

Chapter News, Continued

Western New York AAZK Chapter

Our Chapter was very excited to host a presentation by Andy Lodge of the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary during the month of October. He spoke about the disappearance of the rhino and of the Sanctuary's work. During his stay he spoke at the Zoo as well as several area schools.

His visit was sponsored by our Chapter as well as the Buffalo Zoo Docent Organization and the Niagara County Community College (NCCC) Zoo Crew. Approximately \$1000.00 was donated to the Sanctuary during Andy's visit. We would like to thank NCCC's Animal Management Supervisor Carol Riniolo for her efforts in bringing Andy to the Western New York area.

In June we participated in our Third Annual Bowling for Rhinos which took place at the Broadway Sports Center. Once again this was a very successful event raising almost \$1500.00 for the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary. Each bowler was given a free T-shirt for participating and various prizes were awarded.

Our ESP Conservation Parking Meter has been very successful since we purchased it at the end of 1992. So far we have raised almost \$2,300.00. We would like to thank the docents for helping us to take care of the meter while it is in the World of Wildlife building at the main entrance.

Fundraising projects at the zoo include bake sales, recycling pop cans, and, in the future, candy sales. Money raised is used for donations to various organizations, to send members to conferences, and to purchase items to be used for enrichment. Thanks go to the MCCC's Zoo Crew for donating money to be used for enrichment.

In May, three of our Keepers - David Brigham, John Heine, and Kevin Murphy - took part in the New Jersey Audubon Society's World Series of Birding competition for the sixth year. The goal of the competition is to raise funds to purchase and protect habitat in New Jersey and to fund projects for

organizations that send people to the competition. The competitors must get sponsors to pledge a certain amount of money per species seen during the allotted time period. The "Bird Nerds" as they're known at the zoo, have improved their score with each year they've competed and raised almost \$2,500.00 in 1994 alone. We wish them luck in their next World Series of Birding.

Our officers for 1995 are:

President.....David Brigham
Vice President.....Aimée D'Angelo
Secretary.....Sherri Doherty
Treasurer.....Nancy Stengel

We look forward to a great 1995!

AAZK of the Pikes Peak Region

Pikes Peak Region AAZK (Cheyenne Mountain Zoo) has elected new officers for 1995. They are:

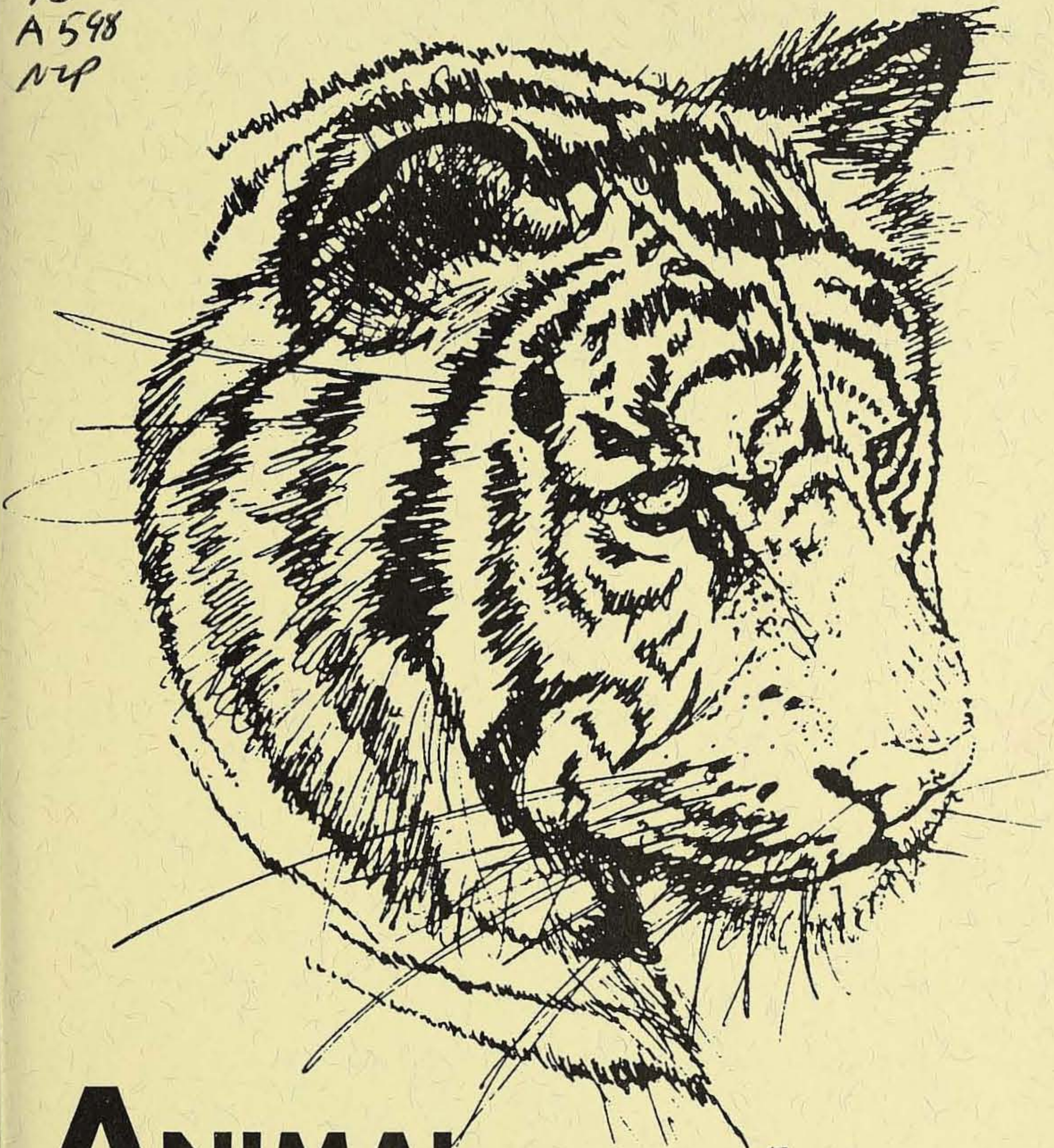
President.....Katie Wagner
Vice President.....Sandy Thompson
Treasurer.....Randy Barker
Secretary.....Kris Hassler
Liaison.....Stacey Paisner

We have started this year getting organized after a brief lapse in AAZK involvement within our chapter. We have several projects already online--the first being Earth Day celebration at the Zoo where we continued our annual bake sale fundraiser. In addition this year, we put together a packet of notecards featuring animal mothers and babies at CMZ to sell. Many thanks to keeper Heidi Gentner for providing the artwork!

