

INTERNATIONAL ZOO NEWS

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Grants for zoos

Wildlife Preservation Trust International has been awarded a \$100,000 grant by the J. N. Pew, Jr. Charitable Trust of Philadelphia, USA, for renovation of the International Training Centre on Jersey, Channel Islands. The International Training Centre is an educational and research facility dedicated to training students and professionals in the science of captive propagation of endangered species. These funds will provide for renovation of student dormitory rooms, reference library, and research laboratories.

The Safeco Insurance Company has given the Seattle Zoological Society \$55,000 to help build a \$110,000 naturalistic snow leopard exhibit at the Woodland Park Zoological Gardens. Ground-breaking will begin immediately in order to complete the exhibit in time for the Third International Snow Leopard Symposium to be sponsored by WPZG in June 1982. Since 1972, the WPZG has bred a total of 13 snow leopards.

The Office of Education of the National Zoo, Washington DC, USA, received a grant of \$223,735 from the National Science Foundation for a three-year project for science education for families. A core of educational materials and activities based around the zoo's reptile and amphibian collection will be developed to teach families about zoology. The John Ball Zoo in Grand Rapids and the Philadelphia Zoo are also participating in the project as field test sites for the materials.

AAZPA Newsletter

International Symposium on lion-tailed macaque

An International Symposium on the Conservation of the lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*) will be hosted by the Baltimore Zoological Society and the Baltimore Zoo from 19-22 May 1982. The symposium is designed to provide a forum for the exchange of information and the formulation of long-range inter-institution cooperation for the conservation of this primate, both in the field and in captivity.

Despite the fact that this species is on the brink of extinction in the wild and has received important conservation attention in captivity, much of its basic biology and captive management remains unknown.

All scientific sessions will be held at the Baltimore Zoo. Field trips are planned to the National Zoo, the Front Royal Conservation Centre, and the Patuxent Conservation Centre on Saturday, 22 May.

The Baltimore Zoo and Society have made significant financial commitments to the symposium and are seeking individual sponsors and additional institutional sponsors from the academic, financial, and conservation communities. Additional funding from federal sources is also being investigated. The symposium registration fee will provide the balance of needed funds.

For more information, contact: Robert Johnson, c/o Baltimore Zoological Society, Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, MD 21217, USA.

US Propagator's awards

The American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums have announced the following awards: Gold Propagator's Certificate to National Zoological Park (rock cavy) and St Louis Zoological Park (impala); Silver Propagator's Certificate to Detroit Zoological Park (axolotl), National Zoological Park (punare), and St Louis Zoological Park (Arabian camel and greater kudu). The gold certificate is for 50 or more captive births and the silver for 25 or more such births.

AAZK Newsletter

"Zoos and Evolution"— San Diego TV series

The new role of zoos as last ditch defenders of endangered wildlife was the theme of "Zoos and Evolution", a nine-part educational television series produced by KPBS-TV, San Diego State University's Televised Educational Growth Opportunities (T-EGO) programme and the Zoological Society of San Diego, which was shown weekly this summer.

Sheldon Campbell, author and second vice president of the Zoological Society, hosted the series, which was broadcast live. Viewers were able to phone in questions, and a package of supplementary reading was available at \$2.50 "to enhance home viewing".

The series included topics like "Galapagos Giants Back from the Brink", "Avian Diversity and Captive Breeding", "Mammals—Their Future", "Zoo Horticulture", and "Research in Zoos".

Australasian meeting

The 1982 Conference and AGM of the Australasian Society of Zoo Keepers will be held from 23-25 January 1982 at the Sir Colin MacKenzie Fauna Park, some 60 km from Melbourne. The main theme will be "the maintenance of viable stocks of rare, endangered and/or limited-gene-pool species in Australasia". It is hoped that papers will deal with such topics as studbooks, captive breeding programmes, rare or en-

dangered species, and limited-gene-pool species.

Arkansas building jaguar-tiger display

On 13 April 1981 construction of a jaguar-tiger display began at the Arkansas Zoo. The City of Little Rock received \$347,500 from HCRS for the project. Matching funds will come from the Friends of the Zoo and the City of Little Rock.

