



June proclaimed zoo, aquarium month

June has been proclaimed Zoo and Aquarium Month in the United States by President Reagan, recognizing the cultural contributions of the country's 200 zoos and aquariums. The proclamation's signing was lauded by Robert O. Wagner, Executive Director of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums.

Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums.
Wagner said, "I am delighted that the President of the United States has officially noted the good work of these institutions by designating June National Zoo and Aquarium Month. This is the first time that a President of the United States has noted achievements at zoos and aquariums and acknowledged the importance of such facilities in providing wild-animal-oriented education to our more than 125 million visitors annually."

The zoos and aquariums across the country will be gathering forces to plan special programs for their visitors during the month of June according to Louis R. DiSabato, President of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. "As the zoos and aquariums of this country and throughout the world enter into their busy summer season," he said, "it is gratifying to learn that President Reagan has honored our fine institutions. We hope the American public will want to become even better acquainted with us during Zoo and Aquarium Month."

The proclamation honors the pioneering efforts of America's zoos and aquariums in providing natural settings for its animals and working toward the conservation of the world's wildlife. It also commends the use of zoos and aquariums as living classrooms by 20 million school children each year.

Wagner noted, "This is an excellent opportunity for all of our institutions to make their publics aware of the role zoos and aquariums serve as centers of recreation, conservation, education and research."

The Education Department of the Society is participating in Zoo and Aquarium Month by presenting a film fare in classroom 2 of the Education Building Sunday, June 20, starting at 10:30 am and continuing until 3:30 pm.

The purpose of Members' Day was to introduce the Society's new "Adopt-an-Animal" program to the membership before it was offered to the general public. Members were entertained by the outstanding performance of the Jeff Kirk Jazz Quartet. Kirk, who regularly plays the Fontainbleu Hilton on Miami Beach, is a member of the Society and donated his time. The Society's Metrozoo puppets also performed. Speakers included Ron Esserman, First Vice President; Bob Yokel, Metrozoo Director; Bill Zeigler, General Curator; Jerry Esra, Metrozoo Vet and Jan Beckman, Society Administrator. Several of the zookeepers were introduced, and a selection of small critters were brought over from the Asian Contact Village to delight the audience.

Following the amphitheater program, members were encouraged to walk the zoo to select an animal for possible adoption and then rendezvous on the roof of the Zoobaba for more entertainment and refreshments. In addition to the music, watercolors by the renowed British wildlife artist Peter Barret were on display from the Ibo Lele Art Gallery. Students from Redondo Elementary, the school that created the paper mache exhibits at the front of the Metrozoo, were also on hand. An "Adoption Desk" was set up where members adopted over 40 critters by contributing \$3,915 which will go toward the feeding costs at Metrozoo.

"Combining the adoption fees with t-shirt sales and new memberships, the event raised close to \$4,900," reported Jan Beckman. "We really feel that Members' Day was a success, not only for the Society, but for the animals as

well."



Lynn Songdahl, zookeeper, holds up 11 day old tiger cubs, Bali and Shere Kahn.

Toucan Chatter

by Jan Beckman



Summer Zoo Hours . . .

went into effect Saturday, May 8, for the duration of Daylight Savings Time. Weekday hours remain the same with the admission booths open from 10 am to 4 pm. Visitors may remain in the park until 5:30.

For weekends and holidays, the hours have been extended. Admission booths will open at 9:30 am and close at

4:30 pm with exit time extended to 6 pm.

Peter Barret Art . .

is available for sale through the Ibo Lele Gallery in the Falls Shopping Center. These beautiful, wildlife water colors were used to illustrate THE WORLD GUIDE TO MAM-MALS by Nicole Duplaix and Noel Simon and are magnificent collector's items. The pieces start at \$180, and the Gallery has pledged 20 percent of all sales made to members as a contribution to the Society.

Born in Bombay and educated in Wales and England, Mr. Barrett has recent works which include two series of plates, porcelain bird statues, bird bells and bird thimbles for

the Franklin Mint in Philadelphia.

The Arabian Horse Show . . . netted the Society \$140 in April. Sunshine State Arabian Club holds four shows a year at Tropical Park and donates their gate revenue to the Society in exchange for volunteer help and promotional considerations. Last year, the four shows brought in over \$4,000.

Small shows are staged in April, July and September with the major, two week show in November. If you're "into" horses and would like to volunteer, please call the

Society

The St. Patrick's Day Parade . . .

was lots of fun. Under the direction and with the design of Rob Bechtel and Harry Stuber, the Toucan Team and other volunteers constructed a float on a 20 foot truck

donated by the Ryder System.

