JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1982 VOL. 8, NO. 4

Valentine weekend to bring love to art

BOLIETY OF FR

"The art displayed will be of the finest quality because the show is juried. This year's festival will be the biggest and best yet," stated newly elected board member Howard Tendrich when describing his expectations of the Fifth Annual Festival of the Arts at Metrozoo, Valentine's Day weekend, February 13-15.

Tendrich, who is this year's chairman of the festival, has high hopes for the event which is fast becoming one of Miami's major art shows. "Due to the fact that our dates are right in between the Vizcaya and the Coconut Grove art shows, the preceding and following weekends respectively, the Festival will attract artists from all over the country, commented Tendrich, who added that from the 200 or so artists expected to display their works at the show, applications from as far west as Colorado and as far north as Massachusetts have already been accepted.

Prizes totalling \$5,200 will be awarded in six categories: ceramics, crafts, graphics, painting, photography, and sculpture. The prize money has been donated by corporate sponsors. Proceeds from the Art Festival will go toward the Zoological Society's general fund.

Judges for the event include Barbara Gillman, who opened her first Miami gallery in 1979 and is a member of the Art Dealers Association of South Florida; Eugene Massin, Professor of Art at the University of Miami, who has had a number of private shows nationally and internationally and is listed in the Who's Who of American Art; Carol Wien, Vice-Chairperson of Fine Arts of Beth David and well-known in Miami's art and craft circles; and Lisa Sheres, Assistant Art Director for Southeast Bank's Fine Art Department since 1978, buying art work for their 96 banks.

Special events to be held during the course of the Festival will include the Toucan Team puppet theater and the unveiling of Dell Filardi's Condor sculpture, which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. William N. Ruby at a cost of \$20,000. Local wildlife sculptress Johanna will be displaying her works as the Festival's featured artist. Previously she held a highly successful one-woman show sponsored by the Society on the zoo ground. Arrangements for entertainment by PACE are being made for the enjoyment of the expected daily crowd of 10,000.

Development Program headed by Mahmarian

The year-end letter, which went out to the membership requesting donations, officially started our Development Program.

Dick Mahmarian, in charge of the Development Program, is pleased to report that many members supported the Society by giving towards its projects.

The program is outlined in this article, and its progress will be reported in each issue of "Toucan Talk" along with serious tax saving ideas.

The Society's membership has increased considerably, and as a result its income has increased. All non profit organizations, such as the Zoological Society, depend on membership income simply to cover general operating expenses. These monies are needed to service the members and pay for our staff.

In order for our Society to serve its purpose in supporting the Metrozoo, the society must raise additional money to realize its goals.

At present the Society's goals and their costs are:

- Animal Hospital \$1,700,000
- Nursery/Hatchery \$200,000 of which Burger King has pledged \$50,000 if we raise the balance of \$150.000
- Educational Program \$100,000 total \$2,000,000

The Society is looking into other programs and projects that will probably increase this dollar goal.

The Metrozoo is a long awaited shining star, and the Society wants it to be the finest in the world.

The Metrozoo is a credit to our community and certainly a counter action to all the negative publicity Miami has received.

"It is truly a beautiful and cultural experience, and it can only get better with our help," stated Mahmarian.

The Society's Development Program is being geared to seek grant money from various foundations, to seek financial support from many Miami Corporations, and to ask for individual support from the Society's members through "gift giving.

Individuals and the Society both benefit when a gift plan is put into effect:

Giving can be done through:

Cash Contributions

Gifts of Services Gifts of Real Estate

Gifts of Life Insurance

Gifts of Personal Property

The Society needs your support and will generously recognize your help.

If anyone is interested in discussing a gift or a pledge, please call Dick Mahmarian today through the Society office. The number is 255-5551.

Toucan Chatter by Jan Beckman



Jan Beckman gathers information for Toucan Chatter

Entrance to the Zoo . .

. . . for members is simple. There is no need for you to wait in line. Present your membership card at the "stroller gate" for prompt entrance to the zoo. The gate is located at the far right of the admission plaza.

The Annual Report .

... is being prepared. Your Society has grown so fast that it has taken the accountants and staff extra time to prepare the report. If you wish to receive a copy, please write to the Society; and we will be happy to send you a copy when it is printed in February.

