

Special Events: The Birds, Summer Camp, Cool Zoo Summer, Ball of the Wild and more!

TOUCAN TALK

May - June 2003



Did you know
**Birds Are
Living Dinos?**

Slippery when wet
Diving Ducks

Wings of Asia
Opening Festivities

**Barney's
Coming!**

LOOK

WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO



PHOTO: ARIEL OWENS

Birth: Yellow-backed duiker

BIRTHS AND HATCHINGS

- 1 South American red-footed tortoise*March 15
- 5 Banded rails* (Aviary)March 03
(First breeding of this species at Miami Metrozoo)
- 2 Marabou storks*February 23 & 25
- 1 Male yellow-backed duikerJanuary 12

ACQUISITIONS

- 1 Female Eastern bongoMarch 10
- 10 Malaysian giant pond turtles*February 07
- 1 Female crested screamerFebruary 06
- 1 Male black-necked swanFebruary 06
- 15 Fly river turtles*January 12

NEW BIRDS FOR THE AVIARY

- 2 Female Lady Amherst's pheasantsFebruary 22
- 2 Male golden pheasantsFebruary 22
- 1 Male Edward's pheasantFebruary 22
- 1 Female green peafowlFebruary 22
- 3 Male, 2 female crested wood partridgesFebruary 22
- 3 Male Bali mynahsFebruary 05-06
- 1 Male, 1 female collared finch-billed bulbulsFebruary 03
- 2 Male Nicobar pigeonsJanuary 29
- 3 Male, 2 female, 2* pied imperial pigeons January 29

* Gender undetermined

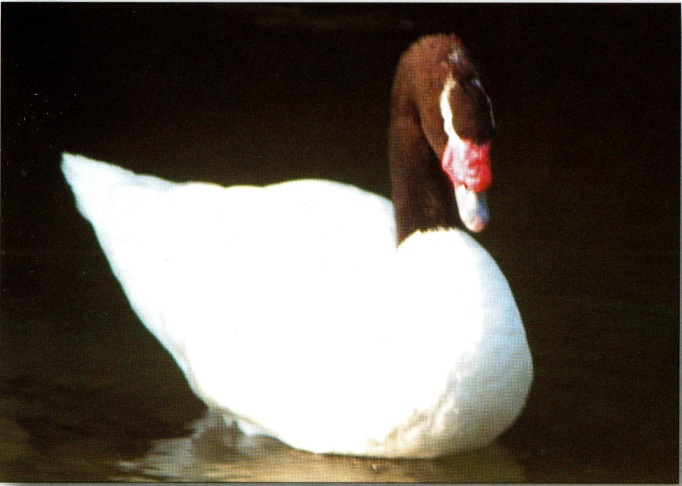


PHOTO: SHERRIE AVERY

Acquisition: Black-necked swan



PHOTOS OF TURTLES & PIGEON: DOLORA BATCHELOR

Aviary: Pied imperial pigeon



Acquisitions: Fly river turtles

Contents

On the Cover:

The male Mandarin duck in its breeding plumage is one of the most ornately beautiful of all birds. The Chinese have featured it in their art for centuries. It is an arboreal duck and has sharp claws to cling to branches. Its large eyes enables it to see well at night.

PHOTO: RON MAGILL



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EDITOR
Sherrie Avery

CREATIVE DIRECTION
Danny Garcia, FB&A Advertising

PHOTOS AND ARTWORK
Jeannette Aquino
Sherrie Avery
Mike Basel
Dolora Batchelor
Agustin Blanco, Alex Gort Photography
Dana Fleitas
Lily R. Forni
Bailey Gibson
Guy Harvey
Hit Entertainment
M. C. Leggitt, Leggitt Design
Jerry Levine
Ron Magill
Ariel Owens
Deborah Ross
Gucci Sarro

PHOTOS AND ARTWORK (CONT.)

Ricardo Stanoss
Adam Stern
Carol Tomlinson
Bill Tuttle
Carolina Vasquez
Patrick Walkington

CONTRIBUTORS

Sherrie Avery
Carla Baker
Joyce & Mike Basel
Jessica Swanson Carcerano
Alys Daley
Glenn W. Ekey
Audrey Farmer
Lily R. Forni
Bill Galloway
Jennifer B. Getz
Marlene Hawkins
Jamie Lassonde
Debbie Mucarsel
Andrea Obregon

CONTRIBUTORS (CONT.)

Chip Roberts
Rachel Watkins Rogers
Jeff Sailer
Ron Stayton
Eric J. Stephens
Carol Tomlinson
Dr. Kathleen Turner, DVM
Diana Udel

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Zoological Society of Florida
12400 SW 152nd Street, Miami, FL 33177
(305) 255-5551
www.miamimetrozoo.com

Glenn W. Ekey,
President & CEO

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Message to Zoo Members



Dear Friends,

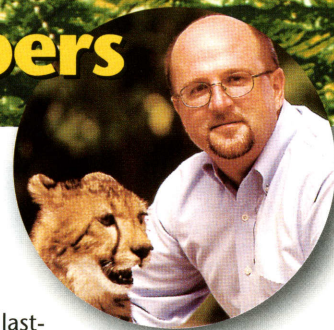
Ecstatic doesn't begin to describe how we feel to finally celebrate the grand opening of the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia!* To walk into the Observation Room of the Temple Ruin and watch the white-eyed ducks diving and swimming underwater, to laugh at the sarus cranes as they haughtily display their wings to their own images looking back at them through the glass doors of the building, and to sit on a bench and just listen to all the wonderful bird songs is a dream come true. The birds are incredible. Miami Metrozoo has truly taken flight! The greatest reward is to see the faces of our members and visitors when they walk into the Aviary Plaza and face the skeleton of *Monolophosaurus* and discover that birds are living dinosaurs - then look closely to see the connection with the birds in the aviary. I hope you will come visit the *Wings of Asia* often and bring your friends, too. Your membership dollars contributed to this incredible new exhibit. Many thanks for being a friend and supporter of Miami Metrozoo.

We look forward to sharing our excitement with you at the Grand Opening festivities on May 3rd and 4th.

