

Who is the AArk?

Highlight that many different people and organisations make up the Amphibian Ark.

Slide 1 – comical introduction

23 places in 9 seconds – that’s a little less than half a second per town. That’s about the pace I’d need to keep up over the next 20 minutes to present all of the individuals, communities, organisations and companies that collectively **are** the Amphibian Ark. I don’t know that that’s practical, but I’ll try to cover as many as I can.

The Amphibian Ark is our donors, without whom, much of the coordination of our programs would not be possible.

Much of the Amphibian Ark’s work is possible due to the extensive direction, advice and generous support from **Dr. George Rabb**, and due to the generous donations in memory of George’s beloved wife, **conservationist Mary Rabb**. Donations to the AArk in Mary’s honor, and George’s personal contributions are in excess of \$150,000.

The Amphibian Ark is the donors who have contributed up to \$50,000

The Clorox Company
Chicago Zoological Society
Columbus Zoo & Aquarium
CBSG
Saint Louis Zoo
SeaWorld & Busch Gardens
WAZA
Zoological Society London

The Amphibian Ark is the donors who have contributed up to \$10,000

Allwetterzoo Münster
James Bramsen
Chester Zoo
Denver Zoo
Fowler Printing & Graphics
Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo
Paignton Zoo
The Living Desert
Zoologischer Garten Leipzig

The Amphibian Ark is the donors who have contributed up to \$5,000

Al Ain Zoo & Aquarium

American Frog Day 2007
BIAZA
Binder Park Zoological Society
Bristol Zoo Gardens
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo & Cleveland Zoological Society
Disney's Animal Kingdom & Animal Programs
Galveston Chapter of the AAZK
International Herpetological Symposium

Marwell Zoological Park
Nordens Ark
Ocean Park Conservation Foundation
Nick & Sue Pinder
Ryan & Christiana Reed
Rosamond Gifford Zoo
Sedgwick County Zoo

Singapore Zoo
Tokyo Zoo Conservation Fund
Toledo Zoo
Toronto Zoo
Wildlife Conservation Society
Zoos South Australia

The Amphibian Ark is the donors who have contributed up to \$1,000

Birmingham Zoo & Birmingham Zoo Chapter AAZK
Brookfield Zoo AAZK
Buffalo Zoo
Cameron Park Zoo
Frog Friendly Consulting - A division of Avatar Brand Management Inc.
Kansas City Zoo
MARS Preservation Fund
Minnesota Zoo

Missouri Meetings & Events
Nashville Zoo
New Mexico Bio Park Society
The North American Amphibian Conference
Rochester Museum & Science Center
Royal Veterinary College Zoological Society-London
Sacramento Zoo
San Francisco Zoological Society

Staten Island Zoo
Taipei Zoo
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo
And many more individual and institutional donors.

The Amphibian Ark is host institutions, who support and/or host the Amphibian Ark staff

The Zoological Society of Antwerp
ARAZPA
Chicago Zoological Society
Chester Zoo
The Zoological Society of London

The Amphibian Ark is our patrons, who lend their profiles to helping with our cause

World famous broadcaster and naturalist, Sir David Attenborough

One of America's favourite nature show hosts, Jeff Corwin

French explorer, environmentalist, educator, film producer, Jean-Michel Cousteau

Renowned primatologist Jane Goodall

The Amphibian Ark is our association partners – organisations of zoos and aquariums from all corners of the Earth

EAZA's were instrumental in developing an amphibian information pack, not only for their Amphibian Alarm Campaign, but they also made a great deal of their work available for the.....

WAZA Global Year of the Frog InfoPack

ACOPAZOA's Year of the Frog Information Pack

ALPZA's information pack for kids

ANZCARM's Year of the Frog info pack

ARAZPA's Year of the Frog campaign pack

AZA's Year of the Frog campaign

CMaG: ARAZPA New Zealand's Information pack

The German version of EAZA's Year of the Frog info pack

FUNDAZOO's Costa Rican Amphibians Conservation Strategy

JAZA's Year of the Frog campaign, promoted in 45 institutions throughout Japan, including zoos, aquariums and museums.

Zoo Outreach Organisation's Year of the Frog packet materials, featuring T-shirts, stickers, masks, bumper stickers and bookmarks

The Amphibian Ark is our institutional partners, many of whom are going to great lengths to raise awareness and much needed funds

Cango Wildlife Ranch in South Africa, who clearly “does give a frog” about raising awareness about the amphibian crisis.

Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund announced a \$250,000 donation to the Association of Zoos and Aquarium's Amphibian Fund

Thirty-three institutions in seventeen countries involved in leap frogging activities on Leap Day, February 28th.

