

spring/summer  
**2008**  
issue no. 30



roots&shoots

**"Whatever words we utter should be chosen with care for people will hear them and be influenced by them for good or ill."**

— Buddha

# GET THE WORD OUT

## Spread the Roots & Shoots Message

Jane Goodall's  
Global Youth  
Summit

The Wonders  
of World Travel

Eco-Office  
Evaluation  
Program

Journal Notes  
on page 3



# WHAT'S NEW AT ROOTS & SHOOTS

## Jane Goodall's Global Youth Summit

In April, 100 outstanding young leaders from around the world came together at Walt Disney World® in Orlando, Florida for an unforgettable week of mobilizing around critical issues facing our planet. Dr. Jane joined many of the activities, which included workshops, speakers and service projects. The young people made action plans, new friends and precious memories. Find out more about this incredible event at [www.globalyouthsummit.org](http://www.globalyouthsummit.org).

## ReBirth the Earth: Trees for Tomorrow

It's not too late to get involved in the "ReBirth the Earth: Trees for Tomorrow" youth campaign. This campaign aims to build five tree nurseries in Tanzania by earning sponsorships for planting trees. With 1,667 trees planted and \$7,268 (USD) raised, we're three quarters of the way to our goal—and we need your help! Find out how to *Panda Miti* at [www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns/trees](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns/trees).

## 2008 Jane Goodall Youth Leadership Award

As one of the five Jane Goodall Global Leadership Awards, the Youth Leadership Award recognizes individuals between the ages of 14 and 24 who exhibit leadership and excellence through their work to help preserve our natural world, protect animals or benefit our human community. This year's winners will receive awards from Dr. Jane, in person, at the Jane Goodall Institute's Award Celebration in Washington, D.C., on November 7. Results will be posted at [www.rootsandshoots.org/newsevents](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/newsevents).

## Only Hearts Club® Roots & Shoots Doll

Pretty soon, the Only Hearts Club® doll collection will have a Roots & Shoots member in its ranks—Taylor Angelique! Real, live Roots & Shoots members in the United States and Canada helped out by submitting their ideas to a contest to tell Taylor Angelique's story. The contest winner—and Taylor's story—will be posted at [www.rootsandshoots.org/newsevents](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/newsevents).

## 2008 Roots & Shoots Day of Peace

It may seem far off, but September will be here before you know it, and with it, Giant Peace Dove Puppets! All over the world, Roots & Shoots Day of Peace events are already in the making. So, mark your calendars for September 21, and start making your Day of Peace plans. Get complete information, including Dove-making instructions, at [www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns/dove](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns/dove).

## mark your calendars!

June 5	U.N. World Environment Day
June 20	World Refugee Day
August 12	U.N. International Youth Day
September 21	U.N. International Day of Peace
September 21	Roots & Shoots Day of Peace

Download instructions for making a Giant Peace Dove Puppet at [www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns/dove](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns/dove).

For more days to celebrate, visit the R&S calendar at [www.rootsandshoots.org/newsevents/eventcalendar](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/newsevents/eventcalendar).

