

JULY-AUGUST  
VOL. 8, NO. 7

# TOUCAN TALK

## Kantor Named to Board



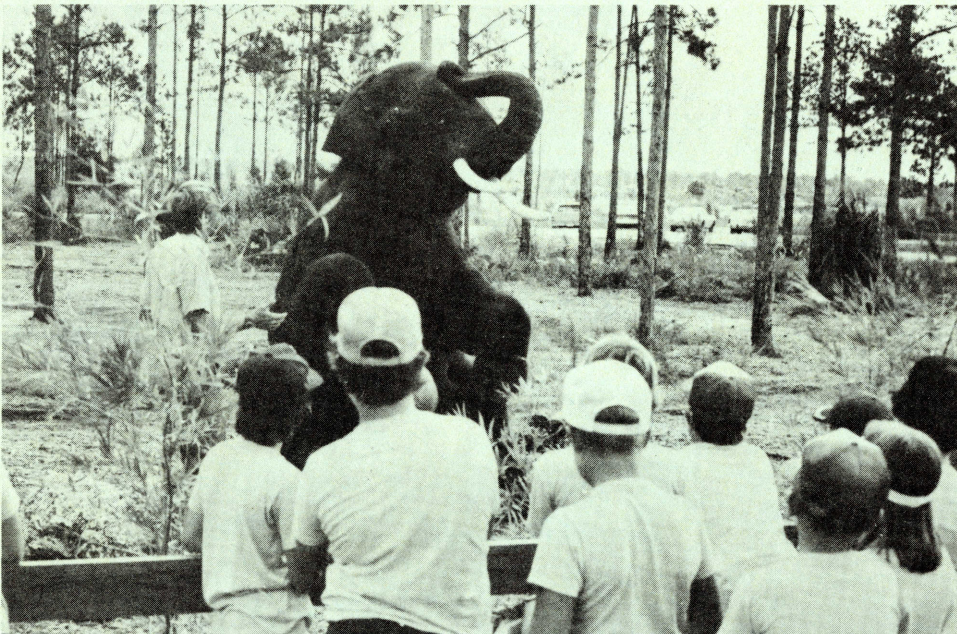
Charles Kantor has been appointed to the Board of Governors to fill the term of Dr. Joseph Ostroski who recently had to resign due to other commitments.

Mr. Kantor is President and Chief Executive Officer of Eagle National Bank of Miami, formerly Central National Bank of Miami, and also serves as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Kantor is a partner in the law firm of Schwartz, Nash, Heckerling, Tescher and Kantor, PA and a past partner in the law firm of Greenberg, Traurig.

Admitted to the Bar in 1969, he is a graduate of the University of Miami School of Law and attended high school locally.

Mr. Kantor lives with his wife, Lonnie, and their two sons, Brian Eric and Gregory Scott, in southwest Dade County.



Above, Zoo Campers enjoy an educational treat in the Sulawesi Village as part of their adventure. Below, young artists craft animal wind chimes.

## METROZOO'S FIRST ZOOPER ZUMMER!

Our first Summer of Fun at Metrozoo started with the June 19th session of Toucan Team filled to capacity. These energetic teenagers have not only been developing special Toucan Team projects, but are also lending their support, along with our own Service Team, as Junior Aides for Zoo Camp.

Zoo Camp is proving to be a great success with June and July sessions filled to overflowing. Our campers have been spending their time exploring all the many exciting areas of the zoo, including the animal nighthouses, the kitchen and our animal clinic. They have been learning about the importance of our zoo, getting to do some of the same things our zookeepers and veterinarians do, competing in their

own mini-zoo olympics and just having lots of fun.

Campers look really great in their very own specially designed T-shirts. These colorful shirts are only available to Zoo Camp participants.

