Your turn ! Anniversary letters from our members and readers

Zoo Outreach Organization

Geetha Shreshta

Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO) has become a model for successfully building networks to facilitate conservation action. It brings together stakeholders, — educators, scientists, foresters, teachers students, etc. to form a positive force on a variety of conservation issues.

The capacity of ZOO in achieving successful outcomes from limited resources is enormous. It is due to the hard work of Ms. Sally Walker, Founder of ZOO and the great team work of dedicated staff which helped to achieve a great deal not only in the region but in other regions also.

Sally Walker's guidance and support is an immense source of inspiration to me and I believe to many educators and conservationists of South Asia and elsewhere. She always counts the work and dedication of people, not their status. I have been associated with ZOO as an educator for a decade. I feel much honoured and fortunate being involved with the team and participating in the activities conducted by ZOO that are interactive and knowledgeable.

I have attended several conservation events and trainings in Nepal, India, USA and Vienna with the support of ZOO. My organization NATURE has also received support from ZOO to organize "Teachers for Tigers" workshops and bat education programmes for school children. The materials produced by ZOO are really great and whenever we conduct activities with those materials there is always demand for more, as it greatly benefits participants. Participants always return home with enthusiasm, excitement, and determination to do some thing there with the materials and knowledge they get from the training/workshop conducted with the support of ZOO.

The manual, leaflets, kits and other materials published by ZOO make an educator's job very easy and exciting. You find everything ready in manual and kits — you just need to deliver it, using your own creative methods. People love to participate in such type of activities where they get opportunity to learn with fun. In this modern age, there are many ways to acquire knowledge about wildlife such as books, TV, radio, movies, newspaper, etc., but when you read and learn in an environment that facilitates active participation, fun centered actions and games, you will never forget the learning experience. It helps people to understand more deeply about conservation issues. This is the key to sensitizing people about the real value of biodiversity conservation for the betterment of human life. ZOO's programs are renowned to bring such kind of feeling into action.

I am much honoured to be a part of Zoo Outreach Organization programmes. I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the team of ZOO and special thanks to Ms. Sally Walker for her great loving support and inspiration to walk ahead as educators in the field of conservation.

On behalf of my organization NATURE and I myself wish Zoo Outreach Organization great success in every year ahead in bringing more people into conservation action.

Geeta Shrestha is Founder and Secretary of NATURE, an active NGO of Nepal.

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Conngratulations

Onnie Byers

All of you at Z.O.O. should be tremendously proud of your work and this wonderful issue of ZOO'S PRINT!! Reflecting on your 25 years of service to the species of our world's endangered species makes your impact even more evident! Congratulations!!!

Onnie is Executive Director of CBSG, SSC, IUCN.

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Jacob Cheeran

Let me at the outset congratulate you for the uninterrupted publication of ZOOS' PRINT. When this publication was started, the zoos where almost isolated and many zoo vets had not much of an experience since they were frequently transferred. The zoos were something like a meta-population!

In the days when ZOO and ZOOS' PRINT was founded there was no means to share whatever very little information the vets and other zoo managers gained from their experience. In this context the service rendered by ZOO was invaluable.

I must congratulate the way in which Ms Sally was finding the funds for the publications as well as the contents, and also several resource materials for special occasions and training programmes. My association with the ZOO is for a long time and I have benefited immensely by this.

Each and every staff member is so lovable and friendly and hospitable whenever I could make a visit to the office although of late my visit is not that frequent as it used to be.

Hope you will keep it up, since the relevance of this publication is very much still there.

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