

Volume 15, No. 1

January/February 1989



eauty is in the eye of the beholder, but I have yet to meet the person who does not see the beauty of the golden lion tamarin. Our newest residents on display, the golden lions are housed in a specially designed exhibit area at the front of the Society's membership/administration building.

Known to zoologists as Leontopithecus rosalia rosalia, the lion tamarin is perhaps the most brilliantly colored mammal there is. It has a magnificent pale to rich reddish-gold coat and a long, back-swept mane that covers the ears and frames the dark, almost bare face, and sometimes brown or black markings on the tail. Found in the lowland forest of southeastern Brazil, it once ranged through the states of Espirito Santo, Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Guanabara, and Sao Paulo. However, today its range is now the most densely human populated area in Brazil and because of its habitat deforestation for lumber, agriculture, and mining, the lion tamarin is considered one of the most critically endangered mammals on earth. Its range has been

Golden Lion Tamarins Exhibited

by Bill Zeigler, General Curator

reduced to less than 900 km in the Sao Joao Basin of Rio de Janeiro. In 1978, it was listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and in 1980 as endangered by the United States Department of the Interior (USDI). It is also listed as an Appendix I species by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, (CITES).

The genus *Leontopithecus* is comprised of one species which is divided into three sub-species, the golden

lion, *L. rosalia rosalia*, *L. r. chrysopygus*, (golden rump lion tamarin), and *L. r. chrysomelas*, (gold and black lion tamarin). The word lion is the result of a thick mane that develops on the neck and shoulders of the tamarin and is found in all three sub-species.

The lion tamarins usually live in groups of 2-6 animals which consist of an alpha pair and several previous offspring. As the offspring mature, they scatter and develop units of their own. There are however, periods of time when one may find 14-16 animals in a group. This large gathering tends to be temporary.

Found mainly in primary tropical forests, they prefer to stay between 6 and 30 feet above the ground using the interlacing of limbs and vines as their highways through the environment. Diurnal (active in the daytime) in habits, they can be found foraging for insects and small vertebrates such as lizards and small birds and their eggs, in the morning and afternoons. As night falls, they secure sleeping quarters in holes in the trees or in clumps of branches or vines.

Like all tamarins and marmosets, lion

tamarins are small, able to sit on the palm of an adult human's hand. Their body size averages about 20-30 cm with a 30-40 cm tail. The maximum weight of an adult rarely exceeds 720 grams.

In the wild, young are born from September to March. However, in captivity, births occur mostly between January and June after a gestation averaging 128 days. Most births result in twins and occasionally triplets.

Parenting is rather unusual in that within a few days after birth, the male will begin to carry the young with the female only taking them for nursing. The females are the first to mature between 17-18 months of age while the male matures at about 24 months. In captivity the life span of the species can be as high as 15 years.

Now one may ask, how did Metrozoo obtain such an endangered animal for its collection? Actually the answer is quite simple, we just picked up the telephone and called the Species Survival Plan (SSP) Coordinator for golden lions and asked to join the program.

Though over-simplified, my answer has a point. As always, Metrozoo tries to involve itself with species that are in need of conservational programs and through the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums or AAZPA's SSP programs, we have been able to develop a self sustaining captive population of lion tamarins. In fact, under the guidance of a management committee which consists of seven zoo curators and directors plus two honorary members from Brazil, the golden lion project has been able to provide specimens for re-introduction to the Sao Paulo area of Rio de Janeiro. Efforts are now under way within Brazil to convince the government and the general public of the importance of these uniquely Brazilian primates and to improve protective measures on their behalf. If these efforts fail, then all three sub-species lion tamarins will almost certainly be extinct in the wild by the end of the decade.

Our pair of golden lions were selected by the management committee and arrived here November 15 of this year. The male is 2 years, 3 months old and the female is 4 years, 7 months of age. The pair went through our 30 days quarantine period and have been on display since mid-December.

Do not expect young from this pair because the female has been implanted to stop reproduction. This will help broaden the genetic founder base for the species by letting other pairs breed and expand their genetic information into the population until they equal that of the pair we have. At that time we may then consider breeding.

Despite that, I know you will find them entertaining, fascinating, and just downright cute.



