

TIGER'S TALE



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THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA
SUMMER 1974



Doing what comes naturally under south Florida's tropical sun is "Dalip," Crandon Park Zoo's seven year old male Indian elephant.

AND THERE'S GOOD NEWS — from the Director of Metro-Dade County Park and Recreation Department, A. H. Peavy:

I am happy to report some real progress on the new Zoological Park. Three architectural engineering firms have been recommended to the County Manager by the Selection Committee. As soon as one of them has been chosen and approved by the Board of County Commissioners, work will begin on the site plans.

The three firms under consideration are Connell and Associates, H. J. Ross and Associates and Carr Smith and Associates.

It now appears that we can expect to receive the deed to the property in early September.

We have been working in a coordinated effort with the several Federal Agencies which will have

facilities in the area to bring in main utility lines of all sorts to serve everyone. While this may seem to be a slowing-down factor, the savings to us will be sufficient to make it really worthwhile.

Meantime, at the Crandon Zoo, more than forty new animals have been acquired in preparation for stocking the new zoo. These represent an investment of over \$100,000 and include crocodiles, Thomson's Gazelles, Grant's Zebras, Grant's Gazelles, Black Rhinos, Cape Buffalo, Duikers, Grevi Zebras, Elands and a Bushbuck.

So you can see that, at long last, we are really moving on this important project.

A. H. Peavy

TIGER'S TALE

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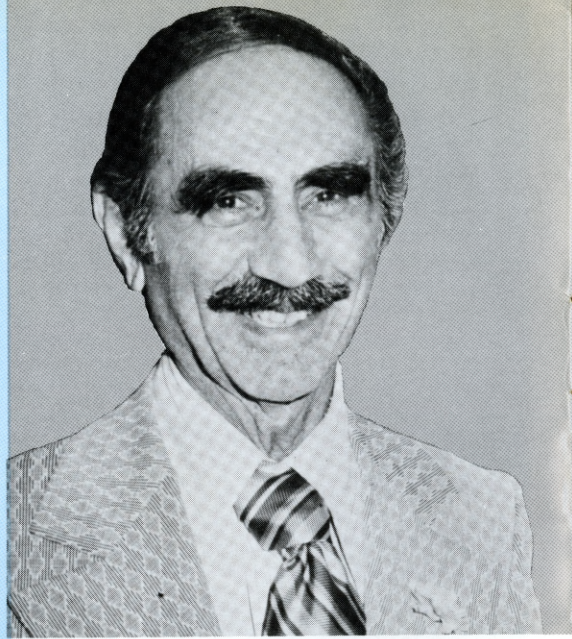
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Courtesy Mount Sinai Medical Center

BARON deHIRSCH MEYER

1899-1974

The entire Miami area was saddened on the morning of June 16, 1974, to learn of the sudden passing of one of its greatest philanthropists, Baron deHirsch Meyer. The Zoological Society of Florida, for many years, had been among those numerous organizations enjoying the benefits of his philanthropy.

Mr. Meyer was a member of the original Board of Governors of the Society following incorporation in 1956. He served on the Board for several years and was, at the time of his death, an Honorary Member of the Board.

Mr. Meyer had great interest in the Crandon Park Zoo and gave of his time and money toward its development. The Penguin House was built with funds contributed by him.

Baron deHirsch Meyer will be missed and long remembered by members of the Zoological Society of Florida.

John Halliburton



The Zoological Society of Florida

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ZOOLOGICALLY SPEAKING....

If it is really true that one picture is worth a thousand words, you'll be overwhelmed at the verbiage in this issue of Tiger's Tale: the centerfold is a collage of photos taken at random at the great "Spring Collection at the Zoo" party and on pages 12 and 13 we've included a picture story about the Children's Zoo at Crandon Park.

We needed more space than usual for the Calendar of Activities so when you get to page 14 you'll see we have lots of plans for the Society for the next few months. Be sure to mark your own calendar so you won't miss a thing.

