

THE WINGS OF METROZOO

Continued From Page 1

quarantine pens adjacent to the brooder/hatchery center.

Metrozoo is also cooperating with other conservation projects. The Audubon Zoo in Maitland, Florida had several bald eagles that were injured. Although they were nursed back to health, they were permanently impaired and could not survive on their own in the wild. The Maitland facility had no place for breeding these endangered birds. With funding from the Zoological Society, three corncrib breeding cages were constructed in the quarantine area at Metrozoo. The first breeding pair arrived a year ago, and a second female arrived to complete a second pair in June of this year. Chicks from these eagles will be released in Central Florida.

Another significant project involves the Andean condor. At the Crandon Park Zoo, the eggs laid by the condors were sent to the Bronx Zoo for hatching and raising because of inadequate facilities at Crandon. With the brooder/hatchery center, Metrozoo is now able to raise these condor chicks here. The condor's eggs are removed from the nest to be incubated artificially. In the wild, the condor would raise their chicks until they are two years old. By removing the eggs, the condors can produce chicks every year instead of every two years. To insure future breeding, and because the birds may eventually be released back in the wild, great care is being taken that these chicks do not imprint on their human "parents". Birds often accept human caretakers as parents and do not recognize other birds as appropriate mates, but rather attempt to solicit humans. This would defeat the purposes of the captive breeding, so our condor chicks are raised in mirrored boxes so that they see only other condor chicks. In addition, they are fed by means of realistic condor puppets. Thus, they never come into close contact with humans.

At Metrozoo, a female condor chick was hatched on the 28th of May this year. Emerging from an egg about the size of an elongated baseball, the bird weighed about seven ounces. The chick is fed a diet carefully formulated to approximate its wild diet, including the special digestive enzymes and bacterial cultures it would obtain from its parents. Given food amounting to about 10% of its body weight each day, the chick gains weight rapidly. Presently, the condor chick has grown to about 18 inches and weighs about seven and a half pounds. Fully grown, it will weigh about 18 to 23 pounds have have a wingspan of 10 1/2 feet.

The brooder/hatchery center is just one of the many projects that your support of the Zoological Society has provided to Metrozoo. Although not all of the facilities are visible to the public, the results of everyone's contributions are reflected in all of Metrozoo's exhibits.



Editor's Note:

As this issue of Toucan Talk goes to press, Curator of Birds, Ron Johnson leaves for New Guinea to research and collect birds from the tropical rain forest. The expedition represents a cooperative venture with the Bronx, Los Angeles, San Diego, and National Zoos. Mr. Johnson's participation in the program is funded by the Zoological Society of Florida. A report on his travels will be featured in a future issue of Toucan Talk.



S.S.P. Animal

Scimitar-Horned Oryx

Named for its long, sabre-like horns that resemble the Arabic "scimitar", the scimitar-horned oryx is one of the rarest and most endangered large mammals on the African continent. It is estimated that no more than 250 animals survive in the wild, scattered among small remnant populations in the north African countries of Chad and Niger. In all likelihood, this species will become extinct in the wild before the end of the decade.

The status of the scimitar in captivity is very different, with well over 500 animals in North American zoos and ranches. The scimitar is relatively easy to breed in captivity, however avoiding inbreeding is quite difficult.

It is largely through the efforts of the scimitar-horned oryx Species Survival Program that accurate records are now being kept and the most valuable genetic lines or "founder stock", are being preserved. In 1982 a project was initiated at a private ranch in Texas to compile the most genetically diverse group of scimitars in captivity. Today the ranch has 35 animals including a pair put on loan by Metrozoo.

As with all S.S.P. programs, the long term genetic viability of the captive population is given the utmost attention. With exhibit space at a premium in most zoos, the only way to maintain genetic diversity is to constantly exchange animals through cooperative breeding loans. Toward this goal, Metrozoo has put three animals on loan to other facilities. This, combined with our outstanding reproductive record of 39 births in nine years, has made Metrozoo a major contributor to the future survival of this species in captivity.

