



Toucan Talk

Dedicated volunteers insure success of Feast with the Beasts

Glenn Ekey, ZSF director

Just when I'm sure I understand the levels of detail required to put together an event such as Feast with the Beasts, something happens to remind me that I haven't even scratched the surface.

The realization came on the day of the event as I sat in a parking lot of a truck leasing company, along with several Zoological Society staff members. We were getting ready to drive four huge trucks back to the zoo for use at the Feast when someone asked me if the trucks would be able to pass beneath the zoo's monorail. I thought it prudent to check before we ventured into traffic with potentially over-sized vehicles, so I placed a call to a volunteer at the zoo. "We've mapped the pathways for each vehicle," came the reply, "the clearances are sufficient."

I should have guessed our question had already been posed and answered. That moment brought not only an understanding of the work involved in pulling together such an ambitious event, but a deep appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the volunteers who devoted their time and energy to the project.

Let's face it. If I had to place a classified ad for the position of Feast with the Beasts Chairperson, it would read something like this:
Wanted: Smart, energetic, creative, congenial, organized individual to throw a lavish outdoor

party, at night, at Miami Metrozoo for some 1,000 of South Florida's most prominent and influential citizens. The affair must boast mouth-watering food provided by no fewer than 50 of Miami's finest restaurants, plus first-rate entertainment, lighting and decor. The event should raise \$100,000 or more for a project at the zoo. We offer long and irregular work hours, no pay and little glory.

Doesn't sound like an appealing job, does it? Yet it's precisely the challenge that several gifted individuals accept each year on behalf of the Zoological Society of Florida. As residents of the community which benefits from our great zoo, we are the ultimate beneficiaries of their toil. It's their attention to a myriad of details that enables them to guide a year's worth of activity to an orderly conclusion — a festive party that appears effortless to the guests.

I want to publicly thank the many volunteers and staff members, who worked on the event, especially the three talented individuals who answered our hypothetical ad: Bev Assmar, Jacki Gran and Rosemarie Twinam. These three dedicated women camped in the Society's office from dawn to dusk for nearly a year, and accepted the responsibility for creating this year's outstanding Feast. We learned from them and were uplifted by their devotion to the zoo and wildlife. Their steady presence reminded us that the zoo cannot function without community support. Although I'm sure that Bev, Jacki and Rosemarie are eager to return to life.BF (Before the Feast), our staff will miss having them among us.

But soon a meeting will appear in our appointment calendars. "Kickoff for Feast '93" it will read. Jackie Levy, the volunteer who answered our ad for the sixth Feast with the Beasts will call to say, "I've got some great ideas for next year's gala." Once again we'll be off and running. Thank goodness the lull between Feasts is short.



From left to right: Robert a Backus Turner, Publicity Chairman; Jacki Gran, Decoration Chairperson; Beverly Assmar, Feast Chairman.



George Batchelor, Bill Gallway, and Sherrill Hudson



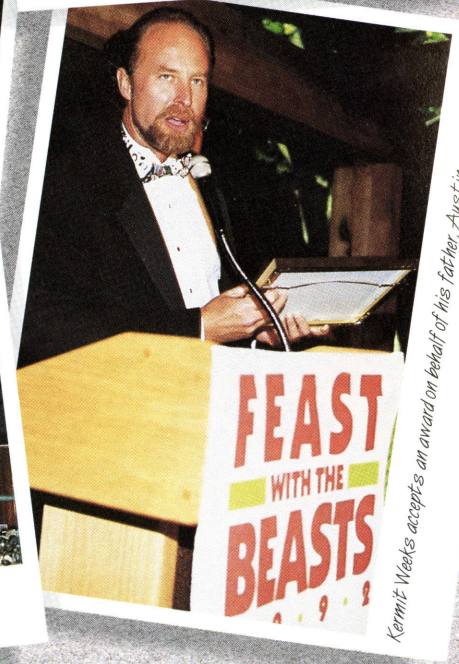
George Batchelor, Bill Gallway, Creed Black, and Sherrill Hudson. At the Beastkeeper Party, Mr. Black of the Knight Foundation presented the Society with a check for the Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest Exhibit.



The Society's very good friend, Beatrice Goodman



Captain's Tavern Restaurant



Kermit Weeks accepts an award on behalf of his father, Austin



Lynn Gambest, Kay Morris, Charlene Esserman and Ron Esserman admire the beautiful toucan pin donated by Mayor's Jewelers.



