

TOUCAN TALK

A TRIP TO THE ZOO THAT COMES TO YOU!

**HOW TO SEE THE
ZOO IN THE SUMMER**

PAGE 4

IT IS NOT TOO LATE ...
**REGISTER FOR SUMMER
CAMP AT METROZOO**

PAGE 8

**THE COMEBACK
CROCODILES!**

PAGE 2



Come visit the Siamese crocodile on exhibit at Miami Metrozoo and see the article about its close relative the American crocodile. Cover photo by Ron Magill

Editor

Caroline Côté

Graphic Designer

Maribel Moure-Medina

Moure Graphic Design, Inc.

Photos

Ron Magill

Ricardo Stanoss

Contributors

Steve Conners

Mayra González Rey

Damien Kong

Carol Lang


Ron Magill

Connie Owens

Maria Roberts

Ricardo Stanoss

Eric Stephens

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

Copyright © 1998 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 25, Number 4
July/August, 1998

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

Please be advised that any use of the Zoological Society of Florida's name or position, whether written or implied, is prohibited without the written consent of the Society's directors or officers. Should you desire endorsement of any type, please contact the office of the Zoological Society of Florida.

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

THE COMEBACK CROCODILES!



An American crocodile is re-captured from its brief home at Miami Metrozoo for release back into the wild. Photo by Ron Magill

By Steve Conners

Miami Metrozoo's General Curator

There's no question that South Florida is a unique place in terms of its flora and fauna. One animal that can be found here and nowhere else in the U.S. is the American crocodile, *Crocodylus acutus*. It can be found in Central and South America and on some Caribbean islands, but our area is the northernmost extension of their range. Not too long ago, our crocs were close to being wiped out in Florida. Over the last 15 years or so their numbers have gradually increased, but they remain on the endangered species list. As has been the case with the recovery of the American alligator, increasing numbers of crocs can sometimes result in conflicts with humans. Miami Metrozoo has recently served as a "re-education center" for crocodiles who have "gone astray."

American crocs (not to be confused with the Zoo's Siamese crocodiles) normally live in areas of brackish or salt water. Remote stretches of mangrove forest, interspersed with open water, are a prime habitat for these aquatic reptiles. But back in February, I received a call from Tim Regan, Wildlife Biologist for the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission, informing me of a large croc that was hanging out at Black Point Marina. That in itself wasn't so bad. The problem was that it was basking on shore at a popular fishing spot showing no fear of people. "People are fishing right next to it!" Tim said. Since crocodiles tend to be more shy than alligators, the most likely reason for the boldness of this specimen was that people had been feeding it. Most people know that it is a lousy idea to feed wild crocodilians, but apparently some are not aware. When an alligator becomes a "nuisance," it is usually captured and destroyed, but American crocodiles, as an endangered species, require a different approach. Mr. Regan asked if we would be willing to house the Black Point crocodile at Miami Metrozoo temporarily if they captured it. Since we're always willing to assist local wildlife and wildlife authorities, and we have plenty of space in our off-exhibit crocodile pens, we agreed.

A week or so later, an eight-foot-four-inch crocodile arrived at our door. He was a fine specimen who, at 164 lbs., seemed to have been eating well. He was missing a couple of his vertical tail scales or scutes. Removing these scales or scutes is usually one way that crocodilians are marked by people for

future identification. It is a painless and permanent technique. As it turns out, this particular animal hatched at Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant and was scale clipped by Joe Wasilewski as a hatchling. Joe studies the population of crocodiles that inhabit the plant's cooling canals and has marked over a thousand animals. However, recaptures of those that have grown to adulthood are rare. So here was a croc with a history that would yield valuable data. A look at the records told us that it had hatched in July of 1993. For a wild crocodilian to grow from 8 inches at hatching to over 8 feet in 4 1/2 years struck me as truly remarkable. The fact is, we simply don't know enough about this species to be able to say whether it's remarkable or not.