The Key Club . . .

... from Palmetto Senior High has taken on the Society's wishing well as a regular project collecting all those wet coins during the week for the Animal Hospital Fund. Our own Toucan Service Team dives into the well on weekends. Thank you guys and gals! Also, a "zooper" thanks to Dixie National Bank for

Also, a "zooper" thanks to Dixie National Bank for counting all the coins for our wishing well savings account. **Dr. Esra**...

. . . was an instant hit at our recent meeting at the Museum of Science. "Doc" brought along some of his "patients" to highlight a lively discussion on medical problems in today's zoos combined with some serious and humorous slides. Thank you Jerry Esra for a most enjoyable evening, and thank you Laura Rose for bringing some of your furry and feathery friends to the meeting.

Our next meeting at the Museum will be Wednesday, April 7 at 8 pm. Rosemary Twinam will be taking us on an "Armchair Safari of Africa". Rosemary has visited the parks of Africa on numerous occasions and is preparing a most interesting evening of slides and conversation.

Just a reminder that our Museum meetings are now quarterly. To round-out our year, meetings will be Wednesday, September 1st and Wednesday, December 1st at the Museum. Some special plans are being made for the summer months.

Bob Yokel.

... Director of Metrozoo has asked me to convey his personal appreciation to the Society's volunteers who gave so generously of their time over the holiday season when 130,000 people came to see the zoo. ZIP members,Docents and our Service Team did an outstanding job in everything from answering phones to crowd control. I add my personal thank you to those who gave a part of their holiday to help their zoo and the Society.

The Art Show . .

... scheduled for February 13-14 here at Metrozoo is moving right along, reports Howard Tendrich, Festival Chairman. A new category has been added to fund the show's \$5,200 cash awards. You can now become a "Donor" for \$100. Other categories are "Grand Patron" (\$1,000), "Patron" (\$500), and "Sponsor" (\$250). Contributions are tax deductable and receive very special attention during the Festival.

Worth Repeating . . .

... is the Society's desperate need for new or used electric golf carts for use by our staff and docents around the 160-acre Metrozoo. If anyone has any contacts, please call the Society.



Holly's Dancers performed a magical evening of music and dance for the Society Jan. 16 at Ransom-Everglades Campus at 8 pm.

Society welcomes new ZOOPERS

When the gates opened to 160-acres of totally cageless zoo December 12, enthusiastic Miamians and visitors made their way to Metrozoo breaking all zoo records. By January 12 over 185,000 came to see the new zoo. Indeed, Miami was ready for Metrozoo . . . the "Jewel in Metro's Crown".

And, with them came new members. By January 12 the membership office estimated that over 2,000 new memberships had been recorded swelling the Society's membership roster to approximately 6,800.

Membership had already started to grow prior to the Grand Opening with a "Zooper" advertising campaign in the Miami Herald featuring the advantages of membership with an offer to attend the Society's "Sneak Safari Preview" November 28. The campaign, created by McFarland & Drier Advertising, included a coupon with a theme, "Become a ZOOPER Family." From that time the Society office plunged into madness. Well over 800 new memberships were received as a result of the ad and a gift membership campaign. "I've never seen so many coupons," commented Carole Scheel, membership secretary, who is still trying to catch-up with the help of volunteers. "We're doing our best to process all the applications as quickly as possible, but we have to be sure that they are entered properly on the computer to assure full membership benefits."

The Zooper campaign was initiated in an attempt to attract members to the Society. One goal of the Board of Governors was to have 5,000 memberships in the Society by November 30, 1981.

So, it is with a great big ZOOPER WELCOME that we say, "We're proud to have you as members."

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members of the Zoological Society receive the following:

- 1. Subscription to Animal Kingdom, published six times a year
- 2. Subscription to Toucan Talk, published six times a year
- 3. Ínvitation to special events not open to the general public
- 4. Free admission to over 55 other zoos
- 5. Free Unlimited admission to Metrozoo as follows: a. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP-2 adults plus all
 - children 18 years and younger living at home
 - b. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP—One person only
 - c. LIFE, CONTRIBUTING and all others—as registered with the Society office

GUESTS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN MEMBERSHIPS & cannot enter the zoo free.

