

# TOUCAN TALK

A TRIP TO THE ZOO THAT COMES TO YOU!

**SPECIAL INSERT**  
**ZOOFARI SUMMER**  
**CAMP 1997**

THE NEW KIDS ON THE  
"ZOO BLOCK"

PAGE 2

**WONDERS OF**  
**NATURE**

HELPING THE SURVIVAL  
OF THE SPECIES

PAGE 5

**FEAST WITH THE BEASTS**  
**A PERFECT 10**

BACK COVER



Cover Photo: African crested porcupine  
by Ron Magill

Editor

Mayra González-Rey

Graphic Designer

Maribel Moure-Medina  
Moure Graphic Design, Inc.

Photos

Dolora Batchelor  
Rob Cardillo  
Ron Magill  
Ricardo Stanoss

Contributors

Steve Conners  
Nancy Hotchkiss  
Damien Kong  
Howard Lipman  
Ron Magill  
Chris Miller  
Maria Roberts  
Lili Short  
José Sotolongo  
Eric Stephens

Printed on ♻️ recycled paper with vegetable-based inks. Please recycle this publication when you are finished with it.

Copyright © 1997 Zoological Society of Florida. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced by any means without permission of the publisher.

Toucan Talk  
Volume 23, Number 2  
March/April, 1997

Published six times each year as a benefit to the members and supporters of Metrozoo.

Zoological Society of Florida  
Glenn Ekey, Executive Director  
William Gallwey, III, President

Metrozoo  
Al Fontana, Director

12400 SW 152nd Street  
Miami, FL 33177-1499  
Phone: (305) 255-5551  
Fax: (305) 255-7126

Zoo Visitor Information  
305-251-0401

# NEW AT THE ZOO

## RHEAS

**R**heas are known as the South American ostriches because of their resemblance to their African ostrich cousins. In the past, large flocks of rheas roamed the Brazilian and Argentinian "pampas" (extensive generally grass-covered plain east of Los Andes), but their numbers have declined due to the advance of agriculture. The male is responsible for incubating the eggs.

Height: 4–5 ft.  
Weight: Up to 50 lb.  
Range: Foothills of Los Andes from Brazil south to the Straits of Magellan.  
Diet: Mostly vegetables, but occasionally insects and small animals.  
Incubation Period: 6 weeks.



Photos: Ron Magill

## GUANACOS

**G**uanacos are related to camels and vicuñas. The number of guanacos in the wild has diminished due to hunting and loss of habitat to agriculture. Most guanacos live in social groups led by a dominant male. The domestic llama and alpaca were developed from wild guanaco ancestors.

Height: 5–6 ft.  
Length: 7–8 ft. (not including tail).  
Weight: 175–265 lb.  
Range: Mainly found in the foothills of Los Andes, but can live in habitats as varied as grasslands, savannas, and shrublands ranging in elevation from sea level to 13,900 ft.  
Diet: Wide variety of plant matter.  
Gestation Period: 10–11 months.



*Continued on p. 3*

Continued from p. 2

## AFRICAN CRESTED PORCUPINES

**T**he back, sides and tail of the African crested porcupine are almost entirely covered with long quills. The head and nape, however, are covered with long bristle-like hairs they can raise into a crest (and no, they can't shoot quills at you!). These porcupines have hollow quills in their tail which can be shaken to produce a hisslike rattle to scare away predators.

Length: 2–3 ft.

Weight: 30–60 lb.

Range: North and northwest Africa, southern Italy and Sicily. Porcupines are very adaptable and are found in habitats as varied as forests, plantations, mountain steppes and even deserts.

Diet: Roots, tubers, bulbs, fruits and occasionally insects and small vertebrates.

Gestation: 112 days.