Our "re-education" program consisted simply of taking care of him for about a month and a half. The theory is that by keeping him in a captive environment for awhile, he will lose his homing instinct (at least for where he was captured) and will stake out a new territory far from people upon release. He did very well at the Zoo, feeding regularly and maintaining a calm disposition. After a couple of dramatic vertical lunges from his pool the croc was captured, secured in a crate and released at a site far from his former haunts. If he ever associates with people again we'll be able to recognize him from the clipped scutes on his tail.

While preparing to release the first croc, Mr. Regan called to inform me of another crocodile in need of a temporary home. This one was inhabiting a pond on the golf course at Deering Bay, causing concern among employees. Within a week of releasing croc number 1, croc number 2 had arrived to occupy his pen. This one was a female a little over 7 ft. in length. She was far testier than her predecessor and showed no sign of having been scale-clipped. The contrast between the two animals' behavior is really rather interesting. The first was basically very calm around people and fed readily as a captive, whereas the second wanted nothing to do with people and fed little since her arrival. This bolsters the assumption of the Black Point animal having learned to associate humans with food, while the one from Deering Bay probably just picked out a bad location to call home. She will be marked and released in a new area sometime in the next few weeks.

What these experiences tell us is that American crocodiles seem to be slowly increasing their tiny range at the tip of Florida. Although the species has never been widespread in the state, it was historically found throughout the Keys and further north on both coasts. We can only hope that one day the story of America's only crocodile will be one of a successful recovery, just like its relative the alligator.

METROZOO'S CHEETAH GETS NEW NAME AND NEW FRIEND

By Ron Magill

Miami Metrozoo's Communications Director



Photos: Ron Magill

Miami Metrozoo's newest arrival, an 11-month old female cheetah from South Africa, has been given the name, "Savannah." The name was chosen from over 700 submitted during the Zoo's "Name the Cheetah" contest. The winning entry was submitted by seven-year old **Tyler Wildberger** from Lake Worth. He chose Savannah because he felt it would help educate people about her birth place...the savannah plains of Africa.

In addition to being officially named, Savannah was introduced to her new companion, "Ginger," a female yellow lab mixed breed dog acquired from the Humane Society of Miami. Thanks to many weeks of patient training by Zoo staff, the introduction was a success! Both animals were brought out on a leash to a neutral area and allowed to approach each other. After some initial apprehension, Savannah soon accepted Ginger's presence and within an hour the two were walking side by side on the Zoo's public walkway. For the next several days, the staff will continue the afternoon walks with both animals. This will hopefully allow them to develop a stronger bond prior to releasing them together in the same enclosure. At present, they are housed adjacent to each other and separated only by a chain link fence.

The ultimate goal is that Savannah and Ginger become a team that works together to educate the public on several issues. First, and foremost, Savannah will be an ambassador focusing on the plight of cheetahs and other endangered species around the world. We hope that her presence will inspire today's children to become advocates for the protection of cheetahs for generations to come. Secondly, Ginger will be an ambassador for the hundreds of thousands of unwanted pets waiting for a home in animal shelters around the country. Her presence will hopefully be an inspiration for people to consider seeking their next pet at the local pound, while reinforcing spaying and neutering of pets as a responsible practice. And last, but not least, it is hoped that Savannah, a wild cat, and Ginger, a domestic dog, become a unique example of how with a little effort and patience, even the most different and historically non-compatible individuals can get along.

METROZOO, THE SMITHSONIAN AND OUR FAVORITE DEER

By Ricardo Stanoss

D.V.M. Education Specialist



Penny, Metrozoo's Eld's deer, has become the focus of the Smithsonian's efforts to preserve endangered species. A star member of the Children's Zoo for nine years, Penny is one of the thousands of endangered species that share our beautiful planet with us. Endangered species means that the species is in imminent danger of extinction if conservation measures are not taken without delay. But we should note that extinction is not a new phenomenon.