TOUCAN TIDBITS

Zoological Society Recognizes Young Talent

Students at Gloria Floyd Elementary School have adopted our baby orangutan, Talu. In the excitement of becoming "zooparents", the students held a poetry contest; with winners receiving family memberships to the Zoological Society of Florida. Congratulations to the winners and their families; and many thanks to all of the students and staff at Gloria Floyd for their enthusiastic support of the Adopt-an-animal program.

The winning poems are printed below:

Talu, a sweet orangutan lives at Metrozoo.

Her hair is long, her arms are strong. She eats bananas, too.

Talu, she has a family, the biggest one I know.

It's Gloria Floyd Elementary School with 800 kids or so.

And so if on a sunny day you don't know what to do

Grab your Mom and grab your Dad Come visit Talu at the zoo.

Julie Dafoe / Grade 1

We saw the orangutans at Metrozoo. They were fun to watch and playful too. They had red hair and long, long arms, And keep their baby, Talu, free from harm.

The baby always hung onto it's mother, The Daddy sat in the shade without any bother.

We watched to see what they would do. And while we watched, they watched us too.

Abigail Eyre / Kindergarten

Gloria Floyd Elementary poetry contest winners visit Talu. Larry Feldman, now the principal at Palmetto Elementary, initiated the adoption and contest while assistant principal at Gloria Floyd. Mega Bank sponsored the special T-shirts.





Join us on Halloween evening for the "Magic at Metrozoo II", featuring the host of channel 7 WSVN's Sunday Funnies, Magician Robert Hermens performing his wonderful illusions.

The fun will begin at 6:45 p.m. in the amphitheatre where children under six will be judged for their costumes. Judging will be based on four categories; the cutest, the scariest, the most original and the best animal.

Magic Returns To Metrozoo

The magic show will begin immediately following the "under six" contest (approximately 7:15). Costumed kids ages 7-12 will be judged in the same categories following the magician's 40 minute show.

All children must be accompanied by an adult and will receive treats courtesy of Life-Savers, Inc. Members of the Zoological Society will be admitted free (bring your cards); nonmembers will be admitted for \$1 each.

You may bring flashlights which will be useful in the parking lot and on the pathway to the amphitheatre.

White Tiger

UPDATE

Metrozoo's white tigers gave birth to two cubs on June 6th. Although it is the zoo's policy to leave babies with their mothers whenever possible, the staff made the difficult decision to pull the cubs. The cubs were not near the mother when they were discovered, and their body temperatures were lower than they should have been. These were indications that the mother was not giving the necessary care, an unfortunate but common occurrence among first litters of tigers.

Cared for around the clock by zoo veterinarian Scott Citino, the cubs appeared to be doing well for about ten days. Then, although they were active and gaining weight, there were indications that their formula was unable to pass from their stomachs to their intestines. Contrast radiology revealed the inhibition of gastric outflow and possible pyloric stenosis. Surgery was performed on one of the cubs to correct the condition. Assistance was given by Drs. Buckner, Oiticca, and associates at the University of Miami neonatology unit.

When the tiger cubs continued to show digestive problems, Dr. Citino flew with them to the University of Florida's veterinary medical school in Gainesville, where they could have access to the specialized twenty-four hour a day care they needed. Feeding catheters were surgically inserted into the cubs' intestines. On July 2, one of the cubs died. The second cub is improving steadily after the removal of the catheter and the introduction of semisolid food by mouth. She returned to the zoo on July 23rd.

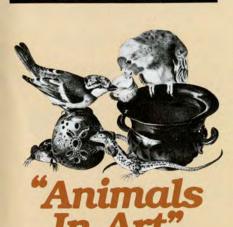
Thanks too... A special thanks goes to Third Dimension Graphics, Inc. for their donation of the paper and embossing for the Animal Clinic mementos. The beautiful embossed prints will be treasured by all who received them.

"Back to Class" with

blominadales

The Zoological Society of Florida is pleased to join Bloomingdale's in a special "back to class" offer.

