

# TOUCAN TALK

A TRIP TO THE ZOO THAT COMES TO YOU!



**HO-HO-HO  
GIFTS TO GO!**  
HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

SPECIAL INSERT

**CHIMP WATCH**  
A BEHAVIOR ENRICHMENT  
PROGRAM

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**THEY'RE BACK!**  
KOALAS RETURN TO METROZOO

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Cover Photo: Koala  
by Dolora Batchelor

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Toucan Talk  
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# KOALAS ARE BACK!

**By Eric Stephens**

**Metrozoo Business Manager**

**A**fter more than three years of forced exodus due to Hurricane Andrew, koalas are returning to Miami Metrozoo this fall. Evacuated immediately after the storm because of the extensive damage to their exhibit building and to the 4-acre eucalyptus grove from which their diet was harvested, the koalas formerly housed at Metrozoo now are part of other zoological collections around the country. The two animals currently scheduled to arrive in November are an 8-year-old male named Kupala, and a 5-year-old female named Mary Quinn from the San Diego Zoo.

No longer an Australian-only exhibit since the arrival of our wart hogs, the koalas will return to their original site under the care of zookeeper Paul Bermúdez. Paul and Senior Keeper David Jiménez recently spent time in San Diego becoming acquainted with their new charges. To ensure the animals a trip to Miami as free of stress as possible, they returned with a koala keeper from the San Diego Zoo who will remain with us for a short period as part of the agreement with the Zoological Society of San Diego.

We are very excited about the return of the koalas to the Zoo. Metrozoo was the first Zoo outside of California to successfully breed koalas (little "Kiami" was born here in June 1989). Their return is one more step ahead in the continuing



Photo: Dolora Batchelor

program of improving and upgrading your Zoo.

Visit our newest arrivals often and help us spread the word about their return to South Florida.

*We would like to express our most grateful appreciation to American Airlines for their part in the return of the koalas and to the Zoological Society of Florida for their \$24,000 needed annually to feed them.*

**"We are pleased to have the koalas back. Their return signifies that Metrozoo is not only back on its feet, but progressing."**

Al Fontana  
Metrozoo Director



Photo: Dolora Batchelor



Photo: Dolora Batchelor



Photo: Frank Davis

**KOALA FACTS**

- Originally from Australia, the koala, or *Phascolarctos cinereus*, also is called "native bear."
- A fully grown koala can weigh up to 16 kg and measure 80 cm in length.
- The koala's tail-less body, and particularly its ears, are covered by a silver-grey, dense and soft coat of fur, but their snout has no hair.
- They are marsupials (animals which are part of an order of mammals that do not develop a true placenta and that usually

have a pouch to carry their young). Their pouch, however, opens in the rear—a unique characteristic of the members of the family *Phalangeridae*. Since they live up in the trees, the pouch actually opens downwards, and tight muscles at the entrance to the pouch prevent the little one from falling to the ground.

- Koalas are mammals who are most active at night. They only go down to the ground to move to another tree.
- Their diet consists primarily of eucalyptus leaves.

- Koalas have long arms ending in heavily clawed hands. Their feet also have claws which help them hold tight to the trees.
- The name koala may have come from a similar-sounding native word meaning "no drink." This may be because koalas rarely drink water—they obtain it from the leaves they eat.
- Their gestation period is about a month, the babies then move to the pouch where they stay for 5 or 6 months. After this period, the young ones come in and out of the pouch or ride on their mother's back.

**BYE-BYE MOJA! WELCOME FREDERIKA!**



Photo: Karen Maciag

**M**oja, whose name means "first" in Swahili, became Metrozoo's pride in March 10, 1984 as the only gorilla ever born at our Zoo. But the time came for him to move on. He has left his family here to join a group of gorillas in the Saint Louis Zoo comprised of two males (six and seven years respectively) and three females (all in their late teens).

His transfer was recommended by the Gorilla Species Survival Plan (SSPs) of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA). The Species Survival Plans carefully manage captive breeding of certain endangered species (see "Buying Time for Wildlife," January/February issue, p. 6). The SSPs' goal is to aid in species propagation and conservation.

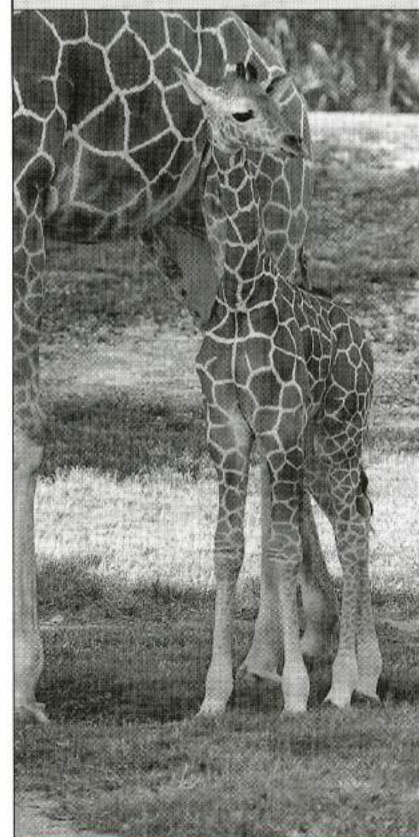
Moja's transfer out of Metrozoo was necessary to allow us to care for a new female who will become the companion of Moja's older brother, Jimmy Junior (J.J.). Frederika came from the Oklahoma City Zoo and will help increase the genetic variety of the gorilla population. We now have two breeding pairs in our collection.

Don't miss the chance to say hello to Frederika!

