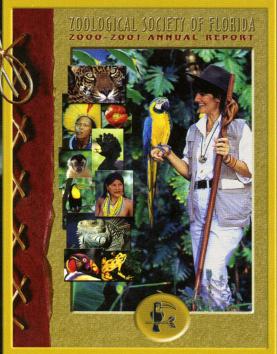
# Toucan Talk

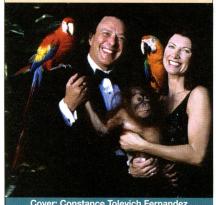
#### **IT'S A WHOLE NEW WORLD!**



2000-2001 ANNUAL REPORT PAGE 5 BALL OF THE WILD 2002 PAGE 11

PUBLISHED BY THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLORIDA FOR MIAMI METROZOO January / February 2002

#### **VOLUME 29, NUMBER 1**



#### & Mike Fernandez (Photo: Ron Magill)

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Toucan Talk Volume 29, Number 1 January/February, 2002

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 Daniel J. Licciardi, President

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Eric Stephens, Director 12400 SW 152nd St., Miami, FL 33177–1499 Tel: (305) 255-5551• Fax:(305) 255-7126 www.miamimetrozoo.com

# T'-S A W-H-O-L-E- N-E-W VV-O-R+L-

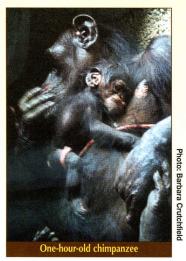
## **New Animals**

#### **Births and Hatchings**

- 1 East African crowned crane (gender undetermined) September 4, 2001
- 2 Male and 1 female African warthogs October 3, 2001
- 1 Male chimpanzee October 12, 2001
- 1 Male Malayan sunbear October 24, 2001 (The first for this pair!)

#### Acquisitions

- 1 Male black-and-white colobus monkey September 28, 2001
- 1 Female reticulated python September 30, 2001
- 1 Male and 1 female Arakan forest turtles October 8, 2001
- 1 Matamata turtle (gender undetermined) October 13, 2001
- 1 Male and 1 female false gavials (crocodiles) October 13, 2001
- 2 Female emperor tamarins October 19, 2001





hoto: Dolora

# THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

- To the outgoing members of the ZSF Board of Directors who gave selflessly of their time and services to ZSF and Metrozoo: Jorge L. Arrizurieta, Sue M. Cobb, Cynthia Curry, David L. Klein and Gonzalo Ruiz.
- To Curbside Florist, Broadcast Quality, and Moure Graphic Design, Inc. for their contributions to the ZSF's annual Board Installation Dinner.
- A great big thank you to **Diana Udel** for providing endless hours of talent and friendship to ZSF and for her invaluable service to the ZSF Board of Directors.
- Our deepest gratitude to The Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation for their annual support of ZSF.
- A very big thank you to the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs for its ongoing commitment to ZSF's education programs.
- To FPL for its continued support of ZSF and especially to Manny Rodriguez for his friendship to the Zoo.
- To Happy Balloons, Inc. for the decorations for the Aviary Groundbreaking Ceremony and for the ZSF annual Board Installation Dinner. A special thanks to Carole Cotton.
- To John Seykora for his long-time support of ZSF's programs and for his involvement in the Board of Trustees.
- A heartfelt thank you to Libby Madden for being one of our most devoted friends year after year.
- To Louis Parks for your generosity and philanthropy.
- A special thank you to Miami-Dade County for its continuing support of ZSF and Miami Metrozoo.
- A special thank you to the **Tropical Flowering Tree Society** and their **volunteers** for developing a landscape design, using the genus *Cassia* (*Leguminosae*) to accentuate the aesthetics around the eastern section of the lake facing the Lakeside Grille. Ten different species and more than 70 trees were planted on September 15, 2001. The trees when in bloom will create a magnificent panorama of rainbow colors reflected in the tranquil waters of the lake. This was the Tropical Flowering Tree Society's fourth volunteer effort on behalf of Metrozoo.
- To Verifone for sponsoring the Howling Bash and Monika Mucarsel for making it happen!
- To Walter Koth for a generous contribution to ZSF and Miami Metrozoo.
- To the **Wild Bunch members** who made the Howling Bash a tremendous success and **Guillermo Levy** who led the Howling team!
- To William Rafferty for his generous contribution to support our education and conservation efforts.

# W.E.W.E.L.C.O.M.E.Y.O.U.R.S.U.P.P.O.R.T



The mind-numbing events of September 11, 2001 renewed our appreciation for things like family, friends, freedom, peace and peacefulness. Metrozoo abounds in these precious assets, and we are grateful for them.