Glenn W. Ekey,

President & CEO

Zoological Society of Florida



Dear Friends,

This issue of Toucan Talk is being mailed just as we are finalizing the last-minute touches for the long-awaited opening of our fabulous new aviary. The client team made up of Zoo and ZSF staff, Board members, staff from the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department as well as our own scientific advisors, has come together to create, with the Portico Group, our most significant exhibit complex yet. To say that we are excited about this opening does not come close to the range of emotions that many of us are feeling as the magic day approaches. So many different perspectives are at play here: hurricane damage and recovery, new construction advances, a unique story line from which we are building interactive education programs, landscaping challenges, an increase in bird department staff, and of course, the conservation of Asian bird species. The growth in our bird collection, and the diversity represented is due to a tremendous plan formulated by Jeff Sailer, Carl Burch and the entire bird department.

To say that I am proud of our staff and am honored to work with them also does not come close to how I really feel about working at our Zoo.

Eric J. Stephens,

Director

Miami Metrozoo



In Memory of Robert "Bob" Paul (1931 - 2003)

The Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) mourns the loss of its former president (90-91) Robert "Bob" Paul who passed away on January 12, 2003 due to complications from diabetes and kidney disease.

ZSF Executive Committee Member Bill Gallwey commented, "He made the guest experience part of the planning process of the Zoo, providing for comforts like shaded areas and fountains. He would walk the entire Zoo to make sure he was fully attentive to the visitor experience."

Bob will be greatly missed!



February 12 marked the release of the first birds into the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia*.

A crowd gathered to watch Kirk Landon, retired chairman of American Bankers Insurance Group, release these first birds, the common white-eyed ducks. The first duck, a young female, exited her crate and looked apprehensively at the water but then jumped in. Within a few minutes all six ducks were busily paddling in the water. Everyone was excited to finally see birds in the new aviary, but I don't think any of the onlookers were ready for the show that the ducks decided to put on. All six ducks began to dive and search for grain that the bird keepers had scattered around the pool. Repeatedly, the birds dived down to the bottom of the pool to forage for food. Many people have seen ducks dive, but in the *Wings of Asia*, visitors can actually watch the birds swim underwater through the glass sides of the pool. It is a truly wonderful sight to be able to see these little ducks navigate around the pool bottom.

Common white-eyed ducks (*Aythya nyroca*) are found throughout northern Europe and Asia. They migrate to the Mediterranean and southern Asia in the winter. At first glance they appear to be drab, little, brown ducks, but on closer inspection they are actually very interesting. The males are a very rich chocolate color and have the brilliant white eyes for which the species is named. The females are slightly smaller, a darker shade of brown, and have brown eyes. This species belongs to a group of ducks known as diving ducks. They specialize on food items that are found at the bottom of lakes, rivers, and bays. Grain, aquatic vegetation, insect larvae, and mollusks make up the majority of their diet in the wild.

Common white-eyed ducks have legs that are positioned farther back on their bodies than in non-diving ducks. This characteristic makes it easier for them to swim underwater. The hardest part of diving is actually staying under the water. Ducks are so buoyant that they actually have to work to stay under. When they stop paddling they rise quickly to the surface. The white-eyes, like other ducks, also have an oil gland located at the base of their tails. They preen their feathers with the oil and it makes the feathers waterproof. You can see the effect the oil has on the feathers while watching the ducks dive and surface.

I encourage you to take the time to watch these little brown ducks on your visit to the *Wings of Asia*. Sometimes, the most interesting birds aren't the most brightly colored!

Metrozoo's answer to penguins...
...white-eyed ducks!

Diving Ducks

By Jeff Sailer, Curator of Birds

The mighty
Tyrannosaurus rex



As a child, when my family took me to the local science museum, I don't think they realized it would spark a lifelong interest in paleontology.

For it was there that we could come in contact with a life-size model of a Tyrannosaurus-Rex! My cousins and I would spend hours playing with the little plastic dinosaur toys we begged our parents to buy at the gift shop. Like many children, I was fascinated with dinosaurs.

Back then dinosaurs were thought to be big, lumbering, Godzilla-like creatures. Today, however, Paleontologists have a very different view of these ancient animals. In fact, now many scientists agree that birds are indeed living dinosaurs!

Dinosaurs

A new theory of

By Jessica Swanson Carcerano

Sound a little hard to believe? You're not alone. Many people are wondering what exactly has caused scientists to shift their views. Actually, the theory that birds and dinosaurs are closely related is not a new one. Scientists have known there is a bird-dinosaur connection for close to 143 years. When Archaeopteryx (ahr-kee-OP-ter-ix) was discovered in 1860, it revolutionized the way people viewed dinosaurs. Archaeopteryx, which is classified as a bird, had wings and feathers but it also had dinosaur traits, which included teeth and a tail!

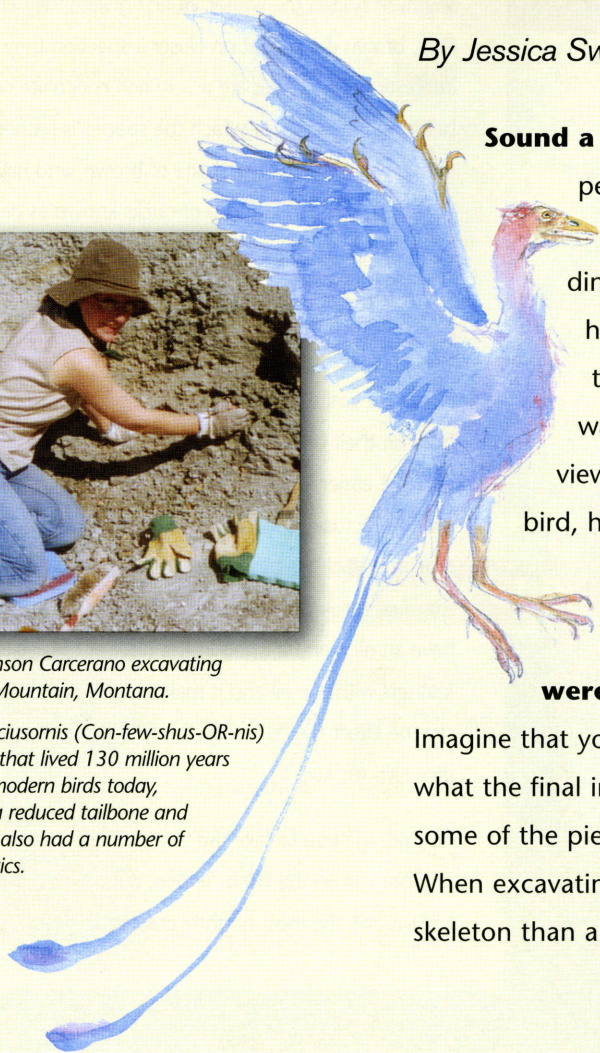
If this evidence has existed for so long, why weren't birds classified as dinosaurs earlier?