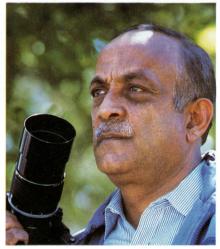
Volunteer K.T. Taylor displays a boa constrictor to zoo visitors.

Volunteers

Over 200 Zoological Society members show their support by volunteering at Metrozoo. They provide invaluable services including tour guides, care and feeding of our teaching animals, live animal presentations in the children's activity center and the community, gift shop sales, and dispensing important information to zoo patrons about Metrozoo, captive wildlife, and conservation.

If the zoo is one of your favorite places

and you want to become more involved, consider a rewarding, challenging, and enjoyable experience as a Zoological Society volunteer. Our next training session will run Tuesday and Thursday evenings, February 21 through April 11. Join us on Saturday, January 14th from 2 to 4 p.m. in the lobby of the Society membership/administration building. Meet our volunteers, view a slide presentation, and enjoy light refreshments while you learn more about this program. To make your reservation or receive more information, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 255-5551.



"Out of Africa" Photos to be Exhibited

Masud Quraishy, member of the Zoological Society Board of Trustees and sponsor of the Metrozoo flamingo paddock, will exhibit his exquisite photographs throughout January and February in the lobby of the Society membership/administration building.

An outstanding wildlife and documentary photographer for more

than thirty years, Mr. Quraishy's wildlife work has been featured in numerous exhibitions throughout the world and his documentary photography published in several books. His most recent accomplishment is the publishing of his work in a dramatic, full-color book, *DEFENDERS OF PAKISTAN*.

Mr. Quraishy developed his photographic skills during 25 years of custom laboratory work in Nairobi. On weekends and at every opportunity, he headed for the national parks outside the city ... some of the few wild game preserves left in the world today.

It is his patience, his love of nature and his artistic talent that enable him to so vividly capture the beauty of Africa: Young cheetahs at play on a fallen tree; a stately column of elephants silhouetted against the horizon ... a protective lioness with her young.

Married with three sons and a daughter, Mr. Quraishy was born in Nairobi and lived 40 years in Kenya before coming to the United States. He is the owner of **Kenya Photo Mural** in Miami, where he currently resides. He continues to indulge his love for Africa with frequent return visits to his homeland.

On your next visit to the zoo, please stop in our lobby and enjoy these works of art.



Adopt-an-Animal

o you know what a zebu is ... other than a great scrabble word? It is a species of domestic cattle originally from India, comparable in appearance to the brahman cattle in the United States. Zebus have pendulous ears and a fatty hump, which is why they are often called humped cattle.

They flourish in humid or arid districts and are resistant to infectious diseases. Male zebus are also crossed with ordinary cows to improve the stock. The Afrikander, a South African humped breed, is probably descended from the zebu.

These interesting animals are scheduled to move to the new children's petting zoo, PAWS, which will open in January.

The female, Mini, born on September 20, 1987, was obtained from a private animal park. She has a sweet disposition and will follow zookeepers everywhere. Rodeo, the male, was born on January 5, 1986 and arrived at Metrozoo on breeding loan on January 17, 1986. He was hand raised and bottle fed at Sulawesi (the former children's zoo). He was kept in our quarantine area after Sulawesi closed and formed a close relationship with Honeybear, a small domestic pony from Crandon Park Zoo. He is very protective of his paddock mates.

Our feature parents this issue are the **Zoological Society Volunteer Council day captains.** They saw the zebu and

just had to adopt one! Naturally they chose the female because in the zoo world, she is the most valuable. These people know their animals. To be a volunteer, you must put in at least 72 hours of service per year. Our day captains put in hundreds of hours. They are in charge of scheduling all the volunteers you see on zoo grounds - in the gift shops, in the information booths, in schools with our Outreach programs, and many more behind the scenes activities not visible to the public.

They believe in the Adopt-an-Animal program. We have over 30 volunteers who have adopted an animal of their own. They truly love the zoo and all its inhabitants.

If you would like to adopt a zebu or any other animal at Miami Metrozoo,

The Dolphins of Sarasota Bay



In a departure from our traditional terrestrial fare, the Zoological Society is sponsoring an evening with a well known marine biologist. Dr. Randy Wells, of the University of California at Santa Cruz, is a marine mammologist with an interest in dolphins. He has been fascinated with the animals since he began observing them, as a teenager living in Sarasota, Florida.

