

# TOUCAN TALK

A TRIP TO THE ZOO THAT COMES TO YOU!



**THEY'RE HERE!  
BABIES AT  
METROZOO**

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**FEAST WITH  
THE BEASTS '95  
A NIGHT TO REMEMBER**

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Cover Photo: Pregnant grevy zebra  
by Dolora Batchelor

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# THEY'RE HERE!

## BREEDING AND BABIES AT METROZOO

**T**here has been a stork sighting and it is headed for Metrozoo! But, is everything ready? It is very important to know that conditions are as close to ideal for a new baby to arrive.

Keepers are very attentive to the mother, frequently observing the birth or hatching. They are there to inform the senior staff and the veterinarian if they believe anything is abnormal or if "mom" is having any kind of complications.

Females preparing to give birth especially need accommodations for "privacy" (a nestbox for otters, a den for the bears, and moats in the case of gazelles and antelopes) so they will not be apprehensive about trying to rear their young.

Once the little one arrives, the first hours are critical for the mother and her baby to "bond." When possible, keepers watch from a distance to see that the mother and the baby are behaving normally, that the baby has found the way to its food, and that the mom is allowing it to nurse for an adequate time. All this is crucial for that first nutritional "charge" and also for the well-being of the baby. In the case of mammals, the little one will receive colostrum, the first milk, which provides the immune protection required until it matures enough to produce its own antibodies.

If all seems to go well, the baby receives a neonatal exam (what might be called a well-baby exam) from the veterinarian. The little one is checked for any defects that would be important to correct early if present. A blood sample is obtained to check for signs of infections or other neonatal diseases, and to see if the baby got colostrum. This is done by measuring those antibodies that were transferred. The veterinary staff performs these exams mostly on hoofstock. In the case of a few other species such as the primates, carnivores, and birds the exams may be delayed until the babies are several weeks old or for as long as everything appears to be going well (maternal bond-

ing and disruption of normal behavior can be a little tricky with some animals).

Although it is wonderful to see babies at the Zoo, it is important to remember that zoos are responsible for the welfare of these offspring in every sense. Sometimes is healthier to avoid breeding than to allow babies to be born without assurances for a safe "home."

throughout the country and make breeding recommendations regarding individual animals. A particular SSP may require a zoo to breed individuals or to avoid breeding a species. Non-SSP species are managed less strictly, but along similar guidelines.

For animals in zoos, the procedures followed to manage breeding could be considered "family



Baby kangaroos (or "joeys") climb into the mother's pouch at birth and remain there for about 235 days.

### FAMILY PLANNING

Although many species in captivity are endangered, not all are selected to breed. Why?

One of the reasons may be the lack of space in zoos.

It is not sound to encourage births when a good "home" cannot be provided. Space sometimes is determined by the requirements of a species. Some animals need one male for a "harem" (herd of females), others are paired off as couples. These arrangements will play a role in how many offspring must be accommodated and also affects the room allotted to new male offspring which sometimes are harder to place.

Another reason for encouraging or preventing breeding may be to maintain the genetic variety and avoid inbreeding problems. The Species Survival Plans, or SSPs, from the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (see "Buying Time for Wildlife," p. 6, Toucan Talk, November-December '94) "manage" the captive populations

planning," and they may involve some form of contraception. One "method of contraception" consists of simply separating the males and

*Continued on p. 3*



Keeper Paul Bermudez helped hand-raise a baby red kangaroo.



To help reinforce the parental bond, storks offer each other branches for the nest even after the babies have hatched.

Photo: Linda Crutchfield

Photo: Linda Crutchfield

Photo: Linda Crutchfield

Continued from p. 2

females at appropriate times of year to avoid breeding. Other times, hormonal implants placed under the skin of the females are used to prevent them from cycling. These implants may last up to two years at a time and can be removed to begin breeding again.



Tree kangaroos are very clean mothers. They spend many hours each day cleaning their pouch and their baby.

When the objective is to permanently avoid breeding, procedures may involve spaying, castrating, or vasectomizing the individual. The decision on what particular method to use depends on the species and

on its hormonal status (e.g. a male lion's mane) then it may be vasectomized to preserve those traits and still make it sterile. If the male tends to be aggressive towards the females when they are cycling, then castration is often a better alternative. If the animals are paired off or if there is some other medical reason to single out the females, then we may spay them instead.

**FOR BIRDS ONLY**

In the case of birds, encouraging them to breed includes providing access to suitable nest sites and the twigs or grass they need to build their nest (or, to avoid hatchings, deprive them of nest stuffing).

If what is desirable is to protect "valuable" hatchlings (e.g. a

species which is endangered), then eggs can be replaced with "dummy" eggs. This will allow the artificial incubation of the eggs safely away from predatory wildlife or from inexperienced parent birds who occasionally crack them. The eggs are then placed back in the nest when

they are pipping (i.e. just about to hatch). Usually the bird parents fall for this and take care of the chicks when they do hatch.

If it is important to increase the

number of chicks, the first batch of hatchlings can be hand-reared. This encourages the parent birds to lay another set of eggs (which they might do when the first batch "disappears" and the keepers don't replace them with "dummies") essentially doubling their offspring numbers for that year.

Babies always are a great addition to the animal collection of any zoo. Here at Metrozoo visitors are welcome to visit the paddocks and enjoy the marvel of a new life (and we usually have our good share of little ones). Don't forget to always check our births and hatchings!



