

# TOUCAN

Special  
Issue

# TALK

PUBLISHED BY  
THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF FLORIDA FOR  
MIAMI METROZOO

N O V E M B E R / D E C E M B E R

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**GIVE YOUR  
KIDS A  
\$200 MILLION  
LEGACY!**

*T*

his November 5, you can

do something that will ensure a legacy of safe, fun parks for our children. A ballot measure would provide approximately \$200 million for improving our parks, including \$12 million for Metrozoo. A "Yes" vote on November 5 for this measure would cost the average Dade County homeowner just two cents a day. For more information on how this important measure could affect you and your family, see inside.

Vote **Yes** For The Safe  
Neighborhood Parks Act

**40 Years of  
Excellence**  
ZOOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF FLORIDA

1956-1996

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**Zoo Visitor Information**  
305-251-0401

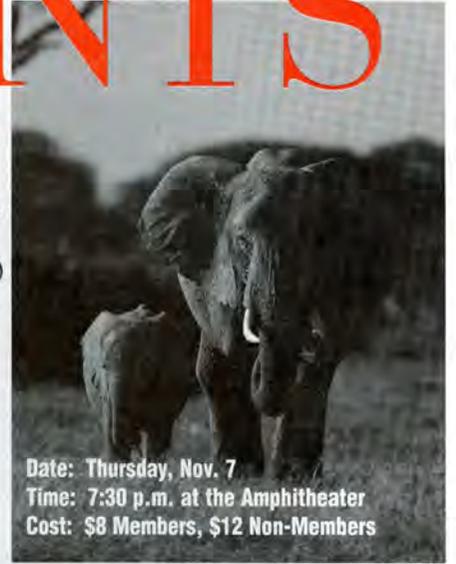
The Zoological Society of Florida sponsors a year-long agenda of educational activities for kids and adults of all ages. This winter, we have an exciting schedule of events, so register early. For more information on these and other programs held throughout the year, call the Education Department at 305-255-5551.

# “ECHO OF THE ELEPHANTS” FILM PREMIERE

All Ages  
Evening presentation in  
Amphitheater

Metrozoo is pleased to be one of the few sites chosen to premier “Echo of the Elephants: The Next Generation,” the newest film produced by NATURE, which will air on WPBS, Channel 2, this season. It is based on the observations and insights of Cynthia Moss, a researcher for the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) who has lived with and studied wild elephant families of Amboseli National Park in southern Kenya for the past 24 years. One group in particular captured Moss’ heart – Echo and her family. This dramatic film, whose highlights include the nighttime birth of Echo’s new calf, as well as its kidnapping by another elephant family, is the sequel to the acclaimed 1994 PBS film, “Echo of the Elephants.” Echo and her family are the stars of this documentary.

We invite you to join our special guest, AWF President Michael Wright, and our partners at WPBS Channel 2 for an evening preview of this dramatic film, as we bring the wonders of Africa closer to Miami.



Date: Thursday, Nov. 7  
Time: 7:30 p.m. at the Amphitheater  
Cost: \$8 Members, \$12 Non-Members

### “CONSERVATION IN ACTION” SERIES (THREE-PART SERIES)

*Ages 14 and Up*  
Metrozoo staff are involved in conservation at home and abroad. This three-part series features national and international efforts to preserve species and help train our colleagues in other countries.

#### Zoos Helping Zoos

Metrozoo Director, Al Fontana, is an active member of the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group (ZCOG). Through ZCOG, American zoos work with Central American Zoos providing training, technical assistance and materials. Join Mr. Fontana for an open discussion and Q&A period to learn about these important programs.

#### Zoo Alphabet Soup

SSPs, TAGSs, FIGs...what does it all mean? Zoos and aquariums all over the world are working together to save species and habitats through a veritable “alphabet soup” of programs. General Curator, Steve Connors, will unjumble the letters as you learn about breeding and conservation programs here at Metrozoo.

#### Panama’s Harpy Eagle Project

Metrozoo Communications Director, Ron Magill, has a passion for animals and has found a special cause in the harpy eagle. Working with wildlife biologists and Zoo staff in Panama, he is spearheading efforts to increase awareness of these magnificent birds of prey.

**Dates:** Mondays, Nov. 11, 18 & 25  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$24 Members,  
\$32 Non-Members  
Light refreshments included.

