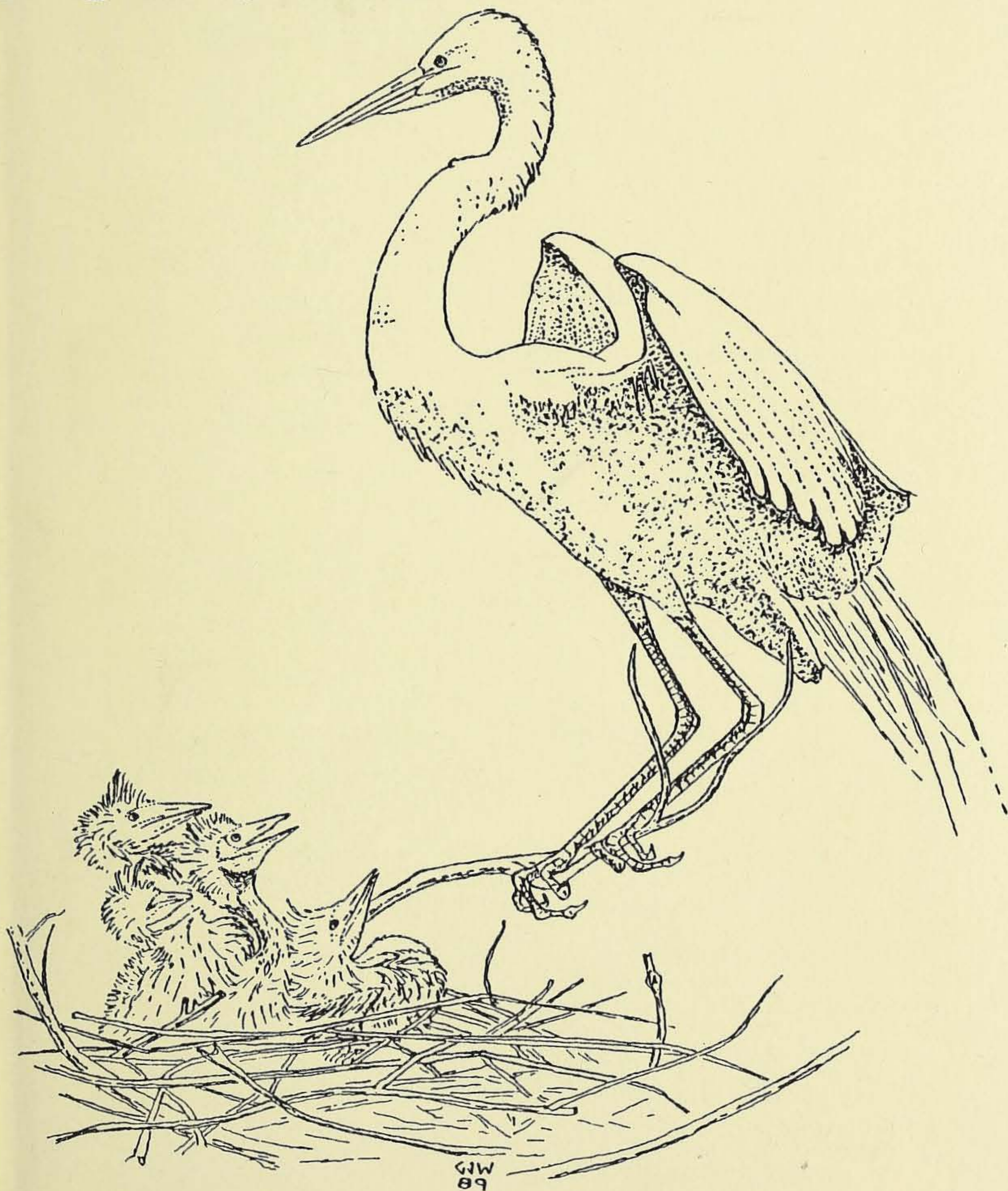


Animal Keepers' Forum

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January 1992



Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

Births & Hatchings, Continued

Other Mammal births have included: 1.1 Greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros strepsice*), a species seldom seen in zoos. MCZ has had 61 of this species born since November 1966. Twin (1.1) Asiatic black bear (*Selenarctos thibetanus*) births represent the first mother-reared cubs of this species at this facility. Twin (1.1) Snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*) births were the first successful litter for these parents. The male was removed when the female was determined to be pregnant. The first cub was seen by staff five weeks after the birth; the second cub at six weeks. They were weighed at eight weeks, at 7.2 lbs. A 0.1 Bongo (*Tragelaphus eurycerus isaaci*) was born at the end of April 1991. Captive births are not common for this species. A Reticulated giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*) represents the second successful mother-raised giraffe at MCZ in many years. Both were from the same mother.

The Small Mammals Dept. reports the following significant births: Four Vampire bats (*Desmodus rotundus*) - the MCZ is one of the few zoos that have been successful in continuously breeding this species of bat. This breeding colony has a history of 51 births. The Ruwenzori long-haired fruit bat (*Rousettus lanosus*) colony has had seven births this past year. MCZ is the only U.S. zoo housing this type of mountain fruit bat. Our Straw colored fruit bat (*Eidolon helvum*) colony had three births. MCZ is the only zoo that has been successful with mother-raised babies of this species.

Birds - between 1 December 1990 and 19 June 1991, MCZ had eight births of the Humboldt penguin (*Spheniscus humboldti*). We have two separate breeding colonies on exhibit. The Humboldt penguin, an SSP species, is endangered with less than 30,000 estimated to be left in the wild.

Aquarium/Reptile - has reported the following: one Green and Black poison arrow frog (*Dendrobates auratus*) - first for this species at MCZ since the 1970s. Also reported is one Chuckwalla (*Sauromalus obesus*) - a first for MCZ after having this species on display for 14 years. The department also received the larvae of the Puerto Rican crested toad (*Peltophryne lemur*) from the Cincinnati Zoo in 1991. The larva was metamorphosed and the 60-70 toads will be released to the wild in 1992. This species is endangered due to habitat loss and is an SSP species. *submitted by Wayne J. Hazlett, Chapter Liaison, Milwaukee County zoo AAZK chapter, Milwaukee, WI.*

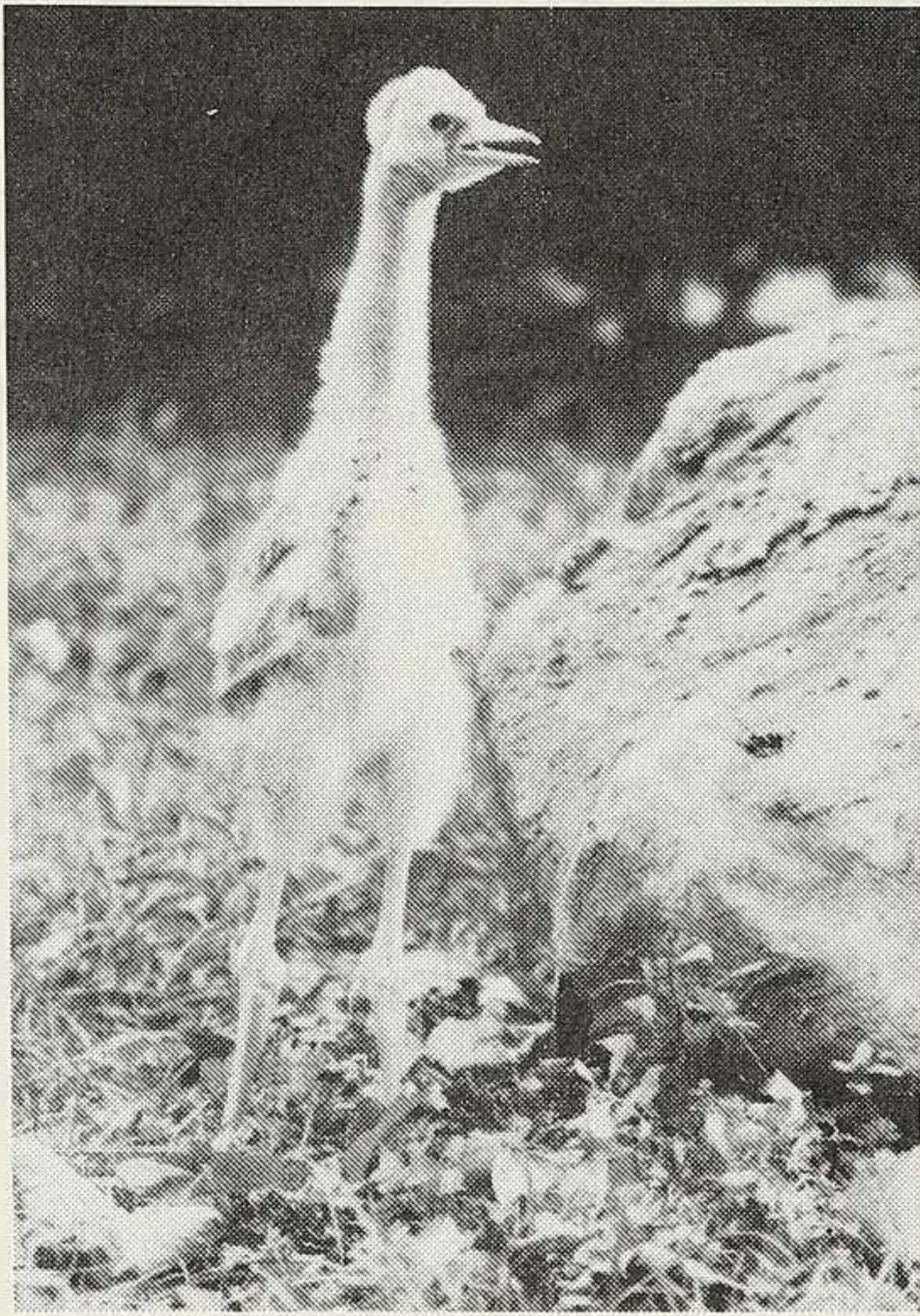
Crystal Garden (Victoria, B.C., Canada)...the Aviary department would like to announce the raising of five Hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) babies in 1991. Also twin Slow loris (*Mycticebus pygmaeus*) babies were born on 9 November 1991. *submitted by Reta Lowry, Curator, Crystal Garden, Victoria, B.C., Canada.*

Philadelphia Zoological Gardens...reports the following from June-October 1991:

Reptiles - the collection has increased in size due to the department's participation in the annual meeting of The Society for the study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR). Out of a possible 68 species of native Pennsylvanian amphibians and reptiles, 56 were exhibited at the meeting. Many of the animals have been incorporated into the zoo's collection.