Both mother and father gibbon help raise their young. Sometimes the babies get so attached to the father that they only go to their mother for nursing. Photo: Linda Weitzman



Baby chimps are weaned between 3 1/2 and 4 1/2 years of age.

situation—it is more effective to neuter one male who owns a "harem" than to spay every female.

If a particular male has behaviors or other characteristics that depend

**METROZOO IS BUILDING ...and repairing and landscaping.**

- Irrigation lines have been installed along the scenic **Metrozoo Boulevard**.
- The **West Parking Area** has been repaved and restriped.
- Repairs are rapidly progressing at the Zoological Society's hurricane-damaged **administration center**.
- Repair of the Zoo's **rockwork features** began with the Tiger Temple and is progressing through all of the animal exhibits, culminating with the admission area waterfall.
- Renovation and expansion of the **Animal Resource Center** at the

Children's Zoo is underway.

- The repaired **African elephant barn** roof is keeping the zoo's largest residents dry.
- The **Indian rhino barn** roof has been completed.



Visitors can appreciate the detailed sculptural designs at the Tiger Exhibit.

Photo: Frank Davis

- A new **Children's Playground** that was opened in the heart of the zoo is extremely popular with young visitors and their parents.
- The **koala building** has a new roof, and other general repairs are progressing.
- The eastern section of the **Monorail elevated guideway** is being installed, with the entire system to be completed this summer.
- And, reconstruction is moving along on the **Monorail barn** that houses Metrozoo's popular Monorail trains when they are not in use.

**BIRTHS & HATCHINGS**

**January 26 - March 23**

- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
1 sex unknown January 30
- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
1 sex unknown February 2
- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
1 sex unknown February 7
- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
3 sex unknown February 12
- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
2 sex unknown February 16
- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
1 sex unknown February 18
- Eastern leopard tortoise**  
*Geochelone pardalis babcocki*  
1 sex unknown February 20
- African spurred tortoise**  
*Geochelone sulcata*  
1 sex unknown February 20
- Saddle-billed stork**  
*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*  
1 sex unknown March 14



Eastern leopard tortoise



African spurred tortoise

Photos: Dolora Batchelor

## ZOO INNS: OVERNIGHT ADVENTURES

**Z**oo Inns are night adventures at Metrozoo which take participants on an exciting tour and allows them to get up close to many of the Zoo's rare and endangered exotics. But the "overnighters" also get hands-on experience and knowledge since the tour is guided by a zookeeper.

Zoo Inns include pizza and drinks at night and a continental breakfast the next morning. Sleeping bags and pillows are a must, while flashlights are not needed.

A wonderful aspect of this program is that it is available to both children and adults. Participants of all ages summarize it best: "We had a wonderful time...and learned so much too!" or "Thank you for showing us the neat things; we had lots of fun." Other participants love the close contact with the animals: "...I liked the rhino the best," or "...and I liked holding a hissing cockroach and a scorpion, and a boa." Some of the animals that participants visit are lions, rhinos, tortoises, and camels. By the time the program is over, everybody seems to have developed a deeper appreciation for our Zoo friends and their role in the ecosystem.

But the unexpected experiences also are part of the fun. One night, for example, the Galápagos tortoises decided to "make a run for it." On a very cold night (it was 45° F!!), the tortoises left their heated nighthouse which is part of their paddock. Since it was definitely too cold for them, several participants had to help in corralling them back to warmth. Another night, the group was greeted by our newest sun bear arrival. Approaching the sun bear's nighthouse, the unmistakable sounds of a nursing sun bear cub could be heard. To avoid disturbing the mother, the group hurried away, but it still was an exhilarating moment.

At the end of each night's tour the "overnighters" settle in for a fun, nature-related movie for kids or a slide presentation for adults. After breakfast, everyone is off to a tour to the Tiger Temple for more animal experiences.

For information on Zoo Inns and other educational adventures call the Education Department at 305-255-5551.

## BREAKFAST WITH THE KEEPERS

Saturday, June 10  
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

The South Florida Association of Zookeepers (SFAAZK) is offering a very special breakfast that's really a "keeper." You'll meet several of the most enchanting animals including "Mary," an Asian elephant, and "China," a beautiful clouded leopard, along with other residents and their human caregivers. A continental breakfast will be served and photo opportunities will be available. Proceeds benefit the American Association of Zookeepers. Zoo Members: \$15, Non-Members: \$20. Children (12 and under) \$11, Non-Member \$4. For registration please fill out the adjacent form or call the Education Department at 305-255-5551.

## ZOO FRIENDS

# BANKING ON THE ZOO!

**T**wo financial institutions, **Capital Bank** and **SunBank/Miami, N.A.**, made elephantine contributions to the Zoological Society of Florida, "vaulting" into first place in our hearts in the process.

**Capital Bank** became a presenting sponsor of "Walls of the Wild," Metrozoo's exciting new capital project featuring commemorative Zoo Bricks and hand-sculpted, clay Endangered Species Animal Tiles.

Phase I of "Walls of the Wild" will be built in seven sections surrounding Flamingo Lake. Although still under construction, it is completely sold out. But, don't worry, you can purchase your brick and tile for Phase II!

The Zoological Society welcomed **Capital Bank's** Executive Vice President **David Konfino** to our Board of Directors. He got his first taste of Board-member photo-op duties (below) at the Phase I groundbreaking with **Daniel Holtz**, **Capital**



(From left to right) Al Fontana, David Konfino, Daniel Holtz and Glenn Ekey.