#### BREAKFAST WITH THE BEASTS

*Families*  
Rise early for a continental breakfast with the beasts at Metrozoo, followed by a special look at animal nutrition and diets during “What’s on the Menu?” In December, we’ll explore the “Treasures of Asia,” from tigers and elephants to otters and Komodo dragons, who live here at Metrozoo.

**Dates: Session A**  
Saturday, Nov. 23  
“What’s on the Menu?”  
**Session B**  
Saturday, Dec. 14  
“Treasures of Asia”  
**Time:** 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
**Cost:** Adults: \$10 Members,  
\$15 Non-Members  
Children 12 & Under:  
\$6 Members,  
\$8 Non-Members

#### “GOING APE” MINI-CAMP

*Kids Ages 5 and Up*  
School may be out for the day, but there’s plenty to learn at Metrozoo about our amazing gorillas, chimps and orangutans. Special crafts, activities and snacks are included in this one-day safari. Campers need to bring their own lunch.

**Date:** Friday, Nov. 1  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$30 Members,  
\$37 Non-Members

#### WINTER BREAK CAMP

*Kids Ages 5 and Up*

Spend two fun-filled days of wild adventures as we explore the animals of the grassland, forests and air. Bring your lunch and a t-shirt to decorate as a special remembrance of the program. We provide the snacks, beverages, crafts and animals.

**Dates: Session A**  
Thursday, Dec. 26 & Friday, Dec. 27  
**Session B**  
Monday, Dec. 30 & Tuesday, Dec. 31  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$50 Members,  
\$65 Non-Members

#### KOALA KIDS MINI-CAMP

*Kids Ages 5 and Up*

Spend the day away from school with our “wild bunch” learning about the exotic koalas and other residents of Australia. This one-day safari includes special activities, crafts and snacks. Campers need to bring their own lunch.

**Date:** Friday, Jan. 24, 1997  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** \$30 Members,  
\$37 Non-Members

### 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; call 305-255-5551.  Check  American Express  MasterCard  Visa  
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder’s Signature (not valid without 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  
All program registrations subject to a \$10 cancellation fee. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Vote **Yes** This November 5 For Our Community and Our Children

A recent study by the U.S. Justice Department revealed that violent crime by juveniles occurs most often in the three hours after the close of school. But now, faced with tighter budgets, structured programs offered during these hours are increasingly scarce. The truth is, our youth have few safe places to spend their free time. And the price is high. Each day, more than 80,000 youths wake up in correctional facilities. Over the last decade in Dade County, juvenile delinquency cases rose more than 200 percent. During the past three years alone, the number of Dade gangs increased to more than 100 and youth involvement in gangs doubled to almost 5,000.

The problem of juvenile crime is not isolated to any one area. Kids today are highly mobile and crime is everywhere. But there is a solution: prevention. The evidence is overwhelming that recreation programs can contribute to a decrease in juvenile crime by offering alternative opportunities for involvement. A 1994 survey of gang members revealed that 94 percent turned to gangs and other antisocial behavior out of boredom. As one respondent said, "I had nowhere to go and nothing to do."



"The Safe Neighborhood Parks Act is the most important issue for parks to come along since the Decade of Progress Bond Issue of 1972. As President of the Zoological Society of Florida, I encourage you to support this initiative for our community and our children."  
- William J. Galloway, III

## The Safe Neighborhood Parks Act

On November 5, Dade County voters will have an opportunity to vote on the *Safe Neighborhood Parks Act*, a citizen-sponsored bond issue to raise \$200 million for more than 170 parks throughout Dade County. This effort marks the first major capital funding for Dade County parks in more than 20 years. All across Dade, money is needed to rebuild and replace worn swimming pools, ball fields, tennis and basketball courts. To install lighting so parks will be safer and can be used after sundown. To build new and expand old recreation centers. To upgrade Dade's historic parks. To refurbish Dade's regional and beach parks. To improve public access to and protect Biscayne Bay. To develop greenways. To develop and improve threatened environmental and natural areas.

In fact, the list of improvements and renovations is staggering. Seawalls need to be replaced. Playgrounds need to be upgraded. Restroom facilities need to be provided. Fencing needs to be installed or repaired.

