

EDUCATION = **FUN AT THE ZOO!**

The modern zoo is a unique community resource serving the general public and the academic community as a learning resource, breeding and survival center for endangered species, community re-

SPECIAL PROJECTS NEED SPECIAL HELP

Some of our ongoing projects need special people, or additional funding if they are going to be completed.

ARTIFACT DISPLAY BUILDINGS

Hands on at the zoo. We plan two buildings with plenty of bones, feathers, teeth, hides and such. We'll encourage use of the senses — other than sight — to discover "animal connections." Projected

DADE COUNTY TEACHER WORKSHOP

Teach teachers Zooper ways to teach kids the basics. We're aiming for 500 enthusiastic teachers. We have some great material for them. Need printing funds.

"ZOO'S EYE VIEW"

Multi-projector slide programs. A chance to view the world through zoo-colored glasses. Need photographers, media specialists, equipment.

METROZOO SCOUT DAY

Earn zoo merit badges. Boy and girl scouts from the tri-county area are invited to explore. Need "scout experienced vol-unteers. Let's design our own badges.

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Need a steady non-paying job? Our "Zoo within a zoo" needs you. The Education Department is full of wild and crazy guys & gals, having lots of fun doing lots of work. Which "exhibit" suits you? Education Aides, Speakers Bureau & Service Team.

ational facility for the family

Although recreation will always be a reason to visit a zoo, education is acquiring a more important role as larger numbers of people are becoming aware that a zoo is a place to learn as well as a place to have fun. The individual visitors, families or school groups can always make learning about wildlife a primary aspect of a trip to the zoo. even though recreation may provide the initial impetus.

The Society is THE support organization of Metrozoo. Dade County funding for the Zoo does not include any educational funds. Building and operational costs consume all county funds. The Zoological Society has committed to fill this void

In November of 1981, the new Education Department of the Zoological Society of Florida was developed and hit the ground running. So many excellent materials have spewed forth that the Dade County School Board assigned a teacher on special assignment in self defense. The newest member of the Education Department is teacher Sande Ross.

FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- Toucan Team (grades 9-12, 6 sessions)
- Halloween Art (grades 1-4, 1 session)

November

- The Art of Photography (6 sessions) Dade County Teacher Workshop
- Family Film Fare
- Metro-Zoo-In (grades 4-6)
- Animal Art (Kindergarten), 1 session 20

December

- Metro-Zoo-In (grades 7 & 8)
- Family Film Fare
- Holiday Animal Art I
- (grades 1-4, 4 A.M. sessions) Animal Impressions (grades 4-6, 1 session)
- Fossil Hunt at the Zoo
- (grades 4-6, 1 session)
- Winged Predators (grades 4-6, 1 session) Zoolympians (grades 4-6, 1 session)
- 23
- Animal Impressions

 (Kindergarten, 4 A.M. sessions)
- Fossil Hunt at the Zoo (grades 7-9, 1 session) 28
- Winged Predators (grades 7-9, 1 session)
- Born to Sun (grades 7-9, 1 session)

If you wonder what some of these programs are all about watch for the Fall Program Brochure coming your way soon.



Adoption Board Dedicated

On Saturday, September 11th, the Society and Metrozoo officially dedicated the Animal Adoption Donor Board.

Charter subscribers to the Animal Adoption Program with donations of \$100 or more were invited to the dedication followed by a reception in the classroom.

Also on hand were Mr. Ron Esserman, First Vice President of the Society, Mr. Bill Bird, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Mr. Bob Yokel, Metrozoo Director.

Located on the main walk just inside the Zoo's main entrance, the board itself is a work of art. Special thanks go to Bunny DeWiliby, Sally Timberlake and Bill Tuttle from the Zoo's Design Department and to Rene Leiurance and Mike Baldwin, in the Zoo's shop.