**Bank's** Chairman, CEO and President. Joining in on the fun were Metrozoo Director **Al Fontana** and ZSF Executive Director **Glenn Ekey**.

**SunBank/Miami**, one of the largest of the SunTrust banks, signed on as a "Super Keeper" in PAWS, the

Children's Zoo at Metrozoo. With its generous gift, SunBank sponsors the "Children's Zoo Keeper" program, which supports the delightful animal collection in PAWS' petting yard.

"We're very pleased to join up as 'Super Keepers' at PAWS," said SunBank Executive Vice President and ZSF Vice President **Lynn Cambest** (pictured to the right here with two of his simian friends). "The Children's Zoo is one of the best places for Metrozoo visitors to relax and enjoy educational family fun."

The Zoological Society thanks these two financial giants for their generosity. Your gifts were a capital idea that will make for sunny days at Metrozoo!

### LENNAR FUNDS KIDS AT THE ZOO

The **Lennar Foundation** has made a gift to the Zoological Society of Florida to underwrite the participation of 560 fourth-graders in ZSF Education Programs.

A total of 16 classes from Dade County Public Schools (DCPS) are scheduled at Metrozoo for ZSF classes in the late spring.

The students were selected in consultation with DCPS from schools classified under Chapter I and located in Region 6, with an eye toward those which traditionally have been unable to participate regularly in off-site or special educational programs.

"We're pleased with Lennar's support and hope other South Florida businesses and foundations will follow their lead," said ZSF Education Director **Nancy Hotchkiss**. "Lennar has helped hundreds of kids learn in the best outdoor classroom, our own Metrozoo."

### MORE DONOR NEWS

ZSF Education Programs received even more support this spring, as the

**Blank Family Foundation** and the **Goldsmith Family Foundation** signed on to support underprivileged children at Metrozoo and ZSF Educators Days, respectively.

**Chase Federal Bank's** "Zoo Checking" promotion went strong all spring, opening new accounts and featuring a kickoff at the Zoo on Sunday, February 19. The Dadeland branch also got a visit from some friendly reptiles and ZSF volunteers with the "Suitcase for Survival" at a promotional event on March 28. **Chase Federal** makes a contribution to the Zoological Society for each new account opened and for each re-order of "zoo checks."

**Tobacco Road** hosted two ZSF snakes on March 17 so patrons could properly appreciate the critters St. Patrick drove out of Ireland so long ago. The restaurant made a contribution of "greenbacks" to ZSF in honor of the St. Pat's Day visit.



Lynn Cambest and Patti Ragan

With a generous gift, **NationsBank** became a co-sponsor of a ZSF Educational Poster, with Senior Vice President **Ed Mitchell** joining the Board of Trustees.

### WHERE THERE'S A WILL...

...There's a way to support the Zoological Society of Florida! Charitable giving through life insurance policies, gift annuities, trusts, and gifts by will are all methods you can use to benefit the Zoological Society and Metrozoo. **Richard Mahmarian**, Chairman of the Deferred Giving Subcommittee of the Development Committee, is holding office hours to help you learn more. Call 305-255-5551 for an appointment.

## BREAKFAST WITH THE KEEPERS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
I'm a Member: Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ I'm not a Member \_\_\_\_\_

### Method of Payment (Please do NOT send cash):

Credit cardholders may register by phone.

Check  American Express  MasterCard  Visa

Card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper Breakfast	Number of Adults:	Children	Total Fee

Mail this completed form with your payment to:  
Education Department / Zoological Society of Florida  
12400 SW 152nd Street  
Miami, FL 33177-1499

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA ♦ SUMMER 1995

# ZOOFARI CAMP

**SPECIAL!**  
SUMMER EDUCATION INSERT



1995 SUMMER ZOOFARI CAMP AT METROZOO

# METROZOO ZOOFARI CAMP 1995

Summer is almost here, and there's no better place to be than Metrozoo! For campers ages 4-17, there's a wild adventure that's just right for them. Each Zoofari Camp includes crafts, games, special animals and activities to spark the budding zoologist. These programs fill up fast, so register today!

## KINDERCAMP

ages 4-6

**Mammals, birds, reptiles or amphibians? Through crafts and games we teach our youngest campers to appreciate the environment and wildlife. Two different programs are available, register for one or both! New this year! Register for full or half days.**

### KINDERCAMP A — FUR, FEATHERS & SCALES

Our youngest campers will experience gentle creatures up-close while learning about how we classify them.

June 26-30                      July 10-14                      July 17-21

July 31 - August 4              August 7-11

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Members \$80, Non-Members \$95 per week and per session

### KINDERCAMP B — LIFESTYLES OF THE FURRED & FEATHERED

In this session we'll explore animal myths, olympian feats and other interesting aspects of our amazing animal friends.

June 26-30                      July 10-14                      July 17-21

July 31 - August 4              August 7 - 11

12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Members \$80, Non-Members \$95 per week and per session

For a Full Day of Kindercamp, take both A and B.

Members \$ 160, non-Members \$190. (Fee includes a supervised lunch period between camps.)

