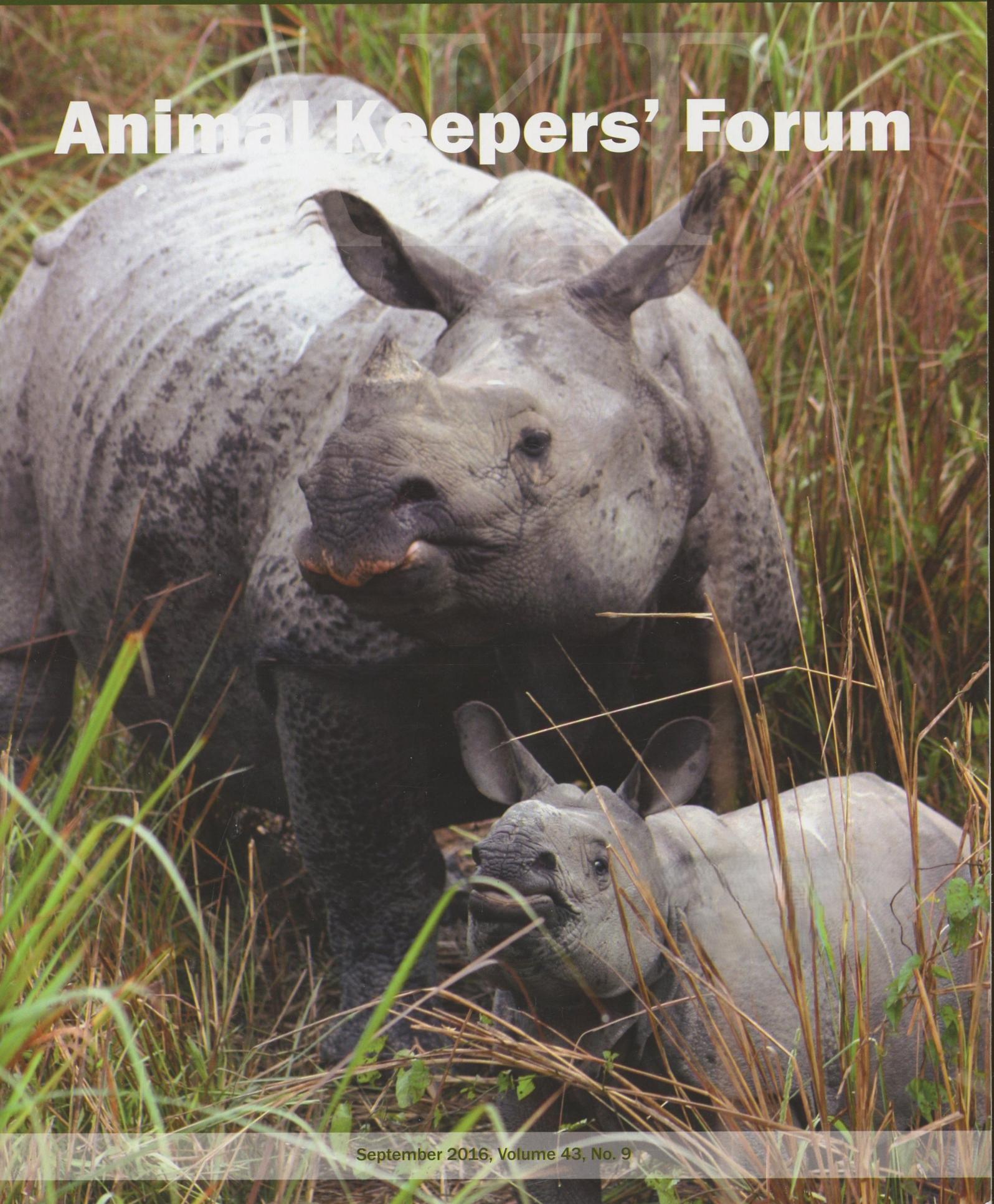


The Journal of the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.

Animal Keepers' Forum



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MISSION STATEMENT

American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.

The American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. exists to advance excellence in the animal keeping profession, foster effective communication beneficial to animal care, support deserving conservation projects, and promote the preservation of our natural resources and animal life.

About the Cover

This month's cover photo was taken by Dave Johnson, a zoo keeper from Denver, Colorado and the founder of the Katie Adamson Conservation Fund. It is of a mother Greater one-horned rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) and calf. Dave has led seven trips to Nepal for his community, calling their collaboration "Team Nepalorado". They visit with many Nepal communities and center their work in the Chitwan and Bardia National Park areas. Their work is considered a fusion of cultures in the name of conservation. They will be traveling again in November with eighteen excited animal nerds.

Since 2011, the population of these rhinos has increased in Nepal to 645, an increase of almost 200 individuals. When Dave and his fellow concerned travelers began embarking on this journey they were losing 10-12 rhino every year in Chitwan National Park. Now they have only lost one rhino in the last four years, and have several years with no poaching incidents of tiger, rhino, or elephant in their entire country. They are extremely proud of their global conservation status and have increased the protected area in their country to include almost 26% of the total land mass.

Dave has written three children's conservation books including one about a little orphan rhino they encountered back in 2010. Her name is Narayani and she is growing up at the Central Zoo in Kathmandu. In her honor they are trying to build a wildlife vet hospital in Chitwan National Park. This rhino species has been clawing its way back since a low mark of 200 animals back in the 1980's. With strong protection, community efforts, and buffer zone management the population has risen up to 3400 animals in Nepal and India, the only countries where they still roam in the wild.

Articles sent to *Animal Keepers' Forum* will be reviewed by the editorial staff for publication. Articles of a research or technical nature will be submitted to one or more of the zoo professionals who serve as referees for **AKF**. No commitment is made to the author, but an effort will be made to publish articles as soon as possible. Lengthy articles may be separated into monthly installments at the discretion of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit material without consultation unless approval is requested in writing by the author. Materials submitted will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed, appropriately-sized envelope. Telephone, fax or e-mail contributions of late-breaking news or last-minute insertions are accepted as space allows. Phone (330) 483-1104; FAX (330) 483-1444; e-mail is shane.good@aazk.org. If you have questions about submission guidelines, please contact the Editor. Submission guidelines are also found at: aazk.org/akf-submission-guidelines/.

Deadline for each regular issue is the 3rd of the preceding month. Dedicated issues may have separate deadline dates and will be noted by the Editor.

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