



MEETING AT THE ZOO

APRIL 7, 1976

5⁰⁰ - 7⁰⁰ pm

Wine & Cheese Party

Members & Guests Only

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Applications Available



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Vital Statistics



BIRTHS

2/18/76	0.0.2	Aoudad
2/21/76	0.0.3	Aoudad
2/29/76	0.0.1	Flying Fox Fruit Bat
2/29/76	0.0.1	Maxwell's Duiker

Key Colony Motel

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... 400 yards from the beach ...

DEATHS

2/02/76	0.0.1	Smooth-fronted Caiman
2/04/76	0.0.1	E. African Scorpion (baby)
2/09/76	0.1.0	Masai Ostrich
2/20/76	0.1.0	Thomson's Gazelle
2/20/76	0.0.1	Aoudad
2/24/76	0.1.0	Aoudad
2/29/76	0.1.0	Lion

ACQUISITIONS

2/04/76	0.0.4	Emporer Scorpion
2/04/76	0.0.1	Soloman Island Boa

1/1/1 First figure indicates number of males; second figure, females; third figure, sex unknown at present time.

- DEBRA BURCH



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A VISITOR TO CPZOO IS THIS BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON. IT IS A COMMON HERON OF FRESH-WATER SWAMPS AND TIDAL MARSHES. IT IS OFTEN INACTIVE BY DAY, ROOSTING IN TREES. THIS HERON FISHES MORE AT NIGHT, AND THAT IS THE TIME YOU MIGHT HEAR ITS CALL, A SINGLE 'K'AWK.'

Night Tour

Once night falls at the zoo it becomes a different world. Gone are the crowds and the ever-present sounds of civilization. The rising moon reflects white on the paths and turns everything else into black shadows. You suddenly become aware of the many sounds that were drowned out by daytime traffic and the chatter of the crowds: The sound of the waves in the distance and the wind in the pine trees; the croaking of what seems like hundreds of frogs along the canals and the restless chatter of the birds at the duck pond.

The animals settle down for the night and can be seen mostly as dark forms silently lying or gliding around their paddocks. While you can't see the animals in detail their shapes are silhouetted by the moon. The darkness also hides the fences, giving one a feeling of actually walking among the animals.

You can see the blackbuck antelopes lying in a group with the male off at a distance seemingly on guard. Further down are the large black shapes of the cape buffaloes standing by their hay rack, feeding. As you walk by the ostrich pen the Egyptian geese make quite a racket, hissing to keep you at a distance. I guess at night they also forget that there is a fence.

Down by the Indian rhinos, Mohan will be charging into the pool and tossing his log around like a matchstick. When he gets tired of that he will stand by

the hay rack munching for hours.

On the other side of the lake, the cats are usually asleep, although they do wake up on occasion to give a couple of roars before dropping back to sleep. The pygmy hippos play in their pool and at night their black bodies look like huge eggplants. The aardvarks are active at night, scurrying around digging holes. The only drawback to staying around and watching them is that they give off an acrid smell as they mark their territory. Across the way, the elephant will sometimes lie on his side in the canal, almost completely submerged. He will then take a deep breath and blow bubbles through his trunk. This keeps him occupied for hours.

Walking back to the front of the zoo, if you make too much noise you will hear the clanging of a steel door as Colonel (*chimpanzee*) comes charging out of his night house, screeching at the top of his lungs. He's a light sleeper. If you haven't gotten a heart attack from that and it is a cool night, the heat lamps will be on in the reptile house displays. The reptiles are doing what they normally do all day, which is sleeping.

All in all, being at the zoo in the nighttime is more of a sound experience than a visual one, but it's an experience you won't soon forget.

- HAL BOGDA

Zoonotes

Overheard by Keeper CARL BURCH: "Those red tags in the duiker's ears are price tags. Right, Daddy?"

BEN SIMONETTI and BILL ZEIGLER are busy building a red-legged tortoise pen on the hill just west of the giant tortoise enclosure.

The Society is pleased to be able to fund the attending of the AAZPA Southern Regional Conference in Memphis of two Curators. PETE TERRY and BEN SIMONETTI will be going to the 3-day conference.

Great blue herons have honored CPZoo by building nests in the tops of dead palm trees. (See picture below). These herons had sad luck with their home located near the camels and cape buffaloes, for the high winds blew the nest down. Two babes were rescued and recuperated in the clinic. They are now doing well in the hatchery and mom and dad are apparently building a new nest.



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New Members Docent Desk

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 Nall, Diane G. Neumann, Theo
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 aday, Virginia Tanner, June
 Vlerebome, & Mike J. Walsh.

16 Regular tours.....251
 9 Special tours.....324
 1 Outside Lecture..... 40
 Total Number of persons 615

MARGARET CUTLER and JUDY COZ were able to do three tours each, topping the rest of the Docents.

President JOYCE MEADE has been working closely with Zoo Staff in setting up a program in the Children's Zoo whereby Docents will be trained to work there. The program should be in operation by summer.

A By-Laws change has put the Zoo Veterinarian, DR. RON SAMPSELL, on the Advisory Committee of the Docent Council. Welcome, aboard!



Editor's Note: NIGHT TOUR was written by Mr. Hal Bogda, a nighttime Zookeeper at CPZoo. He is one of those people whose job is most important to the well-being of the animals, but someone few of us get to meet.

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