With the completion of the board, the Society is now prepared to offer the Animal Adoption Program to the general public. Plans are being made for a major promotion, in time for Xmas gift giving

The money raised goes toward the feeding and care of the animals at Metrozoo and is tax deductible.



President's Report

by Jack Lowell

The summer months were active and productive ones for the Zoological Society. Zoo Camp was a roaring success and got great publicity for the Society and for Metrozoo. The Adopt-an-Animal program was enthusiastically received and we now have a growing number of adoptive parents. The Docents and the Zip's continued their tram operation and both volunteer groups are adding dramatically to their numbers.

The summer in the zoo itself has been a time of intense activity leading up to the opening of the monorail (now scheduled for October) and the second section of the zoo. The grand opening of the African Plains is set for December 4th. Attendance has been steady, with the 700,000th patron passing through the turnstiles in August

since the zoo opened.

For this Fall, the Society has an exciting calendar of events which is outlined in this issue of Toucan Talk. Of particular interest is the Members' Day at the Zoo on November 27th which will also be a Sneak Preview of the new African area. The new Board members and officers of the Society will be introduced at that time as well.

The Society is embarking on a major expansion of our education program in conjunction with the Dade County School Board. Ileen Seidler has arranged to have a school teacher, Sande Ross, assigned to the Zoo full time to assist in this effort. The Society has developed and is sending special teaching materials on the zoo to every elementary school in Dade County.

After a review of membership fees and attendance charges at other zoos, the Board of Governors voted to change the categories of membership and increase fees in July. Current members were offered the opportunity to renew at the old rates through August 31st. I am delighted to report that over six hundred members availed themselves of this offer. In a further effort to expand our membership, the Society is doing a special 270,000 piece mailing to all Dade County Visa cardholders this Fall.

As this was written, a large contingent from both Metrozoo staff and the Society are preparing to go to Phoenix for the annual American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. Since Metrozoo is the host of the conference for 1984, we are observing carefully the efforts of our compatriots as well as getting to know many of our

professional and volunteer counterparts.

Please plan to come to our party/meeting on November 27th. See you there!

VOTE EARLY

Nominating Committee Appointed

President Jack Lowell, with the approval of the Board of Governors, has announced the appointment of five voting members to serve on the Nominating Committee for the Society's election to be held in October. The Society's By-Laws call for two Board Members and three members-at-large to form the Committee.

Larry Turner, Society Board Member and Vice-Chairman of Pan American Banks, has been appointed and will serve

as Chairman of the Committee.

Ron Esserman, the Society's First Vice-President and President of South, a corporation of five local car dealerships, will serve as the second Board Member of the Committee.

The three Members-at-Large appointed are Barbara Birmingham, ŽIP Chairperson, Dr. Bill Heuson, Past Society President, and Helen Malina, Docent,

How the **Election Works**

Five seats on the Society's 15-member Board of Governors come up for election in October. Members will receive ballots listing the candidates in the early part of the month. They will vote for five people (Individual memberships count as one vote; Family memberships count as two votes). The ballots must be returned no later than October 22, 1982 so that the Nominating Committee can report the election results at the October Board meeting the following week.

The newly elected Members will attend the November Board meeting, at which time, the new officers for the coming fiscal year will be elected.

The Society encourages every member to vote and to vote early. A strong Board of Governors is essential if we are to reach our goals.

Member's Night Being Planned

Plans are underway for an exciting Member's Night at Metrozoo. Scheduled for Saturday, November 27th, the evening will take members through the new African Plains Section scheduled to open to the general public on December 4th.

Howard Tendrich, Special Events Chairman and Harry Stuber, Member's Night Co-Chairman, welcome volunteers and

"We'd like to serve a free dinner to our members," stated Harry, "but, we need someone to underwrite the cost." The Committee is also looking for a "50's dance band" for the evening.

Anyone wishing to contact Harry Stuber can call him evenings after 6pm at

887-1963

FREE ZOOS for our members

Finally, we have an up-to-date list of zoos with free admission or that will honor our membership cards for free admission. The list was compiled by ZIP since AAZPA no longer provides the service.

