

# THE BEAR FACTS

**N**o one could mistake a bear for any other kind of animal. These heavy weights among land carnivores are found from arctic ice floes to tropical forests. Within this range of habitats, the smallest sub-species are found in the hottest regions, the largest in the cold latitudes.

Although bears vary widely in size, color and habitat, they are all powerful, stockily built creatures with pointed, doglike muzzles, small eyes and ears, short tails, large claws and a slow, ambling gait that can quickly shift to surprising bursts of speed. Bears walk flat on their feet and all four feet have large, non-retractile claws, ideal for attacking large prey, digging for plants or for catching fish.

For a family classed as carnivores, bears eat almost anything, including grasses, roots, berries and nuts. They also hunt for mice, birds' eggs and insects, and will ignore angry bees to get at a honeycomb, one of their favorite treats. A bear's hearing and eyesight are not particularly good, but a keen sense of smell and lively curiosity will often lead it to food.

Many bears seek shelter in caves, hollow logs or dense vegetation, while bears living in open areas often dig dens in hillsides. Bears that are mainly terrestrial have hairy soles, while those that climb trees have hairless ones.

Most bears store fat during autumn to prepare for a period of inactivity in the winter when they seek shelter in their dens. They can be easily aroused and sometimes waken on their own during periods of mild weather.

Bears do not have seasonal mating periods, and females can conceive well into summer months, usually giving birth during winter. A litter usually consists of one to four cubs, born blind and helpless and approximately the size of rats. However, they grow quickly and after a year weigh about 25 Kg. They become sexually mature between the ages of 2½ and 6, and normally live 15-20 years in the wild.

In captivity, we have three species of bears on display at Metrozoo: the Malayan Sun Bear (*Helarctos malayanus*), the Himalayan Black Bears, (*Selenarctos thibetanus*); and the European Brown Bear, (*Ursus arctos*).

The Malayan sun bear is among the smallest of the bears. It is usually one to one-and-a-half meters in length and weighs less than fifty kilograms. There is a whitish or orange U-shaped breast mark, (which gives the bear its nickname) a grayish or orange muzzle, and occasionally, pale feet. This bear has large naked soles and unsheathed crescent-shaped claws which make it an expert tree climber.

The Himalayan black bear is commonly called the moon bear. It is usually black in color with a pale v-shaped marking on the chest. The upper lip is often white and the claws, which are rather small, are black in color. This bear is a good climber, spending the winter in the forests of the foothills and the summer at high elevations.

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MALAYAN SUN BEAR





# Thank You!

Although Virginia Grieves of Sarasota had never seen Metrozoo, she had heard a lot about it. She didn't forget what she had heard. When her will was read out, a substantial bequest was made from her estate to the Zoological Society of Florida. The legacy was earmarked for the development of the nursery/clinic because she considered it the Society's most significant project.

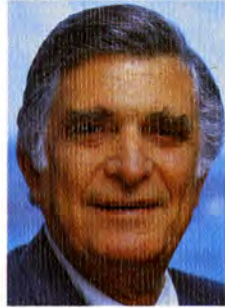
Mrs. Grieves was committed to the cause of wildlife and the preservation of animals for most of her life. She had always intended to bequeath a substantial portion of her estate to causes related to animal welfare. Virginia Grieves heard about the Zoological Society from her friend, docent Martha Williams, who told her about the fantastic new zoo in Miami, the ambitious long-range plans for the zoo and the steps that the Zoological Society was taking to make these plans a reality. Impressed, she named the Zoological Society of Florida as one of the beneficiaries in her last will and testament.



In death, as in life, Virginia Grieves showed herself a champion of animal welfare. We are grateful.



John L. Nau III, president of Silver Eagle Distributors, presenting a corporate check to ZSF member Buff March and to Metrozoo director Bob Yokel.