Virtually every city and area in Dade County, from Homestead to Hialeah, from Key Biscayne to Kendall, will benefit. And the ultimate winners are our children because the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act means that they will have safer, better places to play. **Yet the cost to the average Dade County homeowner would be just \$8.34 a year — or two cents a day.**

## This Is Not A Blank Check

The measure identifies more than 170 park projects specifically by locale, scope of work and amount of money needed. **A Citizen's Oversight Committee will be created to ensure that bond moneys go toward those projects which have been approved by you, the voters.** The Oversight Committee will be chosen by the Board of County Commissioners from a slate of candidates offered by a broad-based Nominating Committee, representative of the racial, ethnic, gender and geographic composition of the overall Dade County community. In addition, **Annual Independent Audits will be required to ensure that bond money is being spent in accordance with the designated project plan, cost-efficiently and cost-effectively.** The ordinance specifies that no capital bond funds

## What You'll See In The Voting Booth

### SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS BONDS

TO IMPROVE NEIGHBORHOOD AND REGIONAL PARKS, RESTORE AND ACQUIRE RECREATIONAL AREAS, BEACHES AND NATURAL LANDS — ALL WITH THE INTENTION TO PROMOTE NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY, REDUCE JUVENILE CRIME AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE, SHALL DADE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$200,000,000 WHICH WILL BEAR INTEREST NOT EXCEEDING MAXIMUM LEGAL RATE AS DETERMINED AT TIME OF SALE, PAYABLE FROM UNLIMITED AD VALOREM TAXES, SUBJECT TO AN INDEPENDENT ANNUAL AUDIT?

YES  
 NO

will be used to offset current operating expenses. **In order to receive bond funds, receiving agencies must provide proof of their ability to operate and maintain specific improvements.**

Operating revenues will come from savings resulting from repaired and renovated facilities and from higher revenues generated by improved facilities. **The Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1996 is a grassroots initiative created by concerned residents of Dade County. By voting "YES" this November 5, you will be saying yes to the future of our parks and our children.**

For a complete list of the parks in your neighborhood or for more information on how you can help, contact The Trust for Safe Neighborhood Parks at 305-860-7290, 2601 South Bayshore Drive, Coconut Grove, FL 33133.





Photo: Wildlife Conservation Society/ Bronx Zoo

The Adventure begins as you descend from Metrozoo's elevated Monorail into the lush greenery of the Rainforest Depot Station. Hints of thatched structures draw you away from the Depot, into the cool understory beneath the towering canopy of trees, to the Village Square. Here, the sights, sounds and smells of jungle life envelop you. Brightly plumed parrots chatter noisily. Native crafts people peddle their colorful wares. Jungle lore is passed on to each new generation through enchanting storytelling sessions beneath the mammoth Grandfather Tree in the village's Center. A Petting Zoo includes donkeys, pigs, chickens and chinchilla for kids to see and touch up close.

The Village Square provides a stunning view of the mouth of the river which feeds into a sparkling lake. Here, the remnants of an abandoned Fishing Village — dugout canoes, nets and barrels — speak of the special interrelationship between a people and the river. At the end of the Village Square, your children are greeted by a native with a woolly llama who offers them a barter token. This token may be used to enter the Earth Discovery Dig — an imitation archeological site where kids can sift through the sand for fossils, shells, gems, pottery and other special treasures. While the kids search for artifacts, parents can find rest, relaxation, and refreshments.

Then, the pathway draws you on, even deeper into the cool depths of the mist-enshrouded forest. Along the way, jets of water shoot upwards from hidden portals along the trail. As the kids have fun trying to outsmart this maze of water jets, Mom and Dad will gaze upon yet another panoramic view of the lake, emblazoned with flamingoes and flocks of other exotic water birds. Beyond the birds, Howler Monkey Island is clearly visible and the shrill screams of these raucous rainforest creatures echo across the water's surface.

Surrounding a tranquil plaza, openings in the forest provide dramatic views of still more exotic South American creatures including spectacled bears, rheas, tapirs and capybara — the world's largest rodents, weighing in at 50 pounds each! Frequently, predator and prey are exhibited side-by-side.