This year's theme was "METROZOO . . . Jewel in Dade County's Crown". The float featured a huge crown, music and stuffed animals. Docents, ZIP volunteers, youth team members and Holly's Junior Dance Troup enjoyed the ride down Flagler Street while they told the people to "Come to the Zoo"! A very special thanks to all involved.

478,000 Visitors . .

have passed through Metrozoo's gates from December 12 through the end of April with April's attendance slightly

above projections.

Future visitors will face slightly higher admission prices due to the new state sales tax (5 percent). Adults are \$3.94, and children are \$1.58. The new prices went into effect May

Lost Membership Cards . . .

. . . are like lost credit cards since they entitle members to free admission to Metrozoo. Our new cards are numbered. Please record your number as you would a credit card. Should cards be lost, they cannot be replaced by mail. Please come to the Society's office and file a lost card report for security.

Special Thanks . .

. . go to Central Audio Visual for their donation of a portable sport's voice projector and to Life Member Austin Weeks for contributing so generously his beautiful color slides to the education department.

We're still very much in need of two electric typewriters

in working condition.

Members enroll for summer

This summer's fun is about to start at Metrozoo, Dade County's Zooper 160-acre cageless zoo. For the very first season, the Zoological Society of Florida has planned some very special programs for your children. Early registration is suggested since these unique opportunity programs have limited enrollment. Act today . . . Don't miss out on the fun!

ANIMAL ART

Explore through clay, batik and other art mediums, the world of animals. Metrozoo's own animals become live models for our young artists. Materials included in the price of this one week course for the expressive child.

Sessions Start: July 5 & July 26 Time: Monday-Friday 10 am-Noon

Cost: \$45/Members \$55/Non-Members TOUCAN TEAM Grades 9-12

A unique opportunity for young adults to explore all the wonders of our new Metrozoo. Fascinating guests and trips behind the scenes are but a small part of this exciting and popular program. Only one session will be offered this summer, meeting on eight consecutive Saturdays. Mornings are spent in special learning activities. Afternoons are devoted to creative zoo-related services and projects.

Session Starts: June 19

Time: Saturdays 9 am-3:30 pm
Cost: \$50/Members \$60/Non-Members

Zoo Camp provides journey

Spend five days actively exploring and learning all about animals, zoos and endangered species.

Each day's fun-filled activities have been planned to provide opportunities for closer looks at all facets of animal life. Animal behaviors are explored and children learn the fine technique of animal training

Behind the scene visits to the animal kitchen and the clinic are part of the activities that introduce children to

the health and care needs of our animals.

Children will do what the zookeepers do while working with the animals in Sulawesi, our Asian Contact

Zoo Camp is an adventuresome journey that gives children in grades 3-6 the chance to creatively learn while having a Zooper time. We provide a mid-morning snack and a very special Zoo Camp T-shirt.

Session Starts: June 28, July 19 & August 9

Time: Monday-Friday 8 am-Noon

Cost: \$50/Members \$60/Non-Members

SUMMER REGISTRATION

Student's Name	201, 1 Tue 5210	AgeGrade
Street		To pate it at a
City	State	Zip
Parents' Names	and a farmer in	Office #Home #
		ers of the society. Annual family and all children 18 years and \$
Please enroll the abo	ove student in the follo	owing program:
Program	Session	Program Fee \$
We are □ are not □	members of the Zoo	ological Society Total \$

TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Zoopers become parents

Zooper Parents become a part of our new and growing family at Metrozoo through an exciting, new "adoption" program, you, your association, classroom or company may enjoy the satisfaction and special benefits of becoming a "ZOOPER PARENT" by contributing to the general support of your favorite Metrozoo critter. In return, you will be entitled to:

• A distinctive certificate personalized in calligraphy

 A plaque with your name on the "Donor Board" located prominently in Metrozoo*

An invitation to our annual "Zooper Parents' Day"

An informative fact sheet concerning your critter

A colorful "ZOOPER PARENT" decal

*For donations of \$100 or more

Donations go toward the general care and feeding of all animals at Metrozoo. Please bear in mind that as with all living things, the lives of these animals are subject to change. They may become ill, pass away or be transferred to another locale. In such an event, you may select another animal in the same fee category. Adopted animals remain in the zoo at all times. Metrozoo retains the right to remove animals from public display for any reason.

Whole display sponsorships are also available for major

contributions.

It's easy to adopt an animal. Simply select the animal that you want for yourself or to give as a gift and fill out the adoption papers. All of these animals are waiting to hear from you!