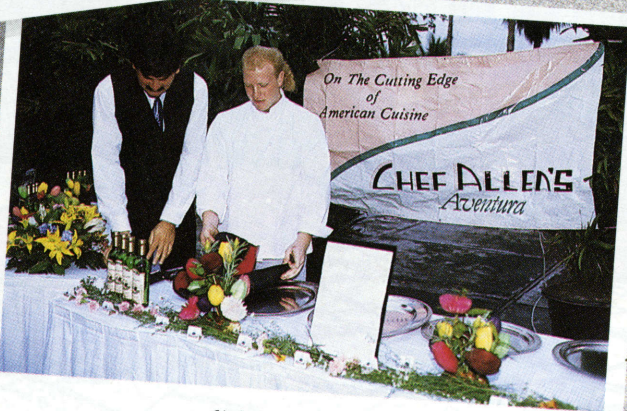
Capitano's American Italian Restaurant



Bill Gallwey, Chairman of the special events committee, Julia Lanum, and Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Viera



Commissioner Mary Collins, Debra Mayo, and Commissioner Larry Hawkins.



Chef Allen's Restaurant

Please consider the following list of restaurants when dining out. Mention your position with the Zoological Society and thank the owners for their support of FEAST WITH THE BEASTS.

- A Fish Called Avalon**
700 Ocean Drive • 532-1727
- Barnie's Coffee & Tea Company**
7501-19 S.W. 88 Street • 284-9946
- Beverly Hills Cafe**
17850 W. Dixie Highway • 931-8767
- Big City Fish**
3015 Grand Avenue, #201 • 529-1010
- Bijan's Restaurant on the Miami River**
64 S.E. 4th Street • 381-7778
- Cafe La Llave/Gaviña Coffee Company**
8240 N.W. 68 Street • 477-4070
- Cafe' Chauveron**
9561 E. Bay Harbor Drive • 866-8779
- Cafe' Tu Tu Tango**
3015 Grand Avenue, #250 • 529-2222
- Capitano's American Italian Restaurant**
9801 South Dixie Highway • 666-1142
- Captain's Tavern Restaurant**
9621 South Dixie Highway • 666-5979
- Casa Juancho Restaurant**
2436 S.W. 8th Street • 642-2452
- Casa Rolandi Ristorante**
1930 Ponce de Leon Boulevard • 444-2187
- Chef Allen's**
19088 N.E. 29 Avenue • 935-2900
- Christy's Restaurant**
3101 Ponce de Leon Boulevard • 446-1400
- Cisco's Cafe**
5911 N.W. 36th Street • 871-2764
- Copenhagen Bakery**
13045 S.W. 89th Place • 233-3011
- Creative Tastes Catering**
7102 S.W. 117th Avenue • 598-1575
- El Novillo Restaurant**
6830 S.W. 40th Street • 284-8417
- Firehouse Four**
1000 South Miami Avenue • 379-1923
- Fortunato's**
14151 South Dixie Highway • 251-4545
- Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream**
Falls: 251-0888 • Gables: 661-5238
Dadeland: 665-2730
- Hooligan's Liquor Locker**
13135 S.W. 89th Place • 251-8282
- Hooligan's Pub & Oyster Bar**
9555 South Dixie Highway • 667-9673
- Hotel Sofitel**
5800 Blue Lagoon Drive • 264-4888
- I Paparazzi Ristorante**
940 Ocean Drive • 531-3500
- La Paloma Restaurant**
10999 Biscayne Boulevard • 891-0505
- Los Ranchos Restaurants**
Sweetwater: 221-9367 • Bayside: 375-8188
Town and Country: 596-5353
- Malaga Restaurant**
740 S.W. 8th Street • 858-4224
- Parrot Jungle and Gardens**
11000 S.W. 57th Avenue • 666-7834
- Pi's Place Restaurant**
100 S.E. 2nd Street • 539-7090
- Reflections On The Bay**
401 N.E. Biscayne Boulevard • 371-6433
- Restaurant St. Michel/Hotel Place St. Michel**
162 Alcazar Avenue • 446-6572
- Ristorante Giacosa**
394 Giralda Avenue • 445-5858
- Ristorante Il Tulipano**
11052 Biscayne Boulevard • 893-4811
- Ristorante La Bussola**
270 Giralda Avenue • 445-8783
- Roasters 'N Toasters**
11293 South Dixie Highway • 251-4848
- The Bistro**
2611 Ponce de Leon Blvd. • 442-9671
- The Olive Garden Italian Restaurant**
18101 Biscayne Boulevard • 935-5742
- Valenti's Restaurant**
5775 Sunset Drive • 667-0421
- Victor's Cafe**
2340 S.W. 32nd Avenue • 445-1313

