



Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots



Four Corners Regional Newsletter

Winter 2010 Edition

Winter is here! Our members often ask us how to make the most of the cold weather while still making a difference? If you are at a loss for ideas, we invite you to revisit our service learning model: Knowledge, Compassion and Action.

So, how do we start? Well, we can start with the first keyword – **“Knowledge.”** Let's take a look at how [Rio Gallinas Roots & Shoots](#) in Las Vegas, New Mexico were able to utilize knowledge to start their project. Because of their interest in captive chimpanzees, the group researched online how they could help them. Their project began as a study of chimpanzees and the “work of Dr. Jane Goodall, Carol Noon and the Save the Chimps foundation in Alamogordo, New Mexico and Florida.” The students were able to focus on “the exploitation of chimps in the space program, advertisements, entertainment and pet trade” in their research. Building their knowledge base, the Rio Gallinas Roots & Shoots was able to develop an understanding of the problem.

Once we have knowledge, we can take a look at the second model keyword – **“Compassion.”** Rio Gallinas Roots & Shoots, through their newly found knowledge of chimpanzees, were able to find compassion. The knowledge resulted in students developing “empathy towards the treatment of chimpanzees and therefore [they began] to ask questions regarding the use of animals in product testing and the “Chimps Bill of Rights.” The students were moved by what their research uncovered.

Finally, we come to the last model keyword – **“Action.”** How is it that you can act on what has inspired compassion in you? Rio Gallinas Roots & Shoots was able to put their project called [Help! My Monkey Lost its Tail](#) into motion. The children painted and composed narratives which were used in calendars. The calendars were sold to raise funds to relocate the chimps in Alamogordo, New Mexico to Florida. The success of the Help! My Monkey Lost its Tail resulted in a total of \$1,448.97 raised for the relocation of chimpanzees. The members of Rio Gallinas Roots & Shoots report that reaching their goal has made them excited to do more projects.

Your group can share in the excitement too. Use the Roots & Shoots Community Survey located in the resource center on www.rootsandshoots.org or local organizations to learn about some of the issues in your community. Talk with people, do site visits and experience the affects of the issue first hand. Discuss with your group how the issue makes you feel and what you would like to do about it.

Finally, use the Roots & Shoots project planning guidelines or the online project database to plan and do a project to address this issue. Start small, collaborate with other organizations and celebrate your successes. Also, don't forget to report on the project at www.rootsandshoots.org when you are done! If you are still stuck, here are a few winter project ideas to get you started:

- Start a recycled wrapping paper campaign
- Collect recycled materials for a community art project
- Collect used blankets or towels for animals at your local shelter
- Organize a canned food drive
- Volunteer at a soup kitchen
- Sing holiday songs at a hospital
- Decorate luminarias with messages of peace
- Make bird feeders for non-migratory birds

-By Olivia Robertson, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office Assistant

On The Edge: Hope For Animals and Their World Youth Campaign

Over the last year, the seven Roots & Shoots Youth Leadership Councils across the U.S. have been hard at work developing the newest Youth Campaign, [On the Edge: Hope for Animals and Their World](#). From deciding on a concept, to developing a proposal, and bringing the campaign to the Roots & Shoots network, the Councils lead the way.

The new Campaign, On the Edge, aims to raise awareness about endangered species, and the importance of biodiversity. At a time when many animal species are at a crossroads, around the globe, passionate individuals and groups are dedicating themselves to ensuring a hopeful future for local species threatened with extinction. Their stories are the ones that Dr. Jane tells in her most recent book, Hope for Animals and their World.

Inspired by their success, the Youth Leadership Councils are inviting members from the entire Roots & Shoots network to:

- [‘Adopt’ a local endangered species, and learn about their conservation,](#)
- [Plan a project to help protect or conserve them,](#)
- [Tell their story through PSAs and public presentations, and](#)
- [Provide support to organizations dedicated to ensuring their survival.](#)

You can join them. Become the next chapter of hope for a local endangered species in your community. Join On the Edge: Hope for Animals and their World.

