

A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

## President's Message

John Kanzia, Environmental Quality Manager, Brookfield Zoo



Hello, friends! I hope that this finds you safe and well, and that you are having a great summer. Just as we are starting to see the light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel, we are now seeing some resurgence with delta-variant cases, especially among the unvaccinated.

Unfortunately, my older brother lost his battle with Covid-19 on May 21st. Unbeknownst to him, he was pre-diabetic, and had an actively bleeding ulcer, which may have predisposed him to being more affected. Lacking the antibodies to fight the initial infection, his immune system was quickly overwhelmed, leaving him open to secondary and tertiary infections that he was unable to recover from. If you know anyone who is still on the fence about getting the vaccine, please encourage them to get it. It may seem like these vaccines were developed quickly, but scientists have been working on this technology since the first SARS-CoV outbreak in 2003. I believe that the reason we did not hear much about that outbreak is because it was contained within 6 months; 8,096 people in 29 coun-

tries contracted SARS, and 774 died. There were only 8 SARS-CoV cases in the U.S. in 2003, and no deaths (source: <https://www.cdc.gov/dotw/sars/index.html>). This time around, we lacked or ignored early warning systems that were in place in 2003, waited until the virus was out of control to try to take action, and faced the pandemic as a country divided. The results speak for themselves, and I hope that we have learned from our mistakes.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with those who have been affected by the recent heat waves and wildfires in the Pacific Northwest and Canada. The loss of so much forest is going to have a lasting effect, not only for those who have lost everything, but also for our planet as a whole. Let's all do our part to help where we can and look for ways to reduce our carbon footprint. If you have questions about how to get started, check and/or post on our forum pages, and feel free to reach out to any of your talented and resourceful AZFA colleagues. Let's keep that networking going!

Speaking of networking, please consider joining the Association of Minority Zoo & Aquarium Professionals (AMZAP). AMZAP is working to increase minority representation in zoos, aquariums, and exotic wildlife

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facilities, and is seeking mentors to introduce students to our field which may help lead to future job opportunities. Membership is free and is open to everyone. To learn more, check them out at <https://www.amzap.org/>.

I hope that you have enjoyed the monthly Virtual Conference Series thus far; we are halfway to the annual conference! If you could not attend a past session, look for a link to the Zoom recording in your email and also on our website. Again, thank you to everyone that has participated and contributed to the sessions. As always, many thanks to our vendors and sponsors that make these sessions and all our other great work possible. If you would like to be featured as the AZFA Member of the Month, showcase or recommend a facility or project for the Featured Facility or Feature Presentation segments (the conference theme is Catalyst for Good Change, focusing on the positive ways the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted our industry to adapt and rebuild toward a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable future), please contact Sam Peterson

at [sam.peterson@sazoo.org](mailto:sam.peterson@sazoo.org). There will be a session every month leading up to our virtual annual meeting and closing session in October. The September session will include a virtual silent auction; stay tuned for details about where to send in-kind donations for the raffle. Up to \$5,000.00 of the proceeds of the silent auction will be donated to the Punta San Juan Program for a temporary housing project that will allow them to continue their important work. Susana Cárdenas-Alayza, Director of the Punta San Juan guano reserve, presented during our April virtual conference session. More information about the program is available at <http://www.puntasanjuan.org/>.

If you have a project in mind but are not comfortable presenting, please consider submitting it as an Outlet article; we are always looking for content and would love to hear about your project. Outlet articles can be sent to Jennifer Golden, Outlet Editor, at [jgolden@zoonewengland.com](mailto:jgolden@zoonewengland.com).

We Network, We Build, We Protect

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2022 AZFA BOARD

# Now Accepting Nominations for the 2022 AZFA Board

Are you interested in becoming more involved in the running of AZFA, or know someone who would make a good leader? If so, please get in touch with AZFA Administrator Sam Peterson, [sam.peterson@sazoo.org](mailto:sam.peterson@sazoo.org), to submit your nomination(s) for office. Remember, you can nominate yourself!