Dr. Wells is associated with the "Earthwatch" Foundation, an organization which places laymen in the field with scientists to assist them with their research. He will be discussing the research he has been conducting each year with the help of these volunteers.

Dr. Well's entertaining presentations have recently attracted hundreds of interested people at the New England Aquarium in Boston, the National Aquarium in Baltimore, and the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Dr. Wells and learn about the work he is doing with these intelligent and fascinating animals.

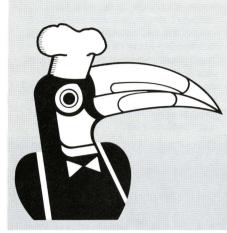
Join us January 31, 1989 at 7 p.m. Call 255-5551 for reservations.

contact Elizabeth Steigerwald at 255-5551. She will help you find the animal that is just right for you. Remember, your donation is tax deductible, and you get that wonderful feeling of helping the Zoological Society of Florida support Metrozoo.



(Left to right) Bill Bird, Director of Dade County Park and Recreation Department, Robert Yokel, Director of Metrozoo, Joe Ferrer, Executive Vice President of the Zoological Society, and George Kunde, Director of the Zoo Classic Golf Tournament display an artist's rendering of a future exhibit at Metrozoo.

Cynthia Zeigler



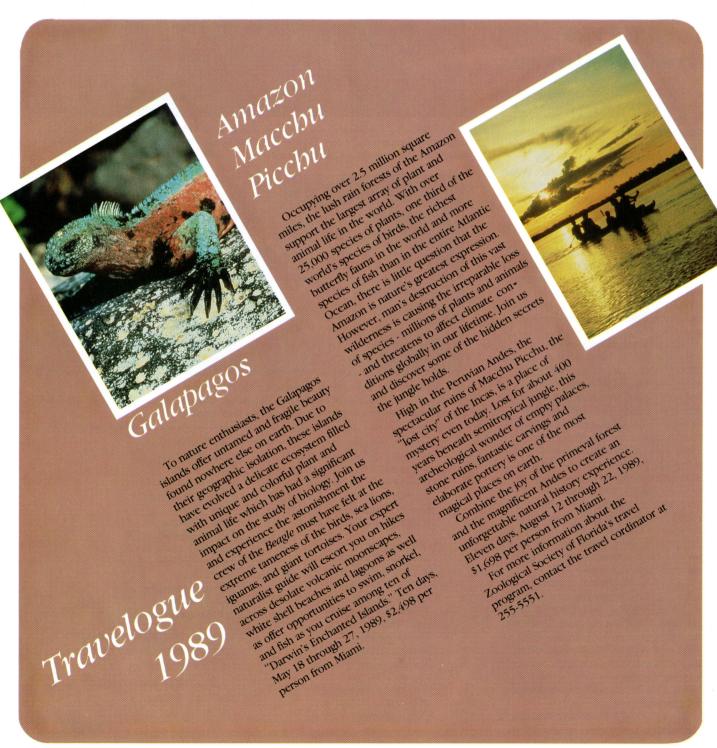
Again on April 14th

Last year, the Miami Herald rated Feast With the Beasts the "best organized event of the season." South Florida magazine said it was the "year's best." The second annual Feast With the Beasts is scheduled for April 14, 1989, and sponsored by **American Express**, it promises to be better than ever!

This lavish black tie affair takes place on Metrozoo grounds. The zoo becomes a fantasy land bathed in twinkle lights and adorned with helium ballons. Under the direction of Feast With the Beasts Chairman **Kathie Schlesinger**, committees are hard at work preparing for the extravaganza. Proceeds from this year's event will go to the building of a future small clawed Asian otter exhibit.

Tickets are \$150 per person for general admission. For a donation of \$500 you can become a Beastkeeper, the distinctive patron category, entitling you to special recognition and a party for "Beastkeepers only" to kick off the festivities that night.

Tickets are limited to the first 1,000 people. Call now, 255-5551 and use your American Express, Visa or Mastercard to reserve your Feast With the Beasts tickets





Programs for Children

Zoo After School

The new year begins with new animal adventures for kids after school:

January: "Our Closest Relatives - The Primates"

February: "Rodents"

Dates: January 11 and 25

February 1 and 15

3:30-5:00 p.m. Hours: Fee:

\$10-Members \$15-Nonmembers

Programs for **Families**

Breakfast with the Beasts

New activities and animals will be featured this year. Take this opportunity to visit the zoo in the early morning hours - a special "family time," and enjoy the animal "encounters" we have planned for you.

