

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



IT STARTS WITH YOU.

Often, I use this space to share with you accounts of the Zoological Society's work in supporting new buildings and programs at the Zoo and our participation in conservation efforts around the world. But this issue, I use this column to recognize at least one group of important people behind our success: Zoo Pride.

Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary of 590+, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. When Zoo Pride was founded, our Education Department was fielding requests to offer year-round programs; the Zoo Train needed a new engine; the Zoo's educational graphics needed coordination; and the primates deserved more naturalistic exhibits. All of these demands were met. And all had a lasting impact on the Zoo.

This year, a milestone year, the challenges to the Zoo and Zoological Society have escalated, but our mission remains the same: to educate the public about wildlife and conserve endangered species. Since 1975, Zoo Priders have worked with us to protect this legacy. Regularly seen at the Zoo dressed in khaki, Zoo Priders give more than 55,000 hours of service annually to the Zoo and Society...from making costumes for Zoo events...to observing animals' behavior...to assisting Society educators with daily workshops.

The Zoological Society also salutes the hundreds of other people who volunteer their time to help uphold our mission: members of the ZOO Associates, the fund-raising special events affiliate of the Zoological Society; the Society's Board of Directors and Associate Board; and all the Society's committees.

Our success, we know, begins and ends with all of you.

Zoological Society of Milwaukee County



The mission of the Zoological Society is to support the Milwaukee County Zoo, educate people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and to take part in conserving wildlife and endangered species.

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Editor Patricia Harrigan Mills Editorial Assistants Renee J. Mayo

Paula Lehmann Treacy

Artist and Designer

Photographer Richard Brodzeller Printer The Fox Company, Inc.

Publications Committee R. Thomas Dempsey

Jay D. Jocham For Kids & Families Writers Education Staff





FEATURES

LESSONS FROM LIZARDS

In the Chiricahua Mountains of southeastern Arizona, a UW-Madison student learns important lessons from lizards.

PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE...ANIMAL STYLE

Coaxing the orangutans to gargle and conditioning the rhinos to accept a blood test, Dana Nicholson steps out of zookeeping's traditional bounds.

THE SLANDERED SNAKE

A new exhibit in the renovated Aquatic & Reptile Center sets the record straight on the much-maligned snake.

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It's summer. School's out. And it's just the right time to learn

TWO DECADES OF PRIDE

A recollection of the life and times of Zoo Pride...the last 20 years.

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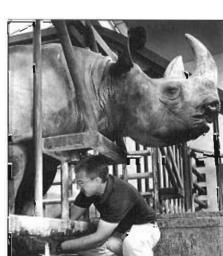
FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Calendar 20

Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians Contest Winners Curious Corner Education Programs

ON THE COVER

Poison Arrow Frogs by Jay Jocham Artwork endowed by Gretchen and Andrew Dawes Endowment, Inc.







Lessons from Lizards Lizard

Tohannes Foufopoulos admits that it takes a while to warm up to a coldblooded* lizard.

"I think that it's every graduate student's dream to work with mammals or birds," the University of Wisconsin-Madison doctoral candidate says. "But mammals are largely nocturnal and it's so difficult to capture birds. So, I chose lizards."

It's a choice that Foufopoulos does not regret. Fou fopoulos was awarded a \$2,000 Zoological Society student conservation grant for his proposal to study the effects of parasites on the Mountain Spiny Lizard in the Chiricahua Mountains of southeastern Arizona. Foufopoulos became interested in parasite research in part because it had been long overlooked.

"It is something that we really don't know a lot about," Foufopoulos says. "We have a very poor understanding of parasites' effects on their natural host populations. So from a purely academic standpoint, it interested

More important to Foufopoulos, however, are the parasites' profound implications for conservation. For instance, many of the birds native to Hawaii vanished soon after the first white colonists arrived on the archipelago. The culprit: Malaria (a one-cell parasite) borne in mosquitoes that traveled in waterbarrels aboard the visitors' ships.

"Unfortunately, it's a pattern that we see repeated again and again throughout history," Foufopoulos says. "Disease has wiped out many fragmented populations."

Foufopoulos hopes that his lizard

research might serve as a model of parasites' impact on threatened species, particularly on the host animal's ability to reproduce while infected with parasites.

That's where the Mountain Spiny Lizard comes in handy. Though not endangered, the reptiles live in a veritable island



habitat: desert surrounded by the green, forested mountains where they live in Arizona. Because of their island-like distribution, the lizards resemble endangered and threatened species, which also are characterized by small and fragmented populations.

Not only are the lizards relatively plentiful, they're easy to catch. Both factors are important given Foufopoulos' need for a sample of 400 to 600 lizards.

"They're extremely tame. Basically, what I use to catch them looks like a fishing pole with a small noose on the end. It takes two to three minutes to eatch one and it doesn't hurt the animal at all. They're easy to work with, they're common, they're interesting and they tend to stay in the same spot. That's important if you have to come



TOP: This Mountain Spiny Lizard, numbered for identification, is part of a study on the effects of parasites on species with island-like distributions or fragmented populations.

FAR LEFT: A Mountain Spiny Lizard goes under the microscope for a skin check and a mite

LEFT: Zoological Society conservation grant recipient Johannes Foufopoulos uses a noose attached to a fishing pole to catch one of 400+ lizards he needs for his parasite research.

lizard is taken to the laboratory for more observation. There, blood and feces are examined to see if the lizard has malaria or intestinal worms. Their skin also is checked for mites.

As an experiment, Foufopoulos has begun treating the infected lizards with the same medication veterinarians administer against heartworms in dogs. This medication also kills lizards' parasites. After that, each lizard is returned to the spot of its capture within 24 hours.

"We try to affect the animal as little as possible," he says. "I really dislike the notion of an animal suffering or dying for my research. I've gone to great lengths to ensure their wellbeing."

Since he began his research last year, some patterns have begun to emerge. Mites tend to latch onto male and female lizards at different times of the year. Females are most susceptible in June when they give birth;



males fall victim in October when they stake out territory and court their mates.

"It seems to be correlated to physiological stress," Foufopoulos says, "It surprised us because we didn't expect to find any difference between the sexes."

More critical to the lizard's long-term survival appears to be malaria, Foufopoulos believes. He says the disease shows signs of preventing females from producing more embryos and reduces the sexual activity of males.

Foufopoulos stresses that his project's success is directly linked to the Zoological Society. "It's been an incredible amount of help," he says. "The grant allowed me to travel to Arizona, purchase equipment and pay the fees at the research station. It's made a lot of my work possible."