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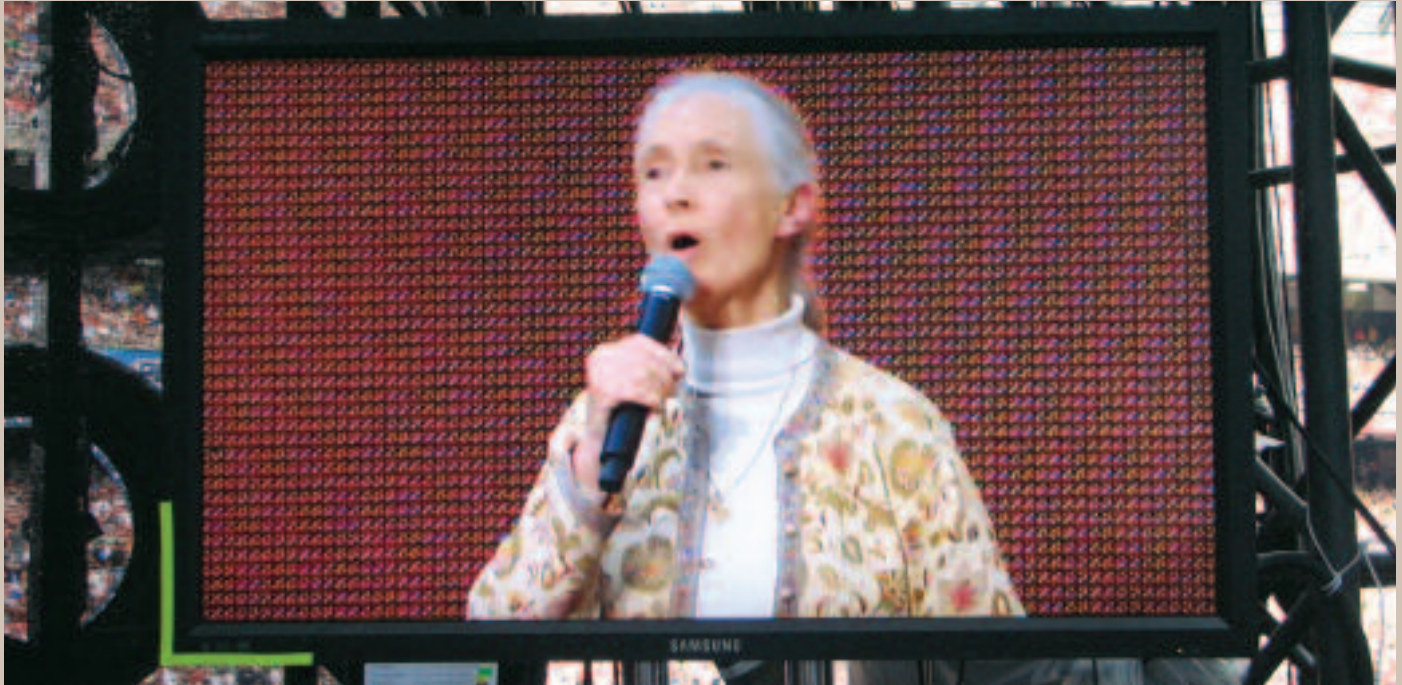
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# Journal notes from Dr. Jane Words of Wisdom on Spreading the Word

By Dr. Jane Goodall, PhD, DBE, Founder – the Jane Goodall Institute & U.N. Messenger of Peace

Photo by: the Jane Goodall Institute



Ever since I was a small child, I loved reading and writing. I would write stories and read them to my family, and I loved writing essays for school. When I was about 12 years old, I started a small club called the Alligator Club. In addition to holding meetings in our “secret” camp in the garden, my friends and I wrote articles about natural history. We made a magazine of stories, poems and artwork that we hoped our friends and their parents would pay to borrow, like a library book.

Throughout my school days, I was much too shy to read aloud or speak in front of a group of people, but after I began my chimpanzee study, I had to share my findings with scientists, as well as the general public. I shall never forget when first I heard that I was to give a lecture for the National Geographic Society in Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. I sat on the Peak at Gombe and prayed I would break a leg or something, so that I wouldn't have to go. When the time came, I was so terrified I could hardly breathe. But no one noticed, and I found I could do it all right. This was, I suppose, because I had a message that I wanted people to hear.

Even now, I still “get butterflies” in my stomach before some talks. The worst was last year at Giants Stadium in New Jersey when I had to give a message, in three minutes, to 60,000 people for Al Gore's Live Earth concert. After the event when I looked at the tape, even I could not tell I was so terrified!

I've worked out the best way, for me, to give a talk. First, really know the subject matter. Second, write down the main points—if it's a new area, this has to be quite detailed. Third, go through those notes, writing down the most important words or phrases, so that the whole speech

fits on just one or two bits of paper—maybe the back of a business card or a napkin. Even when I know the subject matter really well, I still must have “thinking time” before the talk to make sure my mind is focused.

I listen to many, many Roots & Shoots members giving presentations, and I am amazed at how confident young people seem to be today. However, I notice that some quite young children try to remember what they are to say, with no notes at all. On the other hand, some presenters simply read out notes from a computer slideshow. My own feeling is that all presenters should have notes, and computer slideshows should be limited to photos and just the odd word to remind. The best presentations are when the speaker talks from the heart, without need to refer to notes—but that skill comes with time.

Sometimes, you may talk to people who disagree with you. In these situations, the most important thing to do is LISTEN to what others have to say and try to understand where they are coming from. Rather than accusing them of being cruel or heartless, try to explain the facts and engage in a discussion of alternatives you can agree on. Once you point a finger and accuse, those who think differently will stop listening to you or become angry and defensive—and that will be the end of any chance of changing their minds.

Communication, whether by word of mouth or the written word, is desperately important. Good luck to all Roots & Shoots members in your efforts to become excellent communicators on behalf of people, animals and the environment!