January: "TIGERS!"

February: "PAWS, the New Children's

Petting Zoo"

Dates: January 22

February 19

8:00-10:00 a.m. Hours: \$10-Members Fee:

\$15-Nonmembers

Two for the Zoo

Our popular program that provides entertaining and educational activities for parents and pre-schoolers (age 3 and up): Arts and crafts projects, visits with some of our smaller animals, and an electric cart "Safari" on zoo grounds are

January: "Primates" February: "Rodents"

Dates:

January 11 or 25

February 1 or 15

Hours: Fee:

9:30-11:30 a.m. \$10-Members

\$15-Nonmembers (\$5 per

extra child)

Family Overnight

Families will again have the opportunity to "camp out" at the zoo, for an exciting animal evening. Bring your sleeping bags and comfortable clothes; we'll supply everything else.

Dates:

February 24

6:30 p.m. Friday - 8:30 a.m. Hours:

Saturday

Fee:

\$20 per person; children 5

and older, please

Programs For Adults

Adult Lecture: Dr. Randy Wells and the Dolphins of Sarasota Bay

Dr. Randy Wells, of the University of California at Santa Cruz, will be speaking on the research he has conducted on the bottlenose dolphin of Sarasota Bay. Dr. Wells is an expert on the social structure and behavior of these fascinating animals. Join us for an intriguing "marine mammal evening."

Dates:

Tuesday, January 31

Hours:

7:00-9:00 p.m. \$8-Members

Fee:

\$12-Nonmembers (includes reception following the talk)

Supper Safari

Kick off the new year with an unconventional evening at the zoo:

January: "Calls of the Wild" February: "A Match Made in Heaven: Breeding Loans and S.S.P.S."

Dates:

January 28

February 11 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Hours: Fee:

\$25-Members

\$35-Nonmembers

Adult Overnight

Come and learn what the kids and families already know: that the zoo is an exciting, mysterious, and wonderful place to be at night! Especially with our night keeper, Scott Fuller. He'll show you a side of the zoo that you've never seen before.

Dates:

January 13

Hours:

6:30 p.m. Friday - 8:30 a.m. Saturday

\$25-Members

Fee:

\$35-Nonmembers

F.I.U. at Metrozoo

Our popular teacher workshop will begin again on Thursday, January 12. It will meet every Thursday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. for 13 weeks.

Dates:

January 12 - April 13

Hours:

4:30-6:30 p.m.

Fee.

\$35-Members

\$45-Nonmembers

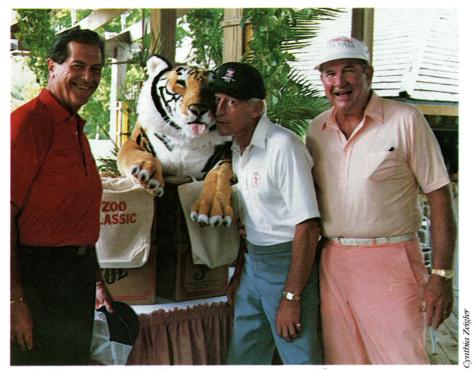
For further information, call Dr. Ed Reichbach, F.I.U.: 554-2561

Register Here

Mail to: Education Department, Zoological Society of Florida, 12400 S.W. 152nd Street, Miami, Florida 33177 (305) 255-5551

Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Bus. Phone	
Program(s):	Date:	Fee \$
	Date:	Fee \$
Member Membership #	Nonmember	Fee \$
Mastercard Visa Amer. Exp. I	Expirate Date	TOTAL
Card #	Signature	
For Camp and Children's Programs, pl	ease complete the following:	
Parent's Name		
Candont's Ass	Grade in school (as of Sept. '87')	1

Registration Policy: Advance registration is required for all programs. Registration 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/American Express. A confirmation letter will be issued upon receipt of payment. Fees are refundable up to one week before the program date. A \$5 processing fee will be retained in the event of a cancellation. \$10 will be retained for all camp programs.