**BIRTHS & HATCHINGS**

**July 4 - September 18**

- African spurred tortoise**  
*Geochelone sulcata*  
1 sex unknown July 10
- Abyssinian ground hornbill**  
*Bucorvus abyssinicus*  
1 sex unknown July 21
- Indian muntjak**  
*Muntiacus muntjak vaginalis*  
1 female August 4
- Reticulated giraffe**  
*Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*  
1 female August 6
- African spurred tortoise**  
*Geochelone sulcata*  
1 sex unknown August 7
- East African crowned crane**  
*Balearica regulorum gibbericeps*  
1 sex unknown August 8
- Red kangaroo**  
*Megaleia rufa*  
1 sex unknown August 8
- East African crowned crane**  
*Balearica regulorum gibbericeps*  
1 sex unknown August 9
- African spurred tortoise**  
*Geochelone sulcata*  
6 sex unknown August 9
- African spurred tortoise**  
*Geochelone sulcata*  
1 sex unknown August 10



Reticulated giraffe

Photo: Dolora Batchelor

**CHECK IT OUT**

**W**e've been working hard over the past months to design and place some exciting, colorful, interactive and inviting graphics around Zoo grounds. Here's a summary of what you will see:

- "Talk to a Keeper" banners installed at the front of the exhibits where there are keeper feedings (white tiger, orangutan, Malayan Sun Bear, otter, sloth bear, pygmy hippopotamus, Himalayan black bear, chimpanzee, giraffe, and Galápagos tortoise)
- Three-sided Directional Kiosks installed at key locations providing information on visitor services, favorite exhibit animals, and location of refreshments and shows.
- Animal Autographs—foot and hoof prints—at the front of exhibits that allow visitors to compare their hands and feet with the animal on display.
- Interactive "Question Stations" to answer some of the most commonly asked questions.
- "Amazing Animal" Yardsticks so visitors can see how they "measure up" to our Zoo residents.
- Interactive signs, yardsticks, footprints and starwheels at the Children's Zoo that are perfect to encourage family participation.

We hope these interactive elements will make your visit more enjoyable. Give us your feedback as these are put into use.

*We want to express our deepest gratitude to the Knight Foundation for making the new signage possible.*

**ZOO BENEFIT DAY AT BORDERS**

If you've been meaning to buy that favorite book but hadn't found the chance, this might give you that needed push. Zoo and book lovers can go to the Borders Book Shop & Cafe in Kendall on November 18 and 19, purchase their favorite in-stock book, and contribute to the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF), too! A percentage of all sales to customers who bring in the coupon below or who mention this promotion will be donated to ZSF. On Sunday November 19, you also can enjoy an informative talk at Borders at 3:00 p.m. So, drop by to do your book shopping and let your friends know. We're counting on your support!

**BORDERS**  
BOOK SHOP & CAFE



invite you to participate in

**BORDERS BENEFIT DAYS**

for: **ZSF / Miami Metrozoo**

from: **November 18 to 19, 1995**

A percentage of your purchases during this designated period will be donated to the Zoological Society of Florida.

Valid only on scheduled days for merchandise in stock.

This coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Additional coupons will be available at Borders' information desk.

Amount of Sale: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BORDERS**  
BOOK SHOP & CAFE  
OF KENDALL

9205 S. DIXIE HIGHWAY  
MIAMI, FL 33156  
(305) 665-8800

**E·D·U·C·A·T·I·O·N·A·L A·D·V·E·N·T·U·R·E·S**

# GET READY FOR A FUN HOLIDAY SEASON

**Breakfast with the Beasts**

**Families**

The early bird gets the worm, so what do ZSF members get? Breakfast with the Beasts at Metrozoo! A continental breakfast will be followed by a special behind-the-scenes look at animal diet preparation. A few animal guests may join us, too. Finish off your morning adventure with a monorail ride overlooking at Zoo residents as they enjoy their first meal of the day.

**Session FAST-A:** Saturday, November 11

**Session FAST-B:** Saturday, December 2

**Time:** 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

**Cost:** Member adult \$10  
Adult Non-Member \$15  
Child (12 and under) \$6  
Child (12 and under) Non-Member \$8

**Stripes and Spots for Tiny Tots**

**Ages 3-5**

Animals come in many patterns and colors. Explore the world of "animal wrappers" in this two-part series for young ZSF Members. Each afternoon includes a classroom visit from some gentle creatures and a stop-off at a

Zoo exhibit. Program fee covers an adult/child pair.

**SPOT-A:** December 4

**SPOT-B:** December 5

**Time:** 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Cost:** Parent-Child Pair

Member \$20

Non-Member \$25

**Mini-Camps for School's Day off**

**Ages 6-10 (grades 1-4)**

What a day away from school! Dade County Schools may be out, but classes are in at Miami Metrozoo. Spend your day off with our "wild bunch" learning about the amazing residents of the Zoo.

**CAMP-A:** November 3

**CAMP-B:** November 10

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

**Cost:** Member \$25

Non-Member \$30

**Holiday Break Camp**

**Ages 6-10 (Session Break-A)**

**Ages 8-12 (Session Break-B)**

School's out for the holidays, so why not spend your break with us? Our mini Zoofari Camp is a two-day adventure that will take you to the wilds of Africa, complete with a spe-

cial Zoo passport to document your travels and animal adventures. A personalized souvenir T-shirt will help make the memories last.

**Session Break-A:** December 21 & 22

**Session Break-B:** December 27-28

**Cost:** Member \$40

Non-Member \$48

**"Pets and You" at the Children's Zoo**

**Family**

Pets can improve the quality of your life, reduce your stress and become special members of your family. What type of pet is best? Our first "Pets and You" weekend can provide some answers. Come to the Children's Zoo to learn about the usual and not-so-usual choices for pets. Furred, feathered, scaled or slimy, there's a right pet for you. Information on pet care, training, diets and housing will be available for free. **Dog Masters** will be on-site providing training tips and demonstrations. This program is a must for any future or current pet-owner.