ALABAMA

Birmingham Zoo Montgomery Zoo

ARKANSAS

CALIFORNIA

San Francisco Zoo Knowland Park Zoo (Oakland) Los Angeles Zoo

CONNECTICUT

Bridgeport Zoo FLORIDA

Dreher Park Zoo (West Palm Beach) Jacksonville Zoo Metrozoo (Miami)

GEORGIA

Atlanta Zoo

Honolulu Zoo
ILLINOIS
Lincoln Park Zoo (Chicago) Glen Oak Zoo (Peoria) Miller Park Zoo (Bloomington)

INDIANA

Indianapolis Zoo Lafayette Zoo Fort Wayne Zoo

otawatomi Zoo (South Bend)

KANSAS Topeka Zoo

Sedgwich Zoo (Wichita)
KENTUCKY

ouisville Zoo

LOUISIANA
Audubon Park & Zoological Gardens
(New Orleans)

MARYLAND

MASSACHUSETTS

Franklin Park Zoo (Boston) Buttonwood Zoo (New Bedford)

MICHIGAN

John Ball Zoo (Grand Rapids) Binder Park Zoo (Battle Creek)
MINNESOTA

Como Zoo (St. Paul)
MISSISSIPPI

Jackson Zoological Park

Dickerson Park Zoo (Springfield) Kansas City Zoological Gardens

Folsom Children's Zoo (Lincoln) Henry Doorly Zoo (Omaha) NEW JERSEY

Turtle Back Zoo (West Orange) Cohanzick Zoo (Bridgeton)

NEW YORK

Ross Park Zoo (Binghamton) Seneca Park Zoo (Rochester) Buffalo Zoological Gardens Burnet Park Zoo (Syracuse) Staten Island Zoo Utica Zoo NEW MEXICO

Rio Grande Zoological Park

(Albuquerque)
NORTH DAKOTA

Dakota Zoo (Bismarck)

Columbus Zoological Gardens

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City Zoo Tulsa Zoological Park PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia Zooligical Gardens

RHODE ISLAND

Roger Williams Park (Providence)
SOUTH CAROLINA

Riverbanks Zoological Park

(Columbia) leveland Park Zoo (Greenville)

SOUTH DAKOTA

Bramble Park Zoo (Watertown)

TENNESSEE

Memphis Zoological Gardens

Abilene Zoological Gardens El Paso Zoological Park Houston Zoological Gardens Ellen Trout Zoo (Lufkin)
San Antonio Zoological Gardens
Central Texas Zoo (Waco) Texas Zoo (Victoria)

UTAH

Hogle Zoological Gardens (Salt Lake City) VIRGINIA

afayette Zoological Park (Norfolk)

WASHINGTON Woodland Park Zoological Gardens

WISCONSIN

Racine Zoological Gardens Henry Vilas Park Zoo (Madison)

CANADA

Stanley Park Zoo (Vancouver) Bowmanville Zoo (Ontario)

Calgary Zoo Riverview Park (Peterborough)

In order that we can keep this list current, please report any mistakes or additions to the Society.



Report by Barbara Birmingham

ZIP had a busy August with over 1,100 volunteer hours donated to the Society and the Zoo. It's been a long, hot summer for "ZIPpers" and they all wanted to let the Board know how much they appreciate receiving electricity at the front booth and air conditioning.

ZIP raised a little over \$500 from its members and have officially adopted a moon bear and a siamese crocodile through the Adoption Program. We still have \$100 left to

adopt a third animal.