From August 15th to September 14th, cumulative purchases of \$200 or more in the "Next Generation" and "Juniors" departments at Bloomingdale's store in "The Falls" will entitle you to a free membership in the Zoological Society. This offer may be used to renew your existing "Society" membership, or be used as a special gift.



The Zoological Society will join the Lowe Art Museum in co-sponsoring an exhibition of bird and mammal portraits assembled by the Medici family. Forty-three paintings dating back to the 17th century will be on display at the Lowe from October 9th through November 23, 1986. The collection, housed at the Pitti Palace in Florence, Italy, is entitled "Natura Vita: Animals and Birds Palazzo Pitti" and comes to the Lowe following a stay at the National Academy of Design in New York.

The exhibition is composed of portraits of family pets in court and other elaborate settings, as well as farm animals, fantastical creatures, ornate and exotic birds; and includes several species exhibited at Metrozoo.

Museum hours are: Tuesday through Friday, from noon until 5 P.M.; Saturday from 10 A.M. until 5 P.M.; and Sunday from noon until 5 P.M. Admission is \$2.00 for adults. Children 16 and under are admitted free. For more information, call (305) 284-3535.

EDUCATION OUTLOOK

By Diane Ledder, Education Coordinator

A Summer They'll Never Forget

Metrozoo summer camps were filled to capacity this year with inquisitive young zoologists. Learning and fun proved to be a great combination for all who attended.

The Education Department would like to thank "Heritage House", clothing for men, for their support of education through their donation for summer T-shirts.

Julie Gochenouer and "Friend" model this year's camp shirt. Thank you, Heritage House!!



Classes For Children

After School Adventure

This is a new program for elementary school children, featuring different animal topics every 2 months (each newsletter). Special sessions with zookeepers and animals will be featured.

September-October: "Animal Needs": Zoo animals are not pets, but they have many of the same needs. Children will learn how zoo animals are fed, housed, cleaned, and cared for.

October 22: 4th through 6th graders 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. \$10-Members / \$15-Nonmembers

Wednesdays, October 8: 1st through 3rd graders

A.I.R. Scouting Program Both girl and boy scout troops can spend a Saturday learning about Metrozoo's animal collection and the zoo's role in wildlife conservation. The program will include a classroom presentation, behind-the-scenes tour, and a live animal presentation. Scouts will receive the Metrozoo A.I.R. (Awareness, Interest, and Respect) patch upon completion of the program. Several scouting zooinns are offered in conjunction with the Saturday class. Scout leaders may familiarize themselves with the program by visiting their council headquarters. Reservations will be taken by the Education Department at 255-5551.

Saturdays, September 20, 27 October 11, 18 / November 8, 15 December 6, 13 • 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. \$6 per scout

Daisy Program*

A special after school version of the A.I.R. program will be held for Daisy girl scouts on the following dates:

October 1, 15 / November 5, 19
December 3 • 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
\$5 per scout • Call the Education
Department for details

Classes For Teens

Toucan Team

Designed for students interested in careers in veterinary medicine, wild-life biology, and zoology, this course provides a unique introduction to these life sciences. Behind the scenes tours and contact with the zookeeper and curatorial staff enrich the program.

6 Saturdays, October 11 through November 15

Grades 9 - 12 • 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. \$70-Members / \$80-Nonmembers

Classes For Families

Breakfast with the Beasts

Take advantage of this opportunity to enter the zoo in the early morning hours. A new format includes a continental breakfast with new animal guests and zookeepers. Meet some of our most personable residents up close.

Sundays, September 21 & October 19 • 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. \$10-Members / \$15-Nonmembers

Two for the Zoo

Our popular program for preschoolers and parents will continue this fall on Wednesday mornings. Animal experiences are highlighted with craft activities and animal demonstrations. A new topic will be featured every two months (each newsletter). Classes are limited in size, so please indicate an alternate date when registering.

September-October: "Ape Antics" will be a day devoted to the ape family; their characteristics, behavior, and life in the zoo.