* Despite their "cold-blooded" reputation, reptiles can register body temperatures up to 100 degrees. Reptiles take their body heat from external sources, like the sun.





he beautiful Chiricahua Mountains lie in far southeastern Arizona, near the border of Mexico and New Mexico. Chiricahua Peak reaches a height of 9,798 feet above sea level. The mountains themselves are forested and green, which contrasts sharply with the desert that surrounds them.

During the last glacial age, some 10,000 to 15,000 years ago, the entire region was lush. Since that time, the land surrounding the mountain has become more arid. What remains are small, isolated animal populations on the

mountains, living, essentially, on islands.

Student Wildlife Conservation Grants

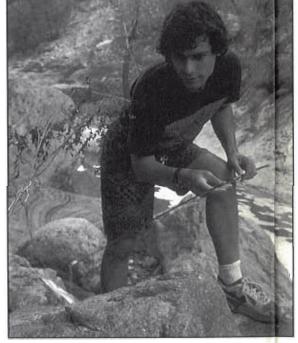
Endangered species around the world have been getting expert attention from Wisconsinbased graduate students since the Zoological Society of Milwaukee announced its student wildlife conservation grant program in 1992. Since then, the Society has awarded 37 conservation grants totalling about \$61,500. This year, the Society supports student research in these areas:

UW-EAU CLAIRE

- Status and productivity of Taigi Merlins in NE Wisconsin (M. Solensky) **UW-GREEN BAY**
- · Effects of forest management on neotropical birds along the Bad River Corridor (J. Elias)
- Habitat preferences of the breeding bobolink near Rush Lake, WI (L. White)
- Dependency of spiders on old growth and managed forests (J. Whitehouse) **UW-MADISON**
- Genetic consequences of habitat fragmentation on birds in SE Brazil (M. Berres)
- Effect of hydrology on invertebrates in Kettle Hole wetlands (D. Boorse)
- Elephants' role as seed-dispersing agent in Uganda's forests (E. Cochrane)
- Effects of ecotourism on pygmy marmosets in NE Ecuador (S. de la Torre)
- Dynamics of forest songbirds in Northern Wisconsin (D. Flaspohler)
- Status of a gibbon subspecies in Laos (N. Ruggeri)
- Chemicals and their effect on osprey productivity (J. Woodford)

UW-MILWAUKEE

- Factors influencing longear sunfish in the Milwaukee River (L. Stremick) **UW-Stevens Point**
- Characteristics of sites chosen by wolves for dens (D. Unger)



back and check on them."

Once captured, the seven-inch lizards, which feature blue patches on their throats and bellies, receive a physical exam. First, Foufopoulos says, the animal is checked to see if it's already been caught. One painless method of identification is clipping the lizard's toes; the other involves drawing a number on its back with an indelible marker.

"Sometimes I'll walk down a path and say, 'Oh, there's No. 87, and there's No. 17."

Behavior, time of day, location and body temperature also arc noted before the



PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE

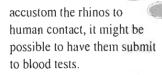
FOR THE ANIMALS

Question: How do you draw blood from a black rhinoceros? Answer: Offer her a sweet potato.

ipping the scales at about 3,000 pounds, rhinos are among the largest land creatures on earth. But, like other animals, they can get sick. Given the dwindling numbers of these endangered giants,

maintaining and monitoring their health in zoos has become extremely important. Physical examinations, including taking blood samples, is vital.

"We used to have to dart them with tranquilizers to examine them," recalls Dana Nicholson, a pachyderm keeper at the Zoo. "But that's extremely stressful for the animals." Nicholson knew that if he could



"It's known as classical conditioning," Nicholson says. "For the most part, it takes about six months for them to get used to it. We'd just try it five minutes here and there. A head chute was fabricated and they accepted it almost immediately.

"You use a lot of positive reinforcement. When they stick their head in the chute, they get a sweet potato. They seem to like sweet potatoes a lot." Soon after, the Zoo's breeding pair of black rhinos began allowing blood samples to be drawn. The samples are sent to laboratories for analysis.

It may seem like a minor point. But Dr. Andy Teare, a Zoo veterinarian, explains that blood analysis for black rhinos can be a life or death matter. Teare says the species is subject to a serious form of anemia that causes them to lose all their red blood cells. Teare adds that the tests measure the rhinos' vitamin E levels—important because rhinos seem to require more vitamin E than other species, though the reasons are unclear.

"In general, any time we have the ability to monitor our animals this closely is a positive thing," Teare says.

The blood testing also has paid another happy dividend: It confirmed that the rhino couple are expecting a baby in six months or

"It looks like we may have a Christmas or New Year's baby," Nicholson boasts. Nicholson says he hopes the blood testing ultimately will be used to conduct research on rhino reproduction and health.

Dana Nicholson administers medicated mouthwash to a Zoo orangutan to stem gum

Nicholson in a small office near the rhino exhibits. "I'd like to be able to show that it can be done with a minimum amount of time and money. But first we need to see if people at other zoos would be interested in starting similar programs."

"This is all basic science," says

Nicholson already has started a similar program, of sorts, with the Zoo's orangutans. In the orangutans' case, however, the behavior Nicholson seeks and the problem he hopes to stem are different.

A few years ago, the Zoo's three orangutans underwent physical exams. The two adult apes had lousy dental health: They had lost most of their teeth; but the younger orangutan, Tommy, showed relatively good teeth. Orangutans, like humans, often develop gum diseases.

Nicholson, who previously had worked with dogs and cats, had had some success treating the animals with medicated mouth-

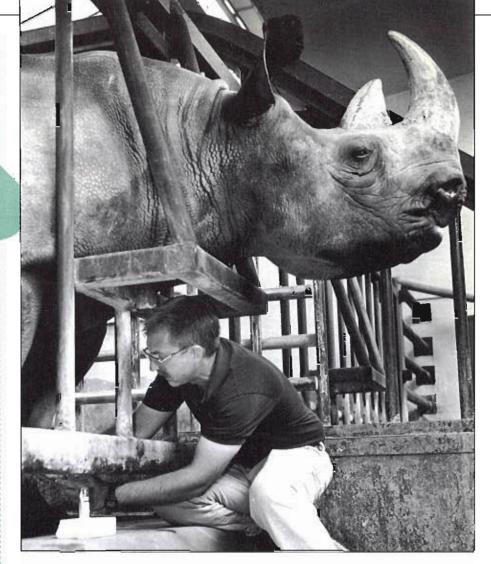
His concern with orangutans was that they would swallow the mouthwash and become ill. But after checking research that showed developmentally-challenged children had swallowed it and experienced no ill effects, he went ahead.

"Our orangutans do swallow the stuff," he says. "But they also hold it in their mouths and swish it around a little bit first. Whether it works or not, we'll see at their next physical.