Birds - this department has had a couple of exciting hatchings during this time; 0.0.2 West African crowned cranes (*Balearica pavonina pavonina*) hatched in August and are being hand-raised by zoo staff. This is the first successful breeding of this species at PZG since 1956. 0.1 Trumpeter swan (*Cygnus cygnus buccinator*) hatched here and was sent to Michigan's Department of Natural Resources for their reintroduction program. 0.0.3 Caribbean flamingos (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) hatched this summer bringing our flock up to 27 animals. 0.0.2 Micronesian kingfisher (*Halcyon cinnamomina*) hatched this summer. They are the 9th and 10th chicks to survive since PZG began working with this species in 1984. 0.0.2 Sunbittern (*Eurypyga helias*) hatched and are the 4th and 5th viable chicks PZG has produced over the last two years. We also received 1.0 Shoebill stork (*Balaeniceps rex*) in August. We are the only zoo on the East Coast to display this species.

Births & Hatchings, Continued



Shown at left is one of two West African Crowned Crane chicks hatched at the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens. The chicks are being hand-reared by the zoo staff.

Mammals - significant births during the five month period include: 1.0 Mongoose lemur (*Lemur mongoz mongoz*) was born; the third offspring of this pair. 0.1 Western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*) was born on 4 July to our female, Snickers - this is her first daughter. The baby was named "Uhuru" which means freedom in Swahili. This is the name given to Kenya's Independence Day. 1.0 Indian Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) was born in July to our pair held at PZG. This same pair have produced four offspring with three surviving. 0.1 Matschie's tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus matschiei*), who we estimate was born in late January 1991, finally showed his face in June. He's now out of the pouch and doing well. This is the second offspring from the pair; unfortunately the first DNS. 0.1 Malayan tapir (*Tapirus indicus*) was born to our female. She has had three other offspring but this is the first fathered by our current male. 0.1 Spectacled langur (*Presbytis obscura*) was born in October; the third offspring of this female. Our group now has eight animals.

Some significant acquisitions are 4.5 Rodriguez fruit bats (*Pteropus rodricensis*) that came from the London Zoo and Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust and are part of an international conservation/breeding program for the species. We received 1.1 Klipspringers (*Oreotragus oreotragus*) from the Chipangali Wildlife Trust in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. We acquired 0.1 Six-banded armadillo (*Euphractus sexcintus*) on loan from the Tulsa Zoo to be paired with our single male. This now gives us two breeding pairs.

This summer a member of our staff went to Kenya to collect more Naked mole rats (*Hetercephalus glaber*). We acquired 234 specimens in eight different colonies. So far a colony has been sent to each of the following zoos: Roger Williams Park Zoo, National Zoo, Phoenix Zoo and the Toledo Zoo. --submitted by Beth Schwenk, Chapter Liaison, Philadelphia Zoo AAZK Chapter, Philadelphia, PA.



Bowling for Rhinos '92

During the 1991 National AAZK Conference in Toledo, a 'Bowling for Rhinos' (BFR) Workshop was held. Conference delegates attending the Workshop represented 23 of the 42 Chapters that participated in the successful 1991 event. A major topic of discussion at the meeting was whether BFR should continue to support the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Project. A vote taken regarding continued support for the rhino project was ratified unanimously by the attending delegates. In addition to pledging their continued support, members also voted to send 100% of all BFR monies raised to the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc. for distribution to AAZK approved projects.

Andy Lodge, coordinator for the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc., submitted the following proposal to the AAZK Conservation, Preservation and Restoration Committee (CPR) and the membership for 1992.

In 1991, AAZK membership voted to fence a portion of land called the Ngare Ndare Forest Preserve. This solar powered fence has been extremely successful in separating wildlife from encroaching farmlands and poachers. The 1992 Proposal seeks funding for a fence to completely enclose Lewa Downs, expanding the protected sanctuary from 10,000 acres to 110,000 acres. An expansion is necessary due to territorial overcrowding of breeding age males and to combat drought conditions which have now reached the critical point. The sanctuary of Lewa Downs contains forest reserve and natural swamps. Fencing this area will afford security and badly needed water in times of drought for many species in the habitat, especially rhino.

The CPR Committee is proud to announce that Patty Pearthree, Indianapolis Zoo, is Coordinator for BFR this year. The committee hopes to raise the \$225,000 needed for the fencing project. The time frame for the 1992 BFR will be from March to July. Chapter participation is critical to the project and it is hoped that even more Chapters will hold an event in 1992.

The Ngare Sergoi Support group, Inc. has again this year graciously provided prizes for the two top fundraising bowlers. The prizes consist of two trips to Lewa downs, all expenses paid from New York City.

Should you require any further information, please contact: Patty Pearthree, P.O. Box 199026, Indianapolis, IN 46219-9026. Phone: (312) 322-8723 OR Bob Debets, Assiniboine Park Zoo, 2355 Corydon Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3P OR5 (204) 837-1635 (home).

A Presidential Message on Bowling for Rhinos

In March of 1992, chapters again will be called on to support the conservation of African flora and fauna through our own 'Bowling for Rhinos'. through your efforts over the past two years, \$300,000 has gone directly to Ngare Sergoi for on-site species conservation.

As always, 100% of monies raised in the name of BFR and transferred to AAZK, will be sent to Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc. and forwarded to Africa, to be applied directly to in-country species conservation. AAZK is proud to be able to make the statement that 100% of monies earned go directly to our membership-supported projects and documentation is available on request from AAZK's CPR Committee.

I have personally bowled quite terribly during the past two years in the name of BFR. I encourage all AAZK Chapters to get involved in this important cause. Prizes provided by the NSSG will let you see firsthand how much of an impact our money is making on conservation in Africa. The AAZK Board of Directors and the AAZK CPR Committee support this project 100% and we hope to have 100% support from our chapters. No effort in the name of conservation goes without notice.

---Ed Hansen, AAZK President



Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary Update



*from Anna Merz
Founder/Patron*

Dear AAZK Members,

Sadly I must report to you all that this year has been a year of catastrophe for us as well as for the Persian Gulf. The rains failed in April, we had only one-half inch and now in the middle of November, it looks as if they will fail again. We have also suffered a series of disasters with our rhinos. Some drought-related and some possibly so; at least all can be described as due to natural causes and not to the negligence of our security forces whose standard of training is being continuously updated.

The first disaster occurred last Christmas Day. Instead of accepting an invitation to lunch, I was driving round the sanctuary and happened upon Makora having a major battle with the three-year-old white male recently purchased by Halvar. It was a most terrifying site with the young male quite literally being hurled up into the air and then knelt on by Makora; the noises they were making were every bit as dramatic as the sight. After certain dramas I did manage to separate them with the Susuki, shots being fired into the air by our rangers had no effect at all on the enraged Makora. Luckily after I'd rammed them apart, Cypriano heard my cries for help over the radio and managed to drive Makora in one direction while I drove off the young male in another. Dieter came up from Nairobi the next day and we captured the young male and did what we could for him, but sadly he died from a perforated stomach on the 28th. This has not been a good year for Makora who has lived up to his Swahili name of "trouble" - in May he had a battle with Gororika which I once more separated with my battered Susuki, no damage done this time; and in June he killed my mare Tosca for reasons unknown.

In January we made a serious attempt to catch the rhino on the mountain between Kora and Meru that both we and the Eden Trust had paid guards to try and protect. The mountain is heavily forested and very steep. Sadly we failed and a few months later, it was killed. In February Gororika gave birth to a lovely male calf and we were all very excited. In April the rains failed. Daily we placed lucerne hay near her--she would play with it, sit on it, everything but eat it. Oct. 14th the calf died, the postmortem revealed dry grass in its stomach but no milk. The other two white cows with older calves are thin but still strong. From the end of April until October, we have lived in an ever increasing cloud of dust seemingly composed of our own dust, dust from the Phillipine volcano and smoke from Kuwait. We have never experienced weather like this before and most of us have suffered from sore eyes. On the 9th of May, two of our black males, Osupat and Kikwar seemingly had a dispute during the course of which Kikwar ran over a cliff and broke his back on landing. Osupat apparently landed on top of him and died a few hours later of massive internal injuries.

On the 28th of May, we opened 400 yards of line fence near the east gate. While our entire labor force was working on the fence line, all our trackers were busy rounding up every giraffe they could find. When about 150 animals were reasonably assembled, Ted Goss, with the Eden Trust helicopter, drove them out through the gap, a most incredible and beautiful sight. By evening the fence was back in place and fully operational. Twenty to thirty giraffe remain in the sanctuary which has relieved the pressure on our trees, but has not helped the situation on Lewa Downs. To date, Ian has succeeded in translocating some 60 giraffe off Lewa, he hopes to move at least another 300, if not more, if funds allow. This has been made possible thanks to the 4WD Mercedes lorry purchased by Andy Lodge and the NSSG from funds raised in 'Bowling for Rhinos'; thanks to Ted Goss and the Eden Trust helicopter (as it proved impossible to round up giraffes and get them into the holding boma with horses); and thanks for funds raised by Dr. Eva Metzger, Richard Scholl, Fritz Bucher, the Animal Welfare Society of Switzerland, and Melinda Atwood. The bright

Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary Update, *Continued*

orange lorry with its huge superstructure and its cargo of bright chestnut and white giraffes peering over the top provides a most amazing sight and a wonderful film of part of the translocation has been made by a French TV company.

August was for us a fairly dramatic month. Two big male rhinos were having a series of battles up at the new Ol Pejeta rhino sanctuary. It was feared that one or both would be seriously injured or killed if they continued to battle it out, so, despite drought, it was decided to move one of them here. In order to prevent complications at this end, it was decided that Kelele should be captured and dehorned (with the consent of KWS) and we would see if we could keep him safely outside the sanctuary. Kelele's capture by Dieter provided us with some dramatic moments, but was successful as has been his subsequent release outside the sanctuary. At the same time it was decided to send Shaba's five-year-old son, Jupiter, up to Ol Pejeta. His capture caused even more dramas and at one stage the helicopter had to come to the rescue of my Susuki as I tried to get Dieter in range of Jupiter. Shaba did not agree and then there was the incredible moment when Shaba reared up and tried to attack the helicopter. Eventually the darted Jupiter went down in the Simba lugga where there was no hope of getting the lorry or crate to him. Dieter gave him some of the recovery drug, enough to get him on his feet and we proceeded to lead him to the lorry with a rope around his nose. By the time we had got him out of the lugga and near the crate, he was pretty much recovered and we had a fairly lively time getting him in. He has since settled down well at Ol Pejeta which has had good rains.