To you our loyal members, whose annual support enables us to prosper and expand our services to the community, thank you! To every individual, corporation and foundation that believed in us enough to contribute financially last year, thank you! To our hard-working staff

and volunteer corps, Board of Directors and elected officials who are so dedicated to advancing the work of this institution, thank you! You are the Zoo's precious extended family.

We are grateful to be working for and with the animals. Being around them has a deeply calming effect, especially during these unsettling times. Wendell Berry speaks eloquently of it in *The Peace of Wild Things*:

When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds. I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Metrozoo is your "wild place." It is a fun, amazing, cheerful, wondrous and peaceful place. I urge you to visit it often this year and enjoy the many positive improvements that are underway.

Thank you all for being there and Happy New Year to each of you.

Sincerely,

Glenn W. Ekey then le

Executive Director Zoological Society of Florida

#### 2000-2001 ZSF WILDLIFE AMBASSADOR AWARDS

The Zoological Society of Florida is privileged to honor three outstanding long-time supporters of the ZSF, its programs and Miami Metrozoo. It is through the loyalty, financial support and good friendship that the ZSF and Metrozoo have been able to



Jerrold Goodman, Ana Palmer (American Express Company), Jane Goodman, Suzette Prude (The John S. & James L. Knight Foundation) I Miami Metrozoo. It is through the loyalty, that the ZSF and Metrozoo have been able to move forward to making Miami Metrozoo a world-class Zoo. We thank you for your support, and look forward to many more years in working

together to realize the goals of our Master Plan.

American Express Company

The American Express Company has been a loyal supporter of the Zoological Society of Florida and Miami Metrozoo for more than 18 years. The Company created and sponsored ZSF's trademark event, Feast with the Beasts, from 1988-1999 and has been a faithful advocate of ZSF's Education Department sponsoring the Zoo on Wheel's

Outreach program and other educational activities. Thanks to the American Express Company's corporate philanthropy, Miami Metrozoo has reached a level of standard unlike any other zoo in the country.

#### Jerrold and Jane Goodman

The commitment Jane and Jerry Goodman made to Metrozoo and the Zoo's conservation programs began with a visit to the Zoo 16 years ago to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary. Every year since then, they have celebrated their anniversary with a generous sponsorship of Metrozoo's giraffes. The Zoological Society of Florida and Metrozoo have received additional support from the Goodmans for the Koala campaign, An Evening with Richard Leakey, Feast with the Beasts and Ball of the Wild. Jane and Jerry Goodman were among the first members of the Society's Founders Club (1986).

#### The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

For more than a decade and a half, the commitment of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has translated into an outpouring of financial support of the Zoological Society of Florida and Metrozoo, from sponsorships of exhibits to an investment in restoring and replacing signs and graphics destroyed by Hurricane Andrew. Through the Knight Foundation's dedication and generosity, our organization has made implausible strides and has evolved into the world-class Zoo that it is today, with the distinct honor of recently being named one of America's top ten zoos.

#### Welcome New Board Members

Hunting F. Deutch, Managing Director, The Citicorp Private Bank Barry Johnson, Vice President-Corporate Affairs, Florida, AT&T Thom A. Wolek, CTFA, Managing Director, HSBC-Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation



As I write this message, seven staff members from the Zoo and Zoological Society of Florida have just returned from St. Louis, Missouri after attending the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) Annual Conference. This is a very traditional working meeting where a number of short-term and also long-range decisions are made regarding animal collections around the country and the world. Specialists in Marketing, Conservation Education, Fundraising, Communications and Veterinary Care are among

the many others that also coordinate their efforts at this meeting.

Because of the tragic events that took place on September 11, 2001, the last day of the AZA Conference, all remaining working sessions and meetings were cancelled. Everyone was glued to his or her hotel room television and many gathered in the conference banquet rooms to watch the broadcasts together. The staff and volunteers of the St. Louis Zoo, who were ready to do anything, sprang into action to try to get people rides back home, provide an emergency message center, and to coordinate information on local blood drives. Their attention to the visiting zoo professionals and their genuine concern for everyone reinforced to me what I have known for some time: zoo folks are an amazing group of people who are passionate, dedicated and more than willing to go the extra mile when the need arises.

This was evident again upon our arrival home where the aviary demolition work was continuing, Cuban crocodile hatchlings were still swimming in their exhibit with their parents, plans for our aviary groundbreaking were being finalized, and a thousand other projects were being completed.

For many years to come, we will all remember September 11th and the days immediately following. I will also remember the wonderful people from the zoo world, particularly those from St. Louis and Miami.

From all of your friends at Miami Metrozoo, we pledge to work hard to continue to expand your Zoo into a whole new world of experiences. We welcome you, your family and friends to enjoy the wonders of the earth's most fascinating wildlife.