The North American Endangered Amphibians poster produced by Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo.

A day of amphibian ice sculptures at Perm Zoo in Russia.

Prague Zoo created a partnership between Czech and Senegalese school classes in which both Czech and Senegalese children were informed about nature conservation

and EAZA's Year of the frog campaign. Exhibitions of the Czech and Senegalese frog paintings in a Senegalese national park and in the Prague Zoo.

Frog sun visors and education programs at [Singapore Zoo](#).

The Amphibian Ark is our community partners who go out of their way to help amphibians in many creative ways

[Celia Watson](#), a woman who was born in Panama and now lives in Spain. Celia painted four frog paintings, and donated a percentage of the sales to Amphibian Ark.

[Harald Ehmann](#), who spent 15 hours on Leap Day in Rundle Mall, here in Adelaide, and raised over 40,000 smiles and positive responses about the plight of amphibians.

Visual artist [Amanda Makepiece](#), who, after finding out that the Amphibian Ark is a part of Ebay's Giving Works program, has decided to give 10% of the sale price of all of her artwork to the AArk.

[Joseph Miscimarra](#), a 9 year-old boy from Chicago who raised over \$300 for the AArk by asking for donations rather than presents for his ninth birthday.

[Kermit the Frog](#) has helped his fellow amphibians twice in the past six months, initially when WAZA President Gordon McGregor Reid, and Co-chair of the Amphibian Ark, Jeff Bonner, joined Kermit at a highly publicized hearing on Capital Hill to draw attention to the plight of amphibians worldwide.

Kermit has also been promoting Disney's work with NASA to focus attention on the global amphibian crisis. Kermit became a crew member for the 122nd flight of the Space Shuttle, launched on March 11, 2008

More recently, [Kermit and Selena Gomez](#) from Disney Channel's "The Wizards of Waverly Place", appeared in a public service announcement, calling attention to the plight of the world's amphibians.

[Nick and Sue Pinder](#) from a wildlife park in the UK who requested donations to the Amphibian Ark in lieu of wedding presents, and [Ryan and Christina Reed](#), who sent donations from their wedding to help with various amphibian projects.

[Polly Phillpot](#) from Edinburgh Zoo who abseiled from a bridge to raise money for Year of the Frog.

Twelve students from [Remuera Intermediate School](#) in New Zealand, who have spread their messages through five paintings about endangered frogs. The paintings are on display at Auckland Zoo.

Samara Nicolson, a 12 year-old girl from North Queensland, who regularly produces her own newsletter about saving amphibians and the rainforest in Queensland.

Sage Rentfrow from Missouri whose passion for the environment made him write to the AArk's patron, Jean-Michel Cousteau, send part of his allowance to the AArk, and to raise over \$200 in lieu of gifts for his 8th birthday.

School students like John Moll, Briana Hazel from Tampa, sixth grade students from Williston Middle School, the Mother Green Design Group from Hurstville Public School, the Lake Forest Lodge Academy in Illinois, and many more like them, who have sent in countless posters, letters and donations. These kids realize the seriousness of the amphibian crisis, and what they can do to help to clean up the environment.

Second-grade students from Tremont Elementary School in Arlington Ohio donated \$817.50 which they raised by holding a frog book read-a-thon. Only 46 institutions in the world have donated more than this, and not only does this represent more than 23% of the zoos that have donated, but more that 96% of all 1,200 zoos under the WAZA umbrella.

The Amphibian Ark is a multitude of events run by zoos and aquariums

Seventy-five keepers from the Animal Keepers Association of Africa attended the organisation's third annual conference at Cango Wildlife Ranch, which included a frogging night. The group plans on holding an amphibian workshop in conjunction with the annual PAAZAB meeting next year.

Auckland Zoo keeper Justine Woosman exhibited 13 of her paintings of zoo animals in support of Year of the Frog.

Zoos Victoria has been running a number of amphibian-related education programs: Slimy Science and the Case of the Disappearing Froglet at Healesville Sanctuary, the Amphibian Awareness Challenge at Melbourne Zoo and Croaking Critters at Werribee Open Range Zoo.

Over 200 staff members and members of the public of 15 Dutch zoos participated in a frog cross – a run, ride, canoe and swim event, which raised over 57 thousand euros.

Staff at Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in Jersey put on a unique pantomime in support of the EAZA amphibian campaign.

A Mothers Day concert at Johannesburg Zoo

Nagasaki Biopark's Year of the Frog exhibition and fund-raising events.