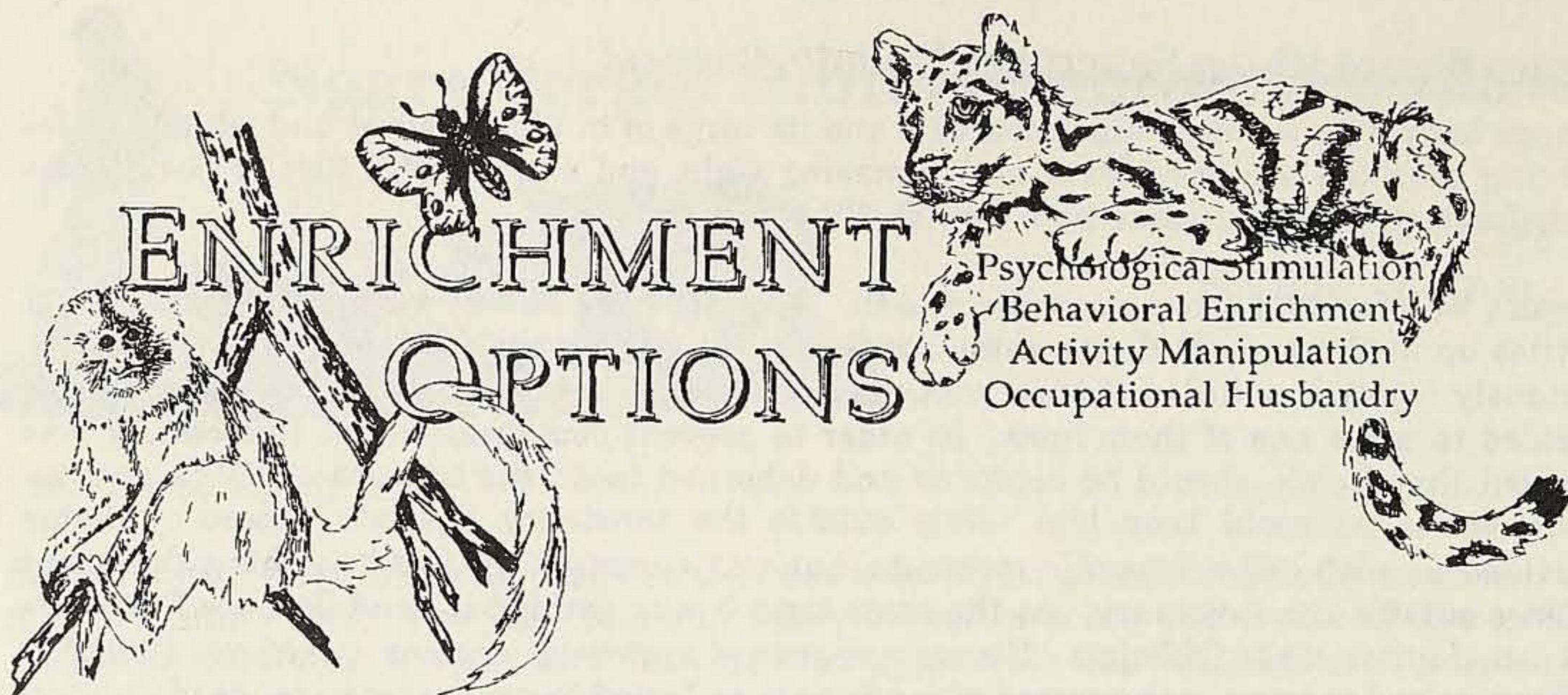
Alas for Zero, the Ol Pejeta male who came here--the biggest rhino I have ever seen. On the 13th of October he was looking as if he were trying to vomit; this I know in a horse means disaster and we all presumed it was equally bad for a rhino. Francis flew to Nairobi but it was Sunday and no vets were available. The postmortem showed something none of us had ever seen before. His esophagus from the throat down to the stomach was packed solid. The stomach was empty. Apparently the sphincter muscle at the opening to the stomach was paralyzed. Was this drought-related? There is a similar, but very rare disease in cattle which is drought-related.

In September I went to England to help launch my book "Rhino at the Brink of Extinction" published in London by Harper Collins. That was for me an interesting, if rather frightening, experience. At least I saw bits of England I have never seen before and came away with a surprising respect for British Railways which enabled me to do day trips from London to as far afield as Liverpool. The book can be bought in America from Jim McLarty, Rafiki Books, 45 Rawson Ave., Camden, ME 04843. I am hoping a paperback can be brought out in America later for the Support Group. I must at this stage apologize for a serious omission on P. 7 of the hardback edition where thanks to Andy Lodge and the Support Group was left out due only to my carelessness. My sincere apologies to Andy and you all.

When I returned here after three weeks it was to learn of another disaster. Poor old Rongai had overbalanced and fallen to her death down a 60foot cliff into the river. Her 3 1/2 year old calf, Julali seems to be doing all right and much of her time is spent with Juno and her calf of the same age. So we have had 6 deaths this year and the only good news is the birth of a female calf to Samia's mother, Solia, in August. Samia herself continues to make good progress but is at present coming home regularly to have her diet supplemented by me in the form of dairy cubes, lucerne and the thorn bushes in the garden, carefully watered for her benefit.

Because disasters have arrived thick and fast this year, it does not mean we are going to give up. We cannot increase the erratic rainfall to which this place is subject, but we can and MUST increase the size of the sanctuary. And this time we do not propose just to double it, but with the blessing of the ever-generous Craig family, to increase it six fold. We will turn the whole of Lewa Downs into a rhino sanctuary plus the Ngare Ndare Forest Reserve fenced in this year with a huge thank you to Andy, the Support Group and AAZK. Half of Lewa Downs is already fenced; 34 kms remain. We will have a Project proposal out early in the New Year which will be sent on request. Please help us and a very happy Christmas and '92 to you all.

--*Anna Merz*



The *AKF* editorial staff is pleased to initiate this behavioral enrichment column which we hope will become a regular feature each month. But we need your help to keep it full of ideas, suggestions, etc. which will assist your fellow keepers in providing enrichment options for the animals in their care. We will also plan to incorporate ideas from other sources we find on the topic. Special thanks to Bruce Clark, Toledo Zoo, for providing us with the Enrichment Options logo for this column. Bruce has also offered his assistance to those who want to submit a drawing of an enrichment tool, toy, etc. but who do not like to draw--he will clean-up and put some finishing touches on your sketch before publication. We want to hear enrichment ideas for any and all species housed in zoos, so let us hear from you soon! Send your ideas to Associate Editors Gretchen Ziegler and Kayla Grams, Topeka Zoo, 635 S.W. Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS 66606.

RHINOCEROS - Providing a water pool and mud pool (possibly only drenched sand/gravel) creates an activity of water and mud bathing for the animal.

A loose tree trunk (heavy) chained in the enclosure will allow the rhinos to push, try their strength against an artificial 'sparring' partner. The animals can also use the tree trunk to rub their horns on.

PENGUINS - Sand or open ground as well as tussocks creates the possibility of digging and grubbing behavior.

REPTILES - Move heating places/shade during the day. This makes the animals move with the heat/avoid shade (shuttling reptiles) or change position in the heat source (posturing reptiles). Bottom heat alone results in unnatural behavior as bottom heat constantly keeps the place warm, whereas sun heat disappears when the animal has been lying in the same spot for some time.

--the above taken from Behavioural Enrichment - a catalogue of ideas produced as a cooperative effort of seven Scandinavian zoos, Oct. 1990.

ORANGUTANS - Providing old scrub brushes. Our animals have been observed using scrub brushes for long periods of time - scrubbing the walls, floors, and furniture in their enclosures.

--from Kayla Grams, Keeper, Topeka Zoo, Topeka, KS

Chapter News, Continued

May 16th came around with 'Bowling for Rhinos'. In 1991 we again bowled with the Lincoln Park Zoo-sponsored event in Chicago. Our Chapter sent ten participants to the fundraiser. Sometime in the future, we plan to sponsor our own event. Andy Lodge and the Ngare Sergoi Support group are well respected at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Because of this, many people have requested that we hold our own 'Bowling for Rhinos' event.

On 9 June we held our Rhino Walk with Michael Werikhe. Our chapter assisted by manning information tables, registering participants, and leading the walk around the zoo grounds.

Our summer months were spent planning and preparing for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner. On 14 September, our biggest Chapter event was held in the new Zoofari Conference Center. A good time was had by all. The money raised is used for Chapter approved assistance to worthwhile animal-related projects. We have several requests from Central American and South American zoos for equipment that they can not obtain with their limited budgets. Some requests are under study with prices being obtained, etc.

Three of our Chapter members attended the pre-conference meeting in Columbus and the National Conference in Toledo in 1991. Our Chapter grants a Conference Assistance stipend which is available upon written request. This has been available for several years. In 1991, a stipend was instituted for zoo staff members who present a paper at any conference that is zoo-related.

On 21 October we were happy to have Fallet Young from Belize, in Central America, as a Chapter speaker. Mr. Young presented an overview of the Community Baboon Sanctuary in Belize. Dr. Robert H. Horwich of Gay Mills, WI was also in attendance. Dr. Horwich founded the sanctuary in February of 1985 to prevent the destruction of habitat and to preserve the Black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) population. The sanctuary is

under the direction of the Belize Audubon Society. The Zoological Society of Milwaukee County is one of the supporters of this project.

Blue bird nest boxes have been installed on the zoo grounds by the Milwaukee Chapter. We are now working on having wood duck nest boxes made and installed. This is a long-term commitment by the Chapter to the zoo. Boxes will have to be checked, cleaned and maintained on a regular basis.

--Wayne J. Hazlett, Chapter Liaison



Brookfield Zoo Chapter

Our aluminum recycling money continues to allow our Chapter to help support various conservation efforts. Five hundred dollars was donated to the Rhino Walk fundraiser. Money has also been used to support a research project with our African elephants. The project focuses on elephant communication. Money was also used to purchase 12 containers which were distributed throughout the zoo for aluminum can recycling.

This summer, primate keeper Kathy Snyder presented a slide program on her involvement with an ongoing baboon research project in Kenya. This fall our second annual picnic was held and everyone had a great time.