"We've got our routine: They sit there for 30 seconds or so, I do my thing, they get

their treat and it's all over.'

Nicholson says he would like to see conditioning programs extended to other animals at the zoo. "It's strictly a preventive maintenance program that's good for our animals."



Zookeeper Dana Nicholson draws blood from a black rhinoceros.

ON THE JOB Dana Nicholson, Zookeeper, Pachyderms

Even now, more than four years since he was hired as a zookeeper, Dana Nicholson still remembers what it was like working for a small animal practitioner. "My job then was to work with clients' dogs and cats and keep them healthy," Nicholson says. "Now I'm doing the same thing here. The only difference is that I'm working with elephants and rhinos."

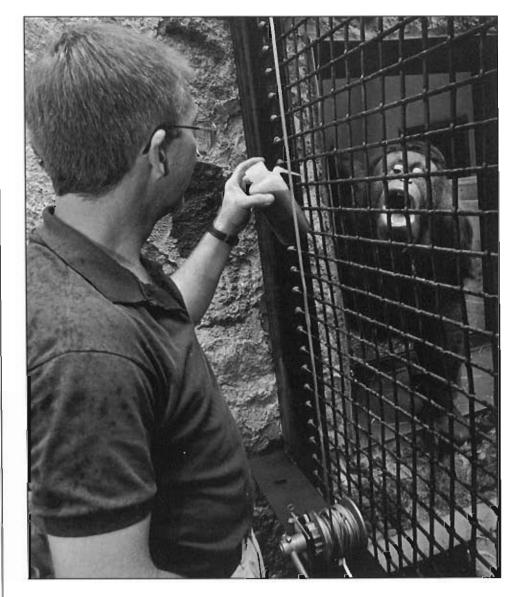
BIG difference.

Nicholson's job at the Zoo is a workout rivaling any Stairmaster or Healthrider on the market. Take bathing an elephant, rubbing oil on the rhinos, shaving the tapir's nails or feeding 50-pound bags of pellets and hefty bales of hay to the hoofed stock in his charge. "Who needs a health club when you can work out every day?" he jokes.

Less traditional career pursuits have Nicholson conditioning the black rhiuos to accept invasive procedures without anesthesia and administering medicated mouthwash to the orangutans to see if the solution can slow or prevent gum disease.

In time, Nicholson hopes to share his orangutan research and his rhino behaviormodification techniques with other zoos. "Someday, other zoos might be able to apply our techniques to their own collections," Nicholson said.

"When you build an animal's trust, it lets you get close so you can learn more about it and then share what you've learned with others," Nicholson said. "That's what makes it all worthwhile."



The Slandered Snake

ew animals evoke strong feelings like snakes.

Vilified as monsters in some cultures, snakes are venerated as positive symbols in others. The fact is, few people feel neutrally about the slithery creatures. It's not a matter of loving or hating snakes. For many people, it's a matter of hating or fearing them.

Unfortunately, many of the strongest emotions find their basis in fiction, rather than fact.

With that in mind, a new, interactive exhibit in the recently renovated Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC) seeks to dispel snake mythology. Sponsored by Hoffer's Tropic Life Pets, the kiosk seeks to inform with an entertaining mixture of signs and searchand-find activities, says Mary Thiry, director of education for the Zoological Society.

"We think it's a good idea to do this because snakes are probably the most misunderstood animals," Thiry says. "We're trying to devote more effort to helping people understand them.

"It's funny," Thiry continues, "but the young children — the three-, four- and fiveyear olds-don't have a problem with snakes. But as they get older, we see that they come in here with misconceptions."

A common myth: All snakes are poisonous. The facts: About 15% of the 2,400 types of snakes in the world are venomous. Of the 50 or so snakes native to Wisconsin, just two-rattlesnakes and the rare Massasauga—have poisonous venom.

That's just one myth. The aim of the kiosk and the other informative signs supplied by the Zoological Society is to provide a better understanding makes and to fight snake myth reality

The snake kiosk offers this primer:



King Cobra

Snakes, like crocodiles, turtles and lizards, are reptiles. The cold-blooded animals live worldwide with the exception of some oceanic islands and areas where the ground is permanently frozen.

Most snake babies hatch from eggs Some snakes, however, bear their young live. The average mother snake produces about 10 offspring, but a python may lay about 100 cggs. A typical garter snake may

have 20.

AAR

Snakes have about 200 vertebrae compared with 33 in a human. Each snake vertebra has a pair of ribs. Muscles and ligaments lace themselves through the bones, lending the snake its noted strength and

Thiry points out that the kiosk illustrates the snake's trademark backbone with a mounted skeleton and x-ray.



Snakes propel themselves with an undulating motion of muscles and bones. The scaly skin that covers their body provides traction.



Mainly deaf to sound that travels through the air, snakes sense sound through vibrations in the ground. The tongue of a snake, viewed as creepy and scary by some, is actually harmless. To snakes, however, the tongue is a vital organ. The snake uses its tongue to collect particles, which are placed in a small cavity in the roof of its mouth called the Jacobson's organ. In the cavity, the particles are analyzed and tell the



Enhance your snake sense. Look for this snake x-ray on Hoffer's Snake Kiosk in the ARC.

ON THE JOB

Tim Tews, Zookeeper, Aquatic & Reptile Center

Sitting on a ledge beside the newly renovated Aquatic & Reptile Center's Lake Wisconsin, zookeeper Tim Tews sees the fruit of at least a couple years' work.

Swimming past are schools of healthy, good-looking Wisconsin fish. In front of us are tidy, naturalistic habitats housing the building's herpetological and aquatic residents—snakes to octopus. And all around us are splashy, educational graphics that finish the building nicely. All of it, in some measure, touched by Tews.

"It's a big leap from what it was before," he says, recalling how outdated the building's interior looked just a few months ago and beaming with pride to have been a part of the expert building reno-

Having worked with many of the Zoo's animals over the last 20 years, Tews discovered a partiality to reptiles when transferred to the ARC in 1992. "Though every animal is unique and interesting," Tews says, pausing to respectfully acknowledge the individual significances of the Zoo's birds, mammals and fish, "reptiles are the most interesting to me."

of doing, I realized quickly how much my fate was in my own hands."

He didn't always feel that way, though. "Of all the beats in the Zoo, I was most leery of reptiles," says Tews. "But after I learned the safety procedures and gained respect for what these animals are capable

Much more than the "animals' janitor," Tews and the tenured keepers working beside him tackle jobs far grander than picking up after the residents in their charge. Among them: educating the public through graphics and talks, colorfully propping exhibits and keeping the building safe for the public and employees.