ZIP's first dinner party is planned for October 16 at the Zoo. Anyone wishing to serve on the committee should call Selma

evenings at 893-4182

Plans for the fall are very busy. ZIP is looking for new volunteers to help share the fun and responsibilities. We have openings for every type of work imaginable, inside and out. We specifically need office volunteers in October and November to assist in the Membership Department. Call Sally weekdays at 255-5551

Metrozoo Director's Report

by Bob Yokel





Gorilla Island Project

The successful natural propagation of great apes in captivity presents a difficult challenge. Ideas abound, but there

is little data which permits an incisive analysis of the variables which contribute to the problem. To understand how great apes become "infertile," "asocial" or "abusive," it is necessary to carefully examine the events which have characterized the lives of these animals in captivity. As cooperative breeding projects are expanded, zoos must objectively examine the environmental and social conditions which characterize their great ape populations. Changes in the physical environment or the composition of groups should be documented and concomitant behavioral effects should be recorded.

Metrozoo presents a unique opportunity to follow the progress of gorillas gradually introduced into a naturalistic environment. A lengthy study of the animals adjustment after relocation will provide important data germain to future translocations of group members. Moreover, the adjustment of group life and the group formation proc-

ess can be carefully monitored as animals are added.

Because of the inherent difficulties in breeding captive gorillas, their precarious state in the wild, and the need to make judicious decisions on behalf of the species, scientific programs should be an integral component in the management of all great ape breeding facilities. Gorillas can be effectively studied in captivity by developing programs of research. The expense of such programs is not insignificant, but neither are the potential benefits. We must find solutions to the breeding problems of great apes if they are to be saved from extinction.

Metrozoo's existing gorilla facility combined with the expansions to Gorilla Island will provide a large area, over 10 acres, that will be devoted to a significant number of these gentle giants. This is an important consideration, since space and numbers seem to play a key role in successful natural propagation.

Metrozoo's Gorilla Island Project, oversimplified in this brief statement, is a complex undertaking of great importance to the conservation of the rare and compelling gorilla. The impact of the project could be of immeasurable value not only to the scientific community, but also to the local community of which Metrozoo is a part.



Left: Ja an Hon to Radi The So Station

Docent Corner

by Pat Kelly

With the start of the school year, our revised Outreach Programs now begin. Our Lecture Animals settled into place in their new facility, we will now be utilizing these critters for educational and promotional purposes. These programs will reach into the community through libraries, hospitals, nursing homes, television appearances, as



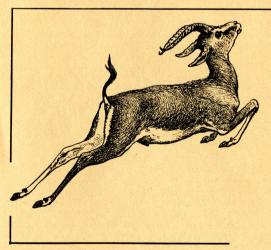
Above: Uniformed Advisory Board Members, Donna Lee Needham and Carla Eberhardt, admire outreach animal, Boa Derek.

well as a pilot program we're most excited about. The Docent Council has put together an 8-lesson series entitled "WHO OWNS THE EARTH," for the Dade County After School Care Program. Initially available to two test schools, if successful, we will ultimately make this series available to the entire Dade County School System on a first come first serve basis. The purpose of the program is to enrich the students' awareness of the cooperative and interdependent relationships of life on earth, and to help the student recognize his or her individual responsibility in safeguarding the earth's wildlife. We will maximize this opportunity to spotlight Metrozoo as an asset to Dade County and emphasize the need for community support.

Donna Lea Needham, a recent addition to the Docent Council Advisory Board, has been instrumental in developing this program. Donna Lea has served as Co-chairman of our Outreach Program, along with Laura Rose, and has been a Docent for little more than a year. Her exposure to European zoos gave her a feeling of "Why not here," and Metrozoo's design and scope caused her to become a Docent. Active with the Citizen's Advisory Committee for the Dade County School System, Donna Lea has always expressed a concern for quality educational experiences, and will surely be a welcome addition to our Board.

Our Advisory Board also boasts the addition of Carla Eberhardt, our Fact Sheet Chairman (and thus research heavy!). In addition to Carla's Docent responsibilities, she's been most helpful in cataloging mounds of slides for the Education Department. A long way from her field of fashion illustrating, Carla's deep concern for the preservation of wildlife lead her to the Docent Council.