Modern Zoos are working together to conserve endangered species. Through cooperative efforts, species otherwise doomed to extinction (such as the Eld's deer) are surviving, and may be returned to the wild someday. To assure physically and genetically healthy animals for future generations, the American Zoo and Aquarium Association has developed a conservation program called the Species Survival Plan (SSP). The SSP represents a serious attempt to save carefully selected species through captive breeding, habitat preservation and supportive research. The SSP assures that good genetic matches are made for breeding, resulting in healthy animals produced for at least the next 200 years. Today, almost all Zoo animals are born to parents already in Zoos and SSP helps to keep the highest genetic diversity among these animal populations.

The Eld's deer is primarily distributed in subtropical central Myanmar (formerly Burma) and fewer than 4,000 animals are believed to remain in the wild. The North American captive population consists of about 140 individuals distributed mainly among three herds (National Zoo, Wildlife Conservation Society/Bronx Zoo and San Diego Zoo).

Penny was born at Metrozoo on October 21, 1988 in a herd of four females and one male. The bloodline of this herd came from Leipzig, Germany and is therefore not related to other Eld's deer in this country. For some reason, Penny's mother rejected her and she had to be hand-raised separate from the rest of the herd. Due to her separate housing, Penny escaped a nighttime attack by a group of feral dogs on January 13, 1990. Now her unique genetic makeup makes her the most valuable Eld's deer in the United States. The SSP authorities recommended that Penny have offspring. Therefore, in June 1997 an artificial insemination procedure was performed here at Miami Metrozoo, but was not successful. As an alternative approach, in May 1998 Penny was transported to the National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center* in Virginia on permanent loan. The Conservation and Research Center (CRC) is the focal site for the Smithsonian Institution's initiatives in conservation biology, where she will soon be introduced to her prospective mate. She will be part of the biggest herd of Eld's deer in captivity in the United States (a 1,500-acre picturesque facility overseen by leading wildlife reproductive physiologists). Penny's genetic makeup is so valuable that the effort is worthwhile. We are all proud of our Penny's genetic contribution to this conservation venture.

**Located on more than 3,000 acres in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Center is a laboratory and field station that links regional and global conservation, research and environmental education.*

Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

KEEPER PROFILE

DAVID JIMENEZ

SENIOR ZOOKEEPER

Dave Jimenez, Senior Zookeeper at Miami Metrozoo, is primarily responsible for lions, tigers, otters, Indian rhinos, Koalas and the quarantine area. While Dave was growing up he collected snakes, turtles and injured birds. He has always loved to fish and does so at every opportunity. Born and raised in Miami, Dave attended local schools and graduated from Norland Senior High in 1981. At the age of 17, he joined the Army two weeks after his high school graduation. Dave served in the elite 82nd Airborne Division as a paratrooper for 4 years at Fort Bragg, NC. He was a sergeant at the time of his honorable discharge.

For a year after leaving the Army, Dave attended Miami-Dade Community College and Broward Community College. He transferred to Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville where he earned an Associate of Arts degree in Animal Science. While attending the Teaching Zoo Program at Santa Fe, Dave worked for an importer/exporter of reptiles.

Upon graduation in September 1989, Dave started at Miami Metrozoo as a part-time Zookeeper working the sable antelope area. He has worked his way up to become a senior zookeeper of the Asian section and still says his favorite animal is the sable antelope.

Over a year ago, Dave married Kristin Hitchcock, Senior Children Zoo's keeper at Miami Metrozoo. They are excited to begin looking for a house this summer. Congratulations Dave!



Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

HOW TO SEE THE ZOO IN THE SUMMER

Any month is a good time for you and your family to visit Miami Metrozoo. The hot summer months, however, present their own challenges. The heat, the sun and a BIG Zoo can seem daunting, but try some of the tips listed below. You'll find Metrozoo has something to offer in all seasons. Take advantage of your membership and come back often...after all it is your Zoo!

