

Well, I'll Be A Monkey's Uncle!

Or an elephant's auntie. Or a gorilla's grandpa. Or even a kangaroo's cousin. Relatively speaking, that is. By joining our Animal Adoption Program, you can really become one of the family.

Do you have a favorite animal at Metrozoo? Is there one that you love just a little more than all the others? Well, here's your chance to show how much you care, in a very practical way. After all, the animals don't live on love and fresh air alone. They need to be fed, too, and some of them eat like, well, wild animals.

Through this program you can contribute to the cost of feeding your favorite animal for one year. The cost varies from \$25 for an African comb duck to \$2,500 for a lowland gorilla. You can become a foster parent by giving the total amount needed for the upkeep of a certain animal. The fees are listed in our current "Animals for Adoption" brochure.

If you look at your checkbook and decide that you're not ready to be a parent yet, you might want to become a friend of the family, with a contribution of \$25 or more.

What's more, you don't have to adopt an animal all by yourself. This is also a great idea for a school project, or for your club or company to act on.

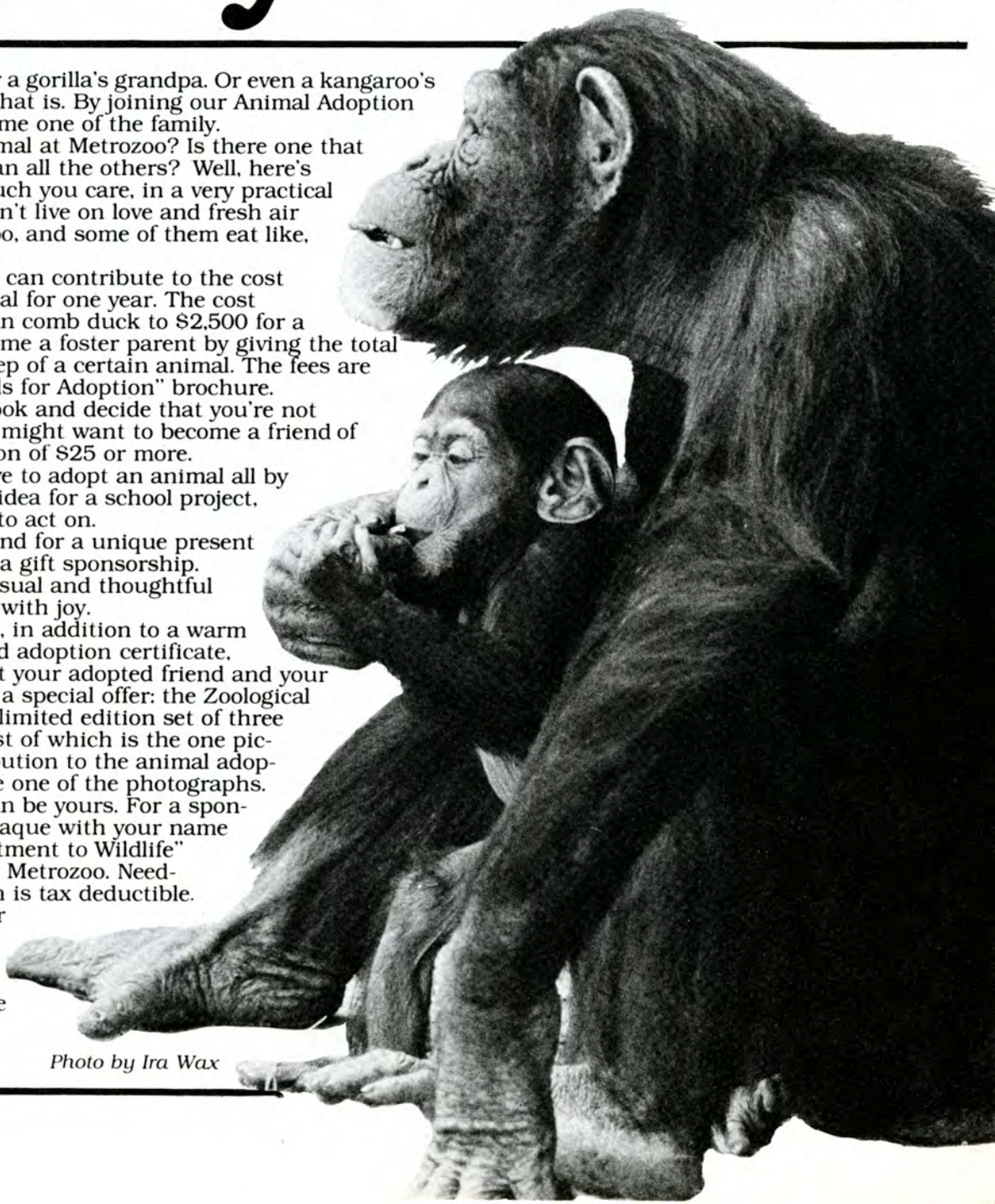
If you've been looking around for a unique present for that someone special, try a gift sponsorship. We're confident such an unusual and thoughtful gift will drive recipients wild with joy.