# President's Message

On behalf of the Zoological Society of Florida, let me express our many thanks and deep gratitude to immediate past-President Ron Esserman, and the outgoing members of the Board of Directors, for their impressive efforts and accomplishments during these critical early years in the life of Metrozoo. I extend my personal thanks as well. The increase in zoo support, increased membership, expansion of the Board of Directors, development of the Board of Trustees, and the increase in our fundraising are but a few of the contributions our predecessors have given us. They have helped to build a base upon which we can grow.


And grow the Society will. The officers and members of the new Board of Directors of the Society recognize the challenges that face us: completion of Metrozoo, adequate and consistent operational funding, the furthering of corporate and community support, and the continued development of our zoological and educational programs.

The Society's momentum will continue, but not without your help. At this year's Metro-Dade County budget hearings, we realized once again that our real strength lies in our membership. Hundreds of Metrozoo supporters turned out for these hearings, successfully persuading the County Commission to increase Metrozoo's budget to an adequate level.

Let me urge you, in the coming year, to share the wealth — bring new members into the Society. Your friends will thank you and you'll be strengthening Metrozoo.

The Society and Metrozoo are looking forward to a terrific year. Our new aviary, "Wings of Asia," opened December 28th following a record-breaking preview on December 8th, for members only. Other events will follow, such as more free concerts, our koala project, African plains, future expeditions, and a host of other events for members and non-members alike. Groundbreaking will soon be scheduled for the much-needed, long-awaited Animal Clinic. The completion of this project will add a new dimension to scientific research at the zoo as well as meeting routine and emergency animal health needs.

As the President of the Society, I'm looking forward with great enthusiasm to the tasks before us. Please remember that our family includes a fine team of dedicated staff members who are capable, pleasant, and happy to receive your requests, comments and suggestions. Thanks again for your support and have a Happy New Year!

  
Lester Goldstein,  
President

# A Class By Itself



The Malayan Sun Bear now has a new class of parents—the first and second graders at Beth Am Day School. They earned enough quarters by doing assigned chores around the house and organizing a bake sale to adopt a \$200 animal through the Zoological Society. The children plan to hold more fundraisers, because they've discovered that all those quarters add up. Then,

they'll adopt other animals whose quarters are at Metrozoo. If your school, club or corporation would like to adopt an animal at the zoo, please call the Zoological Society at 255-5551.





# Education Outlook

## Zoomobile...

The Education Department is pleased to announce the acquisition of a brand new "Zoomobile," something that has been on our wish list for a long time. The Zoomobile, a roomy Didge van has been donated to the Zoological Society by Racial-Milgo Corporation. It will be used to transport animals and educational materials in our Outreach Program, through which we bring the zoo to people who can't bring themselves to the zoo.

The Zoomobile was presented to the Society by Matthew A. Kenny, President and Chief Executive Officer of Racial-Milgo, at the Volunteer Appreciation Party on November 17th. Now it's our turn to express our appreciation. We'll be thinking of Racial-Milgo every time we zoom around in the Zoomobile.

## Service Team...

The Service Team will spring back in action this spring, with Susan Heckerling as its advisor. Mrs. Heckerling will be working with the teenage volunteers to produce puppet shows at the Puppet Theater, now located at the Chickee near the Sulawesi Village. The Service Team will also lend a hand to the zookeepers at Sulawesi, and help with special events at the zoo. The Service Team training course will be offered this spring beginning February 9th. Check Toucan Team below for details.

## Tails Up!

Cut out and glue (back to back) the pig head to the pig tail so that each of the 3 "coins" has a head and a tail. Put three coins on a table, arranged as below.



Make three moves, turning over 2 "coins" each time, to finish with all 3 pig tails up.



Answer: First move - turn over coins 2 & 3. Second move - turn over 1 & 3. The last move - turn over 2 & 3. All three coins are now pig tails up!