- Do not try to do the entire Zoo every time you visit. Pick a theme for your visit, such as "animals of the African plains" or "horns and antlers" or "predators and prey" or "stripes and spots." Choose new ways to look at familiar sites.
- Take advantage of scheduled talks and programs. "Talk to a Keeper" stations are marked with big, bright banners and each keeper talk takes place on a daily basis. There are ten opportunities for you to meet our animal care staff and learn more about wildlife!

ANIMAL FEEDINGS AND KEEPER TALKS:

White Tiger	11:00 a.m.
Orangutan	11:30 a.m.
Malayan Sun Bear	Noon
Otter	Noon
Sloth Bear	1:00 p.m.
Pygmy Hippo	1:30 p.m.
Himalayan Bear	2:00 p.m.
Chimpanzee	2:00 p.m.
Giraffe	2:30 p.m.
Tortoise	3:30 p.m.

- It is wise to plan your visit around the specific times of the different wildlife shows and demonstrations. Make a list of your "must sees" and plan your route. Wildlife Shows (Amphitheater): Noon, 2:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m. daily Ecology Theater (Children's Zoo): 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. daily
- Our volunteers are wonderful sources of information about animals. You will find them wearing white Zoological Society of Florida docent shirts in the Information Booth, in the area of PAWS and stationed by various exhibits. Feel free to ask them questions as you see them throughout the day.
- Be kind to your feet! Wear well-broken-in athletic shoes, since you'll probably be doing quite a bit of walking, or use the air-conditioned monorail for transportation around the Zoo. Take along an umbrella to use in case of a sudden shower. Make sure you wear a hat, apply sun-screen and drink fluids. Our snack bars provide a wide selection of chilled beverages.
- Souvenirs are great, and our air-conditioned gift shop "Toucan Trader" (located by the entrance/exit plaza and the Elephant's Walk at PAWS) always has something new. Take it from us...it is the best place to shop for gifts, and your purchases benefit the Zoo. It is best to make your purchases on the way out, as carrying around a breakable item or a large teddy bear all day is not much fun.
- Shaded rest areas with chilled water fountains allow visitors to sit and watch an exhibit for awhile. It is fun to focus in on a few animals and observe their activities.
- Come visit the Zoo when it opens at 9:30 a.m. because the animals are more active and the sun is not as strong.

HOW DO ANIMALS HANDLE THE HEAT IN THE SUMMER?

By Steve Conners, Miami Metrozoo's General Curator
 Photos by Ron Magill, Miami Metrozoo's Communications Director

Many of Miami Metrozoo's animals are native to areas with tropical climates, so they are old pros at "beating the heat." Here are some of their adaptations to stay cool:

The fat in a camel's hump helps to insulate the rest of its body from the sun's heat.



Zebras and other relatives of horses can sweat to cool off, but not all animals have sweat glands.



Cape hunting dogs stay cool the same way your household pet would...by panting, drinking and lying in the shade.

Komodo dragons will allow their body temperature to rise over 90 degrees, but will eventually seek shade or cool themselves off in water.



The female white stork provides shade with her wings if the sun gets too hot for her chicks.



Ostrich wings are not totally useless. They act as both radiators, as well as fans to cool their body.

WHAT CAN A SNAIL TEACH YOU?

By Damien Kong

ZSF's Interim Director of Education



Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

As you walk around the Zoo, you may notice a tall, young man looking in the trees and hedges. This is **Laird Barrett**, a senior at Homestead Senior High. He is part of a program called the Laboratory Research Internship. Twice a week he tracks and monitors the movement of the Florida Banded-Tree snails living along the Zoo's public walkways. This large snail is important to study because the state of Florida is concerned that it could become endangered.

Laird is learning what we call the ABC's of research. This includes posing questions, acquiring background information, conducting observation and the interpretation and presenting research findings. Our other two interns are **Vicky Bonilla** (observing the colobus monkeys), and **Shannon Hobbs** (studying the Asian small clawed otters).

Elisabeth Koncza, Education Specialist, oversees the internship program. Having just completed her Master's thesis concentrating on macaques (monkeys), she is well versed in the scientific process. **Carla Baker**, Assistant in Volunteer Services, does all the computer input and provides the database and printouts for the interns.