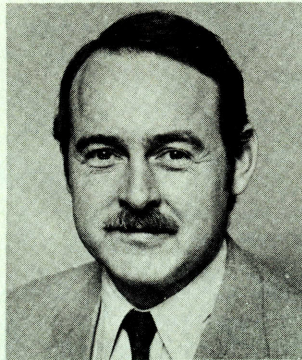
The Animal Art Classes have been full of lots of budding young artists. Animal wind chimes, batik T-shirts, animal portraits, miniature animal sculptures and animal wallhangings were some of the things these youngsters produced while learning about the mammals at Metrozoo. Libby Miller, our volunteer art instructor, has developed so many creative animal art activities that we've persuaded her to have more classes in the fall.





## President's Report

by Jack Lowell



June was the month when the Society dedicated the first structure completed in Metrozoo paid for entirely by Society funding—the Lecture Animal Building. The Docents threw a great party on June 26th to celebrate since they will be responsible for the operation of the building and the care of the animals housed within it.

The request for proposals which Dade County had sent out for a recreational/educational complex has been extended until this fall. We are hopeful that at least one qualified proposal will be submitted.

The interim agreement between Dade County and the Society has been extended for two months to allow time to discuss and agree upon several amendments to the agreement. Since both the Society and Metrozoo are growing and evolving rapidly, the new agreement will be general enough to allow flexibility but specific enough to provide the authority for the Society to continue its supportive role.

Plans for the Nursery/Hatchery Building are undergoing additional review at the request of Director Bob Yokel. Several options of design and location within the zoo are being thoroughly researched. A complete design and cost is to be ready in August.

Both Zoo Camp and our fall education schedule have been very favorably received. Both have resulted in positive publicity for both the Society and the Zoo. On that front, warm congratulations are due to Rick Hensler and Kate Swerin of Metrozoo, who are responsible for marketing and publicity. Not only has the Zoo been the subject of regular and consistent adulatory local media coverage, but Metrozoo also got the highlight photos in a feature article on the nation's zoos which appeared in the May 30th issue of Newsweek Magazine.

Discussion with Bob Yokel and Bill Bird, Director of Parks and Recreation, make it clear that Society support for the operational budget of the Zoo and for any capital program will be essential to getting those items approved. Society members are encouraged to tell Dade County Commissioners why continued support is essential, especially since this is an election year and a difficult budget battle is expected.

With regret, the Society Board of Governors accepted the resignation of Dr. Joseph Ostroski from the Board. Dr. Ostroski indicated that other commitments had reduced the amount of time he had available for the Society. I would like to personally thank Joe for all his help over the past two years. Mr. Charles Kantor has been appointed to fill his term.

It is now the time of year when we ask the membership to nominate candidates for the Board of Governors. If you would like to serve or think someone is particularly qualified, please send the candidate's name to the Nominating Committee at the Society office. A strong Board of Governors is essential if we are to properly reach our goals.

## Phoenix Zoo Hosts Conference

Metrozoo will be well represented at the 1982 AAZPA Annual Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, September 19-23. The Parks and Recreation Department is sending Bob Yokel, Director of Metrozoo. Joining him, and underwritten by the Society, will be Rick Barongi, Curator of Mammals, Al Fontana, Assistant Director of Metrozoo, Dr. Gordon Hubbell, Zoo Veterinarian, Ileen Seidler, Society Education Coordinator, and Bill Zeigler, General Curator.

The American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (AAZPA) has selected Metrozoo and Miami as the hosts for the 1984 Conference.

## Fall Elections Open for Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the Zoological Society of Florida is now accepting nominations from the membership for the fall elections. Five positions on the Board of Governors will become available for three-year terms.

Criteria for considering new Board members include the following:

- Demonstrated leadership or executive experience in business, the community or the Society.
- The ability and commitment to assume responsibility beyond attending Board meetings with a special commitment to fund raising.
- The character, community respect and personality to work cooperatively with others in a group effort.

If you would like to serve or have someone in mind who is particularly qualified, please send their name and resume to: Chairman, Nominating Committee, Zoological Society of Florida, 12400 SW 152 Street, Miami, Florida 33177. The deadline for nominations is August 20, 1982.