Happy New year!

Sincerely, **Eric Stephens** Director Miami Metrozoo

# THE HOWLING BASH

BUN

WILD

On Friday, October 26, untame creatures came out to party wild style at Miami Metrozoo for an unforgettable night of costumes and games. We would like to thank our sponsors and Wild Bunch members who made this a memorable event:

#### Howling Chair - Guillermo Levy

Howling Committee Ileana Barbara Leo Cordero Mayra Gonzalez-Rey Stephane Gressier Carla Hubbard Kathleen Hudson Marion Jacques Erik Lopez Stephanie Parks Robert Powell Sallie Anne Marvil Monika Mucarsel Valerie Quemada Lyle Shapiro Emily Sullivan Chris Taylor Rosina Villavicencio Curtis Wolfe

Howling Sponsors Burger King Steel Hector & Davis Verifone ABC Barricades AJM Entertainment AMC Liaisons Amici's Happy Balloons Kettle One Matusalem Rum Peroni Beer Pet Star Corporation RMK Entertainment Ruby Tuesday's WLRN National Public Radio

**In-Kind Sponsors** 



Photos: Eddie Gonzalez, Downtown Phot

# THE WINGS OF ASIA:

ONOKOEORO

This is the fourth in an on-going series of articles to keep you informed of the creation and development of the American Bankers Family Aviary: The Wings of Asia.

### Sultan Tits By Jeff Sailer, Curator of Birds, Miami Metrozoo

The bird department at Metrozoo is gearing up for the Wings of Asia exhibit and birds are already starting to arrive. In August, the department received several Sultan Tits (Melanochlora sultanea), a small rainforest bird from Southeast Asia. We are extremely excited about this first acquisition because Metrozoo is currently the only location in North America where this species is being maintained.

-M-E-R-I-C-A-N

Sultan Tits are the largest and most striking members of the Paridae, the chickadee family. Sultan Tits are nearly the size of a cardinal and have a crest like a cardinal, too. The plumage of the males and females is different. Males are a jet black on the head, breast, wings and tail with a canary yellow crest and belly. The females are a very dark green in the areas where the males would be black, but they still have the crest and yellow belly.

Our Sultan Tits came from Thailand, but the species ranges over much of Southeast Asia including Malaysia, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. The species is found in the canopy of the rainforest where they search for insects and fruit in small flocks. Very little is known about the natural history of these birds and we are learning new information every day. For example, the males are very vocal and spend most of the day singing

**Pre-Event Party** 

BALLVILD

**Birds for the Aviary:** 2 Male and 2 female Sultan Tits — August 17, 2001 2 Male and 2 female Luzon Bleeding Heart Pigeons — September 1, 2001 1 Male, 1 female Sulawesi Ground Doves (2 gender undetermined) September 1, 2001

and hopping about their holding enclosure. Females, in contrast, are very quiet and will sit for long periods of time in the foliage.

Females are also the more finicky feeders. Our birds are fed a diet of finely ground trout chow with fruits and vegetables and hardboiled eggs. In addition, the tits are fed a large number of insects each day including crickets, mealworms, waxworms, and cockroaches. For large food items, the tits will grasp the item in one foot and pull the food apart into more manageable pieces with their bills. When the aviary is completed, you will be able to watch the tits as they forage for the even larger variety of insects that the plants in the aviary will attract.

reproduced in captivity. We are very hopeful that in the Wings of Asia, the Sultan Tits will feel comfortable and secure enough to breed. The information that would be gained by our birds reproducing would greatly contribute to our understanding of this interesting and animated

bird In addition to the Sultan Tits, other birds have also arrived for the Wings of Asia in recent months

including: Luzon Bleeding-heart Doves, Sulawesi Ground Doves, and Sulawesi Collared Mynahs. The birds are definitely back at Metrozoo!

1 Female Sulawesi Collared Mynah — September 28, 2001 1 Male and 1 female Chestnut-breasted Malkohas — October 3, 2001 1 Male Sulawesi Mynah — October 3, 2001

More than eighty guests got an early preview of the fun and excitement that will prevail at Ball of the Wild 2002. Thanks to hosts Mike and Constance Fernandez for hosting the party in their home on November 1, 2001.