Read more about Roots & Shoots communicators on pages 8-9.

# BULLETIN BOARD

Welcome to the **BULLETIN BOARD** —a place to find new project ideas and connect with other groups around the world. Want to see your group's project featured here? Submit Project Reports to your national office to be considered for inclusion.

South Bay R&S members held a snow cone sale to raise money to feed the farm animals at their school district's San Pedro Science Center. Members advertised their sale by giving flyers to their classes, friends, neighbors, teachers and relatives. They raised almost \$500 (USD)!

South Bay R&S  
c/o Christine Vidovich  
cnvido@cox.net  
San Pedro, CA, USA

Rapid City R&S members decorated dog leashes with buttons, bows and glitter and sold them to members of the community. They donated the proceeds to support a new dog walking area, which will be developed in a vacant

field next to the local Humane Society. Dogs and their owners will have a safe and clean area to play in.

Rapid City Roots & Shoots  
c/o Eva Bareis  
eva1365@hotmail.com  
Rapid City, SD, USA

Members of R&S-Nepal rescued an injured leopard cub near the village of Changu in the Bhaktapur District. They named the cub "Milestone." Her hind legs were injured, so she will stay at a wildlife rehabilitation center until she is well enough to be released back into the wild.

R&S-Nepal  
c/o Manoj Gautam  
scilab25@hotmail.com  
Kathmandu, Nepal

Naples R&S adopted two manatees and traveled to Manatee Park to see the manatees in the winter. They wrote letters to Florida state representatives, urging them to keep manatees on the state endangered species list. The group was successful, and the manatees remain on the list!

Naples R&S  
c/o Gina Bileau  
gbileau@yahoo.com  
Naples, FL, USA

Members of New York City Home Educators Alliance (NYCHEA) Roots & Shoots group organized their third annual Read-a-thon. From September through December of 2007, group members read books for pledges. They donated the funds raised to the Roots & Shoots Tchimpounga Youth Campaign, which benefits orphaned chimpanzees in the Republic of Congo.

NYCHEA Roots & Shoots  
c/o Nancy D'Antonio  
ndantonio@earthlink.net  
New York, NY, USA

BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD



*River Rim Roots & Shoots group members in Bend, Oregon participate in a birdfeeder workshop.*



*The little leopard cub named "Milestone" is well cared for by members of R&S-Nepal in Kathmandu.*



*Left: Roots & Shoots members from Pine Ridge Indian Reservation learn about native traditions at the Lakota Culture and Winter Science Camp at the Cloud Horse Art Institute in Kyle, South Dakota.*

*Below: U.S. Youth Leadership Council members get goofy for the camera at the Roots & Shoots Youth Leadership Retreat in Middleburg, Virginia in February.*



Photo by: Deana Newcomb

# COMMUNITY HUMAN

## BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD

UU Youth Involved Roots & Shoots members collected mittens, hats and scarves and decorated a holiday tree with the items. Then, they donated the items to Northwest Children's Outreach to help the needy children there.

UU Youth Involved  
c/o Sara Cloe  
RE\_Director@UUCWC.org  
Hillsboro, OR, USA

OKC Global Heroes Roots & Shoots members put together tote bags filled with school supplies. They donated the supplies to PAMBE Ghana: Partnership for Mother Tongue-based Bilingual Education in Ghana. Through PAMBE Ghana, the supplies

will be given to schools that need them.

OKC Global Heroes  
c/o Regina Lemley  
ginalemley@mac.com  
Oklahoma City, OK, USA

Los Cerritos R&S members planted a bed in their school garden specifically for donation to a local food bank. They planted broccoli, lettuce, carrots, celery, turnips and beets and will help care for the crops and harvest them.

Los Cerritos R&S  
c/o Dianne Swanson  
dswanson@lbusd.k12.ca.us  
Long Beach, CA, USA

Cornwall Consolidated School Roots & Shoots engages in an ongoing project that benefits students at the Mekele Blind School in Ethiopia. They've helped make Braille books available to the students and are now making recordings of the books on cassette tapes for the school.

Cornwall Consolidated School  
Roots & Shoots  
c/o Tricia Collins  
too2babe@yahoo.com  
West Cornwall, CT, USA

Central Intermediate Roots & Shoots members worked with their school's student council to research hunger issues in their community and created a game show to educate the school community. They also hosted their annual canned food drive, making posters to advertise their project.

