

# Brasil News

2010 - september  
year 1 - No 2

[www.enrichment.org](http://www.enrichment.org)  
[shapebrasil@gmail.com](mailto:shapebrasil@gmail.com)  
And in FACEBOOK!



Employees of the Zoológico Quinzinho de Barros, in Sorocaba, making the ethogram under the supervision of SHAPE-Brasil's training team.

## SHAPE realizes training at the Sorocaba Zoo

In another training action aiming to improve the quality of life of captive animals in zoos, the SHAPE's team organized an action with the keepers from the Sorocaba Zoo, in a

training that sharpened their creativity, without neglecting the necessity of observing and documenting. Pages 6 and 7.

## Valerie J. Hare, special to Brasil News talk about her experiences in Brazil

Valerie J. Hare,  
The SHAPE of  
Enrichment

Co-Founder and  
Workshop Coordinator  
relate her work and

experiences year by year  
since the first year of  
SHAPE-BRASIL.

Pages 3, 4 and 5.

"Valerie J. Hare, ©2008 The Shape of Enrichment, Inc."



The perches and the whole coconut received the most, and immediate, attention. This fellow didn't even wait for us to leave the enclosure before claiming a coconut.



At the Final Word, we remind you that the SECOND CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT is coming up. Hurry up to make your registration!

Also check out the winner of the LOGO BRASIL NEWS CONTEST, which is already stamped in our newsletter. Don't forget the reading tip, and the genius cartoon made by designer, and future biologist Marcelo Ramalho Santos. Pages 8 and 9.

## Aquário de São Paulo e SHAPE: a welfare partnership

The SHAPE partnership with Aquário de São Paulo brings benefits

to everyone, specially the animals. At least 8 species are being watched. Learn more about the project. Página 5

### Masthead

Executive director  
Manuela Fraga Geronymo Sgai

Editors  
Manuela Fraga Geronymo Sgai  
Cristiane Schillbach Pizzutto

Translation  
Alice Reisfeld

Graphic project  
Fábio Hosoi Rezende  
([fabiohosoi@yahoo.com.br](mailto:fabiohosoi@yahoo.com.br))

Contacts:  
[shapebrasil@gmail.com](mailto:shapebrasil@gmail.com)  
[www.enrichment.org](http://www.enrichment.org)

**T**ime flies!!!! The II Brazilian Conference on Environmental Enrichment is coming up...notable people are coming from different parts of the planet to donate knowledge, and lots, lots of experience to everyone who's interested in improving the life of a captive animal.

It's a unique opportunity, which only happens every two years. Now is the TIME, the program is unmissable!!!! How much can we learn???? Teach??? Divulge??? Exchange ideas???? Or, simply make it happen!

In this edition of Brasil News, Valerie Hare shares a little bit of her experience in Brazil, and the evolution of Shape-Brazil. Speaking of which, where has Shape-Brazil been????



## II Brazillian Conference of Enviromental Enrichment



**II CBEA**  
*Bem-estar é muito mais do que estar bem*

The opinion of the most important experts about enviromental enrichment.  
20 great presentations. Visitors from several countries.

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English to portuguese

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da Universidade de São Paulo  
Av. Prof. Dr. Orlando Marques de Paiva, 87  
Cidade Universitária, São Paulo/SP – Brasil



untill 13/10/10 - R\$ 200 (Students)  
R\$ 220 (Professionals)  
untill 18/10/10 - R\$ 250 (professionals or  
Students)

## Shape – Brasil: A Bittersweet Success!

Since 2000, I have been fortunate to have visited Brazil several times. Each trip, I have been impressed with the advances and on-going commitment to enrichment in numerous zoos there. As I prepare for my 7th trip to this wonderful country, I find myself thinking about the incredible work Shape—Brasil has achieved in its first four years.