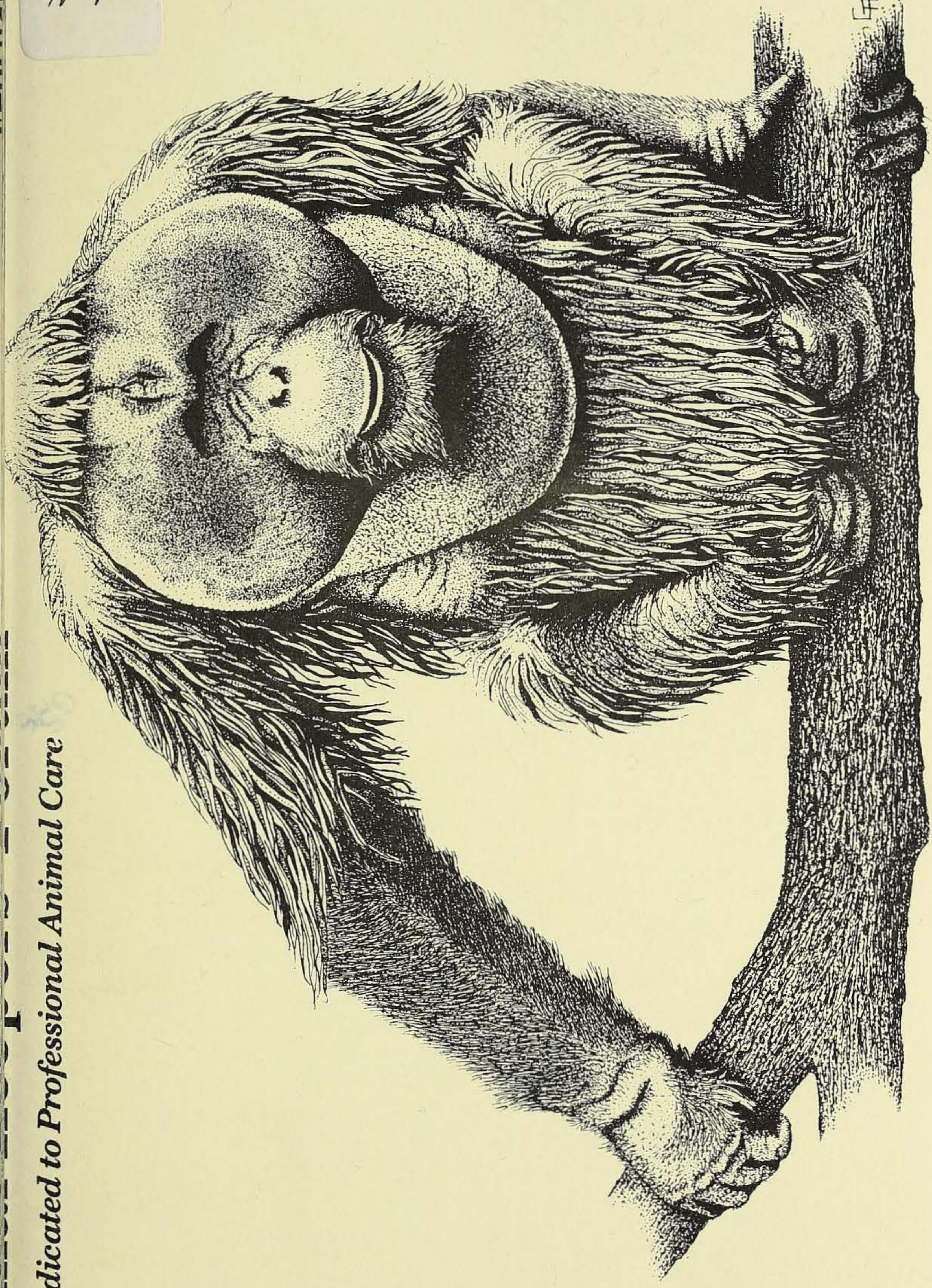
Following the Conference in Toledo, Fallet Young from the Community Baboon Sanctuary spent a couple of days in the Chicago area, giving his presentation for our noon lecture.

Our fourth annual silent auction was held at the beginning of December. As in the past, the auction proved to be a very successful fundraiser. A portion of the proceeds will be given to a conservation effort which is

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Chapter News

Tulsa Zoo AAZK Chapter

In September our Chapter lost its President, Sarah Leeg, when she resigned to move to California. We all miss her and her hard work. She was responsible for getting the approval and organizing our zoo's own "Keeping up with Keepers" program, an idea originated by the Philadelphia Zoo AAZK Chapter. Our Chapter has successfully completed five KUWKs since September.

We will once again be adopting a whale this year. His name is Stub. We have a FYI display case in one of our public areas with our adopted whale's picture as well as information about him and other Chapter projects. We are active in the "Adopt a Highway" program - four times a year we clean a two-mile section of the expressway.

Our Chapter has its own pop machine with the lowest price in the zoo. We are doing well enough with the profits from this to renew our membership dues to Zoo Conservation Outreach Group (ZCOG). We are currently working on gathering items to help fill a wish list for the Edgard Lang Sacasa Zoo in Managua, Nicaragua.

Another project our Chapter voted to support was The Wolf Fund, a project supporting the reintroduction of the wolf into Yellowstone National Park.

We had a very full and rewarding 1991 and look forward to a great year for our Chapter in 1992.

--Faye Krumm, President

Rocky Mountain AAZK Chapter

Newly elected officers for 1992 are:

President.....Karen Stern
Vice Pres.....Ann Zobrist
Secretary.....Mark Marciniak
Treasurer.....Cindy Bickel
Chapter Liaison.....Suzanne Chacon
AAZK/Liaison Volunteer
.....Donna Ames
(appointed by the Volunteer Board)

Our Conservation Parking Meter has generated \$400 in the last month. We have plenty of snow here in Denver this year, so it's a good start. Our official unveiling will be this spring.

We voted on our official Chapter logo, a design by Cate Werner (see insert). We are going to get stationary made with our logo on it.



Our 'Bowling for Rhinos' will be held 1 March 1992. T-shirts and Posters are still available through our mail order service. For information call (303) 331-4120 and leave a message.

--Suzanne Chacon, Chapter Liaison

Exotic Feline Breeding Compound

The Chapter participated in EFBC's first Twilight Tour (Sept. '91) fundraiser which resulted in over \$2500.00 for the Compound and over \$110 from the Chapter bake sale. The high point was the dedication of EFBC's latest Natural Habitat Exhibit built on proceeds from the first 'Fabulous Feline Follies' banquet last November.

A \$300 Silver Sponsorship was donated by our Chapter to The Fabulous Feline Follies 1991 'A Celebration of Gigant' - to raise funds for the construction of a Natural Habitat Exhibit for EFBC's young Amur leopard. Most Chapter members were an invaluable help on the night of the event (Nov. 23) working even though they were paying guests, too. This event raised \$22,000 and secured our goal! We cannot thank them enough.

Chapter News, Continued

The Follies theme for 1992 is "Our Native American: The Cougar", set for November 14 for which we are seeking sponsorship at every level.

The Chapter has become a member of AMAZOO, part of the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group, and sent a \$50 donation to the Seub Nakhasathien Foundation to support the establishment of a Wildlife Sanctuary in Thailand. This is in an area inhabited by wild felines and is under pressure from loggers.

Thanks to AKF (Aug issues) for advertising 'The Patch' for which we received many orders (Still a few left!) \$4.50 to AAZK/EFBC, HCR 1, Box 84, Rosamond, CA 93560.

--Julie Abraham, President

EFBC Addendum

We are pleased to announce that our Chapter has decided to donate 10% of every fund-raiser we will be holding this year to the National AAZK. We are still discussing the potential for holding a special event devoted to the National concern. Being an entirely volunteer organization, the demand on our resources is great. Our secretary, Annie Neilson, will be conducting an AAZK membership drive over the next month. Hopefully, we will have a large interest and can plan other fundraisers and events.

Our next fundraiser will be a bake sale that will be held at the EFBC's Twilight Tour in April for the opening of a new Environmental Exhibit.

---Johnny Merk, Chapter Liaison

Dallas Zoo AAZK Chapter

Last year was a great one for our Chapter. In May we raised over \$3000 for Bowling for Rhinos. We were very pleased to have the support of personnel from all branches of the zoo and a good time was had by all.

For the past two years our Chapter has been collecting aluminum cans and glass for recycling. This year we donated money made from recycling to

AMAZOO, an organization that supports the training of Central American zoo personnel.

Our Chapter has developed an AAZK product. We are selling acrylic keychain/thermometers with the AAZK logo on the front and a wind chill chart on the back. So far, sales have been great.

It is with some sadness that we bid a fond farewell to our 1991 president, Marcelle Guidry. She has left our zoo to become the General Curator of the Zoo of Acadiana in Louisiana. We thank Marcelle for her strong efforts in reorganizing our Chapter and for her work in keeping it going. We wish her all the best of luck in her new job.

Our 1992 elections results are:

President.....Sara Weller
Vice President.....Anne Knapp
Sec/Treas.....Ann Stevens

Calgary Zoo AAZK Chapter

Our second annual Zoolympics was a great success, bringing in more than \$450.00. Proceeds from the event and bake sale went towards the purchase of two electronic digital scales.

Sponsorship of foreign keeper Dr. Prakash Amte continues with financial support, husbandry and restraint techniques for rehabilitated animals. Our Chapter received our first correspondence from Dr. Amte, detailing some of the animals under his care.

Financial support for rainforests and the Zoo Histories Project were made on behalf of our Chapter. We hope in 1992 a fund can be generated in memory of "Tuffy", our silverback Lowland gorilla, with proceeds toward occupational items for section animals.

--William Blayney, Chapter Liaison

Chapter News, Continued

Our spiral wishing well still proves to be quite profitable - this season we created an educational display about gorillas and split profits with various gorilla conservation organizations (a total of over \$400). This summer we donated nearly \$400 to the Ngare Sergoi Support Group. We are now in the process of redoing the showcase featuring Cheyenne Bottoms, an endangered wetland in central Kansas which is an extremely important stopover for many migrating species of waterfowl and shorebirds.

In November our Chapter hosted a presentation by Lee Boyd, a specialist in Przewalski horse behavior, who did much of her doctorate work studying our herd here in Topeka. Lee accompanied the team of vets, keepers and other specialists to Russia where they did physiological studies of over 100 P. horses at the Askania Nove Reserve. Her slides and videos of the Moscow Zoo and the horse procedures were wonderfully entertaining and interesting. Of particular interest to us was the video of a stallion fight she was able to film during the events.

Next month, Chapter member Geoff Creswell will be giving a slide show on his year working for the Jane Goodall Institute establishing a chimp sanctuary in Burundi, East Africa.

We finally got our Chapter T-shirts made featuring our new binturong logo. And in December our Chapter voted to contribute \$100 to national AAZK headquarters for operating expenses since the financial outlook for our association is so bleak. This winter we will attempt to come up with a brilliant fundraiser to help national further.

--Gretchen Ziegler, Chapter Liaison

Greenville Zoo AAZK Chapter

We held our Bowling for Rhinos fundraiser for the Ngare Ndare Forest Preserve on 4 May 1991. \$934.16 was raised.

Lecture about bats: the guest lecturer was Ms. Mary Strayer from the non-game division of Fish and Wildlife Department and manager of the

Heritage Wildlife Trust. Her department actively conducts bat counts and charts the different species and their habitat range in the South Carolina area.

Our Assistant Director, Richard Farinato, spoke to our group about his trip to Guatemala. He had applied and was chosen to teach a two-week course in the "Biology and Management of Wildlife in Captivity" at the zoo in Guatemala City.