Other projects we are working on are improving our recycling of aluminum and plastic, Bowling for Rhinos, and we are especially looking forward to hosting a National Conference Pre-Conference tour of our facility in September. You can look forward to lunch at the zoo, informative workshops and some great behind-the-scenes tours. We hope to see you here and also at the National Conference!

--Stacey Paisner, Liaison

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ANIMAL KEEPERS' FORUM

Dedicated to Professional Animal Care

June 1995

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Information for Contributors

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DEADLINE FOR EACH ISSUE IS THE 15TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH

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Chapter News

Dallas AAZK Chapter

New officers for 1995 are:

President.....Linda King
Vice President.....Denise Wagner
Secretary.....Rhonda Hampton
Treasurer.....Aimee Early
Liaison.....Ann Stevens

Thanks to last year's officers: Jan Steele, Linda King and Lisa Fitzgerald. They did a great job of keeping morale up and the Chapter rolling!

Thanks to Cynthia Bennett, our Research Zoologist, we had the Send Annual Book Swap, with money raised going to the Chapter's Enrichment Fund. The Chapter meeting on 17 March was a Leprechaun Lunch. Heidi Wester won the "Jan Steele Memorial Greenness Award" with her "Greenies" -- brownies in disguise.

This year's Bowling for Rhinos was held 24 May. A lap computer was donated for the coinciding silent auction at the bowling alley. The event was again tied into Indy's (our young black rhino) birthday. Plans for our 2nd Annual Zoo Olympics have been started as well as plans for a Chapter garage sale to supplement funds for this year's recipients of our Conservation fund. It will be split between The Wolf Reintroduction Fund and the Tamatan Zoo in Victoria, Mexico.

Work continues on finishing our dry marker Keeper Information signs so they'll be up for the summer crowds. "Chimp Chatter" has been up since fall and has been very useful in explaining special, day-to-day, aspects of our chimps' lives. We are also presently organizing a keeper exchange. If anyone is interested in coming here, please give us a call.

--Ann Stevens, Chapter Liaison



Information Please

The Bergen County Zoo has recently acquired 1.2 7-month-old Southern flying squirrels (*Glaucomys volans*). The animals were previously kept as pets, and as such are handleable and will eventually be used in our education programs. As we have never kept this species before, we would appreciate **any** information available, including information pertaining to husbandry, nutrition, and breeding. Replies may be sent to: Cindy Norton, Animal Health Technician, Bergen County Zoo, 216 Forest Avenue, Paramus, NJ 07652; Phone (201) 262-3771; FAX (201) 986-1788.

1) We are setting up a pair of Abyssinian ground hornbills (*Bucorvus abyssinicus*) for breeding and we are seeking information about housing, diet, pair bonding and nest box construction. We are interested in both successes and failures.

2) We are looking for ideas about nests and nesting material for Marabou storks (*Leptoptilos crumeniferous*).

Please send information, suggestions, ideas, stories to: Rob Boyle, Bird Dept., African Lion Safari, R.R. #1, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N1R 5S2. Tel: (519) 623-2620; Fax: (519) 623-9542.

Riverbanks Zoo keepers are seeking advice on training a group of 2.3 Hamadryas baboons (*Papio hamadryas*), one of which is diabetic. Training methods, sample collection, and bridging techniques are requested. Also, any literature on diabetes in baboons or other primates would be greatly appreciated. Please contact John Davis, Sr. keeper/Cat & Bear area, Riverbanks Zoo & Botanical Gardens, 500 Wildlife Parkway, Columbia, SC 29210; Phone: (803) 779-8717 Ext. 169 or FAX (803) 256-6463.

We are wanting to collect recipes of concoctions used by keepers for animal treats, etc. Send to either: Michelle Acûna, 5025 N. 1st. Ave. #410, Tucson, AZ 85718 or Daniela Artner, 1105 S. Barrington Ave., #4, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

Seeking information on the proper care of Senegal Bushbabies (*Galago senegalensis*); environmental conditions, feeding requirements, etc. I am especially interested in helpful breeding tips and what husbandry techniques were used to lead to its success. Please send any information to: Sue Parisien, Arkhaven Animals, 81 Beaverbrook Lane, Kanata, Ontario K2K 1L7 Canada.



Bowling For Rhinos Update

from Patty Pearthree, BFR Coordinator
Indianapolis Zoo, Indianapolis, IN



Nineteen-ninety-five fundraising efforts will continue to send the first \$100,000.00 to Ngare Sergoi in Kenya (now Lewa Wildlife Conservancy - L.W.C.) and the rest to Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, Indonesia. Funding for Ngare Sergoi (L.W.C.) will continue to support conservation education, purchase replacement vehicles, translocation of additional rhinos into the sanctuary, increased security patrols and equipment. Funding for Ujung Kulon will be used to build a new guard post at the western tip of Java and a new security patrol boat (the best mode of transportation around the park).

I will be completing an internship this summer from 15 May-10 August in Kenya. All BFR needs or questions should be addressed to Herbie Pearthree at the same address and phone as before (P.O. Box 199026, Indianapolis, IN 46219-9026 or call (317) 322-8723). As of the writing of this update on 10 May, 44 Chapters or institutions have committed to holding an event in 1995.

- Remember, to be a trip winner, all money must be received by me no later than 1 September and you must be a National AAZK member in good standing. I also need to receive all contributions as early as possible to include them in the Conference report and include them in this year's (1995) donations.
- Please be sure to write "For Deposit Only" on the back side signature area of any checks sent to me through the mail! This will prevent anyone besides AAZK, Inc. from being able to cash the check.