### 2007

Cristiane Pizzutto, Angelica Vasconcellos, and I began talking about the possibility of creating a Shape—Regional in Brazil in 2007. Almost immediately, Shape—Brasil was formed and its committee selected. And that committee wasted no time identifying its goals and planning events!

“Valerie J. Hare. ©2008 The Shape of Enrichment, Inc.”



The ocelots both investigated the Boomer Ball® with deer urine on it. As they rolled the ball through the leaf pile, the urine provided a nice scent trail, through a new substrate, for the male to follow.

The First Shape—Brasil Enrichment Workshop was held that same year. That workshop, hosted by Parque Zoológico Municipal Quinzinho de Barros, Sorocaba, was attended by about 20 staff from 14 zoos. During the workshop, delegates designed, implemented, and assessed enrichment plans for tucano, arara azul, onça, puma, macaco-aranha, and mandril.

### 2008

In 2008, Shape—Brasil organized two major events: its First Regional Environmental Enrichment Conference (REEC) in September and its Second Enrichment Workshop just three days later. I had the great honor and pleasure to participate in both!

The Second Shape—Brasil Enrichment Workshop, hosted by the Zoológico de São Bernardo do Campo, was attended by about 20 staff from different zoos and aquariums. Angelica, Cris, and I instructed the workshop and David Shepherdson was a guest speaker. During this 4-day workshop, the delegates designed, built, tested, and evaluated enrichment plans for jabuti, arara, anta, and jaguatirica.

## Shape—Brasil: A Bittersweet Success!

Planning the Enrichment Workshops was a combined effort by the workshop host zoos, Shape—Brasil, and the workshop instructors. Shape—Brasil assisted the host zoo with local arrangements for delegates, acted as translators to assist our preparations for working with the zoo's collection, and hosted the visiting instructor (me!).

Due to the combined efforts of the Sorocaba Zoo, São Bernardo Zoo, and Shape—Brasil, both workshops were well-organized and the delegates (and animals) enjoyed a safe and productive week! In fact, the evaluation ratings for these workshops were among the highest of any Shape of Enrichment Workshop to date.

The First Shape—Brasil REEC was hosted by São Paulo University from 26-28 September, 2008. Over the 2-1/2 days of the conference, the 150 delegates heard presentations from numerous Brazilian and international speakers, viewed 48 poster presentations, and participated in a round table discussion and photo contest.

“Valerie J. Hare, ©2007 The Shape of Enrichment, Inc.”



Cardboard carpet tubes were a great addition to the blue macaw enclosure. The macaws walked on top of and through the tube.

The caliber of both the academic and practical presentations was impressive. And, judging from the delegates' comments, the conference was a resounding success!

Shape—Brasil planned and implemented all aspects of the REEC: venue logistics; fund raising; designing the program; transportation, registration; hotel accommodations; hosting the international speakers; moderating the sessions; social events; contests; and so much more!

### 2009

In 2009, Shape—Brasil consulted with Aquarium of Sao Paulo about their enrichment programs and strategies.

## Shape—Brasil: A Bittersweet Success!

“Valerie J. Hare, ©2007 The Shape of Enrichment, Inc.”



This spider monkey loved his outside-the-enclosure feeder but didn't appreciate the audience!

### 2010

This year, Shape—Brasil has hosted two workshops: (1) Environmental Enrichment Workshop for Cats and Dogs of the Centro de Controle de Zoonoses (Zoonosis Control Center) of the City of Sao Paulo and (2) Training for Environmental Enrichment Techniques for Animal Keepers of the Parque Zoológico Municipal Quinzinho de Barros, Sorocaba – Sao Paulo.

And, the Second Shape—Brasil REEC is just around the corner! The conference will be held at São Paulo University in October. And judging from the invited speakers and preliminary program, it may be even better than the first! If you haven't registered yet, I encourage you to do so.

In closing, I would like to say that Shape—Brasil's successes are bittersweet for me personally. Their work to date has been "spot on" and as the Board Liaison for all Shape—Regionals, I couldn't ask for better!