Although the exhibits are next to each other, they will be oriented to provide predator-prey exhibits, giving visitors viewing access from three directions. The displays will cover one acre; they were carefully designed to save as many trees as possible. The service building will be partially underground to provide elevated viewing. The building and moat walls will be disguised with artificial rockwork, with waterfalls, pools, and streams highlighting the exhibits. Construction is expected to take one year.

AAZK Newsletter

Unusual pedicure for Brookfield black rhino

Sometime in recent months, Brookfield Zoo's (Chicago) 12-year-old female black rhino, Brook, developed cracks in the toenails of both of her front feet. Much like the separations that horses can sometimes develop in their hooves, complications can, if left unattended, lead to infection and even lameness. To remedy Brook's condition, Brookfield's veterinary staff, assisted by personnel from the Illinois Equine Hospital and Clinic in Naperville, set about mending the cracks with a procedure previously used on horses but never tried before on a rhino.

The operation was done very carefully and quickly (start to finish approximately 65 minutes) with an epoxy substance. First the 3,000-pound rhino was completely anesthetized. Then, work began simultaneously on the nails of both feet, with the epoxy laid in the cracks so the nail can grow in and mend.

At the same time, general data on Brook was gathered; this included taking blood for future workups, and tracking

her heartbeat and respiration rate to monitor her condition during the procedure. There was also some general "nasicure" work done on Brook that included filling a little of her horn, which had become pointed enough to seriously injure one of the other black rhinos—Judy, 11, or Brook's intended future mate, 2½ year-old Embu—in the course of normal play.

Brook came to Brookfield Zoo on December of 1973 and, at 12 years of age, is still relatively young. Longevity of the species extends sometimes into the mid-30's, with the record-holder in the US having been Brookfield Zoo's Mary, who died there in 1980 at the age of 47. *Animal Keepers' Forum*

News from Chessington

Chessington Zoo, Surrey, UK, reports the following recent births: 2 ring-tailed lemurs, 2 beavers, crab-eating macaque, 3 guanaco, 2 leopard, 2 serval, 5 otter.

Chessington's new gibbon house is nearing completion. It will be one of the largest gibbon houses in Britain, and it is hoped that the gibbons will be encouraged to breed in the new enclosure.

News from Denver

Denver Zoological Gardens, Colorado, USA, reports the following acquisitions in the period 11 February to 1 June 1981: 0.1 golden lion tamarin, 1.2 North American otter, 0.1 binturong, 0.1 Bengal tiger, 0.2 Shetland pony, 0.2 American elk, 0.1 American bison, 1.0 springbok, 1.0 beisa oryx, 3 black-footed penguin, 1.2 white-naped crane, 1.1 saddle-bill stork, 3 white-breasted waterhen, 1 blue and gold macaw, 1.1 grand eclectic parrot, 4 Hartlaub's turaco, 1.1 snow-browed robin chat, 1.0 fairy bluebird, 3 Ball mynah.

Births and hatchings in the same period: 2 ringtail lemur (1.0 DNS), 1.1 cotton-headed tamarin (DNS), 1 hooded capuchin (DNS), 1 Celebes black ape, 4 slender-tailed meerkat (DNS), 3 serval, 1.0 axis deer, 2.0 Reeve's muntjac, 1.3 reindeer, 0.2 Pere David's deer (1 DNS), 0.1 llama, 1.0 bactrian camel, 0.1 Grant's zebra, 0.2 Przewalski's horse, 0.2 prong-

horn, 0.2 Rocky Mountain goat, 0.1 yak, 1.2 beisa oryx, 0.1 common waterbuck, 0.1 eland, 1.0 nyala, 0.1 roan antelope, 3.3 dall sheep (1.1 DNS), 4.2 bighorn sheep (2.0 DNS), 5 coscoroba (1 DNS), 5 European shelduck, 6 bufflehead (3 DNS), 2 white ibis, 11 African spurwing plover (6 DNS), 16 blacksmith plover (8 DNS), 4 satyr tragopan (1 DNS), 7 koklass pheasant (3 DNS), 2 gray peacock pheasant, 1 blue crowned pigeon, 5 lilac-breasted roller, 3 Shama thrush, 1 fairy bluebird (DNS).