Photo: Ron Magill

## K E E P E R P R O F I L E S

# ANDRÉS MEJIDES

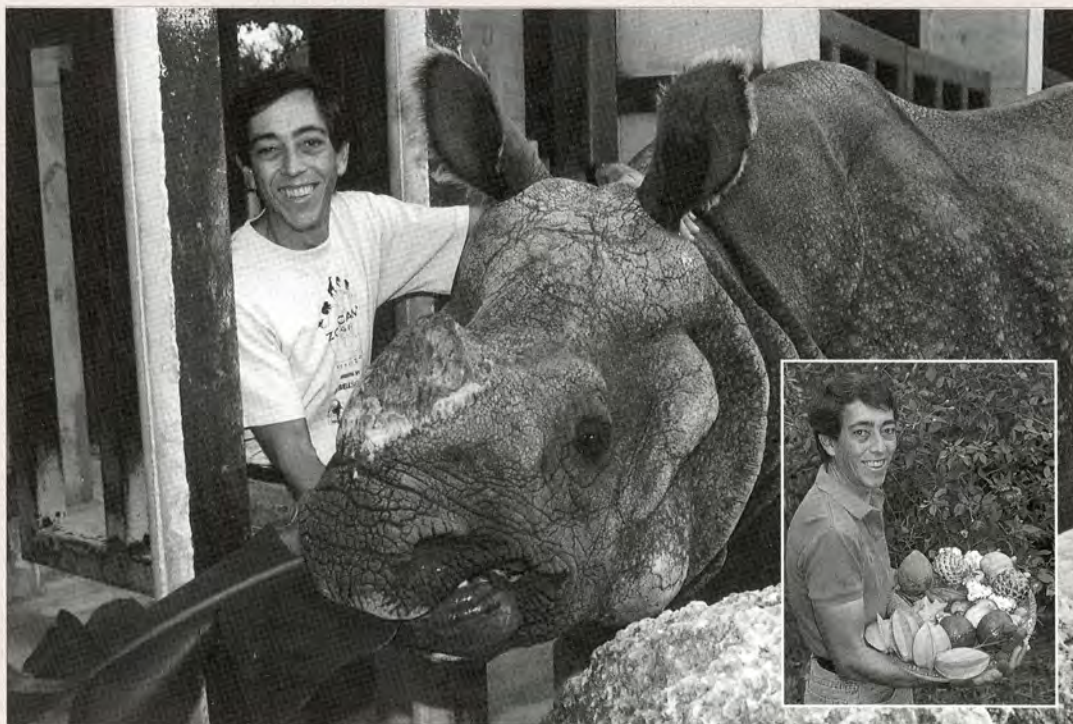
## ZOOKEEPER, TEACHER, FARMER

**I**t can be said that Andrés Mejides is an animal lover. He has been a zookeeper at Metrozoo since 1985 and started in the Aviary where he worked until it was destroyed by Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Andrés was part of a team which won nine First Captive Breeding awards in the years the Aviary was open.

But Andrés also is a plant lover, and working in the Aviary gave him a chance to indulge in this other area of expertise. The Aviary keepers were responsible for plant maintenance including pruning, fertilizing and transplanting. This had to be done carefully, keeping the welfare of the birds in mind, always enhancing their environment while preserving the stability necessary for them to raise their young.

After Andrew, the Aviary keepers were transferred to the Mammal Department. Andrés now cares for the Indian rhinos, the banteng herd, bactrian and dromedary camels, sloth bears, and Indian gaur. One of Andrés' favorite jokes (and he's quite a joker) is that "the hardest part was getting the rhinos perch-trained and to go into a nest box!" Fortunately for Andrés, a pair of Asian white-backed vultures were recently added to the Bactrian Camel Exhibit, giving him the chance to work with birds again.

As part of his other interests, Andrés put together a small raised-bed garden in the back of the Indian rhino area to grow treats for his "big buddies." He grows bananas, tarragon, dandelion, basil, tomatoes, and other plants. Andrés



always has grown strictly organically, that is, with no chemical fertilizers or pesticides (he started his first organic garden in South Florida in 1956!). Weekly upkeep of this small garden takes less than 10 minutes since he doesn't kill off the natural enemies of bugs and diseases.

Andrés is quick to point out that the treats he cultivates don't even make a dent in the rhino's food intake. One Indian rhino eats about a bale and a half of hay daily, plus grain, produce and browse, "but it's nice to be able to give them something they like so much and wouldn't get otherwise," he comments.

Because of his commitment to South Florida's ecology, Andrés taught organic gardening and farming at Miami-Dade Community College for ten years and currently teaches at Fairchild Tropical

Garden. He also lectures to plant clubs such as the Horticulture Study Society, the Tropical Rose Society, Coral Gables Farmer's Market and area schools.

Andrés has been rewarded for sticking to his "organic guns": Many people who told him he couldn't grow organically in South Florida now are adopting some sustainable (sustainable refers to using reduced chemical pesticides) agricultural methods. "This is the first step in the right direction. Pesticides are used in Florida more than in any other state (and it's not just the farmers) and we have one of the highest water tables—a very serious combination for our water quality," says Andrés.

*Organic Gardening*, the magazine published by Rodale Press, first coined the phrase which became its name over fifty

years ago. Whenever they needed somebody in our unique area to grow and evaluate new plant varieties they asked Andrés to help them out. At present he is growing almost two dozen varieties of tomatoes alone, as well as lettuces, oriental vegetables, broccoli, carrots, onions, strawberries and others on his farm in the Redlands—all grown 100% organically in a way harmless to the environment. "Some conventional organic methods should not be used here," states Andrés. "You really have to know South Florida's birds, fish, water table and other factors in order to farm responsibly."