Docents choose new leaders

by Pat Kelly

Elections are over, and our new year has begun—Cindy de Tournillon, Freda and George Houser, Judy Moss, Patti Ragan, and Pat Kelly constitute the newly elected Advisory Board of the Docent Council.

The Docents have long lived with being flexible and once again pitched in where needed during the exciting and hectic opening days of Metrozoo. VIP night saw Docents manning viewing caves and trams at the invitation of zoo officials. Opening week gave us many opportunities of serving Metrozoo and the public by helping out with exhibits, assisting Universal Mobility in their ticketing and refunding, and serving as visible information sources in addition to giving walking tours on demand.

Our new Docent Training Class will be starting February 2. An 8-week, 16-session zoology related program, the Docent Training Sessions, will be given Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 am to 12 noon at Metrozoo. With the zoo now open 7 days a week, the Docents are anxious to increase their ranks. Should you have an interest in becoming a Docent, please contact Pat Kelly at 361-9328 or 361-2004 or leave word at the Zoological Society office.

If you have the opportunity, watch some of Metrozoo's animals on "Something on Seventeen" every other Tuesday 7 pm on Channel 17. They are accompanied by Docents Joyce Meade and Jeanette Jordan.

Toucan Team classes begin for '82

The first Toucan Team class of 1982 is now in session. Classes began February 6th and will continue for 8 consecutive Saturdays. This graduating class will have the opportunity to join the ranks of the Toucan Service Team. The Service Team has been in high gear, generating the

The Service Team has been in high gear, generating the excitement associated with Metrozoo's grand opening. You could easily find them in the crowds with their bright yellow society T-shirts and white pith helmets helping with crowd control, holding down the fort in the society trailer, answering phones, and helping where help was needed.

With the zoo's grand opening behind them, they look forward to creating new puppet shows and bringing the spirit of the zoo to other interested teens.

If you've missed this Toucan Team class, look for information about our next one in the next issue of Toucan Talk. Susan Fried

Pre-visit program goes to Dade Schools

by Ileen Seidler

A new year! A new Zoo! A new Education Department!

The Society office has been a beehive of activity with the grand opening of Metrozoo. The education department has contributed greatly to that buzzing. Volunteers have been helping with the development of a number of new educational programs for the zoo.

The greatest efforts have been in finalizing the pre-visit program materials that will be made available very soon to all Dade County schools.

Plans are just beginning for a special summer program — ZOO CAMP. Watch Toucan Talk for specific dates and more detailed information.

Special activities and programs are being planned for the fall. Children and adults can look forward to exciting class offerings with a Special Day for families.

As soon as our classroom facilities become available, there will be even more to explore when one visits the Zoo.

Conservationist to speak on endangered species



Gerald Durrell poses with one of his friends.

Gerald Durrell, nationally respected conservationist and leading expert on endangered species, will be the guest speaker of Tropical Audubon and the Zoological Society February 21 at 6:30 pm in Metrozoo's amphitheatre.

Since the age of 2, Durrell has sought to build a zoo composed of endangered wildlife. In 1963 Durrell established such a zoo which is supported by The Wildlife Preservation Trust International, Inc. on the Chanel Island of Jersey off the coast of France.

Known for his wit and sensitivity, Durrell will present a fun-filled lecture entitled "The Island Ark." He will also feature one of his recently completed movies and a host of amusing but educational wildlife stories, along with excerpts from his many books.

Tickets for this event will be \$4.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12 to be sold at the gate. However, discount tickets may be obtained at a price of \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12 prior to the event by sending a check made out to the Zoological Society with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