De la Fuente memorial

One year has already passed since the tragic death of Dr Rodriguez de la Fuente and two members of his TV crew in a plane crash in Alaska. A statue has now been erected at Madrid's Zoological Garden in memory of the well known Spanish zoologist. The cost of the memorial was covered by donations from the children of Spain, and on its base is inscribed "The Children to Dr Rodriguez de la Fuente".



Leyhausen retires, Wuppertal Group closes down

The Wuppertal Study Group of the Max-Planck-Institute for Physiology of Behaviour will close down by the end of November 1981. Its director, Professor Paul Leyhausen, reaches retirement, and the rising cost of research combined with diminishing funds forces the Max-Planck Society to concentrate its resources.

The Wuppertal Group has been well known in the zoo world through its work on the housing, keeping, and breeding of rare felines and the annual report on the species kept at its facilities. Over the years, through the exchange of experience and animals, the group has received encouragement, aid and support from many zoos and animal collections throughout the world, especially Germany, Britain, Japan, and the United States. We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for this to all concerned.

Professor Leyhausen and his wife, Barbara Tonkin, will attempt to continue their work on a smaller scale and on a private basis. Their address as from December 1, 1981, will be: Auf dem Driesch 22, D-5227 Windeck-Halscheid, West Germany. Telephone: (2292) 5502. They will retain some of the group's collection. The remainder will be distributed on loan to the zoos of Brookfield and Lincoln Park in Chicago, and of Portland, and to John Aspinall's park at Port Lympne in Britain. No inquiries or offers for animals can therefore be considered.

Toco toucan hatching at Audubon Park

The Audubon Park Zoological Garden in New Orleans, Louisiana, announces the hatching and fledging of two toco toucan (*Ramphastos toco*) chicks. Inspection of the hollowed-out palm log nest on 18 April 1981 revealed one naked chick, apparently 24 hours old, and 3 more eggs. On 2 June 1981 two chicks emerged from the nest, already one-third the size of the parents. On 10 June we noticed the babies eating on their own for the first time, and by 21 June the

chicks are almost wholly self-feeding, managing now and then to beg fruit from the adult female. Both parents fed the chicks until 10 June, after which time the male apparently lost interest and rebuffed the youngsters when they tried to beg food.

News from Dortmund

Dortmund, Germany, reports the following births and hatchings during the first half of 1981: 1.0 European bison, 1.0 yak, 0.1 bactrian camel, 1.0 eland, 1.0 roan antelope, 2.2 nilgai, 3.2 moose, 3.1 red deer, 0.4 axis deer, 2.1 reindeer, 1.1 roe deer, 0.1 llama, 4.0 barbary sheep, 0.1 chamois, 1.0 tarpan, 1.1 Grant's zebra, 0.1 Malayan tapir, 3.0 barbary lion, 0.2 Chinese leopard, 1.2 bobcat, 1.1 serval, 5.2 maned wolf, 0.1 woolly monkey (premature birth), 5 wallaby, 16 Canadian beaver (two litters, but 14 were killed by the opponent female), 6 mara, 2 whooper swan, 1 barnacle goose, 6 common shelduck, 4 Falkland Island steamer duck, 2 blue-billed pintail, 2 Humboldt penguin, 3 cormorant, 3 oystercatcher, 8 wild turkey, 2 capercaillie, 4 black grouse, 2 jungle fowl, 2 guineafowl, 7 eagle owl, 2 great horned owl, 2 hermit ibis.

Acquisitions in the same period: 2.5 impala, 2.3 European ibex, 1.1 South American fur seal, 2.3 nutria, 1.0 South African ostrich, 0.2 black-necked swan, 0.1 Andean goose, 1.1 willow grouse.

New exhibit: a hexagonal breeding aviary for bearded vultures has been constructed, measuring 12 metres in diameter and 5 metres high.

News from Frankfurt

Frankfurt Zoo, West Germany, reports the following births and hatchings in the period April to June 1981: 177 yellow-bellied toad, 5 leopard gecko, 1 Caroline anole, 8 little egret, 3 white stork, 2 black ibis, 4 European pochard, 11 Carolina wood duck, 2 barnacle goose, 7 black swan, 5 wood partridge, 2 Indian peafowl, 1 red-crested bustard, 6 barn owl, 7 snowy owl, 2 wattled starling, 2 social weaver, 1 sugar glider, 2 Bennett's wallaby, 1 red-bellied pademelon, 1