Wednesday, September 10, 24 October 15, 29 ● 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. 3, 4, 5 year olds and parents \$10-Members (parent & 1 child, second child - \$5) / \$16-Nonmember (second child - \$8)

Classes For Adults

F.I.U. at Metrozoo

Our ever-popular class for teachers will return again this fall. Open to both graduate and undergraduate students, this comprehensive workshop introduces teachers to Metrozoo and assists them in developing interdisciplinary materials for use in the classroom and at the zoo. "In Field Credit" is awarded in four disciplines for recertification. Registration is through F.I.U. only. For details, call the Education Department at 255-5551.

Thursdays, September 11 -December 11 • 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. \$35-Members / \$45-Nonmembers



Metrozoo Education Director, Dr. Gordon Hubbell, discusses an exhibit design project with zoocamper Steven Steinberg.

Barry at the Zoo

Offered through Barry University, this popular class returns for "weekend scholars". Designed for the nonscience major, the program will introduce students to the theory and practice of maintaining animals in captivity. The course will be taught by Zoological Society and Metrozoo staff.

Saturdays, October 11 -December 13 • 9:00 - noon \$45 plus Barry tuition (includes ZSF membership)

T.E.C. Workshop

Part of a series of workshops offered through the Teacher Education Center for the fall, this 10 hour program will train teachers to utilize the zoo as a classroom more effectively and help them interpret the zoo to others.

Two consecutive Saturdays, October 25, November I 9:00 to 3:00 p.m. NO FEE - Registration through T.E.C. only

Adult Zoo-Inn

Spend a fall evening camping out at the zoo. Dinner and a presentation by the veterinary staff begin the evening; an unforgetable after-dark tour and evening with a zookeeper follow. Bring your sleeping bag and prepare to relax and enjoy.

September 12, October 24 6:00 p.m. Friday-8:30 a.m. Saturday \$30-Members / \$40-Nonmembers

Supper Safari

For adults who would like to experience the zoo at night, but don't care to "sleep over", we offer this popular program. Wine, cheese and a presentation by the curatorial staff are followed by dinner "al fresco" and a behind the scenes tour.

Saturdays, September 27, October 25 • 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. \$25-Members / \$35-Nonmembers

Fall is "back to school" time and begins a new year of educational programming at the zoo. We will be introducing new programs throughout the fall, and updating old favorites to keep you coming back for more. The Education Department offers classes for everyone, so register soon, and come back to school at the zoo!

Registration Policy: Registration for zoo classes is by mail or credit card only. Program information may be obtained over the telephone, however a reservation in the program is contingent upon payment. Fees may be paid by check, money order, cash or Visa/Mastercharge. A confirmation letter will be issued upon receipt of payment. Fees are refundable up to 1 week before the program date.

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Mambar D. Mambarahin t				Miami, Florida 33177 (305) 255-5551
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International

Enjoy the luxury of going around the world on a buying tour without leaving Metrozoo.

On November 21 Pan American World Airlines, Inc. and the Board of Trustees of the Zoological Society of Florida invite you to participate in the "International Director's Choice pre-Holiday Spree." From each country serviced by their airline, Pan Am directors have carefully selected an item which uniquely represents their region or country for auction.

Tickets for this evening of opportunity are available for \$65 by contacting the Society office at 255-5551, or a member of the Board of Trustees. Each ticket is redeemable for one dinner and a

buyer's number.

At evening's close, in case your holiday shopping list is not yet completed, or you don't see anything you "have to have", Pan Am is also donating (to the Society) two round trip 1st class tickets to any Pan Am destination in the world, which will be offered to the highest bidder.

All proceeds from the affair will benefit the Zoological Society of

Florida and are tax deductible as provided by law.

The Zoological Society of Florida greatly appreciates the generosity of Pan Am World Airways, Inc. as well as the dedication and hard work of those individuals who serve on the Special Events sub-committee for this extravagant event.



Buy the world - or at least bid on it at Metrozoo. Thanks to Pan American World Airways, Inc., items from around the world will be available to the highest bidder.



e Hun

'The Hunt' committee and monitors are ready for you - are you ready for 'The Hunt'?

Participation is limited to the first 60 teams, so please register your team now if you plan to join us at Metrozoo on October 11. All teams should meet in the Zebrazaar (under the yellow canopy) at 7:30 p.m. - be prompt or you will miss the first clue!