"This is more than just a job," Tews says of his high-profile keeper position. "It's a responsibility—challenging and enjoyable."

snake what's going on around it. They use the Jacobson's organ to track prey, avoid trouble and find mates. Some use heat-sensing organs to find food in the dark.

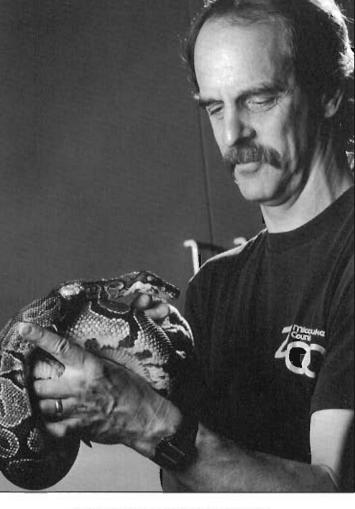
Snakes dine on a variety of animals. Their tastes run from insects to shellfish. But most of them eat frogs, lizards or rodents. Venomous snakes deliver bites with fangs, teeth that often are grooved or tubular

to allow venoin to enter a wound. Snake venom is a mixture of proteins, produced by salivary glands, that can paralyze nervous systems, digest muscle or destroy blood cells. Such bites render prey harmless.

Snakes don't chew their food, instead they swallow it whole. A snake, however, is not a pig. Being cold-blooded, they do not require food to generate body heat. For

instance, a 10-pound boa constrictor may eat just one rat per week.

Despite providing beneficial rodent control, snakes, Thiry notes, have often been depicted as evil. After all, it was a serpent that tempted Eve to eat forbidden fruit. "Our society doesn't teach that snakes are good," she says. "Other cultures do. For instance, one of the Aztec's most powerful gods, Quetzalcoatl, was a feathered serpent."



Tim Tews helps a Ball Python shed its skin.





Vacation Education

Ah, summer. Time for vacations, relaxing on a beach, outdoor barbecues, long walks through the park and learning at the Zoo. Learning? Education? In the summer? At the Zoo?" Kids might say, "No way!" But we'll have them saying "yes" in no time.

Sea School

ew exhibits at the Zoo are designed solely to entertain. Sea School is no exception. An extension of this summer's temporary exhibit, Pick 'n Save's Operation: Sea Creature, Sea School is an aggregate of age-appropriate exhibits,

including shark jaws cast from a mold of the jaws of a 16' female Great white shark caught off the tip of Cabo San Lucas. The jaws were made by paleontology professor Dr. Shelton Applegate, of the University of Mexico City, who flew from Mexico to San Antonio with the jaws as carry-on haggage to ensure their safe passage across the border.

Other Sea School exhibits give kids interactive, hands-on experiences with aquatic life. The Sea Turtle exhibit, for instance, invites kids to help the Sea turtles find their way from their nests to the sea through an obstacle course of litter and turtle-eating birds and animals dangers real Sea turtles face in the wild. Kids also can create wax crayon rubbings of animals and get their hands wet while "catching and releasing" toy aquatic creatures in a man-made tidal pool. Sea School is sponsored by Mercury Marine/Brunswick Foundation.

Summer Camps

many Zoological Society parents of children under 14, summer at the Zoo means a chance to give the Zoological Society the green light to turn their kids into junior zookeepers, environmental scientists, veterinarians, wildlife photographers, artists and more. And the Society's education staff do a good job at it.

Delivering quality, fun summer learning experiences to 5,000 children, however, takes more than the Zoological Society's education staff alone are able to give. "We're grateful to the many Zoo Priders



TOP: Schoolchildren explore tidal pool creatures at Sea School, sponsored by Mercury Marine/Brunswick Foundation. Sea School is an extension of Pick 'n Save's Operation: Sea

UPPER RIGHT: Loogoers get an up-close introduction to raptors as they careen overhead during the Zoo's Birds of Prey Show, sponsored by Pick 'n Save and Good Humor,

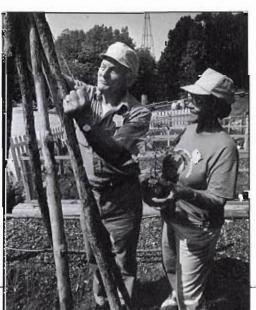
RIGHT: UW-Extension Master Gardeners Maria Susterich and Dan Miszczak build a tepee for beans growing in the Zoo's Heritage Garden.

who volunteer to help in the classrooms all summer long," said the Zoological Society's Director of Education Mary Thiry, "and to Alice Kadish, whose grant support allows us to hire college interns to assist the educators." The Zoological Society's Summer Camps are sponsored by Little Caesars.

Heritage Garden

tep outside the south exit of the dairy barn in the Stackner Heritage Farm, blook to your right, and enter a whole new world - of veggies! Sharon Morrisey, home horticulture agent for the UW-





KIDS!

When you are finished reading this page, get cut your crayons and color the inimals, just like in your coloring books





for kids and families

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY SUMMER 1995

WHAT MAKES A FISH A FISH?

All fish are vertebrates meaning that they have a backbone, and an internal skeleton. Most fish live in water, have scales, breathe with gills and swim using their fins. There are three

types of fishes: Bony fish - example: perch

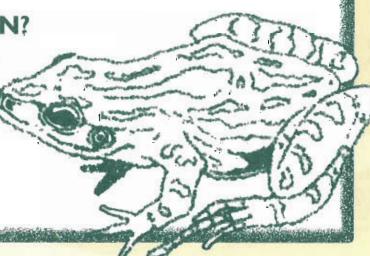
Cartilaginous fish = example: shark Skate and Jawless fish - example: lamprey

WHAT MAKES A REPTILE A REPTILE?

There are four groups of reptiles: turtles and tortoises, snakes and lizards, the crocodile family, and the tuatara, Common characteristics shared by reptiles are that they are vertebrates, have scaly skin. lay eggs, and are cold-blooded.

WHAT IS AN AMPHIBIAN?

The term "amphibian" comes from the Greek amphi and bios meaning "double life". Amphibians can live or function on land and in water Most amphibians pass from a free-living aquatic. larval stage into a terrestrial, or land-based, adult, Amphibians have no scales.







ARE JELLYFISH REALLY MADE OUT OF JELLY?

The most conspicuous shape of a jellyfish consists of a dome-shaped structure called the medusa. It contains a thick jelly-like substance consisting of about 96 percent water and about 3 percent salts, or about the same proportion of salt as the sea. The remaining I percent of the jelly is protein and carbohydrates, which makes the jelly firm.

Ines Brookens, Milwaukee, WI

DO SNAKES EVER EAT PLANTS?

There are no snakes that eat plants, but they do eat a variety of things: small mammals, eggs, insects, worms, birds, other snakes, crabs, fish, and lizards.