Zoological Society of Florida

12400 SW 152 St., Miami, Florida 33177 NOTE: Discount tickets will be available only through February 15.

VITAL STATISTICS

	*Male comal	e coort	
BIRTHS	*****		
12/28/81	0.1.0	Maxwell's duiker	М
01/01/82	0.0.3	European Brown Bear	М
DEATHS :			
12/08/81	0.1.0	Mandrill (Susan)	М
12/28/81	0.0.1	Ruddy shell duck	M
12/30/81	1.0.0	Leopard cat	С
12/30/81	0.0.1	Central American squirrel	С
12/30/81	3.2.0	Sugar gliders	C C C
12/30/81	1.0.0	Blackbuck	С
12/30/81	1.0.0	Eland	Ċ
12/30/81	0.0.1	Savannah monitor	М
12/30/81	0.0.1	Orinoco crocodile	M
12/30/81	0.1.0	Striped skunk	M
		(Flower)	
TRANSFER	S:		
12/14/81	0.0.1	Burmese python -	M
12/14/81	0.0.1	Common boa	M
12/23/81	0.0.1	Red tailed boa	Μ
12/23/81	0.0.1	Common boa	Μ
12/31/81	1.1.0	Malayan Sun Bear	Μ
		(Missy & Mong Bear to Zoo	ological
		Consortium in Maryland)	

Note: M designates Metro, C designates Crandon: 0.0.0. indicates number of males, females or unsexed of the species.

Zeigler discusses off-display breeding facilities for birds

In the November-December issue of Toucan Talk, I described our overall goals and desires as professionals for Metrozoo. I also mentioned the second group of animals, cranes and storks, that, along with crocodilians, forms our Species Specialization Program. In this issue I will be going into greater detail about this group of animals, and in particular I will describe the design of our breeding compounds for large cranes and storks.

The design of our facilities was actually completed in 1979 through the efforts of our staff and with the assistance of other zoological parks throughout the country. Just as we help other zoos by passing on information on our own mistakes and successes in our breeding programs here, we have been collecting the same kind of information from other zoos — what not to do as well as what has worked for them.

Breeding large birds consistently and giving them the optimum environment for breeding requires that certain conditions be met that are not conducive to public display. The effects of public viewing — the constant movement of people, voices, and the need to maintain the enclosure at a level of cleanliness that is primarily for public benefit alone — all lead to stress and have an effect on the ultimate breeding success. That is not to say that all birds are negatively affected by any kind of public viewing; our Stanley cranes at the Crandon Park Zoo bred every year for us while on display. However, too much of this kind of stress does decrease the chance of breeding for a large percentage of birds.

It is also important that the birds feel secure. They need to be able to hide or remove themselves from the source of stress. To accomplish this requires what we call "cage furniture." Rocks, trees, and shrubs are all integral parts of the design of a facility. In providing the right kind of cage furniture for the birds, the potential for public viewing is accordingly decreased.

Cranes and storks at Metrozoo will have two different types of enclosures built for them, and a third type will be built for birds of prey.

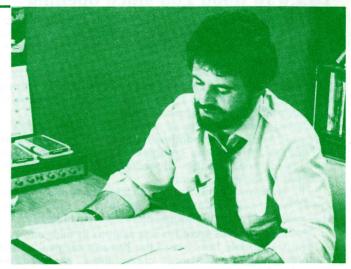
Cranes. The crane facilities will consist of five 75' x 75' pens made of eight-foot high chain link fence and netted over the tops so that the birds don't have to be pinioned. A large shallow pool will be constructed towards the center of each pen, 20 feet in diameter and one-and-a-half to two feet in depth.

Shrubs will be planted at random throughout the pen and densely planted in the corners. This will help keep the dominant birds from driving subordinate animals into tight areas where they could do them harm.

Because cranes are ground or low-level nesters, plenty of papyrus and other grasses will be planted to offer suitable

ZOO "QUE"

- 1. An animal which is a relative of the horse is hunted for its horns. Name it. Answer: Rhinocerous
- 2. Do you know why the rhinocerous is such an unpredictable animal? Answer: It has poor eyesight and a smallbrain.
- 3. The orangutan is the only great ape found outside Africa. True of false? Answer: True. Orangutans are found only in Borneo and Sumatra. (Gibbons and siamangs are also found in Asia, but are lesser apes).
- 4. Which is the longest living land mammal other than man? Answer: The Asian elephant, which lives to be 50 to 60 years.



Bill Zeigler studies a report from another zoo concerning the breeding of cranes.

nesting sites and materials. The type of species that will be kept in each pen will determine the number of animals placed together.