The jungle has its own music, as your children will soon hear as they discover Animal Paw Prints in the walkway that trigger sounds of jungle animals. The jungle lures you on to discover its secrets. Perhaps a big cat — a jaguar — roars in the distance. Adults cross the footbridge and kids skip across huge lily pads leading into the most dense area of the rainforest. Up ahead, a bright shaft of sunlight splits the dark forest and illuminates the majestic Hidden Temple Ruins, shrouded in mist and covered with vines. Monkeys chatter from atop the building, beckoning you to pass through its huge doors to the inner sanctuary. You glance at a rotten stump near your feet where a million leaf cutting ants are busy dismantling the vegetation and marching home with their provisions.

Inside the giant hall, amazing animals abound. The endless color and diversity of jungle life seem to explode around you. There are bats, sloths, peccaries and colorful and unusual reptiles such as anaconda, emerald tree boa, bush master, giant side-necked turtles and mata-mata. Rainbow-hued poison dart frogs glisten from their enclosures within the walls. There are smaller cats — ocelot, margay, pampas, and jaguarundi. Just when the experience seems to have reached its pinnacle, the sound of crashing water outside the Ruins draws you back to the jungle. You step from the building into a canyon — Hidden Falls — where sheer rock surfaces tower stories above your head on either side. At the end of this canyon, you must navigate a cascading Waterfall to reach the end of the jungle and return to civilization.

Cool, refreshed and with a newfound appreciation for this delicate and endangered ecosystem, your South American Adventure is nearing a close. Passing beneath the Falls, you amble onto an expansive wooden Overlook which provides a final, breathtaking view of the lake and the forest through which you have journeyed. As the vegetation gradually thins out and you move on to other Zoo exhibits, the excitement of your South American Adventure lingers. You find yourself planning to return with your family to the jungle again soon.

Of course this is just a journey into the world of possibilities for the South American Adventure. The final selection of animals will depend upon the availability of various species. Whenever possible, emphasis will be placed on acquiring endangered species which we can help protect through our education and conservation programs.

The \$12 million provided by the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act will provide funding for Phase I of the South American Adventure. It will be an important step toward completing the unfinished area of the Zoo. The new exhibits are guaranteed to provide endless hours of pleasure as well as an informative look at our neighbors to the south. Not only will it appeal especially to children, it will appeal to the young-at-heart of all ages. And it will provide us with a unique glimpse at the Latin heritage shared by so many Dade County residents. When you vote "YES" this November 5, you'll be giving a very special gift to Metrozoo and our community. We urge you and others like you who care about the future of our Zoo and our children to vote for this important ordinance.

Metrozoo is no stranger to bond funding. One of the original 1972 Decade of Progress Bond Projects, Metrozoo opened to acclaim in 1981. However, much of its original master plan remains undeveloped. The Safe Neighborhood Parks Act offers an important opportunity to continue the development of a world-class zoological park in Dade County. Among the projects slated for funding in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act is Metrozoo, with \$12 million earmarked to complete Phase I of a new South American-themed exhibit entitled the South American Adventure.

The South American Adventure will be dedicated to the education and conservation of the flora and fauna native to our Latin American neighbors. Here families and children can explore an exotic world rich with mammals, birds, reptiles and other creatures — many of which are endangered. What will the South American Adventure be like? Let's take a journey into the realm of imagination.

# Safe Neighborhood Park Earmarks \$12 Million

## The South American Adventure

This rendering is an artist's conception of the proposed South American exhibits for an unfinished area of the Zoo. In keeping with South America's richly diverse habitat, the South American Adventure will include a variety of flora and fauna native to that region of the world. Proposed exhibits will feature reptiles, amphibians, mammals, birds as well as insects.



Photo: Wildlife Conservation Society/ Bronx Zoo



Photo: Ricardo Stanoss



Photo: Wildlife Conservation Society/ Bronx Zoo



Photo: Ron McGill



*South American Adventure*



"I love my job because I not only enjoy working around animals, I enjoy working with people. I can't imagine working anywhere else. It's truly very rewarding; the more I give the more I get back."  
- **Mitzi Martinez**



"Upon retiring last year, I took the classes and became a volunteer... It's been a tremendous reward to me and, I believe, to those who have a chance to get up-close and personal at our Metrozoo."  
- **George Braithwaite**



"The Zoo is like a second home. It's very good for the community because it presents educational and recreational opportunities."  
- **Barbara Birmingham**



"It's a wonderful program for the community. It brings the community closer with nature."  
- **Alma Escalante**