**Date:** November 4

**Cost:** Free

**REGISTRATION FORM**

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

**For children's programs, complete the following:**

Parent's or Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Credit cardholders may register by phone.

Check  American Express  MasterCard  Visa

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

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

| Program/Session | Name of Participant | Age/Grade | Fee |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|-----|
|                 |                     |           |     |
|                 |                     |           |     |
|                 |                     |           |     |
|                 |                     |           |     |

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

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# GIVE THE ZOO FOR THE HOLIDAYS

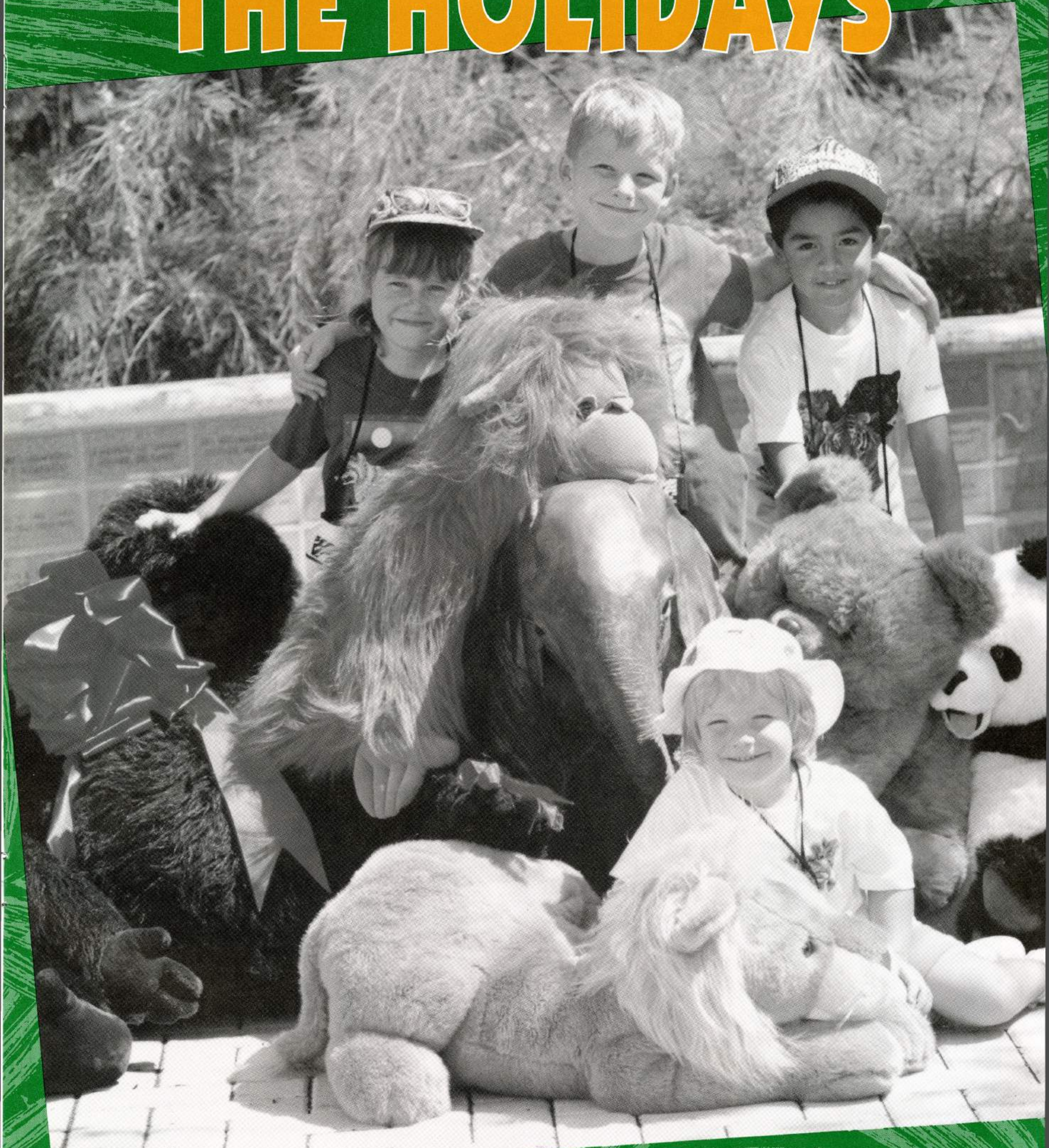


Photo : Cindy Seip

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO  
TAKE IT HOME  
BUT YOU STILL CAN  
ADOPT-AN-ANIMAL**

**H**ave a favorite animal here at Metrozoo or, is there a funny creature that truly reminds you of a loved one? Then you can give a whole year of easy parenting. Simply select an animal from over 40 animal choices ranging in price from \$25 to \$2,500. The Adopt Parent will receive a Gift Benefit Package, including a photo of the Adoptee!

You now can adopt Koala and Komodo, too!

To receive information on the choices available call 305-255-5551.