Beverage Providers

Beverage Canners International Corp.
Hiram Walker & Sons, Inc.
The House of Seagram
Island Oasis Gourmet Frozen Cocktails
Silver Eagle Distributors, Limited
Southern Wine & Spirits of America, Inc.

An event of this magnitude could not take place without the partnership of many caring individuals and firms. The following donors made valuable contributions to the Fifth Annual FEAST WITH THE BEASTS

- American Express
American Red Cross
Backus Turner and Partners, Inc.
Blue Ribbon Labels
Broadcast Quality
Champagne Louis Roederer
Community Recycling, an Attwoods Co.
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Palmetto Paint and Decorating Center
Pinecrest Elementary Chorus
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Pro Electric Vehicles
Publix Supermarkets
Rex Art Supplies
Richmond Elementary Chorus
Ryder Truck Rental, Inc.
Somay Products, Inc.
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Tech-Air Corporation
West Bend Company, Inc.

A very special thank you to the following committee members for their "labor of love."

- Beverly Assmar, Chairman
Jacki Gran, Decoration Chairman
Roberta Backus Turner, Publicity Chairman
Rosemarie Twinam, Restaurant Coordinator
William J. Gallwey, III, Special Events Chairman
- Kathy Aberman • Tina Archbold • Richard Assmar • Catherine Baiamonte • Ilene Breslow • Cindy Brown • Maria Teresa Chamorro • Diane Chasin • Stephanie Cohen • Ni Colabuono • Michelle Eckhoff • Ilene Efthimiou • Dale & Carmen Frick • Margie Galatis • Alan & Phyllis Gilbert • Luz Gonzalez • Bernard Gran • Madeleine Gruber • Julie Heller • Kathy Hirsch • Gayle Jacobs • Mel Kessler • Dennis & Kathy Klinger • Jackie Levy • Pamela Liberman • Jane Marcus • Janice Marrazzo • Rick Nicholls • Leo & Barbara Parness • Amy Pollack • Helen Schatzman • Linda Scopetta • Toby Segal • Carmen Sierra • Maxine Solo • MissyThome • Judy Viera • Kathleen Weil • Steffi Weinstein • Ginnie Wheeler • Suzy Williams • Jill Wittels • Jessie Wolfson • Robin Zagorski • Marty Zaic