"Dear Metrozoo, I had a wonderful time. I liked seeing all the animals. When I grow up I want to be a vet or a person who works at the zoo."  
- **Erin Williams-Connell**

s Act  
n For **Metrozoo**



### The Jaguar *Panthera onca*

The jaguar, native to North and South America, is the largest member of the cat family in the Western hemisphere. In Latin America, it is commonly called a *tigre*; the term jaguar is derived from its native Indian name. A male may reach 6 feet in length (head and body) with a 2.5-foot tail and may weigh nearly 400 pounds. Its coat ranges from grayish to reddish tan and is spotted like that of a leopard, with body spots grouped into small circles or rosettes. Unlike the leopard, however, the jaguar's rosettes surround one or more solid spots. The jaguar is also more stoutly built than the leopard, with a larger, broader head.

Jaguars are found from the southwestern United States to Patagonia in southern Argentina. They inhabit marshes, scrub brush areas, and both temperate and tropical forests. They feed on a wide variety of large and small animals and also occasionally prey on domestic animals. The solitary jaguar establishes its own territory, and males and females disregard each other except during mating season. Jaguars breed once a year, in no particular season in the tropics. After a gestation period of about 14 weeks, usually, one to four young are born.

The jaguar is one of the world's most graceful and agile creatures, and is an endless source of fascination.



Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

# The Jaguar

## *Panthera onca*

## The 10th Annual Feast With The Beasts

Celebrating a decade of wild success, the *Feast With The Beasts* is the Zoological Society of Florida's most important annual fundraising event. The next *Feast With The Beasts* will be held on **Friday, March 14, 1997** with the "Beastkeepers" party at 7:00 p.m. followed by general admission at 8:00 p.m. Presented by **American Express**, *Feast* has emerged as one of the most exciting events on South Florida's social calendar. But it is far more than a social event. *Feast* contributes much-needed support to Zoological Society of Florida programs, with this year's

*Feast* benefiting the Children's Zoo. Chair **Jennifer Getz**, Vice-Chair **Alys Daly** and the committee have worked long and hard to line up more than 40 of South Florida's most tasteful restaurants and six top beverage suppliers to donate their culinary masterpieces and liquid refreshments. A generous sampling of the cosmopolitan music and entertainment that is so much a part of South Florida's vital and dynamic cultural scene also will delight attendants. More than 1,000 of the city's celebrities, business leaders, and Zoo supporters will "take a walk on the wildside" amid the

wilds of Metrozoo's animal exhibits. "Beastkeepers" receive special hand-delivered gifts including a custom-made cummerbund, a program acknowledgment, admission to the private Beastkeeper cocktail reception one hour prior to the main event and other special privileges. Beastkeeper Co-Chairs **Cathy Blank** and **Pauline Merl** expect there to be more demand than availability for Beastkeeper admissions. Beastkeeper tickets are \$500 per person; General admission is \$150 per person. Make your reservations now. Call 305-255-5551.

## Our Animals Love To Be Adopted

Some people remind us of different animals. There's the boss who's a bear. The spouse who's a tiger. The fellow employee who's a snake. And some animals remind us of people. How about storks and expectant moms? Elephants and people with great memories? Giraffes and those who are willing to stick their necks out? The list is as endless

as your imagination. But did you know that you can "adopt" an animal at Metrozoo, either for yourself or as a gift? You can! So why not adopt your favorite Metrozoo animal.

Adopt-An-Animal sponsorships make wonderful gifts for holidays and special occasions, and you or your gift/memorial recipient will receive a special benefit package.

With categories ranging from \$25 to \$2,500, the list of animals you can adopt is extensive and the benefits are abundant. When you adopt an animal, you become a friend to the entire species, not just one individual animal. Adopting an animal helps support the care and feeding of Zoo animals. For information call 305-255-5551.

## Up Against The Wall!

The last chance to purchase your brick or tile on the *Walls of the Wild*, sponsored by **Capital Bank**, is drawing near. Imagine seeing your name permanently etched in stone for all eternity. Not only will it be a lasting tribute to you, it will be a monument to your support of Metrozoo. We'll personalize a terra-cotta Zoo

Brick or a beautiful hand-sculpted Animal Tile (tiger, gorilla, elephant or panther) and install it on the *Walls of the Wild*.