From the Docent's Desk, page 10, you'll see that congratulations are in order for the newly formed Greater Miami Docent Council of The Zoological Society of Florida. This was a day the Society has long looked forward to as an indication of growth and stability.

Ooops! Whoever heard of a 3,500-5,300 pound pygmy hippo? You did if you read your Spring issue of Tiger's Tale! We think big but we also think you'd better make that 500-600 pounds.

Peabody--a Whale of a Baby, page 6, by Bruce Allan Jailedagain, is a story about a baby pigmy sperm whale approximately a yard long which was found abandoned by his mother. Miami Seaquarium's efforts to keep this little pea-sized body alive were heroic and Peabody's welfare became the public's concern as it was closely followed through newspaper and television accounts.

Citizens of Dade County--and especially Zoological Society members--will be interested in the statement of progress on the new Zoo from Mr. A. H. Peavy, Director of Metro-Dade Park & Recreation Department, page 2.

About this time of the year, we all get edgy about the possibility of a well-aimed hurricane zeroing in on Key Biscayne and the animals in Crandon Park Zoo. Recalling the havoc caused by Hurricane Betsy in 1965, we searched through back issues of Tiger's Tale and found the account we have reprinted on page 15. The dollar loss of animals from this hurricane was estimated at that time to be over \$10,500. It behooves us to keep positive "no hurricane" thoughts.

Cordially,

Ann K. Robes
Editor

PEABODY — A Whale of a Baby

by Bruce Allan Jaildagain

On June 12, 1974, two young boys were diving along the beach at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, when they were surprised by the appearance of a baby pigmy sperm whale. The whale exhibited no fear of the boys as he followed and nudged them while they dove. The whale's mother was nowhere in sight. After two hours of searching and waiting, they contacted the Florida Marine Patrol and brought the baby to the Miami Seaquarium. He weighed in at 40 pounds and was 39½ inches long. One of the veterinarians estimated that he was about three to four weeks old. He was placed in a specially prepared large dolphin tank. The descriptive name of "Peabody" was given the new arrival and it soon stuck.