At the end of his internship, Laird will have acquired the same skills and scientific knowledge that he would have studying tigers or elephants, without all the drawbacks. Snails do not run away or try to kill you. They are easy to mark for re-identification and no special training is required to catch them. But, one hazard in studying snails is that when they are frightened they empty their bladders, so Laird is extra careful!

One of the goals of the snail project is to come up with a list of trees that the snails use. They do not damage the trees but feed on the lichen that grows on the bark. Once we know their favorite trees, our hope is to encourage people to plant those kind of trees to provide a good Banded Tree snail habitat.

The second purpose for this project is to study the life cycle of the snail. No one has ever studied snails in the wild. We are learning a great deal about their mating rituals which are very interesting, considering each snail is both male and female. Days later, when it is time for egg laying, the snails come down from the trees and dig a nest in the soil among the roots.

The main danger that snails face on the ground are grackles that fly down and take the snails up into the trees, and dash them on the walkways to get at the meat. Another danger to the snails are people who do not watch where they are stepping. It's tough being small and slow, so watch out for these endangered snails!

To get good statistical data, the project needs to run for at least three years. When Laird graduates from high school, the replacement interns will be **Molly Taylor** and **Carmen Fernandez**. These students are undergraduates in the Environmental Studies Department at Florida International University. So if you see a young person walking around, looking up in the trees, say hi and ask them to show you a Florida Banded Tree snail!

ZSF APPLICATION RECEIVES TOP RATING

ZSF's Education Department will receive a \$40,270 grant from the Science Museum program of the Florida Department of State. ZSF's application received the highest rating of the 38 proposals evaluated by the statewide review panel. The funding will support many of the services provided by the Education Department during the twelve-month period, September 1998 to August 1999. "ZSF is very fortunate to receive grant funding from the Office of the Florida Secretary of State for the fourth straight year," said Executive Director Glenn Ekey.

"ZooPERB BRUNCH" AT RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE

If your idea of a great brunch involves incredible mouth-watering food, a wonderful location, good company, and a chance to support your favorite cause, then have we got a deal for you! On Sunday, July 12, **Ruth's Chris Steak House** will open its doors at 11:30 a.m. exclusively for guests of the Zoological Society of Florida. And you can be one of them! Enjoy Ruth's Chris eggs benedict, chicken with lobster sauce, carved prime rib au jus and more. The cost is \$40 per person including taxes and tips. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Zoological Society of Florida. Reservations are required. For more information, call Mayra González Rey at (305) 255-5551.

A TRIBUTE TO RICHARD MAHMARIAN

By Mayra González Rey
ZSF's Associate Director of Development/Special Events



Richard Mahmarian, a dear friend of the Zoological Society of Florida, passed away on May 5, 1998. He was born in Union City, New Jersey, was a graduate of Newberry College and served as president of Richard Mahmarian & Company (a firm he established in 1959). In 1967, Mr. Mahmarian obtained his Chartered Life Underwriter designation and specialized in Life and Health Insurance. He then worked in the financial planning

field as a managing executive with Royal Alliance Associates, Inc.

Mr. Mahmarian's involvement with the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) was long-lasting and prolific. He began as a volunteer serving in the Speakers' Bureau in 1977, the same year in which he was appointed to the Board of Governors. Mr. Mahmarian became ZSF president in 1978 through 1980. During his tenure, he concentrated his efforts on expanding the Board of Governors to include more corporate participation, preparing for the completion of what was to be Miami Metrozoo. Mr. Mahmarian believed that the Zoological Society of Florida would have an important role as a major player in the growth of the Zoo, as evidenced by his commitment to building the veterinary hospital on the new Zoo site. Once the Miami Metrozoo Preview Center opened, ZSF's membership grew and the development program was altered to raise funds for programs other than the animal hospital. Under Mr. Mahmarian's guidance, a full-fledged volunteer program was formulated and implemented and a Youth program was started (the front-runner of education programs to come).