Since we are unable to host the annual membership meeting in person again this year, elections will be conducted by an online poll prior to the final virtual conference session in October. Results will be announced during the session. Positions open for nominations this year are President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, and Directors-at-Large. See below for full descriptions of Board functions:

The officers of the Corporation shall consist of Presi-

dent, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, and Immediate Past President. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the Corporation and three (3) elected Directors-at-Large.

### In general:

- Each officer shall be a Professional member in good standing.
- No person shall simultaneously serve as an elected Director and Officer.
- Except for the office of President, the offices of President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, and Secretary shall be elected by the Professional membership

at the annual meeting from a slate of nominees qualified and submitted by the Immediate Past President.

- Each officer, except for Treasurer, shall serve a term of one (1) year commencing on the day of election and ceasing on the day of election one year following, or other such period as prescribed by the members at the time of such election.
- The office of President shall be filled by the prior year's President-Elect.
- Any officer may be removed at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Directors with or without cause.
- All officers must read and sign the AZFA Code of Ethics for Board Members.

#### **The President:**

- Shall be the executive officer of this Corporation.
- Shall preside over all meetings of the Corporations and Board of Directors.
- Shall enforce due observance of the Bylaws and the accepted rules of order.
- Shall have authority to execute documents, including contracts, checks, and financial documents, on behalf of the AZFA.
- Shall appoint all standing and special committees.
- Shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- Shall offer for consideration all motions regularly made.
- Shall assign duties in advance.
- May call special meetings.
- May not offer any motion or amendment or vote on any question, motion or amendment except of break a tie.
- Shall perform other such duties as required or prescribed by the Board of Directors.

#### **The President-elect:**

- Shall undergo a background check prior to assuming office.
- Shall, in the absence of the President, preside at all meetings of the Corporation and Board of Directors.
- Shall, in the event of a vacancy in the office of President, assume the duties of President.
- Shall be the only nominee for the office of President.
- Shall work with and prepare for the office of President.
- Shall assist with duties related to the Bylaws and Finances.
- Shall perform such other duties and responsibilities as prescribed by the President or the Board of Directors.
- Shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of goals for a long-range plan.

#### **The Vice President:**

- Shall have primary responsibility for overseeing the Bylaws.
- Shall be a member of not more than two other committees as necessary or appointed by the President
- Shall perform such other duties and responsibilities as prescribed by the President or Board of Directors.

#### **The Secretary:**

- Shall keep records of all annual and special meetings of the Corporation.
- Shall submit to the proper officers, members or committees, all communications pertinent and in a timely manner.
- Shall maintain the historical archives.
- Shall perform such other duties or responsibilities as prescribed by the President or Board of Directors.

**The Treasurer:**

- Shall serve as Treasurer of the Corporation for a period of two (2) consecutive years.
- Shall keep all accounts and records of financial transactions of the Corporation.
- Shall have authority to execute financial documents on behalf of the AZFA.
- Shall collect all dues and pay all bills of the Corporation.
- Shall prepare and file annual reports.
- Shall prepare the annual budget and financial statements.
- Shall work with the Treasurer-elect to prepare them to take over the office of Treasurer.
- Shall perform such other duties or responsibilities as prescribed by the President or Board of Directors.

**The Treasurer-Elect:**

- Shall undergo a background check prior to assuming office.
- Shall serve as Treasurer-Elect for a period of one (1) year before transitioning into the office of Treasurer.
- Shall work with the Treasurer to learn to perform the duties and responsibilities of the office of Treasurer.
- Shall not have voting rights in Board of Directors matters for the one (1) year of training with the Treasurer.
- Shall, in the event of a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, assume the duties of Treasurer.
- Shall perform such other duties or responsibilities as prescribed by the President or Board of Directors.

**The Immediate Past President:**

- Shall be responsible for coordinating nominations for office.
- Shall assist the President-elect with the development of a long-range plan.
- Shall perform such other duties or responsibilities as prescribed by the President or Board of Directors.

