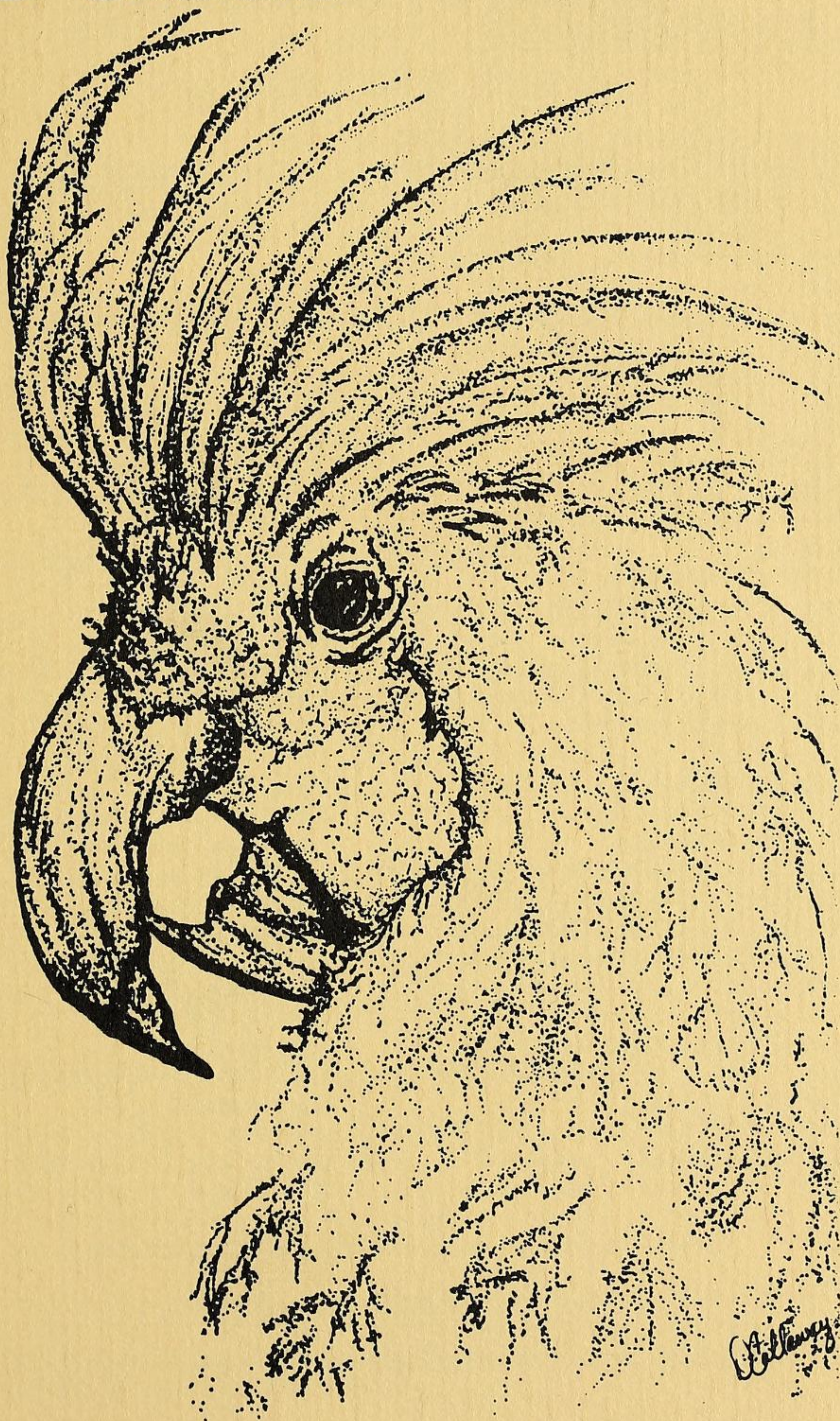


Animal Keepers' Forum

QL
76
A598
VCP

August 1989



Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

Scoops & Scuttlebutt, *Continued*

Ngare Sergoi Support Group Seeks Serious Conservation Articles for Planned Newsletter

Andy Lodge, of the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc., is seeking serious articles on conservation issues for publication in the group's planned newsletter. Entitled H.O.R.N. (Help Our Rhinos Now), the first issue is anticipated in November and will be published quarterly. While the newsletter will focus attention primarily on elephant and rhino issues, Andy stressed that they would like to see it become a forum for coverage of all conservation and environmental issues including such topics as rainforest deforestation, oil spills, toxic waste, acid rain, sea turtle decimation, whales, dolphins, etc. The newsletter will have wide distribution with 10,000 already on the mailing list. Articles should be of a serious nature and be 1,000 words or less.

Andy will present more information on the newsletter and membership in the Ngare Sergoi Support Group at the 1989 AAZK Conference in Syracuse. All funds generated will go to the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary in Kenya which is operated by Anna Mertz. During the first half of 1989, the Group was able to send \$30,000 to the sanctuary, much of which was raised through the assistance of AAZK Chapters nationwide. Those interested in submitting articles should send them to: Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc., P.O. Box 29503, Columbus, OH 43229.



Keeper's Alert

Friends University of Wichita, Kansas and the Sedgwick County Zoo have cooperated in the development of B.S. and M.S. programs with emphasis in Zoo Science, Zoo Management and Zoo Education. The B.S. program requires a strong biology background, plus basic skills development in management and interpersonal relations. The M.S. program includes a broad base environmental studies curriculum with options to specialize in one of several areas of zoo studies. Both programs require a minimum of 360 clock hours of practical experience at the Sedgwick County or other zoos. For more information contact: Dr. George Potts, Coordinator, Zoo Studies Program, Friends University, Wichita, Kansas 67213 (316) 261-5818.

Information Please

I am interested in information regarding the maintenance of psittacines on any of the commercially available pelleted diets. Any transition info and reproduction data would be especially helpful. Please send to: Dave Mannes, 3880 W. New Haven Ave., West Melbourne, FL 32904.