Xenia, Princess of Saxony demonstrated a contemporary version of the fairy tale 'The Frog Prince' at Leipzig Zoo, by giving a frog a symbolic kiss.

There was another royal event when the Royal Crown Princess of Sweden opened a new wetlands exhibit at Nordens Ark.

Delegates at an education meeting in western India organized by **SAZARC**. The amphibian information booklet shown in the photo is part of SAZARC's education package

The Amphibian Ark is a range of amphibian conservation programs being run by institutions to help save highly endangered species, that otherwise might likely become extinct

There has been amazing successes by **Gerry Marantelli** and his Amphibian Research Centre in Melbourne, with both Spotted Tree Frogs and Corroboree Frogs being released back into the wild.

The **Atlanta Botanic Garden** has been heavily involved in a number of programs including breeding and releasing the local Gopher Frog, and establishing captive programs for many central American species such as the Harlequin Frog in Latin America and Darwin's Frog from Chile.

Zoo Atlanta has been involved in the maintenance of populations of endangered Panamanian species, from the Panama Rescue project of 2005 in collaboration with Atlanta Botanical Garden. They have also been involved in taxonomic studies of Neotropical anurans, with two new species described in 2008.

Auckland Zoo establishing captive populations of the Endangered Archey's Frog

Bristol Zoo has bred around 70 lemur leaf frogs this year, and is currently fundraising to acquire or build a dedicated amphibian unit or container for the species by the end of this year. The zoo is also involved with an *in situ* project with Andrew Gray of the Manchester Museum looking into populations of Lemur frogs in Costa Rica.

Chester Zoo currently operates one biosecure shipping container and is in the process of setting up a second one. The existing container holds a population of the critically endangered Rancho Redondo frog. They also support *in situ* research for this species in Costa Rica.

Detroit Zoo has been involved for many years with various amphibian projects, but most recently released 2,000 captive-bred Puerto Rican toads into the wild.

Houston Zoo has joined with a number of other AZA zoos and aquariums, academic institutions, and international conservation organizations to establish the El Valle Amphibian Conservation Center in Panama. Captive breeding programs are being established for seventeen high priority Panamanian species.

Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo has built a 5,500 square foot Amphibian Conservation Area that utilizes thirteen individual rooms to isolate endangered amphibians from all over world. The zoo is also working with Johannesburg Zoo to establish the Johannesburg Zoo frog Project which will mirror the Henry Doorly Zoo's Amphibian Conservation Area but be exclusively for Southern African Amphibians.

Perth Zoo has been working with local amphibian experts and researchers to understand more about local threatened amphibian species, particularly those in the genus *Geocrinia*.

Taronga Zoo has bred green and golden bell frogs, spotted tree frogs, and booroolong frogs for release back into the wild.

Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve in Canberra, was just recently, the first institution in the world to successfully breed the highly endangered northern coroboree frog – a population that has suffered dramatic decline in the wild due to climate change and chytrid fungus. The first of these tadpoles started to metamorphose just last month.

ZSL has a long history of work on chytrid and Ranavirus, especially in Sardinia in recent times. Additionally, they have been heavily involved in the Mountain Chicken project in Dominica and are about to establish a new biosecure facility to house a breeding population of the species.

The Amphibian Ark is workshops and courses involving our partners and colleagues world-wide

Many, many amphibian workshops have been held throughout the year, right across the globe, to assist with local species prioritization, capacity building, fundraising and educational activities. These include:

A frog symposium was held at **Asa Zoological Park** in Hiroshima, Japan.

A frog conservation husbandry course at **Taronga Zoo** in Australia

Species prioritization workshop in **Costa Rica**

Ocean Park Hong Kong hosted a species prioritization workshop Hong Kong

An amphibian biodiversity conservation course for **South Asia**, held in Periyar Tiger Reserve in Kerala, India

The first amphibian conservation husbandry course hosted by the **Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust** in Jersey. This was a monumental 11-day course.

Species prioritization and amphibian husbandry workshops in **Malaysia**.

An amphibian species prioritization workshop in **Colombia**

An amphibian prioritization workshop in **Mexico**

A **Venezuelan** amphibian species prioritization workshop. These last three workshops were all facilitated by **Luis Carillo** from Africam Safari in Mexico.

AZA's annual amphibian biology and management course hosted by Toldeo Zoo

Johannesburg Zoo hosted species prioritization and husbandry workshops in South Africa

Species prioritization and conservation husbandry workshops in **Thailand**

The fourth **Latin-American** course of Conservation and Management of Amphibians in Venezuela.

So, to come back to my original question – who is the Amphibian Ark? **You** are the Amphibian Ark. We **all** are the Amphibian Ark.