--Janie Raxter, President



ATTENTION **All Chapters Involved in** **'92 Bowling for Rhinos**

It would be greatly appreciated if any Chapter or facility producing an item especially for Bowling for Rhinos (i.e. patch, pin, T shirt, poster, etc.) would please send one to Administrative Offices for the AAZK Historical Archives. If it is not possible to send the item gratis, please advise AO of the cost. If an item is no longer available, please send a photograph if possible. We would really like to have as complete a record of this important AAZK event as possible. We would also like to have snapshots of your event and copies of any publicity you receive in zoo or local media. Thanks

Births & Hatchings, Continued

Los Angeles Zoo, Los Angeles, CA...announces the following B&H:

Mammals...0.1 Red-flanked duiker (*Cephalophus rufilatus*) (U); 0.1 Spekes gazelle (*Gazella spekei*) (E) (19th born at L.A.); 0.1 Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus*) (E); 0.1 Gerenuk (*Litocranius walleri sclalari*) (U); 0.0.1 Gelada baboon (*Theropithecus gelada*) (U).

Birds...0.0.1 Cape Griffon vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*) (U) (second hatching in U.S.); 2 eggs currently being incubated for California condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) (E) (Also four eggs currently being incubated at San Diego). *submitted by Debbie Levy, Chapter Liaison, L.A. Zoo AAZK Chapter.*

Metro Toronto Zoo...announces the birth of 0.1 Great Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) (E/SSP) on Christmas morning. (See related story below.)
submitted by Ariel Shamir, Chapter Liaison, Metro Toronto Zoo AAZK Chapter.



An Exciting Arrival on Christmas Eve - A Baby Indian Rhino

*By Karen Goodrowe, Astrid Bellam and Margery Hay
Reproductive Physiology Staff, Metro Toronto Zoo
Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

(Editor's note: this article was submitted by Ariel Shamir, Chapter Liaison for the Metro Toronto Zoo AAZK Chapter and first appeared in the Zoo's newsletter Browse.)

On Christmas Day keepers arrived to find that the baby rhino that had been hoped for since 30 August had finally arrived. This birth was the result of a combination of science and husbandry.

To begin at the beginning, keepers were aware for some time that Indira, the Indian rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) was in need of a mate. Patrick arrived from the Bronx Zoo and the scene was set for the big romance. By measuring hormone levels in the urine, the Reproductive Physiology lab used science to confirm the keepers' observation that Indira was cycling. Using both behavior changes and urine hormone levels, the time for the first encounter between Indira and Patrick was arranged. After some interesting courting, Indira lost her virginity during the wee small hours of the morning. Ollie Claffey was there to see it, and Dr. Graham Crawshaw confirmed the deed.

Then came the time of waiting. With urine hormone monitoring procedures the Reproductive Physiology lab was happy to be able to confirm the pregnancy within 3 months - yes, the encounter was successful, Indira was pregnant.

The keepers gave Indira the special attention she deserved and the Repro Lab kept a close watch on the hormonal changes during pregnancy. As the due date approached, an informal pool was organized to guess the date of the new arrival. No one chose the correct date although Valerie Bowler and Charles Gutherie were both out by 24 hours and were the closest. They share in half the money raised. The other half of the money (\$60.00) will be sent to Michael Werike's fundraising effort for rhinos.

This offspring is a particularly important birth for the Indian rhino SSP captive breeding program. Both Indira and Patrick are from under-represented lines in the captive population family tree, and there are no other offspring from this genetic base. In other words, this is the first baby for either Patrick or Indira. Latest information is that the youngster, a female, is nursing well and appears to be thriving.

At the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., information from our studies during Indira's pregnancy will help in a cooperative project to monitor a possible pregnancy in one of their Indian rhinos. When science and nature combine, it is wonderful what can be achieved.



Chapter News

Bergen County Regional AAZK Chapter

As we close out our first year as an established AAZK chapter, we are happy to announce several accomplishments. In May 1991, we sponsored a 'Bowling for Rhinos' evening and raised \$1779.00. We were very pleased with our first attempt at a Chapter event. Within the zoo itself, the staff proudly opened to the public two new exhibits, a newly renovated Mountain Lion exhibit and a brand new Tamarin/Macaw exhibit. We hosted our first guest speaker, Dr. Curt Boren, our zoo's consulting veterinarian. He spoke to a full audience about zoo medicine in general and the response was so good, we may have him back to speak on more specific topics.

As the year came to a close we had two Chapter members attending the conference in Toledo and held elections for 1992 officers. Our Chapter's officers are as follows:

President.....Cindy Ambrosio
Vice Pres/Sec'y.....Susan Nolan
Treasurer.....Marianne Vella
Chapter Liaison....Barbara Andriani

--Barbara Andriani, Chapter Liaison

Zoo Atlanta AAZK Chapter

The Chapter is pleased to announce the following new Chapter officers for 1992:

President.....Emma Cusson
Vice Pres.....Charles Horton
Secretary.....Barbara Webb
Co-Treasurers.....Gary Roesinger &
Brian Kiepper
Chapter Liaison..Michelle Schireman

Our Conference Chairperson for the 1993 National AAZK Conference is Ellen Bradfield. We have been very busy fundraising for this event with bake sales, auctions, and our wishing well income. Things are looking good for '93 with hotel negotiations and committee meetings ongoing.

'Bowling for Rhinos' planning is also underway with newly volunteered Co-Chairpersons Pete Davis and Michelle Schireman.

During the year 1991 our Chapter was represented at the National AAZK Conference by five members and at the National AZVT Conference by one member.

New members joining in '91 are: Robin Brockett, Pete Davis, Cindy Thorstad, and Mike Leonard. Welcome aboard!

Chapter member Alicia Wade has returned from a four-week study of lemurs in Madagascar. We're looking forward to the lecture/slide show she will be presenting this month.

The Elephant Managers Association's annual workshop will take place at Zoo Atlanta in late Fall of 1992. Chapter member James Black is actively working on all the details for this event.

Monies raised in our Chapter's wishing well from the month of August allowed us to donate \$1000.00 to Michael Werikhe and the Rhino Walk last year.

In 1992 we will be continuing the planning and fundraising activities involved with our upcoming conferences and conservation projects.

--Michelle Schireman
Chapter Liaison

Beardsley Chapter AAZK

At a recent meeting the Beardsley Chapter (Bridgeport, CT) elected the following officers for 1992:

President.....Robert Tomas
Vice Pres.....Linda Oltra
Treasurer.....Susan Spencer
Secretary.....Arlene Domkowski
Chapter Liaison..April Fornabaio

Chapter News, Continued

Central Florida Chapter

The Chapter held its first meeting of 1992 at Sea World and Rick Smith, Regional Coordinator for the LINK System, was their guest speaker.

In February Debbie Zombeck, Sea World of Florida, gave a presentation on Project Puffin, a research project in which she was involved.

This month and next the Chapter will be viewing a National Geographic Black Rhino video, slides and a video on the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary and making plans for their 'Bowling for Rhinos' event.

In May the Chapter will hear Tom Williams, Education Curator of Central Florida Zoo, speak on Florida's endangered species and what can be done to preserve these species.

In June the Chapter plans to hold a fundraising event to benefit National AAZK's general operating budget.

In July Dr. Dan Odell, Research Biologist at Sea World will give a presentation on manatees and dugongs. They plan a catered reception and will be extending invitations to all AAZK members statewide.

--Chapter '92 Calendar of Events

Gainesville Area Chapter AAZK

In January the Chapter had Robert Blonde, a marine biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a guest speaker. He spoke on the Conservation of the Florida Manatee.

In February, Richard Smith, a zookeeper from Lowry Park and AAZK Regional Coordinator, spoke on the incubation and rearing of penguins.

The Chapter holds its regular meetings the second Thursday of each month at Santa Fe Community College.

--Alycin Hayes, President

Milwaukee County Zoo AAZK Chapter

Dr. Robert H. Horwich of Gay Mills, WI was our guest speaker in December. His talk on the animals of Belize in Central America focused on the Black howler monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) (T) and the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) (E). We hope to have him back again in the spring.

Chapter member Clay Ecklund, who is now attending The Santa Fe Community College Teaching Zoo in Gainesville, FL, had a going away party combined with our annual Christmas Party. The party was hosted by members Sue Simon and Lois Kessler. Clay was an active Chapter member and his input will be missed.

Sandra J. Vojik, Chairperson for the 1992 Gorilla Workshop Committee addressed the membership in January. The committee is making an appeal for financial aid to allow keepers from foreign countries to attend the workshop. Financial requests had been received from Czechoslovakia, Nigeria, Japan, and the United Kingdom. The general consensus was that the captive gorilla population could benefit by the knowledge brought to the workshop by these primate keepers.

Regional Coordinator Wayne Hazlett attended the Great Lakes Regional Council meeting at the Indianapolis Zoo on 15 January. Even though a blizzard raged all day, ten people were in attendance. They represented five zoos in four states (Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin). Facility and beat reports were given and a lot of pizza and pepsi were consumed. The council meeting was hosted by David Hagan and the Indianapolis AAZK Chapter. Because of the weather the zoo had to be closed on the following day (minus ten degrees and snow removal).

--Wayne Hazlett, Chapter Liaison

Chapter News, Continued

EFBC AAZK Chapter

Newly elected officers for the Exotic Feline Breeding Center AAZK Chapter in Rosamond, CA are:

President.....Julie Abraham
Vice Pres.....Louisa Chabot
Secretary.....Laurel Christ
Treasurer.....Annie Neilson
Chapter Liaison...Johnny Merk

Metro Toronto Zoo AAZK Chapter

Newly elected officers for 1992 are:

President.....Luisa Steinsky
1st Vice Pres.....Heidi Manicki
2nd Vice Pres.....Dan Pearson
Treasurer.....Neil Porter
Chapter Liaison.....Ariel Shamir
Conservation Officer/Monica Wrobel

We started the year with a guest speaker from the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust (JWPT). Dr. David Waugh, Training Officer at JWPT, addressed our staff and management in regards to the training program at JWPT and discussed our own training program at MTZ. Dr. Waugh's visit was funded by the M.T.Z. AAZK Chapter.

Our 'Bowling for Rhinos' will take place in April and preparations are on their way. We are also working on a T-shirt for the M.T.A. Chapter. Our Chapter is also looking at getting involved in Keeper Exchanges and providing used, but valuable equipment from boots to books to the Lima Zoo in Peru.

--Ariel Shamir, Chapter Liaison

Cypress Coast AAZK Chapter

The Cypress Coast AAZK Chapter in West Palm Beach, FL is in the midst of its comeback. We have a new slate of officers as well as thirteen new national AAZK members.

Some goals for 1992 are to raise funds to increase our bank account and to possibly do one fundraiser for National AAZK.

The following are our new officers:

President.....Sally Lieb
Vice Pres.....Susan Schenk
Treasurer.....Lauren Parker
Secretary/Chapter Liaison....
Jay D'Amico

--Jay D'Amico, Chapter Liaison

North Carolina Chapter AAZK

Officers elected for 1992 are:

President.....Kathy Trogdon
Vice Pres.....Gisela Wiggins
Treasurer.....Hannah Decker
Secretary/Chapter Liaison....
Lucy Segerson

The past year proved to be one of our best. We had our first 'Bowling for Rhinos' and raised approximately \$2200. Plans are underway now for BFR 1992 and we hope to raise even more.