Central Intermediate  
Roots & Shoots  
c/o Leah Crocker  
lcrocker@wadsworth.k12.oh.us  
Wadsworth, OH, USA



# environment

*Members of Emory University Roots & Shoots in Atlanta, Georgia use a stencil to paint "No Dumping" messages on storm drains to protect area waterways.*



*Roots & Shoots members in Alaotra, Madagascar work with Peace Corps volunteers to plant 2,000 tree seedlings.*



BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN BOARD BULLETIN

Three local Roots & Shoots groups teamed up with Peace Corps volunteers to celebrate the first Roots & Shoots Tree Planting Day in Madagascar. The group planted 2,000 seedlings in just one day!

Roots & Shoots Madagascar  
c/o Todiveloniaina  
Rasolondraibe  
niaraso2@yahoo.co.uk  
Alaotra, Madagascar

Heidelberg Roots & Shoots worked as volunteer laborers to preserve protected dunes and help prevent erosion. They participated in the project with other local organizations that had already established the program.

Heidelberg Roots & Shoots  
c/o Heather Robertson  
munilla\_99@yahoo.com  
Heidelberg, Germany

Barnstable Roots & Shoots saved their junk mail for two weeks and then shredded it and used it to build a tree sculpture. They estimated that their school receives more than 50,000 pounds of junk mail each year! Members called the companies sending the junk mail and asked to be removed from their mailing lists. They also wrote persuasive letters to the principal asking for an improved paper recycling program at their school.

Barnstable Roots & Shoots  
c/o Joan Macallister  
6macallisters@comcast.net  
West Barnstable, MA, USA

Members of Rock Creek Forest Elementary II Roots & Shoots group worked with their local Audubon Naturalist Society to start a new workshop for kids on green cleaners. They learned about the toxic chemicals used in regular cleaners and their negative effects. Then they made their own natural non-toxic green cleaners and came up with names and slogans for their products. They tested the new products by cleaning a classroom at school and distributed a recipe sheet of green cleaners to students and parents.

Rock Creek Forest Elementary II  
c/o Julie Drizin  
juliedrizin@starpower.net  
Chevy Chase, MD, USA

The Rio Grande Roots & Shoots group partnered with Open Space to help restore vegetation in the bosque (riparian forest) along the Rio Grande. They cleared the non-native species and planted native species. With the help of the Open Space educational volunteer, they planted 45 trees!

Rio Grande Roots & Shoots  
c/o Kari Barrera  
blissfulbee@msn.com  
Albuquerque, NM, USA

## Marketing Coordinator Communicates the Wonders of World Travel



Jordy Oleson is the Marketing Coordinator for the non-profit organization Global Explorers. Based in Fort Collins, Colorado, Global Explorers organizes educational, international immersion workshops for middle and high school students and educators across the United States. They're leading Roots & Shoots Youth Leaders on a trip to Tanzania this summer. As you'll see, communication is essential for Jordy to do his job well. To learn more about Global Explorers, visit [www.globalexplorers.org](http://www.globalexplorers.org).

**R&S:** What is your educational and/or professional background?

**JO:** I studied at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, where I earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration with a focus in marketing, along with a Spanish minor and an international business certificate. I worked very hard to gain experience through various internships and volunteer activities with nonprofits like the Food Bank and the Snowboard Outreach Society. After college, I moved to Costa Rica where I volunteered and taught third- and fourth-graders at an environmentally-based ESL (English as a Second Language) school. In addition to working for Global Explorers, I've helped co-found another non-profit organization, which implements sustainable development projects with poor communities around the world, and I still serve on its board of directors.

**R&S:** Tell us about your work responsibilities and daily routine.

**JO:** One thing I love about my job is that every week is different. I spend a lot of time emailing and calling educators to tell them about Global Explorers and answer questions about international travel. I also spend a lot of time outside the office giving presentations to groups who are interested in traveling with us and meeting face-to-face

with teachers, parents and students. I get to travel to educational conferences quite a bit to spread the Global Explorers philosophy. It's very inspiring to be constantly surrounded by people who are so passionate about learning.

**R&S:** What is your favorite part of your job? Your least favorite?

**JO:** By far the greatest part of my job is traveling internationally with students. It's not the main focus of my duties as Marketing Coordinator, but I'm lucky enough to get to do it fairly often. Global Explorers is all about showing students how fun, educational and life-changing international travel can be, and it's incredible to witness first-hand the transformations that students discover issues that they care about and realize that they're capable of becoming leaders and making a positive change.

I suppose my least favorite part of the job is the fact that there are a few cynics out there whom I have to try to deal with. Some people think international travel is not something that young people can do. It IS something you can do, and it can be such a priceless experience!