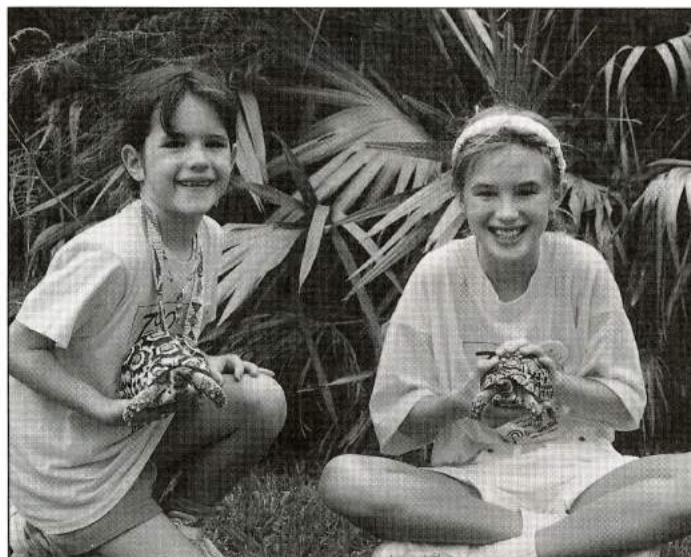


Photos: Ron McGill



**A GIFT OF FUN AND KNOWLEDGE!**

**T**his is a special time and the best opportunity to give a loved one a different kind of gift. How about one of our inimitable education programs? "Breakfast with the Beasts" is ideal for anybody who loves animals and "Mini Camp" for the younger crowd's day-off at school, just to name a couple. Drop by the Zoological Society's offices (right outside Metrozoo's ticket booths) and purchase a gift certificate good towards our exciting education programs. For information on our educational adventures call 305-255-5551.



**SUPPORT THE ZOO  
AND GIVE GREAT  
GIFTS, TOO!**

**T**he newly re-stocked gift shops at Metrozoo are waiting for you. When it comes to variety (the merchandise featured on the cover photo is only a fraction of what you'll find in the Toucan Trader or the Elephant Walk!) there's something unique for everyone. But that's not all: Members get a 10% discount all year-round, and 25% of all proceeds go to Metrozoo. Shop at our gift shops this holiday season and help your Zoo!

**BYNUM/MILLER  
CHRISTMAS VILLAGE**

Don't miss the chance to see a miniature Christmas Village in the Toucan Trader, one of our gift shops.

HOLIDAY SPECIAL

# GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS A WHOLE YEAR AND SAVE 50%! \*

During this holiday season, the Zoological Society of Florida is offering Members a special reduced price on Gift Memberships when you share the magic of Metrozoo with family and friends. To save, simply purchase the first Gift Membership at the regular price and you can buy up to two more Gift Memberships of equal or greater value at half-price.

Our special price offer ends December 31, so hurry and order your Gift Memberships today. We'll send the "Metrozoo Gift for You" card directly to you (or the gift recipient) with space to write a special message.

Why give an ordinary gift when you can give that special someone the entire whole Zoo?

## GIFT MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Introduce someone NEW to Metrozoo! If you need additional Gift Membership Enrollment Forms, contact the Zoological Society office at 305-255-5551.

### FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership for 2 adults and all children or grandchildren 18 and younger living at the same address.

### DUAL MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership for two persons living at the same address.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership for one adult.

### FIRST GIFT MEMBERSHIP-PAY FULL PRICE:

FAMILY \$45    DUAL \$40    INDIVIDUAL \$29

### MEMBERS

NAME (ADULT #1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME (SELECT ADULT #2 OR GUEST) \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT CARD MESSAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

### BUY UP TO TWO MORE GIFT MEMBERSHIPS OF EQUAL OR GREATER VALUE AT HALF PRICE:

FAMILY ~~\$45~~ \$22.50    DUAL ~~\$40~~ \$20    INDIVIDUAL ~~\$29~~ \$14.50

### MEMBERS

NAME (ADULT #1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME (SELECT ADULT #2 OR GUEST) \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT CARD MESSAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERS

NAME (ADULT #1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME (SELECT ADULT #2 OR GUEST) \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT CARD MESSAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERSHIPS \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK (PAYABLE TO THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA)  
 AMERICAN EXPRESS    MASTERCARD    VISA

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

(Not valid without signature)

### MAIL OR FAX TO:

MEMBER SERVICES DEPARTMENT / ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA  
12400 SW 152 STREET / MIAMI, FL 33177-1499 / (FAX) 305-255-7126

\* NOTE: Please allow 2 weeks for processing. This money-saving offer is good only when the Gift Membership is being given to someone who is not already a Member. Offer is not valid for renewals and is not combinable with any other promotional offers. MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE.

# A GIFT TO THE ZOO CAN GIVE BACK TO YOU (AND HELP US, TOO!)

**H**oliday time means gift-giving, and planning what to buy for whom.

And when you're listing your loved ones from A to Z, don't forget the Zoo.

That's because by helping to fund the programs of the Zoological Society of Florida, you're giving Metrozoo the best gift you can. Your year-end support in 1995 will mean that we can provide the Zoo with more education programs, more volunteer services, exciting new capital improvements and many other enhancements throughout 1996.

(And the best news is, your gift will not only give you the satisfaction of knowing you helped Metrozoo—it will give you a more tangible return, in the form of tax deductions for 1995!)

There are many ways you can give the Zoological Society at year's end.

- *Give an unrestricted cash gift to support the Zoological Society.* Your contribution will immediately help us continue our work on behalf of Metrozoo.
- *Make a pledge now for 1996 and pay it out throughout the year.* Or, if you've already made a pledge to the Zoological Society, pay it early. It will give you a terrific tax deduction for 1995, and will give us a head start on turning your good wishes into support for the Zoo.
- *Transfer appreciated assets.* Stocks or other investments that have increased in value and which have been held for longer than a year can become an impressive gift to the Zoological Society at negligible cost to you. Because by donating shares directly to us, you not only will avoid paying capital gains taxes—you can deduct the full-market value of the shares (on the day of transfer) from your 1995 taxes as a charitable contribution.
- *Put us in your will.* Holiday time often makes us reflect on the past year and re-examine our plans for the future. If