Besides the veggies and ornamentals which he grows for the Rodale Institute, Andrés cultivates lots of tropical fruit (and proudly asserts: "If you haven't tried our organically grown carambolas, you've never tasted one!")

One of the biggest satisfactions for Andrés has been the increase of native animal life on the farm since he and his wife Cynthia bought it and converted it from merely sustainable to organic. "Sitting in the living room, I look out the front door and see cardinals, bluejays, hummingbirds...and then, around the back, I see red rat snakes and black racers. All around there are insects and spiders controlling pest populations like they're supposed to. In other places, native populations are falling or even plummeting, but here they're thriving," he adds proudly.

Keep up the good work, Andrés!

Photos: Rob Cardillo ORGANIC GARDEN Magazine

**ZOO BABIES**

For adults with children 3-5  
Each adult must be accompanied by a child

**M**etrozoo's family is growing fast, so come meet our baby-boomers! Children and parents will embark on a "safari" to discover zoo babies and learn about their family lives. *Instructor: Ricardo Stanoss*



Photo: Mayra González

**Date:** Saturday, April 12  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** Members: \$10 per adult with one child, additional child \$4  
Non-Members: \$15 per adult with one child, additional child \$6

**BIG CATS IN THE CITY**

For adults and families with children ages 6 and up.

**Y**ou'll be seeing spots and stripes when you venture through the Zoo visiting tigers, lions, clouded leopards and servals. Meet cat keepers as they share their experiences working with felines. Learn



Photo: Ron Magill

what these cats like to eat, watch them chew a treat when we visit them during this tour. *Instructors: Ricardo Stanoss and keepers.*

**Date:** Saturday, May 10  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** Members: \$10 per adult with one child, additional child \$4  
Non-Members: \$15 per adult with one child, additional child \$6

**CONSERVATION POLICE**

For adults and families with children ages 10 and over

**W**hy are more and more criminals turning to wildlife crime in Florida? Are "reptile swaps" a good way to acquire exotic pets? Join us for a look at wildlife protection in Miami, and the important role of the Conservation Police in protecting native and exotic wildlife, especially endangered and threatened species. Find out about exciting case studies and undercover techniques used to

investigate wildlife criminals. Your family will even get a chance to solve a crime by piecing together the clues. *Instructors: Ricardo Stanoss and a special mystery agent.*

**Date:** Saturday, April 26  
**Time:** 9:30 - 11:30 am  
**Cost:** Members \$10  
Non-Members \$15  
Child Member \$6  
Non-Member \$8

**SPRING BREAK CAMP**

Ages 4-10

**S**chool's out and spring is in the air! Our Spring Break Camp is an adventure in Africa. Campers receive a special Zoo passport to document their travels and animal adventures. Bring your lunch, we'll supply the snacks.

**Date:** Monday, March 31 - Friday, April 4  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Session **BREAK-A:** Ages 4-6  
Session **BREAK-B:** Ages 7-10  
**Cost:** Member \$125,  
Non-Member \$140

**REPTILEMANIA!!**

**Mini Camp For A Day Off From School**

Ages 7-10

**W**hat 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. Bring your lunch, we'll supply the snacks.

**Date:** CAMP-A: Friday, May 2  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** Members \$25,  
Non-Members \$30

**LATE NIGHT AT THE ZOO**

**SPECIAL OFFERING FOR THE ADVENTUROUS!!**

Groups of 15 or more are invited to participate in this new program. *Members only: Adult/child pair (6 years old and over)*

**B**e our guest for the wildest night tour in town!

The Zoo is totally different at night, so you'll need to use all your senses to take in this magical experience. And you'll even have the chance to meet some of our furry friends up close!

Your "base camp" will be our air-conditioned classrooms for a brief orientation and pizza party, then it's off on a flashlight safari!!

**Dates:** Monday through Thursday (Week of March 31 thru April 3)  
*Other dates are available in April and May, 2-weeks advance reservations are required for groups of 15 or more. Gather your herds to experience ours! Call the Education Department for more details.*

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm  
**Cost:** \$20 Members,  
Non-Members \$25 per Person

**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: \$

All program registrations subject to a \$10 cancellation fee.