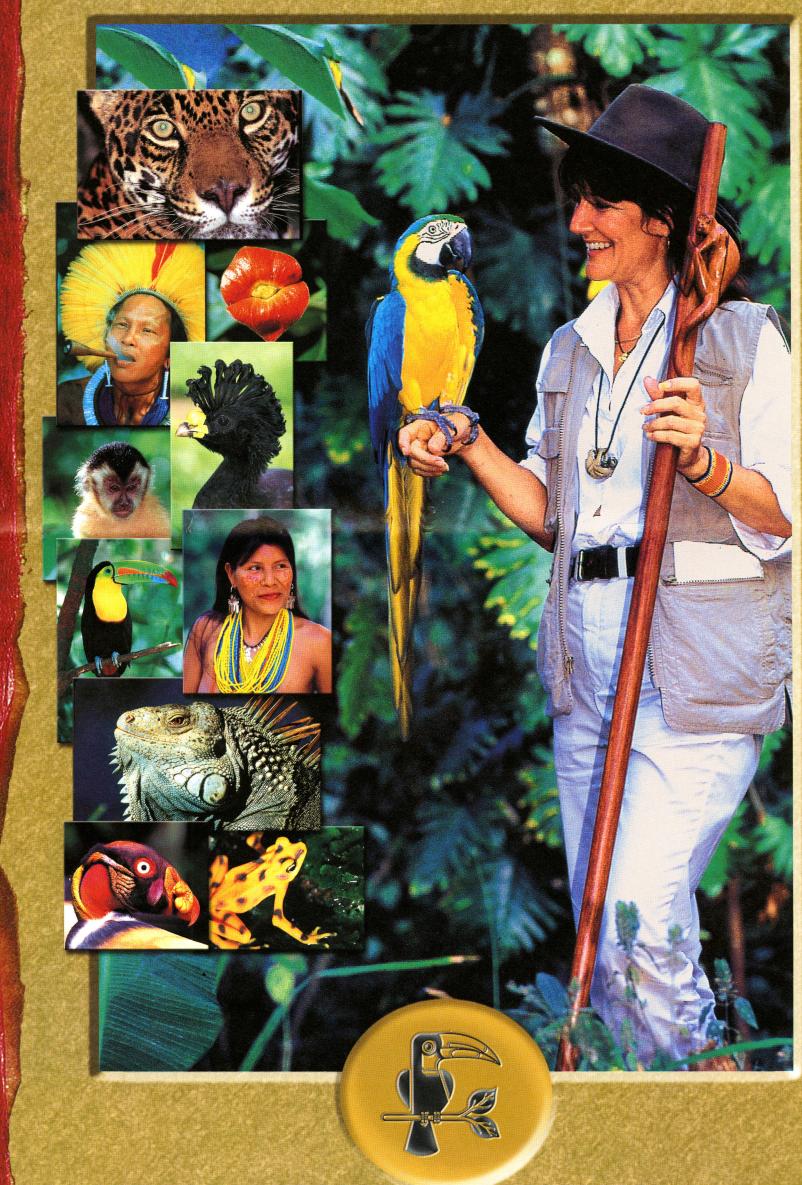


- Jimmy Mourra with Savannah
- (I-r) Vincent and Shirley Berkeley, Roland & Maria
- (I-r) Sandy Robinson, Robert L. Drew, Constance Tolevich Fernandez, and Todd Payne.
- (I-r) Silvio & Dee Leal, Claudio and Yvonne Alvarez, **Constance Tolevich Fernandez**



Saturday, March 2, 2002

# ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF FLOBIDA 2000-2001 ANNUAL REPORT





We are proud to list all the wonderful friends and donors who have made donations of \$500 or more to the Zoological Society of Florida during the 2000-2001 fiscal year, October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001. Should your records differ from ours, we welcome the opportunity to make a correction. Please call us at (305) 255-5551. We thank everyone listed here, as well as so many of you who have contributed in other ways.

#### Dear Members and Friends of the Zoological Society of Florida:

It is my great pleasure to present the Zoological Society of Florida's 2000-2001 Annual Report, providing an overview of the past year's exciting achievements.

This past year has been a banner one for the Zoological Society of Florida in many respects; the most notable being the opening of Dr. Wilde's World, the Zoo's first indoor air-conditioned exhibition gallery and classroom complex. Thanks to the generosity of our friends, many wonderful things have been accomplished. To all of you I say thank you for having the vision, commitment and dedication to our great cause.



Sincerely, Danuel A Sumali

Dan Licciardi President Zoological Society of Florida

#### Honor Roll of Donors for Fiscal Year 2000/2001

King Cheetah Circle \$500,000 & Over

Anonymous Donor Betty Miller

#### Komodo Dragon Circle \$100,000-\$499,999

Miami-Dade County Park & Recreation Department ZSF Volunteers

#### Silverback Gorilla Circle \$50,000-\$99,999

Batchelor Enterprises George Batchelor Carnival Foundation Linda Coll Jerome M. Epstein Estate Lucent Technologies Rita E. Pollack Estate

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#### Pink Flamingo Circle \$2,500-\$4,999