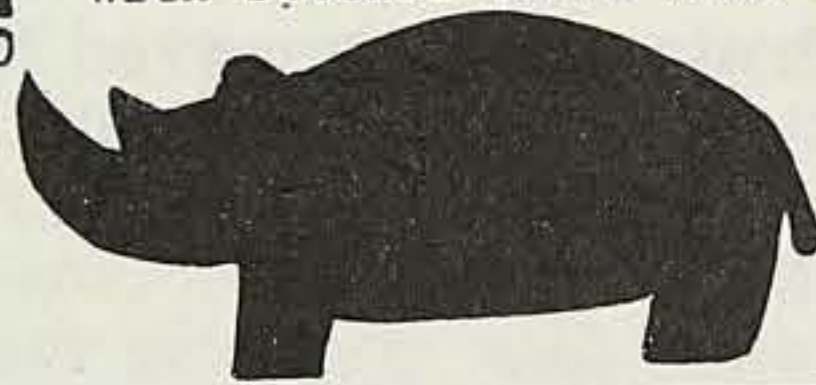
You can raise money for "Bowling for Rhinos" through a bowling event, but there are several other ways to raise money. Some ideas include "Run for Rhinos", "Rock n' For Rhinos", "Rummage for Rhinos", or donations. Any way money is raised and sent to BFR, 100% goes directly to the two areas of conservation. Any amount of contribution is welcome! Good luck with all your events in 1995!

Word from Anna Merz, founder of Ngare Sergoi, is that Samia, the black rhino that Anna hand-raised, had a baby boy named Samuel on 11 April and is being a great mom! I hope to have more info for the conference and hope to be able to send a report from the field.

One example of a fundraising event as a alternative to a bowling event was sent in by the Lincoln Park Zoo AAZK Chapter. They held a musical/dance benefit for The Black Rhino Foundation, Inc. with proceeds going to the Ngare Sergoi/Lewa Downs Conservancy. Held in cooperation with 93XRT Radio Chicago, the event was held on 8 June with the \$30 advance tickets available through Ticketmaster. Tickets at the door sold for \$35. Guest musicians were Lowen & Navarro with special guest Peat Moss. Thanks to Cynthia Susher for this item. We will look forward to a report on how the event went and on monies raised. 🍏



Presents LOWEN & NAVARRO
With Special Guest PEAT MOSS



**BENEFIT
FOR THE
BLACK
RHINO**

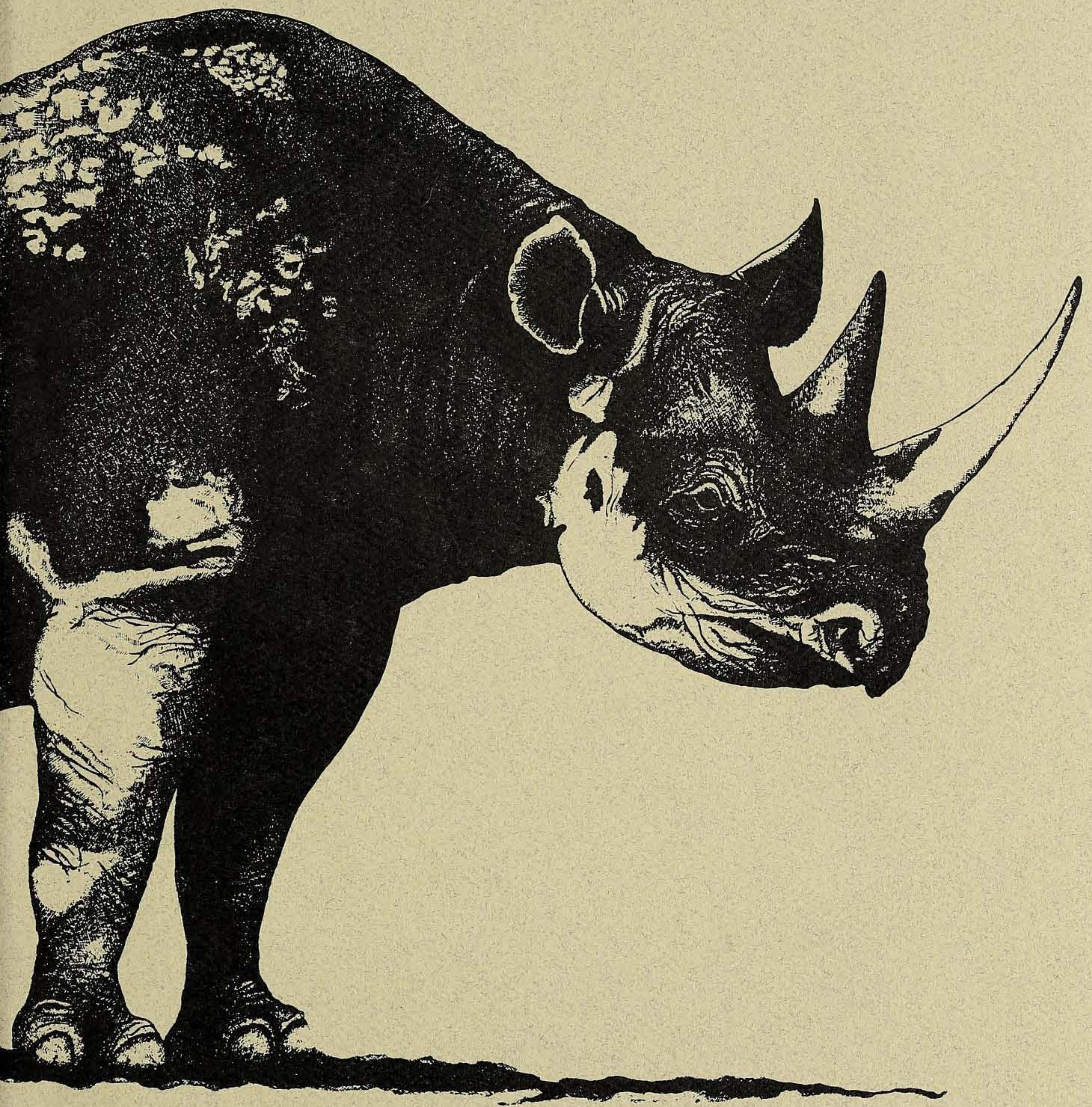


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ANIMAL KEEPERS' FORUM



**The Journal of the American
Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.**

JULY 1995

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About the Cover.....