While we will certainly miss resigning Board members, Patti Ragan and George Houser, we feel fortunate in having Donna Lea and Carla joining the Docent Council Advisory Board.



an Beckman presents norary Animal Adoption Certificate dio Station WIOD's Shelley Stewart. ociety's office staff won the n's champagne office party.

Run for Zoo

Another first for Metrozoo is coming up on January 30th - our first annual Run for the Zoo. Society member and Docent, Helen Malina is chairing the committee and is actively recruiting committee members, ideas for the race name and volunteers for race day. While foot races have become very popular in South Florida, none have been held in a setting as unique and beautiful as our Metrozoo. For this reason, we hope to lure out many runners and race watchers who have never made it to the zoo before. Help us make this "first" a fixture. Contact Helen through the Society office by mail or by phone at 595-0483, or she says, catch her on the run!

Toucan Chatter

by Jan Beckman Administrator



Thank You...

...Charles Kantor and Eagle National Bank of Miami for the 1977 panel truck. The Society had been leasing a station wagon for years but had to return it a few months ago. The Bank's most generous donation came just at the right time.

Over 6,000 Travel Agents...

...from across the Nation will be headed to Miami in October for their annual ASTA Convention being held in the New Knight Convention Center.

Bus tours will be provided to many of the local tourist attractions. Metrozoo will play host on October 13 and 14.

Chinese Golden...

... Wolves are our most recent new arrivals at Metrozoo replacing the spotted hyena (Exhibit 22). They are found in a wide range through Mongolia, China and Central Russia to Eastern Europe.

Our 6th Annual Festival...

... of the Arts has been scheduled for March 26 and 27, at Metrozoo. The last Festival attracted over 120 artists. Howard Tendrich, Special Events Chairman, is looking for committee members. Interested? Call Howard at 232-1776.

An All-Out Membership...

... promotion is being planned for October. The Society plans a mailing to 275,000 Visa and MasterCard holders in Dade County, plus an ad in the Miami Herald.

In addition, there will be a special promotion directed to Members encouraging them to give memberships or animal adoptions as Zooper, tax deductible gifts this holiday season.

Air Conditioning...

... at last in the front information booth, thanks to most generous contribution by Robert Sebastian. Thank you from all of our great volunteers.

The Special Tours Program...

...for package tours to Kenya and parts unknown is progressing well reports Aileen Lotz who is forming a Travel Committee. If interested, please call her at 661-9500.

New Zoo Hours...

... will be coming our way at the end of October when we change back to Standard Time. The Zoo will open every day at 10am and close at 4pm. Visitors can remain in the park until 5:30pm.

WANTED

New or Used Electric Golf Carts

255-5551



GORILLA

The Gentle Giant

ing to confirm reports of the gorilla's brutal behavior were unable to find any eyewitnesses, although the stories were eagerly repeated. The truth was gradually emerging.

Thereafter, many carcasses were shipped for zoological studies. Live gorilla specimens of "manageable" size were obtained easily by machine gunning the mother.

Man's attitude toward the gorilla has changed markedly as his knowledge has increased. We now know gorillas make physical contact with enemies only if cornered, angered or severely wounded. The gorilla's dangerous reputation comes from the intimidation displays that the dominant male uses to warn away intruders. The displays come complete with beating of the chest with cupped hands, barking screams and tearing of vegetation. The epoch study in 1959 by George and Kay Schaller, combined with more recent findings, has given man tremendous insight into gorilla behavior in the wild.

In 1855, we started the gentle giant on his march towards extinction and now we are making frantic efforts to hold that march. The projected Metrozoo Primate Island Project is just one example of man's efforts. It is estimated that there are less than 6,000 gorillas left in the wild, and they are quickly disappearing. In the United States there are less than 200 in captivity. If they cannot be encouraged to breed in zoos, they will disappear from the face of the earth.