Cookbooks Wanted: We're in the process of developing a cookbook to raise funds for expansion. If your zoo has a cookbook for sale would you please send me an order form -- and any suggestions you may have to make this project a success. Send to: Karen Wakeland, Animal Rehabilitation Center, Inc. (ARC), P.O. Box 629, Midlothian, TX 76065.



Animal Keepers' Forum

QL
76
A598
N4P

September 1989



Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

Featured on this month's cover is a charging Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) drawn by Mark Stettes, a Elephant House Keeper at the St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis, MO. While there are still a fair number of this subspecies found in the wild, the Black Rhino, like all rhino species is endangered and it is governed by an SSP. Black rhinos weigh up to two tons and stand 150-160cm high at the shoulder. They have two horns; occasionally there is even a disposition for a third horn. The body is hairless, except for the tips of the tail and ears. The upper lip is extended and the tip is suitable for grasping. There are no incisors or canine teeth; rather, seven premolars and molars on each side of the jaw. The gestation period for this species is 15-16 months. The St. Louis Chapter recently held a "Rockin for Rhinos" benefit concert--see story under Chapter News. Thanks, Mark!

Scoops

and

Scuttlebutt

Diet Notebook Project Update

AAZK is continuing the Diet Notebook Project. The first volume *The AAZK Diet Notebook - Mammals, Volume I*, is now complete and available through the AAZK Administrative Office at the Topeka Zoo. A second volume of mammal diets and the first volume of bird diets are the next in line to be published. As of 1 January 1990, we will stop collecting diets for these volumes, but we will continue to collect diets for subsequent addition. Please continue to submit diets for all categories. We especially need diets for reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates.

If you would like to participate or receive further information, please contact: Susan Bunn Spencer, Coordinator AAZK Diet Notebook, Minnesota Zoological Garden, 12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124.

Centennial Awards for Excellence in Zoo Research Announced

To celebrate the National Zoological Park's Centennial, the National Zoo and the Friends of the National Zoo are sponsoring a competition to promote and reward excellence in zoo research. Any research conducted at a zoological park or aquarium, supported by a zoo, or very clearly and specifically supportive of the mission of zoos is eligible.

Awards will be given for the most meritorious basic or applied unpublished research paper in the fields of behavior, ethology, ecology, molecular and population genetics, nutrition, energetics, reproductive biology, pathology, animal exhibitry, conservation science, veterinary medicine, education, and in all taxonomic groups (e.g. mammology, ornithology, etc.)

Deadline for submission of manuscripts is **30 September 1989**. Awards will be announced in February 1990 and winners will be invited to receive their awards and present a talk on their research at a National Zoo symposium to be held on 27 and 28 April, 1990, just prior to the AAZPA Eastern Regional Meeting scheduled for 29 April to 2 May at the NZP. We also hope to publish the award-winning papers.

For further information about the format for submissions and application materials, please write: Centennial Awards, National Zoological Park, Washington, DC 20008.

Births & Hatchings, Continued

Last, but definitely not least, a most fascinating rodent species came to Columbus on 29 June when we obtained a female Mountain beaver (*Aplodontia rufa*) that was donated to us from the Northwest Trek Wildlife Park in Tacoma, WA. Although not terribly exciting to look at (ours looks like a small grey gopher), mountain beavers have a number of interesting features. First, they are apparently very misnamed, as they are not beavers nor do they confine themselves to mountains. They are the only living species of their genus and family, and are considered the most primitive of all rodents. They spend most of their time burrowing underground and they eat a variety of vegetation. They are purported to have an unusually high water requirement. Perhaps the most fascinating aspect of mountain beavers is the fact they play primary host to the world's largest species of flea (one-third of an inch long!), but they never seem to get lice! Northwest Trek is the only other place we know of that has had them and, according to literature they sent us, the beavers have never bred in captivity. Our female was wild-caught and is estimated to be about five months old. She is currently residing in our general curator's office until a display area is found for her. At least he now has somewhat of a legitimate excuse to have a dirty office! submitted by Carl Gyarmaty, Columbus Zoo, Columbus, OH.

Detroit Chapter AAZK...B&H at the Detroit Zoo from 1 January through 30 June 1989 include:

Mammals - 2 Ringtailed lemur (*Lemur catta*) and 3 Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata*). We have had many successes in propagating these while following a non-interference policy of allowing them to be mother-reared. Two Scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*) bringing our herd up to 7.5. 2.0 Wapiti (*Cervus elephas canadensis*), makes an increase from last year's 2.3. Two Blesbok (*Damaliscus dorcas philipsi*) - these babies have not been caught up and sexed because they are sharing an exhibit with, among other things, nesting flamingos. One Formosan sika deer (*Cervus nippon taiwanus*), as yet unsexed and untagged. 0.1 Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus bactrianus*) - the baby is doing quite well with his mom and two other adult females. The father has shown definite aggression toward other calves in the past and so is kept separated for now. 1.0 American bison (*Bison b. bison*) - although bison are no longer endangered as before, we are pleased with our population and of course our bison calf is extremely popular with our visitors. Our barnyard exhibit boasts several births including 1.1 Nubian goats (*Capra hircus*), 0.1 Romney sheep (*Ovis aries*), and 0.0.7 Yorkshire pigs (*Sus scrofa*). One Matschie's tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus matschiei*) - the baby is often seen outside the pouch now and even climbs his tree with his mother. One Patagonian cavy (*Dolichotis patagona*) was born in one of our few single-species exhibits. 0.1 Black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*)--this little female is doing quite well. Her diet was supplemented for awhile, but now she eats just like one of the gang.