Imagine that you're putting a jigsaw puzzle together. You don't know what the final image is supposed to be and then you find out that some of the pieces are missing. That's what paleontology is like. When excavating dinosaurs, it's more likely that you will find a partial skeleton than a complete one. Dinosaurs are often reconstructed



(Above) Jessica Swanson Carcerano excavating Maiasaurus at Egg Mountain, Montana.

(Above Right) Confuciusornis (Con-few-shus-OR-nis) was an ancient bird that lived 130 million years ago in China. Like modern birds today, Confuciusornis had a reduced tailbone and was toothless, but it also had a number of primitive characteristics.



piece by piece, and you don't always find all the pieces. Sometimes scientists have to guess what's missing. They are educated guesses based on real scientific evidence that has been carefully studied and scrutinized, but a guess nonetheless. As more and more scientific evidence is unearthed, paleontologists now have evidence supporting the theory that birds are living dinosaurs!



Bird prints and the tracks of some dinosaurs are very, very similar.

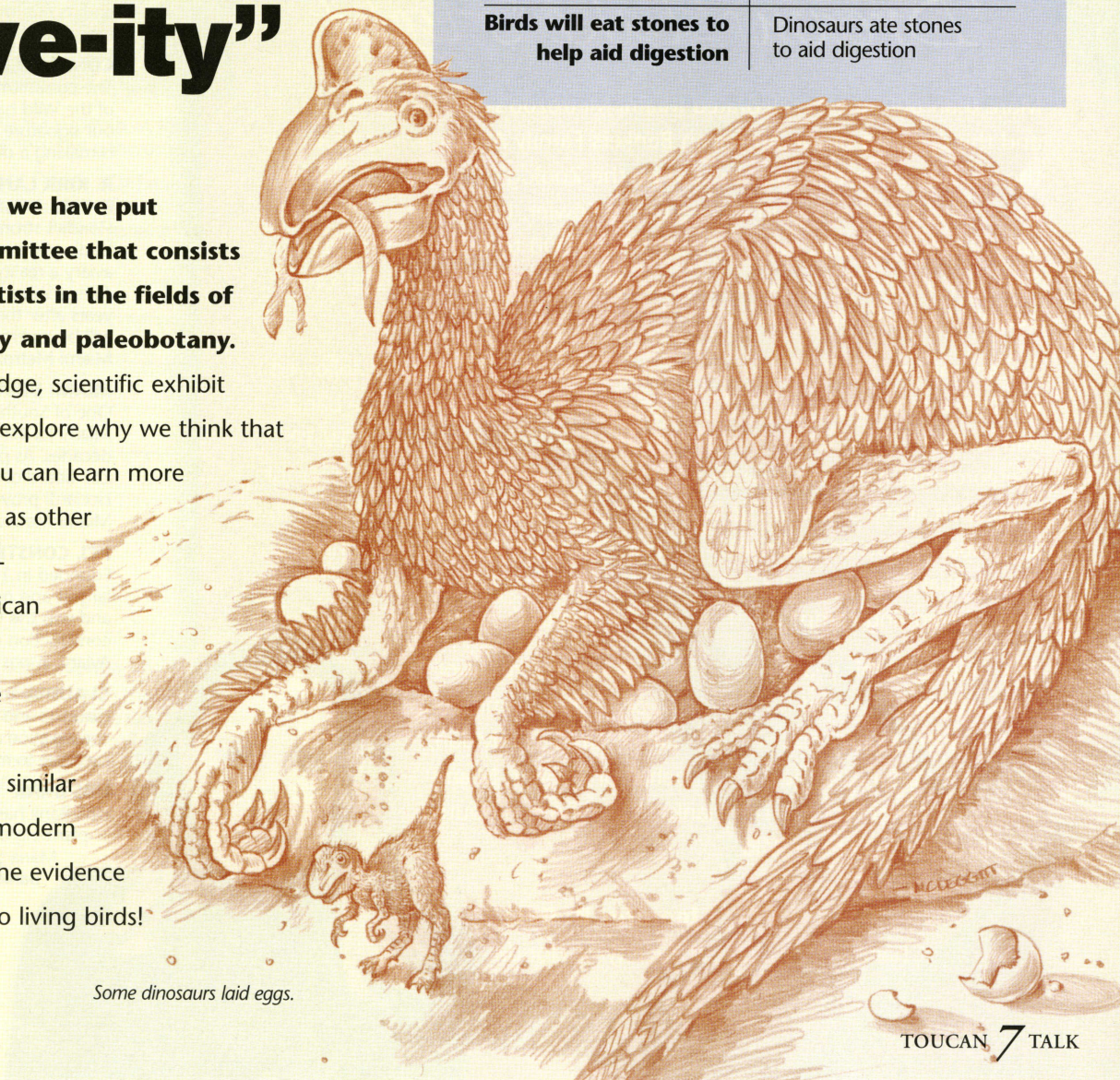
Bird & Dinosaur Similarities

| | |
|--|--|
| Birds lay eggs | Some dinosaurs laid eggs (Miasaura, Oviraptor, etc.) |
| Birds have feathers | Some dinosaurs had feathers |
| Birds build nests | Some dinosaurs built nests |
| Birds have wishbones | Some dinosaurs had wishbones |
| Birds have beaks | Some dinosaurs had beaks |
| Birds have hollow bones | Some dinosaurs had hollow bones |
| Birds are warm blooded | Dinosaurs were probably warm blooded |
| Birds have a bony ring around their eye sockets | Some dinosaurs had a bony ring around their eye sockets |
| Birds (like ostriches and emus) walk on their toes | Some dinosaurs walked on their toes |
| Birds have a semi-moon shaped bone in their wrists (called a semi-lunate carpal bone) | Some dinosaurs had a semi-lunate carpal bone in their wrists |
| Birds will eat stones to help aid digestion | Dinosaurs ate stones to aid digestion |

to Birds “relative-ity”

Here at Miami Metrozoo, we have put together a scientific committee that consists of world-renowned scientists in the fields of paleontology, ornithology and paleobotany.