So, what's the bittersweet part? It's simple. Shape—Brasil's success has clearly made me obsolete! Now, it will be very difficult to find excuses to visit my many friends in one of my favorite countries!

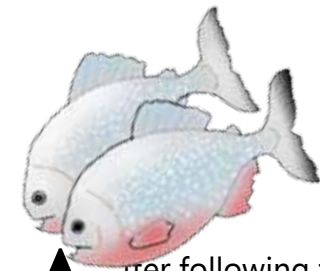
**Seriously though, I'd like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Shape—Brasil, for a wildly successful first four years. I can't wait to see where you go from here!**

# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

Photos' and text's credits: Bruno Nalio Costa e Cintya Eimy Kato

Drawings: Cintya Eimy Kato

## Aquário de São Paulo



After following the activities of SHAPE-Brasil for this past month of August, in order to attend to our graduation's internship, all we can say is that it has been a one-time-only experience of both learning and opportunity. Something we have never had in our college time, and why not say in our personal lifetime? We've grown as professional and as human beings. After all, who would imagine oneself doing it all at the same time: the ethograms of black tufted-ear marmoset (*Callithrix penicillata*), flying foxes (*Pteropus vampyrus*), seahorses (*Hippocampus reidi*), red-bellied piranhas (*Pygocentrus nattereri*), Amazonian manatee (*Trichechus inunguis*) and a subantarctic fur seal (*Arctocephalus tropicalis*)? That is the diversity which makes enrichment such a worthwhile activity.

We've been doing daily behavior observations of the black tufted-ear marmoset (*Callithrix penicillata*) and we haven't seen a day in which we didn't learn new things during the observations. Those moments of contact with the animal teach us a lot about who he really is, and as Cristiane has once said to us "These are things that won't be taught to us in college".

Alongside SHAPE-Brasil we've had the unique opportunity of getting close to the flying foxes (*Pteropus vampyrus*) from the Aquário de São Paulo. Some of these animals have started to better explore their environment after the enrichment's implementation, moving to branches that weren't very often used or explored before. The training and conditioning has also brought many positive results, even an animal flying inside the enclosure was recorded, a very rare situation in a small captivity.



Sea-horses (*Hippocampus reidi*) at the Aquário de São Paulo.

Further activities also included our participation in the lesser anteater's enrichment workshop, and many others animals and experiences await for us.

# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

Photos' and text's credits: Bruno Nalio Costa e Cintya Eimy Kato  
Drawings: Cintya Eimy Kato

## Aquário de São Paulo

The Aquário de São Paulo, in partnership with SHAPE-Brasil works with many species of animals. We are having the opportunity to develop our own enrichment projects, with the red-bellied piranha (*P. nattereri*) and the seahorse (*H. reidi*). This is, for sure, the most valuable thing in our internship, not to mention the honor of being part of this team, which is making enrichment a science to be taken seriously in this country!



Still in the starting phase of collecting behavior data through observation before enrichment, we have noticed in our project that the Piranhas are expressing excessive cannibalism, and the Seahorses are spending very little time swimming and feeding. Through the use of enrichment, we expect to reduce aggression and enhance the natural activity of these species.



Red-bellied piranha (*Pygocentrus nattereri*) at the Aquário de São Paulo

Enrichment requires arduous work: the collection of data through ethograms requires time and dedication; the enrichment's application requires physical effort, creativity and knowledge; the analysis after the enrichment requires patience, a critical eye and the acceptance of possible mistakes. And all this work is not enough to pay the debit that we have with these animals. Everyone's help is necessary to offer the welfare that they rightfully deserve.

# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

Text: Cristiane Schillbach Pizzutto

Photos: Manuela Gonçalves Fraga Geronymo Sgai

Cristiane Schillbach Pizzutto

## Sorocaba's Zôo

**T**he Parque Zoológico Municipal Quinzinho de Barros (Sorocaba Zoo) was able to involve all of its keepers and kitchen staff (which prepare the animals' food) with the Environmental Enrichment Workshop, which was offered specially for them, by Shape Brasil.