Mr. Mahmarian continued his support of the Zoological Society through his involvement with the Board of Trustees and as chair of the Deferred Giving Subcommittee.

"Richard Mahmarian was one of those rare individuals who we regard as a true gentleman. Decency, integrity and good will were his trademarks. His passing is a great and shocking loss to us all, and he will be forever remembered as someone who truly made the world a better place." Glenn Ekey, Executive Director of the Zoological Society of Florida.

PUBLIX SUPPORTS ZSF



Glenn Ekey, Carmen Millares and Howard Lipman

The Zoological Society of Florida received a \$10,000 gift from Publix Super Markets Charities on May 22, 1998. **Carmen Millares**, Publix Public Relations Manager of the Miami Division, presented the check to Glenn Ekey, Executive Director and Howard Lipman, Director of Development. This donation will support the work of the Zoological Society during the coming year. Thank you Publix!

COUPLES WHO VOLUNTEER

By Carol Lang

ZSF's Manager of Volunteer Services

The "passengers" on Noah's Ark travelled in twos, and the Zoological Society's Volunteer Program at Metrozoo can boast about a number of pairings as well! The current roster of volunteers includes thirteen couples who donate their time and talents to help ZSF and Metrozoo. While some of these volunteers started out alone, and were joined later by their spouses, most of the twosomes have been volunteering as a team from the start.



Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

What made these couples decide to volunteer together? The answer varies with each couple. Some share a common interest in animals and conservation. Others are looking for a fulfilling way to spend their leisure time together. Still others find that retirement afforded them the time to learn something new.

Kathryn and Ron Medford began volunteering at Miami Metrozoo in July 1997. They spend several days a week at the Zoo staffing the Information Booth, preparing animal diets in the Zoo kitchen, assisting in the ZSF administrative offices, and giving informal presentations to the Zoo's visitors about the animal collection.

"Having separate careers, we didn't spend a lot of quality time together," Kathryn explains why she and Ron volunteer as a team. "So we decided when we retired we'd find something we could do together. Since we love animals, this was a natural thing to do and now, Metrozoo is like home. Where could you go and meet this many nice people: the volunteers, the keepers, the staff? They really go out of their way to make you feel welcome."

Whatever their reasons, volunteering at Miami Metrozoo has become a way of life for all volunteer couples. As of December 1997, a total of 35,000 plus "lifetime" hours of service (by couples alone) have been documented.

If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities at Miami Metrozoo (and we love couples *and* singles), call the ZSF Volunteer Services office at (305) 255-5551.

GO WILD SHOPPING AT BLOOMINGDALE'S

On Tuesday, October 27, save 15% on your **Bloomingdale's** purchases when you buy "The Shopping Benefit" ticket from the Zoological Society of Florida! The \$10 ticket will entitle you to the discount on all merchandise—except Place Elegante Designer Sportswear, cosmetics, fragrances, gift certificates and services—at the following Bloomingdale's locations: Aventura, Miami, Boca Raton and The Palm Beach Gardens. All proceeds from the sale of tickets will benefit the Zoological Society of Florida. For more information call Mayra González Rey at 305-255-5551.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

The Zoological Society of Florida Education Department would like to provide programs which meet the needs of Zoo members. If there is a topic you would like to learn more about, please let us know by mail or fax. Our fax number is (305) 255-7126.

GORILLA GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES \$14,000

The 11th Annual Gorilla Golf Classic took place on March 18th at the University Country Club. This year's event raised a record high of \$14,000 and we would like to thank the following sponsors and gift donors for their continued

GOLD SPONSORS

Copy Guy
Celebrity Cruises
Norwegian Cruises

SILVER SPONSOR

Kunde Sprecher & Associates, Inc.