*This month's cover features the black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) which is appropriate since this entire issue is dedicated to the AAZK symbol - the Rhino. All rhino species are endangered across their ranges and many find protection only within the confines of preserves and sanctuaries such as Ngare Sergoi (Lewa Wildlife Conservancy). While some rhino species have made modest population gains since 1970, the black rhino population has fallen from some 65,000 to a 1994 estimate of 1,700. This month's cover art was drawn by Geoff Creswell, a former elephant keeper at the Topeka Zoological Park. Since leaving the zoo, Geoff has worked with chimps for the Jane Goodall Institute in Burundi and the Congo; and most recently for John Aspinall and the Howlett's & Port Lympne Foundation at the gorilla release project in the Congo. Thanks, Geoff!*



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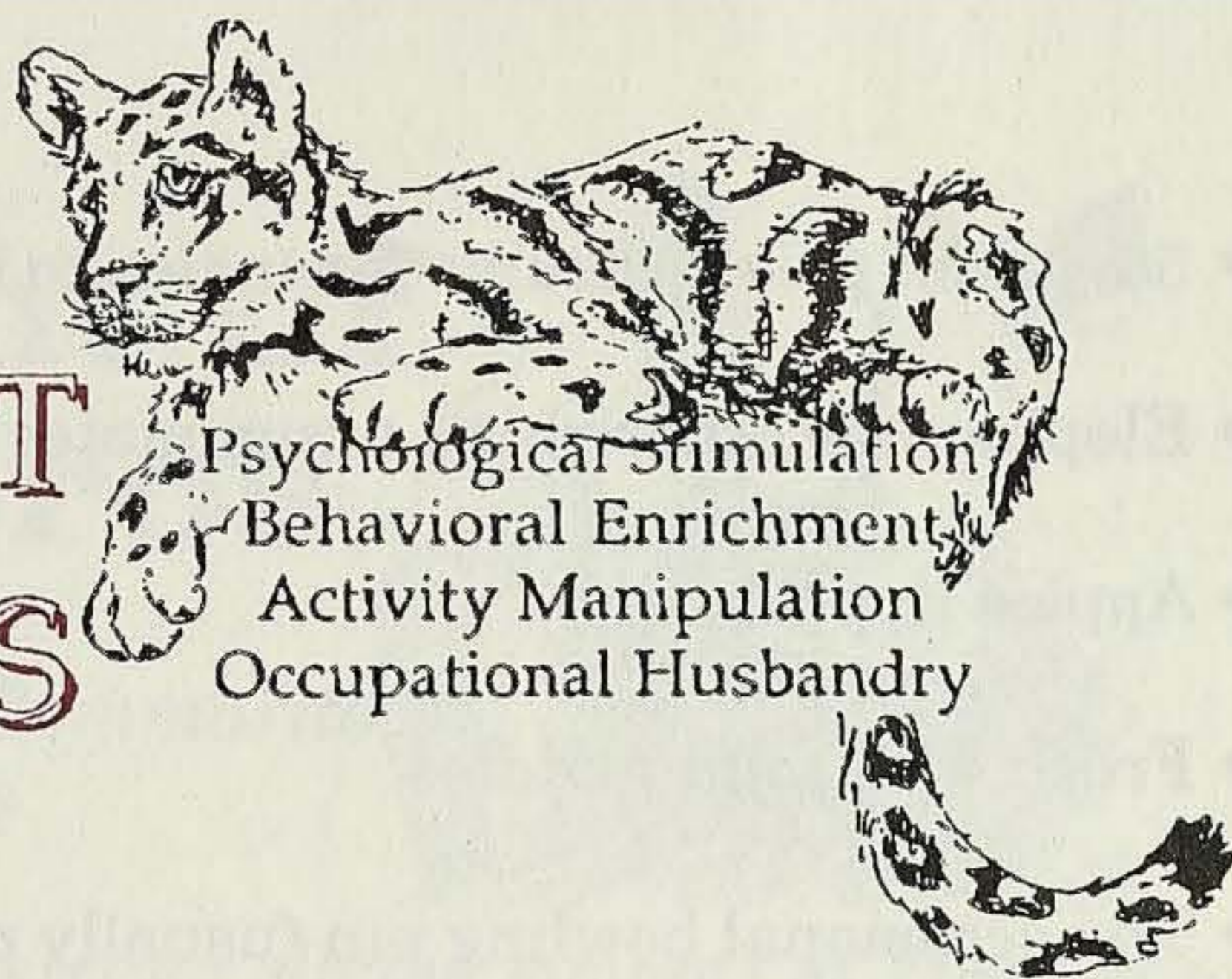
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ENRICHMENT OPTIONS



Psychological Stimulation
Behavioral Enrichment
Activity Manipulation
Occupational Husbandry

*By Kayla Grams, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
and Gretchen Ziegler, Sequoia Park Zoo*

In keeping with this month's dedicated issue, all enrichment ideas in our column will be for rhinos, although many other pachyderms and ungulates enjoy these ideas as well. The sources we used did not specify the species of rhino, so some items may not work for all species.

RHINOS

- Loose trunk (heavy) chain in the enclosure to push and test strength against an artificial sparring partner, and to rub horns on
- Water pool and mud pool, rhinos enjoy rolling themselves in mud and puddles and readily bathe on hot days
- Rubbing posts stimulate natural skin growth and peel off dry skin
- Spread part of food in various places in exhibit, throughout the day
- Exchange rhino dung with other zoos - new scents stimulate sexual activity; and increases marking behavior
- Split up the herd - separation stimulates sexual behavior when the animals are put together again
- Browse branches in high places stimulates natural foraging activity

*—A Catalogue of Ideas
Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark*

The following is a list of activities used with rhinos at the San Diego Zoo. Most are similar to the previous list, with some slight variations. One overriding observation is that it is quite often messy (and therefore time-consuming for keepers afterwards!) and due to rhinos' poor eyesight and nervousness, novel objects can result in flight or defense behaviors. Remember to introduce new items cautiously and gradually.

- Frequent browse (ficus, acacia, hibiscus, mulberry, elm, etc.), hung on stumps or on the ground
- Big, movable stumps throughout exhibit

- 55-gallon plastic drums for males to batter around
- Elephant or other rhino dung, males defecate on top and stomp into ground
- Apples in pool
- Fresh dirt, mud puddles
- The occasional bowling pin (usually preceding Bowling for Rhinos, of course!)