\$25	\$150	\$450	
*Indian Spot Billed Duck *Bar-Headed Goose	*Galapagos Tortoise *Ring-Tailed Lemur	*European Brown Bea *Spotted Hyena	
*Cuban Tree Duck *African Comb Duck *Mandrin Duck	\$200	\$600	
	*Malayan Sun Bear *Himalayan Bear *Himalayan Tahr *Siamese Crocodile	*Chimpanzee *Dromedary Camel *Cape Buffalo *Forest Buffalo	
*Yellow Headed Amazon Parrot *Macaw *Turkey Vulture	\$250	\$800	
*Sulphur Crested Cockatoo *Red Tailed Hawk	*Red Deer *Fallow Deer *Maxwell Duiker *Blackbuck	*Grant's Zebra *Grevy's Zebra *Orangutan	
*Black Swan	*Sandbar Deer	\$1,000	
*Black Necked Swan	*Nilgal	*African Lion	
transmi	\$300	\$2,000	
*Emu *African Pygmy Goat *Llama	*Red Kangaroo *White Handed Gibbon *Siamang	Malayan Tapir Baird's Tapir Black Rhino Asiatic Elephant African Elephant	
\$100	*Pigmy Hippopotamus	*Bengal Tiger	
*Miniature Horse	*Sitatunga *Sable Antelope	\$2,500	
*Domestic Pony	*Defassa Waterbuck	*Lowland Gorilla	

If your pocketbook won't cover the cost of adopting the animal you want, just send us what you can afford and what animal you'd like to help. We'll send you a certificate as a bona fide "Zooper Friend" of Metrozoo. Annual adoptions are tax-deductible.

ADOPTION PAPERS

Animal To Be	e Adopted	1	Adop	ted Fee	\$
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Service Team works Sulawesi Village



April marked the beginning of our own Service Team's participation in Sulawesi Village. Each weekend at least 6 Team members will spend time caring for the animals, act as stationed interpreters and work on the maintenance of the village.

ZIP logs 1,000 plus hours

by Barbara Birmingham

Zoo Information Personnel (ZIP) volunteers logged-in well over 1,000 hours during the month of April for the Society and Metrozoo. Membership in the group has grown to 60 with new members being added daily. The call is still out for members who can volunteer time during the week.

Through a publicity effort with the local newspapers and television, ZIP is now looking for senior high and college students willing to dedicate part of their summer vacation to the Society. Volunteers are needed for trams, crowd control, office, information booths and as general zoo aides.

Recently ZIP represented the Society at the Dade County Youth Fair and the Miami Flower Show. The "engineering department" is busy repairing the Society's two information booths thanks to Harry Stuber and Rob Bechtel.

Lecture Animal Building to be dedicated

by Pat Kelly

We've cause to celebrate, and plan on it! Our Lecture Animal Building will be dedicated and celebrated by members of the Docent Council June 5. Sponsored by the Zoological Society of Florida and constructed by Dade County, LAB will house the animals used by the Docent Council in their Outreach Program. It will be our responsibility to feed, clean and care for the likes of Pansy (opposum), Bambi (skunk), Crandy (ferret), Boa Derek and Fred (boas), and Herman (ball python).

To this collection of Docent animals the zoo has added some old friends, Hank (brown lemur), Nugget (African gray parrot), and Franklin (sulphur breasted toucan), along

with two ravens and four sugar gliders.

Peggly Lincoln, chairman of this project, not only participated in designing this structure with help from Dr. Gordon Hubbell, Al Fontana, and others and equipping it through donations from our membership but also in acquir-

ing our animal collection.

Our Outreach Program is designed to reach groups in the community who can't make the trek to the zoo (nursing homes, hospitals), to inform the public about Metrozoo and wildlife (Youth Fairs, Blood Drives, T.V. spots, civic groups), and to educate (libraries, school career days). Laura Rose, Outreach Chairman and substitute "mother" to many of our wards during the period they were waiting for their new home, has done an outstanding job.

With the completion of our building and an updating of

our program, we look forward to an exciting fall.

Toucan Talk introduces office staff

Toucan Talk thought it was important to introduce the Society members to their new office staff. Here are their pictures and a short profile of their jobs and interests.





Brown joins as newest member

As the Society grows, more and more people are needed to handle its workload. One recent helpful addition to the staff at the Society offices is Denise Brown. Replacing Carol Sherman as Secretary to the Society's Administrator, Jan Beckman, Denise is currently working on such projects as the Adopt-an-Animal program.