Roots & Shoots Day of Peace Regional Events



Santa Fe, New Mexico

On Saturday September 18th, several hundred people came to celebrate [Roots & Shoots Day of Peace](#) in Santa Fe, New Mexico on a beautiful, sunny day at the [Santa Fe Railyard Park](#). The event was opened by Devi Borton from [FAM JAM!](#) who brought together parents and children in a sing and dance-along with her beautiful voice and acoustic tunes from Music Together. David and Max Manzanares took the (dirt!) stage afterward, sharing their own beautiful songs about saving the earth. Max, a fifth grader at Carlos Gilbert Elementary, has been writing songs since he was four! It was a very sweet performance by this father-son duo.

Workshops followed including the [Dance of Universal Peace](#) led by Tara Andrea, Cooperative Games for Kids and [I Chi Kung](#) by Miguel Sierra. Throughout the event kids and kids-at-heart were treated to free peace bracelet and farolito-making at [Carlos Gilbert Roots & Shoots](#) booth and Roots & Shoots provided the opportunity to make a Pinwheel for Peace. [The Santa Fe Animal Shelter Youth Board](#) also hosted both a bake sale and a dog adoption!

The event culminated with a Giant Peace Dove Puppet Parade around the Railyard Park. It featured three bobbing and fluttering pudgy plaster peace doves made by art teacher Katy Hees her Fifth/Sixth grade art students from Carlos Gilbert Elementary. A Giant Peace Dove made by Roni Rohr's fifth grade art class [El Dorado Elementary Roots & Shoots](#), made from recycled bed sheets, bike inner tubes, chicken wire and wood. The Santa Fe Animal Shelter Youth Board carried a Giant Peace Dove Puppet with the

spirit and optimism of youth. Last but not least, Laurie Wilson of [Teca Tu](#), along with her friends and family, created and carried a beautiful dove.

All of the children at Carlos Gilbert School made beautiful peace flags that hung festively throughout the day as a fluttering reminder of our inspiration for the event. The messages they contained were a colorful reminder of peace and the poignancy of childhood.

Thank you to the Roots & Shoots groups who participated! To Andie Manzanares, the students, parents and teachers at Carlos Gilbert for your contributions and belief in this event! To the El Dorado classes who made pinwheels for peace in honor of the day, Roni Rohr, Miss Deswood and all of the kids from the school who came to carry the dove so joyously during the parade! Thank you to the Santa Fe Animal Shelter, the Roots & Shoots Santa Fe Animal Shelter Youth Board and Teca Tu for their contributions and support. Thanks to [Santa Fe Veteran's for Peace](#) for their contribution and the [Santa Fe Hemp Store](#) for donating a portion of the proceeds of their sales to the event. Thanks to Bernie's Dogs and Nile Café for feeding us! Finally, we could not have pulled this off without [Cosmic Kidz](#) who shared the planning and execution of the event and followed the Roots & Shoots portion of the event with a synchronized global dance of peace called [Earthdance](#). It was a beautiful day and we look forward to make it even bigger and better next year!

-By Katie Macaulay, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Santa Fe Coordinator

Albuquerque New Mexico

Roots & Shoots Day of Peace is an annual event that was inspired by the International Day of Peace that is celebrated in late September. It is a day dedicated to global cease fire and non-violence. This day is observed by people from many nations around the world. Here in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the [Roots & Shoots Four Corners Youth Leadership Council](#) decided to officially promote and celebrate this event for the first time at Bandelier Elementary School. It is particularly appropriate for this part of the world to be reminded of the importance of Peace since New Mexico has historically been the place of much research and development for the war industry, specifically atomic research.

To help with the preparation of this event, I was fortunate to attend the annual Roots & Shoots National Youth Leadership Conference in New Orleans. During this conference I learned about the trials and tribulations that are involved when creating a new event. I knew that the process would be challenging, but I was ready and willing to take on this challenge with the help from the other Roots & Shoots members. We held regular planning sessions and brainstormed about ideas concerning the best venue and format. Together, we made decisions knowing that much of the learning curve had to be accomplished through some trial and error. In the end, I came to learn that the process was more difficult than I imagined, but it was a rewarding experience in which much was learned. Issues that were dealt with involved venue choice, supply purchases, guest speaker organization, entertainment, food and advertising. We selected Bandelier Elementary School in the South East section of Nob Hill. I met with the principal of the school to get permission to have the event in the school gym. They let us use their cafeteria tables and P.A. system for our speakers.