When you adopt an animal, in addition to a warm feeling, you get a personalized adoption certificate, along with information about your adopted friend and your zoo. Also, right now, we have a special offer: the Zoological Society will be putting out a limited edition set of three primate photographs, the first of which is the one pictured here. For a \$50 contribution to the animal adoption program, you will receive one of the photographs. For \$150, the whole series can be yours. For a sponsorship of \$200 or more, a plaque with your name will be added to our "Commitment to Wildlife" board located prominently in Metrozoo. Needless to add, your contribution is tax deductible.

Enough said. Send for your application form and an "Animals for Adoption" list by calling the Zoological Society at 255-5551. Then, be a pet and adopt an animal.

Join our growing family.

Photo by Ira Wax



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The Zoological Society of Florida

President's Message.



Two heads are better than one, especially when it comes to zoos. Whether it's an old, established zoo like the one in San Diego, or an up-and-coming zoo like the one in New Orleans, its success depends on community participation and corporate support. In Miami, we have a zoological park that has the potential to become the finest not just in the country, but in the world. Can we do any less than give it all we've got?

Recently, we've seen some pretty spectacular efforts behind the scenes. Our corporate membership has netted us \$40,000 in pledges in the last 30 days alone, with more in the offing. What's more, the Society has successfully met the challenge grant to raise \$150,000 in order to receive \$50,000 from Burger King towards the urgently needed nursery/clinic building.

Monetary and moral support must go hand in hand, so it is heartening to note that our membership is up to almost 20,000. We are confident that our current membership drive will swell our ranks even more.

Though much has been accomplished, much remains to be done. Working together, I know we will do it. Every day, in every way, we're getting better and better. But we must continue to aim for the very best.

Ron Esserman, President

Lion Drawings.

The animals always draw a lot of kids at Metrozoo; for a change, youngsters will get a chance to draw the animals. That's on Saturday, July 9th, which is Young Artist's Day at the Zoo.

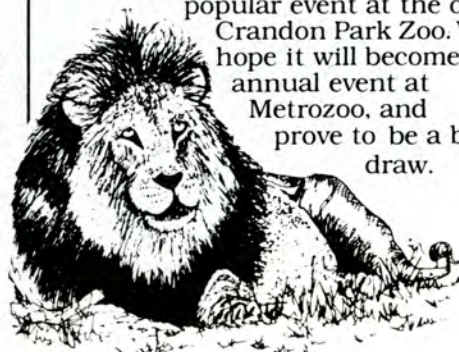
If you're an artist, 16 years old or younger, you will be admitted free to Metrozoo on the 9th, if you bring your art materials with you. You can use any medium **except** oil paints. So bring your pencils, paper, water colors, crayons, or whatever you work best with, and get ready to capture your favorite animal or bird on paper.

You must turn in your entries by 3 P.M. so that the judges can make their decision on the best efforts. The works will be divided into four categories for different age groups, and there will be 10 prizes in each category. Winners will be notified by telephone.

On Sunday, July 10th, the paintings will be displayed at the zoo. Prizes will be awarded in the amphitheatre on Sunday afternoon. But before you can win a prize, you have to enter. So, pick up your entry form at any Metro-Dade Park, at all Godfather's Pizza locations, or at the zoo itself.