We have created a cutting edge, scientific exhibit where the whole family can explore why we think that birds are living dinosaurs. You can learn more about Archaeopteryx as well as other major discoveries in the bird-dinosaur theory at the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings Of Asia* exhibit. You will have the opportunity to excavate dinosaur bones and see how similar they are to the skeletons of modern birds. Come examine all of the evidence and compare your findings to living birds!



Some dinosaurs laid eggs.



BALL OF THE WILD 2003

Dreams Take Flight

More than 600 guests celebrated Miami Metrozoo's world-class future and the opening of the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia* at the black-tie, moonlit gala. Hosted by the Zoological Society of Florida, the annual fundraiser paid tribute to Jim Fowler, the first father of wildlife television and raised a record \$450,000 to help support the Society's programs in education, conservation and advancement on behalf of Miami Metrozoo.

Guests enjoyed cocktails and a silent auction at Dr. Wilde's World, followed by dinner and dancing in a softly-lit tent, complete with a 40s style band with crooner Allan Harris and ballroom dancers. Bob Soper, WFOR TV 10 Meteorologist and long-time friend of the Zoo, served as the auctioneer for a vacation at sea onboard *The World of ResidenSea*, a trip to Venice and the Dalmatian Coasts compliments of Far&Wide Travel, a Learjet charter from Presidential Aviation, and a starring role for two lucky children in the Zoo's advertising campaign, thanks to their parent's generosity.

The success of this year's Ball of the Wild was the result of the extraordinary efforts of the members of the Ball Committee, our wonderful party planner and caterer, Lasso The Moon, sponsors, donors and guests. On behalf of ZSF and Miami Metrozoo, I extend heart-felt thanks to all who contributed to this year's Ball of the Wild.

Jennifer B. Getz,
Chairman, Zoological Society of Florida



JIM FOWLER, 2003 MIAMI METROZOO AMBASSADOR FOR WILDLIFE

We were honored to present the first Miami Metrozoo Ambassador for Wildlife Award to Jim Fowler. One of the world's best-known naturalists, Jim has been educating the American public about wildlife and conservation for more than 35 years. Jim received Emmy Awards for Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom and currently hosts "Jim Fowler's Life In the Wild." He has been the wildlife correspondent for NBC's Today Show since 1988, and was a regular on The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson. Today, Jim is President of the Fowler Center for Wildlife Education in New York, and he serves as the Honorary President of the Explorer's Club.



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The Collection is a leader in quality and excellence, and its commitment to Miami Metrozoo is a fine example of its dedication to the community.

CONSTANCE & MIKE FERNANDEZ

The commitment of Constance and Mike to Ball of the Wild has helped us set a new standard for our signature fundraiser. Their continued support is making a difference for all who visit the Zoo.

R. KIRK LANDON

R. Kirk Landon, one of the Zoological Society of Florida's strongest supporters, has played a leading role in making the Zoo's dream of a new aviary a reality. The American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia*, rising from the debris ten years after the devastation of Hurricane Andrew, will be a permanent reminder of the fortitude of Miami Metrozoo and Kirk's support.

MIAMI JAI-ALAI

One of South Florida's great corporate neighbors, Miami Jai-Alai has supported the Zoo for two decades. As past Chairman and member of the ZSF Board of Directors, Miami Jai-Alai's Dan Licciardi provides strong leadership to ZSF and Miami Metrozoo, helping to shape our future.

PCL CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC

Founded in 1906, PCL is one of North America's largest and most experienced construction firms and was the General Contractor for the construction of the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia*.

CLAUDIA & ALAN POTAMKIN

Claudia's and Alan's generous contribution supports conservation and other vital programs that continue to make ours a world-class Zoo.

UBS BANK

UBS Bank has played an integral role in the planning of Ball of the Wild. Our thanks to Ana Maria Salaya, Udo Hamm and the UBS Bank team.

Thank you!



You're a great friend!

On behalf of all our furry, winged, and scaly friends at Miami Metrozoo, we thank you for your kindness and generosity.

The mission of the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) and Miami Metrozoo is to encourage an appreciation for the world's wildlife and to help conserve it for future generations.

Please help us update our record.

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AFFIX
HERE

YES! I want to support the Zoological Society of Florida's work at Miami Metrozoo.

Enclosed is my contribution of:

- \$1,000 \$500
 \$250 \$100
 \$50 \$25
 Other amount \$ _____

We are grateful for donations of any amount and ask that you be as generous as possible.

My donation is for:

- Support of critical ZSF educational programs
 ZSF's Adopt-An-Animal program
Specify animal _____
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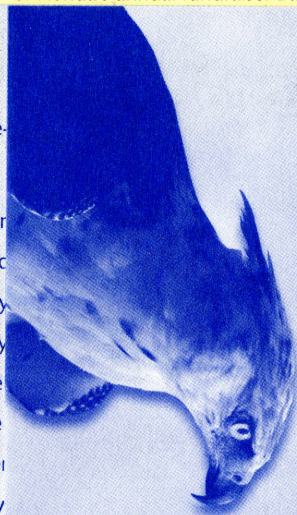
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CAMPERS!

IMPORTANT: PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF FORM.

CAMPERS ONLY/CAMPER'S MEDICAL INFORMATION

Physician's Name _____

Phone _____

Dentist's 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/dentist for my child.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date _____

Please indicate any medical conditions or health problems of which the Camp staff should be aware.