BRONZE SPONSORS

Burger King Corporation
Jerry's Caterers

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Mercedes Electric Supply
Kinetic Electric
AvMed

ADDITIONAL DONORS

3M
Curbside Florist
AvMed
Commissioner Javier Souto
AeroPeru
Dade County Farm Bureau
Alf's Golf Shop
Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Dept.
Bacardi
Deering Bay Yacht and Country Club
Bath & Body Works
Diamond Vending
Bayshore Golf Course

Doral Flowers and Gifts
Beckenstein & Associates
Doral Golf Resort and Spa
Bennigan's
Dr. Sam Porco
Bonaventure Golf Courses
Emerald Dunes
Catalina Art & Frames
Esserman Automotive Group
Catering by Lovables
Estefan Enterprises
Cerveza Cristal
FarSouth Growers Cooperative
Cheeca Lodge
Flanigan's
Chili's
Florida Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
Chuck Wagon Restaurant
Florida Marlins
City of Coral Gables Parks
and Recreation Dept.
Florida Panthers
Coconut Grove Bank
Fountainbleau Hilton
Costco
Parrot Jungle & Gardens
Gold's Gym
Pete's Barber Shop
Grand Bay Hotel
Publix
Gulf Discount Liquors
Recio Nursery
Gulfstream Airlines

R&S Companies
Hooters
Redlands Golf and Country Club
il Piatto Italiano
Reprographia
Judy B. Williams Insurance
Agency
Rinker
Kahn Carlin
Charles Minter, Merrill Lynch
Keg South of Kendall
Miami Acura
Killian Greens Golf Club
Kinetic Electric
Kings Creek Therapeutic Massage
Mercedes Electric Supply
Kinko's
Miami Springs Chevron
L&M Engraving and Trophy Co.
Riviera Country Club
La Gorce Golf and Country Club
Romano's Macaroni Grill
Limeco
Sea & Ski
Liquorland
Shorty's Bar-B-Q
Luria's
Speedway Signs
Miami Jai Alai
Steak and Ale
Miami Springs Golf and Country Club
SunTrust
Miles of Tiles



Bob Sprecher, Al Fontana, Larry Cottle (back row); Letty Jurado, Savannah, Toni Brough (front row).

Sylva Smith
New Image Trading Group
Tail, Inc.
Office Depot
Tasco
Old Cutler Inn
Terryfic Ad Specialties
Outback Steakhouse
Union Planters Bank
The Sherwin-Williams Company
Seitlin & Company
The Stick Doctor
Shores Development
United National
University Country Club
Wometco Enterprises

BOWLING FOR RHINOS '98

The South Florida Chapter of the American Association of Zookeepers invites you to the **Bowling for Rhinos '98** on August 8, 1998 at Don Carter Bowling Lanes, 13600 North Kendall Drive. Registration begins at noon followed by the bowl-a-thon at 1:00 p.m. All proceeds go directly to the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya, Africa, which is a 110 thousand acre area supporting an entire ecosystem and adjoins the Ngare Ndare Forest Reserve. For more information, contact Patty Singer at (305) 253-6151 or Kresimir Golanja at (305) 233-7446.

You can pledge your support by:

1. Individual or Team Bowling: Purchase a \$15.00 ticket for each bowler (\$75.00 for a team of 5 bowlers) and receive a "Bowling for Rhinos" T-shirt, 3 games of bowling and shoe rental.
2. Prize Donation: Donate an item to be given away as a door prize.
3. Sponsor a Bowler: Send your tax deductible contribution.

Make checks payable to:

South Florida AAZK - Bowling for Rhinos

FOR ZSF AND BOOK LOVERS

Waldenbooks/Brentano's is holding a Book Fair sponsored by the Zoological Society of Florida. Receive a 10% discount on any regularly priced merchandise, if you present a special coupon (available at ZSF offices) at the time of your purchase. Waldenbooks will donate a portion of the proceeds to the Zoological Society of Florida. The offer is good from August 1-31 at the following locations:
Waldenbooks: Westland Mall (Hialeah), Broward Mall (Plantation), Edison Mall (Ft. Myers), Miami International Mall, Aventura Mall, The Falls (Miami), Sarasota Square Mall, Southgate Plaza (Sarasota), Kendall Drive (Miami), Port Charlotte Town Center, Key West and Pembroke Lakes Mall. Brentano's: Fashion Mall (Plantation) and Paseos (Miami).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
William J. Gallwey III