## ZOOFARI

ages 7-10

**Zoofari campers are able to get close to some of our furry (and scaly) friends. Crafts and games further develop their understanding of animal characteristics . Two different programs are available, register for one or both!**

### ZOOFARI CAMP A — ZOO CLUES

Learning about classification is fun, as we become detectives to discover the "clues" about the environment and our wildlife.

June 19 - 23                      July 10-14                      July 31-August 4

### ZOOFARI CAMP B — THOSE AMAZING ANIMALS!

Find out about those amazing animals through up-close encounters with our residents. We'll discover "which is the fastest animal in the world?", "are elephants really afraid of mice?" and more!

June 26-30                      July 24-28                      August 7-11

9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Members \$125 per week, Non-Members \$145 per week

## ZOOLIFE

ages 11-13

**This year's theme for Zoolife is animal classification. Our older campers will learn what zoologists do first hand, differentiating animals by their characteristics. Each session will also include crafts, games and a chance to design your own zoo exhibit. Two different programs are available, register for one or both!**

## ZOOLIFE A — UNCHARTED TERRITORY

Seek out strange life-forms, explore the diverse world of Metrozoo! While learning about the unusual and exotic, you'll get a chance to design your own creatures.

July 17-21

## ZOOLIFE B — ANIMAL FACTS & FICTION

Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction! Discover the difference between truth and myth for some of our most familiar creatures, as well as some you've never encountered.

July 24-28

9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Members \$125 per week, Non-Members \$145 per week

## TEEN ZOOFARI

ages 14-17

**Become a member of our Toucan Team! Interested teens train for a summer of volunteer work while learning the ins and outs of zoos. Toucan Team members assist with our summer camp programs, in our Children's Zoo petting yard and at the Ecology Theater. Upon completing this training program, teens are eligible to join in our zoo volunteer team. Teens must apply and will be reviewed and interviewed. Each volunteer is required to assist with one week of Zoofari Camp then work 40 hours over the summer.**

June 19-23

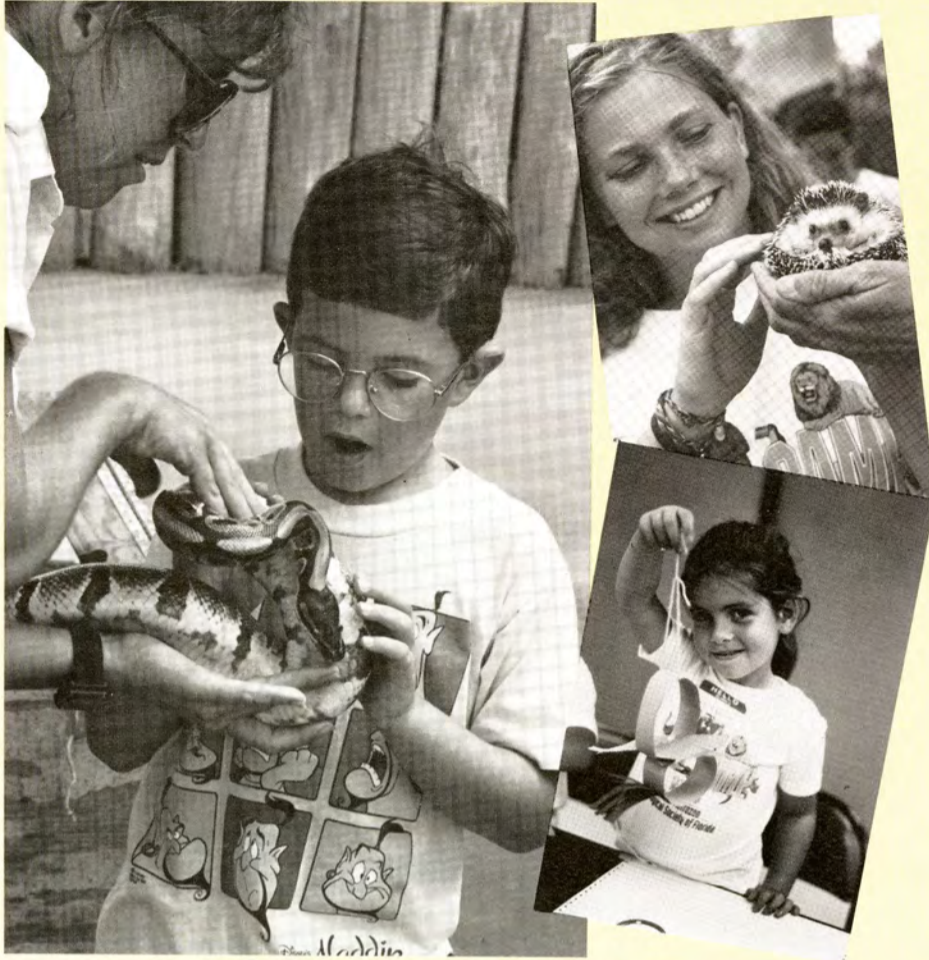
Members \$125 per week, Non-Members \$145 per week

After-Camp Care is available at \$25 per week from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm for all age groups. Please call the Education Department for reservations or more information at 255-5551.



PHOTOS: Barbara Crutchfield

# METROZOO ZOOFARI CAMP 1995



PHOTOS: MISTY RORRER

“Summer camp was an ideal opportunity to learn more about the Zoo and have fun over the summer.”

**Tina Schultz, Zoofari Camp  
Counselor 1994**

“When we went behind the scenes, the camel burped on me! We got to feed them by holding leaves up to them. Both camels came over to eat. They were bactrian camels, you can tell by their two humps.”