Birds - one Lesser snow goose/Blue goose (*Anser caerulescens caerulescens*) - the morning after the hatching mom, pop and the baby were discovered touring the park at large. Ten Egyptian goslings (*Alopochen aegyptiacus*) - all are doing splendidly although they have the run of a very large exhibit and we see occasional raccoons, opossums and owls. Two Speckled mousebirds (*Colius striatus*) - after several months of total disinterest in nesting, we have hit upon the right nesting situation using platforms near the ceiling, and now there's no stopping them. Five Laysan teal (*Anas platyrhynchos laysanensis*) - as last year, mom presented us with her newly hatched chicks after an absence of a few weeks during which we could not find her. She and her kids are friendly enough that we had to remove them from the walk-in aviary to protect them from the public. Our penguin keeper now has another Rockhopper penguin (*Eudyptes cerstatus*) and keeps busy with extra feedings and as the baby grows must pile rocks higher around the nest to keep the youngster from falling into the water. When the chick is bigger and able to get over the rocks, it will be removed from the exhibit until it is old enough to negotiate the water as well, at which time it will be returned to the exhibit. Finally, two Common barn owls (*Tyto alba*) - after a false start early this year, our owls have raised these two without apparent problems. They are housed in the barnyard (where else?) and have an approximately 1 1/2' x 2 1/2' nestbox suspended about two feet down from the ceiling. submitted by Leslie Keys, Secretary, Detroit Zoo AAZK Chapter, Detroit Zoo, Royal Oak, MI.

Chapter News, Continued

St. Louis AAZK Chapter

The St. Louis Chapter held two events in the early part of the summer to aid rhinoceros conservation. On 23 May we hosted Andy Lodge, Chairman of the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Support Group. Andy gave two talks, one to the general public and another to zoo employees. Andy's inspiring slide lecture presentation had the audiences buzzing long after the shows ended.

In conjunction with Andy's visit, the St. Louis Chapter sponsored a benefit concert, "Rockin for Rhinos". A local rhythm and blues band, Flim Flam, performed at Off Broadway Lounge. Publicity for the event included a 30-minute interview on a local radio station about the rhinoceros situation which featured keepers Steven Tomey and Rick Smith.

Nearly 150 patrons were on hand to rock for rhinos on 1 June. The concert was a success and over \$400 was raised. Special thanks go to Louise Bradshaw, Alyce Wilkins, Lucy Bailey and Tish Smith for their help with T-shirt sales and admission at the door. Thanks especially to Joe Camarata, owner of the lounge, for his generosity. Between the two events, we raised over \$600 for the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary in Kenya and the Black Rhinoceros. A great job was done by all. Thanks again.

In other news, the keeper survey is going well. Lucy Bailey reported that 135 surveys have been returned from 33 institutions. The results are so good that she is in the process of writing an article for AKF. Thank you to all of those who participated in the survey.....and it's still not too late for those wishing to send in their surveys.

On 26 June, our Chapter got together with other zoo employees and watched the Cardinals whip the Chicago Cubs 2-0! Our group was large enough that AAZK was flashed on the big scoreboard in between innings.

Our noon seminar series continues to be popular, featuring keepers and zoo staff presentations on various topics. We are

presently working on designing a Chapter logo, planning a jazz benefit concert for the winter and coordinating a fund-raising rummage sale.

--*Steve Tomey and
Rick Smith, Chapter Liaison*

Cheyenne Mountain AAZK Chapter

Scott Temple has resigned as treasurer and Ron Klempner has taken his place.

Our second annual garage sale was held 8-9 July and was another success. We raised \$250.00 which will be used toward our resource center and exhibit renovations.

--*Nanette Bragin, Chapter Liaison*

Rocky Mountain AAZK Chapter

This Chapter, located at the Denver Zoo, has reactivated and announces the following new slate of officers:

President.....Pete Hawthorne
Past Pres.....Dennis Roling
Vice President.....John Pugh
Past VP.....Dottie Kreider
Sec/Treas.....Marlene Kump
Past Sec...John Turner
Past Treas.....Britt Thompson (now at
Little Rock Zoo)
Corres. Sec.....Suzanne Chacon who
replaces Ann Rademacher (now
at Little Rock Zoo)

The Chapter encourages all those in the area to attend their meetings which are held the second week of each month, alternating between Tuesdays and Thursdays. The next meeting will be Tuesday, 12 Sept. and the October meeting will be held on Thursday, 12 Oct. Meeting time is 5:15 p.m. at the westgate of the Denver Zoo. If you are in the area, drop by.

--*Suzanne Chacon, Corres. Sec'y*

Bronx Zoo Chapter AAZK

In August the Bronx Zoo Chapter held its annual barbecue. Wild Animal Keeper, Mammals, Alison Blatz planned the "ZOOlympics" which were a lot of fun. Lee Schoen, Wild

Animal Keepers' Forum

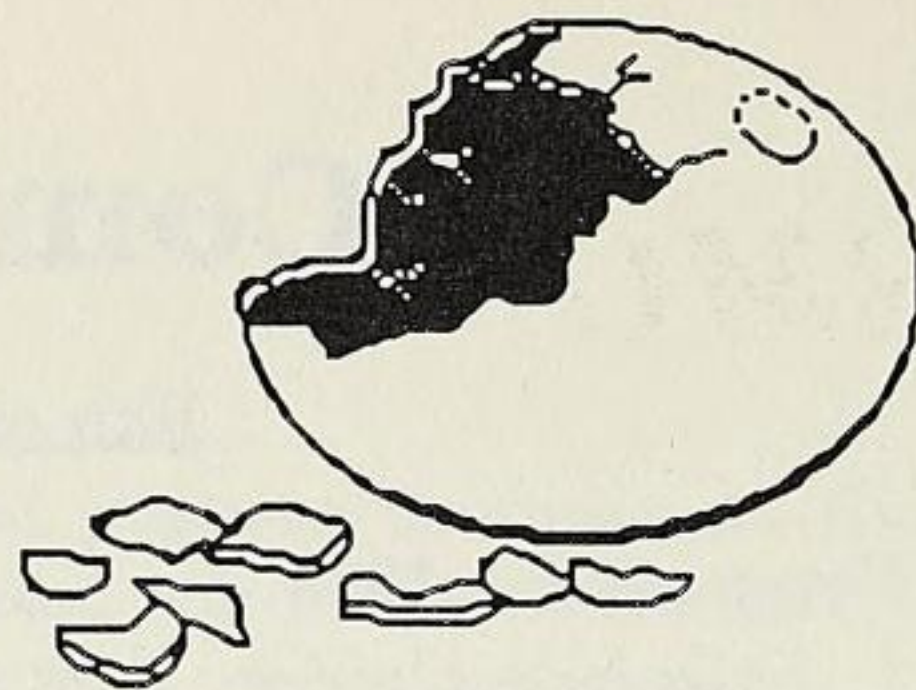
QL
76
A598
N 2P

October 1989



Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

Births & Hatchings



Lincoln Park Zoo...notable births at Lincoln Park Zoo from November 1988 through July 1989 include:

One of the most significant recent births was that of "Ahadi", a 1.0 Black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*). Ahadi ("Promise" in Swahili) is the first black rhino to be born at Lincoln Park. He is the first offspring of both parents, Naivasha, age 7, and Marshall, age 8.