## Program Lineup

January 3rd - March 17th

### FIU At The Zoo

The popular FIU course for teachers will be offered again this spring at the zoo, in a program designed to use Metrozoo as a living classroom. The zoo is one of our community's greatest educational resources and ZSF Education Staff, along with Dr. Ed. Reichbach of FIU will help you in developing materials to teach conservation. The class is open to teachers (recertification credit offered), as well as graduate and undergraduate students. To register or find out more, call Dr. Reichbach at 554-2561 or the Education Department at 255-5551.

Thursdays - January 3 & April 4  
4 p.m.-6:30 p.m. \*35

### Metrozoo-Inn

Night life at a zoo is really something, and you get a rare chance to observe it. Bring your sleeping bags for this special slumber party which includes a monorail ride, dinner, a night walk and a light breakfast the next morning. Registration is limited to the first 15, so hurry if you want to be in on the Metrozoo-Inn.

Friday - Saturday,  
January 18, February 8 & March 8  
5 p.m. - 9 a.m. • Grades 4-6  
\$17.50-Members / \$20-Nonmembers

### Breakfast With The Beasts

Experience the tranquil beauty of the zoo in the early morning. Enjoy a continental breakfast while learning about the food habits and nutrition of the zoo residents, then meet some of our popular animals closeup. Did you know, for

instance, that a baby elephant can consume 50 pounds of hay, 20 pounds of alfalfa and several pounds of apples in just one day? Now that's really a jumbo appetite! Pre-registration required.

Sunday - January 20, February 17 & March 17 • 8 a.m.-10 a.m.

Families - Adults

\$8-Members / \$10-Nonmembers

### Animal Crackers (Part II)

Children will be delighted to discover that learning can be such fun. They'll go ape over a program that teaches them about the zoo's great apes, bears and the tallest and biggest animals at Metrozoo - giraffes and elephants. Singing, crafts and other activities will make the two hours go by in a flash.

Three consecutive Saturdays,  
January 12-26 • 1-3 p.m. • Ages 3-5  
\$30-Members / \$35-Nonmembers

### Night Owls

A night out for adults only. Find out what the kids have been raving about. Spend a night at the zoo and discover a whole new world of sights and sounds. Bring your sleeping bags & we'll provide dinner and a light breakfast! Our new format also includes a visit with the Veterinary staff. This will be a night to remember.

Friday-Saturday, January 25,  
February 15 & March 15 • 6 p.m.-9 a.m.  
\$17.50-Members / \$20-Nonmembers

### Toucan Team

An exciting opportunity to study wildlife without leaving the city. A concentrated program dealing with captive wildlife and zoos, this course offers a fascinating introduction to animal behavior, biology and ecology. Participants will also observe animal management at Metrozoo. Graduates of the course are eligible to join the Service team, ZSF's teenage volunteer group.

6 Consecutive Saturdays, February 9-March 16 • 9 a.m.-12 p.m. • Grades 9-12  
\$50-Members / \$60-Nonmembers

### Enroll Me In The Following Programs.

Programs \_\_\_\_\_

Session Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Program Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \$ (If Desired) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASS REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Member  Nonmember

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 Street • Miami, Florida 33177



# TOUCAN TIDBITS

## The Hunt

Let us clue you in on the Zoological Society's second annual Hunt — it was a smashing success, with over \$400 people participating.

The real winner was the zoo. The Zoological Society received over \$7,000 from the Hunt, and the money was used to buy six lesser flamingos for Metrozoo's stunning new aviary. Ron Johnson, curator of birds at the zoo, wanted a large flock of lesser flamingos — the most social of the species — but only had the budget to buy 12 of them. So the Society threw in another six birds. Not only will they make a wonderful splash of color in the aviary, but, we hope, will also make a splash in the zoo world by multiplying. Lesser flamingos are native to India and Africa and have never been successfully bred in captivity. So any little lesser flamingoes will be quite a feather in Metrozoo's cap.

Hats off to Dr. & Mrs. Scheiner, Mr. & Mrs. Tendrich and Dr. & Mrs. Gustman for once again masterminding the Hunt. Thanks also to the 58 carloads of contestants and the helpers who steered the Hunt to a smooth finish.