**R&S:** What advice would you give to young people who want to pursue a career in global travel?

**JO:** I think the most important thing for young people to understand is that they CAN make a difference. Just go for it! It's okay if you don't know exactly what path you want to take with your career yet. Experience life as much as you can and challenge yourself to leave your comfort zone. Exposing yourself to different issues will give you a better idea of what you're passionate about and help you find your place. There are lots of different careers you could choose to help save our planet, but it's important to find one that you really enjoy—you'll be more productive, and everyone around you will benefit.

**R&S:** In your opinion, what is the best action that young people today can take to make a difference?

**JO:** Lead by example and inspire everyone around you. A lot of people simply don't realize that there are lots of easy things they can do to make a difference. Keep doing all the little things you always do to make our planet a better place and take pride in doing them. Show people that it's easy to make simple changes and that doing so can not only change the world around them, but also give them great peace of mind. If you can educate and motivate those around you, it's no longer just you making the difference but two people, then three people, then 10 people and so on. We all have to work together!

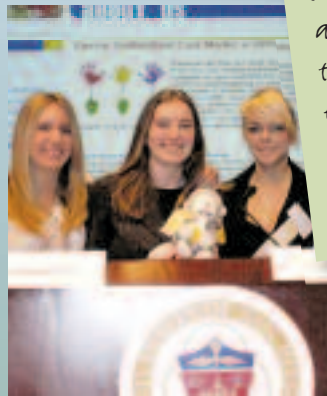
Get

the

*"The best thing about the audience was that every single one of them had an interest in improving the well being of each others' lives and the planet. This made it really easy to engage them in Roots & Shoots."*

**Young people have a lot to say, because they care—a lot.**

Roots & Shoots gives young people a voice to get the word out about issues that matter to them. Through posters, letters, presentations and more, Roots & Shoots members are spreading the message of peace, conservation and hope for the future. Just like Dr. Jane, they're overcoming stage fright and other obstacles to get the word out. All over the world, these young people are learning that communication is a powerful tool and that, when they use their voice, people listen.



**Make Yourself Presentable**

In January, three members of the Roots & Shoots California Youth Leadership Council (CAYLC) traveled to the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego to speak at the WorldLink 11th Annual Youth Town Meeting.

In front of more than 700 high school students, Bridget Hahn, Lacey Weil and Torri Igou gave three presentations and then participated in a panel discussion on "Knowledge, Compassion & Action." They began preparing their presentation several weeks in advance, trying to keep their audience in mind.

"The best thing about the audience was that every single one of them had an interest in improving the well-being of each others' lives and the

planet," Bridget said. "This made it really easy to engage them in Roots & Shoots."

With their PowerPoint presentation projected behind them, the trio shared the story of Dr. Jane and the mission of Roots & Shoots. They discussed other Roots & Shoots projects taking place in California and instructed their peers on how to start their own Roots & Shoots groups. Along with representatives from other prominent environmental organizations, the three young women convinced their audience that one person can make a difference.

"My favorite part was getting to connect with like-minded youth my age," Bridget said. "I loved witnessing everyone's excitement about taking action to improve our planet."

*"Half of what we do in our group is promotion, campaigns and messaging to raise awareness of issues in our school."*

**Put It in Writing**

Many Roots & Shoots members spread the Roots & Shoots message through the written word. They write letters, news articles, press releases, poems and even books!

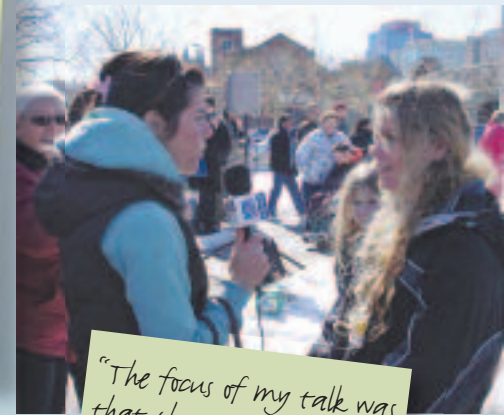
Roots & Shoots members of Jane Goodall's Volunteers Club in Burundi wrote letters to protest the practice of whaling. They expressed their views, while presenting evidence about how whaling is damaging to whale species and to the environment. Then, they mailed the letters to various leaders in their country.