Kayla Knilans, Delavan, WI

WHAT DO OCTOPUSES EAT?

They eat crabs, clams and fish

Betsy Mastoris, New Berlin, WI

HOW CAN YOU TELL AN ALLIGATOR FROM A CROCODILE?

In a crocodile some of the teeth in the lower jaw stick out when the mouth is shut. In an alligator you do not see teeth

when the

mouth is shut.

Alec Treacy, Wauwatosa, WI

Oops! Last issue, we didn't recognize the children who sent in questions for our April issue of Alive. They are: Kai Hansen, Racine; Patrick Carew, Hartland; and Jillian Walker, Waukesha.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

What's still open in Little Caesars'

SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMPS?

You can now register over the phone if you use a credit card by calling (414) 256-5424, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Or stop by in person at the Education Center, or call for a registration form and listing, which you can use for mail-in registration. For an up-to-date, open-session listing, call our recorded message, available 24 hours a day, at (414) 475-4636, topic 748.

Open camps include:

TINY TOTS CAMPS

Camps for the 3-year-old with parent (Session time 1:00-2:30) Pocketful of Miracles...... July 31 Fancy Fins July 12, Aug. 1 or 2



PRESCHOOL WILL CAMPS

Camps for the 4- and 5-year-old (Session time 1:00-3:30) Junior Zookeeper Aug. 10 Magic NightsJuly 11, 20, 25, 28 or Aug. 15 Animals A to Z July 19 or 26

ONE-DAY CAMP

Camp for the 6-year-old (Session time 9:30-3:30) Tools of the Trade...July 13, 18, 26, 28 or Aug. 1 or 11

LIMITED OPENINGS

Camp for the 9- to 12-year-olds (Session time 9:30-noon) Rich and Famous Multi-day Camp......Aug. 8 thru 11 (This camp runs four days.)

CAMPERS

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Camp Graduation on Aug. 26.

SEPTEMBER THROUGH **JANUARY PROGRAMS:**

There will again be a full schedule of programs for the 3-year-old through adult.

To receive a complete listing you can:

- Send a stamped (\$.55), self-addressed, business sized envelope - one per family - to: Fall Education, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milw., VVI 53226. Brochures will be mailed the week of Aug. 14. Or stop by the Zoo after the 14th to pick one up.
- · Join our mailing list by calling (414) 256-5424. \$3.00 annual fee.

KIDS DAY OUT!

Mark your calendars now for Kids Day Out, a very special program provided by the Zoological Society for children 6 to 11 years old during Teachers Conventions. Details will be in the Fall

Program brochure, Parochial Teacher Conference is Oct. 5 & 6 and Milwaukee & State Teachers

Convention is Oct. 26 & 27, Kids Day Out is sponsored by the NFL Alumni Association.

Extension in Milwaukee County, chose the theme of a Heritage Garden at the Zoo to celebrate the ethnic diversity of Milwaukee. The garden features vegetables used in preparing traditional dishes from the ethnic backgrounds represented. For example, look for blackeye peas in the African-American garden, hot Thai peppers in the Asian-American garden, Swiss chard in the European-American garden, and pinto beans in the Hispanic-American garden.

The biggest menace to gardeners trying to grow these out-of-the-ordinary plants? "The woodchucks, chipmunks and even nesting peacocks," Morriscy said, lamenting last year, when the gardeners had to replant three times.

Maria Susterich and seven other Master Gardeners, volunteers with the UW-Extension, design the gardens; select, plant and care for the gardens; and keep the ani-

> mals at bay. Look for Susterich and the Master Gardeners at the Zoo during this summer's special events for presentations on growing a culturally-diverse garden and gardening for kids.



Birds of Prey Show

nter the Raptory Theater in the Stackner Heritage Farm any day of the week through Labor Day—II a.m., 1 p.m. or 3 p.m.—and be prepared to duck!

The Birds of Prey Show, co-sponsored by Roundy's Pick 'n Save and Good Humor, introduces zoogoers to a hawk, owl, falcon and vulture as they careen overhead, at times brushing guests with their wings as they clip by. Presenters also introduce a buzzard, Military macaw, an African Abdin stork and other birds in this free, 20-minute presentation designed to give visitors an up-close look at some endangered or threatened birds, an understanding of their importance to our environment and information on what we can do to help save them.

Happy Summer!

Miller's Recycled Zoo

This spring a huge, 19' whale was found beached in an unlikely place: the lawn outside the Dairy Council's Education Center near the entrance to the Stackner Heritage Fann. What makes this whale special is what it's made of: plastic drums,

iars, bottles and tubing. The whale, created by students from Hales Corners Lutheran School, was one of nearly 100 different recycled animals put together and brought to the Zoo as part of the Zoological Society's Catch The Wave -Recycle project, sponsored by Miller Brewing Company.

"It's the different components involved that attracted us to this

program," says Janet Christiaansen, community relations representative for Miller Brewing. "It's not just a Zoo event, it involves schools and families and kids in a fun, creative and innovative way to learn about recycling."

Students from more than 70 elementary schools in southeast Wisconsin participated in the project, in its second year. This year's theme was animals of the aquatic and

> reptile world, celebrating the opening of the new Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC) at the

Besides the whale, other creatures that took up residence in the Recycled Zoo were turtles, octopus and fish of all kinds.

TOP: Fifth graders from Oak Creek's Edgewood School help the toilet paper penguin they made take up residence in Miller's Recycled Zoo. The penguin sits atop a slab of ice made of plastic

LEFT: Miller Brewing's Janet Christiaansen and Mike Brophy join children in an anchor toss to debut Miller's Recycled Zoo.



TWO Decades of **Pride**

wenty-one years ago, Dorothy Ross Pain of the Zoological Society Board of Directors gave her first thought to the Zoo's plea for volunteer help.

Her thinking led to a recruitment effort that put 12 volunteers-uniformed in black or dark-blue skirts or slacks, a white shirt, a red sash and heavy pith helmets at an exposed information booth in the Zoo's main mall during the summer of 1975.

Such was the humble beginning of a special group of volunteers-Zoo Pridewho over the last two decades have been building special relationships among zoo visitors and animals and devoting time and expertise to the Zoo's and Zoological Society's united mission: to educate and conserve.

Though its members today-now clad in khaki-hail from every county in southeast Wisconsin and Northern Illinois and from every demographic slice, Zoo Pride had its origins in Milwaukee and once attracted mostly housewives and retirees, said Robin Higgins, director of membership and volunteer services for the Zoological Society.

Zoo Pride's charter membership of 60 volunteers originally was cultivated from the Zoological Society's then-2,500 members and a small article in the newspaper, Higgins said. Since then, Zoo Pride's membership has swelled to 590+.