Foundation

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#### **Blue Morpho Circle** \$1,000-\$2,499

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A Brighter Image Elliott M. Abramson Esther L. Apple Herbert E. Allenson Avanti The Men's Store Charles A. Battisti BellSouth The Matching Gift Center Bill Ussery Motors, Inc. Arlyne Birge Bloomingdale's John Caliste **Crystal Springs Water** Dade County Association of Fire Fighters Charities, Inc. Bob & Susan Everhard Executive Staffing Inc. Jacqueline K. Fink Lawrence A. France Mary E. Gale Lester L. Goldstein Gerald Grant Gulliver Academy, Inc. Andrew D. Gumberg Hamilton Bank Foundation, Inc. William G. Heuson International Gourmet Foods Steven Katzman **Kid Ventures** Erik Lopez Ron Magill Randall R. Martin Huntley Miller Claire W. Mooers **Richard A. Nichols Robin Morris** Charlotte Nagymihaly Michael A. Nuzzo Ocean Reef Community Foundation **Ruth Robles** Bonnie C. Rubel **Richard I. Schiff** Jo Beth Speyer Stanfill Funeral Home, Inc. The Bentley Group The Falls The Helen and Joseph Lewis Fund

The Lewis Family Foundation Constance Tolevich Fernandez **Rolf Thyrre** YW Associates, Inc. Zap Courier Services, Inc.

#### ZSF 2000-2001 Events (Pictured on back cover)

- Education Programs October, 2000 May, 2001 **Carnival Cruise Lines Kids**
- Lenna
- Intergenerational
  - Internship with Miami-Dade Public Schools KAPOW Kids and the Power of Work

  - Zoodler Academy Zoo Magnet
    - October, 2000:

#### MetroBOO!

- November December, 2000:
- Miami International Festival of Lights at Metrozoo New exhibit: squirrel monkeys
- Winter Camp
- New attraction animal: female Asian elephant, "Nellie"
- January, 2001: Kid's Fun Fest
- New exhibit: Cuban crocodile
  - February, 2001:
- Jungle Jog 5K Run and Fun Walk Volunteer Recognition Dinner Successful first clutch of eggs: crocodile monitor
  - March, 2001:
- Ball of the Wild: "Out of Africa" Pine Rockland eco-tours/education programs
  - April, 2001:
- The Great Metrozoo Egg Safari Earth Day
- Inauguration: The Wild Bunch Young Professionals Club -community service fundraising arm of the ZSF

#### May, 2001

Expanded animal feedings/keeper talks Third Annual Big Bug Out Mother's Day at the Zoo

#### June, 2001:

- Grand Opening of Dr. Wilde's World Father's Day at the Zoo Summer Camp
- July August, 2001:
- Summer Camp Cool Zoo Summer at Dr. Wilde's World
- Sunday Afternoons with Music at Lakeside Grille
- September, 2001:
- Groundbreaking for the American Bankers Family Aviary
- The Wings of Asia Barney at Metrozoo!



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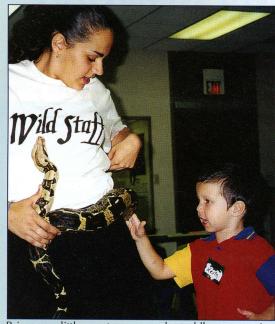
Rodney Barreto George E. Batchelor Linda Coll Linda Coll J. Courtney Cunningham Hunting F. Deutsch Ron Esserman Lester L. Goldstein Barry Johnson Thea Katzenstein Eduardo R. Lacasa Vicki A. O'Meara Marc A. Osheroff Marshall R. Pasternack Alan J. Pekor Jay Pelham William L. Rafferty, Jr. Federico Sanchez Federico Sanchez Thom A. Wolek

# 2001-2002 METRO200 OVERSIGHT BOARD

Alex Penelas, Miami-Dade County Mayor Dennis Moss, Board of County Commissioners Alina Tejeda-Hudak, Assistant County Manager Vivian Donnell Rodriguez, Director, Miami-Dade County Park & Recreation Department Daniel J. Licciardi, President, Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) Ed Soto, ZSF Immediate Past President Eric Stephens, Director, Miami Metrozoo Glenn W. EKey, ZSF Executive Director

# S.P.E.C.I.A.L I.N.T.E.R.E.S.T P.R.O.G.R.A.M.S

**Zoodler Academy** 



Bring your little one to our popular toddler program! Zoodler Academy provides a safe and friendly environment for small children to meet animals and learn about nature. The program includes a story, craft project, touch table, and live animals.