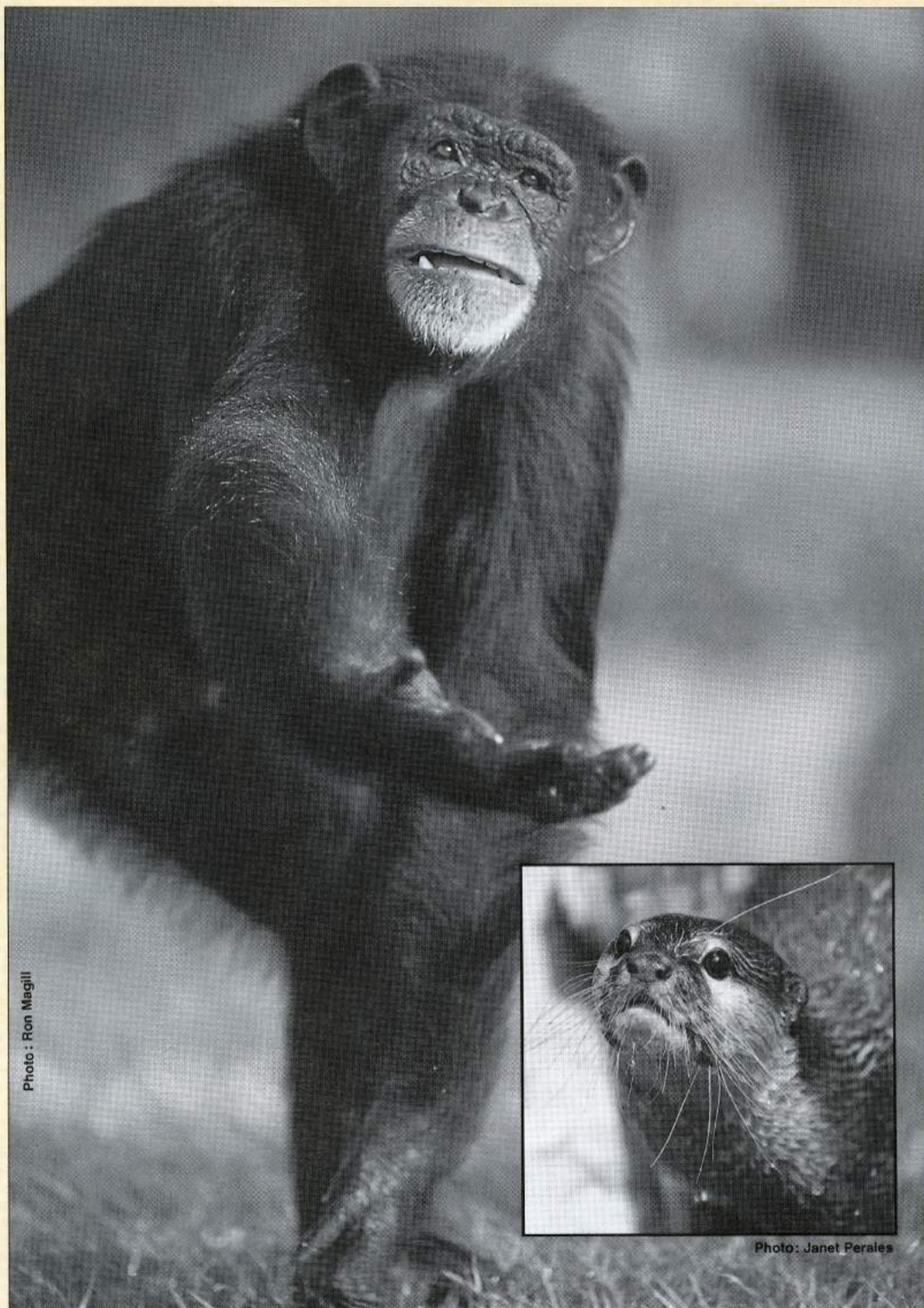


Photo: Ron Magill

Photo: Janet Perales

you're drawing up a will—or just updating one—consider providing for the Zoological Society. We'll induct you into our new group of special donors, the Conservation Keepers.

Conservation Keepers are Friends of Metrozoo who have provided for the support of the Zoological Society in a deferred giving plan (like a will). Conservation Keepers receive Life Membership in the Zoological Society,

recognition on the new donor board in the Children's Zoo, invitations to special Zoo and Zoological Society events, and more. Conservation Keepers are very important to us because they help us plan for the future, so if you've got the Zoological Society in your will, please let us know!

- *Make another kind of deferred gift.* There are a number of planning devices you can use in addition to a

will. You can make the Zoological Society the beneficiary of a life insurance policy. Or you may benefit the Zoological Society through a charitable remainder annuity trust, a charitable remainder unitrust, or a pooled income fund. (In all three of these, the income is paid annually to you with the remainder going to the Zoological Society. And all three will qualify you to join the Conservation Keepers.)

- *Feed the koala.* (Yes, you read that right.) If you know you're making a year-end gift and would like to earmark it for something specific, consider a gift to our newest arrivals, the koalas.

As you know, koalas have a very specialized diet (eucalyptus) which is expensive to grow and maintain. And boy, are they hungry! So the Zoological Society is raising \$35,000 to purchase eucalyptus to feed them and to support ongoing studies on their care. We need your support!

Those are just a few of the ways you can help the Zoological Society and Metrozoo this holiday season. But remember, giving to the Zoological Society is not just confined to year's end. Because we work throughout the year to develop and manage great programs at Metrozoo, we welcome your support from January to December.

If you have time to devote beyond writing a check, there are many opportunities for you—or your company—to get involved.

Whether it's signing up for Volunteer Services' specialist training classes (which will begin at the end January), getting involved on a committee, working on Feast With The Beasts, or joining the Board of Trustees at our recruitment reception and tennis tournament in February, we welcome you!

For more information on how to give a year-end gift or volunteer for 1996, call the Zoological Society at 305-255-5551.