Through the Partnerships in Understanding cultural correspondence program, Roots & Shoots members in Shanghai, China write letters to fellow members in Southaven, Mississippi. The Chinese



word

out



*"The focus of my talk was that the most important thing you can do for our planet is to start with yourself. Real change starts with you. Real change starts with me."*



students from JinLu and WanDe elementary schools also exchange drawings with the U.S. students at Greenbrook Elementary School.

"The cross cultural reach is a good one," said Tori Zwiler, Executive Director of JGI-Shanghai. "Both sets of students are learning quite a bit from each other!"

Through their letter exchanges, these young members are spreading the Roots & Shoots value of cultural understanding.

### Weave in the Web

Roots & Shoots members at Rock Creek Forest Elementary School in Silver Spring, Maryland decided to help give others access to credible online information about the environment.

The members explored a long list of web sites designed to teach kids about environmental issues. Members paired up and perused sites like [www.kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com), [www.epa.gov/kids](http://www.epa.gov/kids) and [www.kidsplanet.org](http://www.kidsplanet.org). They clicked on links, played games and collected information for their evaluations. Along the way, they learned a lot about environmental issues like conservation, consumerism and recycling—and they also learned a lot about communication.

When they were done exploring, group members wrote reviews, giving their own recommendations about whether to use the site. Finally, they drew up a complete list of eco websites for kids and published it in their school newsletter for other students to reference.



### Make the News

Jade Morningstar went to the "Canadians for Kyoto" rally to communicate the dangers of climate change—and she wound up getting face time with reporters.

The teen member of La Vita è Bella Roots & Shoots group in London, Ontario, Canada gave a speech at the rally in support of the United Nations' Kyoto Protocol, which limits the greenhouse gases that nations can emit. At the event in Victories Park, she gave a speech to 200 people, helping them to understand that the future of our environment depends on what we do right now.

"The focus of my talk was that the most important thing you can do for our planet is to start with yourself," Jade said. "Real change starts with you. Real change starts with me."

When her speech was over, she was interviewed by members of the press, which allowed her to spread her message even further.

*Through the written, spoken and digital word, Roots & Shoots members spread the message of hope and conservation, inspiring others to take action.*

get the  
word out  
through  
writing

Photo by: Michelle Bot



*You can produce writing that people will read. Do you believe us?*

*Writing can be intimidating, but that's only because we often make it more complicated than it is. If you're writing to communicate a specific message—through news articles, press releases or letters to the editor—the best thing to do is to keep it simple. Don't worry about using big words or sounding smart. When you're trying to get the word out, leave the poetry to Shakespeare, and keep it simple. Here are some tips:*

LEAD:

*The first few sentences of a news article, which contain the who, what, when and where of the story and should grab the reader's attention.*

## Press Releases

- **Model** your press release after one that's already been written. Find a sample on page 54 of the Roots & Shoots Handbook (available in the online Resource Center).
- Paste the Roots & Shoots **logo** (available in the online Resource Center) at the top of the page, so your document looks official.
- Include the words "FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE" and your contact **information** at the top of the page.
- Get the news reporter's attention with a catchy **headline**.
  - Bad Example: "Kids Do Project"
  - Good Example: "Youth Plant Trees to Make a Difference in Tanzania"
- Give the four **W's** (who, what, when and where) in the very first paragraph. This is the most important information, so don't wait till the end to give it.

## Letters to the Editor

- **Relate** your letter to a previously published article. Letters that are not written in response to an article are rarely published, but there are a lot of creative ways to loosely relate to an article.
- Explain what you believe and why you believe it. Using **facts** and statistics gives credibility to your stance.
- Keep it **short**. Two hundred words or fewer is probably best.
- Be **positive**. Even if you're voicing a complaint, find a way to give your argument a positive spin to avoid offending editors and readers.
- Include your **contact** information. If you don't live in the location in which the publication is published, ask a friend to submit it for you, using her address.

Find more writing tips in the "Going Public" section of the Roots & Shoots Handbook, available in the online Resource Center.



Photo by: Michelle Bot

## News Stories

- Use a gripping **lead** right at the beginning to get your reader's attention. Read newspapers, magazines and website articles for examples of how to "hook" your reader.
- Make your sentences short and **easy** to read. Don't write in the same formal style you would use for a school essay or research paper.
- Use **quotations** to move your article forward and convey information in a more interesting way.
- When describing Roots & Shoots and the Jane Goodall Institute, use **accurate** information from [www.rootsandshoots.org](http://www.rootsandshoots.org) and [www.janegoodall.org](http://www.janegoodall.org).
- Have **fun** while you write. If you're into what you're writing, your reader will be too!