"Right now, I'm taking tours of the zoo and learning about its day to day operations," she said, adding, "I love it

here. The people and the animals are just great."

Denise's hobbies include flying small planes ar

Denise's hobbies include flying small planes and spending time with her husband, Ron, and her two and a half year old daughter, Lauren.

Rita Bryan



Bryan helps education coordinator

As Secretary to the Educational Coordinator of the Zoological Society, Rita Bryan is a vital part of one of the most important departments in the Society office.

Working directly under Ileen Seidler, Rita's responsibilities include everything from secretarial duties to setting

up scheduled group tours at the Metrozoo.

Her love of animals and an interest in the Society motivated Rita to apply for her position. She finds the job

"very gratifying and extremely interesting."

"Right now, we are working with the Dade County School System to set up educational programs for all grade levels. The Society has really progressed in the last year," she said.

Sally Liddell



Liddell becomes membership secretary

Mrs. Sally Liddell is a Society worker with whom all members should become familiar. Her official title is Membership Secretary, and her job description states that she is in full charge of memberships, processing of applications and any problems arising in the membership department."

Mrs. Liddell, who is a four year Miamian, is married to Rudolph II and has two children, Rudolph III, 25, who is married to Debbie, and Lindsay, 23.

She enjoys animals, especially cats, of which she has two Taco and Cricket. She also likes to sew and to read, mostly works in ancient history and fiction.

"My job extends into my private life, and I love it! I love working here," Sally said of her new position.

Carole Scheel



Scheel transfers records

The Society is in the midst of transferring its records onto a computer. Heading this task is Mrs. Carole Scheel.

Carole has been the Society's bookkeeper for the past three months. Before her job change, she worked as membership secretary.

As bookkeeper, Carole's duties are varied, and as she

stated, "It's challenging!"

She goes boating, camping and fishing as often as time

permits. In general, Carole is very close to nature.

A native Miamian, Carole lives with her husband, Chet; 10 years old son, David; cats, Ashley and Chubby; dog, Maggie; and her parakeet, Rocky.

Ileen Seidler



Seidler institutes coordinator

After six months of work on the Society's education program and three years of volunteer duties, Ileen Seidler has been given the title of Zoological Society of Florida Education Coordinator.

Ileen became involved with the Society through participation in the "Green Stamps for Gorillas" fund drive, which was held several years ago to raise money for the purchase of gorillas at Crandon Zoo.

Since then, she has worked tirelessly for the Society, first as a docent, later as Docent president, and presently as

education coordinator.

Her job entails handling all of the planning and implementation of the Society's educational services and the education program. Currently she is working with the Dade County Public School System to provide educational programs for students.



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Zoo	"Qı	10"
200	W	16

- The biggest lizard is the ______.
 What is the biggest reptile? ______.
- 3. The bird with the longest wing span is ______.
- 4. How about the biggest fish? _____
- 5. The biggest snake is _____

Answers on back page

President's Report

by Jack Lowell

The Zoological Society of Florida's active involvement in Metrozoo continues to grow. Docent classes during 1982 so far have graduated over 50 trained volunteers who will provide the walking and tram tours within the zoo. Our Education Department is now booking all group tours, directing the Toucan Team, starting summer camp and putting the finishing touches on the complete education program for use both within Dade County schools and with school groups in the zoo. The ZIP's are providing the volunteer manpower to staff the trams for crowd control and to supplement Metrozoo staff in several areas.

On the fundraising front, the Animal Lecture Building has been completed with Society funds. Dedication is set for June 5. The Adopt-An-Animal program was launched at Member's Day May 1 with all proceeds going to Metrozoo—the first use of these funds was to purchase a special set of

Register now for summer activities

by Ileen Seidler

It's not too late! Register now for one of our exciting summer activities. Look for the descriptive program listings and registration form in this issue of *Toucan Talk*. Additional registration forms may be obtained from the Zoological Society of Florida's Education Department.

Our T-shirts have finally come in and are now available

at the office or by mail.

We have a brand new telephone line, 251-1128, just to handle the incredible number of calls we've been getting from schools and community groups preparing to come out to the zoo. Volunteer "bookies" are needed to help man this phone which is covered Mon.-Fri. from 10 am - 4 pm. Please call Rita Bryan if you'd like to help out.

A very special thank you goes to our chief volunteer illustrator, Janice McDougall. Jan is the Art Director for Cohen & Siskind Advertising Associates, Inc. in Hallandale. Jan, her husband and two sons moved to Miami from Cleveland, Ohio, two years ago along with cats, great danes, and an assortment of heinz 57's. She has given an amazing amount of her time in creating all the illustrations for our Dade County School pre-visit packets that will be distributed in September.

