager, Conservators Center

Christopher Lyman, Life Support Operator 2, Monterey Bay Aquarium

Russell Bohn, Sr. Facilities, Akron Zoo

John Pauly, Carpenter, Vancouver Aquarium

Karen Auman, Safety Consultant, North Carolina Zoo

Lorraine Stojkov, retired, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

David Rogers, Assistant Manager of Facilities, Georgia Aquarium

Enrique Gaston, Ston Infrastructure and Construction Chief, Zoo Miami

Chris Houser, Director of Exhibits and Maintenance, Chattanooga Zoo

Dane Dernier, Landscape Manager, Brevard Zoo

Ken Gangi, Building Services Manager, Minnesota Zoo

Dan Belting, Facilities Manager, Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

Bill Roberts, Operator III, John G. Shedd Aquarium

Brandon Garfield, Exhibit Tech, Woodland Park Zoo

Steve Rusk, Facility Manager, Georgia Aquarium Inc.

Matthew Sellers, Landscape Architect, Smithsonian's

National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute

William Kline, Director of Facilities, National Aquarium

Joe Schlechter, Facilities Maintenance Manager, Calgary Zoo

Tommy Wilken, Managing Partner, zoOceanarium Group

Dennis Betts, Head of Building and Maintenance, Greensboro Science Center

Moses Patlan, Grounds Supervisor, Reid Park Zoo

Organization

Fred Ramey, Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium

Associate

Dave Schultenkamper, Facility Supervisor, City of Saskatoon

Leslie Seals, Security Coordinator, North Carolina Zoo

Karen Swanson, Construction Manager, Smithsonian National Zoological Park

Dean Hrabik, National Accounts Manager, GP PRO

Maurice Smith, Operator III, John G Shedd Aquarium

Don Manzek, Design Manager, Smithsonian National Zoological Park

Mary Winkler, Safety Manager, Smithsonian Institution

Commercial

Warren Franklin, President, Enhanced Visitor Experience LLC

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Nathan Picotte, Architect, architrave p.c. architects

Albert Leun, Vice President, Aquatic Exhibits International, Inc

George Tenhagen, PE, Asahi- America

Marianne Harris, Sales Manager, RAMPF Group, Inc.

Isaac Hoff, Director of Operations, Beanstalk Builders LL

Lisa Korklan, VP of Marketing, Keltron

Noriaki Kawara, Business Development, Asahi/America Inc.

Robert Foley, President, Touch The Earth, Inc.

Calendar

Deadline for articles for the next newsletter:
January 18th

Publication Schedule

- Summer Issue - July
- Winter Issue - January
- Fall Issue - October
- Spring Issue - April

www.azfa.org

Don't forget to check out the AZFA website for updates and news.

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John Kanzia, john.kanzia@czs.org

Membership

Membership Administrator
Samanthe Peterson, sam.peterson@sazoo.org

Editor's Note

**By Jennifer Golden, Operations Project Manager,
Zoo New England**

I would like to take a moment to express thanks to our Commercial Members for their support throughout the year as well as during the annual conference.

Advertising in The Outlet is a great way for companies to target our unique group of professionals dedicated to the construction and maintenance of aquarium and zoo buildings, exhibits, and systems. The Outlet currently reaches hundreds of individuals at over 100 zoos and aquariums and our membership continues to grow!

If you are a Commercial Member interested in advertising please contact me at jgolden@zoonewengland.org