President Elect
Edward Soto

Past President
Sue M. Cobb

Secretary
Jason Israel

Vice Presidents
Lynn M. Cambest
Cynthia Curry
David Konfino
Daniel J. Licciardi
Ralph de la Vega
Sam Verdeja
Andrew H. Weinstein

At Large
Jorge Arrizurieta
Courtney Cunningham

Executive Director
Glenn Ekey

Metrozoo Director
Al Fontana



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

José Argamasilla	Hon. James Lawrence
Bacardi	King
Joaquín Aviñó	Mario López
Rodney Barreto	Sanford B. Miot
Sandy Batchelor	Vicki A. O'Meara
Vince L. Berkeley	Marc Osheroff
Alfredo R. Durán	Marshall R. Pasternack
Ron Esserman	Robert Paul
Jennifer Getz	Gonzalo Ruiz
Lester Goldstein	Diana Udel
James Hawkins	Stephen A. Weber
Sherrill W. Hudson	

TRUSTEE DAVID KLEIN HONORED FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Congratulations to ZSF Board of Trustees member **David Klein**, who will receive one of the 1998 Quality of Life Awards presented by the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) Foundation! ZSF was proud to nominate David for this prestigious award, because of the quality of his volunteer service in support of this and other community organizations. MDRT recognizes outstanding volunteerism and leadership among insurance industry professionals through its Quality of Life awards, and also presents a grant to the charitable organization selected by the recipient.



David Klein feeds Shanti (the Indian rhino).

ADOPT AN ANIMAL

Attention all Cat Lovers!! Adopt the clouded leopard (or any other animal at Metrozoo) for \$50 and receive a t-shirt with your adopted animal's photo on it. Show the world you care about wild-life and become a "Zoo Parent" now. For information call 255-5551.



Photo: Ricardo Stanoss

ADOPT FAMILY REUNION 1998

This year's Adopt Family Reunion (a special event for adopt parents in the \$75 and up categories) was a fun-filled morning! Following a delicious breakfast, ZSF Educational Specialist Dr. Ricardo Stanoss spoke about primates and then the Amphitheater Staff brought a young, ring-tailed lemur for the group to admire. In addition to the lemur, a yellow-naped Amazon parrot named Baby amazed the crowd with her singing and talking skills. At the end of the program, some critters from the Children's Zoo were available for the Adopt parents to touch. Walking and cart tours with experienced guides were offered to see the baby animals born this spring.

A special thanks to the following companies for their generous support of this event: Afternoon Tea & Gourmet Bake Shop, Curbside Florist & Gifts, Einstein Bros. Bagels in Kendall, the Florida Marlins, the Incredible Produce House, Sportservice and Sysco Foods.

The Raffle Winners were:

1. Centerpiece Bouquet - Helen Wolfenstein
2. Marlins Tickets - Karolyn Demery
3. Framed Animal Picture - Alex Demery
4. Cart Tour for Four - Helen Tallman



IT IS NOT TOO LATE...REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP AT METROZOO

Zoo camp is going full blast. Today the campers got to feed a 4,000 pound rhinoceros. Did you know rhinos are endangered because people kill them for their horn? Many people in the Far East think that the rhino's horn cures many illnesses. This is not true. Here in camp we learned that the rhino's horn is actually compressed hair. As you know, eating hair will not cure any diseases.

In Zoo camp we have met many neat creatures up close and personal. We were also able to talk to the keepers. So if you would like to get in on all the fun this summer, join us here at Zoofari Camp; there is still time. **Limited space**



for weekly sessions available in July and August. For more information or a registration form, call ZSF Education Department at (305) 255-5551.



Teen zoologist Casey Wells experiences an up close encounter with a macaw.

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