Six of our Chapter members plus another keeper from an institution in our area, attended the AAZK National Conference in Toledo. Four members presented papers at the conference. We found the conference to be interesting, stimulating and fun!

The Chapter decided to support the Ecosystem Survival Plan (ESP) in 1991. Early in the year we participated in the Adopt-An-Acre program and late in the year began to pursue setting up a Conservation Parking Meter at the North Carolina Zoological Park. We have also received much encouragement and support from Robert Fry, Director of the Zoo, and Russell Williams, director of the North Carolina Zoological Society. The Society generously donated funds for the fee to obtain the meter and the Memorandum of Agreement was signed. We expect to receive the meter any day now and hope to have a dedication ceremony in the spring.

Other activities in 1991 included assisting the North Carolina Zoological Society with the annual Zoo Run; participating in "Earth Day" activities; sponsoring a foreign

Chapter News, Continued

keeper from Madagascar; purchasing and donating AAZK's most recent edition of Zoonotic Diseases to the three participating institutions of Chapter members; updating our constitution and by-laws; and participating in the "Fall Festival" in Asheboro, our annual fundraising event.

--Lucy Segerson, Chapter Liaison

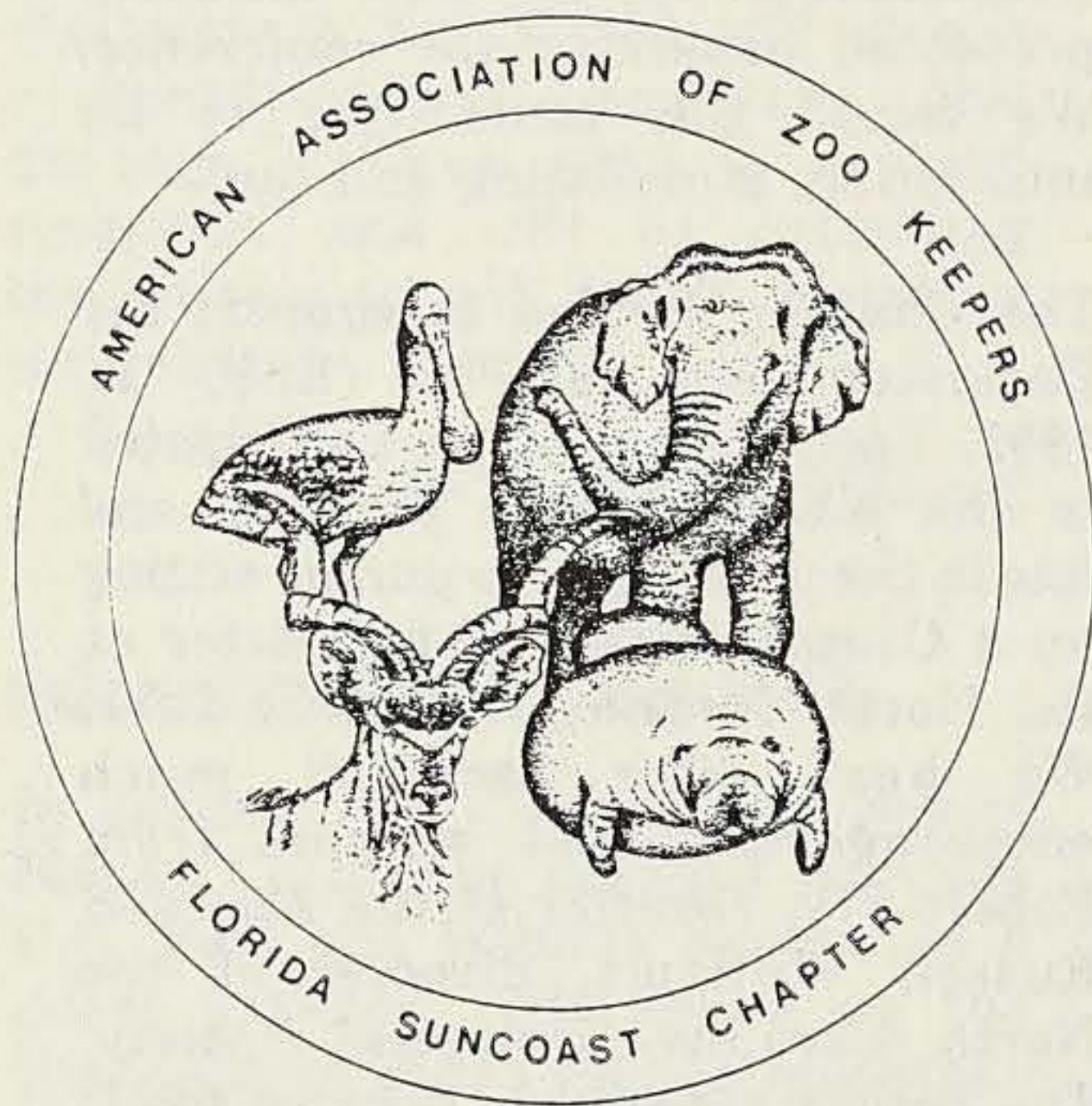
Puget Sound Chapter AAZK

Officers for 1992 are:

President.....Mike Teller
Vice Pres.....Tina Mullett
Secretary.....Marilyn Martinez
Treasurer.....Margaret Girtch
AAZK Liaison to the Woodland Park
Zoological Society...Russ Roach

Florida Suncoast Chapter

The Florida Suncoast Chapter, which includes members from the Lowry Park Zoo and Busch Gardens in Tampa, FL recently adopted a Chapter logo. It is shown below:



Omaha AAZK Chapter

The year 1991 proved to be a tremendous success for the Omaha AAZK. In March of 1991 an overnight campout for advanced high school biology students was held in the zoo's Wild Kingdom Pavilion. Mini-workshops were held on animal medicine, animal nutrition, incubation of eggs, flight and zoo careers. A tour of the Lied Jungle and

a scavenger hunt made for a fun evening. One hundred-sixty-five dollars was raised and used to buy items from the "Keepers' Wish List" for the various areas.

In May we again participated in 'Bowling for Rhinos'. A total of 40 people bowled and \$1,100 was raised for Ngare Sergoi & Ngare Ndare. Two Rhino bowling balls were donated by Steve Kelly of Kelly's North Bowl, where the event was held. Mr. Kelly was very gracious to our group and provided us with great hospitality. We hope to hold the '92 'Bowling for Rhinos' at his place again.

The Henry Doorly Zoo donated the contents of its beehive to the Chapter! Diane Callaway arranged for the processing and bottling of the honey - \$120 was raised from this endeavor and the honey sold out in a matter of days. This year there will be several more beehives and we will again sponsor a honey sale.

Four Chapter members made it to the National Conference in Toledo. It was here that the Omaha AAZK bid for and was selected to host the 1994 National Conference. Plans to make the conference one of the best are already underway with the entire Chapter and Zoo looking forward to hosting everyone who attends. You all will not be disappointed!

Elections were held in December 1991 for '92:

President.....Diane Callaway
Vice Pres.....Paul Dulany
Sec-Treas.....Jay Tetzloff

Conference Co-Chairpersons are Diane Callaway and Lisa Cuevas.

We would also like to say good-bye and good luck to Steve Carter, formerly of the HDZ and former Chapter Secretary/Treasurer. Steve has accepted a position at the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans. He served our Chapter well and he will be missed. Good luck, Steve!

--Lisa Cuevas, Chapter Liaison

Animal Keepers' Forum

April 1992

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*Dedicated to
Professional Animal Care*

HEPPEY

Looking Back

(Editor's note: in the next several issues of *AKF* we will continue to reprint articles which appeared earlier in the Association's history. The old saying "the more things change, the more they stay the same" seems to hold true with these articles which are as relevant today as the day they were written. This month's installment dates back to 1987, but its theme was completely appropriate to this issue dedicated to hoofstock. SC)

The following article appeared in the *Animal Keepers' Forum* (Vol. 14, No. 4) April 1987.

Evaluating Forage Fed to Exotic Animals

By

Charlotte Kirk, Animal Health Technician
Kansas City Zoological Gardens, Kansas City, MO

Making sure that the food we feed our captive animals is of good quality is part of our job as zoo keepers. Admittedly, it is not so difficult to determine when milk is sour, fruit is rotten, or meat is spoiled; but it can be difficult to determine the quality of the hay we feed.

Since hay makes up approximately 75% of our hoofstock's total diet, it's important that it be of good quality. It has been documented that East African herbivores spend the majority of the day foraging. The giraffe spend 68% of its day feeding (Leuthold, 1978), the elephant 74% (Van Soest, 1982), and the rhino 50% (Owen-Smith, 1973). Most other exotic ruminants spend 50-70% of the day foraging in their natural habitat. In captivity these animals depend on hay as their major source of energy. If that source is not of good quality, problems may be encountered.

Certainly we have all had to deal with poor quality hay at one time or another. Often times it's difficult to assess the quality of hay. So to make life easier, here are a few tips that may strengthen your ability to tell a good bale of hay from a bad one.

Both legume and grass hays should have fine stems and plenty of leaves. If legume hay looks more like a pile of sticks, due to lack of leaves, it was probably put up too late. Leaf loss means major nutrient loss. As forage matures, quality declines due to increased stem to leaf ratios, increased fibrousness, translocation of nutrients, and weathering (Gesshe & Walton, 1981). Nutrient value declines since stems are more fibrous, are 8% less digestible, and contain 6% less protein than leaf tissue (McCullum, 1983).

Check for weeds and foreign objects in the hay. More of these mean less desirable forage material. Many weeds can be toxic to the animals we feed. Cocklebur (*Xanthium spp.*), ergots (*Claviceps spp.*), morning glories (*Ipomoea spp.*), and mustard weeds (*Thlaspi arvense*) are just a few of the weeds that are toxic to most animals, especially swine. Jimsonweed (*Datura spp.*) and nightshades (*Solanum spp.*) are weeds commonly found in hay that produce powerful toxins (Kirk, 1983). Familiarizing yourself with toxic plants can help you to recognize these potential health hazards. Foreign objects to look for can include anything from pieces of baling wire and nails to insects. The insect most famous for causing problems in equines is the blister beetle. This small striped insect is commonly found in alfalfa hay. The toxicity of blister beetles is due to the cantharidin found in their body fluid (Oehme, 1983). Cantharidin is a severe irritant that produces vesicles (or blisters) in the digestive tract when ingested. When this material is absorbed, it is rapidly excreted through the kidneys, causing damage to the urinary system. Depending on the number of beetles consumed, the equid may show mild to severe signs of toxicity which may even lead to death.

Note the color of your hay. Although a bright green color is often a sign of good hay, it is not the most accurate sign of quality. Sometimes a bale of hay may be sun-bleached on one side but full of nutrients when it's opened.