Please describe: (if you require further space, please use a separate sheet of paper):

Allergies _____

Handicap _____

Prescribed Medications _____

Other _____

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

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date _____

NAME OF PERSON(S) WHO WILL PICK UP THE CHILD

Name _____

Relationship _____

Phone# _____

Second name _____

Relationship _____

Phone# _____

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UBS Bank
Victoria's Armoire
The Wild Bunch
William Peacock Design
The Wine News
The World of ResidenSea
The Worth Collections
Yamaha Golf-Car Company
Dr. Martin N. Zaiac

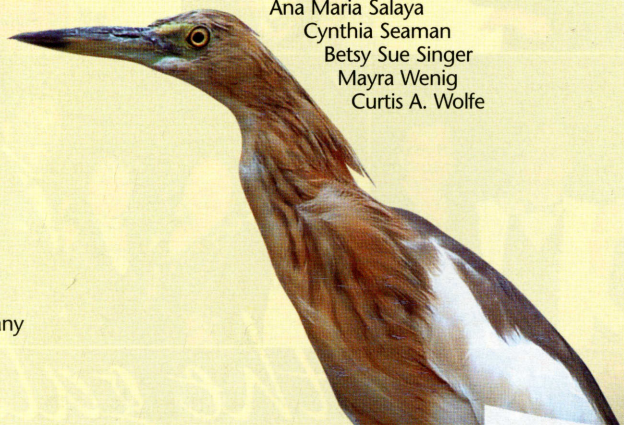


BALL OF THE WILD GALA COMMITTEE

The Zoological Society of Florida and Miami Metrozoo are truly grateful to the exemplary Ball of the Wild 2003 volunteer committee for all their hard work and for creating the most spectacular and successful fundraiser ever.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Peter Bates
Shirley Berkeley
Lisa Moore Brayer
Melina Ledakis Brosious
Alys Daly
Phillip Freedman
Jennifer B. Getz
Ronn Glanz
Kimberly Green
Connie Huergo
Joyce I. Kory
Jeanne Libman
Ann Machado
Gina Martell
Ana Milton
Rick Nicholls
Anne-Marie Partridge
William Peacock
Jay Pelham
Jose A. Pimentel
Sandy Robinson
Katharine Rubino
Ana Maria Salaya
Cynthia Seaman
Betsy Sue Singer
Mayra Wenig
Curtis A. Wolfe



Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to the **Assurant Group** for renewing its support through the White Tiger Corporate Circle and to **Valerie H. Seasholtz** for making it happen. Our deep gratitude to the **Batchelor Foundation, Inc.** for its untiring commitment to ZSF's and Miami Metrozoo's goals. A huge and sincere thank you to **Kirk Landon** for your faithful support and for challenging your fellow Board members to leave no stone unturned in finding support for our Zoo! Sincerest thanks to the **Lucia H. Shipley Foundation, Inc.** for its continued support of and dedication to our mission. A sincere thank you to **John Mestepey** for supporting the Zoological Society's programs. Our appreciation to **Michael A. Nuzzo** for your generous support of the Zoo. Our gratitude to **Steel Hector & Davis LLP** for renewing its corporate membership in the Wild Bunch and especially to **Guillermo Levy** for your commitment and leadership in Chairing the Wild Bunch.

Our grateful thanks to **Botanics Wholesale** and especially to **Chris Oppenheimer** for your continued generosity to Miami Metrozoo and your recent donation of Bismarkia palms and Dahoon Holly trees (*Ilex cassine*). These trees allow us to continue landscape beautification and shade throughout the Zoo. Previous Bismarkia palms donated by Botanics Wholesale have been planted in between the royal palms, greatly enhancing Zoo Boulevard. Many thanks to **Nick Brodka of Troop 457** and the **55 volunteers** he recruited to

plant 400 bald cypress trees as his eagle scout project. The trees were planted around the edges of the Zoo's inner lakes to improve wildlife habitat. The trees were part of a grant to the Zoo from the **National Tree Trust**.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make Radio Disney's 3rd Annual Birthday Bash at Miami Metrozoo a great event: **Aaron Carter; Able Sanitation, Inc.; Gomez and Son Fence Company; LMNT; Miami-Dade Police and Fire Departments; Radio Disney AM 990's staff and volunteers; Reprografia; Roc-Off Productions, Inc.; Ticketweb; Triple Image;** and the wonderful **staff and volunteers at Miami Metrozoo and the Zoological Society of Florida.**

Hats off to everyone who helped make the Miami Metrozoo Great Egg Safari a fun success: **AJM Entertainment; A Navas Party Production; Ayers Distributing; Robert Baez; 97.3 FM The Coast; The Clothing Warehouse; Fantasy Theatre Factory; Steve Gryb; The Hip Hop Kidz; JCA Entertainment; Radio Disney AM 990, Reprografia; Roc-Off Productions; Shannon Wood;** and the helpful **staff and volunteers at Miami Metrozoo and the Zoological Society of Florida.**

You're great friends to have!



Seen at the gala... 1. Willy and Angie Cabeza, Jon and Nancy Batchelor, 2. Pamela Garrison and R. Kirk Landon, 3. Ron Magill, Ana Maria Salaya, Jim Fowler, 4. Constance and Mike Fernandez, Claudia and Alan Potamkin, 5. Commissioner Katy Sorenson and Dr. Janis Dzelzkalns, 6. Glenn and Dianne Ekey, Eric and Sandy Stephens, 7. State Representative Edward Bullard and State Senator Larcenia Bullard with Margaret and Commissioner Dennis Moss, 8. Vivian Donnell Rodriguez, Ivan Rodriguez and Jennifer Getz, 9. Mario Campos, Emilie Graiel, Kathryn Carrol, James Brannam

2003 GUIDE



2002 CAMP ART: BAILEY GIBSON (AGE 9)

A. Animals' Relatives

Who are the birds' ancestors? Are hippos and zebras really distant cousins? Would you believe that gorillas and lemurs are related? Do you know what koalas and opossums have in common? Discover what the similarities are between these animals and others. You'll have a great time meeting animals' wild and fascinating extended families!

B. The Place to Be

Exotic locations or faraway lands, everyone needs a place to come home. Homes are as important to animals as they are to us. During this week, we will look at animals' habitats and how animals find what they need to survive in their niches of the world.