# ZOOFARI CAMP 1997

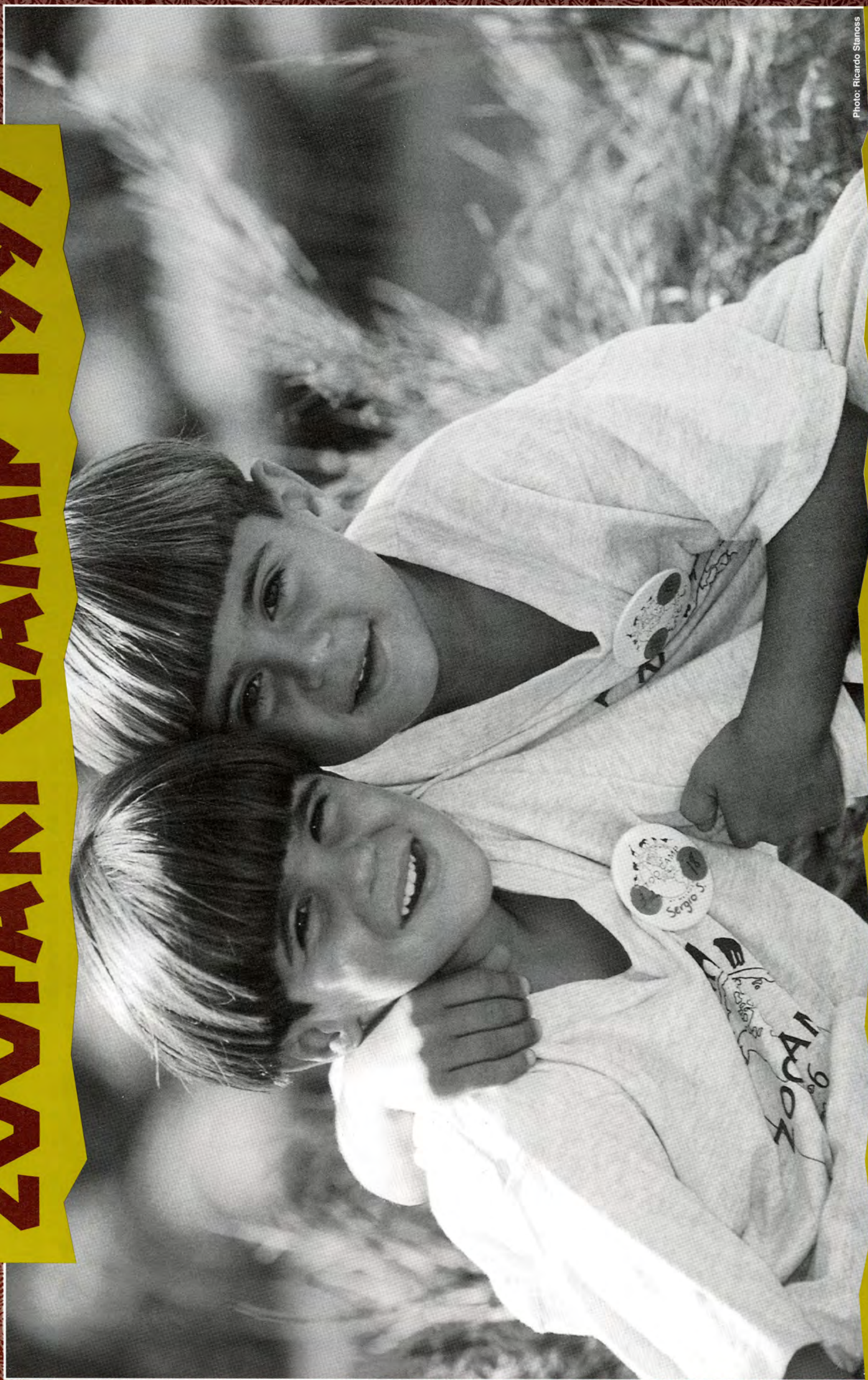


Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA ♦ SUMMER 1997

### **FEEDING STRATEGIES** (Camp A – all age groups)

In the natural world, it's eat or be eaten—the constant struggle for survival. Animals have developed many ways to capture their food, while trying not to end up as someone else's meal. In this program we will investigate the world of predators and prey. From the claws or projectile tongues of predators to the spines or armor of prey animals, nature has produced an arsenal of tools to catch meals or to avoid being eaten.

**\*\* Note:** Content and activities in each Session A: "Feeding Strategies" are tailored to the specific age levels.

### **LIFE AT THE ZOO** (Camp B – all age groups)

To many people, a zoo is just a place to keep animals. A modern zoo is much more: It is an ark for endangered species, an innovative learning center and a place to acquire new knowledge about animals. But most of all, it's a lot of fun. Come and learn more about the day-to-day running of the modern zoo. Go behind the scenes and meet the people that make the Metrozoo function.

**\*\* Note:** Content and activities in each Session B: "Life at the Zoo" are tailored to the specific age levels.

### **KINDERCAMP SESSION A**

Ages 4 – 6

**Dates:**

June 23 – 27 (a.m.)    June 30 – July 3\* (p.m.)  
July 14 – 18 (a.m.)    July 7 – 11 (p.m.)  
July 21 – 25 (a.m.)    July 28 – August 1 (p.m.)  
August 11 – 15 (a.m.)    August 18 – August 22 (p.m.)