It was a 20 hours course, focusing at enrichment for birds, reptiles and amphibians. Basic concepts of ethograms, species behavioural necessities, methods for registration and assessment of items offered to the animals and a practical workshop for the production of environmental enrichment items was offered specially for the staff.



The use of simple materials, often recycled with no economic value, can result in simple and valuable items such as this meat-filled mouse.

All of the theory that was presented to them was rescued during the time of the practical part. The most surprising thing was the capacity and creativity of the participants while making the enrichment items. .



Team elaborating the ethogram.

The Sorocaba Zoo is showing, day-by-day, a concern with its animals' well-being, and we, from Shape Brasil, are very proud of being able to contribute with this growth through our teachings.

Congratulations to all of the participants for the brilliant involvement with the workshop.



# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

## Sorocaba's zoo

Testimonials

Enrichment is really good, practice it, you are able to do it.  
Not just feeding and cleaning, enrichment is a love gesture.  
Putting enrichment is an alternative...to improve quality of life.  
We are already in captivity! Want a suggestion?  
Enrichment is what we like...  
To make it happen and improve, we'll create and practice enrichment.

**Keepers from the Sorocaba Zôo – Anderson, Carlos and Margareth.**

"Let's make the animals feel, for a few moments, as if they were in their natural habitat...MAKING ENRICHMENT"

**Keepers from the Sorocaba Zôo  
Carlos Caman (Peruan)**



Making the objects doesn't require practice. A well elaborated ethogram is enough to guide what will please each individual.



Ciconia maguari, having fun at the lake, right before giving its testimonial.



In spite of having the ethogram showing the way, creativity is still fundamental.

"How happy I am, today I fished my food"  
Ciconia maguari

# Final Words

Manuela Gonçalves Fraga Geronymo Sgai

Dear Colleagues,

Brazil News exists to praise enrichment in Brasil. Help us make this mean of communication a valuable instrument. Come participate and contribute with us. Send suggestions, critics, texts, cartoons, thoughts... Brazil News is ours!!!!

[shapebrasil@gmail.com](mailto:shapebrasil@gmail.com)

## SHAPE Brasil Novelty

Cristiane Schilbach Pizzutto

**O**ctober is coming up! Have you already registered for the II CBEA?

"Enriching the image II", and lots, lots of people willing to share ideas with all of you.

No? So hurry up, because it will be a unique opportunity to be among such notable people from the environmental enrichment field. Your English is not so good? Don't worry!!! We'll have simultaneous translation. We'll have a delicious opening dinner at the Aquário de São Paulo, the photograph contest

Now you ran out of excuses. Register and don't forget to send your abstract. We want Brazil to be each time more involved with environmental enrichment, and our animals to live in increasingly better conditions, because we believe that well-being is a lot more than being well!!!



II CBEA

Bem-estar é muito mais do que estar bem

## Promoção LOGO-Brasil News

Manuela Gonçalves Fraga Geronymo Sgai



**N**e asked, and you answered.  
We thank everyone who sent  
a logo for the Brasil News-  
LOGO CONTEST.

The author of the chosen logo was  
Nathalia Cristine F. D. Gallizioli.  
Nathalia, you'll be our special guest at  
the II CBEA. See you soon!!!

## ENRICHING...

## “A good read”

Cíntia Germano da Rocha

### **Scientific Approaches to Enrichment and Stereotypes in Zoo Animals: What's Been Done and Where Should We Go Next?**

Ronald R. Swaisgood e David J. Shepherdson

Zoo Biology 24:499–518 (2005)

A good book, a good article, or, simply  
a text for divulging. If you thought of  
something, make your suggestion...  
send it to Brasil News.

## Charge

Marcelo Ramalho Santos

Graphic Designer

Biological Sciences graduate student - Unip - Vergueiro.