The success of the last Hunt has put us all in the pink, as it were. Be sure to flock to the third annual Hunt in October.

## Membership Fees Increase In March

The spectacular aviary, "Wings of Asia," has just gone up at Metrozoo. The sorely needed Animal Clinic, providing routine and emergency medical care to the animals, will soon be going up. The number of concerts and special events at the zoo has gone up. And beginning March 1st, the Zoological Society's membership fees will also go up.

Rising postal rates, increased processing costs and a deepened commitment to funding new animal projects at the zoo have forced us to raise membership fees.

The modest increase, the first in many years, means that individual membership fees will be \$20, dual memberships will be \$30 and family memberships will be \$40 (all tax

## Great Scott! A New Vet.



All creatures great and small at Metrozoo are in good hands with Dr. Scott Citino, the new zoo veterinarian. Dr. Citino comes to us from the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., where he completed his internship. Before that, he received his bachelor's degree from Notre Dame University in 1979 and his D.V.M. from Ohio State in 1983.

Dr. Citino's day at Metrozoo begins at 8 a.m. with an examination of the animals in the hospital and quarantine area. Next, he makes his rounds of the zoo, treating chronic patients and examining new ones. Surgery usually takes place in the middle of the day. One or two cases of minor surgery, such as treating an abscess on a flamingo, or setting the broken leg of a young deer, is usually the norm. Major surgery is needed less frequently, about once a month or so. Afternoon rounds usually follow surgery. These exa-

minations consist of checking the progress of morning treatments and examining any animals reported ill later in the day. The vet's day ends around 6:30 p.m., after completing the paperwork to insure complete medical records are kept on his patients.

In addition, Dr. Citino is responsible for supervising the transportation of animals. Incoming animals must be tested for parasites and infectious diseases, while those being shipped out sometimes need to be tranquilized. Dr. Citino is also in charge of examining newborn animals.

He meets regularly with zoo-keepers and Metrozoo staff to update them on cases of interest. Dr. Citino will also supervise veterinary students studying at Metrozoo this summer. On top of that, he finds time to give presentations on veterinary medicine to Zoological Society classes.

Dr. Citino certainly has his hands full at the zoo. And we are fortunate to have his expertise on hand.



Wildlife artist Charles Fracé, seen here with Mr. and Mrs. Franco, ZSF members living in Chicago, who flew down to Miami especially to meet Fracé and to buy his painting "The American Monarch," which shows a beautiful male cougar stalking its prey in a snowy forest. Only a few prints are left of this collector's item. If you would like one reserved for you, contact the Special Events department at 255-5551.



deductible).

**But**, if you renew before March 1st, you can take advantage of the lower rates currently in effect. By renewing now, you will extend your membership one full year from the renewal date printed on your card (even if you have just renewed).

Even with the increase, a Zoological Society membership is one of the best values in town. As a member, you're entitled to free admission to Metrozoo and 70 other zoos across the country for a year; free subscription to *Toucan Talk*; free admission to "members only" events at the zoo; special discounts on education programs; a 20% discount on monorail rides; and much, much more.

Enjoy all these benefits at the same low price for another full year when your membership expires, by renewing right now.



# A Bird's Eye View

The new aviary at the zoo is for the birds; and our members love it. Zoological Society members got an exclusive glimpse of Metrozoo's beautiful new exhibit, billed as "Wings of Asia: Garden of Tropical Birds", on Saturday, December 8th. It was the Zoological Society's biggest member's event ever, with almost 2,500 members showing up for the beak preview.

All day, UMI provided free mono-rail rides for Society members, who also enjoyed free snacks, two bird shows and music provided by members of the Homestead Kitchen Band, who were really cooking.

**All in all,  
it was a rare tweet!**



GREEN MAGPIE

*Continued from Page 1*

## THE BEAR FACTS

These bears usually sleep for much of the winter in dens in hollow poplar trees, often at a height of 5 meters above the ground. This bear is essentially a vegetarian, but will eat quantities of insects and honey, and will occasionally kill domestic animals.