#### Dates:

2-3-year-olds

Tuesday, January 8: The Great Kapok Tree Tuesday, January 15: If You Give A Pig a Pancake Tuesday, January 22: The Icky Sticky Anteater Tuesday, January 29: Let's Take Care of the Earth Tuesday, February 5: Aesop's Fables - The Lion and The Mouse Tuesday, February 12: My Animal Valentine Tuesday, February 19: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

Tuesday, February 26: Animals In the Forest

#### Dates:

3-4-year-olds
Thursday, January 10: The Great Kapok Tree
Thursday, January 17: If You Give A Pig a Pancake
Thursday, January 24: The Icky Sticky Anteater
Thursday, January 31: Let's Take Care of the Earth
Thursday, February 7: Aesop's Fables - The Lion and The Mouse
Thursday, February 14: My Animal Valentine
Thursday, February 21: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?
Thursday, February 28: Animals In the Forest

#### Time: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Cost:** Members: One Adult and One Child: \$10.00 Additional Children: \$4.00 each Non-Members: One Adult and One Child: \$12.00 Additional Children: \$6.00 each Alumni of Zoodler Academy's 2000-2001 season

receive a \$2.00 discount.

#### Zoo-Inn

Bring your scout group, youth group, or biology class to spend the night! In this sleepover program, you'll have a



behind-thescenes tour of the Zoo after dark, a morning animal presentation, and more. Available for adults and children six years and over. Price includes a Tshirt, badge, two meals, and one snack. **Dates:** Program offered Fridays and Saturdays throughout the school year.

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 a.m. **Cost:** \$42.00 per person.

Minimum group size: 15 Maximum group size: 30

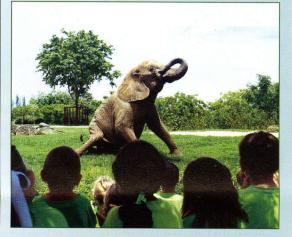
#### Have A Wild Wonderful Winter At Zoo Camp!

Join us this holiday season on a fun-filled adventure as we learn about the incredible variety of animal sizes, shapes, and patterns. Campers will explore animals' skeletons, and their furry, feathery, or scaly "wrappers." In this unique program, your child will literally learn the "ins and outs" of Zoo animals!

Ages: 4 - 11 years old

Dates: December 26 - 28, January 2 - 4 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (early drop-off is at 8:30 a.m.) Place: In the classrooms at Dr. Wilde's World Cost: Members \$130.00

Non-members \$150.00



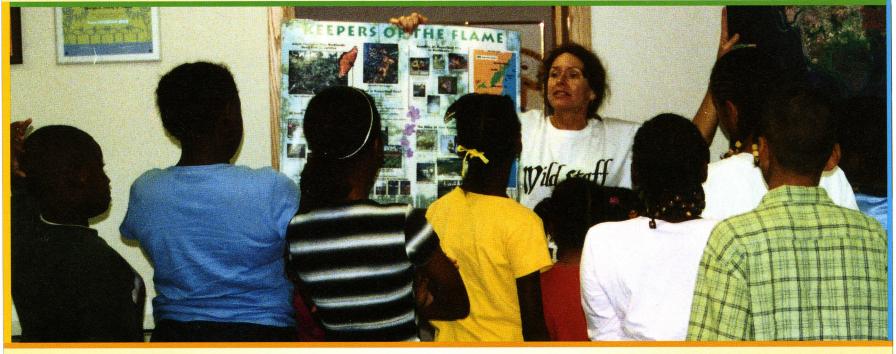
e-registration is required for all programs.

#### Zoological Society of Florida All-Program Registration Form

Participant's Name:	Street Adress:			City	Sta	te	Zip	
Daytime Phone:	Evening Phone:		Are ye	ou a ZSF Member? Yes	No Membership	#		
Payment Enclosed: Check #								
Customer Signature:			di del c		_ Total Camp or Progra	Im Fee: \$		
				Information				
Parent/ Guardian's Name								
			Age/Grade of Child Date					
Session:		Date						
						ite		
	Camper	s Only/C	amper'	s Medical Int	formation			
Physician's Name	Phone: Dent			s Name				
In an emergency, if the parent, guardian, or								
				, ,			in any physiolan actuation my child	
Signature of Parent/Guardian:						Date		
Please indicate any medical conditions of	or health problems of which	the Camp staff sh	ould be aware. F	Please describe: (if you requir	e further space, please	use a separate	e sheet of paper):	
Allergies	Handicap			Prescribed Medications		Other		
(Your signature below gives permission to (	Camp staff to dispense only re	equired medications	you send with you	ur child. Please provide the pre	escribed container, para	ohernalia necess	ary for taking medications, and	
explicit instructions on a separate sheet o								
	Name of	Person	s) Who	Will Pick Up	the Child	1		
Name	Relationship	S	econd name		Relationship		Phone#	
Vehicle Information: Make		ColorTa	g #	2nd Vehicle:_		Color	Tag #	
I give permission for my child to particip information. My child can be photograph	ate in the Zoological Society ned and his/her picture used	y of Florida camp I for public relation	or other program s purposes.	as indicated above. I have re	ad the registration and	medical section	ons and have supplied accurate	
Signature of Parent/Guardian:						Date		
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED, and								
For reservations, call (305) 255-5551 and					V 152nd St Miami El	22177 1400	for to (205) 055 7106	
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# CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY MEETS MIAMI METROZOO Through a Special Pine Rockland Program and a Wild Night Evening