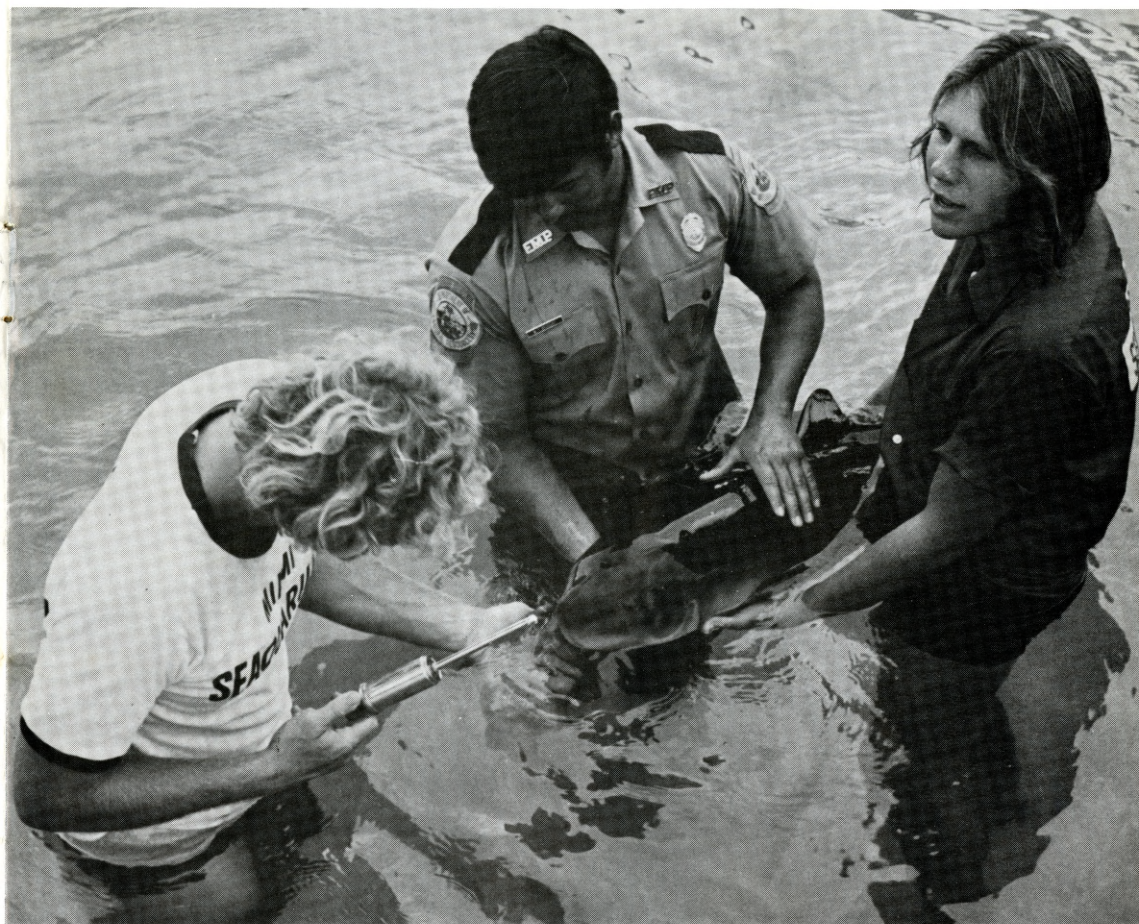
To our knowledge, no pigmy sperm whales have ever been kept alive in captivity and we, at the Seaquarium, wanted more than anything to keep Peabody alive. We realized the large task ahead of us. Such a small whale would need 24 hour attention, feedings every other hour (day and night), and plenty of love and affection. We had many volunteers to spend those long, mosquito-plagued nights and many of the Seaquarium staff gave up their days off and lunch hours to feed, swim and play with Peabody.

Marine mammal experts from all over the country were contacted to devise a milk formula closely resembling pigmy sperm whale milk

which has a 40-50% fat content. The result was a combination of butter, corn oil, cod liver oil, heavy cream, vitamins and electrolytes. We tried many different types of milk feeding apparatus along with an every-other-hour stomach tube feeding. He seemed to love the stomach tube more than the nurser and when we called him to feed (by slapping the water), he would come with his mouth open and readily accept the tube and its nourishment. He would navigate clockwise around the tank when he swam or dove and counter-clockwise when he had a resting (or sleep) stage. Peabody was, for all appearances, healthy and he followed the divers all over the tank while attempting to nurse their arms or legs. In fact, his aggressive nursing attempts led us to believe we had a fair chance of becoming mothers for perhaps the next year and a half.

Nine days after we received little Peabody, however, his behavior changed and he began avoiding us when we entered the water. On the tenth day, two of the "Peabody Staff" left the tank to warm his formula. When they returned, Peabody was dead. An autopsy was performed and it revealed nothing conclusive that would indicate the cause of death.

The blow was devastating to everyone of us and many employees cried outright. Seaquarium employees, especially those who had



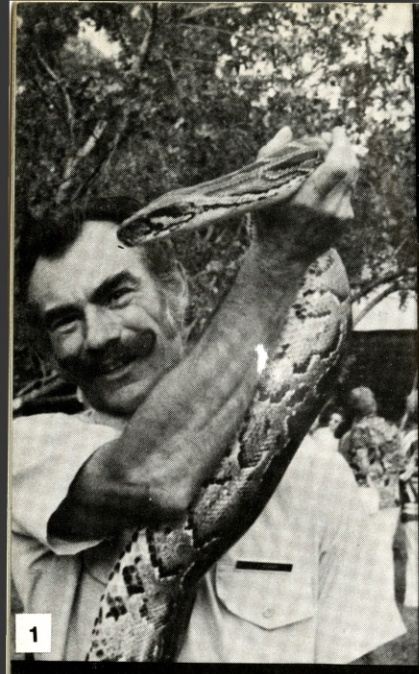
Wometco Miami Seaquarium

A stomach tube becomes a pygmy sperm whale's baby bottle. "Peabody" eagerly accepts the tube and its nourishment from the author and Bob Parente of Miami Seaquarium with Marine Patrol Officer Bill Blossat giving gentle assistance.

spent a few glorious moments swimming and playing with Peabody, found it difficult to smile for days.