Several hours before the beginning of

the event, we set up booths in a semi circle in the school gym. At the entrance to the booths, there was a station that was designed so that the attendees could write on a canvas strip something inspirational about peace. When completed, the canvas strips were pinned to a bulletin board. Attendees were then able to take home one of the canvas strips with words written by someone else. This gave each person a memento from the event that would be a lasting and meaningful reminder that contained words of peace.

We had a total of four booths. One booth involved learning about the large number of countries in the world. This booth gave participants an interactive opportunity to view the many countries in the world. This helped to increase awareness about the need for all countries to live in harmony. Another booth involved bracelet & jewelry making. There was string and lettered beads available so that messages of peace or a bracelet of prayer icons could be made. Other booths for younger participants had paper crane making and face painting. For about an hour and a half, participants enjoyed the activities at these booths while they listened to inspirational and entertaining music performed by a local musician, Girogio O'Neal. After the craft time, guest speakers took the stage and gave inspirational messages.

Our guest speakers included our State Senator Representative, Cisco McSorley and local author Steven Littlejohn. Both gave inspiring stories concerning the importance of peace on both a global

and a personal level. After the speakers finished, we filed out of the gym to the school field where the entire group paraded behind Giant Peace Dove Puppets. The Peace Dove Puppets were also being flown around the world by other Roots & Shoots groups for the Roots & Shoots Day of Peace. As we paraded through the field, there were many on-lookers who asked about the meaning of the Peace Doves. This sparked many conversations about the meaning and the significance of peace.

The entire Day of Peace event was covered by the local ABC news station. By watching the news segment that aired that evening, people were able to have an increased awareness about the existence of the Day of Peace and its importance to young people in order to foster hope for the future.

There is already discussion about planning our local Day of Peace for 2011. We have made the decision to change the venue to a location that has more public presence. This location is one block from the Central Avenue (the original Route 66) that runs through the Nob Hill in Albuquerque where many people gather for shopping and restaurants. We will be applying to close off an entire city block for the event next year.

To me, the Day of Peace, is a way that me and my fellow Roots & Shoots youth ambassadors can contribute to instilling the constant reminder of how important it is to have peace at home within our families, in our local town, our state, our country, and ultimately, the world at large.



-By Chelsea Otterness, Member of the Roots & Shoots Four Corners Youth Leadership Council

Salt Lake City, Utah

Four dedicated Roots & Shoots groups, [Mt. Olympus](#), [Skyline High School](#), [Morningside Elementary](#) and [Reid School](#), congregated at the city library in Salt Lake City, Utah to celebrate the international promotion of peace. With the symbolic Giant Peace Dove Puppets as their banner, they held a Giant Peace Dove Puppet Parade.

Creating awareness through this annual tradition enables hope for the possibility of peace through action. Activities such as face-painting and making recycled tote bags out of old Westminster College banners were offered. Linda Sossenheimer and her group "had people in the community also make bags." Not only does this Roots & Shoots tradition promote peace, but it also strengthens the community. Inviting others to help share this message provides an important bond between members.



The activities continued with paper mache. With the help of the Skyline High School Roots & Shoots, two large globes were constructed and decorated with messages of peace. Other, smaller, globes were also made. These globes served as reminders that peace is possible world-wide.

All of the activities had a much larger scope of influence than just the immediate Day of Peace participants. Linda and her Roots & Shoots group produced bags which they donated to the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA). The action of the Roots & Shoots Day of Peace had rippling and lasting effects throughout Salt Lake City.

Invigorated by their experience, the groups look forward to engaging once again with their community with their annual coat exchange. The exchange entails collecting retired hats, gloves and coats from skiers for donation. The Roots & Shoots Day of Peace message does not just last one day, but promotes year-round action.

-By Olivia Robertson, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office Assistant

Stamp Out Malaria

A child dies of Malaria every 30 seconds. Thanks to a generous grant given by [Learn and Serve America](#), [Project PeacePal](#) and Roots & Shoots have the opportunity to join forces to combat this shocking statistic.