### **KINDERCAMP SESSION B**

Ages 4 – 6

**Dates:**

June 23 – 27 (p.m.)    June 30 – July 3\* (a.m.)  
July 14 – 18 (p.m.)    July 7 – 11 (a.m.)  
July 21 – 25 (p.m.)    July 28 – August 1 (a.m.)  
August 11 – 15 (p.m.)    August 18 – August 22 (a.m.)

### **ZOOLIFE SESSION A**

Ages 11 – 13

**Date:**

June 16 – 20

### **ZOOLIFE SESSION B**

**Date:**

August 4 – 8

**Time for Sessions A and B:**

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Cost for Sessions A and B:**

Members \$125 per week

Non-Members \$145 per week



Photos: Ricardo Stanoss



### Times for Sessions A and B:

a.m. session: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
p.m. session: 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Costs for Sessions A and B:

Cost per session per week: Members \$80  
Non-Members \$95

For a full day of Kindercamp, register for both A & B:

Members \$144 with discount, Non-Members \$171 with discount

*(Fee includes a supervised lunch period between camps)*

## ZOOFARI SESSION A

Ages 7 – 10

### Dates:

June 23 – 27  
July 14 – 18  
July 21 – 25  
August 11 – 15  
August 18 – 22

## ZOOFARI SESSION B

### Dates:

June 30 – July 3\*  
July 7 – 11  
July 28 – August 1  
August 4 – 8

### Time for Sessions A and B:

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Cost for Sessions A and B:

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

## TEEN ZOOLOGIST

Ages 14 – 17

Become a member of our Teen Zoologists Team! Interested teens train for a summer of volunteer work while learning the "ins and outs" of zoos. Teen Zoologists 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 our Zoo Volunteer Team. Teens must apply after the week of training and will be interviewed and evaluated before they can join our Zoo Volunteer Team. Each volunteer is required to assist with one week of Zoofari Camp as well as work a total of 40 hours during the summer session.

### Date:

June 16 – 20

### Time:

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Cost:

Members \$125 per week

Non-Members \$145 per week

\*

20% discount on the 4-day week in

June 30 – July 3

10% discount with 2 or more weeks registration

10% discount with 2 or more siblings

10% discount with full day for

Kindercamp

All Summer Zoofari Camp programs are subject to a \$30 cancellation fee

Early morning drop-off 8:30 a.m. (earliest)  
additional \$10 per week

After camp care 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. (latest)  
additional \$25 per week



Photos: Ricardo Stanoss



# REGISTRATION FORM

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Payment enclosed: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ AMEX \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_ Camp Fee(s) Total \_\_\_\_\_

## CAMPER INFORMATION

Name of Camper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp Program \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp Session(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Camp Session(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## CAMPER'S MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

Physician Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dentist Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

In an emergency, if the parent, guardian or designated physician/dentist cannot be reached, I authorize the Zoological Society of Florida to transport and/or obtain medical services from any physician for my child.

**Signature of Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate any medical conditions or health problems which the Camp staff should be aware of. Please describe: (if you require further space, please use a separate sheet of paper):

Allergies \_\_\_\_\_ Physically challenged \_\_\_\_\_

Prescribed Medications \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

(Your signature below gives permission to Camp staff to dispense only prescribed medications you send with your child. Please provide the prescribed container and paraphernalia necessary for taking medications, and provide explicit instructions on a separate sheet of paper.)

## NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL PICK UP THE CAMPER

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle information: Make \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_ Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

*I give permission for my child to participate in the Zoological Society of Florida's Summer Camp program. I have read the registration and medical forms and have supplied accurate information. My child can be photographed and his/her picture used for public relations purposes.*

**Signature of Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Zoological Society of Florida/Education Department • 12400 S.W. 152nd Street, Miami, FL 33177-1499

*Registration cannot be processed unless this form is thoroughly completed.*



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



# HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

By Ron Magill

**W**hen it comes to breeding in the animal kingdom, the primary goal is to produce offspring and insure survival of the species. To help in this endeavor, nature has given some animals unique abilities which make it easier to accomplish this goal.

One of the most amazing is the ability for some animals to store sperm. Females of several species of turtles, lizards, and snakes can store sperm in their reproductive tracts for remarkably long periods of time after which successful fertilization can still be accomplished. This is known as delayed fertilization, and serves several purposes. First, it eliminates the need for a male and female to court and breed prior to the production of each viable clutch of offspring. The common box turtle, for example, can store viable sperm for up to four years, and therefore can produce offspring from the initial breeding for four consecutive years.