Noelle, 0.1 Baringo giraffe (*Giraffe camelopardalis rothschildi*) was born on Christmas morning. She is the first surviving offspring of Suzy, age 8, and the second for the sire, Gerald, also 8 years old. (above information submitted by Bill Moran, Large Mammal Keeper)

On 22 February, a 0.1 Wanderoo macaque (*Macaca silenus*) was born. This baby was pulled for hand-raising and has since been successfully re-introduced to the group. 4.0 Black lemurs (*Lemur macaco macaco*) were born at the Primate House in March, followed in April by a litter of 0.2.3 Ruffed lemurs (*Lemur variegatus rubra*). Of the five, 0.0.1 DNS, 0.0.2 were left with the mother, and 0.2 were pulled for hand-rearing in the zoo nursery. All four surviving young are doing well. Also this year there has been 1.1 successful births of La Plata three-banded armadillos (*Tolypeutes matacus*). The 0.1 infant represents a second generation birth, as the mother was born here five years ago. The mother of the 1.0 is 20 years old. A third pregnancy, that of a 21-year-old female, ended in stillbirth. Lincoln Park is believed to be one of only two zoos to have a successful breeding program of these animals. (above information submitted by Scott Heinrich, Primate House Keeper)

June 17th was the birthdate of "Mateo", 1.0 California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*) who was born to Nina, a six-year-old. Mateo is significant for Lincoln Park in that he is our first mother-raised sea lion.

Additional Mammal Dept. births include 0.0.1 Perhensile-tailed porcupine (*Coendou prehensilis*) on 8 July and 3.1 Pacas (*Cuniculus paca*) of which 0.1 DNS.

Recent births in the Hoofstock Dept. included: 1.2 Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), 0.1 Addra gazelle (*Gazella dama ruficollis*), 0.1 Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus*), and 0.3 Grant's gazelles (*Gazella granti roosevelti*).

The Reptile House reported the following significant hatchings for 1988: 0.0.1 Pancake tortoise (*Malacochersus tornieri*), and 0.0.3 Radiated tortoises (*Geochelone radiata*). Both of these species represent first-time hatchings at Lincoln Park Zoo.

(Above information compiled by Andy Henderson, Chapter President, and Norah Farnham, Chapter Liaison)



MEMO:

TO: All AAZK Members

FROM: Bill Whittaker, Director of Regional and Chapter Affairs

RE: "Bowling for Rhinos", National Zoo Keeper Survey, and non-profit status

AAZK is co-sponsoring with Andy Lodge and The Ngare Sergoi Support Group, a national "Bowling for Rhinos" fundraiser during the week of February 18-24, 1990. This is our first attempt at a coordinated national event other than a conference and we are hoping for 100% participation. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 for the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary.

All Chapters should be receiving an information packet. If you have not, please contact your RC or Barbara Manspeaker. It is not necessary to have a chapter to host a "B.F.R.". Several very successful events have been organized by keepers at the John Ball Zoo in Grand Rapids, MI and Potowatomi Zoo in South Bend, IN with the enthusiastic support of their zoos. If you're interested in hosting a "B.F.R." please contact Barbara for an information packet.

Plans for the National Zookeeper Survey will be finalized in Syracuse with initiation to begin soon after. This is a very ambitious project. It is our intention to count and survey every animal keeper we can find. The survey will gather a great deal of information about our profession and will help plot the future course of AAZK. The success of this project will depend on the cooperation of RCs, Liaisons, and all Keepers, not just AAZK members. Please cooperate by filling out the form when you receive it and returning it to your liaison or RC. If you do not receive a form, please contact Barbara. This is a chance for you to be heard.

Non-profit status for AAZK necessitates a number of significant changes for our organization. Foremost among these are changes in the way we operate. The days of the loosely organized and run AAZK are over. Manyana is here! Internal Revenue Service regulations require a complete and accurate financial records system. All chapters have been supplied with forms to fulfill this obligation. There will probably be more. AAZK, its officers and members must function in a professional manner. That means fulfilling our duties on time. Not tomorrow. AAZK must reevaluate our by-laws and consider amendments requiring all chapters and officers to comply with the organizational protocols instituted to conform to IRS and legal requirements. Everyone's cooperation is needed and greatly appreciated.



Information Please

I am interested in information on the hand-rearing and/or parent-rearing of Cotton Top Tamarins (*Saguinus oedipus*). Especially when dealing with the birth of triplets. If you have any information, please send to: Tami Ryf, Dreher Park Zoo, 1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33405.

I am looking for information on breeding programs for Mandarin Ducks. Expertise on the subject would be greatly appreciated. Please send to: Grant Tkachuk, 10139-157 Street, Apt. #206, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5P 2T9.

Chapter News

Milwaukee County Zoo AAZK

The Milwaukee Chapter of AAZK started out 1989 by inviting Andy Lodge to give a talk about the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Preserve. We presented Andy with a check for \$1000 for the Preserve which included money from paper drives, a raffle, and goodwill offerings after the talk. We've been conducting bimonthly newspaper/aluminum can drives throughout the year to raise money for the Rhino Preserve and other conservation projects that need assistance. We also were able to provide money to the Goeldi Zoological Park and Museum in Belem, Brazil to repair its capture equipment.

Our Chapter held a bake sale in February to raise travel assistance money for keepers or other interested persons to attend AAZK conferences. Four recipients will benefit from this fund in the next year. The bake sale will be an annual fundraising event to benefit various chapter activities.