## Society to Consider Package Tours

Major zoological societies across the nation sponsor package safari tours for their members every year. The tours offer a package plan at attractive rates with very special attentions and activities for members while visiting a variety of wildlife centers around the world. The tours can vary from a few days to over a month.

At the May 26th meeting of the Board of Governors, tentative approval was given to establish a limited travel program for Society members. Plans are being developed for two possible trips in 1983, with an expanded program in 1984. Possible tour destinations include Kenya and the Galapagos Islands.

Anyone interested in working on the Travel Committee or going on one of the safaris should contact Aileen Lotz at 661-9500. She would also be interested in your suggestions for tours.



## Zeigler to Attend London Symposium

Bill Zeigler, Metrozoo's General Curator, will attend the "International Symposium on the Management of Rhinoceroses in Captivity" in August at the London Zoo. The two-day symposium is sponsored by the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens with the cooperation of the Zoological Society of London.

The group will be discussing the present status of all rhino species populations; the problems of blackmarket and uncontrolled poaching; new developments in captive husbandry and possible programs in progress or being prepared to help save these animals.

Metrozoo has both Indian and black rhinos. However, the Indian rhinos are not on exhibit at this time.

The Zoological Society of Florida is sponsoring Bill's trip to London.

## Society Meeting Set for September 1st

The Society's next quarterly meeting at the Museum of Science has been set for Wednesday, September 1st, at 8pm.

The program will include an award winning film from a major studio and some exciting announcements concerning our fall events at Metrozoo.

Meetings are free and open to the general public. Members are encouraged to bring friends.

## ZIP Group to Adopt an Animal

ZIP, the Society's volunteer corps, has raised close to \$400 from its members to adopt an animal through the Animal Adoption Program. The group hopes to raise enough to adopt a European Brown Bear.

71 ZIP volunteers provided 844.5 hours to the Society and Metrozoo during June. Chairperson Barbara Birmingham is now organizing a more formal and comprehensive training program for ZIP which totals well over 100 volunteers.

Harry Stuber and Rob Bechtel are busy enclosing the front information booth. Electricity for air conditioning is promised soon.

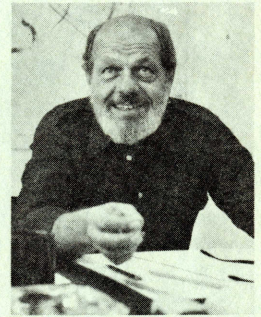
With the opening of the new section in December, the start of the monorail and the travel agents convention in the fall, ZIP is looking for more and more volunteers to help in the park and in the office.

Those interested in the ZIP program can call the Society any day of the week for information and meeting dates. It's a real fun group that puts in a lot of dedicated hours.

*Sheryl G. Rosenfield, Executive Vice-President of Tasco, accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from Ileen K. Seidler, our Education Coordinator. Tasco has generously donated some of the needed equipment for our education classroom.*

## Metrozoo Director's Report

by Bob Yokel



Spring and summer are bountiful times for Metrozoo's animal population. This is all quite gratifying but some achievements are more notable than others.

On July 2nd, Ganesh, our male Indian elephant celebrated his first birthday. Before the end of the summer, we will introduce, for the first time, our Indian rhinos. On June 26th, a female chimpanzee was born at Metrozoo, a seeming justification for some tough decisions made on the animal management side many months ago.

While none of these are firsts in the zoo profession, they are all significant events relative to the captive propagation of threatened and endangered species. During the balance of this fiscal year and all of next fiscal year, we will be making more decisions relative to our current collection and zoogeographic configurations. I am sure that some of these will be tough decisions, but they are all being done with good reasons. If we are to fulfill our commitment to world wildlife and continue to play a significant role in the national Species Survival Plan, we must lay aside some of our Master Planned, zoogeographic themeology and concentrate on the acquisition, propagation and display of the more interesting and seriously threatened and endangered species regardless of their geographic origin.

Things being what they are, I must anticipate some level of reaction from certain quarters. However, my staff and I feel that we can justify this position. We do not intend to totally prostitute the theme, but certain species will occur out of context, out of necessity. Please remember, a master plan is only as good as our ability to change it to meet current and perceived long term requirements.