**WALLS "UNWRAPPED"**

Over 800 people enjoyed the "Walls of the Wild" long-awaited dedication, including the unwrapping of our "gift-wrapped gorilla," breakfast provided by the Mayfair House and music by the South Ridge Senior High Spartan Band.

After the dedication of Phase I, sponsored by Capital Bank, all donors went to view their brick or tile, took a rubbing of their engraving and had their picture taken and placed in a gift holder provided by Capital Bank. Their staff also gave out a "cool" memento of the "hot" day—a commemorative water bottle.

**SUNTRUST PROVIDES SUPER SUPPORT**

Look—up in the Children's Zoo—it's a bird—it's a plane—it's the SunTrust Super Keepers!

Yes, it's a new kind of super hero! In 1994, the Zoological Society of Florida instituted a new program of support called the Children's Zoo "Keepers." This year, SunTrust (formerly SunBank/Miami, N.A.) became the naming sponsor of this program with a generous gift to support the Children's Zoo. The "SunTrust Super Keepers" will join other major donors to the Zoological Society on a new SunTrust donor board.

"It's a great time to be celebrating SunTrust's commitment to the Zoological Society," said Executive Director Glenn Ekey. "After all the damage from Hurricane Andrew, the Children's Zoo is on the brink of exciting rebirth. And we think it's very fitting that the Children's Zoo's repairs and upgrades should happen to coincide with SunBank's metamorphosis to SunTrust. We're both regenerating at the same time."



Photo: Cindy Seip

If you'd like more information on how you can become a SunTrust Super Keeper, please call the Development Department at 305-255-5551.

**MEMBERSHIP STILL A REAL DEAL AT METROZOO**

Mark your calendars! Annual membership in the Zoological Society of Florida will increase in some member categories as of November 1, 1995.

The increases will be:

- Individual: \$29
- Dual: \$40
- Family: \$45
- Family Plus \$55 (\$10 for each additional adult)
- Senior Individual: \$24
- Senior Dual: \$30

But even though prices have slightly increased, membership in the Zoological Society is still a terrific bargain.

For more information on membership in the Zoological Society, including costs and benefits, call the Development Department at 305-255-5551.

**HAVE YOU "HERD"? IT'S FEAST WITH THE BEASTS '96**

Mark your calendar for this one: On Friday, March 1, 1996 the Zoological Society of Florida will hold its 9th Annual Feast With The Beasts presented by American Express, chaired by Susan Abraham and co-chaired by Cathy Blank.

One of South Florida's most fun-filled fund-raisers, Feast With The Beasts is sure to herd new blood, offer exceptional entertainment, and serve some of the best food in this part of the state.

To raise revenue for the programs the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) manages on behalf of Metrozoo, ZSF again will provide a not-to-be-missed opportunity to eat, drink, be entertained (magically and majestically), dance, and win impressive raffle prizes. Feast With The Beasts invitations will be designed by internationally famous artist Romero Britto.

Beastkeepers, who pay \$500, will flock to the soiree one hour early and enjoy special amenities. Then, at 8:00 p.m., the flood gates open to the main food and performance area for \$150 general admission ticket holders. A majority of your contribution is TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

Tell a herd, bring a flock. Join us for South Florida's most satisfying night of grazing, Feast With The Beasts '96 on Friday, March 1, 1996.

**ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY WELCOMES 1995-96 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Zoological Society's Board of Trustees has done it again—elected a slate of outstanding candidates to the Board of Directors for 1995-96.

**RE-ELECTED TO SECOND CONSECUTIVE TERMS ARE:**

**Sue M. Cobb**, President. She is an officer/director of Cobb Partners, Inc. and its affiliates in real estate development and investment management.

**Alfredo Durán** is the president and publisher of ¡Exitó!, a weekly publication of the Sun-Sentinel Company.

**Peter Roulhac** is vice president and director of community programs at First Union National Bank of Florida.

**Eugenio Sansón** is the managing partner of the firm of Sansón, Kline, Jacomino & Company, one of the largest Hispanic CPA firms in the United States.

**Ed Soto** has been a partner of Baker & McKenzie for nearly a decade, currently serving as the principal trial attorney in the litigation department of the firm's Miami office.

**Ed Mitchell** is senior VP and market executive for NationsBank's private client group.

**ELECTED TO FIRST TERMS ARE:**

**Cynthia Curry** is the vice president for business and finance at Florida International University.

**Jennifer Getz** served as Chair of the 1995 Feast With The Beasts, heading up one of the most successful Feasts in the history of the event.

**James Hawkins** is a financial consultant with Smith Barney.

**Cris Mendoza** joined Knight-Ridder in September 1990 as associate general counsel.

**Gonzalo Ruiz** is vice president for destination business at American Express Travel Related Services Corporation, the presenting sponsor of Feast With The Beasts.

**TRUSTEE NOTES**

**B**iscayne Greyhound continued its admirable "track record" of support for the Zoological Society of Florida with a second annual Charity Night on September 22. It just goes to "win, place or show" that when it comes to demonstrating support for Metrozoo, you can "bet" on Board of Trustees members Karl Spitzer and Oscar Padrón. A dog-

gone good time was had by all.... Northern Trust Bank of Florida has signed on for another year of support by pledging to sponsor an animal paddock in the Australian exhibit area....Lynne Kava of Prudential Securities and Annette Wellinghoff of Kudos Creative Group have pledged support as new members of the Board of Trustees....

## CHAMPS FOR CHIMPS

**N**ext time you visit Metrozoo, check out the chimps.

Not just because they're some of the most delightful animals in the Zoo—they're sponsored by some very special human beings. And we thought you might like to know a little bit about them.