Personalized Zoo Bricks and Animal Tiles can feature individual or family names, even honor family pets. They are great for holiday gifts or milestones like birthdays, weddings,

anniversaries, promotions, graduations, births and memorials. Your gift of \$50 per 8" x 4" brick or \$250 per 8" x 8" tile is a unique way to show you care. Once installation is complete, you will receive a card with the location of your Zoo Brick or Animal Tile. For information call 305-255-5551.

## We're Just Wild About The Zoo

What is the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF)? ZSF is an integral part of the Miami Metrozoo system, not only as a fundraising organization, but as a provider of other essential Zoo functions. ZSF was founded in 1956, when the Zoo was located in Crandon Park, Key Biscayne. Starting in the early 1970s, Zoo members spearheaded the campaign for a bigger, better Zoo through the Dade County "Decade of Progress" bond issue. Voters approved the bond and Miami Metrozoo opened its gates to the public at its current location.

Today, ZSF is one of the largest membership organizations in South Florida with approximately 15,000 household members. Its Board of

Directors includes community leaders in Dade and Broward counties who are committed to the education, conservation, and recreation goals of Metrozoo. While Dade County operates and maintains the Zoo, ZSF — backed by its strong membership — supports Metrozoo's programs and enhancements.

ZSF activities and programs include volunteer services and education programs designed to provide our multi-ethnic community with a greater appreciation of our environment and its wildlife. Construction and renovation of Metrozoo exhibits are supported by ZSF fundraising efforts. ZSF funds conferences, symposia and seminars for the Zoo's curatorial staff to enhance

their animal management techniques and to broaden their involvement in animal conservation. ZSF staff manage and maintain the Children's Zoo and the gift shops.

ZSF is committed to Metrozoo as a vital community resource whose purpose goes beyond that of a popular attraction. Metrozoo is about life. With a nationally renowned captive-breeding program, the Zoo is a sanctuary for endangered, rare, and threatened animals. It is an educational and recreational center, a place to learn the importance of preserving the wonderful creatures who share our planet.

For more information on the Zoological Society of Florida and becoming a member, call 305-255-5551.

## The Zoological Society of Florida

### Executive Committee

#### President

William J. Gallwey, III

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Sue M. Cobb

#### Secretary

Peter W. Roulhac

#### Treasurer

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#### Executive Director

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Gonzalo Ruiz

Patricia San Pedro

Eugenio Sanson

Andrew Weinstein



# It's Only Natural To Volunteer For A Great Cause

Zoo volunteers are an essential part of Metrozoo's growth and its work to provide a safe haven for endangered or threatened species. Volunteers are involved in two broad areas on an on-going basis: education and operations. All volunteer candidates must attend Get-Acquainted and Orientation classes offered at various times throughout the year. These classes provide potential volunteers with a close-up look at the history and operation of the Zoological Society of Florida and Metrozoo, provide in-depth discussion of existing volunteer

opportunities, and give a general orientation into the Zoological Society Volunteer Services Program.

Volunteers who work in the education arena have a variety of opportunities. Some provide animal close-ups for visitors. Animal Resource Center (ARC) Specialists clean, feed, exercise and care for the animals used by other volunteers for educational programs. Volunteers staff the Visitors Information Booth. The Speakers Bureau provides speakers for the community at large, giving business, civic and social groups a look at

the Zoo, its animals, and the Zoological Society of Florida. Tour Guides and Station Interpreters help educate the visiting public about the Zoo's animals. Outreach volunteers visit schools and others facilities to present educational programs using live animals and animal biofacts. Volunteers also assist in the Children's Zoo petting yard.

Behind-the-scenes opportunities are also numerous. For example, there is a need for volunteers with clerical, administrative and computer skills. Volunteers work in the gift shops,

operating cash registers and assisting customers, and they also are crucial for special events such as MetroBoo! and fund-raising activities such as *Feast With The Beasts*.

Whether you are employed and have only a few hours to spare, or retired and looking for some interesting challenges, volunteering at the Zoo is a great way to give back to our community and to show your concern for the environment. For specific training information, along with dates and times, please contact the Volunteer Services Office at 305-255-5551.