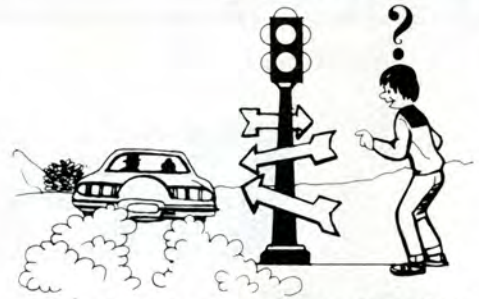
The event is co-sponsored by the Metro-Dade Park and Recreation Department and by Godfather's Pizza. All entries become the property of the Zoological Society, and may be exhibited at the Society's discretion.

Young Artist's Day was a very popular event at the old Crandon Park Zoo. We hope it will become an annual event at Metrozoo, and prove to be a big draw.



The Hunt. Skills, Streets, Clues.

By Howard Tendrich



What's more fun than a barrel of monkeys, more exciting than a safari and more puzzling than the Rubik's Cube? Why, the Hunt, of course!

If you've never been on one, you're in for a treat. If you have, we're sure you will want to join us once again for an event organized by the Scheiners and Gustmans, who are well known in the area for their ingenious hunts.

On Saturday, October 8th, 60 cars will meet at Miami-Dade Community College, South Campus. Each car will contain six eager beavers, who'll be given a bag containing pertinent and not-so-pertinent information, a map of the area to be covered, and a starting clue.

For instance, the clue could direct you to a place where you find a choir singing: "Hark, the Herald angels sing! Personal messages we do bring." You might spot a Miami Herald newsstand nearby, and be inspired to check the Personal column. There you find a pithy message: "Hunters we congratulate. Go to location 28."

Get it? You solve the clue, look for the answer on the map and head out in that direction. If you are right, you'll find another clue there. If you're baffled, you can always fall back on an emergency envelope. You go from spot to spot, till you wind up with an answer that is the same as the answer to your first clue. Then you'll know you've come full circle and can head back to MDCC for a late-night supper. There'll be food for thought as well, as you discuss the clues, applaud yourself for those you could solve and blame your car-mates for those you couldn't.

Prizes will be awarded to those who complete the circuit with the best time and open the least number of emergency envelopes. The real winner, though, is the zoo. Your 60 tax-deductible dollars per couple will go to benefit Metrozoo, and that's the best prize of all.

Are you game? Call 255-5551 for more information, or for your application. Tally-ho and all that!



Education Outlook

By Ileen Seidler
Education Coordinator

We'd like to welcome Susan Fried on board. She has been a dedicated volunteer for several years, and it's a pleasure to have her on our staff. As a schoolteacher, Susan has long been involved with children and education. "It's terribly exciting," she says of her new appointment, "to be able to introduce nature and wildlife to children who live basically in a city environment."

A big thank-you is due to Sandy Ross, Dade County teacher on special assignment to the Society, for all her efforts during the last year. Thanks to her, and everyone else in the education department, our programs have met with outstanding success. An indication of this is that 9,506 children attended the classroom programs, and over 4,600 participated in the special docent school tours.

As this school year ends, we are already looking forward to new programs in the year ahead, which will include outdoor activities for preschoolers and for kindergarten through third-graders, an exciting amphitheatre program, as well as varied offerings for different age groups.

We're pleased and proud that Metrozoo is regarded as a living campus of learning for all ages. In the coming year, we hope this reputation will be enhanced.

Program Lineup July 5th—August 13th.

Art Camp I.

\$45—Members / \$55—Nonmembers

Learn about animals through art. Observe characteristics of various animals and discover how you can tell them apart. Art materials provided.

Monday—Friday • August 8—12
10 A.M. - Noon • Grades 1 thru 3

Snap Judgements.

\$40—Members / \$45—Nonmembers

If you're already a photography buff, develop your lens flair. Refine your skills and acquire new techniques at the zoo and on field trips. Comments and critique of work provided by noted photographer Dan Wilson.

6 Sessions • July 7—August 11
7 P.M. - 9 P.M. • High School—Adult

Jungle Juniors.

\$50—Members / \$60—Nonmembers

A zoo camp for adventurous juniors. An exciting way to learn more about wildlife and zoos. This is a unique opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at some of our outstanding exhibits. Mid-morning snack and T-shirts provided.