Wild Designs

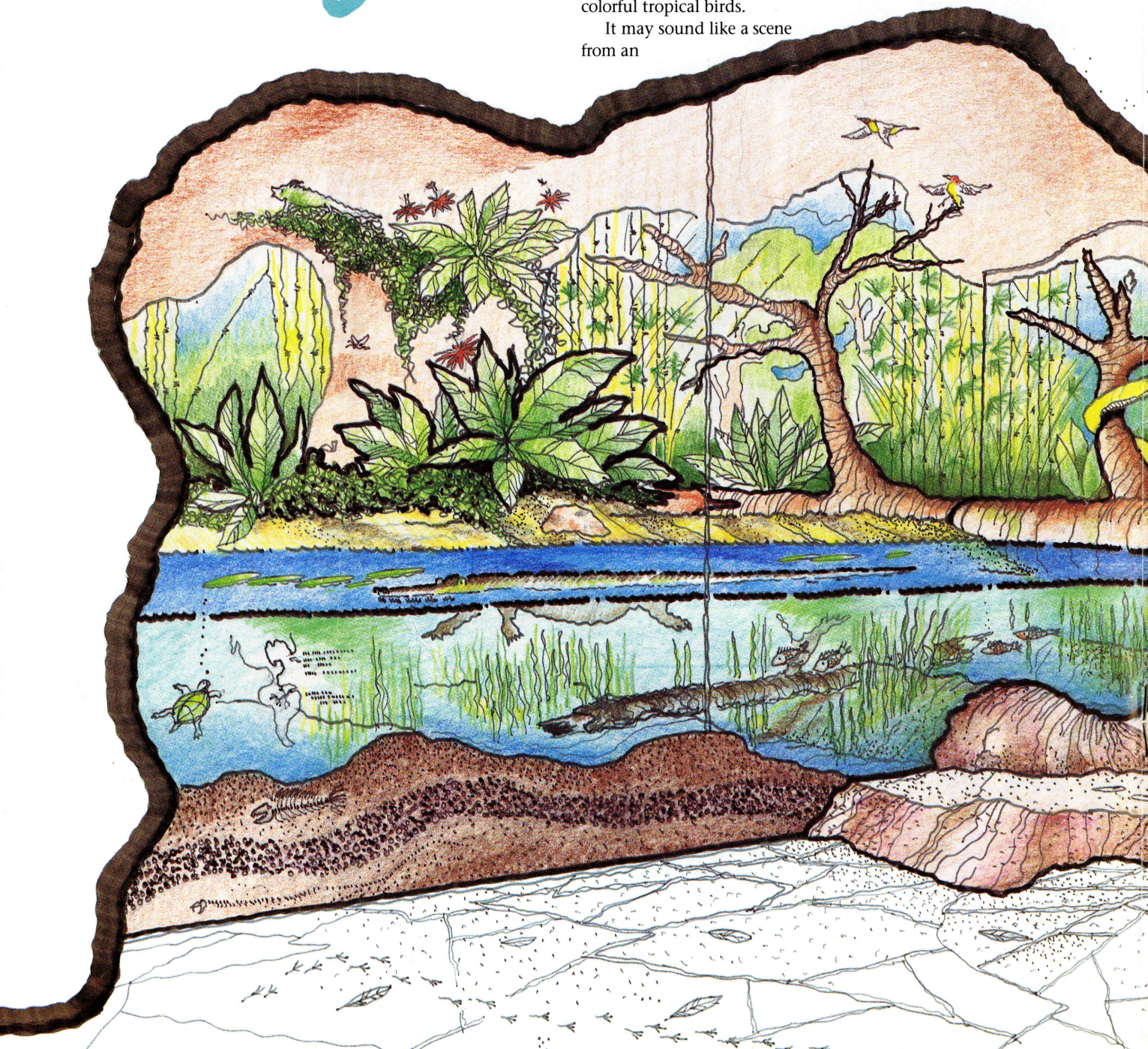
Patrick McBride

Imagine winding your way through a lush, tropical jungle, with prehistoric caiman (alligators) swimming in the river alongside you, and anacondas slithering in the branches above. Pushing aside the dense vegetation, you encounter a mighty jaguar guarding the stone steps to the Mayan Observatory of the Yucatan. As you enter a dark labyrinth of ancient ruins, poison arrow frogs and giant beetles scurry at your feet. The leafy canopy above is filled with the cries of howler monkeys and the squawks of colorful tropical birds.

It may sound like a scene from an

Indiana Jones movie, but the adventure of exploring a tropical rain forest will one day be as close as a visit to Metrozoo, where the Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest will recreate a rain forest and serve as a conservatory for many endangered species threatened by the world's dwindling rain forests.

Zoos are helping to save endangered species through captive breeding and education programs. But sustaining the diversity of creatures on our planet hinges on preserving the animals'



natural homes in the wild. As the firm designing the rain forest exhibit for Metrozoo, our biggest challenge is to create a natural home for the animals while simultaneously providing an enjoyable and stimulating experience for zoo visitors.

Animals and their natural environments are inseparable, therefore considerable attention is paid to the enclosures that will house the rain forest animals. We chose to create a highly realistic habitat, in which visitors are invited to enter and share the animal's home with few perceivable barriers between them.

Zoo visitors will experience a true feeling of discovery as they wind their way through lush, tropical vegetation and over rushing

water, separated from the animals by only a fallen tree or mud bank. Primates from tiny tamarins to howler monkeys will mix with other exotic rain forest residents such as tamandua (South American anteater), ocelot, sloth and ibis.

The rain forest will be the densest concentration of animal species at Metrozoo. "The exhibit is designed as a series of ever-changing sensory experiences that enhance and magnify the individual displays and fill visitors with a sense of mystery, adventure and anticipation from beginning to end," said the project's senior designer Terry Guilbeau.