During Conservation Weekend (June 11-12), the Chapter staffed a booth at the zoo exhibiting the AAZK career brochure, the Animal Keepers' Forum, AAZK mugs and AAZK egg ornaments. We also asked Andy Lodge to send us T-shirts, mugs and stationary to sell at our booth to benefit the Rhino Preserve and increase the awareness of the plight of the black rhino. We were successful in selling over \$1000 worth of T-shirts and mugs for Andy in just those two days.

In the aftermath of the Exxon disaster, our Chapter initiated a letter that urges our senators to vote against bills that would open the Arctic Wildlife Refuge to oil development. The letter was circulated throughout the zoo and 60 signatures were obtained.

For a week in late September, we hosted a keeper from Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary in Green Bay, WI. The keeper was interested in learning about the care, management

and exhibit design for some species that will be new to her facility. Our keepers shared their experience and knowledge to give her ideas in setting up the new exhibits at the Sanctuary.

Finally, we are in the midst of constructing nestboxes for wood ducks and bluebirds to be placed around our zoo. We are hoping to attract these birds to the zoo in an effort to enhance their dwindling populations by providing good nesting sites.

--Karin Newman, Chapter Liaison

Edmonton Chapter AAZK

Our newly elected officers for 1989 are:

President.....Penny West
VicePres.....Maureen Anderson
Secretary.....Barb Heemskerk
Treasurer.....Sandy Karpluk
Chapter Liaison.....Wendy Keeling

At our last guest speaker night we had Bernie Arnold from Alberta Fish and Wildlife give us a very interesting and informative talk on Alberta's new Wildlife Act. We also had a good turn-out for our Chapter barbeque which was attended by members and friends. The Chapter is currently working on a project to increase awareness of the plight of the black rhino and to raise money for the Ngare Sergoi reserve in Kenya. The chapter has built a life-size rhino out of plywood and along with a video and information pamphlets we are planning to set up educational displays in shopping malls. We are also looking forward to a visit from Andy Lodge in February.

--Wendy Keeling, Chapter Liaison

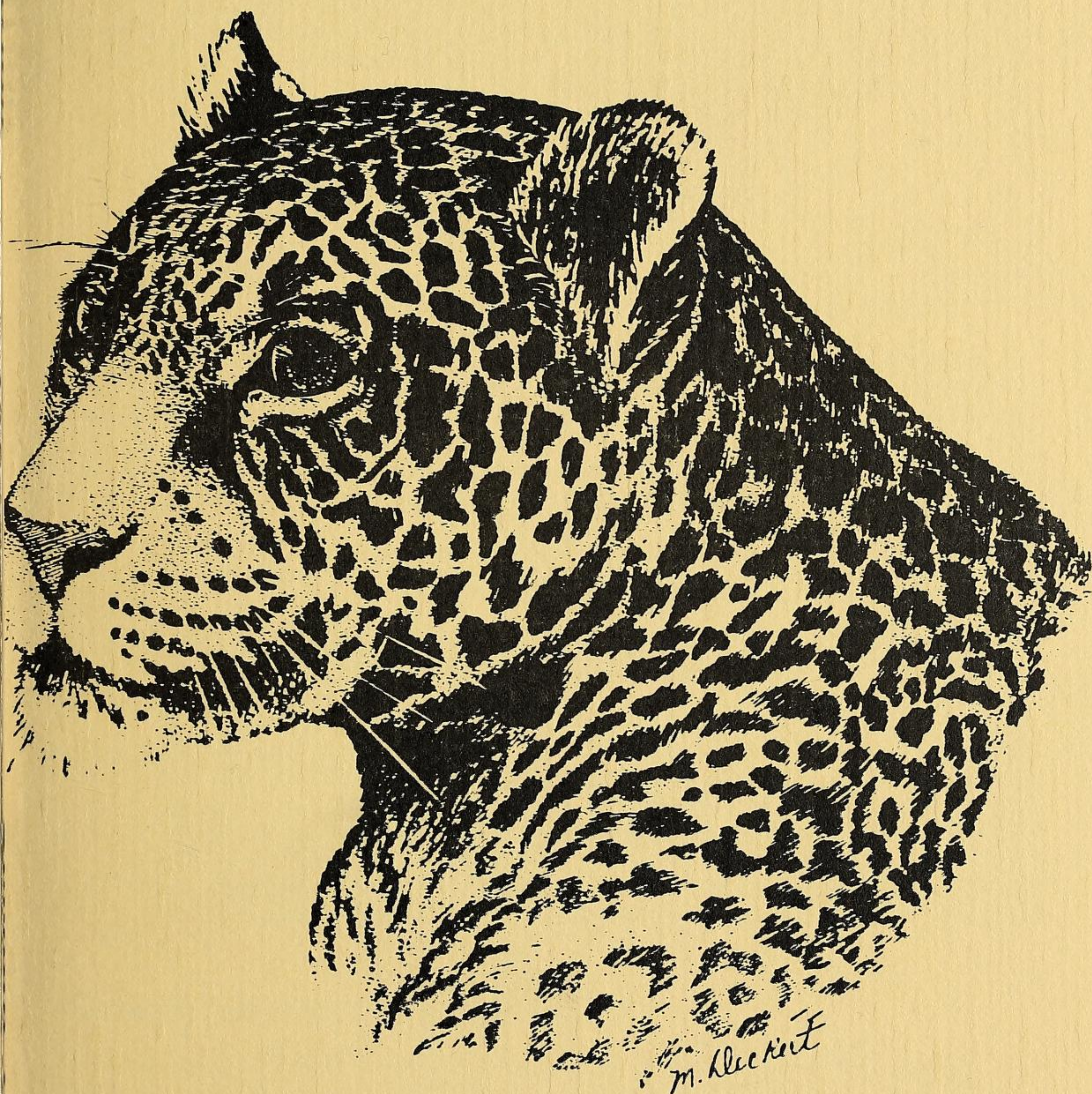
Louisville AAZK Chapter

Newly elected officers for the Louisville Zoo AAZK Chapter are:

President.....William Quatman
Keeper II
Treasurer.....Ann Huck, Keeper II
Secretary.....Austin Preston
Keeper II

Animal Keepers' Forum

November 1989



Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

Births & Hatchings, Continued

The Milwaukee County Zoo... would like to announce the following significant acquisitions, births and hatchings from June-August 1989.