July 5—8 & August 1—5
8 A.M. - Noon • Grades 1 thru 3

Art Camp II.

\$45—Members / \$55—Nonmembers

A creative way for children to learn about animals. Develops imagination and observation. Art materials provided.

Monday—Friday • July 18—22
10 A.M. - Noon • Pre-school — Kindergarten

Zoo Camp.

\$50—Members / \$60—Nonmembers

Explore the exciting world of animals in one of the nation's finest zoos, learn about animal behavior, and live a day in the life of a zookeeper. Special attention will be paid to the study of primates. This was one of our most popular programs last year, so sign up soon, or you may miss out on all the fun. A mid-morning snack and special zoo camp T-shirts are provided.

Monday—Friday • July 11-15, July 25—29
8 A.M. - Noon • Grades 3 thru 6

Two At The Zoo.

\$15—Members / \$17.50—Nonmembers

How long has it been since you did something really special with your kid? Just the two of you together. Well, here's the perfect opportunity to go out on a jaunt together.

Find out how special a parent/child relationship is in the animal world. As for the human world, you already know that. That's why we've arranged a special day for you. Lunch provided.

Saturday • July 30 • 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.
Parent & Child (Ages 4 & 5)

Great Apes.

\$6—Members / \$8—Nonmembers

A study of some gentle and not-so-gentle giants. What makes apes great and how to distinguish the different kinds of great apes.

Saturday • August 6 • 10 A.M. - Noon
Grades 6 thru 8

Croc Stars.

\$6—Members / \$8—Nonmembers

A look at the croc-and-crawl band known as reptiles. How to identify all types of reptiles and observe characteristics of these cold-blooded creatures.

Saturday • August 6 • 1 P.M. - 3 P.M.
Grades 6 thru 8

A Grand Idea.

\$15—Members / \$17.50—Nonmembers

Bring your grandchild to the zoo for a laughter-filled learning experience. See how family units work in the world of animals. A chance for you and your grandchild to spend the day together, and spoil each other to your heart's content.

Saturday • August 13 • 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.
Grandparent & Child (Ages 7—10)

Class Registration.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Bus. Phone _____

Parent's Name _____

Student's Age _____ Grade _____

Member

Nonmember

Enroll Me In The Following Programs.

Programs _____

Session Date _____

Program Fees \$ _____

Membership \$ _____
(If Desired)

Total \$ _____

Membership entitles you to free admission to Metrozoo and 70 other zoos, special events and the Society's publications.
Family \$35 / Dual \$25 / Individual \$15. Annual memberships are tax deductible.

All registrations must be paid in advance. Refunds will be made up to 1 week prior to class starting date.

Mail To: **Education Dept., ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA** 12400 S.W. 152nd St., Miami, FL 33177



Gorilla lovers feel there's still Hope. Ramar and Hope, the magnificent lowland gorillas at Metrozoo, have been looking each other over thoroughly. If they continue to meet with each other's approval, they may mate one day, and we'll have our very own baby gorilla, a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Zoological Society members have played Cupid in this romantic drama in a variety of ways. They raised funds to increase the gorilla population at Metrozoo and, in the past couple of years, have spent nearly \$25,000 to accomplish this goal. First, they helped bring Ramar here, and then this year, Hope and three other gorillas were moved to Metrozoo from the National Institute of Health's breeding facility in Louisiana.

This is a terrific example of how the Zoological Society and Metrozoo work closely together to make our zoo a great community resource. (Metrozoo is even better than the famous San Diego Zoo, claims Board Member Donald Rosenberg, who recently visited California.)

Cooperation is the key in a close collaboration between the zoo and its support group. An instance of such cooperation is the Society's commitment to help the zoo bring Sumatran rhinos to this country for the purpose of captive breeding. In conjunction with the Bronx and San Diego zoos, we will be involved in a five-year effort to propagate the endangered rhino. We recently funded a month-long field trip to Sumatra for Metrozoo's general curator, Bill Zeigler, who went there to determine the feasibility of such a project. He's back from the trip and preparing a presentation for the Board of Directors and others on his findings. We'll have details for you in the next issue.