A mixture of styles will accomplish this. Large exhibits with open vistas will be

followed by small, intimate areas. Walkways will frequently change direction and elevation. The realistic environment will stimulate the visitor's curiosity and reinforce educational messages about the importance of preserving the earth's varied habitats.

A thorough understanding of the ecological balance of animals and vegetation is essential in recreating a natural habitat. The trees and plants used to replicate the rain forest habitat are as valuable and important as the animals. The large variety of plant species will also provide numerous opportunities to explain the medicinal and nutritional benefits of rain forest flora.

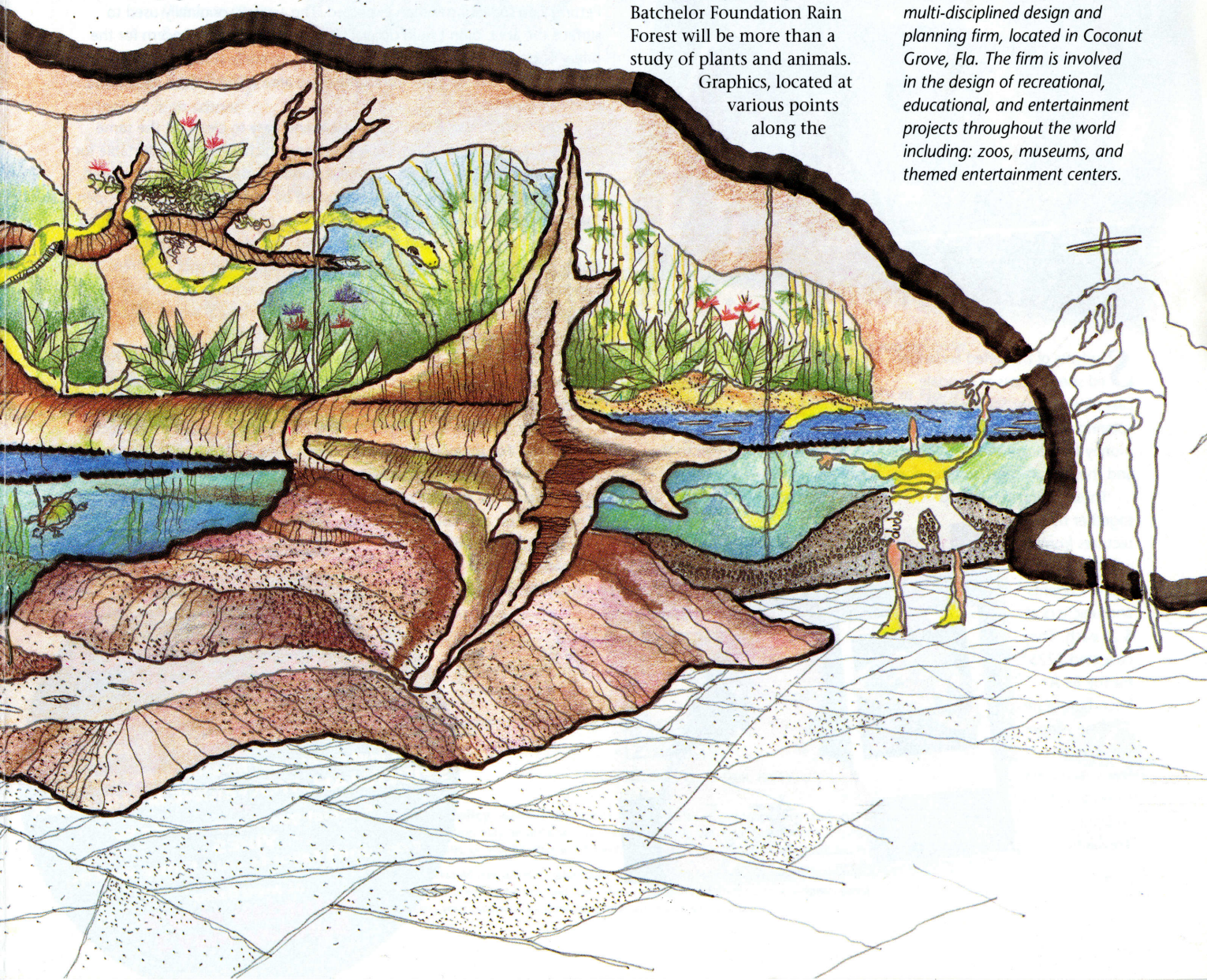
A journey through the Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest will be more than a study of plants and animals.