**Sam Markowitz, 7 years old –  
Zoofari Camp 1994**

“At Zoofari camp, they tell us about the habitat we’ll be talking about for the day. We meet animals, play games, visit the exhibits and eat lunch and snacks. Sometimes we even get to feed an animal.”

**Ben Markowitz, 9 years old –  
Zoofari Camp 1994**



**Zoological Society of Florida**  
12400 SW 152nd Street  
Miami, Florida 33177-1499

# FEAST FINALE!

"The most successful Feast ever," said Glenn Ekey, Executive Director of the Zoological Society of Florida, at the conclusion of *Feast With The Beasts '95*. The March 3rd black-tie gala, presented by the Zoological Society and American Express, raised funds to support education programs at Miami Metrozoo. Ekey gave much of the credit for the event's success to this year's chair, Jennifer Getz.

Funds raised reached nearly \$250,000 through record ticket sales as well as major corporate donations. Additional proceeds came from a first-ever raffle that included a beautiful gold-and-diamond panther ring and matching earrings donated by Mayor's Jewelers, round-trip tickets for two from Miami to Paris compliments of American Airlines, an Arthur Court piece from Neiman Marcus, and a seven-day cruise for two courtesy of Norwegian Cruise Line.

Nearly 1,500 guests, including major donors, business and social leaders, and celebrities indulged their appetites for great food and entertainment. Forty of South Florida's most celebrated restaurants served their house specialties while eight open bars served premium spirits, and top entertainers performed on stages throughout Miami Metrozoo.

Prior to the kick-off of Feast '95, Beastkeepers attended an exclusive cocktail reception with Louis Roederer Champagne and cuisine by Chef Allen's, Miami Catering, and Creative Tastes Catering.

Under the leadership of Jennifer Getz, more tickets to both Beastkeeper and the main event were sold this year than ever before in the history of Feast. Thanks to everyone, including the weatherman for making it a magic night.

## FEAST WITH THE BEASTS COMMITTEE

Jennifer Getz, Chair  
 Lisa Amaro, Restaurants  
 Carole Brener, Decorations  
 Alys Daly, Entertainment  
 Buff March, Beastkeeper  
 Betsy Sue Singer, Raffle  
 Janice Barnes  
 Bonnie Blank  
 John Caliste  
 Karell Campbell  
 Deborah Dockerill-Weed  
 Nancy Dunleavy  
 Marilyn Flam  
 Myrna George  
 Anne-Marie Godfrey  
 Jeanne Harper  
 Dawn Humphreys  
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 Miami Stage Lighting  
 Michelle Moskowitz  
 Richard A. Nichols, Jr.  
 Barbara Pareira  
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 Janice Pryor  
 Mary Jean Risi  
 Angel C. Saqui, Jr.  
 Ana M. Sarlat  
 Polly Schiff  
 John Seykora, Jr.  
 Elayne Stuart  
 Howard Tendrich  
 Patricia Thorp  
 Rosemarie Twinam  
 Virginia Wheeler  
 Suzi Williams  
 Robyn Wolf  
 Ellen Wolfson  
 Marcie Ziv

*And last but certainly not least, very special thanks to the sponsors of our best Feast ever.*

**Presenting Sponsor:** American Express

**Additional Sponsors:** American Airlines / The Falls

## FEAST WITH THE BEASTS RESTAURANTS

Below is a list of restaurants that participated in *Feast With The Beasts*. If you were at Feast and got a taste of their wares, you will certainly want more. The following is a list of their addresses and phone numbers for your dining pleasure.