Sperm storage also maintains a high level of reproduction in a population regardless of the sex ratio or how scattered individuals are. This is especially important for animals living under marginal environmental conditions. Another advantage of sperm storage is that it enables a female to accept a male's attempt to breed throughout the year, storing the sperm for when she is ready to cycle. The animal that is recorded to have one of the longest sperm storage capabilities is the cat-eyed snake, which has been documented to store viable sperm for up to six years!

Another fascinating feature found in some animals is what is technically called "embryonic diapause." In lay terms, this is a period when the development of the embryo in the female's reproductive tract is suspended in response to certain environmental conditions. This ability is best documented in kangaroos.

The red kangaroo (which is exhibited at Metrozoo) is considered an opportunistic breeder. In other words, both sexes remain fertile throughout the year and young are produced continuously as long as the environmental conditions will support them. Unlike most mammals, once the female kangaroo becomes pregnant, her estrous cycle is not affected and she will breed again during her next cycle as if she had not conceived. Like most marsupials, red kangaroos have a very short gestation period (pregnancy) of only 33 days. The estrous cycle is 35 days and, therefore, a baby kangaroo or joey is born, migrates to the pouch, and two days later, the female can



Photo: Ron Magill

be bred and impregnated again. If the joey from the first breeding has successfully made it into the pouch, its suckling response will cause the diapause of the embryo resulting from the second mating and it will develop only to an early stage. The suckling of the joey also terminates the cycling of the female. When the joey in the pouch is approximately 200 days old, the embryo from the second mating resumes development. If the joey in the pouch dies or is removed prior to the 200 days, the second embryo development resumes at that time. Once the joey from the second mating is born, the mother will again be bred and conceive approximately 33 days later—and the process starts all over again. To put it simply, the red kangaroo is a finely tuned reproductive machine.

If environmental conditions are favorable, an adult female red kangaroo has the potential of having one joey inside her pouch, one outside her pouch, and one in her reproductive tract during every day of her reproductive life! But if environmental conditions are not favorable, as in the case of severe droughts in Australia, the females stop cycling and breeding ceases.

**ZSF RECEIVES GRANT**

**R**ep. Barreiro, chair of the legislative committee on tourism and cultural affairs, presented a check for \$18,473 of grant funds from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, part of a \$36,947 grant providing general support for the Zoological Society's educational programs at Metrozoo.

Pictured at the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF): (left to right) José Sotolongo, associate director of development for membership and promotions; Glenn Ekey, ZSF executive director; State Representative Bruno Barreiro; Nancy Hotchkiss, director of education.

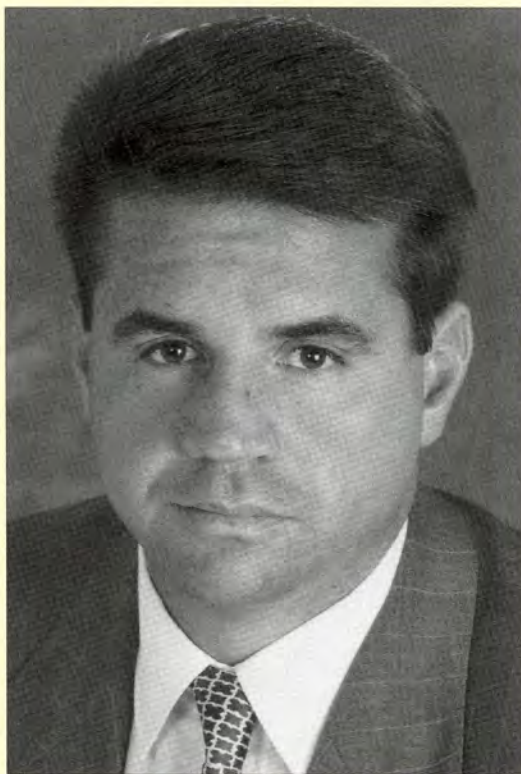


Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

**JORGE L. ARRIZURIETA**

**J**orge L. Arrizurieta, Director of Public Affairs for Huizenga Holdings, Inc., recently joined the Zoological Society of Florida's Board of Directors. "I was very flattered when I was invited to join ZSF's Board," said Arrizurieta. "Metrozoo and the Zoological Society are important community landmarks on their way to reaching their full growth and potential, and we believe that partnerships between the corporate world and ZSF are crucial. We are glad to be one of these partners." Arrizurieta's responsibilities with Huizenga Holdings, Inc. include the management of political, governmental, and community relations for the various Huizenga entities.

His community involvement is wide ranging. He currently is a member of the Board



of Directors of several organizations including "Just Say No To Drugs International," Make-A-Wish Foundation of South Florida, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce as well as the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce. Arrizurieta also is on the Board of Trustees of Florida TaxWatch, the United Way and La Liga Contra el Cáncer.