"Ours is the envy of other nonprofit organizations, especially other zoos,"



ABOVE: Zoo Pride volunteers Bing and Norva McCutcheon lead a group of children on a Zoo tour as part of a Zoological Society education program.

boasts Higgins, referencing the 55,000 hours of service a year Zoo Priders donate to the Zoo and Zoological Society. "You just don't see that level of support in other organizations.

"It's the diversity of their talents that really make the volunteers special. We have truck drivers, retired college professors, people good with numbers, and people gifted with public speaking skills and creativity."

Zoo Pride finds a place for everyone, Higgins says, listing a number of committees, including Animal Watch, Tour Guides, Youth Education and Clerical Committees. "There's something for everyone here," says Dorothy Le Sage, a Zoo Prider for at least the last decade. "Just pick your group, pick the people you want to work

Whatever their background, the volunteers share at least two things in common: a love for the Zoo's animals and an appreciation for the relationships

shaped over time.

"The animals are the magnet that attracts all of us," says Bev Kumershek, one of Zoo Pride's charter members. And the team approach to projects is what motivates volunteers Ruth Zuehr and

THE STATE OF THE S

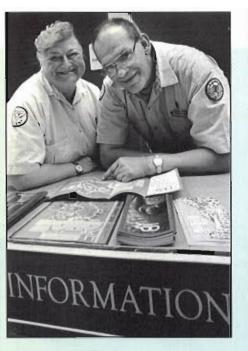
Bruce Franz to stay active in the organization.

"Friends are made, informal support groups are formed, widows and widowers get involved for something to do," says Kumershek. "After a short time, they're going to

lunch or to the movies with other Zoo Priders who have lost a spouse." Whatever their original drive, whatever

the sustaining motivation, Zoo Pride volunteers keep racking up the hours.

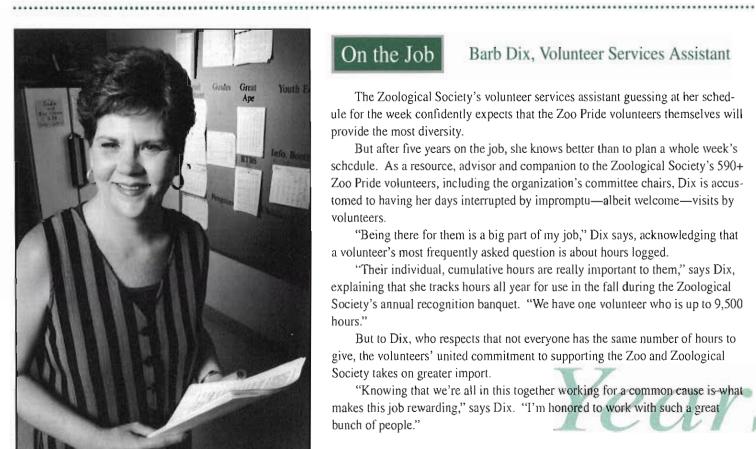
Good thing. The Milwaukee County Zoo and the Zoological Society of Milwankee wouldn't be the same without them.







FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Bonnie and Ron Pearson, of Grays Lake, IL, often cross the border to volunteer time at the Information Booth desk in the Zoo's Peck Welcome Center and for special events at the Zoo. Mildred Wrench readies plush toys for shipping as part of the Zoological Society's 1995 Sponsor an Animal Mother's Day promotion. Justine Mayer volunteers for the Feast For the Beasts Pancake Breakfast, a Zoological Society fundraiser sponsored by Tri City National Bank.



On the Job

Barb Dix, Volunteer Services Assistant

The Zoological Society's volunteer services assistant guessing at her schedule for the week confidently expects that the Zoo Pride volunteers themselves will provide the most diversity.

But after five years on the job, she knows better than to plan a whole week's schedule. As a resource, advisor and companion to the Zoological Society's 590+ Zoo Pride volunteers, including the organization's committee chairs, Dix is accustomed to having her days interrupted by impromptu—albeit welcome—visits by

"Being there for them is a big part of my job," Dix says, acknowledging that a volunteer's most frequently asked question is about hours logged.

"Their individual, cumulative hours are really important to them," says Dix, explaining that she tracks hours all year for use in the fall during the Zoological Society's annual recognition banquet. "We have one volunteer who is up to 9,500 hours."

But to Dix, who respects that not everyone has the same number of hours to give, the volunteers' united commitment to supporting the Zoo and Zoological Society takes on greater import.

"Knowing that we're all in this together working for a common cause is what makes this job rewarding," says Dix. "I'm honored to work with such a great bunch of people."



Zoo Ball XII

sponsored by American Airlines

Guests arrive via zoomobile for shopping at the silent auction during the twelfth annual Zoo Ball, June 24. More than 600 "party animals" of the human kind attended the ball, co-chaired by Mary Jo and Tom Dempsey and Robin and Tim Flatley. Proceeds from the ball, presented by American Airlines, went toward purchasing food for the Zoo's animals.



Ride on the Wild Side

September 17 sponsored by West Allis Memorial Hospital

Strap on your helmet and squeeze into your tiger-stripe biking shorts for the wildest ride in town! This family-oriented bike ride includes metric century (62-1/2 miles) and 40k (25 miles) courses for the avid biking enthusiast and a one-mile course on the Zoo grounds for the kids. Call (414) 258-2333 for details.

Koko the plush gorilla joins (left to right) Ride on the Wild Side co-chairs Bob Anger and Lori Bechtold and West Allis Memorial's Mary Mooney Roberts in training for the wildest ride in town.





Snooze at the Zoo

August 4 or 5 Sponsored by Plymouth

Campers, pitch your tent on the shores of Lake Evinrude and prepare for a fun overnight camping experience with your family and the Zoo's animals. This safe, fun, educational event features a picnic buffet dinner; a journey through Pick 'u Saves' Operation: Sea Creature; a campfire, sing-along and marshmallow roast; cereal and pastry breakfast from McDonald's; and more. You're welcome to spend the next day at the Zoo. Cost is \$35 for adults and \$20 for children (\$40 and \$25 for non-members). Kids three and under are free. Proceeds bene-

fit the Zoological Society. For details, call Kathy Lemke, (414) 258-2333

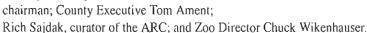
Martin Steren prepares his parents, Jeff and Jody, for an evening of camping on the shores of Lake Evinrude at Plymouth's Snooze at the Zoo.

Charge It!

You can carry the card that can make a difference. State Financial Bank has teamed up with the Zoological Society to introduce a Zoological Society VISA® and MasterCard® with no annual fee and an introductory fixed rate of 9.9% APR through February 1996. Each time you use your card, the bank will donate a percentage of its income to the Zoological Society. See the form in this magazine for information on how to apply.

