

NALZS Newsletter

Note from the Director

First Quarter 2021

North Alabama Zoological Society
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General Board of Directors

Megan Cordner
David Blair
Orry Moody
Kiliaen Anderson
Elisabeth Hardiman
Jill May
Christie Woodruff
William Nelson
Victor Vega
Lindsey Boothe
Andy Crocker

Wow, time has flown by and it's already time for our 2nd Annual NALZS Palz Campaign. Our first Annual NALZS Palz Campaign was last September and was a great success thanks to you. Unbeknown to us during the planning, September is when most nonprofits do their annual fundraising drives as well. We decided September was not the best time of year to hold our annual fundraiser and decided April would better fit our nature-based nonprofit. It is the time of year where nature renews itself and gets a fresh start on the year and that is what we would like to do as well.

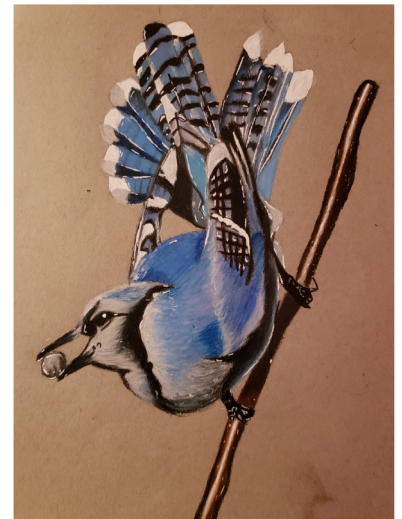
The funds we acquired from last year's campaign equaled around \$20,000, and has been extremely beneficial. We have been able to use some of those funds to help further our education and conservation missions. Other uses have been for getting the word out about NALZS and paying for the administrative costs of running a nonprofit. Luckily, we are all 100% volunteers and those administrative costs are very low. Matter of fact, we still have a high percentage of those funds that were so graciously donated to us, and that is a good thing because we have been saving them to help procure a site for the zoo. We are in the process of doing just that and hope to be able to publicly announce the location soon!

Our 2nd Annual NALZS Palz Campaign is focusing on monthly donation subscriptions. A one-time annual donation is great! We appreciate all our donors. However, our one-time annual donors have told us they "wish they could give more." With a monthly donation subscription, you can. By giving a smaller amount monthly, when a full year has rolled around, those monthly donations will have added up and you will have been able to give more than you would have with just a one-time donation. Go to www.aZooForYouNAL.org to learn more and to donate.

Look for some great things happening in the next several months and year. We currently have 26 staff volunteers working hard. There are plans in place to have at least one event a month supporting our community in wildlife education and conservation, as well as bringing "A Zoo for You, North Alabama."

Thank you for your generosity and support,

Ethan Woodruff
Executive Director



2021 Art Contest Submission



Follow Us!



2021 Art Contest Submission

edZOOcation

NALZS EdZooation Department has been working diligently to create new content and programming for North Alabama. If you missed our "Animals in Space" series on Facebook & Instagram, go back and take a look at our posts that honor the animal heroes who helped on our path to space. This spring we had our inaugural Student Art Contest and received many beautiful contributions from talented youth. We are ramping up our summer schedule to include outdoor trivia nights, nature camps, conservation awareness. Watch www.nalzs.org and our social media outlets for the most current programming.

Volunteer Highlight

Megan Cordner is an Alabama native. In her youth, she spent her days riding and training horses until she married her prince charming and moved to Huntsville. She loves exploring the area with her husband, Samuel, and their four little girls. Megan majored in Elementary Education at UAHuntsville, and is currently homeschooling two of her four girls. She enjoys serving as the Huntsville Communication Director for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and as a Board member on the North Alabama Zoological Society. Megan is also thrilled to be on the NALZS Edzoocation team and excited to be apart of this great work! In her free time she prefers to either curl up with a good book or continue writing her own!



Megan Cordner

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Development

We are excited to announce that we will be opening a Designated Fund with the Community Foundation of Greater Huntsville to provide an opportunity for donors to donate towards the acquisition and development of land for the Zoo and Aquarium. We will also be kicking off our 2nd Annual NALZS Palzs Fundraising Campaign April 1st. This is an exciting time for us to reach out to our community and give them a once in a lifetime opportunity to take part in creating a World Class Zoo and Aquarium for North Alabama.

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Executive Board

Your NALZS board has been hard at work over the past few months. We hope to have some exciting news to share with you very soon on where the zoo will be located. Without your donations, this would not be possible. Thank you from the entire board. You are helping us build a legacy for generations to come. I hope you're as excited as we are, because it's happening and it's just around the corner.

Did you know?

You can support our Society simply by connecting your Kroger rewards and Amazon account to our nonprofit. There are no fees, simply scan the QR codes and follow the directions, it is that easy!



Amazon Smile



Kroger Rewards

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Conservation

Alabama is one of the richest bio-systems in our country but continues to score poorly in several areas of conservation. The Conservation Department is focusing on programs to provide the community with a comprehensive network of local and regional conservation efforts; aid the community in understanding the issues facing wildlife on a local and global level; and create an understanding within the community of the importance of preserving habitats for native species. A blog was started in September that continues to publish weekly with conservation information and activities, visit our website or Facebook page to read blog posts. Two programs will launch in the next few months, FrogWatch USA – a program that identifies environmental health on a local level and Pollinator Habitat Conservation. These efforts will be followed by a Gray Bat Conservation Initiative to begin in late 2021. Also, keep an eye out for our conservation database that is launching soon.



2021 Art Contest Submission

"Connecting us to Earth's creatures - the great and small"