Route 99 promises 'roaring time'

Metrobus invites you to have a "roaring time" on the weekend! Its special Route 99 Express bus service travels from Omni Mall (Biscayne Blvd. & 15 St.) to the Metrozoo every hour on the hour from 10 am to 2 pm Saturday and Sunday only.

The fare of \$1 in exact change gets you to the Metrozoo in air conditioned comfort. Buses back to the Omni leave every hour on the half hour from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm, and

the fare is the same.

The buses travel from the Omni to Metrozoo making only three stops along the way. The stops, in order of appearance from Omni Mall are: the County Courthouse, the University of Miami, (US-1 & Augusto St.), and the Blue Dash Park-Ride (SW 72nd Ave. and 80th St.). The final destination of the route is a fun filled day at Metrozoo.

Persons holding a metropass, a monthly pre-paid fare card that allows unlimited bus rides for a calendar month, will receive a 15 per cent discount on admission to the zoo. To attain a metropass or for more information call 638-6700.



scales to weigh our two new tiger cubs! Bids will be taken within two months on the nursery-hatchery building towards which Burger King has donated 50,000 in matching funds. We still need assistance in raising the additional 150,000

needed to complete the project.

We need to support the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department for the proposed Decade of Development bond issue. Some \$10,000,000 has been proposed for Metrozoo, principally to be used to complete Phase II. The Society's Board is maintaining the discussion of the bond issue with the County Commission and will keep our members informed.

An exciting possibility of a complementary facility for part of the unused acreage around the zoo is being explored by the County right now. A request for proposals for a Recreational/Educational complex has been put out with

bids due back by June 2. An excerpt is below.

Finally, the Society has begun discussions with Bill Bird, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Bob Yokel, Metrozoo Director, about the renewal of the contract between the Society and Dade County. We hope to have good news to report to the membership on this front during the next several months.

Congratulations are due to Jan Beckman, Bob Yokel and the many other participants for a successful Member s' Day at the zoo. Please keep coming and tell your friends what a great experience Metrozoo is.

Excerpts from the Dade County request for proposals. Expected Development

Metrozoo's most basic objective is to provide an educational and entertainment experience. The experience is family oriented. A natural complement to this primarily visual experience is a facility providing a participatory experience.

The facility which the Department is seeking would provide participation in recreational and educational apparatus and structures. A traditional amusement park is **not** what the Department is seeking. A facility designed for a participatory experience for children 2 - 12 and their parents is ideal.

The proposed facility should not take up more than ten acres. Additional area for parking or other purposes may be proposed but approval is subject to careful scrutiny by the Department. Connection to basic utilities are nearby. The successful proposer is expected to provide its own power.

Based on preliminary investigation of facilities of this type, a minimum initial capital investment of \$7,000,000 is expected by the successful proposer. The major portion of this investment should be for structural and land im-

provements.

The design should be compatible with the aesthetics achieved at Metrozoo. Metrozoo has achieved a high level of identification with a natural setting. Lush landscaping, wood treatments, rock formations, water settings and the like are appropriate. Due to other activities in the area, the height of any structure is restricted to 35 feet. Sound should be confined within the leased site.

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MAIL TO: Zoological Socie	tu 12400 SW 152nd St	Miami El 2215



Answers to Zoo Que

1. **lizard – Komodo dragon.** It grows to 10 feet and can weigh 300 pounds. It eats young deer and wild pigs.

2. reptile-saltwater crocodile. Adult males average about 1,000 pounds and are about 15 feet long. They live in waters off Southeast Asia and Northern Australia. The biggest ever recorded was 28 feet from end to end.

3. bird-wandering albatross. Its immense wings can measure 11 feet from tip to tip. It uses its huge wings to

glide and soar above the waters south of the equator.
4. **fish—whale shark.** This fish can weigh up to 45 tons and measures 50 feet or more in length. Its eggs are 10 inches long. The peaceful shark eats only small animals and plant life in the warm waters of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.

5. **snake**—The **anaconda** of South America is the heaviest and the reticulated python of Southeast Asia is the longest averaging 25 feet. Both snakes are constrictors and kill their victims by squeezing them so tightly that they die of suffocation.



A special thanks to staffers David Rosen, James Mullins, and Eric Baum for their help with Toucan Talk this year.

WANTED

5½ hp outboard new or used for Security **Boat on Zoo Lake** 255-5553

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