The chimpanzee exhibit itself is sponsored in honor of **Bréan Romeo** by her parents, **Tony and Paula Romeo**. When they're not busy running Miami Aircraft Support in Coral Gables, Tony and Paula often travel with Bréan to the far corners of the globe, to teach her (and to learn) about other countries and societies, both animal and human.

The photo of Bréan and her friend Aida Limongi (below) was taken just before the Romeos left for a long vacation in Australia. We thank the entire Romeo family for their tremendous support of the Zoological Society and Metrozoo.

Just across the way from the chimp exhibit is the **Carole Cotton Happy Balloons** rest area. Friends of Metrozoo will recognize Carole's name from Feast With The Beasts and the African elephant exhibit rest area, which she also sponsors. This year she added the "chickee at the chimp" with a generous check to the Zoological Society of Florida.

Carole also brought 30 of her closest friends and family to the Zoo in September to officially dedicate the new rest area (see photo below) and enjoy brunch in the Zoological Society's rebuilt administration building—the first group to be hosted in our finished quarters!

We're grateful to Carole for her unflagging support of the Zoo. She's a true animal lover who invites you all to rest in her shady area and watch the antics of George, Bubbles, Binti and family.

### Chimpanzee



Photo: Ron Magill



Photo: Mayra González-Rey

# CHIMP WATCH

## BEHAVIOR ENRICHMENT PROGRAM AT METROZOO



Photo: Ron Magill

**A**s part of Miami Metrozoo's continuing efforts to improve the quality of life of the animal collection, a behavior enrichment program for the great apes has been started at the Zoo. The following information was obtained from an interview with one of the key players in the program, Kurt Mannchen, Primate Keeper.

**Toucan Talk:** What exactly was the behavior enrichment program? What was its purpose?

**Kurt Mannchen:** It was a program initiated by Bill Zeigler, our General Curator, and that was carried out by the members of the Primate Department, that is Kathy Hitchcock, Linda Owen, Connie Phillips and myself. The program was designed to encourage the great apes at Metrozoo to display normal behavioral and social development and to provide the public with an interesting and active exhibit.

**TT:** When did the program start?

**KM:** The program started back in September of '94. The chimpanzees were chosen as the first of the great apes to be put through this program

of enrichment on their paddock.

**TT:** What was the first step?

**KM:** Originally, we designed a sort of inventory that included active, social, sexual, and abnormal behaviors, vocalizations and facial expressions of the chimpanzees. These were the behaviors we would observe and each behavior had an assigned code.

**TT:** Can you give me some examples of the behaviors to be observed?

**KM:** Walking, sleeping, yawning, food sharing, chest beating, welcoming humans...

**TT:** And what did you do with the observations?

**KM:** The behaviors of the chimps were recorded later in a data sheet. There also was what is called a "nearest neighbor sheet." On this form observers had to record the location of the chimps in their paddock and who was in contact with whom. This allowed us to find out which individuals were seen most often with other individuals in the troop of chimpanzees. The data collecting was broken into two phases. The first phase was for collecting baseline behavior data before any

enrichment devices were put out on the paddock, and the second phase was for collecting information after putting the devices on the paddock.

**TT:** What were the enrichment devices?

**KM:** The enrichment devices included items such as large ropes running from one cement tree to another cement tree, plastic toys, burlap and other cloth-like items, browse and phone books.

*Continued on p. 7*

## WHO'S WHO?

George (DOB March 16, 1971)  
 Bubbles (DOB: March 18, 1972)  
 Niger (DOB: November 18, 1990)  
 Samantha (DOB: November 28, 1969)  
 Binti (DOB: June 26, 1982)  
 Amelia (DOB: February 10, 1991)  
 Rosebud (DOB: November 25, 1970)  
 Bocco (DOB: March 22, 1990)  
 Hondo (DOB: March 20, 1994)

Continued from p. 6

**TT:** Were the two phases designed for comparison purposes?

**KM:** Yes, the idea was to have two sets of data that could be compared to see what changes, if any, had occurred during the enrichment program.

**TT:** Did the keepers take turns to do the observation?

**KM:** Well, actually it was the volunteer docents. Due to the workload of the primate keepers, it was decided to train docents from the Volunteer Department to collect the behavior data during the program. We had two meetings with those who were interested in observing the great apes. We had a great turnout! Forty-one docents showed up. We explained what was needed from them and how it was to be carried out. We then tested the docents on recognizing individual chimpanzees and what behaviors they were observing. After the testing period, Barbara and Linda Crutchfield, Carli Liddle, Karen Maciag, Joanne Miller, Ginny Pave, Mary Rose and Margaret Whitehead were selected and they started collecting behavioral data on the chimpanzees.

**TT:** But how was the actual observation done?

**KM:** Docents would go out to the paddock to do an hour-long observation, but the first, or last, thing they had to take was the observations for the "nearest neighbor sheet."

**TT:** Wasn't it hard to observe every chimp and who they were interacting with?

**KM:** Well, docents only had to watch a single individual at a time.

**TT:** What was the next step?

**KM:** Then they had to start the actual observation of the enrichment program. Docents had to record all the behaviors from the original list they observed during a full hour, along with time, name of the animal, where the behavior took place, who was the recipient and what was the response. The last two, of course, only were recorded when it was applicable.

**TT:** When will the results be ready and what are you planning to do with them?



Photos: Ron McGill

**KM:** The first phase, that is, without the enrichments, was over by December of 1994. The observation of the behaviors, or second phase, was completed in June of this year. We have been inputting all the data in the computer thanks to a program kindly designed by keeper Paul Bermúdez. This will allow us to later compare the results. Hopefully the results obtained will be published.

**TT:** What do you think this program will contribute to Metrozoo?

**KM:** Besides providing the chimps with a better care, we hope this program will increase the awareness of the public of the plight of endangered species. We expect the enrichment items will have made a difference in the chimps' lives. Last, but not least, it will prove how valuable volunteers can be in helping the Zoo staff in taking observations.