We are proud to announce the acquisition of 1.1 Black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis minor*). The two rhinos were part of a group of 10 wild-caught *D.b. minor* that were donated to North American zoos by the government of Zimbabwe to develop a new captive propagation program for this subspecies. MCZ is working in conjunction with five other N. American zoos and wildlife ranches to establish an additional gene pool for this subspecies on the strength of the new founder group. Previously, only five *D. b. minor* existed in captivity, all in N. America. Through a carefully managed SSP program, a self-sustaining captive population will be developed and will ultimately restock the original ranges in Africa. Black rhinos once numbered in the hundreds of thousands. Today, there may be fewer than 3000 remaining, with only four of the seven subspecies surviving. Although protected under the Endangered Species Act since 1980 and listed on CITES Appendix I since 1973, the black rhino numbers have decreased drastically mainly due to poaching. The prognosis looks bleak since range fragmentation leaves many rhinos isolated in pockets with no possibility of gene flow from one population to another. Only through protection, game management and eventual reintroduction programs will this animal survive.

MCZ also acquired 1.0 Black rhino (*D. b. michaeli*) which was captive-born in Los Angeles and is on its way to the Riverbanks Zoo. The three-year-old male will remain in Milwaukee until the Riverbanks Zoo develops their rhino facility. This male will soon be joined by a female *D. b. michaeli*, on loan from San Francisco, which will also be going to Riverbanks Zoo.

Since 1987, the MCZ, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources, has been engaged in a 10-year effort to reintroduce Trumpeter swans (*Cygnus buccinator*) to Wisconsin. Because of its large size and highly prized skin, the trumpeter swan was hunted extensively in the late 1800's. By the turn of the century the swan had become very rare throughout its range. Full protection for the bird finally came in 1918 from the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Through protection and strict management, the trumpeter swan population increased dramatically in parts of its former range. This year, 39 eggs (collected by DNR biologists from self-sustaining populations in Alaska) were set in incubators at the zoo and 38 eggs hatched. Nine eggs were received from game farm sources and all nine hatched. All of the eggs hatched in late June and nineteen of the cygnets were sent to a marsh site near the Mississippi River when they were 3-5 days old. These birds will migrate this fall. The remainder of the swans were moved to wintering sites in Dane and Waukesha counties of Wisconsin at five weeks of age. These birds will remain until they are 23 months old and then will be released into the wild at remote Wisconsin lakes. The goal of the reintroduction program in Wisconsin is to attain a self-sustaining, migratory population of at least 20 breeding pairs by the year 2000.

Our primate division announced the birth of 1.0 Mandrill (*Papio sphinx*) on 10 July 1989. This is the 10th mandrill born at the zoo in the last five years. The mother, Flora, is a captive-born ten-year-old who came to MCZ along with her half-sister, Fauna, from Toronto in 1981. The father, Earl, also 10 years old, came to Milwaukee that same year from Omaha, NE. The troop consists of the adult male, the two adult females, an adolescent male and the new baby. The births always occurred at night, with the mother and the new baby remaining in the group at all times. This simulates the natural social grouping of mandrills, although groups in the wild may number up to 50 individuals. Mandrills inhabit the tropical forests in the Cameroons and Gabon. They were actively hunted because they caused considerable damage to crops, and thus their numbers decreased drastically. Now they are classified as endangered and listed on CITES Appendix I. However, mandrills have bred very successfully in captivity. *submitted by Karin Newman, Chapter Liaison, Milwaukee County zoo, Milwaukee, WI.*

San Diego Zoo... on 31 August, Lena, a rare Masai giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*) delivered the first calf of this subspecies to be born at the Zoo. The 7 p.m.

Syracuse Conference Spawns AAZK National Conservation Committee

The growing awareness in our profession of the urgent need to get involved in conservation culminated at the 15th National Conference in Syracuse with the issuance of the following statement:

The Statement of Purpose of the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. states:

- Section 1 To educate and assist zoological personnel in their roles as animal caretakers, public educators, scientific researchers, wildlife conservationists and to promote their respective zoological institutions as cultural establishments, dedicated to the enrichment of human and natural resources.
- Section 2 To support and publicize all valid and deserving projects of conservation and to do our part in educating the general public to the need for worthwhile projects of preserving our natural resources and animal life.

Currently two local chapter projects - the Ecosystem Survival Plan (ESP) at the Greater San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, and "Bowling for Rhinos" at the Columbus and Toledo Chapters - have become so successful that they need to be expanded to be included at the national level in order to maximize their potential.

Both Chapters have approached the Board of Directors for their assistance. The Board recommended that representatives from both projects as well as a representative from the Board form an *ad hoc* committee to develop a national AAZK conservation strategy.

The *ad hoc* committee recommended the use of "Conservation, Preservation, Restoration" (CPR) to appropriately name this committee. The CPR Committee will consist of seven members: The Vice-President of the national Board will be the Chair of the Committee and he/she will appoint six additional members. The CPR Committee will be under the oversight of the AAZK President.

The six members will be divided into two subcommittees of three members each. One subcommittee will be concerned with habitat - The Habitat Subcommittee's first project this year will be ESP's support of the Guanacaste National Park in Costa Rica. The other will be concerned with species - the Save Our Species (SOS) subcommittee, whose project this year is "Bowling for Rhinos".

Currently two positions on each subcommittee have been appointed by the chair because of their involvement with these projects. The chair is now seeking two professional AAZK members interested in filling the two remaining vacancies. Preference will be given to individuals with past involvements with conservation projects.

The creation of this committee is the result of many exhausting hours of brain-storming by the people involved. It is your committee and we believe it is a milestone in the evolution of AAZK. We urge all our members to get involved. You can contact:

Bob Debets, Chair CPR Committee
Assiniboine Park Zoo
2355 Corydon Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3P OR5
Telephone: Zoo (204) 986-4040 Home (204) 837-1635

Animal Keepers' Forum

QL

76

A598

NCP

December 1989



Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

Scoops & Scuttlebutt, *Continued*

accepted by JWPT and his attendance at the course would be highly beneficial to his skills as a keeper. If any chapters or individual members would be interested in helping to cover the tuition costs, please contact Susan Barnard at Zoo Atlanta, 500 Cherokee Ave. S.E., Atlanta, GA 30315. Contributions in any amount would be most appreciated.