The most awesome animal at Metrozoo is certainly Ramar, our male lowland gorilla on breeding loan from the North Carolina

Zoo. After spending many years of life indoors, Ramar is being closely observed as part of a long-term study to see how the change in his environment affects his psychology and his physiology as well.

Did you know that ...

... gorillas seldom show hostility to small mammals, though they have a built-in fear of snakes?

... a direct hard glance, either by or to a gorilla is deemed a threat?

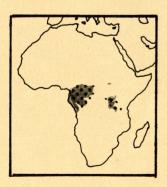
...they are predominantly terrestrial, but do build nests in trees to sleep in at night?

... it is thought that they can live up to 50 years?

... Ramar spent the first four years of his life as part of a nightclub touring act, riding tricycles, doing handstands on top of a 10' bamboo pole and doing impressions of Jack Benny and Ed Sullivan?

The gorilla, often thought of as the gentle giant of the animal world didn't always have that reputation. When rumors of the existence of gorillas first surfaced in the 1840's, tales of their incredible strength and ferocity chilled the spine of many a European. African natives reported violent attacks on groups traveling through the forests and invariably the next to the last man would be snatched from the ground from above, horribly mauled and then thrown back to the earth.

In 1855 when the first white men set eyes upon this illusive beast, they promptly tried to kill it. One week later the first gorilla was "bagged." Later expeditions attempt-



Ramar, Metrozoo's "Gentle Giant" holds court daily at Exhibit 38





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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Steve Clark, Mayor, Metro Dade County Patricia G. Kelly, President,

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STAFF:

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> SOCIETY OFFICE 255-5551 SCHOOL AND GROUP DISCOUNT RESERVATIONS 251-1128

Help!

The postage is killing us. When an ANIMAL KINGDOM is returned, the post office charges us 25¢. Please help us to keep your subscriptions and notices coming to you on time. If you have moved or plan to move, send us your label (right) with the new address noted.

Photo left by Kate Zwerin of Metrozoo

Would it have been worth BUCKS Bu

twenty dollars for you to have been able to see our little tiger cubs, Bali and Kahn, when they were only a few days old and to come back day after day to watch their eyes open for the first time and to see them being bottle fed with the other newborn at Metrozoo?

You bet it would!

If we had our Nursery/Clinic Building at that time, you and your family could have enjoyed it all.

Eventually, the Nursery/Clinic Building will be located in Sulawesi, our Malayan Village. Part of the 5,000 square foot building will serve as a nursery for the newborn who, for a variety of reasons require special care. Looking through a one-way window, you will be able to enjoy all that is going on in the nursery every day of the week. What a joy it will be to share an animal's first steps or his first reactions to a new world. The rear of the building will serve as a much needed clinic for all of the animals at Metrozoo, complete with an operating room, until such time as we can afford to build our \$1.8 million hospital.

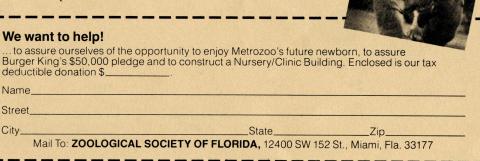
Burger King has already pledged \$50,000 toward construction of our Nursery/ Clinic. But, in order to collect that \$50,000, the society must raise another \$150,000 in the next few months. That's the deal.

With close to 10,000 Society memberships, just imagine how quickly we could raise that tax deductible money if every membership donated just \$20 TODAY! Right, that's \$200,000 toward the \$150,000 needed to secure Burger King's \$50,000. And, we'd have \$50,000 additional funds to apply toward the total construction costs of approximately \$450,000. WOW!

Naturally, we'll be looking outside the Society for additional funds. However, the job is really up to all of us as members

to get the ball rolling and to assure the Burger King pledge.

Free! This delightful 8x 10 matte photo of Kahn with \$100 donations. Photo: Al Matracht



ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA

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