The European brown bear is a smaller relative of the grizzly found in the northwest United States and Canada, and the Kodiak bear of Alaska. This species of bear varies in size from two to three meters in height and from 70 to 780 kilograms in weight. Coloration can vary considerably from brown hues to black, and there are even silver-gray and pale buff brown bears. Their status in the wild varies from common to endangered, depending upon the location and the subspecies. Brown bears are not normally aggressive to man except under provocation, when injured, or when a person comes too close to a she-bear with cubs.

All members of ursidae, or the bear family at Metrozoo bear watching, **so visit them soon.**

HIMALAYAN  
BLACK BEAR



EUROPEAN  
BROWN BEAR





# Welcome Aboard

1984 — 1985  
Board of Directors

**Executive Committee:**

**LESTER GOLDSTEIN —**  
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Arky, Freed, Stearns, Watson & Greer

**ROGER CARLTON —**  
First Vice President  
Miami Off-Street Parking Authority

**R. RAY GOODE**  
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Babcock Company

**JEB BUSH —**  
Secretary  
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**LAWRENCE O. TURNER, JR. —**  
Treasurer  
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**ROBERT L. YOKEL —**  
Metrozoo Director

**RONALD ESSERMAN —**  
Immediate Past President  
South Motors Group /  
Esserman Buick

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Board Members**

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Ryder Systems, Inc.

**B. B. GOLDSTEIN —**  
Commercial Bank & Trust Company

**HAIBA JABALI —**  
Miami Caribbean Development Corp.

**MRS. RICHARD E. (BOBBI) LITT —**  
Burdines

**JOHN K. LITTLE —**  
Matrix Construction Corporation

**MRS. JOHN P. MARCH**

**ARISTIDES SASTRE, JR. —**  
Republic National Bank of Miami

**HOWARD J. TENDRICH**  
Heritage House

# A Saks-ess Story



R to L: Ana Picaza Soler, Board Member; Lynn Songdahl, Zookeeper; Patricia Leon, Zookeeper & Melvin Jacobs, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer - Saks Fifth Avenue.



Lester Goldstein, newly elected President of Zoological Society of Florida; Robert Yokel, Zoo Director and two of the Gala's charming guests.

The Saks Fifth Avenue Gala opening at Dadeland Mall was a colossal success. How could it be otherwise, with a five-ton elephant paying a trunk call? He greeted the guests at the front door. Over 600 guests showed up and they were all as decorative as everything in the beautiful new Saks Fifth Avenue.

Six non-profit organizations were invited to be beneficiaries of the event, and each organization was asked to present a show. Big Brothers/Big Sisters presented a short skit about love, put on by the Coconut Grove Children's Theatre. Young Patronesses of the Opera provided classical music selections. And the Zoological Society offered guests a walk on the wild side as zookeepers escorted chimpanzees, exotic macaws, African hedgehogs and sugar gliders through the store. The animals were on their best behavior and the guests were enchanted. We were proud to note that the Zoological Society was most visibly represented at the affair by Board members, trustees and members, all eager to show how much we care about the zoo.

Board member Ana Soler chaired the Zoological Society's involvement in the event and proved to be a store of ideas and energy. Her efforts really paid off when Saks Fifth Avenue presented the Society with over \$7,000. Thanks a ton!

Pix by  
Arnold  
Pakula



Ron Esserman, past president of Zoological Society of Florida, and one of the guests.

**Executive Director:** Joseph E. Ferrer  
**Editor:** Mamta Chaudhry-Fryer  
**Design:** Janice McDougall



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**Upcoming FREE Concerts**  
Jan. 6 - Dave Mason  
Feb. 2 - 'History of the Blues' w/James Cotton and the All Stars Blues Band  
Feb. 3 - Doc Severinson of 'The Tonight Show' and the Zebron Band