Arrizurieta also serves on the Board of Directors of the Salvation Army of Dade County and Kids Voting. Last year, he was selected as a "Personal Hero" Torchbearer for Dade County to carry the Olympic Torch as it made its run through South Florida. Arrizurieta is a graduate of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Miami and of the Florida Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Florida. We welcome Jorge as a new member of our Board of Directors.

**WELCOME!**

**N**ext time you come by the Zoological Society's offices you will find a few new faces: (Front row, from left to right) Judy Mitchell (development department assistant), María Pérez (Feast With The Beasts coordinator), Patty Menéndez (accounting clerk). (Back row, from left to right) José Sotolongo (associate director of development for membership and promotions), Connie Owens (special programs assistant), Harriett Koffman (assistant controller), Jamie Lassonde (data entry coordinator), Michael Prosser (associate director of development for corporate and individuals) and Lili Short (associate director of development for special events). Not pictured here, María Roberts (associate director of development for grants and communications).

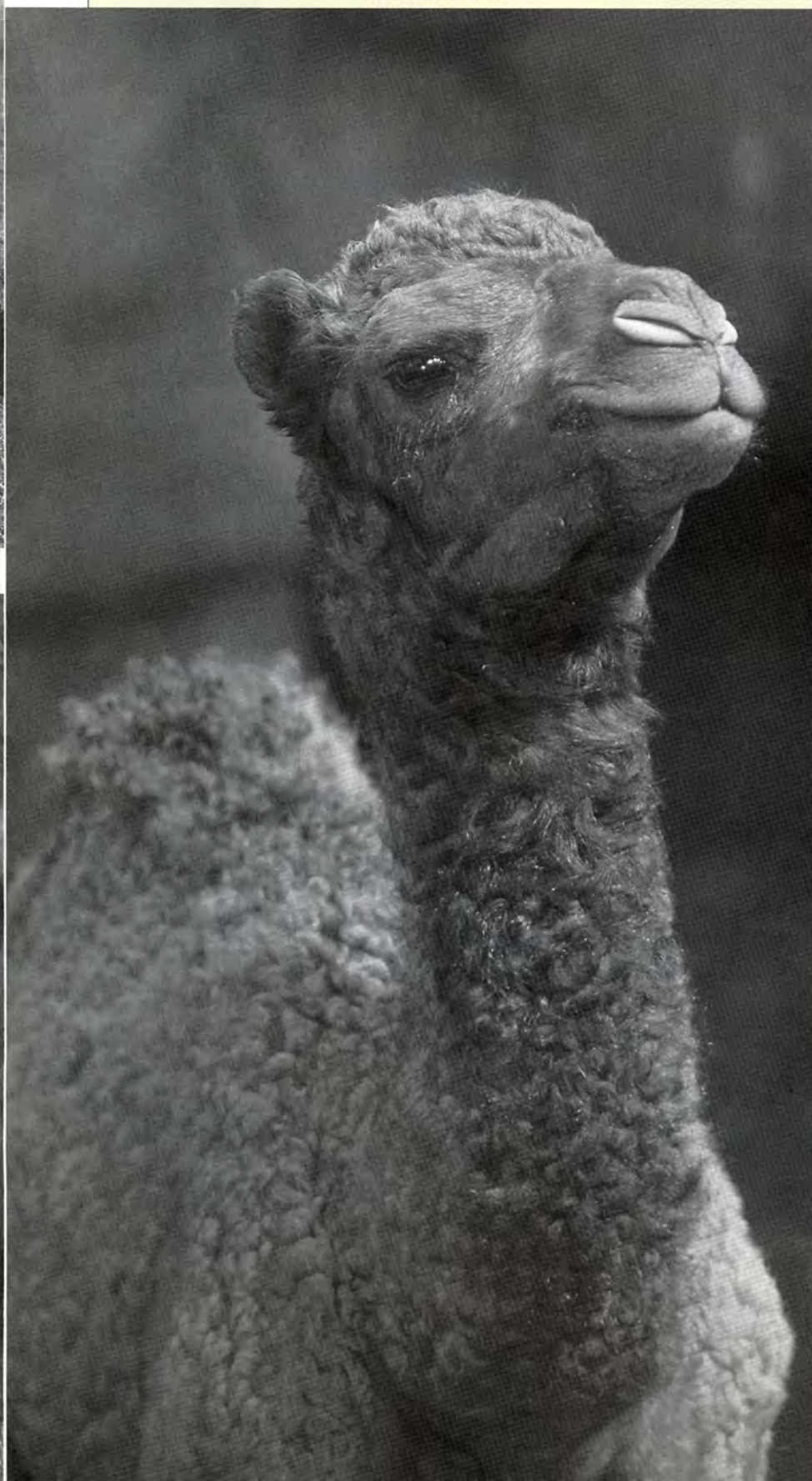


PERSONALS

**NEWLY ARRIVED DESERT NATIVE  
LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE. TALL  
WITH BIG BROWN EYES. FAMILY MEMBERS  
INVOLVED IN RACING OR MOVING PEOPLE  
AROUND. PREFER TO SPEND  
A RELAXING DAY AT METROZOO  
WATCHING VISITORS.**

Call the Zoological Society of Florida to Adopt an Animal at  
305-255-5551.