Although Peabody is gone, the memory of those ten days will be cherished for many years.

Bruce Allan Jaildagain received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Union College, Kentucky, and graduated from Biscayne Paramedical Institute, Miami. He has been employed at the Miami Seaquarium for almost two years as Veterinary Technician and specializes in marine mammals.



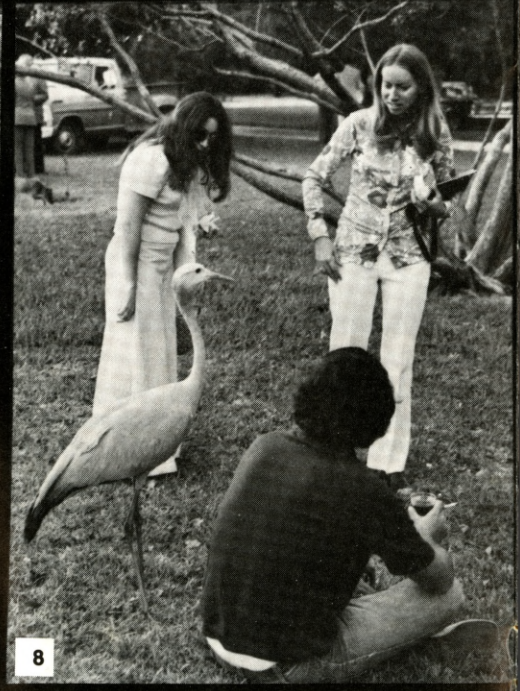
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SPRING COLLECTION AT THE ZOO — the festive party given by and for Zoological Society of Florida members and their guests on May 22 — featured, especially, the animals born since the beginning of 1974. Chairman of the "Spring Collection" committee was Pam Odgers (11). Party-goers arrived through the main entrance of the Crandon Park Zoo (10) after it was closed to the public and followed the arrows (2) to the refreshment area (3) where Maja Kura served punch to B. J. Beach. Margaret Cutler (4) not only gave Docent tours throughout the evening but spent many hours earlier creating the black olive penguin conversation piece (6). Mustachioed zookeeper Leroy Bahney had his hands full with this 13-foot Burmese python (1). All eyes here were on the stately Stanley crane (8). As an



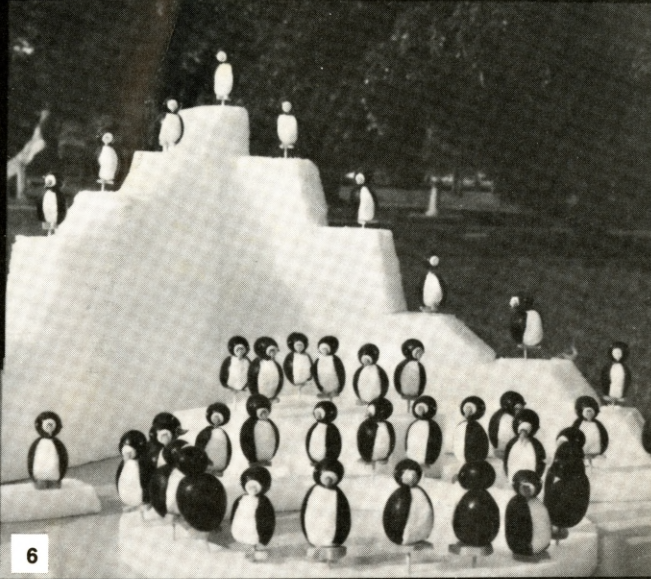
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Photos this page Phillip Allen Debra Burch James Crawford