Dear AAZK Members,

We are all aware of the critical situation which has arisen from the drastic decrease, by poaching, of the Black Rhino and African Elephant in East Africa. Because of this situation, and also my close relationship with Anna Merz and her efforts to save the Black Rhino, I feel I must now devote all my time and energies to helping make sure Anna has the funds to continue the difficult task of protecting the Black Rhino. In mid-October I resigned my position as a pachyderm keeper at the Columbus Zoo in order to devote my full time to running the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, the main fundraising organization for the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Project. I intend to remain an active and supportive member of the American Association of Zoo Keepers and it is my sincere hope that this organization will continue to support Anna as it has in the past. Since I now have more time, I hope that I'll have the opportunity to visit more zoos and organizations around the country to bring Anna's message to as many people as possible.

I am also starting a conservation newsletter, the first edition we hope to have out by January 1990. This newsletter will deal with all important conservation matters. I hope you'll lend your support to this newsletter to make it a success as it is a means to get important conservation messages to people throughout the United States who might not otherwise have ready access to serious conservation information. I need your help in obtaining articles related to serious conservation issues. This newsletter can be a sounding board for you to express opinions on conservation and wildlife issues, and for these opinions to be published where they might not be accepted for publication in other forums.

I wanted to send this letter to the AKF to let you know my reasons for leaving my keeper job and to express my sincere gratitude for all the support that the American Association of Zoo Keepers has given the Ngare Sergoi Support Group in the past. For information about the newsletter and for making arrangements for talks at your zoo or other organization, I can be contacted at:

Ngare Sergoi Support Group
P.O. Box 29503
Columbus, OH 43229
(614) 885-0458 or (614) 431-0486

Sincerely,

Andy Lodge



Births & Hatchings



Columbus Zoo...Notable events at Columbus for the months of August-October include our first Sarus crane chick and continued success with the Lake Victoria cichlids propagation program, as well as the acquisition of three cheetahs from Africa, a new black rhino, and our first pair of sandhill cranes.

Our Aquarium continues to enjoy outstanding success with its Lake Victoria cichlid program. Out of the 12 species in our collection believed to be endemic to the lake, 10 are in breeding situations (nine have spawned and the tenth is expected to do so soon). Our program started with 114 individuals of those 12 species and, as of 1 November, we now have in the neighborhood of 2,535 fish. This makes the Columbus Zoo's Aquarium currently the most successful institution to propagate this group of cichlids, all of which are considered to be severely endangered in the wild.

Significant hatchings for the Bird Dept. include 0.0.1 Sarus crane (*Grus antigone*) on 21 August and 0.0.2 Black-footed penguins (*Spheniscus demerus*) [DNS]. The Sarus crane is particularly significant because it represents a first-time hatching in our zoo for this species. The egg was pulled for incubation and the chick was subsequently hand-reared using a puppet fashioned out of stuffed animal toys to avoid imprinting on humans. The chick is doing well and continues to grow at an incredible rate. The father is about eight years old and the mother about 16. Prior to this, eggs have been found in the exhibit, which the cranes share with several species of Asian hoofstock, but they were always cracked or broken.

On 27 August, the Columbus Zoo acquired its first pair of Sandhill cranes (*Grus canadensis*) from Front Royal. These were hatched in 1988. They are currently on exhibit in our old bald eagle pen until next spring when they will be moved into our new moose exhibit currently under construction. Other notable bird acquisitions include: 0.1 Common eider (*Somateria mollissima*), 1.1 Gadwell (*Anas strepera*), and 1.0 Pintail (*Anas acuta*).

The most significant mammal birth for this period was 1.0 Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) born on 9 September. The parents are Sukari and Charlie, one of two breeding males currently in our collection. This cub is particularly significant for several reasons: he is Charlie's first male offspring to survive; he represents Sukari's ninth litter; and he is also the 30th offspring for Sukari. Therefore, Sukari, who has bred with three different males, has produced almost one-third of all cheetah cubs born at Columbus. Our cheetah breeding program is world-renowned. This cub had to be pulled for hand-rearing in our nursery because he was unable to maintain his temperature. Other notable mammal births were a 0.0.1 Red brocket deer (*Mazama americana*) on 6 September and a 0.0.1 White-handed gibbon (*Hylobates lar*) on 14 October. Unfortunately, the brocket deer DNS. She was the second offspring for our breeding pair that arrived from the Bronx Zoo in October 1988. Their first infant, a male, was born this past January. The parents of the gibbon were both wild-caught and they have produced 10 offspring at Columbus. This latest baby continues to do well.

Our three most notable acquisitions are three cheetahs imported from Africa. They were captive-born in Oudtshoorn, South Africa, and were purchased from Congo Crocodile Ranch and Cheetahland, a private facility. They arrived at the zoo on 22 August. All three are close to two years old. They add a vital new bloodline into the U.S. population, and we hope they can be integrated into our successful cheetah breeding program. At the beginning of October, we received another noteworthy arrival, a 13-month-old male Black rhinoceros

Births and Hatchings, Continued

(*Diceros bicornis*) from the San Diego Wild Animal Park. This animal is in Columbus on breeding loan, and he is due to be paired up with Kulinda Kifaru, a young female also on loan from the Cincinnati Zoo. This arrangement reflects the commitment of the Columbus Zoo to participate in the Black Rhino SSP. *submitted by Carl Gyarmaty, Keeper, Columbus Zoo, Powell, OH.*

Brookfield Zoo...significant B&H from June-September 1989 include:

Mammals: Brookfield Zoo had two Okapi (*Okapia johnstoni*) births this summer. On 27 July, 1.0 Ndura was born to four-year-old Elima. Elima, being a first-time mother, was quite nervous and was not treating Ndura properly, so he is being hand-reared. Sixteen-year-old Mufuh gave birth to 0.1 Kuamba on 6 August. Mufuh is a more experienced mother - this being her seventh calf. Mother and daughter are doing well together. The sire of both calves is five-year-old Dua, who was born at San Diego Zoo and have been at Brookfield since May 1988. Brookfield Zoo has been quite successful in breeding this secretive forest cousin of the giraffe. Ndura, a fourth-generation animal, and Kuamba, a third-generation animal, are the 19th and 20th okapi born here.