Project PeacePal is an international organization promoting peace through pen-pals. With "over 4,000 members in 15 countries," the Project PeacePal organization is able to connect and educate children living in different parts of the world.

PeacePal works closely with the [Against Malaria Foundation](#). The Against Malaria Foundation is a world-wide charity that raises funds "to prevent malaria by providing treated mosquito nets and education for those living in affected areas." Treated mosquito nets are the most effective way of preventing malaria. The treatment on the nets ensures that no matter how torn or tattered the nets might get, the treatment acts like an alternate form of defense against mosquitoes. A treated net riddled with holes is still a valuable form of protection against malaria.

Roots & Shoots groups are already participating in Project PeacePal's Stamp Out Malaria fundraising project. The Stamp Out Malaria project aims to raise funds in order to buy treated mosquito nets for recipients in Togo and Ghana, West Africa. The project's goal is to raise enough funds to buy 1,400 treated mosquito nets by the end of May, 2011.

In order to raise funds, Project PeacePal and Roots & Shoots groups are selling handmade bracelets for \$5 each. These bracelets are made in Peru under the [Sanyork Foundation](#)



which "provides safe, comfortable working conditions and fair wages to their artisans [...] in an effort to improve their standard of living and create a sustainable economy without exploitation."

The price of one bracelet is the equivalent of one mosquito net, and a life saved. PeacePal and Roots & Shoots invites those interested in helping to raise funds for mosquito nets to join them in reaching their goal to buy \$7,000 worth of treated nets. With the generous support of Learn and Serve America, new and existing Roots & Shoots Groups can participate in this amazing project. Each Roots & Shoots group will receive bracelets to sell over the rest of the school year. Each group will also receive a complimentary one-year Roots & Shoots membership. These complimentary memberships are limited. The holiday season is a great time to join and the bracelets could make a meaningful and fun gift for family and friends. If you are an existing group or if you are interested in forming a new group, learn more about how you can participate in the Stamp Out Malaria Project, please contact [Emily Dietrich Millstein](#).

-By Olivia Robertson, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office Assistant

Prairie Dog Day

After twelve-year-old Luke Z. learned about prairie dogs through his Roots & Shoots group, he wanted to do something that would protect this animal that is so vital to the ecosystem. Upon meeting with the city council, Luke, decided to write a resolution proposing that Utah state legislature consider celebrating and acknowledging prairie dogs on a "Prairie Dog Day". In the resolution, Luke proposes that Prairie Dog Day be held on February 2nd, Groundhogs day, so that the furry distant relatives can share the date. The day would promote the protection and celebration of the species.

With the help of the [Prairie Dog Coalition](#) and [WildEarth Guardians](#), Luke has been working hard to get his resolution

passed. He has been asking people in his area to sign a petition

which has reached 1,000 signatures. He also met up with Tim Cosgrove at the State Capital and made plans to meet with the agricultural committee chairman to discuss the implementation of Prairie Dog Day. Although getting the resolution has been challenging, Luke has continued to advertise for Prairie Dog Day and has even done recycling demos encouraging people to use reusable cloth bags rather than plastic bags at the grocery store.



-By Johanna Silver, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Intern

National Youth Leadership Retreat



learn about leadership, project planning and more!

Youth Leaders participated in team building exercises and took workshops on expressing thoughts and opinions, taking initiative on project and campaign ideas. They were also joined by keynote speaker, Chris Bashinelli.

Bashinelli, an actor who started a new nonprofit television show called [Bridge the Gap](#) that shows what life is like for people in the developing world and what people can do to "bridge the gap". In addition to workshops and lectures, Youth Leaders toured the New Orleans historic French Quarter.