**TT:** Any funny stories about chimps interacting with the enrichment items?

**KM:** Once we put plastic chairs in their paddock and they just threw them down in the moat. But they sometimes get the chairs out to play with them. Another time we put phone books out and the chimps just shredded them. They had their own version of a ticker tape parade...the whole paddock was full of little pieces of yellow paper!

**FROM THE OBSERVERS' MOUTH**

Following are some candid comments from the docents that helped with the observations for the behavior enrichment program.

"...and all of a sudden they had the ropes! We saw the day-to-day changes. As they got used to them, they explored different ways of using the ropes, aside from swinging and climbing. Amelia, for example, discovered she could move beneath the rope as a sloth and lower her head to drink water without having to come to the ground!" *Linda Crutchfield*

"...keeping an eye on your subject and the stop watch, balancing a clipboard and holding a thermometer while trying to hang on to an umbrella was another story. But watching Hondo growing up with the other three older siblings has been a wonderful experience." *Karen Maciag*

"I was surprised that the first juvenile to hold Hondo was Bocco, who is the most mischievous, the devil child. Amelia had been so interested, always touching the baby! But she wasn't the first one, Bocco was. Amelia was disappointed and she had a screaming tantrum. But none of the other chimps paid attention to her and she finally stopped. Maybe humans should take a lesson from this!" *Joanne Miller*

"One day Amelia caught a marine toad and, as you know, they're poisonous. What should I do? But, somehow, she knew what to do.

Amelia held it up, shook it, got rid of all the poison and tried to play with it. She even tried to make it leap! When the toad didn't play, she left it alone."

*Mary Rose*

"Bocco went down the moat one day and came out with a red baseball cap. He played with the cap the rest of the day. This was the cutest thing I ever saw. I guess Bocco just wanted to play with something!" *Ginny Pave*

"...the juveniles were trying the new ropes. But Bocco, once he got confident with the ropes, would throw himself into the water, make a big splash or jump up and down. I think he was doing it on purpose to scare the others or to show off." *Margaret Whitehead*

"...hearing Hondo call for attention and Niger or Bocco running to comfort him was funny and sweet. They would pick him up and play with him. They would even fight over which was to play with little Hondo. But Hondo growing up and becoming more independent was like watching your own child grow. Chimps are just like human children!" *Barbara Crutchfield*

"One day George attacked Bubbles...bit her. She was hurt and she even looked at me as if asking for help. The keepers were standing on the other side of the moat, ready to open the door to their night house to stop the fight. And all that happened while I was doing my observation! It was a scary moment but, happily, Bubbles and George are back to normal." *Carli Liddle*

NOVEMBER

**11 & 12** saturday & sunday

**2ND ANNUAL WILDLIFE ART & AWARENESS WEEKEND**

9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

It's time again for nature lovers to admire wildlife art at Metrozoo! There also will be interesting talks, a bake sale, face-painting for kids and even art created by the animals themselves! This event, sponsored by the South Florida Chapter of the American Association of Zookeepers (AAZ), raises funds to support wildlife conservation programs and send zookeepers to educational conferences. For information contact Patty Leon-Singer at 253-6151.

**19** sunday

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

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

Get ready for Thanksgiving with the family-minded zebra. The all-day celebration will honor this beautiful creature at its exhibit. If you are a Member of the Club you can work on a fun project, participate in games and special activities or simply enjoy watching the zebra. For information call 305-255-5551.

**18 & 19** saturday & sunday

**ZOO BENEFIT DAYS AT BORDERS**

This is your chance to get that favorite book and help the Zoo at the same time! Borders Book Shop (9205 S. Dixie Highway) will host these Benefit Days (see p. 5) for Zoo and book lovers. A percentage of the sales benefits the Zoological Society of Florida at Metrozoo. For information call 305- 665-8800.

DECEMBER

**1-31**

**BYNUM/MILLER CHRISTMAS VILLAGE**

Don't miss the chance to see a miniature Christmas Village in the Toucan Trader, one of our gift shops.

**17** sunday

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

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Animal-of-the-Month Club Members will start celebrating an early holiday season with the last event at the white Bengal tiger exhibit.

**25** monday

**OPENING OF KOALA EXHIBIT**

Koala lovers get their first peek at our new pair of koalas.

**A MESSAGE FROM...**

**ZOO NOTES**

It's that time of year again. Time to gather thoughts, re-evaluate and plan for a new year. And what a better time to include the Zoological Society of Florida in your New Year's resolutions?

There are many ways: Enroll in one of our education programs and give the gift of knowledge to a loved one or yourself. Join our growing volunteer force and help share your interest in wildlife with others. Do your Holiday shopping at any of our gift shops, or treat your friends to 365 days of free admission to Metrozoo and other benefits through the membership program. But most of all, just visit more often and tell your friends about all the exciting things happening at Metrozoo. There are many ways to get involved, and they all are very rewarding. Join us!

Glenn Ekey  
Executive Director  
Zoological Society of Florida

- During the holiday season there are more reasons than usual to celebrate. And what better place to have a party than Metrozoo! Your company can organize a wild and casual holiday celebration during the day for a fun party in our Picnic Field, or a more formal affair at night, in the magnificent setting of the Zebraaar overlooking Flamingo Lake. For information and reservations call Metrozoo's Sales Department at 305-251-0403.
- Good news for Zoo visitors! The Lakeside Grill, located across from the recently finished Playground Area, will re-open its doors for the first time after Andrew during winter. The newly restored restaurant now will offer a pleasant air-conditioned atmosphere, more serving windows for your convenience, and a contemporary menu with local flavor. Don't miss the chance to try it and admire the gorgeous view!

TOUCAN TALK



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