Therefore, I request and expect the full support of the Board and Society on this matter.





## Docent Corner

by Pat Kelly

"How I spent my summer vacation" is certainly a topic appropriate to this time of year. In reviewing the Docent Council's summer activities, I see we've increased our membership through training sessions; serviced Dade County Park and Recreation Department's Summer Program by offering tours to many of the County's Recreation Center groups; continued our tram tour involvement as well as attempting to maintain our general walking tours; and dedicated, as well as celebrated, our Lecture Animal Building.

The summer also saw our first responsibility toward the actual care and feeding of the animals we'll be using in our Outreach Program. Docents served on special committees over the summer setting up policies and procedures for the Outreach function as well as an in-house re-evaluation of our hour requirements and practices.

We've continued our educational meetings and increased our knowledge and understanding of wildlife through a slide presentation and discussion of conservation measures and prospects in the African Game Parks and a film entitled "The Zoo Veterinarian" showing the San Diego health team in action.

Special guests, Ralph Curtis and Vernon Kising, Jr., of ZOOBOOKS, presented a look at last year's AAZPA national conference as well as allowing an opportunity for self-study by providing us with samples of animal related books for our perusal.

Additionally, Docents traveled to other zoos... as far away as Australia; wildlife areas... Africa and South America; and attended seminars... HUMANS AND APES: Pathways in the Search for Human Origins. Always sharing through discussions or Docent Newsletter articles experiences that might improve and refine our educational efforts.

WHAT DID WE DO ON OUR SUMMER VACATION? LOTS!!

## Adoption Program in High Gear

The Society's Animal Adoption Program is now moving well. The certificates have been printed and are being prepared for mailing. Special thanks go to Marilyn Tendrich for volunteering her calligraphy talents.

"I'm a Monkey's Uncle" bumper stickers are now in supply and will be sent to our Zooper Parents and Zooper Friends along with their certificates.

The Zoo reports that the Donor Board should be finished by August 10th. At that time, the Society plans a dedication for those people whose names will appear as "charter" subscribers to the Animal Adoption Program.

## Curator of Mammals Comes on Board

A new position in the Animal Science Division has been filled—Rick Barongi is now our Curator of Mammals. His experience includes animal management work over the last seven years at the San Diego Wild Animal Park, Lion Country Safari in California, Warner Brother's Jungle Habitat in New Jersey, and veterinary experience that includes working as Veterinarian Assistant at the University of Nairobi in Kenya. He holds a B.S. in biology from Cornell University and an M.S. in zoology from Rutgers.

As Curator of Mammals, Rick will be working directly for General Curator Bill Zeigler, and his responsibilities include supervising the day-to-day work of the zoological staff in the field and assisting in the establishment and implementation of breeding programs at Metrozoo.

It's an important new position because of the emphasis on mammals in our display collection, and Rick's wide experience and initiative are sure to be great assets in the continued growth and development of the zoo.

## EDUCATION OUTLOOK:

by Ileen Seidler

Our Education Department has been buzzing with activity. Our fall programs will be announced in a special brochure that will be mailed to all our members.

Haven't you always wondered what it would be like to spend a night in the zoo? Young zoo enthusiasts will have an opportunity to do just that—a "Zoo-in at Metrozoo." Watch for that brochure and learn about all the other upcoming activities.

Our Speakers Bureau in the able hands of Yolanda Bostrom is getting ready for a full fall calendar. We also have bilingual speakers available. If your organization is interested in having a speaker at one of their meetings, please contact the Education Department to arrange scheduling.

Toucan Team will be offered in the fall—6 sessions starting Saturday, October 2nd. See the announcement elsewhere in Toucan Talk.

Volunteer Education Aides are needed in the Education Department. Please call Rita or Ileen for more information.

See you at the Zoo!

## Metrozoo Wins Planning Award

The Gold Coast Section of the American Planning Association recently honored Metrozoo as one of five outstanding land use plans in the area. The design and plan of Metrozoo were hailed by the judges for their "extremely careful attention to natural habitat."