Youth Leaders also got a chance to serve the New Orleans area by conducting a service project with the [Louisiana Bucket Brigade](#). The Louisiana Bucket Brigade is a non-profit health and justice organization based in New Orleans that works with communities, oil refineries and chemical plants to address the air quality crisis. Participants aided the Louisiana Bucket Brigade by traveling to various sites to interview people about the BP oil spill. Locations included the [New](#)

[Orleans Aquarium](#), the [New Orleans Zoo](#), the [River Walk](#), [Mardi Gras World](#) and the small town of Lafitte. Participants recorded interviews and asked individuals how the oil spill has affected their lives, the New Orleans community and the ecosystem as a whole. In addition to researching the affects of the oil spill, Youth Leaders also identified what people can do in their own communities to help with the current crisis. These interviews were added to the Bucket Brigade's interactive [Oil Spill Crisis Map](#). This map collects eyewitnesses and media accounts on the affects of the oil spill on the environment. The information provides news and the effects of the oil spill in real time. The participants' video interviews were the first video contributors to the interactive oil spill map! The four days of exciting exercises and service projects concluded with an appreciation activity where participants got to share what they appreciated about the retreat and about each other.

-By Johanna Silver, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Intern

The 2010 Annual [National Youth Leadership Retreat](#) was held this year at the [University of New Orleans](#).

This yearly event welcomes Roots & Shoots Youth Leaders in high school and college in regions from the United States and Canada. Over the course of the four-day retreat, members from seven Youth Leadership Councils including New England, Great Lakes, California, the National Council, the College Council, the New England College Council and the Four Corners traveled to meet one another to

Wind River Ranch Art Project



Sixty sixth grade students from West Las Vegas Middle School learned to see "the landscape" at [Wind River Ranch](#) with an artist's eye and an ecologist's point of view. They learned to sketch images and use watercolor paints and oil pastels to bring color to a page. Students connected with the landscape with an eye for detail and color. This experience of Nature Through Art, will be shown in one or two local Las Vegas galleries that will post the students' art work for the benefit of the entire community.

-By Abigail Groskopf, Wind River Ranch Environmental Educator



Roots & Shoots First Annual North America Training Summit

The first North America Training Summit for Roots & Shoots group leaders and service learning professionals took place on October 8th-10th, 2010. The Training Summit offered a weekend packed with workshops and even a lecture conducted by Dr. Jane Goodall.

The Training Summit was hosted at the [Western Connecticut State University](#) in Danbury, Connecticut. It was through the aid of the university that the Training Summit was made possible and that Roots & Shoots was able to offer continuing education units for participation.

These yearly workshops are designed as interactive training sessions with Roots & Shoots group leaders and educators. Roots & Shoots offered attendants the opportunity to get the tools and resources needed to become great group leaders. The workshops were geared towards interactive learning and networking and to help provide Roots & Shoots members more opportunities to connect and strengthen their roots.

Dr. Jane was a prominent presence throughout the weekend events. She continuously imparts her global environmentalism and humanitarian wisdom in her lectures. This year was no exception. Her speech on Gombe and Beyond: the Next Fifty Years was a highlight and success!

This year we had a very successful turn out at the Training Summit. We encourage you to join us next year in this valuable education-building event. If you are interested in attending this annual event in 2011, please [contact us](#).

-By Olivia Robertson, Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office Assistant

Meet New Staff



Olivia Robertson

Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office Assistant

Olivia moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico three years ago from her home town Nairobi, Kenya. She is currently in her final year at [St. John's College](#) where she is working on her BA in Liberal Arts. She volunteered with a Discovery documentary film group while they filmed a Salei Maasai tradition. Her volunteer position fueled her love for culture and travel. It also enhanced her love for photography which she pursued further through an internship at a [Media Center](#) in Nairobi. In her spare time, Olivia enjoys reading, exploring and meeting new people. She is passionate about expressing herself creatively through different artistic media. She also LOVES animals! Olivia hopes to pursue a career in preservation of cultures, conservation and humanitarian work.

Marissa K. Four Corners Youth Leadership Council

Marissa K. was born on May 10, 1995 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. When she was little she was unable to pronounce Marissa, so she called herself Mita and the name stuck. When she was five the family moved to Colorado and back to New Mexico when she was eleven. She has been home schooled all her life and she first learned about Roots & Shoots when her mother discovered [Rio Grande Roots & Shoots](#) while hunting for a home school group to join. Mita and her three younger siblings soon became involved in the group. Mita met Dr. Jane Goodall while she was visiting Santa Fe and Mita presented to her Rio Grande Roots & Shoots hunger projects at local food banks.

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