Also born in the Hoofstock area were 0.4 Dall sheep (*Ovis dalli dalli*), 2.1 Siberian ibex (*Capra ibex siberica*), 0.0.1 Waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsi pyrnmus*), 0.4 Common zebra (*Equus burchelli bohmi*), and 2.0 Greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*).

Other mammal births include 0.0.3 Rodrigues flying foxes (*Pteropus rodricensis*). These highly endangered bats from the Rodriguez Islands in the Indian Ocean are bred in only three zoos. Also born were 0.0.2 Crested porcupine (*Hystrix africae australis*), 0.0.5 Rock hyrax (*Procavia capensis*) and 0.0.1 Western grey kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus melanops*).

Primates: the primate department announced the birth of the first viable second-generation Golden-headed lion tamarin (*Leontopithecus chrysomelas*) in North America. The twins (1.1) born 14 September to Una are being mother-reared and are doing well. The birth of 1.0 GHLT to one of our founder pairs brings the number born at Brookfield Zoo to 24. On 30 June, 0.0.2 Fat-tailed dwarf lemurs (*Cheirogoleus medius*) were born. Except for Duke University Primate Center, Brookfield is thought to be the only zoological institution known to have bred this endangered species of prosimian indigenous to Madagascar. Other primate births include 0.0.2 Guinea baboon (*Papio papio cynocephalus*), 1.1 Goleddi's monkey (*Callimico goeldii*), and 0.2 Colobus monkey (*Colobus guereza*).

Birds: one highlight for the birth department this year was the hatching of Micronesian kingfishers (*Halcyon cinnamomina*). Throughout the spring and summer, a total of six clutches were produced. The first two clutches on 21 April and 22 May produced one chick each; in accordance with the SSP request, these were pulled for hand-rearing and are doing well. Of the other four clutches, two chicks hatched on 29 July and 2 September and were left to be parent-reared, but unfortunately disappeared after about three days. Other fledglings include 0.0.1 Snowy owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*), 0.0.2 Golden tanager (*Tangara arthus*), 0.0.4 Turoquoise tanager (*Tangara mexicana*), 0.0.2 Inca tern (*Larosterna inca*), 0.0.1 Sun bittern (*Eurypyga helias*), 0.0.3 Blue-crowned hanging parrots (*Loriculus galgullus*), and 0.0.2 Common trumpeter (*Psophia crepitans*) ...compiled and submitted by Elizabeth Borst, Primate Keeper, Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, IL.

North Carolina Chapter AAZK...reports notable B&H for 1 July-30 September 1989 from each participating institution.

Duke Primate Center...significant births at DUPC include 1.1 Crowned lemur (*Lemur coronatus*) on 23 July. The birth occurred between 1000 and 1200 hours and at about 1400 hours the female infant was found on the ground. An attempt to return this infant was complicated when the other male infant fell off the mother while she was being caught. Both infants were returned to the mother, who was placed in a holding box, and seemed fine

Book Review, Continued

Leon Nielson's paper, titled Definitions, Considerations, and Guidelines for Translocation of Wild Animals, presents an encompassing overview of the subject. Nielson discussed the reasoning, planning, preparation for translocation, including capture techniques, transportation, and final release of the animals into the new habitat. In general his paper touches on the basic philosophies and theories regarding translocation.

Moving to a more specific and technical aspect of translocation is, Chemical Immobilization of Wildlife: Recent Advances by Albert W. Franzmann. Franzmann reviews recent experiments involving commercial immobilizing drugs and discusses some problems arising from the use of such drugs on wildlife since 1982.

The current crisis situation facing rhinos today makes this paper by V.R. Booth and A.M. Coetzee of special interest. The Capture and Relocation of Black and White Rhinoceros in Zimbabwe reviews the process by which the National Parks and Wildlife Management moved 59 black and 12 white rhinoceros in Zimbabwe. Detailed information is provided on such things as the size and construction of shipping crates, animal loading procedures and dietary requirements, as well as any special problems encountered. Additionally, the data here on respiration rates, drug types used, and up & down times makes this particular paper a special find.

Highlighting these three papers does in no way suggest their sole importance or value, but instead is meant only as a sampling of the topics covered in this volume. The wide scope of papers will benefit animal caregivers, curators, veterinarians, wildlife population managers, or others interested in additional methods for species preservation. Translocation of Wild Animals is a worthy addition to any reference library.



Pittsburgh Keepers Acquire Pesticide Licenses

In a recent move to comply with changes in Pennsylvania state law, six Pittsburgh animal keepers and one member of the horticulture staff passed the PA Department of Agriculture's pesticide applicators examination. Under the direction of horticulturist Frank Pizzi, keepers were provided with educational materials covering selected categories: core or basic level; vertebrate pests; invertebrate pests; pests of stored grain; trees and ornamentals and indoor plantscape.

At the Pittsburgh Zoo, animal keepers may be required to handle pesticides, rodenticides and herbicides as part of routine maintenance in and around animal exhibits. Since the new PA regulation, effective September 1989, mandate that anyone using this class of chemicals be certified, zoo officials began preparations for testing with study materials provided by Pennsylvania State University's cooperative extension office. Keepers Ken Billin, Regina Grebb, Tom Hayes, Henry Kacprzyk, Debbie McGuire and Kathy Robbbaro and the horticulture department's Andrew Gutherie have attained certification as an initial step in implementing an integrated, environmentally sound pest management program for the zoo. Such a program also includes attention to housekeeping, biological controls, animal management and mechanical controls in addition to chemical means. The cost of the study materials, including testing fees, was \$110.00 per person and was covered by an IMS general operating support grant and by funds raised through zoo educational programs.