## Toucan Chatter

by Jan Beckman  
Administrator



### Our Tiger Cubs...

... are now on display at the Sulawesi Village from 11am until 3pm and are no longer appearing at the Amphitheatre. It is still not known if the cubs will remain at Metrozoo.

### Special Thanks...

... go to Marion Powell, Society member and ZIP volunteer for donating a 5 1/2 horse power outboard motor. The motor will be used by zoo security on the big lake.

### 15,935 Voting Members...

... now enjoy Society benefits. This represents a total of 9,388 memberships on the computer at the end of June. The Board's goal for the 1981-82 fiscal year is 10,000 memberships. The fiscal year ends November 30th.

### The Arabian Horse Show...

... brought in \$281 to the Society last month. ZIP volunteers sold tickets to the event and provided crowd control under the direction of Bill Heuson and Barbara Birmingham. The next show will be in September with the major two week show in November.

### The Monorail is Coming...

... to Metrozoo in late September or early October. Construction is moving right along with the stations basically completed. Passengers will be able to see the zoo in air conditioned style, including areas still under construction.

### The African Plains...

... are taking shape with the grand opening scheduled for early December. The new section will have six exhibits and will cover 20-25 acres. One exhibit will be a super multi-species exhibit.

The Society is already planning a "Sneak Preview" for members only.

### Two New Exhibits...

... are now open at the Zoo. The Mandrills have been replaced with the DeBrassa's monkeys native to the forests of Central America, in the Congo and in parts of Uganda. (Exhibit 33)

The European Wisent (Exhibit 30) is now on display. Also known as the European Bison, these animals are now found only in zoos.

### The Docent TV...

... commercial on Channel 6 was very well done. The Council is always in need of new tour guides to meet its expanding role at Metrozoo. The commercial has helped in their recruitment. Many thanks to Channel 6 for their generous help.

### Come See...

... all the new arrivals at Metrozoo. The newest arrival is a gibbon on display with its mother. You'll also find new born in the chimpanzee, pygmy hippopotamus, Grevy's Zebra and waterbuck departments, just to mention a few!





The Himalayan black bear or moon bear is a 'typical' bear of medium size. These bears are found throughout the mountainous regions of south and southeastern Asia. They live close to the forests at heights of 4,500 ft. in the wintertime and high in the mountains around 12,000 ft. in the summer. Their main haunts are pine forests and brush areas.

Called "moon bear" because of the white new moon shaped marking on the chest, these black bears have very long hair on the shoulders, nape and side of the neck, sometimes making them look as if

they have a hump (they don't). They can weigh over 250 pounds and measure up to 6½ feet long.

In the wild, moon bears feed mainly on acorns and other nuts and are known to eat vast quantities of insects and honey when available. Although essentially a vegetarian, they will occasionally take to killing domestic animals. Our bears do very nicely on a diet of biscuits, fish, feline diet (meat), apples and oranges.

In the wild, the moon bear will "den-up" only during severe winter weather or when the female is ready to give birth. Our moon bear nighthouse has the regular open, bar enclosure and a spacious "den" where the expectant mother will eventually feed her naked, blind and lightweight (frequently under a pound) cubs and they can be adequately protected. Our den would be palatial compared to a den found in the wild which measures just 3 feet wide and 16 inches high into which a female bear had squeezed herself and her 3 cubs.

Young bears reach maturity around three years of age and until then, follow their mothers closely. In the wild, these bears often travel in pairs of family groups and are a rather amusing sight as the father marches along in front with the mother and cubs following in descending order of size.