Dade County Commissioner Sherman S. Winn, left, is joined by Broward County Commissioner Gerald Thompson and George Kunde at the Zoo Classic Golf Tournament.

Zoo Classic Golf Tournament Tremendous Success

The second annual Zoo Classic Golf Tournament was held at Key Biscayne golf links on November 23 and raised over \$10,000 for the Society.

In spite of the high winds from tropical storm Keith, we had 72 enthusiastic participants who lunched on hamburgers before their 1:00 p.m. shotgun start, capably handled by **Allen Schwartz**. The enjoyable round of golf was followed by an awards cocktail party at the clubhouse.

Many thanks to tournament Chairmen George Kunde and Steve Torcise, also tournament Director Charlie DeLucca. Thanks also to Bill Bird, Director of Dade County Park and Recreation Department and Bob Yokel, Director of Metrozoo, for making this tournament possible.

Watch your newsletter for details of next year's tournament and join in the fun raising monies for the Society while enjoying a great game of golf!!!

"Wildlifers" Club Formed

Help support our vanishing endangered species by becoming a member of our new WILDLIFERS CLUB. A new category of individual giving has been developed by the Society this year to increase major donations by individuals and help us reach the goals set forth by our Board of Directors.

For a \$10,000 pledge, payable over a maximum of five years, you can become a member of this elite group and receive the following benefits:

- Life membership in the Zoological Society of Florida.
- An exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of Metrozoo.
- Your name will appear on a plaque prominently displayed in the Zoological Society Membership/ Administration Building.
- A special Supper Safari on zoo grounds for WILDLIFER members.
- 2 general admission tickets to our annual Feast With the Beasts dinner extravaganza.
- Special recognition in Toucan Talk.
- A specially designed piece of artwork for each member.
- Nomination to serve on the Board of Trustees.

In order to continue funding the research and breeding programs which are vitally important for the survival and possible re-establishment of many species, we need your help and support. Won't you become a WILDLIFER today and play a key role in the preservation of our natural environment.

For more information, contact the Development Department at 255-5551.

Animals + Education = Fun

nimals and education will combine for an entertaining result in the new children's petting zoo, PAWS, with the opening of the "Texaco .

Ecology Theater." This production will offer an informative zoo experience for children and parents alike. The show will be located at the seating area in the center of PAWS and will feature animals indigenous to south Florida. The live animal presentations will give our audience an opportunity to get to know some of our native inhabitants a little better.

Those of us who live in Florida are fortunate to have an incredible variety of wildlife to enjoy. With our population increasing daily and infringement on the Everglades a constant threat, more and more care must be taken to preserve our native animals and their habitats. Although Metrozoo houses many exotic species (those not naturally occurring in

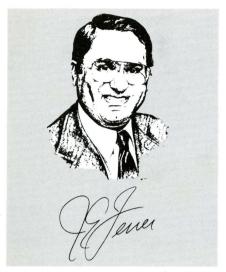
the United States), we also have a commitment to preserve and protect the animals in our own "back yards."

Take a few minutes to enjoy the new show in PAWS. Our staff and volunteers worked very hard to create it and we are looking forward to getting you better acquainted with our non-human Florida natives.

Executive Vice President Joseph Ferrer presents Lee Bynum and Betty Miller with a Charles Frace panther print as a thank you for their support of the Florida Endangered Species Fund. Ms. Miller and Ms. Bynum donated \$100,000 in support of the fund.







Executive Vice President's Message

ave you ever thought about the importance of your membership in the Zoological Society of Florida? When you sat down and wrote your initial check to join the Society or perhaps sent in your fourth or fifth renewal fee, were you really aware of the intrinsic value of your contribution? I am sure that as an animal lover your initial motive was the free admission factor which allows you to visit the zoo anytime you want. I hope you have taken advantage of and enjoyed the additional benefits that we keep trying to secure for you. Most of all, I hope that as a member, you have grown to appreciate and participate in the additional goals of the Society - education, conservation and research.

The exhibiting of wild animals has been practiced by humans for thousands of years. The royalty of ancient Egypt, Rome, and China had menageries for their personal entertainment and that of privileged guests. The 19th century brought with it changes in our attitude toward captive animals. The growth of the arts and sciences was responsible for animals as subjects of serious biological study and not merely curiosities. In recent years, our zoos have assumed dramatic new responsibilities. From the passage of the Endangered Species Act to the Species Survival Plans, zoos across the country now form a network to aid in the breeding and survival of the animals in our vanishing wilderness.