Cast of VIPs

VIPs with fishing poles in tow cast their lines over a sea of paper and reeled in until the newly renovated Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC) was revealed at the May 22 VIP premiere of the ARC and Pick 'n Save's Operation: Sea Creature. Pictured here (left to right) are Tom Wiesner, director of merchandising for Roundy's; Lee Jennings, Zoological Society





Ralph Evinrude Landing

The new Ralph Evinrude Landing, skirting the shore of Lake Evinrude, provides a serene backdrop for cocktails during the VIP premiere of the Aquatic & Reptile Center and Pick 'n Save's Operation: Sea Creature.



New Home for Heifers

Stackner Heritage Farm Supervisor Randy Deer serves up handsful of timothy hay to the Zoo's calves in their new Heifer Barn, a gift from Audrey Wegner, a Zoo Pride volunteer and longtime friend of the Zoo and Zoological Society.



Sponsor Spotlight

With thanks from the Zoological Society and Milwaukee County Zoo.

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"When I was asked why Pick 'n Save/Roundy's decided to become a member of the Platypus Society and support the Zoological Society, the answer was very easy: The people involved have a "We Care" attitude. They reach out to the young and the young at heart. The Care for Critters program, Destination Dinosaur, and now the new Operation: Sea Creature exhibit are excellent. All provide entertainment to the young, while educating them at the same time. The comments I receive regarding the Zoological Society and the Platypus Society exemplify what an OUTSTANDING job they are doing for

the city of Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin."

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IN-KIND GIFTS

In-kind gifts of products or services are now being listed separately for the donorstated value of the gift. This list will be updated as in-kind memberships are renewed. The following gifts are listed below as of May 16, 1995:

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* Contributing Members

Friends contributing to the Platypus Society after May 16, 1995 will be recognized in the aext issue of ALIVE.



The Zoological Society welcomes the following new Platypns Society members as of May 16, 1995:

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The Zoological Society thanks the following members for their increased levels of giving:

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The Platypus Society is a group of about 350 Milwaukee-area foundations, corporations and individuals that contribute more than \$300,000 annually to the Zoological Society. If you would like to jain this group in helping the Society uphold its mission of supporting the Zoo, educating the community about wildlife and the environment and conserving endangered species, call Pany Cadorin (414) 276-0843.



Mohol Bush Baby

(Small Mammal Building - Nocturnal Side) Born: March 2, 1995

The eyes have it! The huge, dark eyes and bat-like ears of the Mohol bush baby (Galago), also known as the Lesser bush baby, leave no doubt that these animals are nocturnal. Their diet consists mainly of insects they capture in mid-flight, in the dark. Keeping its feet clamped fast to a support, the bush baby suddenly extends its body and grabs the prey with its hands. Bush babies usually reproduce twice a year - often bearing twins. Male offspring leave the mother's territory after puberty, while females maintain the association with their mother. Small social groups of mothers, daughters, sisters and their young are then formed. Females from outside the group are chased off the shared territory, marked by the bush babies in a unique fashion. They stand on one foot, urinate on their opposite foot and hand, switch feet, repeat the process and then leave their scent as they move around their territory.

Source: John Wightman, Area Supervisor, Small Mammals

African Pygmy Goats ▶ (Stackner Heritage Farm - Goat Yard)

All kidding aside, these adorable baby goats are b-a-a-a-d for the environment. Native to the scrublands of Africa, these animals eat shrubs, grasses and leaves - a lot of it - and are leaving behind more and more desert. Goats were imported to our continent in the mid-'70s as part of the pet trade. Since then, mini-goat societies have formed and are still active today with goat shows similar to dog shows taking place nationwide. Although they can be trained to do things like pull carts, these animals don't make the best pets, as they are very curious and will try to climb out of most any enclosure. Plus, they are herd animals and do not usually like to be alone. This spring, five males and nine females were



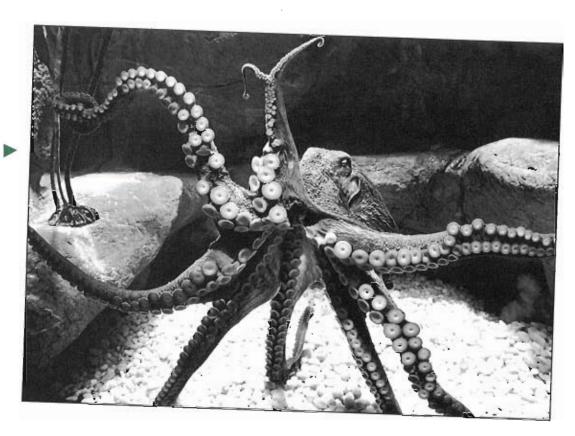
born at out Zoo, with an estimated lifespan of 10-15 years. There is something that makes these animals unique from any other animal at our Zoo. They're the only animals allowed to be fed by the public.

Source: Randy Deer, Supervisor, Stackner Heritage Farm

Pacific Giant Octopus >

(Aquatic & Reptile Center) Approximate Age: 2-3 yrs.

At 16 pounds, with an arm span of 7 ft., you'd think this octopus would be hard to miss. However, octopus are such great camouflage artists, you sometimes have to look closely to see her hiding in her new ARC home. Like all octopus, Pacific giant octopus have short life spans. In the wild, they only live to be three to five years old. They eat crabs, fish and other



small animals by grasping their prey with their tentacles and killing it with their sharp, beak-like

mouth. Octopus are considered the most intelligent of all invertebrates and have been known to not only recognize their keepers, but go right to them for food or for a fun game of tug of war. Besides being the Zoo's first octopus, there is something else that makes her special. She is actually a "nonopus." Next time you're in the ARC, look closely and count her tentacles. She damaged one of them in an accident in the wild and has grown a new one that has split into two at the tip.

Source: Rich Sajdak, Curator, ARC

Chinese Alligators

(Aquatic & Reptile Center) Male Age: 9 years Female Age: 9 1/2 years

These rare creatures—there are only a few hundred left in the wild due to habitat destruction and willful killing—are just getting used to their new Yangtze River habitat in the new ARC. One of 15 American zoos allowed to exhibit these animals, the Milwaukee County Zoo hopes that the artificial trees, bamboo, heated rockwork and large pool will create an environment that will stimulate the propagation of this endangered species. They may breed as early as next year. There are 21

species of crocodilians, but only two that are called alligators: the

American and the Chinese. Chinese alligators are timid and are not aggressive toward people. With an average adult length of 6.5 ft., they are much smaller than American alligators, which can get up to 19 ft. in length. They eat fish, turtles, insects and in the wild, an occasional duck. You've got some time to get to know these little guys. They usually live to be 70 to 80 years old in captivity.