Storks. Storks tend to be more territorially aggressive than cranes, so in order to house more than one pair in a pen, we will elongate the structure to $100' \times 50'$. This will allow each pair to pick and defend their nesting sites more easily, and they will still be able to get away from other birds. The only other difference in this facility design is in nesting area.

Since storks nest in trees or other high places, we can obtain much better results by constructing platforms six feet above the ground in each pen. These nesting structures will be located near the center line of each pen, and they will consist of a six-foot square platform with steep ramps leading to the ground to allow easy access for birds already pinioned and for newly-hatched birds as they start to venture forth.

Birds of prey (raptors). We have already been very successful in breeding birds of prey. Our list includes caracara, Andean condors and bald eagles. This year, one of our pairs of white-backed vultures laid their first egg, and we have become involved in a release program for Andean condors through the New York Zoological Society that has proven very successful.

So far, breeding has taken place in what can best be described as corn cribs, designed by the Bellum Caging Company; and there doesn't seem to be any reason to change this. The only improvement we can make is to elongate the enclosures to allow more flight room which will be of value not only with regard to increased breeding potential but will also provide added health benefits. The enclosures will be 15 feet across and 30 to 35 feet long. The circular cages we have now can then be used for smaller birds and as holding facilities for juvenile animals.

As I've mentioned, all our bird breeding facilities will be off-display. A site has been chosen that will allow easy access for water, electricity, and easy security control. It's unfortunate that the public will not be able to see our breeding stock, but the need for seclusion is clear; and if Metrozoo and other zoological institutions are to be successful in the preservation of endangered species, facilities like the ones we are building are essential. Metrozoo has the capability of becoming a world center for such programs, and we will continue our efforts to bring about just that.

Until our bird facilities are completed in the summer of 1983, temporary facilities will be used to house and breed the birds. We hope to be able to display some of our results through the next year, so keep an eye out for them.

-Bill Zeigler

Metrozoo General Curator

185,000 flood Zoo since opening

Since the grand opening of Metrozoo December 12, approximately 185,000 eager spectators have flooded the gates to see and experience Miami's newest family educational attraction.

The record breaking crowd could very well have outnumbered those who attended the opening of Walt Disney World and all other zoos in the United States according to Jan Beckman, Society administration.

During some periods of time zoo officials found it necessary to close the admission gates until people inside had partially toured the complex; however, after a few changes in crowd control procedures, Metrozoo accommodated all those who came.

The lines were long. Some spectators patiently stood in line for as long as two and a half hours to get into the zoo. This indicated the tremendous interest in the Metrozoo.

Metrozoo officials were no less zealous in their efforts.

The Clydesdale horses and the Kiwanis carnival added to the contagious fun and crazy antics at Metrozoo December 12.

Holiday Inn, Johnson Properties highlight institutions efforts

Approximately 300 people attended the Zoological Society's \$100 per person weekend at the Brickell Point Holiday Inn, December 5-6. The weekend, sponsored by the Holiday Inn and Johnson Properties, was held to celebrate the opening of the new hotel.

For its grand opening festivities, the Holiday Inn highlighted three Miami institution's efforts, the Zoological Society, the New World Festival of the Arts, and the Miami Maritime Museum. The weekend festivities included a cocktail party, a black-tie dinner and dance, a champagne breakfast, and overnight accommodations at the hotel.

The Society raised \$4,682 from the affair, all of which was added to the general fund to be used for Society projects including the nursery/hatchery and the animal hospital.

The new Miami Maritime Museum provided a marine parade on the hotel's waterfront especially for the guests. Several people on the boats were dressed as animals in honor of the Society. Said Society Secretary Buff March, "It was just beautiful. The Holiday Inn could not have done a more wonderful job, and the parade was an extra treat."

Society's purpose to support Metrozoo

The primary objective of the Zoological Society is to support Metrozoo. The Society does this through the indispensable man power of volunteers, Docents, and Zoo Information Personnel, ZIPS. The raising of funds for special projects is also a vital part of the Society's commitment to the Zoo.

Much money has been directly allocated to the betterment of Metrozoo by the Society in 1981.

• The Education Program received \$10,000 for the institution of its services.

• The Society raised \$9,000 for the support and transportation of the famed gorilla, Ramar.

• \$3,000 was allocated for the construction of the Puppet Theatre.