Looking Back-- Evaluating Forage, Continued

You can sniff out mold and dust. Temperature and moisture are the factors that most affect the growth of mold. Approximately fifteen species of *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus* thrive in hay stored between 25-35°C (77-95°F) and 75-90% relative humidity. This can be a severe problem in the warmer summer months in many parts of the country. Young animals of all species are most susceptible to mold toxins (Berrier, 1977). If there is a blue-gray cloud of dust when you separate a flake of hay, and you come away gasping and sneezing, you can bet that hay is full of mold that could easily cause respiratory and circulatory disturbances in the animal you are feeding.

Texture is also important in assessing the quality of hay. Good hay is soft and springy. Bristled and clumped hay is usually of poor quality.

Lift the bale, if it feels like a ton of bricks, it is more than likely a block of mold. Heavy bales can also mean wet bales which besides being excellent growth medias for mold, usually are lacking in digestible energy.

Obviously no hay dealer is going to allow you to be turned loose opening every bale, but it is wise to crack open at least two or three. Look for the obvious factors that determine quality; leafiness, color, texture, moisture, and presence of foreign objects. Of course, we can't predict the quality of our hay, but we can control what we feed by careful and serious inspection on a daily basis.

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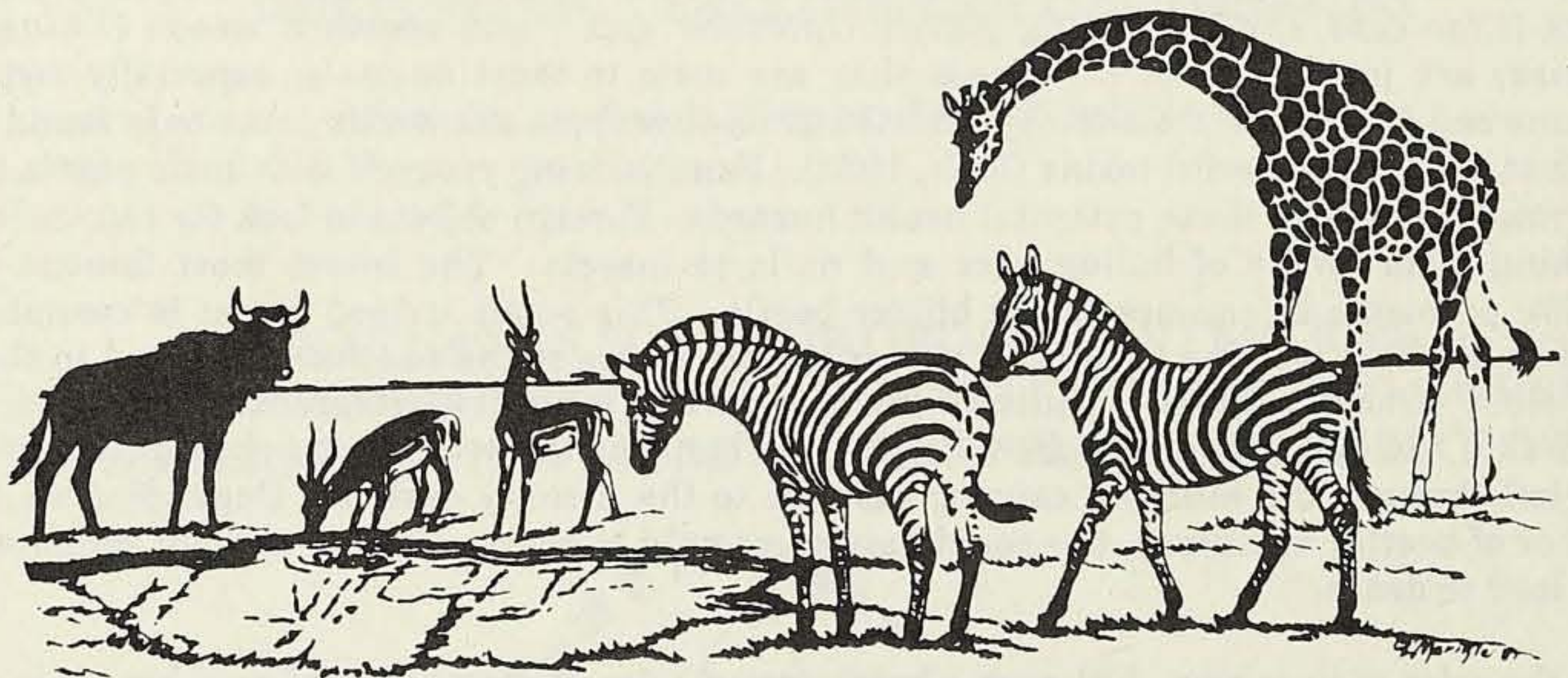
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Bowling for Rhinos '92

-----An Update



As of March 8th, 50 AAZK Chapters have committed to holding a bowling event. We have already received some money from the National Zoo, Mt. Tahoma and Metro Boston Zoo Chapters that held fundraisers other than a bowling event. The first Chapter that bowled was the Rocky Mountain Chapter in Denver, Co and they raised in excess of \$4,000.00.

Bowling events may be held between March and July this year but preferably before July. Several Chapters have chosen the weekend of April 25th (Earth Day). If your Chapter is still interested in bowling but you haven't notified me, please do so ASAP so I can get sponsor sheets to your Chapter. If your Chapter has never held a bowl-a-thon, call me and I can get you started. It is very simple to start out with a small event and you can make it bigger and better every year --- plus it's a lot of fun!

Please have all checks written to your Chapter so they can be deposited into your Chapter's account and then write one chapter check to AAZK, Inc. Send the check and sponsor forms and Financial Statement to me. I will check the sponsor forms to be sure they balance. It is very important that the Financial Statements are sent with your check and sponsor forms. **Please DO NOT** send cash in the mail!

Good luck to everyone and don't hesitate to call me at (617) 322-8723 if you have questions. Yes, there is again going to be a free trip to the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary in Kenya for the top two money raisers! This trip is provided by the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc.

March 10, 1992

Dear AAZK Members,

Wow! How can I describe the most exhilarating experience of my life? As a zoo keeper, it is a dream-come-true to conserve wildlife both in captivity and in the wild. Thanks to Andy Lodge and AAZK's Bowling for Rhinos for fulfilling this dream for me and many others. This terrific sanctuary (Ngare Sergoi), with its professional conservationists and abundant wildlife, became our home for two weeks this past February. No words can truly give the experience justice.

We left my house at 10 a.m., Friday, 7 February and arrived in Nairobi, Kenya at 2 a.m. Sunday. After a few hours of sleep in the Intercontinental Hotel (thanks, Andy!) we woke to a first day of shopping in the Market in Nairobi. Around noon, Ian Craig (owner of Lewa Downs) hosted us to a beautiful, hour-long flight from Nairobi to Lewa Downs in the foothills of Mt. Kenya.

We were able to spend a few nights with each of the project managers and their families. This allowed us the opportunity to see each section of the project and how each part fits together for the same common goal. I believe Ngare Sergoi is successful because of the people who run it. They work together as closely as family. Each makes a living through cattle ranching at Lewa Downs, yet each spends much of their time with the conservation of wildlife. When a security alarm goes off at the fence line, everyone pulls together to solve the problem. Peter Jenkins (Maru Park Founder) and Rob Bret (Kenya Wildlife Service) are only two of the many people we met who told us that Ngare Sergoi was the best run sanctuary in Kenya. We were seeing the "best of the best" in action!

One of my most thrilling memories was standing next to Anna Merz, the "Jane Goodall of Rhinos", as we watched a four-day-old Black rhino calf nurse from its mother. Another was standing only a few yards away from four bull elephants who were feeding from a tree that we had just watched them knock down. Within our first two hours at Lewa Downs, we

Bowling for Rhinos '92 Update, Continued

saw more animals than we thought we would see during our entire stay! It wasn't like a regular safari where you have to stay in a vehicle and watch lions that are bored with people. We walked for hours through Ngare Ndare Forest Reserve amongst animals that rarely see humans.

I saw at least 50 kinds of birds, bushbabies, vervet monkeys, baboons, warthogs, cape buffalo, impalas, gazelles, gerenuk, zebras, waterbucks, kudus, elands, giraffe, elephants, hyraxes, mongoose, leopards, hyenas and lizards galore. We watched herds of 50 elephants as they fed amongst the nearby trees. We even rode horses next to the wildlife and became just another animal to the zebras and genenuks. Snow-covered Mt. Kenya could always be seen in the distance (even in the shower) which made for some outstanding sunsets!

We were able to walk along the fence line and talk with the native farmers whose crops are now safe from elephant raids due to the "Bowling for Rhinos" fence. One elderly woman said this is the first time in 20 years that she won't have to worry about her children starving. She can now "watch the elephants in the Sanctuary and admire them for their beauty rather than flee in fright and anger." Before Ngare Sergoi and "Bowling for Rhinos", she never even heard of any farmers receiving any help from money designated for them and can't believe the generosity of Americans from so far away. Because 100% of

"Bowling for Rhinos" money goes directly to the Sanctuary rather than to administrative costs, the natives see the benefits.

It was an incredible feeling sitting outside Ian Craig's veranda as the sun set, overlooking the entire project knowing that I am helping to save it by being a part of AAZK and "Bowling for Rhinos". It's great to know that we can make a difference when we all pull together.

Missing Africa Already,

Patty Pearthree

Patty Pearthree

(Editor's Note: The following letter was received by Andy Lodge and forwarded on to our office for publication. It is from one of the African farmers who lives along the fence line paid for by money raised in the AAZK Bowling for Rhinos project. It is printed here exactly as it was received. His testimony reinforces the importance of the work being done at the Sanctuary and Forest Reserve, not only for the animal inhabitants, but for the neighboring people as well.)

Jacob Margte Karanga
Farm No. 554, Kenya

Dear Mr. Lodge,

First is much congratulations for the installation of the fence. This thanks will go to the engineers of the work and the workers who were involved. Actually the workers who were installing the fence were friendly to the residents and I thank them so much for their amiability. Also the persons should receive congratulations for the work which has been done. Therefore the following are some of the abundances which I as a resident on the forest line.

1. Stray animals from the forest which have been destroying crops are now prevented.
2. There will be conservation of wildlife in the forest which will ensure rapid growth of tourism industry.
3. As a part of environmental conservation in the country this part will ensure natural habitat since there will be proper control of the forest.