But what if wild animals no longer find what they need in their natural habitats? What would life be like without a place to call your own or no more favorite things to eat? At Zoo Camp, you will discover some tips on how to help wildlife.

C. Dining with an Attitude!

What are tigers' and Komodo dragons' favorite meals? What do they do when they are hungry? Meat eaters are equipped with just the right tools to put "dinner on the table." Some animals may have special eyes to see in the dim light of the forest at night, and others may have an acute sense of smell to detect the presence of a potential dinner. At Zoo Camp, you'll watch and learn about some mighty predators!

D. Plant Eaters with Issues!

They're always on the lookout! After all, it's not fun to be on a snake's or a leopard's menu! What do you do when things get rough? Run for your life! Jumping, hiding, climbing, and slithering away are good ideas, too! Well, the bright side for the plant eaters is that their lunch isn't going anywhere! You'll have a grand time with the Zoo animals while discovering how plant eaters deal with possibly being prey for other animals.

CONTACT US TODAY!

To register, call the
Zoological Society of Florida
at (305) 255-5551.

Schedules are subject to change.

For more information about
Miami Metrozoo, visit our
website at
www.miamimetrozoo.com.

Session dates to remember...

JUNE 16 – 20

A. Animals' Relatives 4-6-year-olds
C. Dining with an Attitude! 7-10-year-olds

JULY 21 – 25

B. The Place to Be 4-6-year-olds
D. Plant Eaters with Issues! 7-10-year-olds

JUNE 23 – 27

B. The Place to Be 4-6-year-olds
D. Plant Eaters with Issues! 7-10-year-olds

JULY 28 – AUGUST 1

C. Dining with an Attitude! 4-6-year-olds
A. Animals' Relatives 7-10-year-olds

JUNE 30 – JULY 4*

C. Dining with an Attitude! 4-6-year-olds
A. Animals' Relatives 7-10-year-olds
A. Animals' Relatives 11-13-year-olds

AUGUST 4 – 8

D. Plant Eaters with Issues! 4-6-year-olds
B. The Place to Be 7-10-year-olds

JULY 7 – 11

D. Plant Eaters with Issues! 4-6-year-olds
B. The Place to Be 7-10-year-olds

AUGUST 11 – 15

A. Animals' Relatives 4-6-year-olds
C. Dining with an Attitude! 7-10-year-olds

JULY 14 – 18

A. Animals' Relatives 4-6-year-olds
C. Dining with an Attitude! 7-10-year-olds

* Note: Camp will be held on July 4



PHOTO: BLACK-NAPED ORIOLE BY DOLORA BATCHELOR

2003 GUIDE

Camp schedule and costs

JUNE 16 – AUGUST 15, 2003

9:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M., Monday – Friday

Ages 4 to 13 years old. Morning & Afternoon snacks provided. Campers must bring their own lunches with drinks from home.

Cost: \$150 per week (Members: \$130 per week)

- Morning drop-off is 8:30 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.
- Extended care is 3:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
- Cancellation fee: A \$30 fee is applied if cancellation is made ten days or less prior to the program date
- \$5 discount per additional child, and \$5 discount per additional week (Discounts apply to immediate family only)
- Pre-registration with payment is required at least 10 days before the week of camp begins



2002 CAMP ART: BAILEY GIBSON (AGE 9)

CONTACT US TODAY!

To register, call the
Zoological Society of Florida
at (305) 255-5551.

Schedules are subject to change.

For more information about
Miami Metrozoo, visit our
website at
www.miamimetrozoo.com.

My Favorite thing about zoo camp was making new friends and learned new things about animals. We learned about nocturnal, exotic, Native, prey defence, camouflage, migration, and predators. We also went behind the scenes and went to see many animals.

Patrick Walkington
10 years old



Camp activities

- Classroom presentations with animal skulls, skins, teeth, tusks, and more
- Visit to the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia*
- Visit to Dr. Wilde's World and the wonders of the Tropical American rainforest
- Visit to animal exhibits and the animal keepers
- A behind-the-scene visit each week
- Many close-up classroom encounters with small birds, mammals and reptiles
- Arts and crafts
- Classroom preparation of special treats and toys for animal enrichment, followed by a visit to watch the animals enjoy their gifts
- Visit to the endangered pine rockland forest
- Water play (children should have a change of clothes)
- Playground time
- Songs, games, and storytelling

2003 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

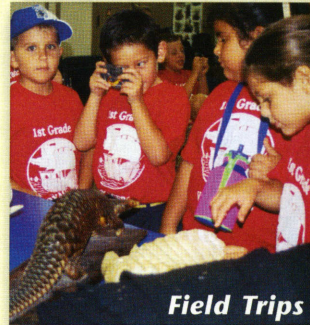
FIELD TRIP CLASSROOM PROGRAM

January - June 2003

Free for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, grades K-12. For private schools and non-Miami-Dade County public schools, the cost is \$25.00 per class; maximum class size: 50 students.

Each classroom presentation is designed for specific grade levels. For information, call: Education Department: 305-255-5551, Ext. 112 or 128

To reserve a date/time, plus plan daytime activities at the Zoo, call: Group Sales Office: 305-251-0400, Ext. 246 or 230.



Field Trips

WILD NIGHT

SIGN-UP NOW!

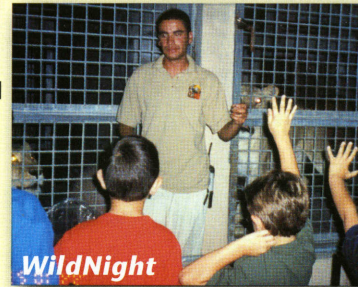
Friday, May 23, 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

See Wildlife by Starlight! "Get close" to selected exotic animals during this behind-the-scenes guided walking tour. Enjoy the sensational sights, scents and sounds of animals in their night habitats. A pizza dinner is served before this educational adventure begins. For individuals, families, friends, classmates and more. Limited to 30 participants. Adults and children ages six and older.

Special dates for private groups are available. Pre-registration is required. Call 305-255-5551, Ext. 125.