Photo: Dolora Batchelor



**C**larke Chamberlain is Metrozoo's new Africa Zoological Supervisor. He grew up in Texas and Illinois, and served in the Navy from 1974 until 1979. After getting out of the Navy, Clarke attended Midwest Horseshoing School at Macomb, Illinois. He worked as a horseshoer for a year, and later got involved in the standardbred racing industry as a groom, eventually earning a license as a trainer.

Clarke worked at the Houston Zoo for 4 1/2 years, first with elephants, hoofstock and sea lions, and later within the Feline/Carnivore Department. In February of 1995, he accepted a position at Lion Country Safari in West Palm Beach. There, as the curator of the preserve, Clarke was in charge of about 1,000 animals including zebras, rhinos and giraffes. He joined Metrozoo staff in August of 1996.

We wish him the best at his new Metrozoo home!



Photo: Dolora Batchelor

**MORE INCOME, MORE TAX DEDUCTIONS**

By Steven D. Brooks  
Vice President - Trust Division SunTrust Bank

**D**uring the past 20 years, the Stock Market has achieved a tremendous growth. Many people now in their sixties have benefitted from this growth and currently own a portfolio worth much more than they ever expected. Being able to reap the benefit of this appreciation and receive its value in the form of current income is not always simple.

The dividends, or actual income derived from the stock, may only be two percent. If you convert the stock to an investment that yields a higher rate of return you will have to pay substantial tax on the capital gain—as much as 28 percent. You have a wonderful portfolio and a valuable asset, but all of its wealth is locked up by taxes.

A deferred gift to the Zoological Society of Florida may be the solution. It can provide you the opportunity to increase your current cash flow and, at the same time, allow you to establish a major and lasting support to the Zoological Society. Let's look at an example.

Mr. and Mrs. Retiree are 65 and 63 years old respectively. In 1980, they purchased stock in ABC Corporation for \$75,000. Today that stock is worth \$300,000. Mr. and Mrs. Retiree receive \$6,000 per year in dividends, and would like to increase their annual income. If they sold the stock to create additional income they would have to

pay over \$60,000 in tax on the capital gain.

If instead they set up a Charitable Remainder Trust and let the Trust convert the stock to income-producing securities, they could obtain an income of 7 percent of the asset value, or \$21,000, an increase of \$15,000 per year for the rest of their lives. At the same time, they would assure a generous gift to the Zoological Society of Florida after their deaths. As a bonus, they would receive a current income tax deduction of over \$73,000.

In this example, Mr. and Mrs. Retiree will receive over \$700,000 in income over their lifetimes, and still will leave a bequest to the Zoological Society of almost \$500,000.

If you want your assets to provide greater annual income, to avoid capital gain taxes, and to add tax deductions to your current income, and you feel that the Zoological Society of Florida deserves your support, a Charitable Remainder Trust may provide a solution for your situation.

Best of all, these plans are not risky "tax dodges," but established mainstream tax planning strategies.

For further information concerning this or other types of charitable giving vehicles, please contact either Steven D. Brooks of SunTrust Bank at 305-442-3246, or Howard Lipman of the Zoological Society of Florida at 305-255-5551.

# ARE YOU HUNGRY?

**T**he Tenth Anniversary Feast With The Beasts is happening Friday, March 14, 1997! Bring a few of your friends and "graze" on goodies provided by 40 of South Florida's finest restaurants...all to benefit the Children's Zoo. Tickets are still available, call 305-255-5551 for more information!



## AND THE WINNER IS...



Photo: Ron Magill

**A**fter looking over 2,500 entries, the senior staff at Metrozoo chose the winner of the "Name the Gorilla Contest." Julie Sunshine, a 10-year old student at Coral Park Elementary School in Coral Springs, submitted the name "Moka." She felt the name was special because it sounded like the color of the baby, and the "M" was for Miami and the 'oka' for Oklahoma." This was meant to recognize the baby's father, J.J., who is from Miami, and the mother, Frederika, who is from Oklahoma City. Julie will receive a 3-day/2-night weekend package in Orlando with admissions to Universal Studios and Sea World of Florida for up to 4 people. Congratulations Julie!

# TOUCAN TALK



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

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 4358  
Miami, Florida