There'll be more opportunities in the near future for us to work with Metrozoo on various projects. And that, after all, is what we're here for.

Editor's Note:

Aileen Lotz has resigned her post as Executive Director to move on to other things, including a book she is writing on county government. We wish her every success.

Zoo Director's Report.

T h e B u d g e t

Dilemma

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It's hard to believe that Metrozoo has been open full-time for only a year and a half. Much has happened in these 18 months. The zoo has received some very positive press, local recognition and general public acceptance in South Florida. Nationwide, it has drawn the attention of network television, national wire services, as well as major newspapers. It has also received recognition from its peers by being selected to host the national conference of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums in 1984. All this for a zoo that is not yet finished!

Looking back over the past year, we have directed our collection towards rarer, more valuable specimens. Our notable acquisitions include a half-million-dollar group of gorillas, at no cost to the taxpayer, and of course, the white tigers. Noteworthy births of endangered species include two baby chimpanzees and the first captive birth in the western hemisphere of the African slender-snouted crocodile. Looking ahead, we see the opening of the spectacular aviary this winter, the AAZPA conference in '84 and the completion of the African lobe.

Through everything, we've been fortunate to have the backing of the Zoological Society, which is funding the zoo's education program and providing travel and transportation support totaling \$200,000. Volunteers from the Society have given over \$84,000 in time, computed at the minimum wage level. A corporate membership campaign was launched in April, with a minimum goal of \$250,000 to be met in the next year. Moral support is also at an all-time high, with Society members numbering almost 20,000.

Given all this, we feel you should know that Metrozoo is at a critical point in its growth. We are faced with the choice of realizing the zoo's true potential, or simply treading water. As always, it boils down to funding. We are committed to becoming self-sufficient, but this cannot happen overnight. During its short existence, Metrozoo has earned approximately 65% of its revenue, and been subsidized the remaining 35%, which is pretty remarkable. However, annual operating costs continue to escalate and we cannot compensate for them through increased admission rates without fear of eroding attendance levels.

Speaking of attendance, we've recently had the wettest winter on record. This cast a damper on an already sluggish tourist season. Consider the impact on the zoo — nearly one out of every two people that visit Metrozoo come during December, January and February. Losses during this period are never fully recovered, if at all.

Fiscal year 1983-84 is a year of dilemma. With your help, we have come so far in our goal towards a world-class zoo. To stop now would be a tragedy. But it might come to that. In our Budget Message to the county, we proposed 50-50 funding, rather than the 65-35 that we have worked up to. This would have provided a buffer during these initial years of growth and change. Unfortunately, this did not go through, because of reductions in state and federal funding, as well as the potential of another tax-cut referendum, which imbue with uncertainty the economic conditions the county has to face. I am told, however, that we fared better than most county departments, and that is a credit to all of us. But please don't forget that the county budget process is not over until the public hearings in September '83. Metrozoo cannot sustain any further budget cuts without the serious prospect of taking a giant step backwards. At this crucial time, your continued support of the Zoological Society, and through it Metrozoo, are needed, now more than ever.

Bob Yokel, Zoo Director

A Night To 'Member.



Photos by Rodney Wood

If a picture is worth a thousand words, these photographs speak volumes. Members Nite at the Zoo may be over, but the memories linger on. Next time, have a share in making some good memories. Be There!



A Whale Of A Trip.

When a love of wildlife and wanderlust combine, the result is the Toucan Travel Club, chaired by seasoned traveler Amy Blum. On our maiden venture, Dr. Gordon Hubbell, Metrozoo's education director, and Rick Borongi, curator of mammals, will be leading our 55-member safari to Kenya, leaving on July 28th. All that remains to be done now is some last-minute packing.

With that trip already in the bag, so to speak, it's time to mark your calendar for next year's destinations. Our first jaunt to be scheduled is a circumnavigation of Baja, California, leaving San Diego on March 3rd, 1984. Toucan travellers will join members of the International Oceanographic Foundation (better known locally as Planet Ocean) for an exciting chance to study whales, seals, porpoises and birds.

We'll be sending you a brochure soon with all the details, so you won't be all at sea. Meanwhile, why not call us at 255-5551? Then you can help decide where we should go next. At the Toucan Travel Club, the sky's the limit. Antarctica anyone?