Graphics, located at various points along the

walkways, will explain the history and culture of South American rain forests. Other graphics will explain the devastating affects on animals and the environment in areas where rain forests have been destroyed.

Designing the Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest is a wonderful challenge for us. Our plan is to create an escape from the chaos of urban life with a journey through the oldest and most dramatic landscape on earth, tropical rain forests. Our goal is to provide residents of Southern Florida with recreation and a deeper appreciation of rain forests and their inhabitants.

Patrick McBride is the president of the McBride Company, a multi-disciplined design and planning firm, located in Coconut Grove, Fla. The firm is involved in the design of recreational, educational, and entertainment projects throughout the world including: zoos, museums, and themed entertainment centers.



**Be a Friend...
do something wild and wonderful!**

Shantal Lamelas is 9 years old and she is very concerned about endangered species.

This energetic young lady campaigned to raise funds for our "Be A Friend" program through her classmates at Ludlum Elementary School and co-workers of her mother, Dr. Catherine MacLeod.

Last month, she visited the zoo and presented the Society with \$31.16 which was lovingly placed in a shoe box, trimmed with cut out pictures of animals. This donation

was to help endangered species. Shantal hopes that elephants, tigers, gorillas, orangutans and chimpanzees will be around for her children to enjoy. Her challenge to Society members is to match what she has raised or make some contribution to the "Be A Friend" program.

Shantal has set quite an example for all of us. If you would like to participate and "Be A Friend" to an animal at Metrozoo, please call Marilyn Sims at 255-5551.



Shantal Lamelas

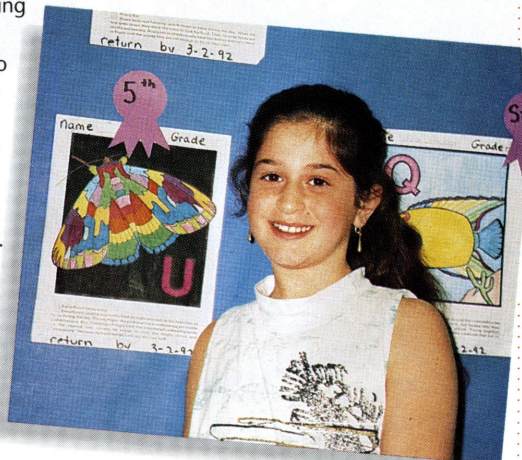
Students of the gifted endangered species class at Kendale Lakes Elementary School held a coloring contest and raised enough money to sponsor the sloth bear and the African cape hunting dog.

These youngsters rallied together by selling pictures from a coloring book to fellow students and teachers at \$.25 each. They collected \$225 for the Be A Friend program.

One winner was chosen from each class. Congratulations to Danny Trevialino,

Maureen Golde, Fernando Semernario, Edward Simpson, Kelly Serrano, Zaid Chavez, and Jennie Hornik (pictured below).

A heartfelt thank you to the staff and students at Kendale Lakes Elementary School!



Jennie Hornik

President's message

I'm pleased to report the Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest exhibit is proceeding on schedule. The Capital Projects Committee, led by Board member John Little, is developing an outstanding plan with numerous state-of-the-art educational components.

The Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest will be the first outdoor rain forest exhibit in a North American zoo. Florida's sub-tropical climate will enable us to display jaguar, howler monkey, sloth and dozens of other tropical species in a lush, open-air environment, replicating a South American rain forest. The exhibit is our most complex and expensive undertaking to date. Pat McBride's article elsewhere in this newsletter will shed light on some of the challenges facing his firm as they tackle this ambitious project.

Any superstitions about holding this year's Feast with the Beasts on Friday, March 13, were dashed by volunteer chairperson Bev Assmar and her army of supporters, who coordinated an event with the highest attendance ever. The record figures are especially noteworthy since the proceeds from the event benefit the Batchelor Foundation Rain Forest exhibit. The Zoological Society of Florida's entire Board of Directors extends its deepest thanks to Bev and all of the men and women who volunteered their time to this event.

Correcting the problems that forced us to temporarily close the Petting Zoo took longer than expected. The asphalt, originally used to surface the area, didn't hold up well. The erosion caused concern for the safety of both the animals and visitors. After carefully studying various alternatives, we've decided to resurface the area with material used on tennis courts.