"I've been a volunteer here at the Zoo for 13 years. I think the Zoo is such an important part of our community — it gives us much to be proud of."  
- K.T. Taylor



"I enjoy working with animals, people and children and the Zoo provides opportunities for all three. It's a great place to learn."  
- Barbara Crutchfield



"The best part about volunteering is the nice people you work with. You also are doing something useful by feeding the animals and cleaning them...The Zoo is one of the nicest places you can work in Dade County and have fun at the same time."  
- Earl Warford



"I've been a volunteer at the Zoo since 1989...I've always been interested in animals, particularly the environment and the condition of the planet."  
- Dotty O'Brien



"It (volunteering) has been a good experience... and I hope it will make me a better teacher in the future."  
- Trenton Troike

Photos: Ricardo Stanoss

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## October

**FOURTH ANNUAL METROBOO!**

The Fourth Annual MetroBoo! is here once again to delight the young visitors 12 and under. MetroBoo!ers will have a fun day of costume contests with fabulous prizes. There will also be safe trick-or-treating throughout the Zoo. Don't miss South Florida's wildest Halloween party! Remember: MetroBoo! is FREE for Zoo Members! For information call 305-251-0401.

Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 26 & 27  
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

# TOUCAN TALK



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

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Miami, Florida

# BECOME A FRIEND Today!

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA

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Your membership with the Zoological Society of Florida helps us provide on-going education programs, outreach programs, volunteer services, Children's Zoo management and other essential Zoo functions. When you become a member, you'll receive a full year's worth of benefits, such as free admission to Metrozoo and over 150 other Zoos in the U.S. and Canada, discounts on special educational programs, a free subscription to *Toucan Talk*, our bimonthly newsletter, and money-saving discounts to other South Florida attractions. A membership with the Zoological Society of Florida is an investment in family fun — and in an important recreational and educational resource for our community.

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

**Family \$45** Select EITHER two adults living at the same address OR one adult and one guest plus the member's children (or grandchildren) 18 years and younger. Guest must be accompanied by member.

**Family Plus \$55** Three\* designated adults living at the same address plus the member's children (or grandchildren) 18 years and younger.

\*Additional adults can be added to this membership for \$10 each.

**Individual \$29** Person named on membership card.

**Senior Individual \$24** Person named on membership card. This reduced membership price is for adults age 62 and over. You must submit a copy of proof of age.

**Dual \$40** Select EITHER two persons living at the same address OR one adult and one guest each visit. Guest must be accompanied by the member.

**Senior Dual \$35** Two persons (age 62 and over) living at the same address OR one adult and one senior guest each visit. Guest must be accompanied by member.

**Supporting \$75** Same as Individual, Dual or Family. Bonus: One-year subscription to *Wildlife Conservation* magazine.

**Contributing \$125** Same as Supporting. Bonus: Two free one-day guest passes plus invitations to special VIP events.

**Sustaining \$250** Same as Contributing. Bonus: Four free one-day guest passes plus one special "Behind-the-Scenes" tour of Metrozoo (maximum five people) and invitation to special VIP events..

For more information about Patron Memberships and Corporate Gifts, please contact the Zoological Society of Florida Development Office at 305-255-5551.

## Application

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$45            | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Plus \$55<br>(plus \$10 per add'l adult) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$29        | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$75                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Individual \$24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$125                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dual \$40              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$250                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Dual \$35       |  |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second Adult (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  or guest  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Children 18 years and younger or Family Plus Adults (if applicable):

Name: _____	Date of Birth: / / _____
Name: _____	Date of Birth: / / _____
Name: _____	Date of Birth: / / _____
Name: _____	Date of Birth: / / _____

YES, I would like the option of including a subscription to *Wildlife Conservation* magazine @ \$15.

Cost of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Magazine Subscription (optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## Method of Payment

- Check enclosed (Please make checks payable to the Zoological Society of Florida. Do NOT send cash.)
- American Express     MasterCard     Visa

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder Signature (not valid without signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Print Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit cardholders may join by phone: 305-255-5551.

For information on gift memberships, contact the Zoological Society of Florida at 305-255-5551.

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

Present valid photo ID showing current address to enter Zoo. Membership cards cannot be used on school field trips or group bookings.

Enclose Check Here



**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 17677 MIAMI, FL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Zoological Society of Florida  
12400 SW 152 Street  
Miami FL 33177-9986

NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