alternative to "shanks' mares" many members sought the comfort of the motorized tram to get about the Zoo (5). Zoo Director Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Hubbell (left) chatted with Society 1st Vice President, Michael Kevorkian and his wife, Virginia, President of the Docents. In the center (background) of this photo (7) is T. A. Strawser, designer of the new Zoo to be constructed in south Dade County. T.A. is the artist whose painting, "The Zoo Society" has brightened the covers of Tiger's Tale and, as a poster, lends cheer to the walls it decorates. Standing beside this popular Strawser poster is Docent Phyllis Baldwin who doubled as a party committee member (9). No photographs were available of Society President, William G. Heuson, nor of hard-working committee members Joyce Meade and Em Kafoury.

from the desk of the **DOCENTS**

by Em Kafoury

DOCENT: teacher, lecturer

Less than a year after the first Docent class graduated, a Docent Council has been formed. Its objectives are to provide educational tours and service in aid of and in connection with the Zoological Society's educational activities for the Zoo. All the activities of the Docent Council are subject to the approval of the Board of Governors of the Society.

Although our Docents are volunteers, they must maintain certain minimum standards to remain on our active list. Most important is the number of hours devoted to service within the Council. As a beginning, forty hours per year is the minimum, with that figure probably to be doubled as our organization increases in number. Service hours may be acquired through touring, tagging along on other tours, doing research for fact sheets, attending our monthly educational luncheons, and attending field trips. Service hour requirements are a way of ensuring that Docents educate and re-educate, as that is the primary function of the Docent.

Officers of this fledgling group are President Ginny Kevorkian, Vice-president Joyce Meade, Secretary Betty Lasch, and Treasurer Margaret Cutler. Member-at-Large Em Kafoury will sit with this group on

the Executive and Advisory Committees. Charter Members in addition to these officers are: Phyllis Baldwin, Debbie Burch, Helen Donaldson, Isadore Hanken, Flo and Jules Kartman, Pam Odgers, JoAnne Plunkett, and Chester Wofsy. Others are Yvonne de Speciale, Jean Ford, and Ken Pollock.

New graduating provisional Docents are Elrose Couric, Jane Adair, Hester Taxay, Peg Lincoln, Gay Hodges, and James Wellington.

* * *

Recently, in cooperative interest, Frank V. Du Mond, Director of Miami's Monkey Jungle, joined The Zoological Society. Just at that time the Docents were considering their first field trip — and what better place to start? A couple telephone calls later the date was set and a dozen or so Docents arrived at the Jungle for an admission-free tour of this marvelous primate display. John and Sarah MacGilchrist, of the U of Georgia, are doing a study of the social structure of the Java Monkey troop and they discussed this study with the Docents. The Rain Forest section of the Jungle lived up to its name with heavy and frequent downpours; however, not one Docent was seen sneaking off to a dryer habitat. It was all too good to miss.

"Juney" at two weeks with her substitute mother, Debbie.

Debra Hall Burch is secretary to Crandon Park Zoo's Education Director, Phillip Allen. She keeps *Tiger's Tale* staff up-to-date on current news of the Zoo's animals and from her we learn that a male Thomson gazelle was born in May and two aoudads were born in June.

Debbie is married to Zookeeper, Carl Burch, whom she met when *she* was a Zookeeper.

Recently three young mandrills have been put on display in the primate section. They are "Juney," "Phyllis" and "Diller." "Juney" is especially near and dear to the heart of Debbie because she was "Juney's" substitute mother after she was orphaned at the age of two weeks and until she could eat solid food at three months.

Debbie has been associated with *Tiger's Tale* for a year and spends much of her spare time (and money) on her hobby of photography. We are often the beneficiaries of her hobby — many of her photos are included in the collage on pages 8 and 9 of this issue.