COST: Members: \$22.00 per person

Non-Members: \$28.00 per person



WildNight

ZOO INN

Every Friday and Saturday during the school year

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 A.M.

Bring your scout troop, youth group, biology class or adult group to snooze at the Zoo! Prepare for a moonlight adventure as you are guided behind-the-scenes and get close to the animals. Learn as you explore! Pizza dinner, an evening snack and continental breakfast are included, plus a memorable t-shirt and a patch. There is a morning activity or animal presentation before departure.

COST: Members: \$42.00 per person

Non-members: \$48.00 per person

Minimum group size: 15; Maximum group size: 30

Pre-registration is required. Call 305-255-5551, Ext. 125.

Program varies according to animal availability.



Zoo Inn

ZOODLER ACADEMY

May - June 2003

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

TUESDAYS

2 to 3-Year-Olds: 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

May 06: Asian Adventure

May 13: African Safari

May 20: Australian Outback

May 27: Exotic South America



Zoodler Academy

THURSDAYS

2 to 4-Year-Olds: 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

3 to 4-Year-Olds: 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

May 08: Asian Adventure

May 15: African Safari

May 22: Australian Outback

May 29: Exotic South America

Pre-registration is required.

COST: Members: One Adult and One Child: \$13.00 per class; Additional Participants (Infant through Adult): \$5.00 each per class.
Non-Members: One Adult and One Child: \$15.00 per class; Additional Participants (Infant through Adult): \$6.00 each per class.
Alumni of Zoodler Academy's 2001-2002 Season: \$2.00 discount per class.

Note: The Zoodler Program is for one adult and one child. Class sizes are limited and pre-registration is required. Additional participants must also pre-enroll in order to attend class.

No refunds or credits for missed classes. Pre-registration is required.

To register, call 305-255-5551, Ext. 125

ZOODLER ACADEMY GRADUATION

June 5th 2003, 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

It's that time again when we honor the new Zoodler class of 2003! Have your little one join in the ceremony. Any child that has attended at least one Zoodler class is eligible to attend the year-end celebration.

Pre-registration is required by May 23. Same cost as for Zoodler Academy.



SUMMER ZOO CAMP

June 16 - August 15, 2003, Monday - Friday,

9:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

"Look what the campers made for me!"

A sun bear beats the heat with a frozen ice pop!



Come celebrate with us!

The entire Zoo will be electrified with the sights, sounds and smells of Asia throughout the month of May as we celebrate the long-awaited re-opening of the Zoo's popular exhibit, the American Bankers Family Aviary, Wings of Asia.

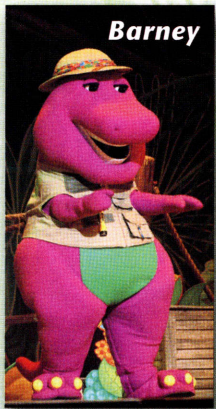


Wings of Asia at Miami Metrozoo

We hope you will plan to come to ALL the events and to tell all your friends, family and co-workers to come see the most beautiful birds and fabulous entertainment in South Florida!

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 3 & Sunday, May 4
10 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.



Barney

- BARNEY
- Splendid China Acrobats
- Fu Shu Daiko Drummers
- Asian Lion Dance
- Polynesian Dance
- Philippine Dance
- Bangladesh Dance
- Thai Dance
- Middle Eastern Dance
- Classic Indian Dance
- Dragon Swords
- Origami, Indian paper cutting
- Oriental masks (face painting)

May 3 only

Meet **Dr. Mark Norell**, Paleontologist and Chair of the Department of Paleontology, American Museum of Natural History in New York, and learn how today's birds are related to dinosaurs.

May 4 only

Jeff Sailer, Curator of Birds, Miami Metrozoo will explain many of the fascinating characteristics, habitats and behaviors of birds.

KIDS' DAY

Saturday, May 10 & Sunday, May 11

- Professional kite flying with **Dan Ward, Skyward Kites**
- Kite making
- Chopstick contest with Haiku and Chu
- Philippine Dance
- UM Chinese School entertainers
- Acrobats, hoops and more
- Oriental masks (face painting)

ASIANS AROUND THE WORLD

Saturday, May 17 & Sunday, May 18

- East Indian Chutney Review presented by the Caribbean Cultural Connection
- Chopstick contest with Haiku and Chu
- Philippine Dance
- Art of India paper cutting, rangoli (rice decorations), mehendi (art of henna body ornamentation), decorating with braids & sequins
- Pan-Asian Dance Review
- Oriental masks (face painting)

POLYNESIAN WEEKEND

Saturday, May 24 & Sunday, May 25

- Mai Kai Polynesian Review
- Chopstick contest with Haiku and Chu
- Philippine Dance
- Floral art and lei making
- Oriental masks (face painting)

AMERICAN DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT

Memorial Day, Monday, May 26

- International Recording Artist **Tom Toyama**
- Costume & Flag Parade of Nations
- Chopstick contest with Haiku and Chu
- Philippine Dance
- Fu Shu Daiko Drummers
- Oriental masks (face painting)
- Closing ceremony & Color Guard

EVENTS, DATES AND TIMES
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



AT THE ZOO!

SEASONAL FUN FOR EVERYONE!

BARNEY'S BACK!

Join Barney for the Grand Opening of the Aviary
Saturday, May 3 and Sunday, May 4
11:00 - 11:30 A.M. and 3:00 - 3:30 P.M.
At the Amphitheater

America's favorite purple dinosaur was here to celebrate the groundbreaking for the aviary in September, 2001, and now he's back to celebrate the Grand Opening of the American Bankers Family Aviary, Wings of Asia. The big story at the aviary is that today's birds are living dinosaurs! Kids, join Barney for a 20-minute sing-along with your favorite songs.



THE AMERICAN BANKERS FAMILY AVIARY WINGS OF ASIA

Open daily from 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
The Birds Are Back!

Brilliantly colored pheasants, hornbills, pigeons, mynahs and magpies show off their shimmering, iridescent plumage as you walk among them. Tiny and large birds swoop overhead, perch on branches and even strut and stroll right by you. Aquatic birds swim in the lake, occasionally diving for fish, and you can observe them both on top of and under the water through the glass viewing walls of the Asian Temple's Observation Center.