The finished surface will be durable and easy to clean. At the same time, it will provide a lighter, cooler surface, which is more comfortable for the animals. Since the area is small and standard machinery can't be used, the enclosure will be dug up and refinished by hand. We expect to reopen the Petting Zoo very soon. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Summer is just around the corner and our education department is busily preparing an outstanding ZooCamp program for your children. I encourage members to take advantage of this exciting opportunity to introduce your youngsters to the wonders of the natural world. Please call the education department at 255-5551 for information.

On May 2 and 3, the Fruit Stripe Gum Super Heroes will be on hand to meet and greet zoo visitors. An "earn your stripes" obstacle course will be featured. Plan on joining us for some fun and laughter.

Finally, I invite you to welcome the Zoological Society's new director, Glenn Ekey. For the past three years, Glenn directed the Rhode Island Zoological Society for Roger Williams Park Zoo. Prior to that, he spent eight years as the director of marketing and public relations for the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. We are fortunate to have Glenn heading our growing society.

It gives me great pleasure to say, "Welcome Aboard."

Sherrill W. Hudson

FRUIT STRIPE GUM
presents
SUPER HEROES AND YOU

Giveaways, fun & surprises for All!

Play "Earn Your Stripes" Obstacle Course Game

Meet and greet your favorite super heroes...
SPIDERMAN, WOLVERINE & SHE-HULK

Special guest appearance by
YIPES
Everyone's Favorite Fruit Stripe Mascot

at Metrozoo
Saturday, May 2
Sunday, May 3

May/June 1992

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

**Mini Camp
A.I.R. Scouting Program
(Grades 1-12)**

This program is designed to help scout groups and their leaders learn about the functions of modern zoos, conservation of wildlife, and the animals at Metrozoo. Participants receive the A.I.R. (Awareness, Interest, Respect) patch. Scout leaders, contact the education department to reserve space for your group.

Dates: Selected Saturday mornings, September — June
Hours: 9:00 — 11:30 am
Fee: \$12 per person (1 chaperone per 8 scouts is free)

**Summer Zoo Camp
(Ages 4 – high school)**

Surviving In The Wild is this summer's theme for Zoo Camp. Campers will explore the variety of strategies animals use to survive. Kindercampers (4-5 year olds) and Jungle Juniors (grade 1-3) may choose to attend a Week A session on Predator survival, a Week B session on Prey survival, or both. Older campers will explore survival strategies of both predator and prey during week-long sessions.

Sessions are filling up. For information and registration, call the education department.

PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES

Breakfast with the Beasts

May 10 is Mother's Day and our breakfast will focus on animal parents, how they raise their young, and which Metrozoo animals currently have young. A light breakfast precedes the program.

Date: Saturday, May 10
Hours: 9:00 — 11:00 am
Fee: Members \$10
Non-members \$15
Children 7 and under, half price.

Discovery Center

When you visit the zoo on Saturdays and Sundays, check the classroom building just inside the gate. We'll have one classroom open as a Discovery Center between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm on most weekends.

In the Discovery Center you can have a close look at Galapagos tortoise shell, a bird's nest, teeth from various animals, and many other displays. The center provides an opportunity for "hands-on"

experience and a chat with a knowledgeable interpreter.

FOR ADULTS ONLY

Wildlife Conservation Seminar (WCS)

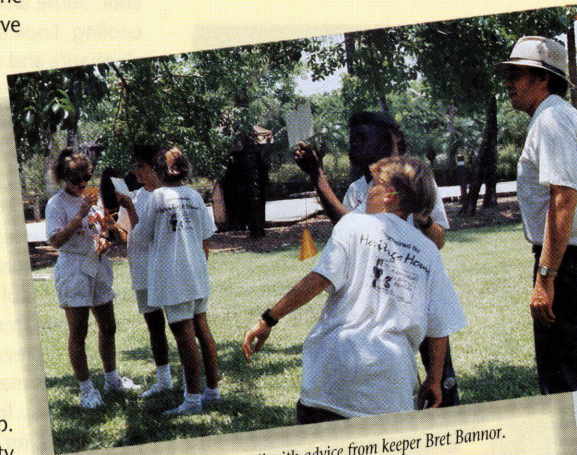
This series of monthly lectures, followed by refreshments and discussion, is designed to provide information about wildlife and the environment in an informal setting.