Teams consist of six people, \$60 per couple. Each team member will receive a limited edition 'The Hunt' T-shirt and a light repast following the final clue. Registration after October 1 will be \$65 per couple.

Special thanks to 'The Hunt' committee, Dr. & Mrs. Paul Gustman, Dr. & Mrs. Monroe Scheiner and Mr. & Mrs. Howard Tendrich for their dedication and creative clues; and to Dixie Catering for generously sponsoring 'The Hunt'.

Please reserve space for my team!

(indicate shirt size)

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ADDRESS

PHONE

Send to: The Zoological Society of Florida: "The Hunt' 12400 S.W. 152nd Street Miami, Florida 33177

New Benefits for Members

Your membership card to the Zoological Society is now worth more! Beginning October 1st, Zoological Society members will receive a 20% discount on admission to the Miami Seaquarium, the Historical Museum, Vizcaya, the Museum of Science and Space Transit Planetarium, and the Center for the Fine Arts. To receive the discount, you must show your valid Zoological Society membership card with proof of identification. The discounts apply to regular admission only, and may not be used in combination with any other discount, or for special engagements.

Remember:

Your card is not transferable, if you lend your card to someone else, it will be confiscated at the gate.

Miami Seaquarium

4400 Rickenbacker Causeway Open 9:30 A.M. to 6:30 P.M., 7 days a week

Historical Museum

101 West Flagler Open Mon.-Sat. 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Thursday, 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. Sunday, 12 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Museum of Science & Space Transit Planetarium

3280 S. Miami Avenue Open 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., 7 days a week

Vizcaya

3250 S. Miami Avenue Open 9:30 A.M. to 5 P.M., 7 days a week

Center for the Fine Arts

101 West Flagler Open 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday Thursday, 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. Sunday, 12 P.M. to 5 P.M. Closed Mondays



President's Message

"Man and Animal Must Unite in the Struggle for Survival..."

Dedication of the Christopher A. Weeks Animal Clinic / June, 1986

Lester Goldstein

These words were used as the theme for the dedication of the animal clinic and they summarize the goal of the Zoological Society of Florida.

This is my last message as President of the Zoological Society and I wish to take a moment to thank all of you for your support and dedication. In the few short years since its opening, Metrozoo has taken its place as one of the finest zoos in the country. As a sanctuary for animals and a park for people, Metrozoo is already one of the most precious resources in South Florida. I feel fortunate to have been part of a team of dedicated Directors, Trustees, staff, and volunteers who, working together, have continuously expanded, updated and maintained this world class facility.

Metrozoo has a solid partner in the Zoological Society, which now numbers over 68,000 members strong. Through the Society's support, more is accomplished than just keeping Metrozoo going. The Society offers the entire community the opportunity to participate in Metrozoo... to share in both the excitement and the challenge, and to reap the rewards of significant contribution.

Membership in the Zoological Society is far more than a membership card and free admission. Through your support, in the past 24 months we

- Dramatically increased fund raising from both the private sector and the public sector, through civic involvement at governmental forums.
- Expanded and improved the Society's education programs in order to bring participation to all age groups.
- Expanded the Board of Directors from 27 to 34 to better assist the Society in administration, fund raising, membership drives, and day to day advisement of the Society at Metrozoo.
- Been the primary sponsor of Wings of Asia with a contribution of \$100,000 to this project in 1984.
- Constructed and presented to Metrozoo the 6,500 square foot \$750,000 Christopher A. Weeks Animal Clinic with state-of-the-art equipment and

- innovative design facilitating treatment of the zoo's newborn, injured or ill animals. Preventive veterinary care is also provided to Metrozoo's valuable animals.
- Contributed towards many animal acquisitions, among them the zoo's gorilla and orangutan families
- Funded all travel for Metrozoo staff, including expeditions all over the world for research and conservation programs.
- Provided thousands of hours of volunteer time to Metrozoo.
- Administered funds as needed for continued zoo maintenance and development.
- Constructed a 2,000 square foot climatically controlled brooder/hatchery for the hatching and rearing of rare and exotic birds.
- Committed funds to the construction of a koala exhibit, including the planting of the eucalyptus grove to provide food for these animals.
- Established an animal photography contest to entice photographers to increase their interest in Metrozoo.
- Expanded the number and quality of member events.