**Directors-at-Large:**

- Shall be Professional members in good standing.
- Shall be elected for a three (3) year term.
- Shall serve until their successors are elected and take office.
- One Director-at-Large shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Corporation from the group of past Board of Directors.



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# New Members

## Professional

Marc Montoya, Albuquerque BioPark  
Gregory Works, San Antonio Zoo  
Katherine Zimmerman, The Green Planet  
Billy Brown, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden  
Nick Clecker, Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens  
John Lusignolo, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden  
Pete Trujillo, Albuquerque BioPark  
Marisa Ortiz, City of Albuquerque BioPark  
Luke Hawley, Seneca Park Zoo  
Kasee Hayes, Oklahoma State University  
Myranda Record, Gregory Gates Architects  
Craig Saffoe, Smithsonian's National Zoo  
Misha Body, California Science Center  
Emily Hague, Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo  
Gerry Parker, North Carolina Zoo  
Sergio Rebagliati, Arq Reba  
Barbara Watkins, North Carolina Zoo  
Jeremiah Foglesong, Woodland Park Zoo  
Terry Lincoln, Dakota Zoo  
Jim Vanderkolk, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo  
Maggie Curtis, Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo  
Ron Puterbaugh, Boonshoft Museum  
Caryn Fosnaugh, Alaska SeaLife Center  
James Paxon, Seneca Park Zoo  
Sarah Braly, Woodland Park Zoo  
Luke Hawley, Seneca Park Zoo  
Bernard Gallant, Magnetic Hill Zoo  
Marshal Hicks, Alexandria Zoo  
Holly Hunt, African Safari Wildlife Park  
Denise McClean, Wildlife Conservation Society

Rory Randolph, Tanganyika Wildlife Park  
Emiko Wong, Biodôme de Montréal  
Paul Louderback, Tulsa Zoo Mgmt. Inc.  
Jennifer Van Horn, Toledo Zoo  
Diahann Hiser, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo  
Adam Melinis, Monroe County Parks  
Donn Donadio, Denver Zoo  
Chris Williams, Dallas Zoo  
Jim Oliver, Buffalo Zoo  
Norah Fletchall, Buffalo Zoo

## Associate Membership

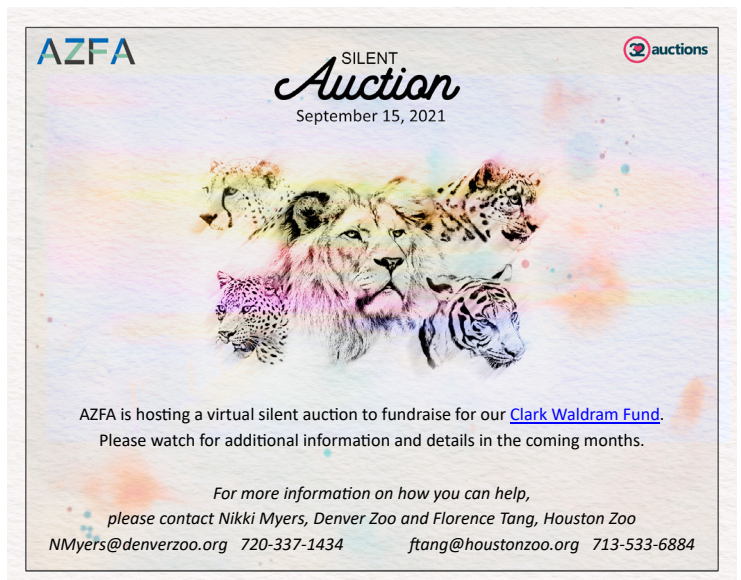
Keith Hughes, Georgia Institute of Technology

## Commercial Membership

Scott Sloan, Harp Renewables

## Organization Membership

Buffalo Zoo



# Calendar

Deadline for articles for the next newsletter: October 25th

Conference Zoom sessions occur on the 4th Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Central Time.

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Due to their generosity,

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We recognize the following sponsors who paid it forward  
by supporting the annual conference:



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