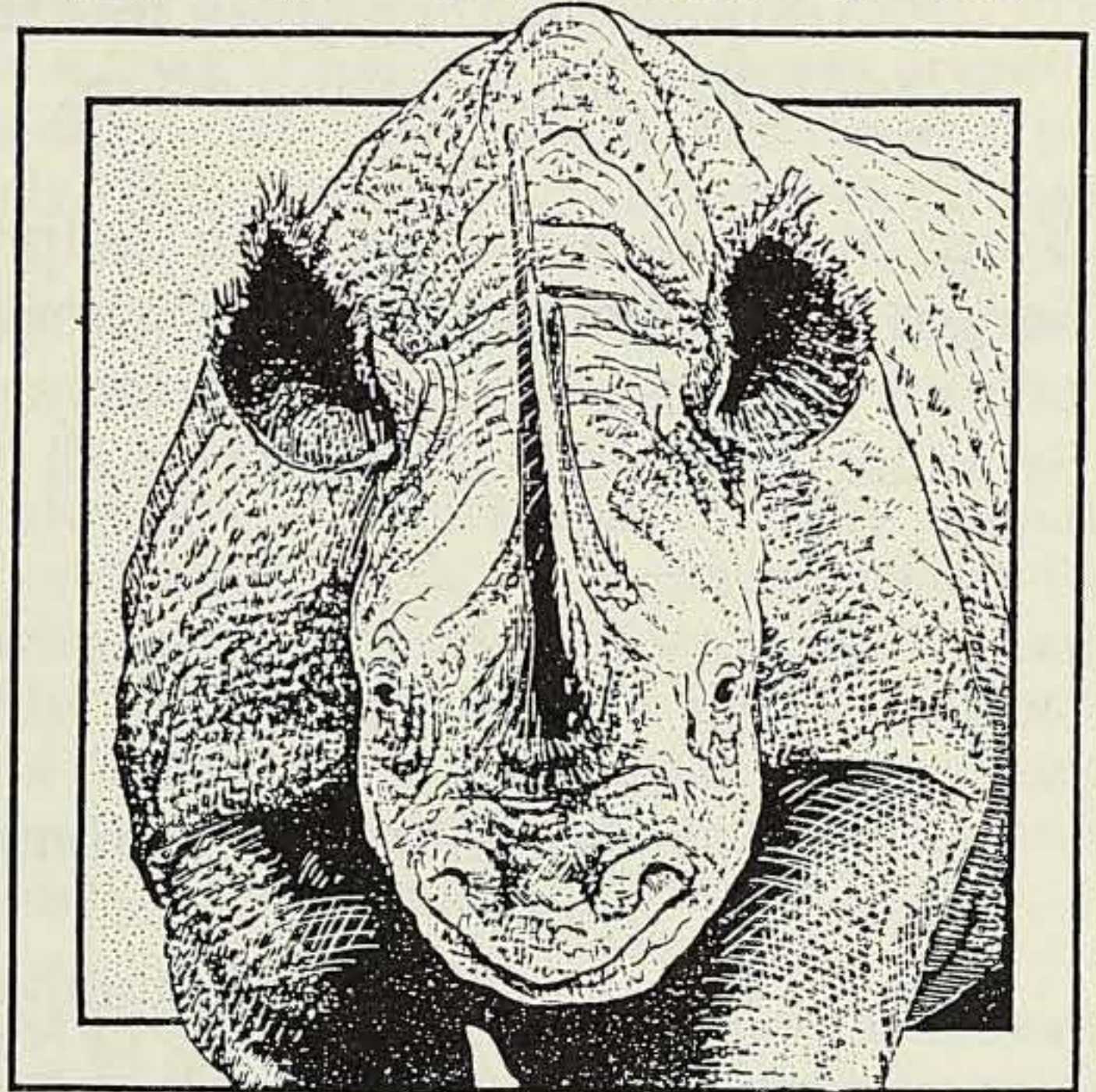
Bowling for Rhinos '92 Update, Continued

4. The fence will act as an incentive to each individual to plant trees which will ensure rainfall and environmental conservation.
5. Now that no stray animals the residents walk during the night without fear.
6. No more contamination of wild animals parasites to some sick ones since they will be all grazing in the forest.
7. There will be higher income in the area due to high production of crops.
8. The electric fence is again going to ensure security in the area in the case of cattle thieves.
9. The purpose of the installation of the electric fence has surely been met since from now on receipts for the collection of firewood will be issued to stop those who go unlawfully to collect firewood.
10. Government revenue will increase due to the buying of firewood and posts by the residents.

In the case of disadvantages, the residents should be warned about the dangers of electricity. Also residents should be warned about the act of entering unlawfully in the forest and gullies.

Yours Faithfully
Jacob Margte Karanga

BOWLING



for RHINOS

ATTENTION

All Chapters Involved in '92 Bowling for Rhinos

It would be greatly appreciated if any Chapter or facility producing an item especially for Bowling for Rhinos (i.e. patch, pin, T-shirt, poster, etc.) would please send one to Administrative Offices for the AAZK Historical Archives. If it is not possible to send the item gratis, please advise AO of the cost. If an item is no longer available, please send a photograph if possible. We would really like to have as complete a record of this important AAZK event as possible. We would also like to have snapshots of your event and copies of any publicity you receive in zoo or local media. Thanks



Chapter News

Milwaukee County Zoo AAZK Chapter

Newly elected officers are:

President..... Craig Berg
Vice Pres.....Karin Newman
Secretary.....Sue Simon
Treasurer.....Cyd Mayer
Chapter Liaison.....Wayne Hazlett

--Wayne Hazlett, Chapter Liaison

Birmingham Zoo Chapter AAZK

Chapter officers for 1992 are:

President.....Marcia Riedmiller
Vice Pres.....Mark Bowen
Secretary.....Donna Clark Bowen
Treasurer.....Mike Waren
Chapter Liaison.....Karen Leichter

The Chapter is planning to participate in the "Bowling for Rhinos" fundraiser for our first Chapter project. We are currently working on a fundraiser selling T-shirts with "actual" animal footprints on them. We would like to thank the management staff for making this project possible.

Numerous goals for 1992 have been set and with the enthusiasm and dedication of our members we look forward to our first full year of being a chartered Chapter -- a successful one.

--Marcia Riedmiller, President

Tucson Chapter AAZK

Howdy AAZK. Our little Chapter is amazingly still alive. We recently elected new officers although they are the same as last year. A new addition though is our newest member as Vice President. Officers are:

President.....Gale London
Vice Pres.....Gilda Eneboe
Secretary.....Bruce Eneboe
Treasurer.....Dee Nelson
Chapter Liaison.....Rusty Agte

This year was slow but for the well-received and awe-inspiring African-and-Latest-Zoo-Trip slide show by George Montgomery and Ed Hansen. Preparations are underway for the next "Bowling for Rhinos". We are determined to put one on despite our small group. We continue to sponsor our foreign keeper, Babubhai in India. And finally, Dee Nelson continues her diligence in our recycling efforts, profits are use to buy books for the Reid Zoo Library.

--Rusty Agte, Chapter Liaison

Florida Suncoast Chapter

Last month we published a drawing of the Chapter's newly adopted logo. Since then we have received some additional information about the logo, so we are printing this information along with the logo again this month.



The Florida Suncoast Chapter conducted a contest among its members in the fall of 1991 to design a logo. The winner was Linda Hobbs, an employee in the Visitor Services Dept. at the Lowry Park Zoo. The animals featured in the logo represent the two institutions that make up the Chapter - Lowry Park Zoo and Busch Gardens. The Manatee and Spoonbill are associated with Lowry Park while the Elephant and Greater kudu are associated with Busch Gardens. The logo was officially adopted in April of 1991.

--Virginia Stamos, Secretary

Indianapolis Zoo AAZK Chapter

Greetings from Indianapolis! Our chapter had a very successful fundraiser at our zoo's Christmas celebration. We sold hot chocolate and cookies. The sale

Chapter News, Continued

of Rain Forest Crunch® has been going well for us also. With a portion of this money we purchased one acre of rainforest as a Christmas gift to our zoo. Recently we began the sale of "Please don't feed the zoo animals" buttons which is off to a great start as well.

Just like many other chapters we are busy preparing for the 1992 "Bowling for Rhinos". Our Chapter President Patty Pearthree is especially busy since she is the National Coordinator for this year's event. Last year Patty was the top individual fundraiser for BFR, raising \$4,817.00 and won a trip to Kenya to see Ngare Sergoi and Lewa Downs. She took this trip during February and you can read her recollections of the trip under the "Bowling for Rhinos" Update elsewhere in this month's *AKF*.

The Indianapolis Zoo AAZK Chapter has also adopted a new logo in 1992. It was designed by Chapter member Mark Booth and is shown below:

New officers for 1992 are:

President.....Patty Pearthree
Vice Pres.....David Hagan
Secretary.....Cara Lance
Treasurer.....Julie Routt
Chapter Liaison.....Marie McManus

--Marie McManus, Chapter Liaison

San Diego AAZK Chapter

In February the Chapter was honored to have Red Thomas, Senior Animal Trainer at the San Diego Zoo, speak on "The Early Years of AAZK". As one of the founding fathers, Red discussed AAZK's beginning in 1967; and most importantly, AAZK's purpose. A 30-year veteran of the San Diego Zoo, Red is the only AAZK founding member still in the zoo field.

Red stressed how AAZK has done away with trade secrets. Keepers are collectively a solid unit. In Red's words, "Keep pushing forward, keep promoting professionalism. Sharing of information - that's what zookeeping is all about."

In addition to the officers announced in the February Chapter News, the following individuals serve on the Board

of Directors of the San Diego Zoo AAZK Chapter:

Steve Coate, Mammals (WAP), Chris Hamlin, Mammals (ZOO), Neil Ferrier, Lifetime Chapter member, and Cindy Woodward, Mammals (Zoo).

--Mary Dural, Chapter Liaison

Columbus Chapter AAZK

The Columbus AAZK Chapter is sponsoring an AAZK membership for an organization named ARCAS, a non-governmental agency in Guatemala. This stands for Association for the Rescue and Conservation of Wildlife. ARCAS works with native wildlife that have been injured and/or confiscated with the ultimate goal being rehabilitation and re-release in the wild.

The Columbus Zoo staff and volunteers, through Project Cope, have also donated educational materials, veterinary supplies, a vehicle and many hours of service to assist ARCAS. Project Cope also supports the work of ICR (Integrated Conservation Research) headed by Dr. Illar Muul in Malaysia. ICR emphasizes positive strategies based on ecologically sound, sustainable economic development that provide income for local people while preserving the tropical rainforests.

If you would like more information about Project Cope, you may contact Beth Armstrong or Rebecca Rose at the Columbus Zoo, P.O. Box 1256, Powell, OH 43065-1256.

--Lori Monska-Wright, President

Correction: in last month Chapter News we misspelled the name of Annie Nielsen, Treasurer of the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound AAZK Chapter in Rosamond, CA. Sorry, Annie!

Oklahoma City Zoo AAZK Chapter

New officers for 1992 are:

President.....Janet Wiard
Vice Pres.....Ken Wilkins
Sec/Treas.....Robin Gilchrist

Our Chapter raised \$65 at our annual Christmas Craft and Bake Sale to go