MAY:
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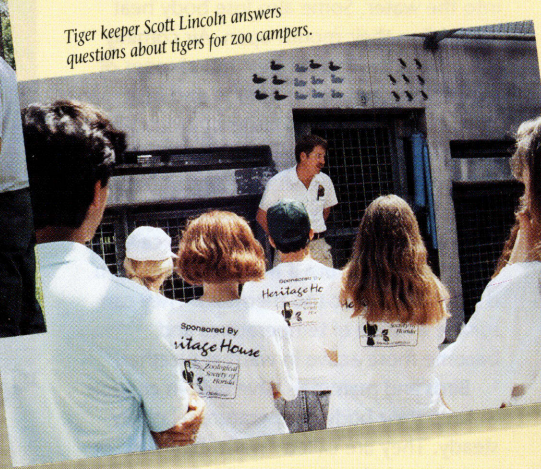
Suitcase for Survival

Are you planning to travel outside the country this summer? Are you a wildlife-conscious consumer? Our May program will focus on the impact of trade on endangered species and how to avoid buying products that contribute to extinction.

Date: Saturday, May 16
Hours: 6:30 — 8:30 pm
Fee: Members \$10
Non-members \$15



Zoo campers follow a scent trail with advice from keeper Bret Bamnor.



Tiger keeper Scott Lincoln answers questions about tigers for zoo campers.

Programs may be cancelled without sufficient enrollment. Please call for reservations.

Register Here

Please send registration form and a check or money order with a self-addressed envelope to:

Education Department, Zoological Society of Florida
12400 S.W. 152 Street, Miami, Florida 33177-1499 • (305) 255-5551

Participant's name
Street address
City State Zip
Home phone Business phone
program(s) Date Fee \$
..... Date Fee \$

Member membership # Non-Member
 Mastercard Visa American Express
Expiration Date (important!)
Card # Signature

For children's programs, please complete the following:

Parent's name
Student's age Grade in school (as of Sept. 1991)

Registration policy: Advance registration is required for all programs. Registration is by mail or telephone. Program information may be obtained over the telephone, however a reservation is contingent upon payment. Fees may be paid by check, money order, cash, or Visa/Mastercard/American Express. A confirmation letter will be sent upon receipt of payment.

Cancellations: All fees are non-refundable. Cancellation notices must be received at least 3 business days prior to the actual program date in order for credit to be accrued. Fees then may be transferred to another program. You may transfer to another program only once without losing your payment and the transfer must occur within 2 months.



SCIENCE LITERACY

Information about animals and tips to make your zoo visit more interesting



prevents heat loss through the legs and beak. Mammals also cover bare areas such as noses and paws to prevent heat loss. On windy or rainy days, animals that stay outside may lay down facing away from the wind. They expose as little of their body as possible to the weather so they do not lose body heat.

A more common problem for birds and mammals in Miami is too much heat. In hot weather, endothermic animals become less active which means they burn fewer calories and create less body heat. They also seek shaded areas or pools to stay cool. Some animals have special tricks for cooling. Look carefully at the ears of the elephants and some of the antelope. Large ears with many blood vessels close to the surface help these animals lose body heat. Blood flowing through the ears is cooled by outside air, particularly if the animal flaps its ears. The cooler blood circulates through the rest of the body and helps cool the animal. Panting is another trick that helps cool birds and mammals.

Some mammals sweat, just as people do, and the evaporation of fluids cools the body. Birds may also hold their wings slightly away from their body to allow air to circulate for better cooling. With warmer weather returning, you will have many opportunities to observe thermoregulating behaviors when you visit the zoo, and to use some thermoregulating tricks of your own as well.

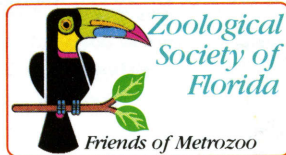
Siamese Crocodile

Toucan Talk is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Zoological Society of Florida, a non-profit organization supporting Miami Metrozoo. Editor: Judy Jones • Design: Shank Design • Printed on recycled paper



Toucan Trader's Choice

The Toucan Trader gift shop is filled with fresh new merchandise for spring. Come and see our new rain forest art supplies for the children, living stone "true to life" animal creations, and many new styles of t-shirts. Greet spring by supporting the Society and Metrozoo through your purchases at the Toucan Trader!



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

Nonprofit
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Become a volunteer at Metrozoo!

Call 255-5551 for details