By Lily M. R. Forni, Recreation Specialist



On Wednesday, September 12, 2001, a group of twelve children and two adults from the Children's Home Society came to Metrozoo to learn about the pine rockland habitat as well as some of our Zoo animals like lions, tigers and bears. The group spent nearly five hours learning in an up-close-and-personal manner in a classroom, among the pines, and behind-the-scenes at several live animal exhibits.

In preparation for the field experience, the group studied twelve pineland plants, including a few considered dangerous, such as saw palmetto, poisonwood, and prickly pear. In the safety of the classroom, the group enjoyed learning about these tropical and sub-tropical plants. This knowledge evolved into an understanding and respect for the importance and power of local pine rockland plants.

Hiking along our pineland trail, the group worked in pairs with pencils, index cards, and reference materials, carefully identifying the numbered subject plants, and experiencing the wild habitat all around them. This pine rockland sits high on the Miami Rock Ridge and is but a fragment of the original 4,000 acres that once existed in Miami-Dade County. It includes land in Larry and Penny Thompson Park, our neighboring U. S. Coast Guard and the Zoo. This stand of 850 acres is called the Richmond Pineland, and is the largest tract of pine rockland in the



county. Historically, the pine rockland has been home to a wide variety of animals. For instance, the sulfur, monarch and gulf fritillary butterflies, gopher tortoises, eastern indigo and red rat snakes were all common at one time. Black bears, gray foxes, bobcats, and even Florida panthers once roamed the pine rocklands in large numbers. In

> the slash pines, tall snags and their understory, a wide variety of hawks, owls, woodpeckers, warblers, and sparrows also make their homes.

Once again in the classroom, the group discussed diagrams of the geologic processes that formed the oolitic limestone of the Miami Rock Ridge, and then prepared for the behind-the-scenes portion of the program. The group had pizza and soda to build up energy reserves for the remainder of their time at the Zoo. There would be a significant amount of hiking yet to come, but their enthusiasm for striking out again was high, and carried them well into the balmy evening.

For the next two and a half hours, Zookeeper Chris Taylor led the group on a tour of exotic Zoo animals in their own night houses. Details were flowing freely about size, weight, lifespan, diet, special adaptations and their usual behavior. Bengal tigers and African lions mesmerized the group. A moment was taken to stop at the aviary site to point out where construction on the Zoo's newest and biggest exhibit is imminent. Next, Dahlip, an Asian elephant, was thrilled to have a branch of an umbrella tree as a treat. He ate the woody part first and saved the luscious leaves for last. Dromedary and bactrian camels were happy to see their visitors and to snack on the carrots that they brought along. The sloth bears sucked up grapes like natural dust busters. The group loved the swooshing sound as the grapes disappeared, one by one. The highlight of the evening was a visit to the Indian rhinoceros night house. Behind-the-scenes, we waited in the dark so Chris could let BJ, the Indian rhinoceros, know that people were near his space. Silently, each member of the group lined up to receive a carrot from Chris, and then stepped closer to hand-feed the huge rhino. This was truly an unforgettable moment for those who attended this Wild Night program.

The Children's Home Society of Florida was chartered in 1902, and helped establish the Child Welfare League of America. Early years were mostly focused on serving the large number of local orphans and the development of the American Children's Home. Over time, their services expanded to meet a myriad of social challenges. Today, the Society and the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Services work together in partnership, providing child abuse prevention, crisis intervention, emergency shelter care, specialized group care, adoption, foster care for children with AIDS, working with drug-addicted mothers and their children toward recovery, and case management and support services for the emotionally disturbed. Their mission is "to provide effective solutions to build and support healthy families for Florida's children." Participants of the Children's Home Society attended these two pine rockland workshops and the Wild Nights program through the support of Miami-Dade County.

### Radio Disney's Birthday Bash at the Zoo Sunday, January 20, 2002

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12:00 Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Come celebrate two years of Disney magic! Pajama Jen and the Radio Disney Fun Squad will be celebrating Radio Disney AM 990's second birthday right here at Miami Metrozoo. There will be all kinds of awesome games, musical and variety acts on stage, contests, prizes and other exciting interactive entertainment.