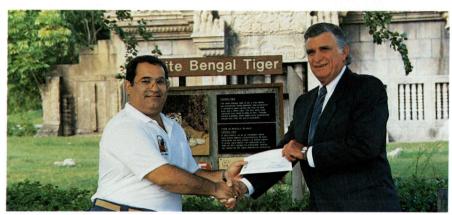
There is no doubt that our world is shrinking daily. Population explosions in Africa are usurping the territory of the elephant, rhino and the many hoofstock that were once an integral part of the African landscape. Poachers are killing these magnificent beasts to accommodate a growing market for ivory and rhino horns. Rain forests are being destroyed at a frightening pace.

As a member, we rely on you to spread the message that we must pull together to help solve some of these problems. We have a tremendous resource in Metrozoo. For many species, it is their last chance to remain on earth. This is a great responsibility and a debt that we owe to our future generations.

When you attend a lecture at Metrozoo, take part in our educational programs, attend special members' previews such as the children's activity center, contribute to our year end campaign, or simply come to the zoo for a day of fun and relaxation, display your membership decal and card with a flourish and a sense of pride because by your contribution you have made a statement - you care; you are concerned. You are involved in one of the greatest projects in the world today - the continuation of life!



Ray Goode, Past President of the Zological Society, joins Robert Harper, Manager Public Affairs, of **Texaco** and Larry Turner, President of the Zoological Society during the board installation dinner at Metrozoo.



Joseph Ferrer, Executive Vice President of the Zoological Society of Florida, accepts a corporate gift from Lester Goldstein of **Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson**. The firm is sponsoring the white tiger exhibit.

Executive Committee

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Cynthia Zeigler and Sally Liddell, Editors Lee Kline, Design Cynthia Zeigler

Tram Tours

The next time you visit Metrozoo, be sure to take a guided tram tour. The tours, provided to all zoo patrons by Metrozoo, run on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays and include a narration given by Zoological Society volunteers.

The tram leaves monorail station #1 at 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 and tickets are \$4 per person. For more information, contact Metrozoo at 251-0401.



Time Is Running Out ...

You still have a chance to register for the 7th Annual Jungle Jog at Metrozoo on January 15, 1989 at 8 a.m.

Approximately 2,000 runners and walkers will be racing around and through the zoo to benefit the animals.

The Jungle Jog, sponsored by **Baptist Hospital**, **Bud Light**, and **Lufthansa**

German Airlines, will consist of a 5 mile championship run and a 2 mile fitness walk. For the little ones, there will be a "Pee Wee Run."

The entry fee for the run and the walk is \$10 in advance and \$15 on race day. The first 1,500 runners and walkers will receive a unique commemorative t-shirt. All runners and walkers will receive free refreshments and admission to Metrozoo for the day.

Call the Special Events office now and register for Jungle Jog at 255-5551.

New Membership and Information Booths Installed

The next time you visit Metrozoo, you'll probably notice the bright yellow kiosk across from the waterfall. This is our new membership booth and though the exterior has changed, it is still manned by the same courteous, efficient men and women who handle our membership sales. The new booth also has film and suntan lotion for sale for your added convenience. The membership booth is open during regular zoo hours, 10 to 4, seven days a week.

Inside the zoo, our new information booth (also bright yellow) is conveniently located across from the flamingos, just before the white tiger exhibit. Volunteers who man this booth can answer any question you may have regarding what's happening at the zoofrom show times to restaurant locations.

We thank City National Bank of Florida for their \$25,000 sponsorship of our membership booth. City National Bank has been a strong supporter of the Society for many years and we are grateful to them for this substantial commitment. Without the support of corporations such as City National Bank, we could not meet our goal to become the best zoo in the country.

If you are interested in sponsoring the inside information booth, please contact the development office at 255-5551 for more information.



Development Director Tricia Serodino joins Leonard Abess, President of City National Bank of Florida, in front of the membership/information booth sponsored by Mr. Abess' bank.

REMEMBER: Do not leave home without your membership card

Zoological Society of Florida

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