### Afternoon Tea Bake Shop

12727 South Dixie Highway, Miami  
238-6696

### Bananas

3131 Commodore Plaza, Coconut Grove  
442-8788

### Barnie's Coffee & Tea Company

20505 South Dixie Highway, Miami  
253-7755

### Bijan's On the River Restaurant & Raw Bar

64 Southeast 4th Street, Miami  
381-7788

### The Bistro Restaurant Coral Gables

2611 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables  
442-9671

### Cafe Tu Tu Tango

3015 Grand Avenue (Cocowalk), Coconut Grove  
529-2222

### Captain's Tavern Restaurant

9801 South Dixie Highway, Miami  
666-5979

### Casa Juancho Restaurant

2436 Southwest 8th Street, Miami  
642-2452

### Catering by St. Michel/Restaurant St. Michel

162 Alcazar Avenue, Coral Gables  
446-5472

### Charade Restaurant

2900 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables  
448-6077

### Chef Allen's Restaurant

19088 Northeast 29th Avenue, Aventura  
935-2900

### Christy's

3101 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables  
446-1400

### Cisco's Cafe

5911 Northwest 36th Street, Miami  
871-2764

### Courtview Club at Miami Jai-Alai/ Special Events Catering by Les

3500 Northwest 37th Avenue, Miami  
633-6400

### Creative Tastes, Catering by Janet Patrice

7118 Southwest 117th Avenue, Miami  
598-1575

### El Novillo Restaurants

6830 Bird Road, Miami  
284-8417

1255 W. 46 Street, Hialeah

556-6888

### Gaviña Coffee Company

8240 Northwest 68th Street, Miami  
477-407

### Giacosa Ristorante

394 Giralda Avenue, Coral Gables  
445-5858

### Godiva Chocolatier, Inc.

7429-A Dadeland Mall, Miami  
662-2429

### Hooligan's Liquor Locker

13135 Southwest 89th Place, Miami  
251-8282

### Hooligan's Pub & Oyster Bar

9555 South Dixie Highway, Miami  
251-8282

### i Paparazzi

940 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach  
531-3500

### Island Oasis of Miami, Inc.

463 Northeast 189th Street, North Miami  
655-0685

### JoAnna's Marketplace

8247 South Dixie Highway, Miami  
661-5777

### JohnMartin's

253 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables  
445-3777

### Los Ranchos Restaurants

Sweetwater / Kendall / Bayside  
234-1010

### Málaga Restaurant

740 Southwest 8th Street, Miami  
858-4224

### Miami Catering

235 Southwest 22nd Road, Miami  
854-4848

### Mike Gordon Seafood

1201 NE 79th Street Causeway, Miami  
751-4429

### The Olive Garden Italian Restaurant

8201 West Flagler Street, Miami  
266-5000

### Outback Steakhouse

13145 Southwest 89th Place, Miami  
254-4456

### Parrot Cafe at Parrot Jungle & Gardens

11000 Southwest 57th Avenue, Miami  
666-4931

### Planet Hollywood

3990 Mary Street (Mayfair)  
Coconut Grove, 445-7277

### Prezzo

8888 Southwest 136th Street, (The Falls) Miami  
234-1010

### Ristorante La Bussola

264 Giralda Avenue, Coral Gables  
445-8783

### Roasters 'N Toasters

11293 South Dixie Highway, Miami  
251-4848

### Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

3913 Northeast 163rd Street, Miami Beach  
949-0100

### Tutti's Trattoria & Bakery

4612 Le Jeune Road, Coral Gables  
663-0077

### Tutto Matto

1700 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach  
945-0765

### Victor's Cafe

2340 Southwest 32nd Avenue, Miami  
445-1313

These generous businesses, individuals and artists provided services, support and entertainment for *Feast With The Beasts '95*. Help us say "thanks" by giving them your business whenever you can.

Access  
 Arabesque  
 Backus Turner International  
 Beverage Canners International Corporation  
 Broadcast Quality  
 Black-Tie Formal Wear  
 Bravo  
 Broward Electric Car  
 China Doll  
 ColorPrinting  
 Curbside Florist  
 Crystal Water  
 Discovery Cruise Lines  
 Dodd Printers  
 FDR Resort, Runaway Bay, Jamaica  
 The Film Factory, Inc.  
 Frame Art  
 Gaudino & Associates Advertising & Marketing  
 The Goods  
 Gourmet Chandlery  
 Happy Balloons courtesy of Carole Cotton  
 Hiram Walker and Sons, Inc.  
 The House of Seagram  
 Heritage House  
 Hialeah Products Co. Inc.  
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 Robert Leslie & Friends  
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 Norwegian Cruise Line  
 Orange Bowl Committee  
 Orpheus Guild String Quartet  
 Publix Supermarkets  
 Rex Art  
 Royal Palm Ice  
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 Ryder Truck Rental  
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 Tropical Tent  
 Vivace Brass  
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**HOW LONG MUST YOU WAIT?**

The Animal Kingdom is fascinating, specially when it comes to how long it takes a new life to be born. Compared to humans, many animals have considerably longer or shorter periods of gestation or incubation.

The following are some animal gestation and incubation periods; just keep in mind these are averages, not exact figures.

Giraffe	15 months
Tiger	3 1/3 months
Fox	50 days
Camel	13 months
Kangaroo	33 days (plus 7-9 months in the pouch)
Tapir	12 1/2 months
Gorilla	8 1/2 months
Sun bear	3 months
Otters	2-2 1/2 months (some with delayed implantation* will take longer)
Giant anteater	6 1/2 months
Elephant	22 months
Black rhinoceros	15 months
Grevy zebra	12 1/2 months
Indian muntjac	6 months
Gazelles	5 1/2 months
Bats	3-10 months (variable due to delayed implantation*)
Andean condor	56 days
East African crowned crane	32 days
Ducks (in general)	28 days (average)
Flamingo	28 days
Hummingbird	14-23 days
Ostrich	42 days
Parrots (in general)	17-35 days

\*Delayed implantation means that development of the embryo and the placenta is "delayed" within the womb for a variable period of time after fertilization takes place.

# HOW SWEET IT IS...



- 1 Flamingo chicks can leave the nest one week after hatching, and they don't obtain their peculiar color until they are approximately three years old. *Photo: Linda Crutchfield.*
- 2 Baby rhinos are born after an 18-month pregnancy and weigh about 80 lbs. at birth. *Photo: Rick McCawley.*
- 3 Newborn zebras are brown and beige to help them blend into the brown grasses of the plains and hide them from predators. When they are 6 months old, they have their characteristic black-and-white stripes. *Photo: Dolora Batchelor.*
- 4 Most antelopes, like the waterbuck, hide or "truck" their young when first born. This reduces the chance of the young being predated. The mother returns periodically throughout the day to nurse them. *Photo: Dolora Batchelor.*
- 5 For the first months after birth, baby chimps are cradled by their mothers. At about 6 months they begin to ride on the mother's back. *Photo: Linda Crutchfield.*

# LIFE IN THE PINELANDS

## PART ONE

**T**his two-part series will cover the flora and fauna of the pinelands. We hope this will provide a better understanding of their importance to South Florida's environment and quality of life.