—Ron Ringer, Keeper, San Diego Zoo

We would also like to point out that operant conditioning is highly effective with rhinos, not only for specific behaviors such as blood draw, semen collection, etc., but as a noticeably rewarding activity (i.e. enrichment) for the rhino, one that the animal seems obviously to anticipate with eagerness and excitement. Operant conditioning also seems to have an overall calming effect on nervous rhinos, which is an advantage when introducing something new to an exhibit. For more information on this topic, see articles in this issue of *AKF* and refer to October 1993 issue of *AKF* for an article entitled "Rhino Training" by Matt Edmonds.



World Rhino Population Estimates*

POPULATION

IN YEAR:	<u>1970</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1994</u>
Indian Rhino (<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>)	900	1,700	1,950	2,000	2,200
Javan Rhino (<i>Rhinoceros sondaicus</i>)	35	50	65	72	47
Sumatran Rhino (<i>Didermocerus sumatrensis</i>)	1,000	500	700	160	140
White Rhino (<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>)	3,500	3,000	4,900	4,950	5,000
Black Rhino (<i>Diceros bicornis</i>)	65,000	13,000	3,100	1,800	1,700

* These counts do not include captive animals.

(Figures supplied to *Animal Keepers' Forum* by Andy Lodge, Coordinator of the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc., Columbus, OH.)

1994 Bowling for Rhino Results and the Ujung Kulon Project

By Patty Pearthree,
National Coordinator BFR
Indianapolis Zoo, Indianapolis, IN

Fifty-nine zoos or institutions participated in the 1994 "AAZK Bowling for Rhinos" (BFR) fund-raiser. A total of 53 events took place with a few Chapters bowling together. Total monies raised in 1994 (including interest from BFR bank account) was \$106,475.00.

Ten new events took place in 1994. These included Caldwell, Capron, Cheyenne Mtn., Fort Worth, Great Plains, Knoxville, Minnesota, Queens Wildlife Center, The Jungle Club, and Werribee Australia. New events brought in about \$18,000. Overall, totals will be fairly close to last year's \$112,000, so one can say that we had another very successful year in 1994.

Although the top money raisers are singled out for their outstanding work, one significant fact must be pointed out. It is extremely important to have continued participation from everyone if we are going to continue in our success. It doesn't matter how little or how much money is raised by your event; every dollar is crucial to the project and the preservation of the black rhino. Public awareness of the plight of the rhino is a key priority, so whatever it takes to get the word out is incredibly helpful. Remember, it takes about five consecutive years for a fundraiser to take hold where people start to count on it, so it's very important to hold an event each year! It's also fun! In 1992, when Anna Merz, founder of Ngare Sergoi (now called Lewa Wildlife Conservancy or L.W.C.), visited the U.S., she

urged AAZK to expand their funding efforts to include all five species of rhino. Inspired by that request, we researched other conservation possibilities and found Ujung Kulon to be worthy of our support. This is a new area of conservation in its developmental stages, just as Ngare Sergoi was years ago. Ngare Sergoi is now regarded as one of the most successful sanctuaries in all of Africa. We hope to do the same for Ujung Kulon.



The first \$100,000 each year from BFR will continue to go to Ngare Sergoi. All additional money over \$100,000 will be sent to Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, Indonesia which works to save the last 47 Javan rhinos in the world. (Funding to Ujung Kulon will continue each year unless a financial emergency arises at Ngare Sergoi in which case all monies will be sent to Ngare Sergoi.) The folks at Ngare Sergoi are extremely pleased that AAZK is able to support this project as one of Anna Merz's goals is to help save all five species of rhino.

Ujung Kulon is a 300 square mile National Park that is home to some of the rarest plants and animals on earth. It is one of the last remaining lowland rain forests in the world, with hundreds of endangered plants and animals. The annual operating costs of Ujung Kulon is \$75,000, so our contributions go a long way to fund the conservation efforts at Ujung Kulon. Several new guard posts need to be built at the park in strategic locations to curtail poaching. Each new fully-equipped post costs approximately \$11,000

to build. Future projects include wells, a water tower, patrol equipment, patrol boats (Ujung Kulon is on the Western peninsula of Java and access to the park is easiest by boat), and global positioning systems to track the Javan rhino through dense rain forest.

Note on 1995 Bowling for Rhinos

As of 21 March, 32 Chapters or institutions will be participating in 29 events (some Chapters bowl together). Approximately 30 chapters had not yet reported their intentions, but the potential exists for 52 events to take place in 1995. As a frame of reference, 43 Chapters participated in 1992; 45 in 1993; and 51 in 1994. First time participants this year include the Baltimore Zoo, the Calgary Zoo (Chinook AAZK), the Great Plains Zoo (Sioux Falls, SD), and the Vet Tech Club of Parkland College.