Metrozoo is a priceless resource for all of South Florida. It cuts across economic, educational and cultural barriers in a way no other public facility can. It contributes to the community's economic base and provides a source of civic pride.

I thank you all for a memorable and fulfilling two years. I urge continued support of Metrozoo by public and private interests in order that we may achieve our ultimate goal - the completion of Metrozoo.

Caldster Coldstein

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Special Help **Special Events**

Special Events hosted by the Zoological Society of Florida vary from gala black tie affairs to bare thighs crossing the finish line. No matter what the appropriate mode of dress, most of the special events held by the Society are fundraisers for the zoo. Without adequate underwriting however, an event cannot be held. We are particularly thankful for Racal-Milgo, Baptist Hospital and Bud Light's sponsorship of the 5th annual Jungle Jog.

If you or someone you know is in a position to make a contribution (none too small) to the Zoological Society to sponsor or underwrite a special event or educational program, please contact Pat Superfine to discuss the possibilities and advantages to the donor. Opportunities are as varied as the events and programs. Watch for a "wish list" in upcoming issues.

Calendar of Events

September 17th

Zootography Club meeting: Classroom #1, 7-9 P.M.

October 7th

Annual Board Dinner: Lowe Museum

October 9th - November 23rd Medici family wildlife collection on exhibit at Lowe Museum

October 11th

'The Hunt': 7:30 P.M. at Metrozoo

October 12th

Forester Sisters in concert: Members \$2 in advance, \$3 concert day; produced by P.A.C.E.

October 15th

Zootography Club meeting: Classroom #1, 7-9 P.M.

October 31st, Halloween

Magic & Costume Contest, 6:45 P.M.

November 21st

Board of Trustees Dinner/Auction sponsored by Pan Am World Airways, Inc.

> Thanksgiving Weekend Frace Exhibit

November 28th-December 7th

Registration for 2nd Annual Photo Contest at Metrozoo

January 18th, 1987

5th annual Jungle Jog State of Florida Championship 5 Mile Run

The Zoological Society Salutes...

Those of us who work behind the scenes at the Society and Metrozoo know that all of our dreams and visions could never have become reality without the strong support of our Dade County leaders, Mayor Stephen P. Clark, and Commissioners Barbara M. Carey, Clara Oesterle, Beverly Phillips, James Redford, Harvey Ruvin, Barry Schreiber and Jorge Valdes. These esteemed ladies and gentlemen have worked hand in hand with the staffs of the Society and Metrozoo to give all of us a peaceful green haven in a rapidly growing

Through the determination of the Mayor and Commissioners,

and the support of the Dade County voters, the dream which initiated the 1972 Decade of Progress bond issue has become Metrozoo and will continue to flourish.

The Society is grateful for the concern and support of the Mayor and Commissioners, whose leadership has provided us with the finest system of parks and recreational centers in the country.

From the drawing board through construction and beyond, Metrozoo has been a unique project, spearheaded by dedicated people in a very, very special community.

On a recent visit to Metrozoo, County Commissioners Jorge E. Valdes, Barbara M. Carey, and Barry D. Schreiber had the rare opportunity to feed a newborn Thomson's gazelle.



Zoological Society of Florida 12400 SW. 152nd Street

Miami, Florida 33177 (305) 255-5551

Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 4358 Miami, Florida

Birds, Fish, Flora from around the world on exhibit. Tamiami Youth Fair Grounds, Saturday, Oct. 18th from 10A.M. through 8 P.M. and Sunday, Oct. 19th from 10 A.M. through 5 P.M. Seminars, Films, Sexing Clinic- Sponsored by the Greater Miami Aviculture Society. For Information call: 253-8094. Proceeds to support Avian research and Mini-Exhibits at Metrozoo.