Dade County pine rocklands are characterized by an interesting mixture of understory (vegetative layer between the forest canopy and the ground cover) shrubs that predominantly are Caribbean in origin. There is but a single overstory (layer of foliage in a forest canopy) tree, the South Florida slash pine, *Pinus elliotii* var. *densa*, which ranges from central Florida southward to the lower Florida keys.

This is the tree that lumbermen called the "Dade County pine" because of its wide use as an important building material during the development of the Miami and Homestead areas. Many homes that were built at the turn of the century out of the hard, dense wood from this pine still are standing.

pine reproduction weevils. The widespread reduction of mature, seed-producing slash pines in Dade County has made reforestation a high priority.

Because the pine rocklands in Dade County have been fragmented by agriculture and development, the chances of naturally-occurring fires due to lightning have been greatly reduced. This requires forest managers to conduct periodic prescribed burns to maintain the pine rocklands in a healthy state.

An interesting aspect of pine forest is their dependency on fire to remain healthy and viable. In the absence of fire, pine rocklands will be invaded by broad-leaved native and exotic hardwoods, and the shade produced by these hardwoods will cause the disappearance of the sun-loving plants that typify pinelands. All of the federally-endangered pine rockland plant species require periodic fire in order to maintain their existence.

Man-caused wildfires, which usually occur in the dry season, can be detrimental to the

plants in Dade County, is found in sandy pockets in limited areas in the northern portions of Richmond.

Dade County has long perceived the Richmond pinelands to be the best example of the unique rockland habitat in Dade County, but also is the most complex. Nine federal agencies, three county departments, and one private institution all have land holdings in Richmond. In the last three years, interrupted greatly by Andrew, the County has made great strides in addressing the tremendous management needs of this politically complex area.

In 1992, Dade's Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) received a grant from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to assess the Richmond Pinelands and prepare a comprehensive management plan. The overall plan is now complete and DERM has been coordinating the creation of individualized work plans for each facility.

pine mortality began occurring in pine rocklands. Up to 95-100 percent of mature Dade County slash pines (the signature tree of Dade's pinelands and pioneer heritage) in many sites were dead or dying from attack by pine bark beetles. Based upon historic data and known existing conditions, biologists did not anticipate that the beetles would take this abnormally high toll of what appeared to be healthy, pre-storm slash pine trees. No expert could have foreseen that within just one year, the entire pine rockland ecosystem would be severely threatened.

Dade County's pine rocklands are recognized as containing the third largest concentration of endemic native plants in the continental United States. Numerous plant species are identified as rare, threatened, or endangered. This unique and invaluable ecosystem also is designated on the Federal Natural Areas Inventory as imperiled, both globally and in the State of Florida. Biologists agree that it is crucial to begin



Pine rocklands in the path of Hurricane Andrew lost between 40 and 60 percent of the mature slash pines as a result of the winds, which toppled or snapped their trunks.

Because the pine rocklands of southern Florida were high and dry throughout the year, they were targeted by developers to build houses and by farmers for row crops. Today, only about 4,000 acres of pine rockland remain in Dade County outside of Everglades National Park. Due to the loss of much of the original pine rockland in Dade County, this habitat now harbors some of North America's most endangered plant species.

At present, four pine rockland plant species are federally listed as endangered species, and others are under review. The plant species already listed are the Crenulate lead plant, *Amorpha crenulata*, the Deltoid spurge, *Chamaesyce deltoidea*, Small's milkpea, *Galactia smallii*, and Small's milkwort, *Polygala smallii*. The latter two plants were named in honor of the early Florida botanist John Kunkel Small. All four species are restricted to Dade County pine rocklands, being found nowhere else in the world. Interestingly, none of these species occur within Everglades National Park.

On August 24, 1992, Hurricane Andrew crossed southern Dade County with winds in excess of 145 miles per hour. Pine rocklands in the path of the storm lost between 40 and 60 percent of the mature slash pines as a direct result of the high winds, which either toppled them or snapped their trunks.

One year after the storm, an estimated 90 percent of the remaining trees were dead as an indirect result of the storm. The weakened trees suffered high mortality due to a severe outbreak of pine bark beetles and

pine rockland plant community. During the dry season, plants are slow to recuperate from fire, and flowering and fruiting also may be disrupted. Prescribed fires are conducted by trained personnel from the Florida State Division of Forestry and Metro-Dade County. Prescribed fires benefit the pineland plant community as well as adjacent homes because the fires are controlled, and are conducted only when conditions meet strict guidelines and trained personnel are on-site. Neighboring homes are protected because prescribed burns reduce the chance of dangerous wildfires by eliminating dead pine needles and branches that fuel such fires.

### THE RICHMOND PINELANDS

**I**n a four-square mile area surrounding Metrozoo exists the most significant forested area in Dade County. Over 850 acres of unique pine rockland forest remain in the area, known to Dade County's land managers as the "Richmond Pinelands." This is 21 percent of the total remaining pine rocklands acreage outside of Everglades National Park! Federal agencies retain control of 456 acres of these resources in Richmond, while Dade County controls 367 acres between Metrozoo and Larry & Penny Thompson Memorial Park.