Docent Doings.

By Freda Houser

It is not quite like Dr. Doolittle's house with its menagerie, but to the docents, it might as well be. It is the Lecture Animal Building, LAB for short, built by the Zoological Society.

Meet Nugget, an African gray parrot that talks; two toucans called Toco Toucan and Fruitloops; Boa Derek and Fred, two boa constrictors; Tootsie and Stinky, two black-footed ferrets; Bambi, a striped skunk; and Basil, a basilisk lizard. These are some of the residents of LAB, which has been their home for almost a year.

As you enter the building, they'll call out a cheerful greeting. In fact, the birds start chirping and tweeting as soon as they hear the key turning in the lock. They are a friendly bunch, and are thriving under the watchful eyes of the docents, who use them for various Out-reach and In-reach programs. To stay healthy and happy, the animals require a great deal of care. Every morning, two docents come into the zoo, stop at the kitchen to

pick up the food, then head for LAB, where they:

- clean dishes, noting how each animal reacted to the food given the day before.
- prepare food for each animal as prescribed.
- clean cages and line them with fresh newspapers.
- wheel the cages out so that the animals can enjoy some fresh air.

While the docents are cleaning the cages and preparing meals, the animals are allowed to romp around outside their cages. Of course, the docents are careful to keep the front door locked. After a while, the animals are lured back to their cages with freshly prepared food.

The docents do all this because they love animals. And, they're not afraid to get their hands dirty. Their reward is being able to handle a bird, a snake or a ferret with ease, and knowing that even animals have a way of showing appreciation for a job well done.



Zip! Hip! Hooray!

Three cheers for ZIP. At a Board meeting in May, ZIP (which stands for Zoo Information Personnel) was formally recognized as a strong volunteer arm of the Society and thanked for the myriad services it provides at Metrozoo.

What exactly does ZIP do? That's easily explained. In a word, everything. There is nothing that ZIP won't handle. About 120 volunteers contribute many, many labor hours of love. Among other things, they man the front booth, answer questions, sign up new members, help to control crowds, and, if necessary, are ready to pick up shovels and start cleaning paddocks. Visible in their uniforms, ZIP volunteers are often the public's first contact with the Society, and they make a very favorable impression, judging by the number of new members they attract.

The variety of services provided by the volunteers, and the willingness with which they step into the breach make ZIP an invaluable asset to the Society. With their for-

mal recognition by the Board comes the chance for ZIP to restructure, elect officers, and, most important, recruit new volunteers. If you're interested in zipping around at the zoo, contact coordinator Art Henriksen at 246-1666 or Barbara Birmingham at 387-3190.

It's impossible to talk about ZIP without mentioning Art Henriksen, who is one of the movers and shakers behind the organization. So we feel it's entirely fitting that he has been selected "**Outstanding Volunteer**" for this issue. He is deeply committed to ZIP, and hopes to see it grow from strength to strength. His dedication to the Society goes far beyond the call of duty. He is willing to be wherever he is needed, whenever he is needed. It's obvious he enjoys what he does, and is able to communicate his enthusiasm to all those who work with him.

Thank you, Mr. Henriksen. You have raised volunteerism to a fine Art.

When a tree is firmly rooted in the ground, it starts to branch out. We be-leaf it's time for the Society to grow in the same way. (After all, tree's company.) Just imagine, if each one of us could recruit one new member, we would double our membership, and with it our effectiveness in supporting the zoo.

Our fundraising efforts are as important as our fundraising ones. The current membership drive has already attracted 500 new members. But we can do a lot better than that. So call up and register, if you haven't already done so, and we'll send you as many membership forms as you like. It's as simple as dialing 255-5551.

The person who brings in the most new members will win a trip for two to the Bahamas. The second prize is a dinner-theatre package trip to Jupiter Beach. Other prizes include free memberships, and a behind-the-scenes tour with zoo director Bob Yokel.

But hurry, because the fundraising contest ends on July 31st. Remember, when you bring in new members, we're all winners. So start rooting for the Zoological Society.

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Lester Goldstein, 1st Vice-President
Buff March, 2nd Vice-President
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Steve Clark, Mayor, Metro Dade County
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