Dinosaur Encounters!

Did you know that Tyrannosaurus rex is a relative of the tiny Mandarin duck? Miami Metrozoo's Wings of Asia is the only known zoo exhibit in the world to tell the story that birds are living dinosaurs in such a dramatic way!

Throughout the entry plaza, shaded story pavilions weave the story of evolution. Explore the Field Research Camp for all sorts of hands-on fun. Manipulate realistic casts of dinosaur fossils and bird skeletons, view a film showing the link between dinosaurs and birds, and make up your own stories with bird puppets.

Search for the skeleton of a 40-foot long carnivorous dinosaur in a mock fossil excavation pit. A Saurapod's leg and foot, next to a much smaller leg and foot of a Theropod, demonstrate the difference between carnivorous (meat-eating) and herbivorous (plant-eating) dinosaurs by the shapes of their toes. It's up to you to determine which dinosaurs have been walking about.

DR. WILDE'S WORLD SHOWCASES THE TROPICS

March - June 29, 2003
10:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

(Zoo Entrance closes at 4:00 P.M.)

Enjoy a unique hands-on, interactive adventure into the very heart of the mysteries of the Tropical American rainforest. Awaiting you at the George Batchelor Theater, a 100-inch video screen complete with surround-sound will immerse you into the tropical rainforest of southern Mexico, Central America and northern South America. Your senses will be on overload as you inspect the artifacts and crafts made by the indigenous rainforest people, marvel at the 500-gallon aquarium with a lung fish from the Amazon River, and be challenged to identify hidden wonders within the 30 ft. x 8 ft. mural of the Tropical American rainforest.



COOL ZOO SUMMER FUN

All of June, July and August

There are lots of ways to keep cool at the Zoo this summer, so be sure to bring a bathing suit or change of clothes for the kids. Children love the Seahorse water playground next to the Children's Zoo. Check out the Rain Rooms, fans and all the misters along the walkways. Chickee huts, covered rest areas and the air-conditioned free monorail will help you escape the sun and heat as you travel throughout the Zoo. Also for your cool comfort, explore the wonders of the Tropical American rainforest in our indoor, air-conditioned Dr. Wilde's World and the temple and Field Research Center at Wings of Asia. It's way cool at the Zoo!

Cool down with an ice cream and a variety of live musical performances throughout June, July and August.

INVITE THE ANIMALS TO YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Come party at the Zoo and have a birthday that everyone will remember. We can bring some of Miami Metrozoo's Wildlife Show animals to your party for a very special presentation. You and your guests can interact with the animals, including a parrot that imitates a variety of animal sounds, does crazy sound effects and even sings "Happy Birthday!"

For more information and reservations, call (305) 233-8389 (between 9:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M.) for available dates and bookings.

THE WORLD OF GUY HARVEY & ART AND THE ANIMAL

SAVE THIS DATE! Saturday, July 12

Mark your calendar to meet world-renowned artist Guy Harvey who will be speaking and signing works for a pre-opening celebration of Art and the Animal, the 42nd Annual Exhibition of the Society of Animal Artists.



Calendar events and dates are subject to change. For more information please call the Zoological Society of Florida at:

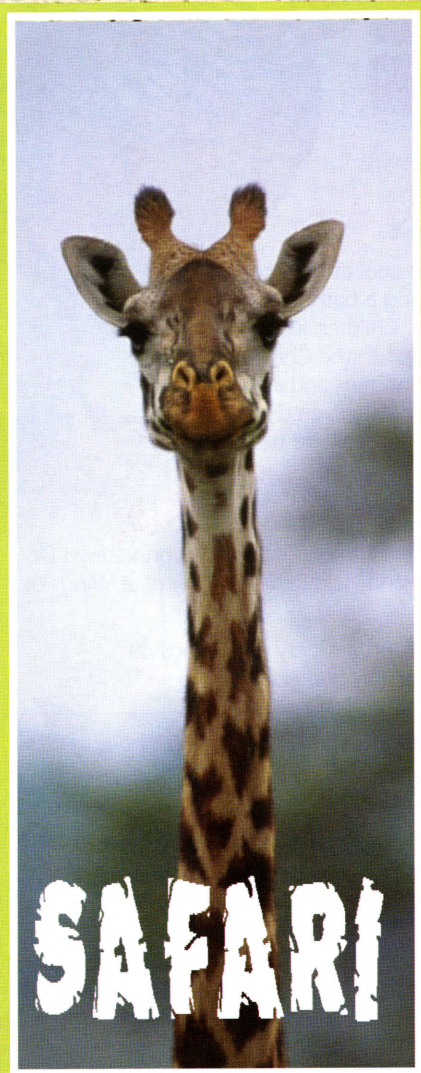
(305) 255-5551

or visit our website at www.miamimetrozoo.com.

FREE Wings of Asia Post Card

Visit the gift shop at the American Bankers Family Aviary Asian Temple and get a FREE Wings of Asia postcard.

ONE CARD PER COUPON. OFFER EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2003.



Safari to

KENYA

Visiting Kenya's finest lodges and camps

A WILDLIFE WONDERLAND

Departs Miami
November 14, 2003

Join this exciting adventure to view the world's most spectacular wildlife – fully escorted from Miami.

Accommodations:

- Luxury tented camp in the great Samburu Reserve
- Beautiful Mountain Lodge on Mt. Kenya
- Lake Nakuru with millions of flamingos
- Siana Springs luxury camp in the Masai Mara Reserve

Features:

- Return trip airfare via Amsterdam on KLM Royal Dutch Airlines
- Fully inclusive of all meals and entrance fees
- Game viewing daily in comfortable safari vehicles – everyone with a window seat
- Kenya's most famous reserves with spectacular wildlife
- Fully escorted by a Zoo curatorial staff member

All for only **\$2,995.00**
per person, - double occupancy.

Call: *for more information and a free brochure*

1-800-323-8020 Don't delay, *SPACE is limited*

The Zoological Society of Florida is not the sponsor of this trip and assumes no responsibility or liability for events occurring during the trip, cancellations or scheduling changes.



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