Photos this page Patti Murray





James Crawford

Em Kafoury

Over the Rainbow

Cross the Rainbow Bridge and you find yourself in the delightful Children's Zoo with its barnyard, petting area, walk-through aviary, and other displays which widen the eyes of young and old alike.

Snuggled comfortably in the midst of the tropical setting is an Oriental garden with its brightly painted arches. Bridges cross small ponds, and beside Oriental plantings are displays which carry through this de-

lightful theme. The Oriental section was given to the Zoo by the Florida Nurserymen's Association, and in honor of A. D. Barnes, a hybrid olive tree bearing his name stands just north of the reptile enclosure. Look for it as it is the only one of its kind in the world.

There *is* a Pot of Gold at the end of the Rainbow, for the Children's Zoo will stay where it is after the main Zoo moves to its new quarters.



Dominic Bernabei



Dominic Bernabei



1974 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

The following activities are scheduled for the dates below. Please circle your calendar and plan to participate. Notices will be mailed to you at appropriate times giving full details.

September 7, 1974:

Party for members — at the Zoo (we'll need help on this outing — please telephone that you're available).

October 2, 1974:

Regular meeting at the Museum of Science Auditorium at 8 P.M.

November 6, 1974:

Regular meeting at the Museum of Science Auditorium at 8 P.M.

November 22, 1974:

Fund Raising Luncheon at the Fontainebleau Hotel. Open to the general public — Bring your spouse — Bring all your friends. Entertainment, prizes and fun. (We'll need lots of help to put this on — please telephone the Society office to say you are available!)

December:

Zoological Society Annual Dinner (date to be announced later).

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY AFRICAN SAFARI leaves September 13 and returns October 3, visiting Kenya and Tanzania. Can you believe, that with everything else costing more, this Safari is less expensive than it was last year? And better, too! Total cost for 21 days: \$1,995.00. Tour conducted throughout East Africa by Abercrombie & Kent. Some of the places to be visited are Treetops in Mt. Kenya, Serengetti, Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Manyara National Park, Tsavo West National Park, Amboseli Game Reserve with Kilimanjaro in the background. Telephone the Society office for more information.

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST — 1974: Mr. and Mrs. Floyd M. Foor are wasting no time getting this annual event underway. Start now — send to Society office for your entry blank — the December 10 deadline will be here before you know it. Winners will be announced at the regular Society meeting at the Museum of Science on February 5, 1975.

Address:

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361-1266



Each year as the hurricane season arrives, a feeling of uneasiness pervades the atmosphere at Crandon Park Zoo. Memories are long among those persons who experienced Hurricane Betsy in 1965. The October 1965 TIGER'S TALE tells the story:

"Betsy dealt a deadly damaging blow accompanied by flood waters to the Crandon Park Zoo in spite of the usual hurricane precautions taken by the Zoo personnel.

"At least 225 trees were broken or uprooted. The main Zoo area was awash under three feet of salt water brought in from the nearby Atlantic Ocean.

"Newer buildings such as the Hatchery and Hospital-Clinic were

not safe havens for some animals. Birds that were crated and placed in the Hatchery Building and reptiles which were put in bags and placed on the floor of the Clinic were drowned.

"An African porcupine recently donated to the Zoo by the Zoological Society was drowned along with several other small mammals.

"The Zoo's fresh water dolphin which had been placed in a small pond in the Children's Zoo was found dead several days later on the opposite side of the Main Zoo.

"It is difficult to evaluate the damage caused by Betsy; however, there were 252 animals killed, including amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. . . "

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA

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State

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Occupation

Special Student: \$5.00

Others: \$10.00; \$15.00; \$25.00
\$50.00; \$100.00

Please indicate your area of interest as a volunteer:

Membership & Promotion of Society ; Zoo Guide ; Publication *Tiger's Tale* ;
Office ; Other Interests: _____

Suggestions for Programs or Activities for members: _____

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