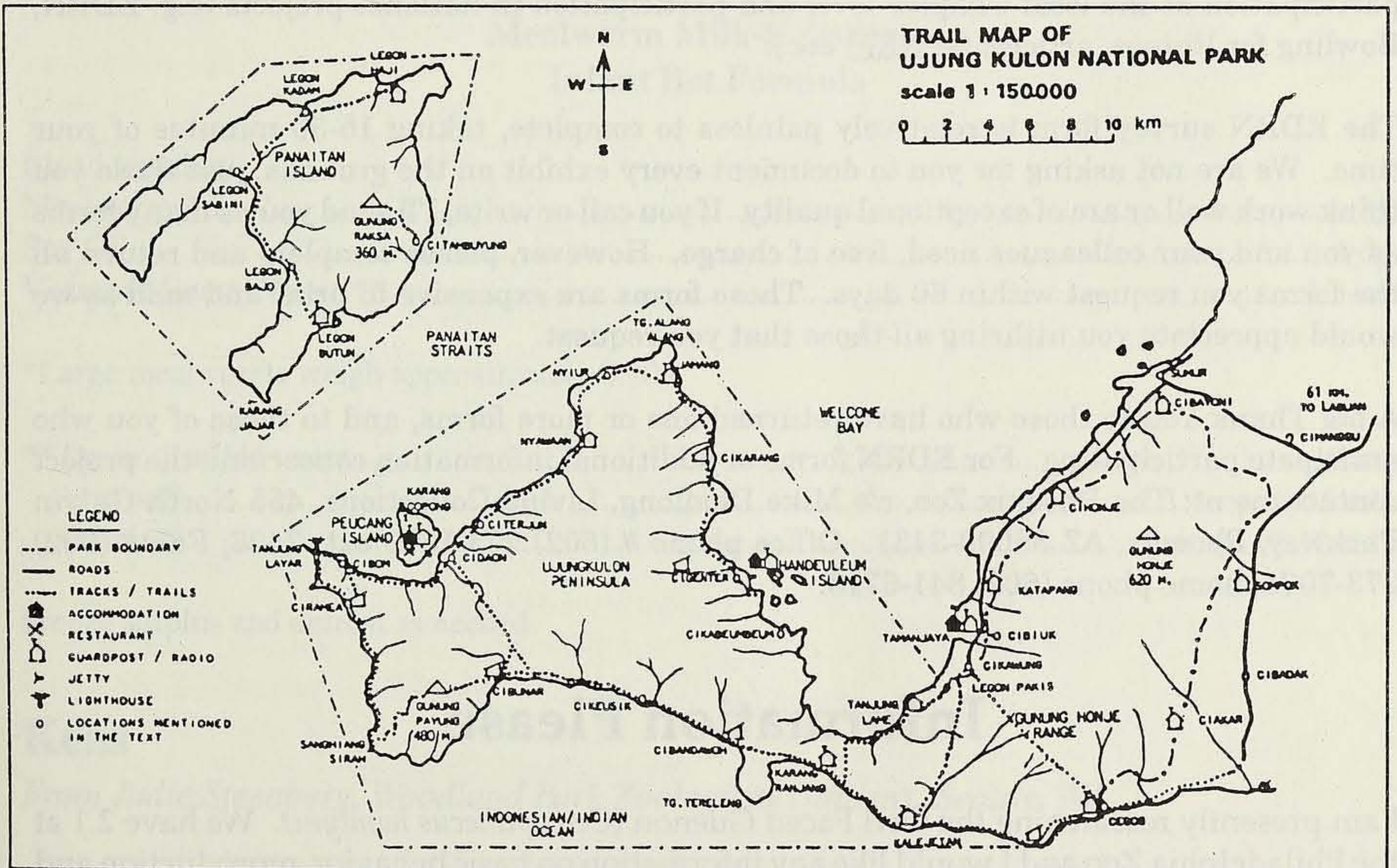
The top two individual fundraisers will

again receive a trip to the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary (L.W.C.). Keep in mind that 1 September 1995 is the deadline to have monies sent to Patty Peartree in order to qualify for the trip and winners must be members in good standing of AAZK, Inc.

Additional Note:

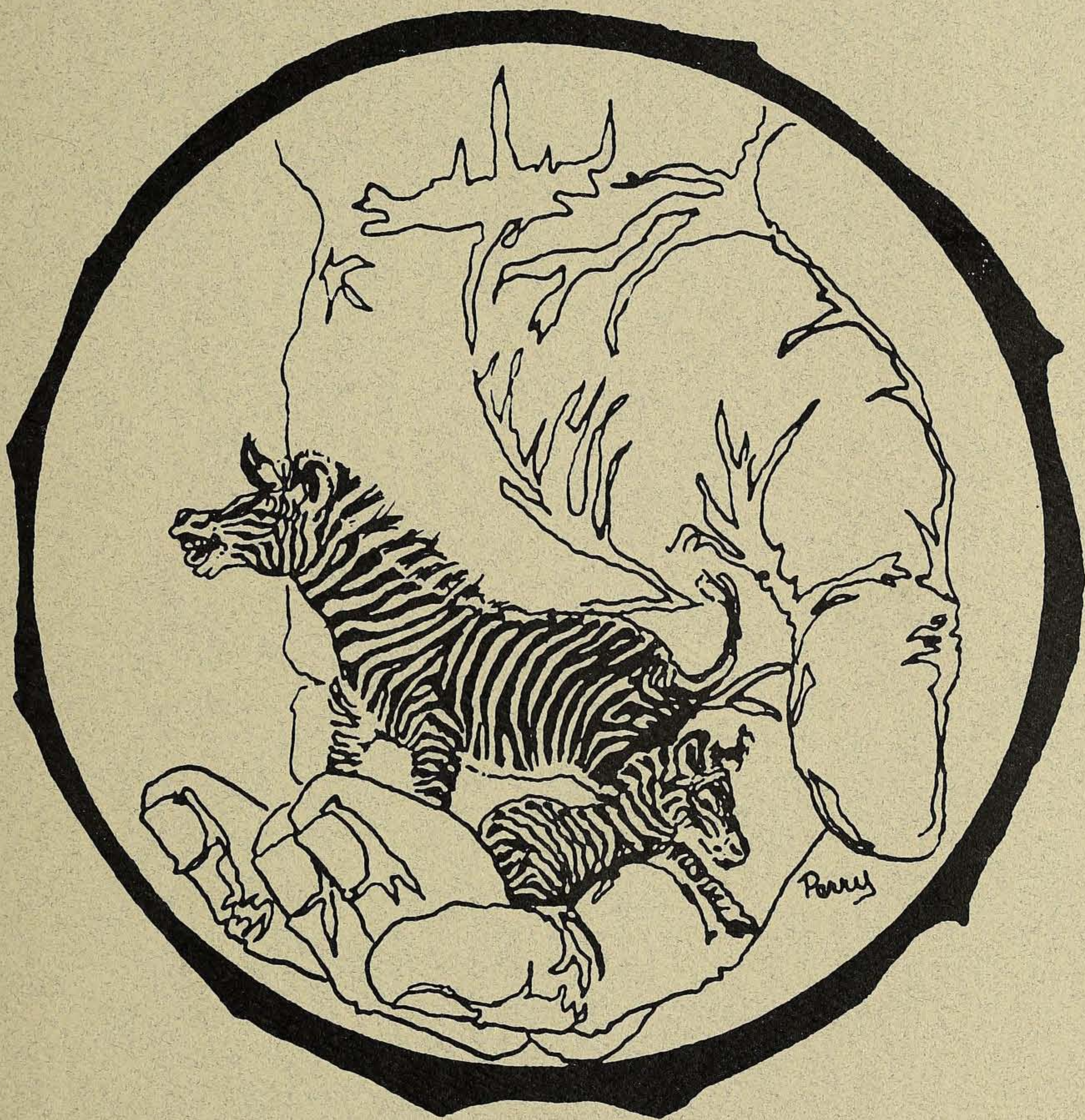
As Coordinator of the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc. for the time and hard work they have put into the BFR effort. The \$600,000 this fund raiser has donated over the years to the work of Ngare Sergoi proves what a dedicated and caring group of people keepers are. I am privileged to be able to work with such people. —Andy Lodge

Compiled from reports to AAZK, Inc. and to H.O.R.N., the newsletter of the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc.