In the Richmond Pinelands, two federally-endangered plant species occur. The Deltoid spurge is the most commonly associated with limestone outcroppings throughout Richmond. The tiny *polygala*, one of the rarest

The plan has been greeted with enthusiasm. We have discovered that there is a great opportunity for interagency partnerships to be formed. As we move into the implementation phase, public relations and education becomes a key component of our management of Richmond. Exotic plant control, reforestation, and fire management must all be carefully integrated if we are to restore these unique forests so damaged by Andrew.

### PINELAND RESTORATION PROGRAM

**I**nitially after Hurricane Andrew, while pine rocklands experienced direct damage (blow downs and breakage) they appeared to have survived the storm in reasonably good condition—certainly much better than hardwood hammocks. Highly experienced biologists predicted that pine bark beetles would take their historic post-storm toll of between 50-60 percent of mature pine trees, run their course, and the remaining 40-50 percent of mature pines and seedlings would reforest the pinelands naturally.

Wildfire management was more of a concern than insect infestation. Metro Dade County, the Florida Division of Forestry, and other land managers focused post-storm efforts on reducing the risk of hot, uncontrollable wildfires which could further damage or destroy sensitive pine rocklands and threaten adjacent manmade structures. Clearing fire breaks was a high priority.

Eight months after the storm, rapid slash

immediate intensive restoration to preserve (intact) Dade County's pine rockland ecosystem, and that it may not be possible to preserve it without its namesake tree, Dade County slash pine.

In response, Metro Parks has developed a five-year "Post-Hurricane Pineland Restoration Program" with a cost estimate in excess of \$3.5 million. The requested amount of funding from the 1994 Florida State Legislature Hurricane Trust Fund is limited to the \$3.5 million. To be successful, pineland restoration throughout Dade County needs to be interagency (Metro Parks, Dade County's Department of Environmental Resource Management, Florida Division of Forestry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and a cooperative effort with a private-sector organization (American Forests). Additional monies are needed for specific agency/organization participation. Tasks and funding will be supportive without duplicating of any prior, existing, or future funding.

We thank Dade County for providing this information, particularly Joe Maguire, Environmental Resources Project Supervisor (DERM) and Roger Hammer of Metro-Parks.

A Post-Hurricane Forest Restoration Workshop will take place Saturday, June 24, 1995, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Fairchild Tropical Garden. The workshop will include morning field trips and afternoon presentations. For information and registration call Cathy Dull (DERM) at 305-372-6568.

MAY

**21** **sunday**

**ANIMAL-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB CELEBRATION**

9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This month, the honoree is the red kangaroo. During this all-day celebration at the kangaroo paddock, club members will get the chance to participate in games and special activities with an art project and an information sheet on the kangaroo to take home. For information call 305-255-5551.

JUNE

**10** **saturday**

**BREAKFAST WITH THE KEEPERS**

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. — For complete information see page 4.

**17-18** **saturday & sunday**

**ADOPT-AN-ANIMAL AWARENESS WEEKEND/FAMILY REUNION**

**DAY 1 – SATURDAY**

Breakfast: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. —Baby Stroll: 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Our “adoptive parents” will celebrate their parenthood with breakfast followed by a stroll down the walkways to see the “new arrivals.” For information on this event and the Adopt-an-Animal program, call 305-255-5551.

**ANIMAL-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB CELEBRATION**

**DAY 2 – SUNDAY – 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

This month honors the white-handed gibbon, with an all-day celebration at the gibbon paddock. Club members will participate in fun games and activities and they even get to take home an art project! For information call 305-255-5551.

**A MESSAGE FROM... A MESSAGE FROM...**

For 14 years now, as Assistant Director, my professional life has revolved around Metrozoo. From the time that I was a little kid, my love of animals often led me to make frequent visits to my local zoo. Later in my teens, that love guided me to my first “zoo job” in Nebraska.

For these reasons, and many more, I consider myself a very fortunate person: I have realized a life-long dream of becoming the director of a zoo, and particularly of Miami Metrozoo.

My primary goal is to establish Metrozoo as a more visitor-friendly Zoo and a greater resource for the entire community. We want to find a way to balance education, entertainment, and serious science.

Our Zoo is also in a privileged position due to its location, offering the potential to serve as a bridge between American and Latin American zoos. In the future, we may expand our role to include involvement with zoos in neighboring countries.

Staffs of both Metrozoo and the Zoological Society have a lot of enthusiasm and many excellent ideas for shaping the Zoo’s future. We want to make visiting the Zoo a pleasant experience. We want our members and our visitors to come back often.

I hope to see you at the Zoo.

Al Fontana  
Metrozoo Director

**IF... IF... IF...**

...you are looking for a meaningful and fun way to spend your spare time, THINK METROZOO! The Zoological Society of Florida is looking for volunteers to help in different capacities. For more information on the opportunities available, contact the Volunteer Services Department at 305-255-5551.

...you are tired of the same old picnic areas, Metrozoo’s facilities might be just what you need! You can have your best picnic ever (we can accommodate from 100 to up to 10,000 people). Enjoy our beautiful picnic area, tents, tables, chairs, games such as volleyball, private animal presentations, security, and clean up. For information and reservations call the Sales Department at 305-251-0401.

...your taste for animal-related paraphernalia is insatiable, come to the Toucan Trader or the Elephant Walk—our gift shops. Here you will find a variety of items from books to pens, stuffed animals and posters to fine pieces of art. And don’t forget that members receive a 10 percent discount all year long.

TOUCAN TALK



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