Start the week with an invigorating 5K (3.1 miles) run among the animals at Metrozoo. For serious runners this is an USATF certified course. Be warned! It will be hard to run and not be tempted to stop and observe our wonderful animal ambassadors from around the world.

A fun walk will follow five minutes after the race. Entertainment from the animals is a sure bet.

All participants are welcome to wear animal costumes.

After the run/walk, runners and walkers are encouraged to catch your breath and enjoy breakfast, music and the Zoo.

**COURSE:** 5000 meters inside Miami Metrozoo, by beautiful exhibits and refreshing misters.

**TIME:** Registration: 6:00 a.m.•5K Race: 8:00 a.m.•5K Fun Walk: 8:05 a.m. **FEE:** 5K Race & Fun Walk: Pre-registration \$20.00

Day-of race Registration: \$25.00 • ChampionChip owners: Deduct \$2.00 **Zoo Admission:** Free to all Jungle Jog participants and their families until 9:00 a.m. the day of the race.

#### **Valentine's Day Pineland Hike-for Adults**

Date: Thursday Feb. 14, 2002 Time: 5:00 p.m. sharp to 8:00 p.m. Cost: Members: \$12.00 per Adult • Non-members \$14.00 per Adult Adults only

Give a special valentine surprise to your nature lover! In the late afternoon we will hike into the pineland, discover its unique ecology, and enjoy a gourmet snack. We'll gaze at the night sky with its young moon and its ancient myths, viewing through powerful telescopes. Wear sturdy shoes; the road is rocky!



#### Become more involved in your Zoo: VOLUNTEER!

Volunteers contribute in many different ways. If you'd like to learn more about becoming a volunteer, come to one of our upcoming Open Houses. For dates and times, call the Volunteer Services Office at (305) 255-5551, ext. 124.

# The Sights, Sounds and Sizzling Samba Spirit of Brazil's Carnival Come Alive at Miami Metrozoo's



#### Saturday, March 2

Colorful costumes, samba dancers and high-energy rhythms, all add up to the excitement of Brazil's world famous Carnival, the inspiration for Miami Metrozoo's 2002 *Ball of the Wild*, the moonlight gala hosted by the Zoological Society of Florida. The annual event, which will be held from 7:30 p.m. to midnight, is Metrozoo's largest fundraiser and South Florida's premier social event, drawing more than 600 party animals from Palm Beach to South Dade.

"Carnival is a celebration of life and the perfect backdrop for an evening that supports our world-class Zoo," said **Constance Tolevich Fernandez, 2002 Ball Chairperson.** Guests will stroll through Dr. Wilde's World, among stilt walkers and flag dancers, in a "street-party" atmosphere, while sipping exotic cocktails made with **Matusalem Rum**. A creatively choreographed culinary experience by **Lasso the Moon** will add to the authentic Brazilian flavor of the evening. After dinner, a samba band will lead guests to the stage for a night of spectacular live entertainment coordinated by **Gina Martell, Love 94 DJ** and Ball of the Wild committee member. Zoo favorites, including "**King George**" the Cheetah, will be on stage with emcee **Ron Magill**, Metrozoo's Goodwill Ambassador.

New to this year's *Ball of the Wild* is a fast-paced live auction, featuring such sought-after items as a 15-day voyage around the French and Italian Riviera aboard **ResidenSea's** *The World*, the first ocean-going luxury resort community. The trip, valued at \$35,000, departs from Cannes and visits nine exotic ports-of-call, including Monte Carlo, St. Tropez, Portofino and the Island of Capri. A one-year lease on a 2002 Land **Rover**, provided by Land Rover of South Dade, voted the *best Land Rover dealership in the United States*, will also be auctioned live during the evening. An auctioneer from Christie's will help Metrozoo bring in top dollars. A silent auction, rich with weekend trips, dinners at Miami's best restaurants and fine jewelry, will give guests another opportunity to support Metrozoo.

Created three years ago by Jennifer Getz, president-elect of the Zoological Society of Florida's Board of Directors, *Ball of the Wild* supports a variety of Zoo programs, including conservation, education, marketing and advancement. Ball of the Wild 2002 is presented by Claudia and Alan Potamkin. Sponsors include Equitable Mortgage, Matusalem Rum, Land Rover of South Dade and ResidenSea.

Tables of 10 are \$10,000 and \$5,000. For more information about *Ball of the Wild* or to make reservations, call the Zoological Society of Florida at (305) 255-5551 or visit www.zsf.org.

### Live Music On Sundays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For your relaxation and entertainment, we are pleased to bring you a variety of live musical performances on Sundays at the Lakeside Grille.