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ANIMAL KEEPERS' FORUM



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AUGUST 1995

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SMALL PRIMATES - put fruit pieces on different branches in holding or on exhibit. Put mealworms or crickets in log hollows. This has been tried with tamarins.

SMALL CATS - logs with bark were added to holding cages for climbing and scratching. Rats were given once a week for plucking. Den boxes were built for hiding and made into a squeeze box. These are used with jaguarundis and margays.

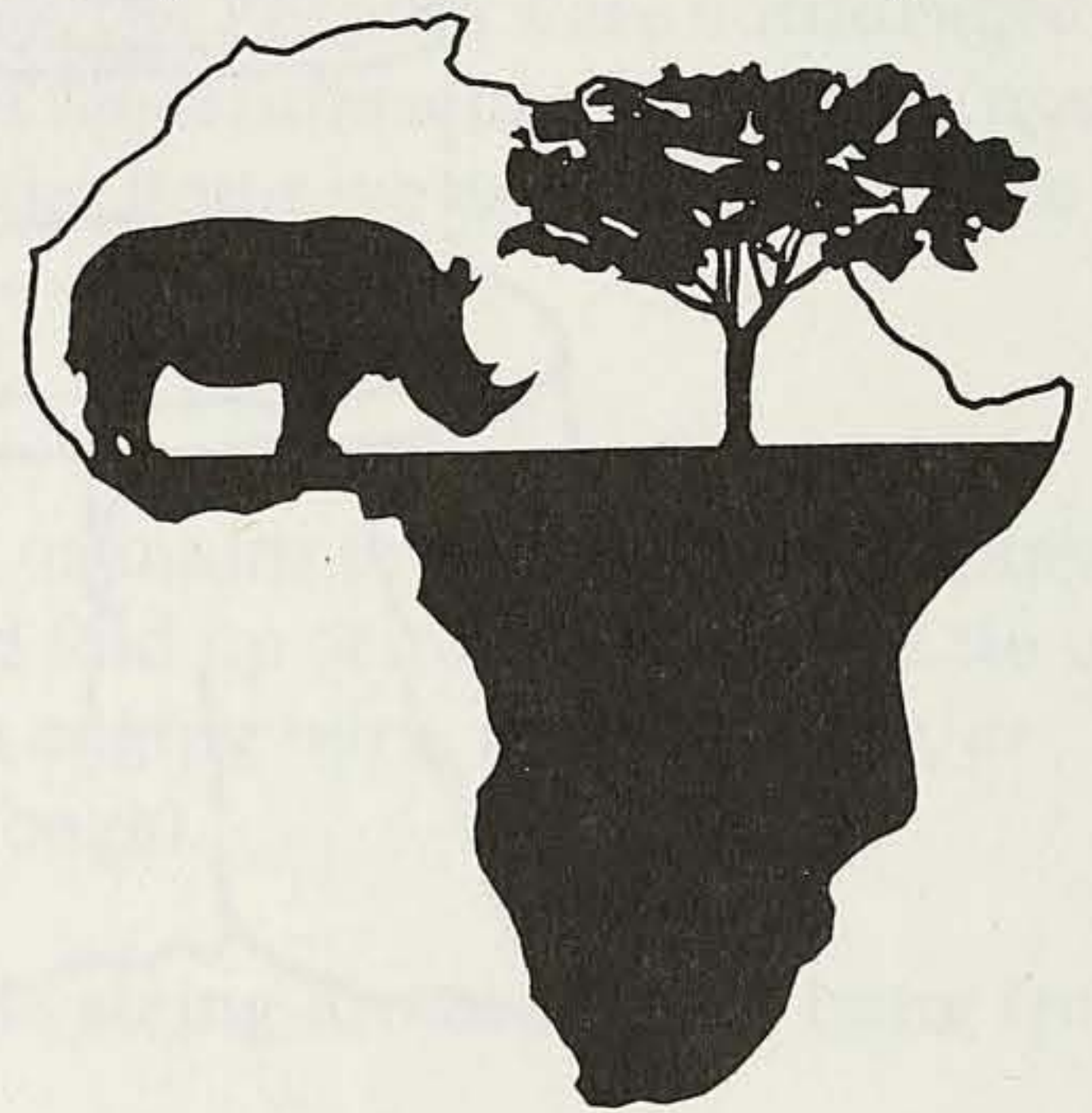
—Darlene Klimek, Assistant Supervisor Small Mammals,
Henry Doorly Zoo, Omaha, NE

Remember, we are always needing more ideas to include in this enrichment column. Send your suggestions, ideas, etc. to: Gretchen Ziegler and Kayla Grams, AKF, 635 S.W. Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS 66606-2066. We are counting on you to help us continue to fill this column with ideas that will make life better for our captive charges. Make it a Chapter project to gather ideas already in use or come up with new ones to try.

African Journal

Lewa Downs Conservancy, Isiolo, Kenya
May 31, 1995

*by Patty Peathree, National Coordinator
AAZK Bowling for Rhinos*



I awoke at 6:00 a.m. to the calls of Hadada ibis "hadada...hadada" as they flew over our tented research camp towards the swamp—no need for an alarm clock here! I climbed out of my tent which I'll call home for the next two months to see a troop of vervet monkeys scatter away from us into the yellow fever acacia trees. In this early morning light, the trees glow like gold and the monkeys are yellowish-green, except for their very black faces.

Graham, a wildlife management specialist from the University of Peoria, South Africa, my husband Herbie and I jump into the Land Rover and head out for three hours of observations. Using a global positioning system (GPS), binoculars, and our knowledge, we head for a different area of the Conservancy each day to gather data. We travel down the rocky road a short distance until we spot some of the study animals, the grazing animals of Lewa Downs. We count the numbers, identify the males, females and juveniles, list their activity, habitat type, association with other animals, and other data to complete a habitat selection study. Near noon we return to the camp for lunch, enter the data into the computer, take care of our personal effects, and head back out to gather more data around 4:30 p.m.