• The Society sponsored Dr. Gerald Ezra's trip to the Zoo Veterinary Conference at a cost of \$1,300.

• The Society commissioned the construction of a small animal building at the cost of \$10,000. This building will house the animals used in the Outreach program, and it is presently being built by Dade County.

Many more projects are in the works, the results of which will appear in future editions of Toucan Talk.

Lowell welcomes

2,000 members



Jack Lowell welcomes new members

It is my great pleasure to welcome over two thousand new members who joined the Society during the December Grand Opening. This will be your first issue of "Toucan Talk" and your introduction to the dedicated group of volunteers who are helping the Society achieve its goals.

We need your help as well. The opening of Metrozoo has brought new responsibilities to the Society and a need for more volunteers. Please call the Society office at 255-5551 or fill out the computer information sheets we are sending you to let us know your interest. Above all, tell your friends and relatives what a great facility the zoo is and encourage them to visit. Enthusiasm is contagious.

Our matching grant from Burger King requires us to raise to \$150,000 by October 1982. Roger Carlton and Dick Mahmarian have begun this task and would appreciate assistance. They can be reached at 232-1130 and 666-5313 respectively.

A committee of the Board of Governors has been interviewing applicants for the position of Executive Director. A decision upon this most important person should be made by the end of February.

During January and February the Board of Governors will be reviewing the goals and organizations chart of the society. This process will establish the direction of the Society's efforts for 1982, and the results will be published when formal action has been taken.

The opening of the Metrozoo was truly spectacular from the antics of Ramar to the running of the trams on opening day. The real thrill, however, was the enthusiasm and delight shown by the more than 185,000 people who toured the zoo during the first three weeks of its opening. The doubters in our area who said the zoo would be a disaster are now eating their words — and we are delighted to offer them salt and pepper to make their meal more spicy. Many thanks are due to our docents, Jan Beckman, the zoo staff, and our other volunteers, who all put in long hours to make the opening such a success. Well done!!

The Festival on Valentine's Day weekend, our regular quarterly meeting April 7 at the Museum of Science, and Easter at the zoo are all coming up. Please join us at these special events. Again, the Society gives a hearty welcome to all of our new members and a rousing "Congratulations" to our existing supporters for making the Metrozoo Grand Opening truly grand.

Information booth to be stationed at Fair

The Zoological Society will continue its support and involvement with the Youth Fair. It is scheduled to run from March 18-April 4.

The Society's booth will be stationed on the fair grounds as in the past. It will sell memberships and provide information about the Society and its many programs. It will also gain exposure for Metrozoo. The booth will be lodged in building 2.

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA

OFFICERS:

Jack Lowell, President Ron Esserman, 1st Vice President Daniel Z. Averbook, 2nd Vice President Buff March, Secretary Robert Harris, Treasurer

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

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TOUCAN TALK STAFF:

Betsy Pierce, Editor James Mullins, Staff David Rosen, Staff Eric Baum, Photographer

ZIP ZOO INFORMATION PERSONNEL

Our new group of volunteers will hold their first official meeting in February. If you are interested in joining this most active group, call the Society today.

255-5551



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 13-14	5th Annual Festival of the Arts Metrozoo
Feb. 21	Gerald Durrell Lecture Metrozoo—6:30 p.m.
March 13	St. Patrick's Day Parade (Society Float) Downtown Flagler St.
March 18-April 4	Dade County Youth Fair (Society Booth) Youth Fair Grounds
April 7	"Armchair Safari" of Africa Museum of Science—8 p.m.

MOVING?

Please help us keep your subscriptions and notices coming.

Name _

Old Address

New Address _____City ____Zip ____ MAIL TO: **Zoological Society,** 12400 SW 152nd St., Miami, FL 33157

A				
	annual passes	information	tours	
	zoolo			

Toucan Perch plays vital role

Because of the great success of the first Toucan Perch, the Society operated information booth, another booth has been erected outside the main zoo grounds near the ticket gates.

Volunteers, specifically the Zoo Information Personnel under the direction of Barbara Birmingham, provide the much needed assistance. They answer questions, solve problems, and relay messages to the appropriate areas. The Perches are a vital part of the Society.

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