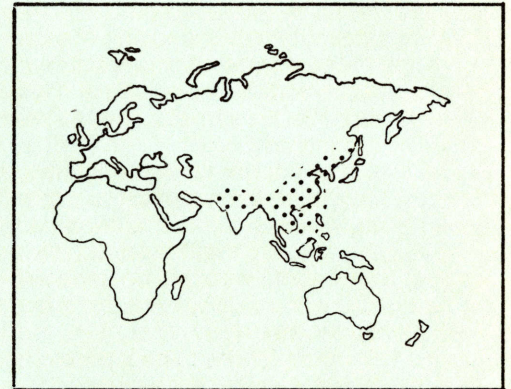
They love the water and are excellent swimmers. You can often see our Ursa and

Genghis splashing in their pool. Moon bears are very agile climbers. In summer months, wild bears often make nests of sticks in trees where they sleep and, then in the wintertime, make beds of fresh twigs on the snow where they can dry themselves or even sunbathe.

An unusual behavior that differentiates the Himalayan black bear from the other bears is that when threatened or frightened, it will curl into a ball and roll down a hill.

These comical bears can live as long as 35 years in the wild. At Metrozoo, you will find our moon bears, Ursa and Genghis, at display number 23 just before you reach camels. Many times, they are high in their tree or having a romp in their pool.

Himalayan bears, like all of our other animals at Metrozoo, can be adopted through our Animal Adoption Program.



*Above, Ursa and Genghis, our Metrozoo moon bears enjoy their home.*



# Let's talk BEAR

## Himalayan Black Bears

by Mr. Grrrrrrs





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 Rita Bryan, *Secretary, Education*  
 Sally Liddell, *Secretary, Membership*  
 Carole Scheel, *Bookkeeper*  
 Ileen Seidler, *Education Coordinator*

## Metrozoo Sweeps Addy Awards

Metrozoo's grand opening advertising campaign won awards for Best Campaign and Best in Show at the State of Florida Addy Awards, which are the Oscars of the advertising field. At the local Addy Awards earlier in the year, the zoo swept the event by winning Best Television, Best Radio Best Outdoor, Best Campaign and Best in Show.

The judges were all members of the national advertising community, and thus were able to view the hundreds of local and state entries with total objectivity. One judge remarked, "I don't know what Metrozoo is like, but if it's anything like the advertising, it's better than San Diego."

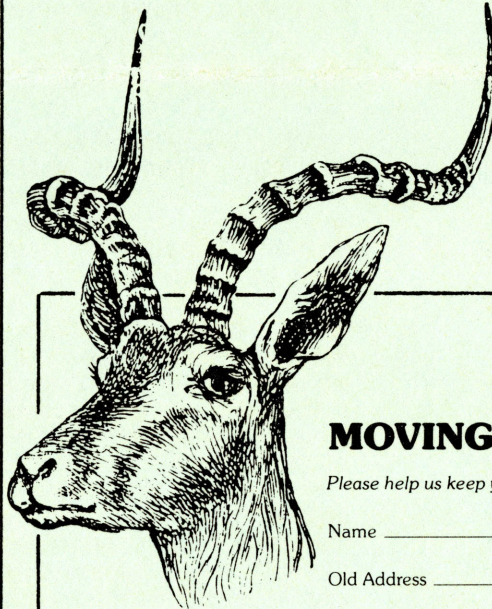
## Toucan Team Scheduled for Fall

The fall session of our popular Toucan Team has been scheduled to start on October 2nd at Metrozoo.

This is a unique opportunity for young adults, grades 9-12, to explore all the wonders of our new Metrozoo. Fascinating guests and trips behind the scenes are but a small part of this exciting program.

The group meets for six consecutive Saturdays from 9am until 3pm. Mornings are spent in special learning activities. Afternoons are devoted to creative zoo-related services and projects.

Session fees are \$50 for Members and \$60 for nonmembers. Contact Ileen Seidler at 255-5551. Early registration is suggested.



## WANTED

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 Wall Air Conditioner  
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### MOVING?

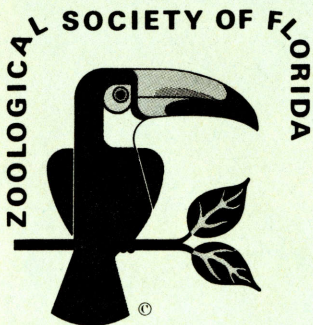
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