Graham is employed by Lewa Downs Conservancy (LDC - formerly Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary and Lewa Downs) to help them learn to analyze their habitat and to encourage proper wildlife management. Wildlife management has long been in practice in South Africa but is a fairly new concept in Kenya because much of the wildlife areas are somewhat recently enclosed by protective fences, or surrounded by farms and people which creates a fencing effect. This fencing effect brings with it many of the same management problems that are faced in the zoo world.

On these data collecting trips I've realized how lucky we are to be involved in supporting LWC. The climate is nearly ideal, on the equator but nearly one mile high in elevation. The days are warm and dry, and the nights are cool—perfect for sleeping. The area includes all habitats one would expect throughout Africa (except desert). There are great grassy plains speckled by acacia; rocky buttes pointing upward out of the rolling plains; the swamp with tall reeds and abundant with wildlife; a newly constructed dam (actually a place that collects rainwater and where the elephants LOVE to play); streams that are fed by the runoff of Mount Kenya that breakup the plains with reeds, yellow fever trees, and figs; the Ndare Forest is thick in vegetation with waterfalls, oak, cedar, and many trees with berries. The acacia forests are grouped in areas with red and yellow seyal acacia (the bull elephants seem to love the sound the seyal makes when they snap it apart—hardly any left!).

Lewa Downs Conservancy started as a private cattle ranch called Lewa Downs, named after the Lewa springs which runs through its heart. Since 1945, the Craig family directive was "always make room for wildlife". In 1985, Anna Merz approached David Craig to start a rhino sanctuary on their property. David agreed and allowed 5,000 acres for the start of the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary. Due to the success of the Rhino Sanctuary, this 5,000 acres soon became 10,000 acres. Since 1990, through the efforts of Andy Lodge of the Ngare Sergoi Support Group, Inc., AAZK, Inc. has been helping Lewa through the Bowling for Rhinos project and has sent over \$560,000 to the Conservancy. These funds have been used to purchase a surveillance airplane, a large lorry (truck), patrol jeeps, fencing materials, and to pay the salaries of the armed guards needed near every rhino to keep them safe from the shifta (poachers). Recognizing the tremendous success of Lewa Downs, the government allowed 15,000 acres of the Ndare Forest to be enclosed under the protection of Lewa Downs Conservancy. The LWC management staff hopes to include a huge area to the north of Lewa as part of their wildlife management plan as the local people have realized the benefits offered by wildlife and tourism.

Now one can watch the black and white rhinos roam the hills and plains, intermixed with livestock, and the other African wildlife. Included are 12% of the world's population of the endangered Grevy's zebra, many plains zebra, warthogs, reticulated giraffe, African buffalo, common eland, greater kudu, waterbuck, gemsbok, impala, hartebeest, oryx, dikdik, Thompson's and Grant's gazelle, gerenuk, aardvark, rock and bush hyrax, savanna baboon, vervet and

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colobus monkeys, bushbabies, hundreds of elephants, crowned cranes, ibis, bee-eaters, monkey-eagles, and thousands of other birds and insects to name just a few.

Saving the rhino habitat is what Bowling for Rhinos is all about and my first three days at Lewa reminded me of this. While staying in the guest house of Anna Merz, I was awakened each morning by the pig-like squeals of the 200-pound Samuel, the two-month-old male offspring of Samia, the rhino Anna Merz hand-raised. Many were concerned about Samia's mothering ability, since she learned hers from a human, but as you watch mother and son together, it is apparent that Samia is doing an excellent job. In the evenings, Samia brings Samuel near Anna's garden for safety. At sunrise, Samia leads Samuel out onto the plains, browsing on her favorite acacia and responding to Samuel's squeaks "Mom, where are you?". Samia browses constantly while walking,

until she pauses to feed Samuel. In the heat of the day, they lay beneath a large acacia in the shade, mother resting with one ear up listening while Samuel suckles or sleeps. Once rested, Samia leads into the bush, with Samuel romping in the grasses behind her. It is obvious that Anna was a very good mom, so is Samia.

Note: Patty returned from Africa early this month. She will be giving a presentation at the Denver Conference on her findings at LWC this year, in addition to the 1995 Bowling for Rhinos Workshop.

Hand-rearing the Red-throated Ant Tanager at Brookfield Zoo

by Scott Schiller, Keeper
Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, IL

The red-throated ant tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*) is a member of a large family of tropical tanagers, most of which inhabit the forest canopy. This species, however, spends much of its time following ant swarms on the ground to feed on insects escaping the ants' path. Although primarily insectivorous, fruit does form a part of its diet. Red-throated ant tanagers typically breed May through August. The female alone incubates two to three eggs for 12-14 days, and nine days after hatching the chicks fledge. They clamber to the ground and are led to dense cover by the parents until they are able to fly some time later.

1992 CHICKS

In 1992 one breeding pair of red-throated ant tanagers was set up in a mixed-species free-flight aviary 15.8m x 9.75m x 9.75m (52' x 32' x 32') where they produced and partially reared their first clutch. Two chicks fledged 10 days after hatching and made their way to their parents on the ground. Both chicks were weighed (avg. = 27.9 g or 1 oz.) and briefly examined. They were well-feathered but could not fly. Due to potential aggression from a pair of Malayan peacock pheasants (*Polyplectron malacense*) in the exhibit, we decided it would be best to remove the chicks and hand-rear until weaned.

The chicks were housed together in a ventilated wooden box 91cm x 61cm x 61cm (36" X 24" X 24") in our hand-rearing room. The room was kept at 26-27° C (78-80°F) (dry bulb) and 23° C (74°F) (wet bulb). We fed the chicks hourly from 0730 to 1700 hrs. Their diet consisted of diced newborn mice (pinkies), waxworms, mealworms, moistened pieces of Reliable Protein Products' Softbilled Bird-Fare® and the moist base mix from Brookfield Zoo's frugivore diet (the staple diet item of our tanagers). The chicks were weighed every morning before the first feeding.

Both chicks displayed eager begging responses when hand-fed. Many times feedings were lengthy due to the birds' frenzied bouts of activity, which included wing-flapping, preening and just hopping about. By Day 20 one chick was beginning to take food pieces from the forceps and eating on its own. At this point we offered a pan of food items to the chicks inside their cage. By Day 22 the chicks were accepting small pieces of diced fruit in their diet (grapes, apples and blueberries). We reduced feedings to six a day at this time.