# new faces at ROOT & SHOOTS usa

**Sally Sharp Lehman**  
New England Regional Director



Experienced in both the for-profit and non-profit sectors, Sally comes to Roots & Shoots from the Massachusetts Audubon Society, where she served for eight years as regional director for southeastern Massachusetts. She holds a master's degree in management from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and a bachelor of arts degree in economics and French from Duke University. Sally has a passion for the outdoors, a strong background in educational issues and a love of children, especially her own sons: Will, 14 and Chris, 17.

**Heather Greenwell**  
Great Lakes Program Coordinator



A native of Lexington, Kentucky, Heather is a former elementary school teacher and youth leader. In her previous position at the Interfaith Youth Core, she coordinated the Chicago Day of Interfaith Youth Service for more than 150 young people.

In her new position, she'll support regional members and also seek to network with faith communities in the Chicago area. Heather earned a master of divinity degree from the Catholic Theological Union (CTU) and a bachelor's degree from the College of Wooster, where she specialized in photography. Outside of the office, you might find Heather riding her bike or running half-marathons.

**Erin Viera**  
Southern California Education Coordinator



Originally from northern California, Erin is a master at reaching out to educators and young people. In her previous position at A World Fit for Kids, she served as project development coordinator, overseeing nutrition education for students and families in Los Angeles Unified School District communities. She served on a panel developing guidelines for nutrition and physical education standards in California's after-school programs. Erin earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology from San Diego State University. She enjoys hiking, backpacking and spending time with her dog, Lily.

# ROOTS & SHOOTS around THE WORLD



## Members in Qatar Clean Up Beaches to Save Dugongs

During a beach cleanup, members of TLC Roots & Shoots group in Doha, Qatar find lots of fishing net, which can harm wild dugongs.

At the northern end of Saudi Arabia, jutting into the Persian Gulf is the Arab emirate state of Qatar. A peninsula smaller than the state of Connecticut, Qatar is a low barren plain mostly covered with sand. The newly formed TLC Roots & Shoots group, led by Jenny Wilson in Doha, Qatar, has launched an effort to clean up the miles of rolling sand dune beaches that border most of Qatar.

At the first beach cleanup, they collected 10 large trash bags in only 45 minutes! They found many types of trash, such as bottles, cans, yogurt containers and cigarette butts. But the most disturbing things they found were large amounts of fishing rope, fishing nets and plastic bags.

The Persian Gulf is home to a population of dugongs, a large marine mammal in the same family as the manatee. Dugongs resemble manatees but have tail fins more similar to

dolphins. They once ranged across most of the South Pacific and Indian oceans, but their populations have dwindled from over-hunting and destruction of their habitat. They are now listed as vulnerable to extinction by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The TLC Roots & Shoots members learned that dugongs can get tangled in fishing rope, fishing nets and plastic bags, causing injury or even death. The group members decided to educate others about how trash can harm dugongs. They visited three different schools in Doha, spreading the message to clean up the beaches of Qatar and help the dugongs.



## Roots & Shoots-Shanghai Develops Eco-Office Evaluation Program

Shanghai is a growing metropolitan city in China, with new office towers rising at an astonishing rate—and generating a lot of waste. Through their Eco-Office Evaluation Program, Roots & Shoots-Shanghai hopes to reduce this waste.

The program, which has been nominated as a finalist for the Volvo Adventure Award 2008, links Roots & Shoots members with offices, so the members can perform audits of the offices' environmental conditions. The members are technically trained on green office practices by environmental consultants.

The members examine a variety of aspects of each office space. Office appliances, like photocopiers, computers and printers, are big energy-users, and they can contain harmful and hazardous chemicals and pollutants. Inefficient lighting and heating are the other big energy-users in office buildings, and offices also dispose of large amounts of paper and plastic waste.

The members enter the evaluation results into a database, so that the offices can compare their current



performance with past audits and with other evaluated offices. Then, members inform and encourage the offices to implement measures that will reduce their environmental impact.

Most recently, 25 high school Roots & Shoots members were matched with 25

offices in the Shanghai area. Next, the members plan to develop an audit specifically for school campuses.

Through the Eco-Office Evaluation Program, Roots & Shoots members in Shanghai, China counsel office workers to adopt green practices.

## Roots & Shoots Provides Mugs for the Homeless in Prague



When the International School of Prague Roots & Shoots group was looking for new project ideas, helping the homeless was a quick choice.

Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, is generally considered one of the most beautiful European cities. Its

historic city center is a World Heritage Site, and Prague Castle is the largest ancient castle in the world. However, the Czech Republic and Prague have seen a rise in the number of homeless since the end of the communist government in the 1990s. When the country was communist, citizens were guaranteed jobs, housing and benefits. When the nation's government changed, these citizens were given greater responsibility for their livelihoods, and some of them have struggled to adapt to the change.

After doing some research, the Roots & Shoots members learned that homeless people were given hot tea at the shelters, but these people had no way of taking the tea with them when they left the shelter. So, they decided to raise funds to purchase portable mugs for the homeless in Prague. By taking the tea with them, the homeless could have a warm drink on cold winter evenings.

Members raised awareness about homelessness by writing articles, hanging posters, making announcements over the school-wide intercom and presenting at school assemblies. Their school community responded so well that the group raised \$700 (USD)—enough money for 70 portable mugs! They wrapped the mugs as holiday gifts and delivered them to the Nadeje homeless shelter.

Now the members are focusing on nutrition. In a new project called "Fresh Fruit Fridays," members collect and deliver fresh fruit to the homeless shelter.

Members of International School of Prague Roots & Shoots in the Czech Republic raise funds to buy portable mugs as holiday gifts for homeless people in their city.

# creative corner

## Writing on the Wall



Members of Rancho San Diego Roots & Shoots group painted a mural on a building at their school, Hillsdale Middle School in Rancho San Diego, California. The mural spotlights different components of Roots & Shoots, with creative depictions of knowledge, compassion and action. The group even got Dr. Jane to sign their mural!



## Expression through Art

As part of a program called "Transitions," members of the Boulder County Jail, Cell Block B Roots & Shoots group in Boulder, Colorado sketched animals. With group leader Marc Bekoff, members discussed animal behavior and ethics and used art to express themselves. One member sketched one of Dr. Jane's favorite chimps, Fifi.





## international news Briefs

### Canada

JGI-Canada has welcomed Abner Lico to their staff as the new National Program Manager for Roots & Shoots. Abner has previously worked for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Outward Bound Canada. His experience in education and outdoor education make him a great fit for Roots & Shoots.

### China

The JGI-China office in Beijing created a "Roots & Shoots Youth Environment Forum" to help Roots & Shoots students increase their knowledge of the environment. The forum was a series of monthly workshops, each with a different theme. During the fall, there were over 300 participants, and the program culminated with a youth summit, which Dr. Jane attended. In January, the JGI-China office in Shanghai was honored to receive a visit from Olympic medalist Dame Kelly Holmes, as well as Sarah Brown, wife of current Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Gordon Brown. Students and volunteers shared their projects with the visitors, presenting their Eco-Office Evaluation Program, tree planting in Mongolia, paper recycling and others.

### Japan

Ryuichi Sakamoto, a Japanese musician, has named JGI-Japan as the recipient for donations earned through the sale of Cartier LOVE Charity Bracelets. JGI-Japan plans to use these donations for future Roots & Shoots activities.

### South Africa

JGI-South Africa welcomed a new newsletter editor—Candice Segal joins the team directly out of the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa. In addition to getting new staff, the JGI-South Africa office received a facelift. The office, located in the Johannesburg Zoo, is now more accessible to the staff members and the general public. As part of an adoptive school program that mentors students and helps them grow food gardens, JGI-South Africa has adopted its fifth school. The office has also adopted the Good Hope Refuge, which is a place of safety and hope for more than 100 AIDS-abandoned children and toddlers.

### Uganda

JGI-Uganda is developing a holistic environmental education program for primary schools. The goal of this program is to make sure every child leaves primary school with a basic understanding of the environment. One of the key parts of the program

will be the involvement of Roots & Shoots in the lives of primary school students. To educate teachers about environmental education, JGI-Uganda will hold teacher workshops.

### United Kingdom

In December 2007, JGI-United Kingdom held its first-ever Roots & Shoots Awards Ceremony. Students prepared showcases that represented their contributions in the areas of people, animals and the environment. At the awards ceremony, they had a chance to tell Dr. Jane about what they had accomplished with their projects and what they hope to accomplish in the future.

### United States

JGI-USA welcomed several new regional Roots & Shoots staff members: Erin Viera in California, Heather Greenwell in the Great Lakes region and Sally Sharp Lehman in New England. The USA team hosted Dr. Jane in many locations across the country, from Santa Barbara, California to Boston, Massachusetts.

*Above: Children at the Good Hope Refuge in Nelspruit, South Africa enjoy a holiday party organized by JGI-South Africa.*



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