Source: Rich Sajdak, Curator, ARC



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Calendar

JULY

5, 12, 19, 26 SUNSET ZOOFARIS

sponsored by Tri City National Bank

Relax and enjoy an evening-or four-of entertainment at the Zoo at reduced admission rates. Zoological Society members get free admission. (414) 256-5412.

13 & 14 (MEMBERS ONLY) KIDS NIGHT

sponsored by Harley-Davidson Motor Company

Kids! Color your favorite zoo animal on a Harley motorcycle or take a spin on a Harley "mini-speedway." Watch the Hit the Floor Freestyle Bike Team. Listen to songs and stories by Fred Turk and the Dream Tree. Dance and tumble with the Dance Academy, Ltd. and the Swiss Turners. Watch your mail for an invitation. (414) 258-

AUGUST

4 & 5 SNOOZE AT THE ZOO

sponsored by Plymouth

Choose one of these nights to listen to the sounds of the Zoo from your sleeping bag during this safe, fun, family

camping experience held on the shore of Lake Evinrade. (414) 258-2333.

10 TWILIGHT SAFARI

(ANIMAL SPONSORS ONLY) sponsored by Sunkist & Roundy's Pick 'n Save

Animal sponsors! Watch your mail for an invitation to this annual

Summer 1995

event just for you that's filled with food, entertainment, visits with animal keepers and presentations by Zoo and community veterinarians. To sponsor an animal, call (414) 258-2333.

22 SPONSOR AN ANIMAL **GOLF OPEN**

Help feed the animals while golfing 18 holes at Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc. \$90 per person covers lunch, golf, a cart for each twosome, door prizes, and dinner. If you can't golf, please consider a door prize and raffle donation or hole sponsorship. Call Jenny, (414) 258-2333, for a registration or donation form.

17-20 MILWAUKEE A LA CARTE

sponsored by The

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

The best food and entertainment comes to the Zoo for this annual feast with the beasts. Bring your appetite and your dancing shoes for August's finest fest. Extended hours: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Zoological Society members get free admission. Co-sponsored by Miller Brewing Company. (414) 256-5412.

SEPTEMBER

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Fun learning at the Zoo this semester begins in September and ends in January. Programs for children 3 to 13. For workshop information, send a SASE (\$.55) to Zoological Society Fall Programs, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226, after August 1. Zoological Society members get discounts on program fees. (414) 256-5421.

SENIOR CELEBRATION

sponsored by Aurora Health Care

If you're 60 years or older, come to the Zoo for a free day of fun, food and entertainment. (414) 256-5412.

9 & 10 HERITAGE FARM WEEKEND



sponsored by Golden Guernsey

Come to the Zoo for this moovelous celebration of Wisconsin's farming heritage and experience the fall harvest with a mini-tractor pull, butter churning, candle making, cow milking, yarn spinning, tall-tale telling and more at the Zoo's dairy farm. Zoological Society members get free admission. (414) 256-5412.

RIDE ON THE WILD SIDE

sponsored by West Allis Memorial Hospital

Gear up for the wildest ride in town! This family-oriented bike ride includes 62-1/2-mile and 25-

mile courses for avid biking enthusiasis and a one-mile course at the

Zoo for kids. Call (414) 258-2333 for advance registration information.

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Calendar

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SEPTEMBER

21-24

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP TO OHIO

Join us for a fall trip to Ohio's Columbus and Cincinnati Zoos. featuring paddle boat rides and more. For price, transportation and accommodation details, see the form in this magazine. (414) 258-2333.

OCTOBER

5, 6 & 26, 27 KIDS DAY OUT

Four days of fun learning at the Zoo for kids 6-11 while teachers are inservice. Workshops include Zoo tours, hands-on learning activities, environ-

mental games and lunch. Parents don't

sponsored by NFL Alumni Association

have to take off from work or arrange for child care to let their kids enjoy this day off. (414) 256-5421.

20-22, 27-29 FRIGHT NIGHTS

An eerie evening at the Zoo awaits those brave enough to journey to the Zoo for Fright Nights. These new Halloween evenings at the Zoo invite unsuspecting guests aboard spookmobiles that will take travelers on a 20-minute ride through the Zoo, featuring haunted scenes-complete with costumed characters and special effects-along the way. \$5 per person. (414) 256-5412.

28 & 29 HALLOWEEN SPECTACULAR

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles! Bring your little devils to haunt the Zoo and show off their spooky outfits in a costume parade and go trick-or-treating at stops throughout the Zoo. Zoological Society members get free admission. (414) 256-5412.

NOVEMBER

4 DAY FIELD TRIP TO ART INSTITUTE



Don't miss this opportunity to see the Art Institute of Chicago and its special exhibit of 120+ works hy Monet. For price, transportation and reservation details, see the form in this magazine. (414) 258-2333.

REMEMBER, MEMBER

OFFICE HOURS

The Zoological Society office is open seven days a week this summer, during all members-only evening events and until 8 p.m. for Tri City's Sunset Zoofaris and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's a la Carte.

PLAN AHEAD

Don't forget to renew your membership BEFORE your next Zoo visit to continue to receive FREE Zoo admission. If your membership has lapsed, you will be charged the County Zoo admission fees, which are not refundable.

ANY CHANGES?

If you've lost your card. changed your address or need a duplicate card, please call our office, (414) 258-2333, before your Zoo visit for a temporary card. Card replacements and duplicates are \$3.

GROWING PAINS

After 15 years of making special birthday memories for children, Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary, is no longer scheduling parties at the Zoo. Because of the Society's dramatic growth, Zoo Pride is unable

PACK YOUR BAGS

AMAZON RIVERBOAT EXPEDITION OCTOBER 21-28, 1995

Discover the beauty of Brazil on this nature trip that takes you by ship into remote areas of the Amazon. Includes an optional extension 10 Cusco and Machu Picchu. Tour leader: Gil Boese.

WILDLIFE SAFARI TO KENYA JANUARY 19-FEBRUARY 1, 1996

Join the Zoological Society on this first-class expedition to the best parks and properties of Kenya, including a trip to Lewa Downs, a Black Rhino sanctuary supported by the Zoological Society and Foundation for Wildlife Conservation, and a visit with sanctuary founder Anna Merz. Includes an optional extension to Mombasa on Kenya's coast and Rome. Tour leader: Gil Boese.

CALL (414) 258-2333 FOR TRAVEL DETAILS.

to accommodate members' increased demand for more and larger parties. If you still want to celebrate a

birthday at the Zoo in a private area, please call the Zoo's Group Sales office. (414) 256-5430.



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